



# Kith and Kin

Volume 38 Issue 2

July-August 2021

## Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
MAGG Officers and Committees	2
Membership Information	2
MAGG Officers	2
New Library Look-up Service	3
Army Repatriation: Bringing Them Home	4-5
Two New Laws Restrict Police Use of DNA Search Method	5
Pay It Forward in Genealogy: 4 Ways to Give Back to the Community	6-7
QUERY	7
Odds and Ends from the 1940's	8-9
Marathon County, Wisconsin Homesteaders	10-11
<b>Upcoming "In-person" MAGG Meeting</b>	12
Upcoming Virtual Presentations	12

## American Ancestor website free through the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library for a Limited Time

More than 1.4 billion records spanning twenty-two countries covering the United States, the British Isles, continental Europe, and beyond. In this first group of databases, you will be able to search from home, but will not be able to access any records unless you are signed in at the library, using your library card number and email address.

### What Will You Find?

- **Search all databases:**



[Advanced Search](#)



[Vital records, \(incl. Bible, cemetery, church & SSDI\)](#)



[Journals & periodicals](#)



[Census, tax and voter lists](#)



[Immigration records](#)



[Court, land & probate records](#)



[Military records](#)



[Genealogies, bios, heraldry, local histories](#)



[Great Migration study project](#)



[Atlases, maps & reference materials](#)

- **Database List A-Z** ([478 databases](#))

- **Special Interest Databases**

These special interest databases can only be used in the library, using your library card number and email address.

- **19th century newspaper database**

The *19th Century U.S. Newspapers* database provides access to approximately 1.7 million pages of primary-source newspaper content from throughout the 1800s. It features full text and images from hundreds of papers from every region in the U.S., and it contains a wealth of genealogical content, including birth, death, and marriage notices.

- **Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland**

A source for Quebec and French-Canadian genealogy research spanning from 1621 to the present, from the Drouin Institute.

- **Marquis biographies online**

*Marquis Biographies Online* features comprehensive profiles on over 1.4 million individuals from all fields of endeavor. It includes biographies from Who's Who in America, Who's Who in the East, Who's Who in the Midwest, and many other Who's Who titles.

- **Irish Newspaper Archive**

Through the *Irish Newspaper Archive* you will find a large collection of Irish newspapers from 1738 to current day. The archive consists of over 6 million images of pages of newspaper content from titles North and South of the Irish border, and includes newspaper obituaries, and birth, death and marriage notices.

- **Genealogy Quebec**

A source for Quebec and French-Canadian genealogy research spanning from 1621 to the present, from the Drouin Institute.

**Remember:**  
**Trial ends August 31, 2021.**

## President's Message

Hello MAGG Members,

Welcome to summer and yes, some genealogy research trips! But before you grab your notebook and water bottle, don't forget to do your pre-trip research. Check to see that the research facility you want to go to, is actually open. Many facilities still have some restrictions because of Covid-19, may have limited hours or may now require making appointments. Be understanding with their requests, as it has been difficult for all of these facilities as well and in some cases budgets have been cut. I know...things you don't want to hear but yet, we still need to realize where each of these research centers are at and what they have dealt with as well. But with that said, make the best of your research time and enjoy a little bit of normalcy.

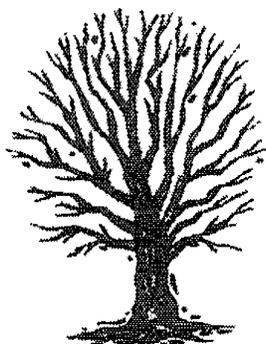
On another topic, I want to take this opportunity to remind members that plans are underway for Marshfield's 150th Anniversary in 2022. If you would like to be a part of the planning process or have an idea of how MAGG should be involved in the year long celebration, call Don Schnitzler at 715-387-4044 or email him at [schnitzler.donald@gmail.com](mailto:schnitzler.donald@gmail.com). There also is a recorded YouTube Spoken History talk on the celebration and how you can get involved at : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-ci-hdduphc>. There are big projects and little projects that need people to make them a success. Your call or email is all you need to do to get started.

Lastly, we are going to meet in person at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library for our MAGG June 24th Meeting. We will not be having a formal genealogy speaker, but will be discussing what we want our future meeting to look like, speakers, etc. See you at the library, upstairs in the Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room at 6:30 p.m. If you prefer not to join us in person, email Don Schnitzler at least one day before the meeting and we will send you a link so you can join us via Zoom.

If you have any questions or concerns, just call or email us.

