President’s Message

Thank you everyone for all the good tips on how to break thru my brick wall on how my Great Grandfather got to the United States from Switzerland. I haven't found my answer yet, but sure is nice to have the different places to check.

September is fast approaching and the start of our new year. SCGS now has a subscription to Zoom and I think it has been working very well for us and now we won't have a time restriction. Everyone can attend and participate if they wish or just sit back and listen to others in the safety of their own homes. I think there are some very good programs being planned and hope you sign in and join us.

Nancy

SCGS Officers for 2020

Left to right: Dick Cooper, Newsletter Editor; Nancy Long, President; Pete Peterson, Treasurer; Malvina Lutz, Librarian; Lyle Hammes, VP-Programming; Mary Lohr, Web Manager; Paul Martsching, Historian; Annette Anderegg, Secretary; Donna Kallem, VP-Membership; Rhonda Graham, Publicity.
Note From the Web Manager

Are you receiving the emails with the link to SCGS Zoom meetings? The address used is what is on your membership profile on the SCGS website. If you have an additional address you use frequently, please be sure to check the email you supplied for the storygenes.com website. You can update or change your email by logging in to the member portion of the website, clicking Profile, and then selecting the contact info tab. Click the pencil icon in the lower right to edit changes.

Alternatively, you can also email webmanager@storygenes.com with the requested changes.

Holidays and Reasons to Celebrate

August 4 – Coast Guard Birthday
August 7 – Purple Heart Day
August 10 – Victory Day (Rhode Island)
August 11 – Sister’s Birthday (Iowa)
August 16 & 17 – Bennington Battle Day (Vermont)
August 19 – National Aviation Day
August 21 – Hawaii Statehood Day (Hawaii)
August 21 – Senior Citizens Day
August 26 – Women’s Equality Day
August 27 – Lyndon Baines Johnson Day
September 7 – Labor Day

I found a list of some unofficial and fun holidays for each day in August. Following are my favorite unofficial and fun August holidays from that list:

August 2 – National Ice Cream Sandwich Day
August 3 – Watermelon Day
August 6 – Wiggle Your Toes Day
August 7 – National Lighthouse Day
August 9 – Book Lover’s Day
August 13 – Left-Handers Day (my Mom)
August 15 – Relaxation Day
August 20 – Chocolate Pecan Pie Day
August 31 – Eat Outside Day

There are many other religious and regional holidays in August. Visit https://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/ for holidays and observances anywhere in the world.

Genealogy Class Begins September 17
Mary J. Lohr

“Exploring Your Genealogy Online,” a class sponsored by the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Iowa State University (OLLI), begins Thursday, September 17 at 11 AM. The class will be presented via Zoom and will run for six consecutive weeks. Some of the topics to be presented are genealogy best practices, choosing genealogy software, recording data and source citations, FamilySearch, Find A Grave, using social media, newspapers, maps, and census records. The final session will discuss analysis of AncestryDNA test results and how those can be used to expand your family tree. (DNA testing with either Ancestry or one of the other testing companies is not a requirement for the course.)

You can learn more about this and other OLLI classes scheduled for Fall at a Zoom informational session Thursday, August 13 at 1:30 PM. Registration opens Friday, August 14 at 8:30 AM. For more information email: Jerilyn Logue: jlogue@iastate.edu or call 515-294-3192 (may need to leave a message) or visit https://bit.ly/2OGOmde. You can click the OLLI at ISU online membership form if you wish to become a member.

(An OLLI membership is required to take any OLLI class. Membership is $25 annually and the year runs from July 1 to June 30.)

Additional information can be found in the article entitled Genealogy Class Offered in September 2020 on page 4 in the July 2020 SCGS newsletter.

Genealogy Lookup in Social Media

Facebook and other social media is often a source for many of your genealogy searches. Go to the search option generally at the top of the page and enter ancestry, family search or any other item that you want to search for and you will be amazed at the number of options that you will have available to you.
SCGS Begins Meeting Virtually via Zoom  
by Mary J. Lohr

Due to the Pandemic, SCGS has been unable to meet or hold programs in person since March 2020. So, we did what genealogists usually do--find a way around the challenge! In this case SCGS has gone to virtual meetings via Zoom. We experimented with the free version of Zoom for several times but soon realized the forty-minute time limit did not serve our needs. (Translation: we like to talk!)

