President’s Message

It is hard to believe that the 4th is upon us. I guess time passes by no matter what is happening in the world. That is another reason to write our family stories and document our thoughts and feelings during this time.

I ran across my parent's Marriage Certificate the other day and it had a middle initial for my maternal grandfather. I have never seen any initial or middle name for him in anything I have for him. Very interesting. Also found a Draft Card he filled out when he was 60 years old.

Family Tree Magazine has been giving ideas or projects to do during this pandemic. Some of the ideas pertain to writing your family story - recipes (in person's handwriting) along with photos of when the recipe was served, family traditions, family heirlooms, just to name a few. Maybe call a family member and do an interview. Good way to stay in touch and learn family history.

Everyone stay safe.

Nancy
Story County Genealogical Society
Meeting Minutes June 17, 2020

The Story County Genealogical Society held its June meeting via Zoom on Wednesday June 17th. President Nancy Long started the meeting at 6:30 pm. Lyle Hammes gave the current list of speakers for 2020 and 2021. Next on the agenda, Dick Cooper gave a presentation on Find A Grave and BillionGraves websites. There were several questions asked of the speaker. The meeting was adjourned about 7:20 pm.

Dick Cooper, Editor

Challenging Your Brain

Are you smarter than a non-genealogist? Here's an opportunity to find out ... take the Genealogy Quiz available in the Member Section of the Story County Genealogical Society website (storygenes.com). The source for the first quiz questions is content found on the StoryGenWebsite. You can submit your answers (there are no grades), or you can check your own results with the answers provided. But don't peek before taking the test!

Look for more of these genealogy type quizzes in the future! Let us know what you think ... are they too difficult? Too easy? Did you learn something?
You can send feedback to
www.webmanager@storygenes.com

(And if you want to create a quiz and submit it, that would be great!)

Independence Day

Independence Day (the Fourth of July or July 4) is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the Declaration of Independence of the United States, on July 4, 1776. The Continental Congress declared that the thirteen American colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress had voted to declare independence two days earlier, on July 2, but it was not declared until July 4.

Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, political speeches, and ceremonies, and other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States.

WHO'D A THUNK IT?
Written by Merlene Meldrem Whisenand

Joshua and Ann Jarvis Wainwright
Tinker, g-g-g-grandparents for
Merlene Whisenand

One day a number of years ago, I was with a group of SCGS members attending a Federated Genealogical Society Meeting in eastern Iowa. The daily meetings were very interesting, but what I was most interested in was the vending area. I am always looking for books. So, I was cruising thru the vending area and was fascinated by the displays for the different states. One that caught my eye was Pennsylvania.

My husband’s family landed in Pennsylvania aboard the Snow Ship Lowther in 1730! So of course that was a biggie for me. As I walked along looking at the titles, one caught my eye, as it said “Mercer Co., PA.”, where my mother’s Tinker ancestors were from.

I reached way up to the top shelf and chose a small booklet. When I got it down where I could read the title, it was named “LETTERS FROM THE PAST - To & From the Wainwright Family of England – written in the Pittsburgh Area- July 6, 1805 through October 17, 1866.” compiled by Charlotte H. Sadler. Concerning that surname, I only knew that my g.g.g.grandmother’s name was Ann Jarvis Wainwright and that she had married a man named Joshua Tinker. I quickly perused the index and lo! and behold! there was a whole bunch of TINKERS! So of course I bought the booklet and read every word of it!

Sure enough the letters were written by a man named Joseph Wainwright, who arrived with his family in the United States sometime in 1805 and wrote the first letter back to his cousin, Benjamin Wainwright on July 6th, 1805. Ann Jarvis Wainwright was his sister! Eventually he helped his sister and her family to immigrate to the U. S. The total booklet is a first hand story of how he felt about the things that were taking place here in this new country.

Sometimes there were several years between the letters, but one of the first things that interested him, and ME, was his account of the Lewis and Clark Expedition! He also

Continued at bottom of next column (Tinker)
The Healing Power of Family History

By Samara Thornock
(reprinted from a 2013 SCGS newsletter)

It speaks highly of the kind of people who research family history when some of the first sources they turn to after the census are the church or military records. While moral and honorable lives may be our well-chosen fate, our optimism that this was likewise the path of our ancestors may divert our attention from some of the less savory records and social/behavioral progress of those who came before us.

