

# MN Families

Newsletter for the Minnesota Genealogical Society

Volume 37, No. 1

www.mngs.org

February 2006

## "Branching Out" Meeting March 18

**What:** 16th Annual Branching Out Meeting  
**When:** Saturday March 18  
**Where:** Woodbury Senior High School

### Agenda for the Day

8:00 Registration  
9:00 Business meeting  
9:15 Keynote  
10:30 Break  
11:00 Break-out session #1  
12:00 Lunch (box lunch or on your own)  
1:30 Break-out session #2  
2:45 Break-out session #3  
3:45 Meeting concludes



### KEYNOTE

#### "How To Grow Your Genealogical Skills"

Tom Rice will present "How to Grow Your Genealogical Skills," a discussion of pathways to becoming a more effective genealogical researcher. Tom will cover where to learn more about records and research methods, how to become better at analyzing what you find, and how to better present your results to others.

*Tom Rice, CG, is a professional genealogy researcher, lecturer, and writer. He is the managing editor of The Septs, a director of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, past treasurer and co-first vice president of Irish Genealogy Society International, and a Genealogy Help Desk volunteer at the Minnesota Historical Society Library.*

### SESSION TOPICS

#### Beginning Genealogy

This session will be an introduction to genealogical research for those who are new to family history research or are interested in reviewing the basics.

#### Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)

Margaret Rouser and Roberta Seefeldt will present "The DAR Wants You!" Now that you have dug into your genealogical roots, come learn about the Daughters of the American Revolution and how you may be able to join the National Society (NSDAR). We'll let you know what you can expect from your membership and how to join. The application process will be explained and informational materials will be provided. We will also

discuss finding a DAR chapter that will fit the needs of the applicant (location, day and time of meeting, etc.) and what you can expect from that chapter in the way of assistance. See also [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org) for an introduction.

#### Germanic Genealogical Society (GGS)

A panel of GGS members will present a **Question and Answer Session** on German genealogy.

#### Pommern Regional Group of Minnesota

The Pommern Regional Group, a local Stammtisch (German-speaking) group, will host an "Heirloom Show and Tell." All ethnic groups are invited to this fascinating heirloom show and tell. Bring something you inherited from your ancestors to this session and you will have a couple minutes to talk about your heirloom. The item can be a photograph, map, card, letter, clothing item, quilt, etc.

#### Irish Genealogical Society (IGSI)

The IGSI will also have a display table.

Tom Rice will offer an "Introduction to Irish Genealogy," covering the key tools for finding your ancestors in Ireland: the most important record types, Irish geographic terms, Irish names, and key Irish genealogy websites and books.

If "Advanced Irish Research" is what you are interested in, Beth L. Mullinax has the session for you! You may have a location in Ireland, possibly you have your family on Griffith's Valuation of Ireland — now what to do and where to go? Griffith's Valuation is just the beginning of the land valuation records kept in Ireland. Become aware of these and where to access them. Almost all of the materials mentioned will be available through the library collection of the Irish Genealogical Society, Intl., or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) Family History Centers.

After researching for over twenty years, Beth has learned what to do and what not to do when you are getting started. Time can be saved and more information gathered the first time by following a few simple rules. Also, she might just alert you to some easily-available records you have not heard of before. There are some records to search as you get started that can save you hours of work and much guessing. Why not do it the easy way!

Continued on next page

### Irish Genealogical Society (cont.)

Kathy Lund will talk about the “**Irish in Canada,**” an exploration of episodes of Irish immigration to Canada from 1763 to 1880, focusing especially on Catholics in the Maritimes, Ontario, and Quebec.

### Polish Genealogical Society of Minnesota

The Polish group will also have a display table.

“**New Approaches to Polish Genealogical Research,**” presented by John Kowles, will introduce new approaches and information for name research, Polish websites, obscure records, and others. Attendees should bring research questions and/or problems with them.

The Polish Society will also offer a **Panel Discussion**, followed by a Q & A session. Each panel member will talk briefly about their geographical/ancestral area of expertise, which will be followed by time for questions from attendees.

