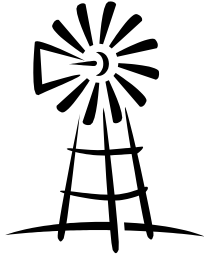


PRAIRIE PIONEER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P O BOX 1122
GRAND ISLAND, NE 68802-1122



JANUARY 2012

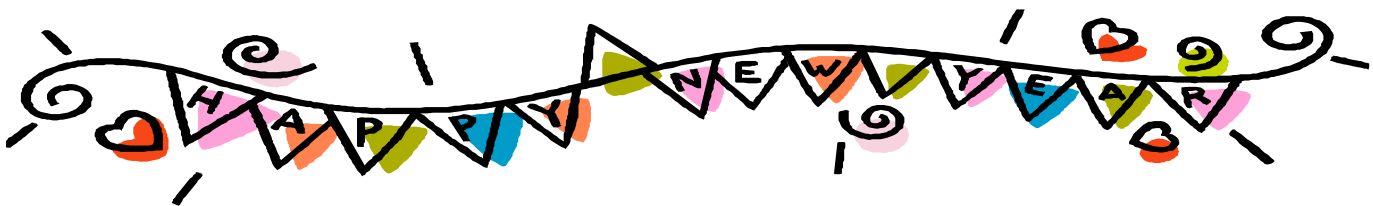
From the President's Desk:

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Our thanks go out to Suzi Paulsen's cousin and her husband (JoAnne and Riley Nielsen) for the presentation of Christmases past while being a resident of the Platt Duetsch (or Platt Deutsche, as the case may be!). The Christmas gifts for all attendees at the program was a most pleasant surprise, with a touch of German flair. The wide array of very many tasty "pot-luck" dishes satisfied everyone's palate.

After consulting with Jessica Waite at the Stuhr Museum, our "stepping forward" help with the volunteerism was gratifying for 2011. This is achieving our objective of getting several research dept. projects closer to conclusion. We've made a good start to that point. The good news is there is still much left uncompleted projects in genealogy. This gives our organization a non-monetary method to give our time to compensate for use of our meeting space into the future. I continue to see the mutual benefit here for both organizations with this arrangement.

Hopefully by our next meeting on January 9th, I will have the breakdown of all 185 books in the genealogy general section of the Grand Island Library. This will be in an easy to use format for members doing family research there.



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From the President's Desk continued

I do look forward to getting some (or ALL!) of the books that I've suggested for addition to the library when I visited there last week. I'll sure let the membership know of any new additions put onto the shelves there.

Also regarding the Library's coming issues and direction, some info. The Library Director is in process of holding a "summary" meeting for the three meetings the Library had for their look at long term planning goals. A choice was given to me of either Jan. 9, 10, or 11, 2012. With our own meeting on Jan. 9th, do hope one of the other two dates will be chosen.

I thank those of you who have already mailed in, the completed surveys and the computer/software info requests that were given out at the Christmas Party Meeting, on Dec. 12th. For those who were unable to attend, the rest of those were mailed out or delivered to your residence. Looking forward to 2012 as a year of listening, learning, discovering and enjoying, together!

Doug P. Cramer

Our January meeting will be held on January 9, 2012, beginning at 7:00 PM. We will be back out at Stuhr Museum, in the Reynolds building. Same drill as last year, enter in the 'exit' lane.

The program will be a "German Ancestry Webinar" broadcast from Ancestry.com. There will be practical examples and suggestions on how to use records and archives to start or advance your German genealogy.

Larry Coates will provide goodies after our program. Thank you Larry!

Please remember to bring any Best Choice labels to the meetings. They are an easy way to get a little extra money for our treasury! Suzie Paulsen handles this for our club.

Do you want to help save the club money? Let me know and I will send your newsletter thru email, rather than snail mail.