The SCGS Executive Board decided at their July meeting to invest in a paid subscription to Zoom. We had an opportunity to use that version for the July 15 member meeting and were pleased not to be confined to forty minutes. In fact, the meeting went twice that amount of time as we discussed brick wall solutions.

In addition to the no time meeting limit, another benefit is that members will be able to dial in via their phone if they are unable to access a computer. An ordinary landline will work just fine (no smart phone required). If you’d like to test this method, email webmanager@storygenes.com to set up a time to arrange that.

Members who do not live in the central Iowa area will also benefit because they can now attend the virtual meetings.

Members have responded well to the Zoom platform and quickly learned they can mute or un-mute their microphone, turn on or off their web camera, change their displayed name, and stay in touch with other SCGS members.

The chat feature will be available to ask a question or make a comment. This feature will be especially helpful when we begin having a speaker during our programs starting in the fall.

It’s unknown when meeting rooms will be available at the Ames Public Library nor if there will be restrictions such as social distancing. In the meantime, using Zoom for SCGS meetings and programs will fill the gap. Currently

People can derive many things from headstones: wisdom, insight, or simply humor. If a passerby is going to have a remark about the name or your odd name, you might as well beat them to the punch by outlining the oddity for them.

Continued from previous column (ZOOM)

the expectation is the monthly meetings will be restricted to SCGS members but that Genealogy Plus will also be open to non-members who will need to register. Our Zoom license allows one hundred participants at a meeting. We don’t anticipate members will need to register for either the meetings or Genealogy Plus. Membership does have its perks!

The next member meeting is Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 PM CDT. The topic for discussion will be our favorite genealogy research tool or website. The unlimited time frame will be a great feature.

Not a member? Membership is only $15 for a calendar year. There is an application form in each newsletter. Or you can join via the storygenes.com website and pay with a credit card.
Giggle, Giggle, Teehee!

Submitted by Merlene Whisenand

We recently ran into a newspaper column, which says that there is a “Roots” disease, so with tongue in cheek, here it is:

I know a few, and undoubtedly there are many of them around here, although not as many as there are, say in Philadelphia. Who?? Those folk who have a passion for tracing ancestry.

“Anyhow, back in Philadelphia a “warning” sign has appeared near the front door of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. The sign is topped by a large type caution: “Quarantined!” Then comes: “The inhabitants of this place have been stricken with genealogy fever, a deadly and infectious disease.

“Symptoms are note papers stuffed in pockets & files: heart palpitations at the sight of old gravestones and old trunks filled with letters, bloodshot eyes from excessive microfilm exposure; erratic speech patterns punctuated with pilgrims and princes; cold sweat upon the arrival of the daily mail.” And in large type: “INCURABLE!.” If you have genealogy fever yourself, or know someone so afflicted, you know that recital of symptoms is accurate.

The above was sent to the corresponding secretary by one of her many correspondents. I thought it was worth passing on, so you would know what you really have when you are thinking about researching for that “missing ancestor”.

Printed from April 2013 SCGS newsletter

Editor’s Notes

Wow you guys did it again. We are in the summer when there normally isn’t a newsletter and we are having meetings and your editor has enough information and articles to fill an entire newsletter.

Please join us on the August 19th Zoom meeting. Mary Lohr will send members an email with the Zoom details – and remember, no time limit this time!!!!