*Vickie*

P.S. Don't forget that the library has also extended their Free-Access from Home use of Ancestry.com. Just go to their website <<https://marshfieldlibrary.org/adults/genealogy-history-research.php>> and sign in using the "Ancestry Library" link and your library card through December 2021!!



## MAGG Officers and Committees

President: [Vickie Schnitzler](#) (2021)  
 Vice President: [Jennifer Witzel](#) (2022)  
 Secretary: [Lorraine Rogers](#) (2022)  
 Treasurer: [Noreen Moen](#) (2021)  
 Member at Large: [Keri Likes](#) (2022)  
 Member at Large: [Lori Belongia](#) (2021)  
 Newsletter Editor: [Vickie Schnitzler](#)  
 Program: [Don Schnitzler](#)  
 Membership: [Jennifer Witzel](#)  
 (Year office expires is in parentheses.)

The Marshfield Area Genealogy Group is an affiliate of the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society.

Our purpose is to provide meetings and programs of genealogical interest and to provide instruction in genealogical procedures. Also to collect, preserve, and disseminate genealogical data found in the Marshfield area and/or relative to the people of the Marshfield Area.

Meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month except November and December.

## Membership Information

Our membership year is from May 1 to April 30. Individual membership per year is \$12.00 and a Family membership is \$15.00 per year. For hardcopy newsletter add \$6. Membership Forms can be downloaded from our website <http://www.marshfieldgenealogy.com/> and returned with payment to us at: MAGG, P.O. Box 337, Marshfield, WI 54449.

## New Library Lookup Service— For When You Can't Visit the Family History Library

From an article by Diane Sagers published in the latest issue of the FamilySearch Blog: 24 May 2021

The [Family History Library](#) (FHL) in Salt Lake City, Utah, has long been a go-to place to find genealogical research materials and is the flagship library for [FamilySearch International](#). With the closure of the library a year ago due to the COVID 19 pandemic, people have had to rely largely on online materials, unable to access records that are only viewable at the Family History Library or other locations. A new [Library Lookup Service](#) will soon provide greater access to these records globally.

### Online Records and Limited Access Records

With a free FamilySearch account, you can search through a large database of records online on FamilySearch.org. This search often provides a text index of the record for quick reference and a complete image of the record. Some books and materials, however, only have the index available. The full images for these records can only be accessed at the Family History Library, family history centers, or affiliate libraries—primarily due to copyright restrictions or partner agreements.

Due to COVID-19 conditions, visiting one of these facilities to look at materials has not been possible. To offset pandemic restrictions and as part of an effort to serve a global audience living too far away to visit the library, the Family History Library has launched its own lookup service.

### How the Lookup Service Works

Upon request, staff and volunteers at the library will look up specific records in their collections that cannot be viewed online. Since Library Lookup is not a research service, people will need to identify the specific record from FamilySearch.org that they need to see.

As mentioned, an online search might provide only basic information from a document, yet frequently the original document contains more information. To use the Lookup service, visit the [online request form](#) to request a copy of the image of the original document.

*Requests may take a few weeks to process, depending on the volume of requests being handled at a given time.*

### Special Cases for Books

Many books in the FamilySearch collections have not yet been digitized, also because of copyright limitations. Those same restrictions mean that the library cannot copy large numbers of pages from any one book.

When requesting a book, please be as specific as possible about what you are seeking. Using the same [online request form](#), guests can provide the title or call number of the book, along with the page number they would like copied. The staff will send a PDF copy of the page or pages, as allowed. In cases where page numbers are unknown, staff can check the index in a book for the listing of a name or chosen term to help provide the right pages.

### Available in Many Languages

The FHL Library Lookup Service is available in about 15 languages and can help you access various records from countries worldwide. Sometimes books at the Family History Library are also available through other sources, as explained here.

### Continuing Service after the Reopening

Renovation work has been done inside the Family History Library during the closure to prepare for guests when it is time to reopen. The exact date for reopening for the library and FamilySearch centers is dependent on government and local leadership guidelines. That date will be announced as soon as it is available. After the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and the library reopens, the Library Lookup Service will continue as part of the FamilySearch global outreach.

**Editor's Note:** Thanks to Dick Eastman and his blog for sharing this information.

(from [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter - New Library Lookup Service—For When You Can't Visit the Family History Library \(eogn.com\)](#))

## Army Repatriation: Bringing Them Home

By Amy Johnson Crow and Megan Smolenyak

What does "No man left behind" truly mean? For Megan Smolenyak, it means working to identify servicemembers from past conflicts, finding their families, and bringing them home in the process of military repatriation.



### About Megan Smolenyak

Megan Smolenyak has been involved in numerous genealogy projects, including being a researcher in the early seasons of *Who Do You Think You Are?* and working with the Ellis Island Foundation (and correcting the historical record on Annie Moore, Ellis Island's first immigrant).