MEMBER SILHOUETTE

Please write a short paragraph about yourself. You might include something about your background, your immediate family, any personal interests you have, your family nationalities, and how you got interested in genealogy. A few of these will be printed in each newsletter to help us get better acquainted!

Return to Vicki Wilkinson at vic68801@aol.com - or my address is listed on the first page of this newsletter, if you prefer to mail it.

The *Daily Iowan* newspaper has launched an online archive of the newspaper. The archive goes back as far as 1868 and is complete with the exception of two brief periods (fall of 1918 and summer of 1984). Included in the archive are the Daily Iowan's predecessor newspapers, such as the *University Reporter* (1868 to 1881), the *Vidette* (1879 to 1881), the *Vidette Reporter* (1881 to 1901) and the *University Mirror* (1881). The archive is housed under the University of Iowa library system. In total, the collection consists of some 750,000 scanned images. The collection is full text searchable. Access is free. [[Historic Iowa Newspaper Archive](http://dailyiowan.lib.uiowa.edu/)]
<http://dailyiowan.lib.uiowa.edu/>

Conferences and Opportunities

RootsTech is a one-of-a-kind, leading edge conference designed to bring technologists together with genealogists, so they can learn from each other and find solutions to the challenges they face in family history research today. More than 3,000 people attended the inaugural conference in 2011 and their feedback on RootsTech was overwhelmingly positive. Don't miss out in 2012!

- **A new family history and technology conference**
- **February 2-4, 2012**
- **Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City, Utah across from the Family History Center**

At RootsTech, genealogists and family historians of all skill levels will learn technology-based solutions to accelerate their research. From the Expo Hall and participant-driven unconferencing discussions to the RootsTech Playground, this conference is ground-breaking and unique. Check out rootstech.org for the most current information. Be one of the thousands of RootsTech 2012 attendees to:

- Experience hands-on workshops and interactive classes to accelerate your research
- Help influence the future of genealogy
- Learn and share new ways to adapt technologies to genealogy
- Help leading-edge technology providers better understand your needs
- Participate in panels, product demos and many networking opportunities

There will be sessions of interest to novices through advanced technology users, including:

- Hands-on workshops
- Sneak peek demonstrations of new products and services
- Interactive presentations and panels
- Unconferencing discussions (last minute, on-the-fly sessions by attendees)

Go to RootsTech.org to see the full list of topics and sessions.

- \$189 registration fee beginning December 1, 2011

Anyone want to join the Nebraska State Historical Society?

NSHS members:

The Nebraska State Historical Society would like to give you the opportunity to obtain available back issues of Nebraska History magazine for just the cost of shipping and handling. If you would like extra copies for your own use, or know of people or organizations who would benefit from them, please contact me at 402-471-3272 or email ana.hatcher@nebraska.gov<<mailto:ana.hatcher@nebraska.gov>>. We will pull the issues for you and let you know the cost of shipping and handling.

Here's a link to a searchable table of contents for all issues of Nebraska History:

http://www.nebraskahistory.org/databases/nebraska_history.shtml

A membership blank is furnished on the back page of this newsletter. If you know of anyone who might be interested in trying our genealogy club, please contact them and invite them to a meeting. And please keep our club strong by paying your dues. Thank You!!!



MEMBER SILHOUETTE – Dave and Sharon White

We became interested in family history some 26 years ago with a trip to Anita, IA with our two sons, then aged 8 and 5, to visit the Evergreen Cemetery to try to uncover any information on the White family that we knew very little about at the time. From that time we have been hooked. As you all know, genealogy takes time and not until we both retired in 2005 were we able to devote the time and energy to the hobby we truly enjoy.

Dave is a life long resident of Grand Island only living outside of the area while attending business school in Denver for 2 year and then 4 years while serving in the US Air Force. After returning to Grand Island he attended and graduated from Central Community College in Hastings. Dave began his employment with the First National Bank in 1972 and continued through two name changes over 33 years, in the banking business, retiring from Wells Fargo in 2005.