Thoughts For September

The September 2020 monthly meeting of SCGS has the beginnings of a very interesting meeting. Some of the topics shown below will be discussed by all members joining in on the Zoom meeting. Most genealogists have had these questions over the years, and many other genealogists may have found the answers to these questions over the years. This meeting will provide the opportunity for those with the questions to interact with those who may have the answers. Some of the questions and topics are shown below:

- No one in my family is interested in my genealogy research. What should I do with all of my accumulated research, binders, notebooks, etc.?
- How do I prevent genealogy burnout?
- A relative has some of the information I need but she refuses to share the photos (or documents or other material)? How can I get his/her cooperation?
- How can I get a person to respond to a request I sent them? (Could be through ancestry, email, a DNA contact, etc.)
- How far do you extend the family tree in your research? Do you include collateral lines? What about the parents of the wife of my nephew?
- What is your best advice for resolving a brick wall?
- Has anyone found a valuable new resource lately that others could profit from hearing about for their own research?

Please remember that these are topics that are intended to start conversations. While it is encouraged that participants stay on the subject as much as possible, discussion that is slightly off-topic will probably be allowed (after all, we are genealogists). We want only healthy and productive conversation. If you have new ideas other than those shown above, please send your idea to the SCGS VP Programming or any other SCGS officer or mailto:info@storygenes.com.
**GenealogyInTime – Another Search Option**

by Mary J. Lohr

Does the staggering number of search results from a Google search leave you feeling a bit perplexed? If you are wanting a more focused set of results, consider using **GenealogyInTime**.

**GenealogyInTime** (www.genealogyintime.com) describes itself as one of the top three online genealogy magazines in the world. The site features original material, all of which is free, and is an interesting combination of various search engines, articles, and resources.

Although their search engines are identified as “powered by Google Custom Search” the results are filtered to include genealogy data, based upon the particular data sets **GenealogyInTime** has defined. Thus, you are not likely to be presented with a million or so results. **GenealogyInTime** offers a more targeted set of hits.

You can choose from the Genealogy Search Engine (focusing on ancestral records), the Family Tree Search Engine (searches 1.6 billion names on the top family tree websites) or the Rare Book Search Engines. In addition, there is a Genealogy Twitter Reader, A Genealogy Blog Reader, and a Genealogy News Reader. And, like any worthwhile magazine, **GenealogyInTime** has a set of genealogy articles including ones on locating living relatives and overcoming research brick walls. In addition, there are other tools offered: a world time zone map, an interactive 1940 map of Great Britain, and 500 free wallpaper images for your computer desktop.

Despite all this information the **GenealogyInTime** website is amazingly uncluttered and very intuitive to navigate. There is also a weekly newsletter you can opt to receive that updates what is being added to the site.

The only down side, in my experience, is that the site omits some search results you’d expect to find. When I searched “Heye Groeneveld” **GenealogyInTime** did not find any results. Google produced 674! This was perplexing since the Groeneveld Family site is the premier site for this family, is international in coverage, and contains more than 30,000 names in the database. Suggestion: use Google for broader results and **GenealogyInTime** for focused areas.

Reprinted from October 2011 SCGS newsletter

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Continued from page 8 (**genealogy**)

To verify other buildings he may have built in Nevada, a visit to the assessor’s office or the auditor’s office at the County administrative building might provide more exact dates when a building was built. Checking the newspapers for the dates might also reveal articles written about the building and may mention who the mason was. There was a mention of the Watchman block as being a building that Daniel built in an article from the Story County Watchman in September of 1886. The article implies that he built some of “the best ones in Nevada.” The Watchman newspaper was in the building which now houses Snack Time. The newspapers published in Nevada are available not only on microfilm at the library, but also online at the library’s website [www.nevada.lib.ia.us](http://www.nevada.lib.ia.us) by clicking on the link to the Newspaper Archives which will take you to [https://nevada.advantage-preservation.com/](https://nevada.advantage-preservation.com/) where you can search the newspapers full-text from 1860 to 2015.

Submitted by Linda Wright – SCGS member

**Editor Addendum to Nevada Public Library Article**

Other genealogical and historical references not mentioned in this article are the city directories, the obituary card file, which, while extensive, has only been comprehensive since the early 2000’s, city histories, county plat maps and Nevada High School yearbooks. Check out the many additional features of the Nevada Public Library at – [www.nevada.lib.ia.us](http://www.nevada.lib.ia.us).

**Quote of the Day**

"If you cry in your soup, you'll get your mustache wet."