But it's her work with repatriating U.S. soldiers that we focused on in this episode. You'll want to listen to this one to better appreciate the work that she does.

### What Is Repatriation?

As Megan says, it all starts with the belief of no man left behind. It's all about identifying the servicemember and finding his family.

Currently, there are approximately 82,000 US servicemen unaccounted for; the majority of them are from World War II. Megan has worked on 1,400 cases, specializing in members of the US Army. The project started in the 1990s, when DNA was collected from family members of men (and a few women) unaccounted for from the Korean War. This database led to the identification of many soldiers whose remains were discovered.

### Complications in the Repatriation Process

As Megan explained, the fire in 1973 at the National

Personnel Records Center in St. Louis destroyed about 85% of the US Army's records that were stored there. (Other branches of the military suffered losses, but not to the extent of the Army.) This means that for many of the soldiers, their families aren't listed in the records that remain. (And even when they are, those family members are often deceased, meaning that Megan has to look for other relatives, using a combination of DNA and "traditional" research.)

The work of identifying family members is further complicated in the numerous instances of the soldier giving a false name or a false age. (Megan worked on one case where the soldier was actually only 15 when he was killed.)

### Contacting the Families

The hardest part can be making contact with the families, not because they don't want to talk about their relative, but because they don't answer the phone. (Honestly, I rarely answer the phone if I don't recognize the phone number.) But with persistence, Megan is usually able to make contact.

Emotions run the gamut. "When they come to understand that this is a real... they want to talk about Buddy. You know, they hadn't thought about him and so long and they're so happy that somebody out there cares... sometimes you can get somebody who just wants to talk about him for an hour, that kind of thing. So it just depends... every call is just its own special experience."

### Favorite Cases

Megan wouldn't say she has "favorites," but she did share three that stand out.

- Capt. Lawrence E. Dickson was a Tuskegee Airman who took an electric guitar with him to war. When his remains were found, they also found his harmonica. Capt. Dickson left behind a wife and young daughter. (You can read more about Capt. Dickson [here](#) and [here](#).)
- Harriett Engelhardt was in the Red Cross in World War II and was killed in a jeep accident. Many of her letters home have been digitized and [placed online by the Alabama Depart-](#)

**ment of Archives and History.** Megan said that reading her letters, you get the sense that "we lost what could have been incredible southern writer."

- Walter Cichon of the Jersey Shore was killed in Vietnam. He left behind a wife and two children. It turns out, he was also [Bruce Springsteen's musical idol](#). Megan said this case was especially personal for her, as her own father served in Vietnam and their family lived in the Jersey Shore at the time.

As Megan pointed out, when people talk about their favorite episode of a genealogy program, it isn't the one with their favorite celebrity. "It's the story that is closest to their own family story."

### Finding Megan

You can find Megan at her website [MeganSmolenyak.com](http://MeganSmolenyak.com). She's also quite active on Twitter [@megansmolenyak](https://twitter.com/megansmolenyak).

### Additional Resources

For those of you looking for a deeper dive into military records, here are a few additional posts you might want to try:

["10 Sources for Finding Civil War Burials"](#)

["How to Find Your World War I Ancestor"](#)

["How to Find Your Ancestor's Civil War Unit"](#)

["3 Clues for Discovering Military Service"](#)

["Starting WWII Research: Tips from Jennifer Holik"](#)

["How to Decode a WWII US Army Serial Number"](#)

["Exploring Military Cemeteries"](#)

["5 Sources for Civil War Unit Histories"](#)

["What Did Your Civil War Ancestor Look Like?"](#)

["Using the 1890 Civil War Veterans Census"](#)

["State Soldiers Homes: A Different Place to Look"](#)

from <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/army-repatriation-bringing-them-home/>

## Two New Laws Restrict Police Use of DNA Search Method

From Dick Eastman's Blog, 3 Jun 2021

New laws in Maryland and Montana are the first in the nation to restrict law enforcement's use of genetic genealogy, the DNA matching technique that in 2018 identified the Golden State Killer, in an effort to ensure the genetic privacy of the accused and their relatives.



Beginning on Oct. 1, investigators working on Maryland cases will need a judge's signoff before using the method, in which a "profile" of thousands of DNA markers from a crime scene is uploaded to genealogy websites to find relatives of the culprit. The [new law](#), sponsored by Democratic lawmakers, also dictates that the technique be used only for serious crimes, such as murder and sexual assault. And it states that investigators may only use websites with strict policies around user consent.

