

MN Families

Volume 37, No. 2

Online at: www.mngs.org; Phone: 763-595-9347

May 2006

"Greater Minnesota" Meeting June 17

Co-Sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society

When: Saturday June 17

Where: Boutwell's Landing

Agenda for the Day

- 8:00 Registration & coffee
- 9:00 Business meeting
- 9:15 Keynote
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Break-out session #1
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Break-out session #2
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Break-out session #3
- 3:45 Meeting concludes



KEYNOTE

"Shades of Brown"

Robert Goodman will talk about his research into the life of Joe Brown. He describes this as much like discovering the real story about your great-uncle Harry, as distinguished from the old family stories that have come down to you. Brown left few personal papers and never found the time to write much about himself. This disqualified him as a subject for professional historians, as there was no advance assurance that the raw material for a biography could be found. Being unaware of this problem when he started the project, Bob tracked Joe Brown through the woods, across the plains, and down some narrow alleys. This detective work was the fun part of the project; we hope you will enjoy following the clues.

Bob Goodman, a Stillwater historian, is active in the Washington County Historical Society. Some of you may recognize him as "Doghouse Riley," the occasional doorman at the Warden's House Museum. He and his wife Nancy have co-authored two books, including *Joseph R. Brown: Adventurer*, and are currently working on a new history of Washington County.

SESSION TOPICS — BREAK-OUT #1

"Basic Beginning Genealogy"

Learning the "basics" of genealogy research can save you many hours in the quest for your ancestors. There are some records to search as you get started that can save you hours of work and much guessing. More information can be gathered the first time by following a few simple rules.

"Researching in County Historical Societies"

Brent Peterson, director of the Washington County Historical Society, will provide an overview of what is available for family history research in historical societies. He will describe what is in the collections that is genealogically significant and how to access those materials.

"Capturing and Bringing to Life Your U.S. Farm Ancestor"

Harold Hinds, Jr., Ph.D., Distinguished Research Professor of History at the University of Minnesota-Morris, will focus on resources and techniques for reconstructing farm life and production. In particular he will focus on whether or not your ancestor was a farmer, the location of a farm, building a profile of the farm, and the historical context of the farm.

SESSION TOPICS — BREAK-OUT #2

"Wisconsin Research: An Introduction to the UW—River Falls ARC"

Stephanie Zeman, interim archivist at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls Area Research Center (ARC) since January 2005, will give a presentation about the various sources available at the center. She will give some background on the formation of the ARC and will explain how the ARC is part of a network of ARCs in Wisconsin, and she will then go into some detail as to what types of

materials can be found at the ARC. Those materials include many different types of records that would be of use to genealogists. She will also bring some items from the collection to illustrate the different types of things that can be found. There will be time at the end of the presentation for questions from the audience.

“Now That I Found It, How Do I Organize It?”
Approaches to Organizing Genealogical Materials

Tom Rice, a certified professional genealogist offering research, consulting, and instructional services, will review different conceptual and physical approaches to organizing genealogical materials and information. The lecture will also include a discussion of software tools to help with organization and presentation of a model system.

“Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)”

Diane Carol Anderson, Saint Croix River Valley Chapter NSDAR Chapter regent, and Mary Kay Brown, national vice chair of Genealogy and Chapter Development and a member of the Keewaydin Chapter in Minneapolis, will talk about what the DAR does, the application process, use of the DAR Library and archives, and becoming a member of the DAR. There will be time for questions and assistance with filling out forms.

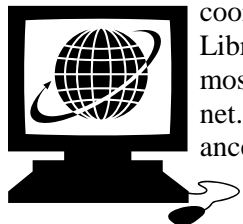
SESSION TOPICS — BREAK-OUT #3

“St. Croix County, Wis., Territorial Documents:
Where are they Now?”

St. Croix County, Wisconsin Territory, once covered the land from Stillwater to St. Paul north to the Canadian border. What ever became of those 1840s records? Some are located in places you would never guess. Find out where they ended up with author and researcher Nancy Goodman, a freelance graphic designer, writer, and proofreader who lives in Stillwater.