### Yankee Genealogical Society

The Yankee group will also have a display table.

Harold Hinds will cover practical tips for success at the county courthouse and will provide examples of the treasures uncovered by effective research in “**Family History Treasures Await You at the Courthouse.**”

### VENDORS

Tables will be available for historical or genealogically-related vendors who wish to have displays at the meeting. Requests for tables must be made in advance and the earlier the better. Cost of tables is \$6 each. One table per non-profit group is free. Contact Wesley Waring at 763-494-3277 or <Wesleyawaring@cs.com>.

MGS offers an invitation to non-branch genealogical and historical groups to participate in this meeting. If your group would like to have a table or two at this meeting contact Wesley Waring.

### BOX LUNCHES

Again this year for your convenience we will provide an optional box lunch. This can give you more time to visit and browse the vendor tables. **Payment for the box lunch must be received in advance**, no later than March 11. Send your name, address, and a check for \$6.50 for each box lunch to: Program Committee, Minnesota Genealogical Society, 5768 Olson Memorial Highway, Golden Valley, MN 55422-5014.

The box lunch will include sandwich (choice of meats), chips, salad, cookie. Also, coffee, tea, and juice will be available but not part of the box lunch. You are welcome to bring a bag lunch or go to a local restaurant if you prefer.



### REGISTRATION

The cost for this meeting is \$15.00 member/non-member. Registration will be accepted by mail (see registration form on the next page). You may also register at the door on the day of the meeting.

### LOCATION & DIRECTIONS

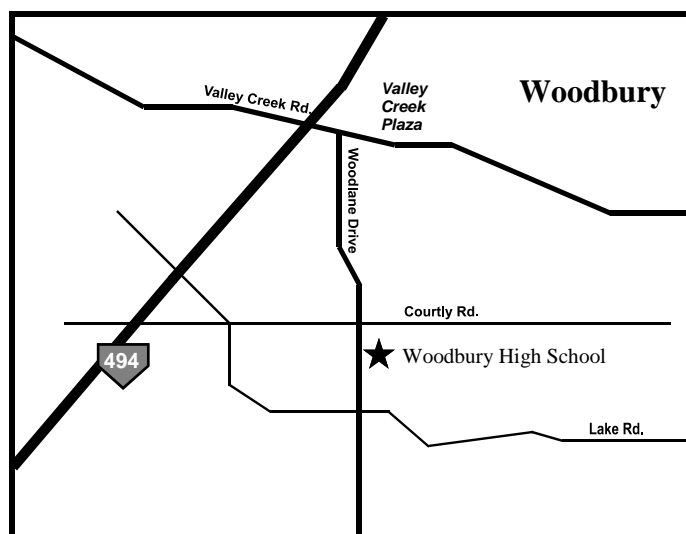
The meeting will be held at the Woodbury Senior High School at 2665 Woodlane Drive in Woodbury.

*For those coming from the north and east (on I-94)*

Take I-94 to the intersection of 494/694. Exit south on 494. Go about 2 miles, take the Valley Creek Road exit. Cross (left) to the east side of the freeway. Take the first right, going south on Woodlane Drive. Go about one mile to the 4-way stop at Courtly Rd. After about 100 yards, student and stadium parking lot is the first left entry. Main entry is the left at the stoplight.

*For those coming from the south and west (on I-494)*

On I-494, about 2 miles northeast of the Mississippi River, take the Lake Road exit and go south (right). Take the first left at Courtly Road. At the 4-way stop turn right, going south on Woodlane Drive. After about 100 yards, student and stadium parking lot is the first left entry. Main entry is the left at the stoplight.



### Other News & Notes

#### HISTORY MATTERS DAY AT THE CAPITOL

The Minnesota Historical Society will again sponsor a “History Matters” Day at the state capitol on Monday March 13 from 10:30-3:00, with a public rally in the rotunda over the noon hour. Of chief concern this legislative session is MHS’s request for capital funds to:

- Design a Fort Snelling Museum,
- Preserve historic structures in the state’s historic sites,
- Provide preservation grants to county and local historical societies, and
- Upgrade facilities at the Minnesota History Center, including an expansion of the Hubbs Microfilm Room in the Library.