Montana's new law, sponsored by a Republican, is narrower, requiring that government investigators obtain a search warrant before using a consumer DNA database, unless the consumer has waived the right to privacy.

The laws "demonstrate that people across the political spectrum find law enforcement use of consumer genetic data chilling, concerning and privacy-invasive," said Natalie Ram, a law professor at the University of Maryland who championed the Maryland law. "I hope to see more states embrace robust regulation of this law enforcement technique in the future."

The full article written by Virginia Hughes is much longer and can be found in the *New York Times* at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/31/science/dna-police-laws.html>.

From <https://www.eogn.com.wildapricot.org/page-18080/10587949>

## Pay It Forward in Genealogy: 4 Ways to Give Back to the Community

by [Lisa Cooke](#) | Nov 20, 2017

### 1. Help with global gravestone research.

If you're like me, you've probably discovered the final resting places of many an ancestor—perhaps along with important biographical data and even additional relatives—with the help of websites such as BillionGraves and Find A Grave.

[BillionGraves](#) says it's “the world's largest resource for searchable GPS cemetery data, and is growing bigger and better every day.” Its volunteers take GPS-tagged pictures of headstones in cemeteries around the world and transcribe them for their free searchable database.

How you can help:

- Image headstones: download the free app to your smartphone from the App Store or Google Play.
- Take images of headstones in cemeteries you visit, whether it's your own ancestor's burial place or a local graveyard.
- Transcribe personal information found on gravestone images. You can transcribe the images you take or you can visit the site and transcribe images that someone else has uploaded. [Click here to get started.](#)
- Upload additional source documentation to BillionGraves tombstone images, such as obituaries, cemetery records, and the like. You'll make these virtual gravestone sites even more genealogically valuable! [Click here to learn more.](#)

[Find A Grave](#) has a slightly different model for collecting global gravestone data. Here you can create free memorial pages for ancestors, which “generally include birth, death, and burial information and may include pictures, biographies, family information, and more.” You can also upload your own headstone images and transcribe them (or someone else's images), and you can even upload a spreadsheet of cemetery burials you may have already transcribed.

Who's behind [Find A Grave](#)? It's owned by subscription website Ancestry.com, but it's a separate, free site powered by volunteers: “Thousands of contributors submit new listings, updates, corrections, photographs and virtual flowers every hour. The site simply wouldn't exist without the million+ contribu-

tors.”

[Find A Grave](#) has recently updated its site to make it more secure, faster, easier to use, and accessible to new devices and other languages. More than 100 million graves from over half a million cemeteries worldwide are already searchable at the site. To get started, download the Find A Grave app at [Google Play](#) or the [App Store](#), or just [visit the website](#).

### 2. Transcribe old documents and maps.

Millions—even billions—of digital images of old documents contain genealogical clues, but those names, dates, and places need to be extracted from those image files before they become easily searchable. Transcribing that information is also known in genealogy circles as indexing (or creating indexes). Here are four places to contribute your indexing skills:

- **FamilySearch Indexing.** Thousands of you have likely participated in this best-known volunteer record transcription project out there. (We [blogged about it](#) recently in honor of their worldwide weekend indexing event.) Their indexing platform recently became fully cloud-based, so you can index more easily on your computer or mobile device. Volunteers are especially needed right now who can read Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Japanese, Polish, Swedish, and Dutch.
- **British Library Georeferencing Project.** The [British Library is recruiting volunteers](#) to help geo-reference thousands of old maps that are already online. Geo-referencing, or geotagging, means assigning geographic reference points (longitude, latitude) to points on a map image. Doing this with old maps allows them to be linked to their modern-day locations, allowing us to compare the past and present (as Lisa teaches about in her free [Google Earth video class](#)). Over 8,000 maps have already been “placed” by participants (and subsequently checked for accuracy and approved by their panel of expert reviewers). The latest phase of the project includes 50,000 maps, mostly 19th-century maps from books published in Europe. The British Library says that “some places have

changed significantly or disappeared completely,” increasing both the intriguing challenges for volunteers and the value to those who will benefit from their map sleuthing skills.

- **Ancestry World Archives Project.** “The [Ancestry World Archives Project](#) is thousands of volunteers from around the world with a passion for genealogy and a desire to help others discover their roots,” says the project home page. “And all it takes is a computer, some basic software we provide and a little of your time.” Even though Ancestry.com itself is a subscription website, any records indexed through the Ancestry World Archives Project remain free to search on the site.
- **National Archives Citizen Archivist Program.** “A Citizen Archivist is a virtual volunteer that helps the U.S. National Archives increase the online access to their historical records,” reports Melissa Barker in a recent blog post. “This is done by crowdsourcing metadata about their records through tagging, transcribing, and adding comments to the U.S. National Archives catalog.” [Click here](#) to read the full article and get started.