Though jail time has not been the fate of any of my known forbearers, the stories of their lives have, at times, been at least full of character if not devastatingly tragic in their consequences. It was even said of one great grandfather that his children couldn’t wait to be the first to kick the dirt on his grave.

So why, generations later, would anyone try to associate themselves with such a legacy? We all have our reasons, and we all have our motivations that are sometimes absent reason, but one cause that can’t escape me is gratitude.

And while I may not be able to thank them for the poor eyesight or occasions for family dys”fun”tion, I can thank them for living, migrating, struggling, starving, having children, and paving the way so I can experience the ups, downs, ins, and outs of a colorful life.

Continued from previous column (Tinker)
told of the building of the railroads, the bank collapse, his trip to St. Louis where his sons built a brewery that eventually became BUDWEISER! In the last few letters he is saying good-bye to his relatives and concerned about the fact that he fears that this country is headed for a Civil War. All in all a very interesting first hand account of American history, as well as my very own family history.

From October 2011 SCGS newsletter

Keep Family Stories Alive for Future Generations

By James E. Wise, Des Moines
Submitted by Merlene Whisenand

Growing up in the 1930s generated many challenges.

Families were stressed dealing with significant issues – no money, no jobs, drought, disease, loss of hope, concern for the future. And, the “storm clouds” developing over Europe added greatly to the unease of most families.

What to do?

During those times, families gathered together to lend support and encouragement to each other. Grandparents, aunts, and uncles moved in with the offspring, sharing their wealth and opportunities. Some gathered for family visits on an irregular basis while others convened annually for large family reunions to share their “bounty” and to review and relish their family history and further spread the wives’ tales of days gone by. These tactics helped to sustain us.

Those days have come and gone, and the limited advantages of those conditions have disappeared. Proximity of family, dependency upon one another and the spirit of the nuclear family seem to be second thoughts.

All too often our children today lack the opportunity of seeing their extended family, let alone getting to know each other or learn the family history, since they are spread from coast to coast and country to country. Technology has helped to ease the situation, but is it enough?

Grandparents, take the initiative and begin sharing your family history. Write it down. Record or videotape the tales of your family, tell the funny and sad stories, the experiences with schooling, your neighborhood and growing-up years, your parents and your parents’ parents, your working years, all the things that helped to make you who you are today.

In this small way, the oral history of America can be rekindled and passed down for generations to come.

What a gift to your family and their families!

From SCGS Newsletter February 2013
Genealogy Class Offered in September 2020

"Exploring Your Genealogy Online" is a six session class scheduled to start Thursday, September 17. It will be offered through OLLI at Iowa State University and will be taught online through Zoom. Registration details and costs will be available in the August newsletter. This class is scheduled for 11 AM – 12:30 PM each Thursday starting with September 17, 2020.

Whether you’re just beginning the process of discovering your genealogy, or are an experienced researcher, this course is designed to help you understand the research process, formulate a research plan, make sound conclusions, choose a software program, and use major online resources effectively. The final session will discuss what to expect from AncestryDNA (and other DNA testing companies) and how to use the results to expand your family connections. (DNA testing with either Ancestry or one of the other companies is NOT a requirement for this course.)

Genealogist’s Disease

Warning: Genealogy Pox
(Very Contagious to adults)

SYMPTOMS: Continual complaint as to need for names, dates and places. Patient has a blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries and courthouses. Has compulsion to write letters. Swears at mailman when he doesn’t leave mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, and remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls, hides phone bills from spouse and mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

NO KNOWN CURE

TREATMENT: Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

REMARKS: The unusual nature of this disease is – the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it!
Source: Anonymous

Holidays and Reasons to Celebrate

July 4 – Independence Day
July 14 – Bastille Day
July 15 – Tax Day
July 19 – Birthday 😊
July 24 – Pioneer Day (Utah)
July 26 – Parents’ Day
July 27 – Nat’l Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

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

Thank You

Thanks to everyone who attended the June 17 virtual SCGS meeting! Dick Cooper told us a lot about Find A Grave and how it can be used for genealogy.

Mark your calendars for the next meeting on July 15 at 6:30 PM CDT.

A reminder that Ancestry Library Edition is still available from home through the Ames Public Library. This is expected to last until the end of June.

Feeling up to a bit of a genealogy challenge? Check out the Genealogy Quiz in the Member section of the website. (Answers are also provided.) Feedback on the quiz can be sent to webmanager@storygenes.com.
If the response is very positive, we may do a few more of these.