The long-needed expansion of the Hubbs Room will allow for more storage cabinets for microfilm, and more space for readers, reader-printers, and computers.

## Branches & Interest Groups

### DANISH-AMERICANS MEETING AT NEW LOCATION

The National Danish-American Genealogical Society is now meeting (4th Monday of the month) at 3030 W. River Parkway S. in Minneapolis. For more information or directions, contact Diane Greve at 612-781-2197.

### IRISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY FEB. MEETING

The IGSI will meet Saturday, 18 February 2006, for their quarterly meeting. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m., the business meeting at 9:00 a.m., followed by a program at 10:30 a.m. Meeting Location: MGS Library lower level meeting room. Suggested donation \$8, or \$5 for IGSI members.

Mr. Patrick O'Donnell, of the Normandale College English Department, will speak on the inspiration of family history for Irish and Irish-American playwrights. His talk is entitled: "Inspiring the Imagination to Greatness through Family History: G. B. Shaw, Eugene O'Neill, Hugh Leonard." All are invited to attend the business meeting at 9 a.m. and enjoy the program from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

### YANKEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY 2006 MEETINGS

- ⇒ February 25: English Research
- ⇒ May 13: Tina Didreckson, speaker
- ⇒ August 26: Annual sharing meeting
- ⇒ November 11: YGS seminar featuring Darlene Joyce.

All meetings are on Saturdays at 1:00 pm at the MGS Library.

### Got News?

Send it to <kathryn.otto@mnhs.org> or mail it to: Newsletter Editor, Minnesota Genealogical Society, 5768 Olson Memorial Hwy., Golden Valley, MN 55422-5014 by April 1 for the next newsletter.

## Meetings & Classes

### FUTURE MGS QUARTERLY MEETINGS

#### Saturday June 17 — "Greater Minnesota" Meeting

Co-sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society  
Full information will be in the next newsletter.

#### Saturday September 23 — Fall Seminar

#### Saturday December 2 — Winter Meeting

### UPCOMING GENEALOGY CLASSES AT MGS/MHS

#### Researching Your American Indian Ancestors

Paula Stuart-Warren, instructor  
Saturday Feb. 4, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at MN Historical Society

#### Genealogy and Biography Sources at the MHS Library

Brigid Shields, instructor  
Tuesday February 7, 6:00-7:30 p.m., at MN Historical Society

#### Property Records

Tom Rice, instructor  
Saturday February 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m., at MGS  
Saturday February 25, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at MHS

#### Court Records

Saturday March 4, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at MGS, Tom Rice  
Saturday March 25, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at MHS, Duane Swanson

#### Photographs

Saturday April 8, 10:00-12:00 noon, at MGS, Fran Gray  
Saturday April 22, time TBD, at MHS, Bonnie Wilson

#### Military Records

Saturday May 13, 10:00-12:00 noon, at MGS, instructor TBA  
Saturday May 20, 10:00-11:30 a.m., at MHS, Hampton Smith



## MGS Branching Out Meeting — March 18, 2006 Registration Form

Registration Fee: \$15.00 for MGS members and non-members

Optional box lunch: \$6.50 per person

MGS member # \_\_\_\_\_ (from upper left corner of mailing label)

Not an MGS member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$15 ea.)

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Box lunch \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$6.50 ea.)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return by **March 11** to Program Committee, MGS, 5768 Olson Memorial Highway, Golden Valley MN 55422-5014



Minnesota Genealogical Society  
 5768 Olson Memorial Highway  
 Golden Valley MN 55422-5014

Non-Profit  
 Organization  
 U.S. Postage  
 Paid  
 Minneapolis MN  
 Permit No. 28318