### 3. Reunite heirlooms with long-lost relatives.

Probably millions of “lost” family items are out there: in flea markets, second-hand shops, online auction listings, perhaps even your own closets or attics. Genealogy Gems has reported many times in the past about genealogy heroes who claim these “orphaned heirlooms” just long enough to research and contact living relatives who would love to find them.

Whether it’s a family bible, an old marriage certificate in a dusty frame, a fading photo album, or a pile of old letters, each “orphaned heirloom” is unique—and so is the experience of tracking down its family and reuniting them. Here are several stories to inspire your next visit to eBay or a secondhand shop:

- [World War II dog tag finally returns to family](#)
- [Packet of labeled photos, school records, dance cards and letters home to Mom and Dad returned via Ancestry](#)
- [Orphaned WWI medal comes home via Facebook](#)
- [Facebook users reunite a bible with its family](#)

**4. Solve “unclaimed persons” mysteries.** Many people are aware that it can be a real challenge when a coroner obtains a John or Jane Doe, an unidentified person,” writes Lacey Cooke, Genealogy Gems service manager, who has a forensic anthropology degree. “It presents the difficult task of identifying the person. But few people know that in fact the even bigger problem consuming morgues today is *unclaimed* persons, rather than unidentified ones: individuals who have passed but with no trace of living relatives to come and claim them.”

Lacey is the one who [introduced us to the Unclaimed Persons project earlier this year](#). With Unclaimed Persons, an online community of volunteer researchers joins forces with medical examiners, forensic investigators, and coroners to help reunite families and bring closure so that the dead can finally be laid to rest. [Click here](#) to read more about that effort.

### How will you pay it forward in genealogy?

Click on one of the opportunities above to give back to your genealogy community. This largely-invisible community is all around us and enriches all our efforts, from late-night research sessions by ourselves (in records indexed by volunteers!) to local societies who host classes that inspire us or who answer our obituary inquiries and Facebook posts about their locales. If you are already one of those volunteers, THANK YOU. You are a gem and we here at Genealogy Gems are grateful for you.

P.S. You can also “pay it forward” by sharing free content like this from our website with your genealogy friends and society members. Why not link to this post on social media or in an email and challenge those you know to do good in the genealogy world?

From <https://lilalouisecooke.com/2017/11/20/pay-it-forward-in-genealogy/>

Thanks to the Manitowoc County Genealogical Society's newsletter "Family Vines", Winter 2021, Issue No. 182, pp. 3-5, for sharing this with us.

---

**QUERY...** “We are trying to verify Gus **KRASIN**'s connection as architect &/or builder of the Northwestern Depot (torn down) & the Parkin Ice Cream Re-build in 1941-1945ish, both located in Marshfield, WI”. Contact: Carol **KRASIN**, 8743 Kentwood Ct., Darien, IL 60561, Email: [carol.krasin@outlook.com](mailto:carol.krasin@outlook.com), Phone: 630-910-4560.

## Odds and Ends from the 1940's

*Items from the Marshfield News Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin*

### **FUTURE FARMERS WILL MEET HERE**

#### **Marshfield Chapter to Entertain District Conference March 4**

The Marshfield Chapter of the Future Farmers of America will be host, on Tuesday, March 4, to other F. F. A. chapters representing a wide area in Central Wisconsin, it was announced today by Harold H. Jepson, vocational agriculture instructor here.

The meeting here will be one of a series of district leadership conferences being held throughout Wisconsin during the week of March 3-7. The nearest conference of the kind will be held at Chippewa Falls, and others will be held at Rosendale, Platteville, Reedsburg, Shawano, Turtle Lake, West Salem, and Whitewater.

Sessions will be held at the Marshfield Senior High School, beginning at 10 a. m. and continuing until 2:30 p. m. On the speaking program are W. A. Ross, national executive secretary of the F. F. A.; C. H. Bonsack, teacher-trainer in agriculture and executive secretary of the Wisconsin organization of the F. F. A.; and Charles Helwig, district vice-president of the F. F. A. in Wisconsin.

The Marshfield chapter will have charge of the entertainment program, in which many of the neighboring chapters are expected to co-operate. Officers of the local group are Kermit Zopfi, president; Everett Olsen, vice-president; Jerome Spindler, secretary; Vernon Lindow, treasurer; Jack Sutton, reporter; Harold H. Jepson, advisor.