Linda Wright ca 1974 – Linda said - I like to think it means you can cry, but it will water down your life!

**Ames Public Library Update**

Unless you have been on the APL website lately, they now have **limited lobby opening**. They have a colorful FAQ box located on their homepage (www.amespubliclibrary.org). You are expected to wear a face mask and maintain social distancing, both for the safety of you and others. Please go to their website for further information.
Gravestone Preservation Workshop In Winneshiek County!!!

The Winneshiek County Pioneer Cemetery Commission is excited to announce a FREE, 1 day, workshop. Jonathan Appell, nationally known gravestone preservationist will present the workshop in Frankville, Iowa as part of his national tour, 48 states in 48 days!!

The event will briefly discuss historic preservation with a focus on masonry, cemeteries and gravestones. Then visually survey some of the most historic and in need of repair monuments, at each location. Followed by safe and effective cleaning of gravestones.

Everyone is welcome to watch and or help with hands on work. Veterans stones will be cleaned at each event. All events will be 100% Free to the public. Watch, Listen, Learn and Help or stay 100 feet away and observe through binoculars.

Followed by other assorted repairs that will be performed depending on time allowed....... including joining fractured tablets, raising and or leveling badly leaning, sunken or fallen stones, resetting and joining of multiple piece monuments, if possible a lifting tripod will be employed at each location.

Where: Frankville Cemetery, Frankville, Iowa  
When: Wednesday, September 2, 2020  
Time: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm  
* Bring your own lunch and bottled water  
* For more information call, Stacey Gossling 563-380-9077 or Janelle Halverson 563-379-6355. * Please call after 3pm

Always Ready To Help Out Other Genealogy Related Groups
Local Gem
By Samara Thornock, Editor

Where can you find free patron access to several subscription-based websites, as well as over 3 billion records of deceased persons--including birth, marriage, and death records; censuses; probates and wills; land records, and more? Right here in Ames.

Due to cooperation with government archives, churches, and libraries around the globe, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has created the world’s largest collection of family history records. Since 1972, the LDS Family History Center here in Ames has been a working satellite of that collection and is a proven resource for SCGS members and other genealogical enthusiasts in our area. Many SCGS members volunteer their time at the Center and provide a wealth of experience and expertise to the public at large.

When asked what resources she feels the Center offers that would be valuable to members of the SCGS, Mary Lohr offered the following: “About ten years ago, I started using the Family History Center here in Ames. My heaviest use has come from renting microfilms from Salt Lake City. Two moments stand out: on a Saturday in February about eight years ago, I discovered the marriage record of my great-grandparents and let out a shout of glee! It was an exciting event, and my happiness was shared by those in the Center that day. The second moment occurred when I found the birth record for my husband’s great-grandfather. Two years ago, I was privileged to see the actual record in Germany...but having already seen the microfilmed copy made that moment even more special.

“For me, the single most valuable resource offered is the ability to borrow microfilms to examine records. The second are the databases that are available for use (and free).”

Annette Anderegg, past SCGS program presenter and recent SCGS member, is the center director. She recently stated, “My personal favorites right now are www.newspaperarchive.com and www.Fold3.com. However, I feel one of the most valuable resources we can offer is the person-to-person help when a researcher has specific questions. The combined years of experience, knowledge, and passion for genealogy available through our staff offer a unique resource for genealogists.”

The Family History Center is located inside the LDS Church building at 2524 Hoover Avenue. Patrons can enter through the southeast doors and will find the Center at the end of the hall. Its hours of operation are Tuesdays Noon-9pm, Thursdays 9am-Noon and 6pm-9pm, and Saturdays (1st and 3rd) 9am-Noon. For questions or more information, contact Annette Anderegg at anderegg224@yahoo.com or visit www.familysearch.org.

Reprinted from 2013 March newsletter – Local Gem

Editor’s note: The article from the 2013 newsletter was very well written but some of the information is no longer accurate. Currently, there are several changes that have occurred at the Ames Family History Center:

1) Since early 2020, due to COVID-19, the Ames Family History Center has been closed. It is uncertain when the Ames FHC will reopen but this newsletter will advise readers when that happens.