### 2006 MGS & Branch Calendar

- Feb. 4 Polish Genealogical Society of MN ..... 10 a.m.
- Feb. 6 Canadian Gen. & Heritage Society of MN ..... 7 p.m.
- Feb. 7 Branch Council meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- Feb. 18 Irish Genealogical Society ..... 9 a.m.
- Feb. 18 Property Records class at MGS ..... 1-3 p.m.
- Feb. 21 Computer Interest Group ..... 7 p.m.
- Feb. 22 Norwegian-American Genealogical Ass'n ..... 6 p.m.
- Feb. 25 Finnish Genealogy Group ..... 9:30 a.m.
- Feb. 25 Yankee Genealogical Society ..... 1:00 p.m.
- Feb. 25 Property Records class at MHS\* ..... 10-11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 27 Nat'l. Danish-American Gen. Society\* ..... 7 p.m.
- Feb. 28 Pommern Regional Group ..... 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 4 Court Records class at MGS ..... 10-11:30 a.m.
- Mar. 11 MGS Board meeting ..... 9 a.m.
- Mar. 18 MGS quarterly meeting\* ..... Library Closed
- Mar. 18 Swedish Genealogical Society\* ..... 9 a.m.
- Mar. 21 Canadian Gen. & Heritage Society of MN ..... 7 p.m.
- Mar. 25 Finnish Genealogy Group ..... 9:30 a.m.
- Mar. 25 Court Records class at MHS\* ..... 10-11:30 a.m.
- Mar. 27 Nat'l. Danish-American Gen. Society\* ..... 7 p.m.
- Mar. 28 Pommern Regional Group ..... 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 29 Norwegian-American Genealogical Ass'n ..... 6 p.m.
- Apr. 1 Czechoslovak Genealogical Society ..... 12:30 p.m.
- Apr. 1 Polish Genealogical Society of MN ..... 10 a.m.
- Apr. 4 Branch Council meeting ..... 7 p.m.
- Apr. 8 Identifying Photographs class at MGS ..... 10-12 noon
- Apr. 9-17, Holiday ..... Library Closed
- Apr. 18 Computer Interest Group ..... 7 p.m.
- Apr. 18 Canadian Gen. & Heritage Society of MN ..... 7 p.m.
- Apr. 22 Finnish Genealogy Group ..... 9:30 a.m.
- Apr. 22 Caring for Photos, Films, Videotapes class at MHS
- Apr. 24 Nat'l. Danish-American Gen. Society\* ..... 7 p.m.
- Apr. 25 Pommern Regional Group ..... 6:30 p.m.
- Apr. 26 Norwegian-American Genealogical Ass'n ..... 6 p.m.

\* Meeting held at location other than the MGS Library

CALENDAR



Newsletter for the Minnesota Genealogical Society

President.....John Whitty Mercer, PhD  
 1st Vice President.....vacant  
 2nd Vice President.....vacant  
 Past President.....Lynn Peterson Besch, CGRS  
 Secretary.....Larry A. Lundblad, PhD  
 Treasurer.....Mary Wickersham  
 Exec. Committee at Large.....David E. Cross  
 Maureen Laughy

MN Families Editor: Kathryn Otto

Deadlines: Information and advertisements must be received by January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 for the February, May, August, and November issues respectively.

Submissions: Send articles, announcements, and advertisements to the Newsletter Editor, Minnesota Genealogical Society, 5768 Olson Memorial Hwy., Golden Valley, MN 55422-5014 or to kathryn.otto@mnhs.org (please use MGS in the subject line).

Advertising: Rates are for publication in a single issue only. Full page (6¾" wide x 9" high), \$100. Half page (3½" wide x 9" high), \$60. Quarter page (3¼" wide x 4½" high or 6¾" wide x 2¼" high), \$35. Classified ads, 3¼" wide, \$15 per column inch. Discounts: 10% if ad is run in 4 consecutive issues and paid for in advance; 10% if ad is run in both the newsletter and the *Minnesota Genealogist*. Ad copy must be submitted in electronic format and not exceed stated dimensions.

© 2006 Minnesota Genealogical Society

### MGS NEWSLETTER

The MGS Board decided to reduce the newsletter in an effort to help balance the budget. Another change with this issue is a new editor, Kathryn Otto. The Board would like to heartily thank Paula Goblirsch for her ten years of service as the newsletter editor.