*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Feb. 27, 1941, Thu • Page 1)*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **MATT DOLEZAL IS 95 YEARS OLD THURSDAY**

#### **Oldest Marshfield Resident Observes Anniversary**

Matt Dolezal, probably Marshfield's oldest resident, observed his 95th birthday yesterday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Mittermiller, 110 W. Cleveland street, with whom he has been making his home for nearly two years.

Mr. Dolezal, who still enjoys good health, was born in Milwaukee Feb. 27, 1846, and lived in French Creek and Kellnersville before coming to Wood County in 1881. After living in Milladore for 10 years he came to Marshfield and was employed at the Upham Manufacturing Company here for 35 years, retiring when he was 80.

Mrs. Dolezal died about 14 years ago, and surviving are a son, Frank Dolezal; four daughters Mrs. Henry Gonyon, Mrs. Jule Mittermiller, Mrs. Ben Wissink and Miss Annie Dolezal; 14 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Feb. 28, 1941, Fri • Page 6)*

\* \* \* \* \*

"History of the Wisconsin Central Railroad" by Roy Martin is a most unusual story of the pioneer railroad which was operated through Marshfield in 1872. The author was formerly a locomotive engineer on the Wisconsin Central as was his father before him, so that he was raised in the atmosphere and lore of the road. His astonishing knowledge of details and personalities and his happy faculty for telling about them have made this a valuable addition to the history of railroading in Wisconsin.

*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Feb. 28, 1941, Fri • Page 7)*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Thiels Will Observe Anniversary Tuesday**

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Thiel, W. Fifth street, will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary at their home on Tuesday, March 4. A family dinner will be given at noon, and open house will be held from 3 o'clock in the afternoon throughout the evening. Friends of the couple are invited to call.

*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Mar. 01, 1941, Sat • Page 9)*

\* \* \* \* \*

### **Birthday Party**

Mrs. Walter Thomas, E. Bakerville street, entertained last evening in honor of her son, Gordon who celebrated his 13th birthday. Cub Scouts from Den. No. 1 who attended were Robert Burt, James Parmelee, Bruce Thiede, Gene Kotas, Clayton Erickson, Bob Ledger, Norman Emmerick, and Wayne

Hestekind. Others present were Ralph Cook and Bobby Dudley. Games were played with prizes awarded, and a marshmallow roast and lunch were enjoyed. Gordon received many gifts from his friends.

*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Mar. 01, 1941, Sat • Page 9)*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Carrier Service Has 38th Anniversary Here Sunday**

### **Two of Original Postmen Still Reside in Marshfield**

Marshfield's first - regular mail carrier service was 33 years old yesterday, and two of the three carriers who inaugurated the service on March 2, 1903, still live in Marshfield and remember the early days of this postal service, when it was not the accepted fact it is today.

The men are Alex Johnson, No. 1 carrier for that first service, and Marcus A. Hansen Sr, No. 3. The late Willard White was the other member of the trio.

Mr. Hansen recalls that 16 applicants took the civil service examination for the positions, an examination that was in charge of Fred Allman, assistant postmaster of Marshfield's second class office.

### **Replaced Civil War Yet**

Actually, Mr. Hansen was a substitute carrier at the time the service was instituted, but he acted as postman from the first day and, in a short time, he received his official appointment, which was dated back to March 2.

He replaced aged Elijah J. Lees, a Civil war veteran who had been given preference on the appointment because of his service record. Lees was physically unable to handle the task and his resignation was a matter of days.

Delivering mail entailed the carrying of heavy loads and long hours, in 1903. Three trips a day were made, including an early morning delivery in the business district, and 140 pound loads were not unusual.

There were no division boxes and, if a carrier was unable to handle the entire load at one time, he had to leave part of it at the Post Office and come back off his route to pick up the balance.

### **Needed Robber Boots**

Sidewalks and roads were not too plentiful or too well kept, and at certain seasons of the year high rubber boots were required to make the trip through the mud.

Marshfield published three weekly newspapers at that time, which made Thursdays the hardest day of the week for the mailman, for two of the papers were delivered on that day along with magazines, which also arrived for distribution on Thursday.

On the lightest days, the postmen walked about 14 miles. On heavy days this distance was increased to 20 to 22 miles, the carriers report.

Hand sleds were called into service by the carriers to handle the large volume of Christmas mail, Mr. Johnson recalls. The early 1900's was a period of gilt greeting cards, and he remembers cutting his hand once when handling a group of ornate specimens. Some time later a Milwaukee postman died from an infection caused by the same type of accident and the Government tanned that type of card.

### **Busy Sundays Too**

Sundays were not days of leisure for the early carriers, for delivery windows were open at the Post Office, at that time located in the present Marshfield Telephone Exchange Building, from 10 to 11 a.m. Carriers also picked up mail at post boxes throughout the city late Sunday afternoon.