“Genealogical Research Using the Internet”

Access to genealogical resources has exploded with the advent of the Internet. The novice genealogist is now able to find online birth, death, and census records; sites dedicated to the genealogy of one-name societies; free and fee-based mega-sites; and a lot of dubious genealogical data from the comforts of home. Janet Roseen, staff training coordinator for the University of Minnesota Libraries, will introduce you to some of the most useful genealogical sites on the Internet. Bring the names of some of your U.S. ancestors and we'll see if we can find them.



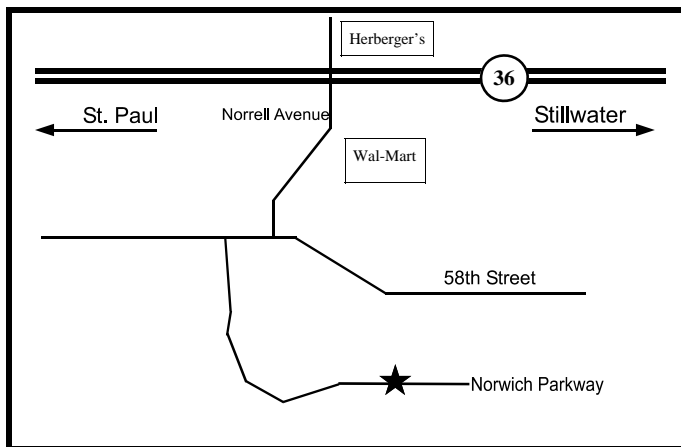
LUNCH

A boxed lunch will be available for pre-registrants for \$7.50, or lunch on your own. The pre-registration deadline is **June 11th**. The lunch will include: sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie, and soda or mineral water. There will be ample time for eating, browsing the vendor tables, visiting, and/or enjoying the sunshine.



FACILITY

The meeting will be held at Boutwell's Landing on the western edge of Stillwater, located at 5600 Norwich Parkway in Oak Park Heights. You can see the buildings of Boutwell's Landing from MN Highway 36 on the south side. At the stoplight at Norrell/Washington Avenues, turn south on Norrell. Go past the Wal-Mart until you come to a **T** in the road and take a right (west) on 58th Street. In about a block take a quick left (south) on Norwich Parkway. Continue around the Parkway to the entrance, which is in the center of the buildings. Follow the MGS signs.



LODGING

There is an AmericInn hotel nearby: 651-275-0980.

VENDORS

Tables will be available for vendors who wish to display genealogically-related material. Tables must be reserved in advance by **June 11th**. One table will be free to each non-profit historical or genealogically-related group. All others will be \$8.00 each. County genealogical and historical societies, as well as MGS Branches, are encouraged to reserve a table and answer questions, sell your publications, and distribute literature. Literature can be made available for the free handout table even if your society isn't present. To reserve tables, contact Wesley Waring at 763-494-3277 or <wesleyawaring@cs.com> or write to the Program Committee, Minnesota Genealogical Society, 5768 Olson Memorial Hwy., Golden Valley MN 55422.

Branches/Interest Groups

Swedish Genealogical Society June Meeting

The SGSM quarterly meeting will be Saturday June 10 at 1:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Mariann Tiblin, retired associate professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, where she held the position of librarian for Scandinavian Studies in the University Libraries for over 30 years. Born and educated in Sweden, she studied art and architecture history and archeology of Northern Europe at the University of Stockholm. Her first contact with this country was as an exchange student at the University of Kansas. She is co-editor of the annual "Swedish-American Bibliography" and a member of several Swedish-American organizations. Her topic will be "The Local Heritage Movement." Knowing about the history of the place where you live is an enriching experience.

The meeting will be held in the auditorium at the American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave., Minneapolis, from 1 until 4 p.m.

Classes at MGS/MHS

Researching Female Ancestors

Saturday June 10, 10:00-12:00 noon, at MGS, instructor TBA
Tuesday June 20, 6:00-7:30 p.m., at MHS, Debbie Miller

To register for a MGS class e-mail Pat Tupper at:
p_tupper@msn.com, or call 763-595-9347.