Surnames that Dave spends time with are, of course, White, Stuhr (Dave's maternal grandfather, August, was Leo Stuhr's first cousin), Jenkins, Scott, Knesel, Paustian, Springsguth, Atwood, and Culver.

Sharon Kunze was from the St Paul area, growing up on the family farm east of town on the Loup River. She moved to Grand Island to attend the Grand Island Business College. After finishing school she began working at the First National Bank before taking time away from the business to raise our two sons. Sharon returned to work with the accounting firm, Shonsey and Associates, retiring after 26 years.

Surnames that Sharon researches are: Kunze, Weber, Wagner, Scarborough, Stone, Petzoldt, and Dresser.

In addition to genealogy, we enjoy traveling and playing golf. Genealogy has allowed us the opportunity to meet "cousins" all over the country that we wouldn't have ever met before. It also provides us more places to visit. Of course we visit our son and daughter-in-law in Albuquerque and son in Chico, CA very chance we get.

We were married in 1973 and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church in Grand Island. We became members of PPGS in March 2005. In March of 2009 we moved to the village of Doniphan.



NEWEST TECHNOLOGY – A NEW WEB SITE

A brand new web site has been created for cemetery researchers. It is called billiongraves.com. Here is what the site can do and how it can help in research.

Registration on this website is free. It uses Smartphones to share what we discover at the cemeteries we visit. It works with both Apple's iPhones and Android-powered Smartphones. Find links for downloading the required apps at <http://www.billiongraves.com>. Follow the instructions to install the app on your phone and create your free account. Log into your Billiongraves account through your Smartphone browser when you are ready to start taking photos with your Smartphone at a cemetery. At the bottom of the site's home page are a number of useful links such as FAQ's, contact info and a blog.

Prior to visiting a particular cemetery, visit the website and search for the cemetery. Look for any graves that may already be on the site. If you know of a grave that you want to be listed there but isn't, log into the website, make sure your Smartphone's GPS capabilities are activated, start taking photos and upload them to the website.

Later when you are home, you can log back into the web site and enter the details on a grave's page, cemetery name, deceased's names, date, inscriptions, etc. When taking photographs, pay attention to how the light falls on the marker, brush away any leaves and grass clippings, and if needed, trim away growth at the bottom that could be obscuring any of the inscriptions. But please don't disturb any obvious memorial plantings or arrangements.

From WGGGS Quarterly

Vol. XXX, Number 1

A Review of the VuPoint Solutions Magic Wand Scanner

From http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2011/12/a-review-of-the-vupoint-solutions-magic-wand-scanner.html Dated Dec 26, 2011

I have written several times about the VuPoint Solutions Magic Wand. I find it to be a great tool for genealogists who wish to make digital images of documents and photocopies. This tiny scanner is handheld and powered by batteries. No computer is required to create scanned images that are then stored on a microSD memory card. While the scanner normally sells for \$100 or so, many online retailers have offered it at lower prices in recent months.

Now PCmag.com has published its own review of the VuPoint Solutions Magic Wand Scanner. Articles on PCmag.com typically are read by hundreds of thousands of computer enthusiasts so I expect the publicity generated will result in increased sales.

The review by M. David Stone is generally favorable. He compares it to the PlanOn DocuPen Xtreme X05 that sells for \$369.99 and finds that the VuPoint device does most everything that its much more expensive competitor can do. Stone writes, "It has little to no learning curve, it's easy to use, and its scan quality is up to the task."

AGENDA
Committee Report(s)
Program

PRAIRIE PIONEER GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2012

PPGS membership dues are \$12 per calendar year. Family memberships are \$15. They are due in January. Membership entitles each person or family to monthly newsletters and FIVE queries in the newsletter. Back issues of the newsletter are available for \$1.00 each. For more information, contact PPGS at:

Prairie Pioneer Genealogical Society, Inc.
P O Box 1122
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Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
Name _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____
Email address _____
Phone number _____

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