Alex Johnson resigned his post office duties on July 1, 1912, to organize the Johnson Manufacturing Company. He now heads Johnson's Glove Inc. here.

Marcus Hansen Sr. continued his carrier duties until Nov. 1, 1910, when he was transferred to the money order department. At the end of 1919, Hansen resigned to go in business as secretary of the Johnson Manufacturing Company, returning to the post office in 1931, where he remained as fireman until he retired on July 31, 1938, having reached the age of 65.

John F. Cole was postmaster at the time the carrier service was instituted. Others on the staff were Fred Allman, assistant postmaster; Fred R. Masten, money order clerk; and Albert J. Huber, stamp clerk.  
*(from Marshfield News-Herald, Marshfield, Wisconsin, Mar. 03, 1941, Mon • Page 1)*

\* \* \* \* \*

*(More 1940's articles to be continued in next issue)*

**Marathon County, Wisconsin Homesteaders**  
**Homesteading Act of May 20, 1862: Homestead Entry Original (12 Stat. 392)**  
*(We have already completed Clark and Wood Counties, so would like to include Marathon, County.)*

Names	Date	Doc #	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #
LUND, MARTIN	3/23/1892	2873	030N - 010E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	30
			030N - 010E	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	31
LYON, JUDAH	12/15/1879	1154	029N - 002E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	18
MAAS, CARL S	2/1/1873	207	030N - 007E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	4
MAASS, AUGUST	2/1/1873	254	030N - 007E	W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	18
MAGUIRE, THOMAS	10/4/1900	4022	026N - 006E	NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	6
MAHONEY, SARAH J, MAHONEY, JOHN	10/1/1880	1272	028N - 002E	S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$	26
MAHONY, DANIEL	12/10/1881	1314	028N - 002E	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	26
MAIER, THOMAS	2/1/1873	155	029N - 006E	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	20
MAJESKI, HENNRIGETTE, MAJESKI, LEO	5/11/1891	2563	027N - 007E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	10
			027N - 007E	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	10
MANN, RICHARD W	1/30/1877	832	029N - 002E	SE $\frac{1}{4}$	10
MANNEY, JAMES B	5/1/1878	966	028N - 002E	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	34
MANNEY, WILLIAM V	6/10/1879	1071	028N - 002E	N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	34
MANNING, DENNIS	2/1/1873	251	029N - 009E	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	5
			029N - 009E	N $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	6
MANNY, JAMES H	1/30/1877	848	028N - 002E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	14
MANSER, FRANK	4/27/1894	3256	030N - 010E	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	9
			030N - 010E	S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	9
MARKWARDT, ERNEST	6/25/1889	2297	029N - 003E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	36
MARSH, FREDRICK W	6/22/1911	02061	027N - 005E	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	32
MASON, HENRY	1/5/1876	764	026N - 002E	NE $\frac{1}{4}$	4
MASON, JOSEPH A	1/14/1899	3785	026N - 006E	S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	18
			026N - 006E	S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	18
MATHEWSON, BENJAMIN R	4/10/1882	1327	029N - 002E	SW $\frac{1}{4}$	24
MATHIE, JOHN F, CUTTING, MARY F, CUTTING, HENRY P	3/22/1909	0643	026N - 007E	SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$	20
MATHIE, KARL, ECHTINAW, EPHRAIM	3/28/1906	5368	028N - 007E	Lot/Trct 6	13
MATTHIA, LOUIS	3/7/1892	2784	029N - 005E	W $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$	36
MATUSIAK, JOHAN	7/29/1903	4531	030N - 009E	NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$	34