GOOD NEWS: Do you need help with a genealogy brick wall or problem? We will be discussing possible solutions at the July 15 meeting. Email: webmanager@storygenes.com with your brick wall information and include: specifically what you are trying to find, and, what research you've already done.
Deadline for submission is July 1. A summary of problems submitted will be included in an email to members after that date.

Sincerely,
Mary J. Lohr, Web Manager
Story County Genealogical Society
Graveyard Quilt

I was reading an email newsletter from ISU University Museums and they had a story about quilts and mentioned a graveyard quilt at the Kentucky Historical Society. I clicked on the link provided then searched for Elizabeth Roseberry Mitchell graveyard quilt. Below is the link with the story and photos of the quilt.

https://kyhistory.pastperfectonline.com/webobject/90C9CB5A-6327-42F0-8085-383648601656

I thought what an interesting way for quilters to create a family tree. My mom and paternal grandma were quilters as was at least one of mom’s great grandmothers. They made beautiful quilts from clothes or leftover fabrics yet I had never heard of a graveyard quilt until I read the ISU University Museum’s email.

What interested me was that for the border Elizabeth used coffins with family names. When each passed away, the coffin was moved to the cemetery in the center of the quilt and she added the date of death.

Marti Steelman
SCGS member

Meeting Schedule

September 16, 2020
Subject: Economical Ways to do Genealogy Research
Speaker: Mary Lohr

October 21, 2020
Subject: Genealogy Software
Speaker: Dennis Allen

November 18, 2020
Subject: Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Projects Administration (WPA)
Speaker: Pamela Riney-Kehrberg

December 16, 2020
No planned Genealogy Plus presentation

January 20, 2021
Subject: Ancestry and DNA testing
Speakers: Pete Peterson and Kathy Jones

February 17, 2021
Subject: Compilation of short topics & presentations
Speakers: TBD

March 17, 2021
Subject: Tools of the Trade: Timelines, Tables and Templates
Speaker: Alice Hoyt-Veen

April 21, 2021
Subject: Preparing for a Trip to the Archives
Speakers: Megan Klein-Hewett and Lorrie Pellack

May 19, 2021
Subject: Trip to Parks Library, ISU

Many of these meetings may be held over Zoom like the past few meetings have been. Watch your email for further information.
Oh, How “Pinteresting!”

A Message from Mary J. Lohr, 
President ad Interim 
Story County Genealogical Society

If you're a person who likes the visual side of genealogy, you may be interested in a relatively new “social media” tool called Pinterest (pinterest.com). Think of it as an online pin board or virtual bulletin board where you can place, or “pin,” images from websites that you like or want to share.

You can also pin your own photographs, such as a picture of your great-grandparents.

Images can be separated into categories, or subjects, called “Boards”. You can have an unlimited number of Boards and choose a descriptive name for them.

Pinterest is free, but you do need to sign up to create an account. You can choose whether you want to link your Facebook or Twitter account to Pinterest.

Pinterest is by no means limited to genealogy-themed Boards. Decorating, gardening, and antiques are also popular subjects. After your account is set up and you've signed in, you can use the search box to explore other images and then “re-pin” them to your own Boards. Adding a comment is optional. And remember, most of the graphics are really just the visual representation of a website.

You can also create a private or “secret” board if you are working on a project and are not yet ready to share it with others. The private board can serve as a staging area for ideas in progress.

Be aware, however: Pinterest can consume a huge amount of time! Time does not stand still while you are exploring this resource.

You can check out my or other genealogy Pinterest boards at the following URL’s:

https://pinterest.com/maryjlohr
https://pinterest.com/geneabloggers/
https://pinterest.com/familystories/
https://pinterest.com/elisacoffman/
http://pinterest.com/savingstories/

Happy Pinning!

NOTE: This article was reprinted from the January 2013 SCGS newsletter. BEWARE: Some of the information contained herein may have changed, but I can tell you that Pinterest is still alive and well.

Ten Common Genealogy Myths
By Mary Lohr

1. Our surname was changed at Ellis Island.
2. We are related to royalty, even though we had to skip four (or fourteen) generations to prove it.
3. My immigrant ancestor was a stowaway on the ship.
4. Grandma said it, so it must be true.
5. Our family has a coat-of-arms.
6. There is a Cherokee princess in our family ancestry.
7. All genealogy records are on the Internet.
8. If it’s on the Internet, then it’s true.
9. All persons with the same surname are related.
10. My ancestor had two brothers: one went south, one went north, and mine went west.