For a MHS class register online at:
<http://shop.mnhs.org>, or call 651-296-6227.

For more information see: www.mnhs.org/classes.shtml

Upcoming Meetings

Future MGS Quarterly Meetings

Saturday September 23 — Annual Fall Seminar, speaker TBA

Saturday December 2 — Winter Meeting, at Fort Snelling



Have you researched your family's history, but not gotten around to writing it yet? I can help turn your research into the family history you have been working toward.

I am a memoir writer who can do the tasks you have no have time, or interest, for — drafting a history from your records and stories, editing what you have written, making suggestions about format and style. What I write will be yours, both the disc and print versions and any copyrights.

Don't put off writing until you have finished that last bit of research. We can start now and get it done. An addendum may always be added if new information is found.

Prices are reasonable and based upon time spent.

Susan Sternfels
Phone: 651-489-3495 • E-mail: susansternfels@comcast.net

MGS Greater Minnesota Meeting — June 17, 2006 Registration Form

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

Optional box lunch: \$7.50 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 \$ _____
(\$7.50 ea.)

Phone: _____ Total \$ _____

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



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Golden Valley MN 55422-5014

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2006 Genealogy Calendar

May 1 Minnesota Genealogist journal.....deadline
May 1 Canadian Gen. & Heritage Society of MN*.....7 p.m.
May 13 Military Records class at MGS*.....10-12 noon
May 13 Yankee Genealogical Society*.....1 p.m.
May 20 MGS Board Meeting*.....1 p.m.
May 20 Irish Genealogical Society*.....9 a.m.
May 20 Military Records class at MHS.....10-11:30 a.m.
May 22 Nat'l. Danish-American Gen. Society.....7 p.m.
May 23 Pommern Regional Group*.....6:30 p.m.
May 25-29, Holiday.....Library Closed
May 27 Finnish Genealogy Group*.....9:30 a.m.
May 31 Norwegian-American Genealogical Ass'n*.....6 p.m.

June 5 Canadian Gen. & Heritage Society of MN*.....7 p.m.
June 5 How to Conduct Oral Interviews (Sharon Shultz)
at the Anoka Co. History Center.....7 p.m.
June 6 Branch Council Meeting*.....7 p.m.
June 7-10 NGS Conference.....Chicago
June 10 Researching Female Ancestors class-MGS*...10-12
June 10 Swedish Genealogical Society of MN.....1 p.m.
June 12 Freeborn Co. Gen. Soc. mtg., Albert Lea.....7 p.m.
Dr. David Prescott, speaker
June 15 Creative Keepsakes class at MH.....10-12 noon
June 17 MGS Quarterly Meeting.....MGS Library Closed
June 20 Researching Female Ancestors class-MHS...6-7:30

July 1-4 Holiday.....MGS Library Closed
July 10 Freeborn Co. Gen. Soc. mtg., Albert Lea.....7 p.m.
Peggy Haevner, speaker

Aug. 24-Sept. 4, MN State Fair.....MGS Library Closed
Aug. 30-Sept. 2 FGS Conference.....Boston

Sept. 23 MGS Quarterly Meeting.....MGS Library Closed
Sept. 30 IGSI Fall Conference.....Brooklyn Park

*Meeting held at the MGS Library

CALENDAR



President.....John Whitty Mercer, PhD
1st Vice President.....vacant
2nd Vice President.....vacant
Past President.....Lynn Peterson Besch, CG
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).

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Minnesota Genealogical Society Library

5768 Olson Memorial Highway (the north frontage road of Highway 55), Golden Valley, Minnesota
Phone: 763-595-9347
Web address: www.mnhs.org

Library hours:

Wed., Thurs., Sat.: 9 a.m.—3 p.m.
Tues., Thurs.: 6:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.
See calendar for closed dates

There is a \$5 fee for non-MGS or non-branch members to use the library. The fee may be applied to membership in MGS or any of the branches within 30 days.