Names	Date	Doc #	Twp - Rng	Aliquots	Sec. #
MAYNARD, MINDEN	4/16/1890	2420	030N - 003E	NW¼	28
MCCLARY, WILLIAM	5/15/1875	608	029N - 002E	E½SW¼	14
			029N - 002E	W½SE¼	14
MCCURDY, GEORGE	10/1/1880	1287	027N - 002E	S½SW¼	4
MCDUGAL, FREDERICK E	8/20/1875	495	026N - 003E	S½NE¼	30
MCGREGOR, JOHN	8/20/1875	660	028N - 002E	W½NE¼	2
MCKENZIE, JOHN	4/10/1882	1391	026N - 003E	NW¼SE¼	28
MCLEAN, JOHN D	8/1/1874	395	026N - 002E	SE¼	22
MCNAAFE, BRIDGET	10/1/1869	1	027N - 006E	SW¼	30
			027N - 006E	SW¼SE¼	30
MCNEIGHT, JAMES	2/20/1883	1461	027N - 002E	N½NE¼	2
MEAREK, FREDRICK E	1/10/1913	02294	027N - 007E	NE¼SW¼	4
MEILAHN, CARL	6/20/1884	1725	030N - 008E	E½SW¼	35
MERWIN, BENNIA P	6/1/1882	1410	029N - 002E	W½SE¼	36
MEURET, HENRY	2/1/1873	185	028N - 008E	W½NW¼	8
MEYER, GEORGE	12/15/1879	1159	029N - 005E	W½NE¼	18
			029N - 005E	N½NW¼	18
MIEHLKE, FREDERICK	5/5/1883	1395	029N - 005E	W½SW¼	8
MIELY, CHRISTOPHER	5/1/1878	588	026N - 003E	SE¼NE¼	20
			028N - 003E	NE¼NW¼	18
MILLER, BARNEY	6/30/1906	5465	027N - 010E	SW¼NW¼	6
MILLER, FRANK	6/10/1879	1078	026N - 004E	W½NE¼	20
			026N - 004E	E½NW¼	20
MILLER, FRANK W	10/1/1903	4580	026N - 003E	SE¼SE¼	4
MILLER, JOHANN	10/1/1869	33	029N - 007E	SW¼NW¼	17
MILLS, EDWARD D	7/13/1885	1944	028N - 010E	S½SE¼	11
			028N - 010E	SW¼SW¼	12
			028N - 010E	Lot/Trct 2	14
MITTELSTADT, AUGUST	1/10/1885	1030	026N - 005E	W½SW¼	34
			040N - 002E	SW¼SE¼	2
MOHR, JOHN	12/26/1895	3422	028N - 007E	N½SW¼	6
MOLTZ, ERNESTINE, MOLTZ, ALBERT	5/19/1903	4468	030N - 005E	NW¼NW¼	4
MOORE, GEORGE E	10/1/1903	4566	026N - 005E	SE¼NW¼	24

(To be continued in next issue)

MARSHFIELD  
AREA  
GENEALOGY  
GROUP

Phone: 715-897-1910  
Or 715-387-4044

Email:  
[schnitzler.vickie@charter.net](mailto:schnitzler.vickie@charter.net)

**Meetings of the Marshfield Area Genealogy Group are regularly held at 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library upstairs in the Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room, except July (month of our family picnic) and November & December (no meetings) unless otherwise specified.**

We're on the Web

<http://www.marshfieldgenealogy.com>

and look for us on

facebook

ISSN# 1089-845X

## WELCOME BACK TO THE LIBRARY

Please note that we are planning to meet in-library!!

### Upcoming "In-person" MAGG Meetings

**June 24, 2021, 6:30 pm, Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room - Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library**

**General Meeting to discuss in-person meeting options. There will be no formal program presentation.**

**July 22, 2021, 6:30 pm, Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room - Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, Program to be announced.**

**August 26, 2021, 6:30 pm, Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room - Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, Program to be announced.**

**We are also proud to offer the following on-line presentations.**

**Please go to the library's website to sign up: [https://www.facebook.com/MarshfieldPublicLibrary/events/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/MarshfieldPublicLibrary/events/?ref=page_internal)**

### Upcoming Virtual Family History Talks

**July 14, 2021, 6:30 pm, Zoom Presentation**

**"Shiver Me Timbers! Finding a Pirate in Your Family Tree"** What happens when you discover something completely surprising in an unexplored side of your family tree? Join Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library Director Jill Porter as she explains how she stumbled upon her privateering ancestor and resources she has used so far to pull together a more complete picture of her family's history. Register through the library's website

### Upcoming Virtual Spoken History Talks

**July 12, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: Behind Closed Drawers, Garments Found in the NWCHS Clothing Inventory**  
Presenter: Madeleine Lawler. Sponsored by Marshfield Area Genealogy Group

**August 2, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: A Sneak Peek into the New Marshfield Heritage Museum**  
Presenter: Shirley Mook, President, Marshfield Historic Preservation Association  
Sponsored by the Marshfield Historic Preservation Association

**September 13, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: Marshfield Company C: Homegrown Heroes of World War II**  
Presenter: Shirley Mook, President, Marshfield Historic Preservation Association.  
Sponsored by the Marshfield Historic Preservation Association

**October 4, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: To be determined**

**November 1, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: To be determined**

**December 6, 2021, 6:30 pm.**

**Program: Marshfield's Guide to the History and Culture Around You, "theclio.com"**  
Presenter: Don Schnitzler, member North Wood County Historical Society  
Sponsored by the North Wood County Historical Society