Editors Note (in 2013):
Don’t be afraid to pay careful attention to your family’s particular myth! When something sounds unique, learn more, and kindly ask from what source a person has understood their information. Correct or not, you’ll be rewarded with something fantastic!

Copied from April 2013 SCGS newsletter
Still true today
How I Got Bit by the Bug
By Luanne Guss Endreland

I am a second generation member of the SCGS. My mother, Janet Guss, was a charter member. I don’t remember this, of course, I was 15 at the time and what 15 year old girl pays attention to what their mother is doing. I do remember going to cemeteries with her as a child, walking around. We even did some etchings and the flour thing to bring out the letters on the stones. It was interesting but I was a kid back then. Just not into it.

My mother did all her research by snail-mail and by talking to relatives. That was when most of the older ones were still alive. When I was born, both sets of my grandparents were still living and I knew 3 of my greatgrandmothers and sort of remember 2 of my greatgrandfathers. Not too many can say that now can they.

Fast forward a few years, a couple of marriages, and 3 kids. My mother was diagnosed with lung cancer. I don’t think she was doing too much research by then. She didn’t have a very good prognosis, so she made each of her kids (4 of them) a heritage book. She used a magnetic photo album, very bad for your photos, and started with my first child. She then continued with assorted pictures of me: baby pics, school pics, and wedding photos. The third generation was of my parents, 4th generation-my grandparents and so forth back as far as she had pictures. She listed the names and dates of people. There were blank spots if she didn’t have a picture. I think there were at least 8 generations in there. I loved it! She died at the young age of 53 in 1985.

I began scrapbooking in the early 1990’s. I loved taking pictures, and I had a bunch of them. I still have boxes in the closet I haven’t gotten to. Well, when I started, I began to think of redoing the album that mom had done for me. I had gotten married again and had 2 more kids and I knew I had more pictures I wanted to use. I just needed the right album, and I found the perfect black leather one. Very classy.

Dad had asked me a few years before that if I would be interested in mom’s boxes of genealogy papers. He was trying to clean out his house. I took them and just put them up in my attic, until I had more time. Well, when I started to think about redoing the album, those boxes started talking to me. (Next column (genealogy)>>>>>

I brought them down and started looking through them. There were notebooks and letters from people and old magazines from the Iowa Genealogical Society. It also had lots of assorted pieces of paper with assorted bits of info. The more I looked through everything the more I was pulled in and knew I needed to continue what my mother had started, to fill in the blank spots.

With the help of the internet I have built quite the family tree and when you add my children’s in-laws too it makes for a big tree. You might even call it a forest. I even work on friend’s trees when I get tired of doing mine. I tell people it is a chronic disorder, no cure, no treatment. It comes and goes, sometime you don’t do anything for awhile then you end up doing some late nights on the computer just trying to find that one person you know is out there somewhere.

Well, I’m off on the hunt. Happy hunting to all of you!

Article Printed from SCGS Newsletter March 2013

A good wordplay can be loads of fun, especially when it involves a name. With a name like Noah Scape, the kid must have been teased at some point in his life. And what about the parents? Did they not put two and two together when naming him?
Stanhope Public Library

The town of Stanhope is located in Hamilton County, Iowa, but the Hamilton Heritage Hunters is a good friend of the Story County Genealogical Society. We have been invited to several of their 1-day presentations on various subjects of interest to genealogists and family historians.

This portion of their history speaks volumes about the Stanhope Public Library:

*The Early Years*

The Stanhope Public Library is proud to be a part of a continued tradition that has sought to preserve and enrich a better understanding and appreciation for the historical existence of our small community.

It is hard to imagine our founding families traveling from great distances, settling in unknown territory, willing themselves to face the uncertainties and hardships with the courage and strength needed to build and sustain a better future for themselves and their families. This addition to our website is intended to renew that spirit of commitment that we all share; that our families, neighbors and friends, can all continue to live in a safe and nourishing community. It is only when we acknowledge and appreciate past experiences, that we are able to define the presence of today and envision the future of tomorrow. (NOTE: Taken from the Stanhope Public Library website)

The library was is located in downtown Stanhope and the Community Center is attached to the library. This is very convenient in case of inclement weather or meetings that may involve the library and/or Community Center.

The librarians have developed several eLibrary options for use by library card holders remotely. They also have several programs for young people and adults to make a visit to the library more attractive.