2) When the Ames FHC reopens, the Ames FHC hours and contact information may change. This new information will also appear in this newsletter.

3) Several years ago microfilm was no longer made available to the Ames Family History Center.

4) In the future, this newsletter will publish additional updated information regarding the Ames FHC.

5) Certainly, the vast amount of accessible records has increased dramatically since 2013.
How Does Genealogy Tie Into Local History?

Genealogy is both family tree and family history. A Tree is the chart showing names, with dates and places. A Family History is the story of a person or a family, or the dash between their dates. That is where local history comes into play.

We will focus on Daniel McKim because of a family story. It has been verified that he was a brick mason using the census records. But the family story says that he built most of the buildings here in downtown Nevada.

The basic information about him says that Daniel was born Jan 9, 1835 in Columbiana, Ohio. He married Patience Ann Evans, the daughter of Judge Evan Cadwallader Evans and they had five children. After her death, he married Alice Daugherty and they had two children. He died in 1914 in Mason City, Iowa and is buried in Northville, South Dakota.

Using the census records, we can flesh out his story a little. In the 1850 census, Daniel was 15 years old and living in Henderson County, Illinois with his parents, Noble and Abigail and 8 siblings. The first 5 children were born in Ohio, according to this census record and the other 3 were born in Illinois. From this information we can assume that the family moved to Illinois sometime between 1838 and 1840, judging by the birthplaces listed for the 5th child and the 6th child. In the special Iowa census for 1856, Daniel is 21 and living in Franklin Township in Story County, Iowa. In 1860, he is married to Patience and they are back in Henderson County, Illinois with one child. They move back to Story County sometime between 1862 and 1864 according to where their children were born. In 1870 they were in Milford Township and in 1880 they were living in Colo. We don’t know where they are in 1890 because most of the census records for that year were destroyed by fire. In 1886 Daniel married Alice Daugherty according to Allen’s history book and in 1900 they were living in Nevada. Daniel was 75 years old in 1910 and was living in Mason City. But there is more to his story.

Information can be gleaned from various sources. Daniel is mentioned a couple of times in A History of Story County Iowa written in 1887 by William G. Allen. This book is available at the Nevada Public Library and the Nevada Community Historical Museum, as well as online full text at the Story County GenWeb site, http://iagenweb.org/story/ . In this book, it is noted that he was an officer of the I.O.O.F. or Odd Fellows at the time the book was written. Also in this book, it is noted that in November 1885 he and Alice Daugherty got a marriage license in Nevada.

Where was Daniel in 1890? He was probably in Nevada. However, in 1884, we know that he and his family went to South Dakota to homestead. The family has several letters written by Daniel to his wife and children on the farm where they were homesteading. It was there that Patience Ann died and was buried, which explains why he is buried there. He then moved back to Nevada and married Alice, and had two more children. So then, why was he living in Mason City in 1910 until he died in 1914? He was living in the Odd Fellows home, which I discovered on the 1910 census. Census records for Story County are available on microfilm for the Federal censuses of 1860, ’70, ’80 and 1900, ’10, ’20, and the State censuses of 1856, 1885, 1905, 1915, 1925. There are also indexes to a few of the censuses (IA 977.7 CENSUS REF).

Using the research undertaken to establish Nevada’s downtown as a National Historic District for the National Register, one building mentioned that Daniel was the brick mason and that was the Old Creamery building, now known as the Courthouse View Apartments. This building was built in 1863. Many of the other buildings in the downtown were built between 1875 and 1900. Daniel would have been in Nevada during much of that time period. The research for this project is available at the Nevada Public Library in the Genealogy and Local History section (IA 977.7546 NEVADA).

Continued on page 5, column 2 (genealogy)
Iowa County Seats #2 - SCGS Word Search #22

Words may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal and may be backward

Answers at Word Search Answers on the Story County Genealogical Society website

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Membership Application

Name(s): __________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: __________________ Zip: __________

Phone: __________ email: ____________________________ Birthday: __/__/____