Unfortunately, the library is not open now due to the coronavirus, but there are still options to use the library. You can visit the website for information about Stanhope and also the library at: [www.stanhopelib.org](http://www.stanhopelib.org).

Editor’s Notes

Well, this newsletter will be sent to you before July 1^{st}, but not by much. I’ve been busy lately and worked on the newsletter when I had a chance. (NOTE: Yes, I’m still retired too, and busy). Welcome July!!!!!!

As you notice, I have gone into the archives and printed some SCGS Newsletter articles from the past – ones that sounded good. There are many other articles too, and you can look at these articles if you wish. Like Mary Lohr pointed out several issues ago, you can go to [www.archives.org](http://www.archives.org). Then put SCGS News in the search box. Don’t use the search box for WaybackMachine, scroll down to the next search box. The newsletters go back to 2010. See what gems you can find in there.

We’re still meeting on Zoom, the virtual communication audio/visual tool. Seems to work out well, but I think that we all agree there is nothing like an in-person meeting. The Zoom meetings let members from other parts of the country join in on the meetings also, so that’s good. Nice to see some new faces in addition to some more familiar ones. The Ames library still has the CLOSED signs on the door, so we couldn’t meet at the library anyway, there are still online services at the library so check it out.

SCGS members please remember the July 15^{th} meet of the SCGS membership at 6:30 pm. We will be meeting via Zoom again, and remember that it is very easy to get on it and use it to be in audio and visual contact with other members. I’ll be bold here and say that if you can receive and read this newsletter then you can probably access Zoom. If you have any questions you can contact any one of several SCGS officers for help. I have to try out my new headphone with boom mike on that Zoom meeting also. I hope it works good well.

You may have noticed that each issue has had information about a local library or historical society. I try to stay in Story County and the close surrounding area; BUT if you are familiar with a library and/or historical society in your area (even if it is outside of Iowa), please let me know and I’ll put your article in the newsletter. It’s always good to know what other libraries and historical societies are doing; maybe it will give us some ideas. The virus has most of them shut down now, but they still offer services.

Dick Cooper
Iowa County Seats #1 - SCGS Word Search #21

| Z | D | E | C | O | R | A | H | C | E | N | T | E | R | V | I | L | L | E |
| A | L | B | O | C | R | N | F | T | R | O | P | N | E | V | A | D | Q | O |
| C | L | M | U | S | L | A | E | G | H | D | I | N | E | T | R | E | S | B |
| W | X | H | N | E | Z | M | M | M | O | Y | P | Q | Y | O | E | S | F | L |
| C | M | W | C | R | A | O | O | U | Y | R | J | T | F | K | R | M | S | O |
| H | L | K | I | C | B | S | A | N | Y | O | I | D | W | U | T | O | S | O |
| A | D | E | L | M | C | A | C | Y | R | C | E | D | C | S | O | I | L | M |
| R | N | O | B | U | D | U | A | L | S | B | I | I | S | D | U | N | Q | F |
| I | R | Z | L | Y | M | C | H | E | R | O | K | E | E | I | X | E | K | I |
| T | F | G | U | M | N | O | L | H | I | U | Y | B | O | P | P | S | I | E |
| O | A | C | F | C | O | R | N | I | N | G | L | U | J | A | M | B | R | L |
| N | C | L | F | R | A | L | B | I | A | Q | U | A | L | R | N | D | I | D |
| R | A | A | S | H | N | D | N | O | T | G | N | I | L | R | U | B | E | H |
| Y | R | R | C | R | E | S | T | O | N | X | A | T | L | A | N | T | I | C |
| D | R | I | C | A | L | G | O | N | A | F | N | M | O | D | B | X | A | E |
| B | O | O | N | E | G | C | L | I | N | T | O | N | W | E | Y | X | R | A |
| E | L | N | O | S | I | N | D | A | K | O | T | A | C | I | T | Y | G |
| F | L | M | A | L | L | I | S | O | N | M | C | L | A | R | I | N | D | A |

Words may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal and may be backward. Answers can be found at Word Search Answers on the SCGS website.

Adel          Audubon          CedarRapids          Clarion          Creston
Albia         Bedford         Centerville         Clinton          DakotaCity
Algona        Bloomfield      Chariton            Corning          Davenport
Allison       Boone           CharlesCity        Corydon          Decorah
Anamosa       Burlington      Cherokee            CouncilBluffs   Denison
Atlantic      Carroll         Clarinda           Cresco           DesMoines