



Vol. 36

May—June 2019

No. 5

Hi Everyone:

As promised, Spring is finally here to stay (I hope). Time to think about field/road trips and cemetery indexing. If you are interested, talk to Karen Pettis. I hope to visit lots of genealogy sites. Recently, four of us went to the Minnesota Historical museum to do research. Lots of fun.

Thanks to Anita for giving us all the websites for British research. I have searched many of them; didn't learn anything new but very interesting. Here is another you might like to try <https://www.gov.uk/wills-probate-inheritance> All wills in Britain had to be registered starting in 1858. But, there are lots of earlier ones too. I found one on my Rowells; not early but it did leave items to some of mine who had come to America in the 1600's. Also, there are many famous people who have wills on file such as Charles Dickens, Florence Nightengale, and so on. Try it for fun.

Have a great summer and come back with lots of genealogy stories to share. Hope to see you at the picnic.

*Linda*

**Linda's One and Only Genealogy Joke** (she promises)

If April showers bring May flowers, What do May flowers bring? The answer is elsewhere in the newsletter!



### Open Labs at LE Phillips Library

The following dates are on the schedule this summer. We will be meeting downstairs in the Chippewa Room.

June 19 , 1-3:30 PM- Using Newspapers.com

July 15, 6:30-8:30 PM-  
Using FamilySearch.org



### Index

Board Members.....	p. 2
Publication Notice .....	p. 2
Calendar .....	p. 2
Thank you to Presenters.....	p.3
What is a FamilySearch Affiliate? .....	p. 3
Time for a Picnic.....	p. 4
Governor's Pardon Papers .....	p. 4
One More Thing.....	p. 5
Historical Monument Dedication .....	p. 7

## GRSEC Board Members

### Genealogical Research Society of Eau Claire (GRSEC)

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This newsletter is published in September, November, January, March, May, and mid July. Deadline for entries is the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication. (e.g. entries for November's issue would be October 25.)

The GRSEC meets the second Saturday of each month, September through May, at 10:00 AM. Come early at 9:30 AM with your questions or just to visit. We meet at the Chippewa Valley Museum, located at Carson Park, in beautiful Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

The GRSEC does not meet during the summer months (June through August). The membership year runs May 1st through April 30th. Membership fee is \$10.00 per year, beginning May 1st. Check your mailing label on the newsletter for your expiration date. It is on the right hand corner.

Get your newsletter via email? Then check with Tom Davey, the Treasurer/Membership chair.

**Our email address and website address appear at the top of every page in the header area. Membership forms are on the back page of every issue.**

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**MAY 11-** GRSEC Meeting, at 10 AM. Election of officers followed by the presentation: "The Gifts of My Mother, Grandmothers, and Great-Grandmothers," by Barbara Arnold. Both of Barb's grandmothers, and one great-grandmother, were founders of the Eau Claire Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**MAY 14 AND 16-** Beginning Genealogy at Oakwood Villa in Altoona, from 3-4 PM. We are teaching a genealogy class to residents. Sound like fun? Contact Kathy Herfel if you would like to join us.

**MAY 19-** Dedication ceremony at Cornell Cemetery, 2 PM, honoring Julia Rolette Brunet. Julia Rolette Brunet was the spouse of Jean Brunet, well-known explorer and trading post operator in the 1850's near Brunet Falls, now Cornell, WI. They did not have any heirs, but lived with employees of Jean. Julia died in 1865, and was buried at the Brunet Cemetery on the west side of the Chippewa River just south of Cornell. For an unknown reason, 8 bodies were exhumed in 1947 and moved to the Cornell Cemetery. When CCGS indexed in 1991, her stone was visible along with several of the other eight. When we updated that indexing in 2016, the stones were not visible. Since that time, Julia's stone was located 6 inches below ground. After receiving permission from the Cemetery Association Board, the stone was lifted to be incorporated into a new granite monument donated by Johnson Monument Company of Lake Hallie. The dedication is May 19, 2019, 2PM rain or shine at the Cornell Cemetery.

**MAY 21, WEBINAR-** "Southerners in the Northern Midwest," present by Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, FOGS. 7 PM Central Time. Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/631403743600151299>

**MAY 28, WEBINAR-** "Parents for William: A Case Study Using DNA and the Paper Trail." Presented by Michelle Goodrum at 6 PM, *Mountain Time*. Register here: [https://ugagenealogy.zoom.us/webinar/register/3915465428624/WN\\_diDTXDMCR8Cn0ry-ox0lGg](https://ugagenealogy.zoom.us/webinar/register/3915465428624/WN_diDTXDMCR8Cn0ry-ox0lGg)

**JUNE 4-** Senior Americans Day at the UW-EC campus from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Our table will have two shifts, 8 to 10:30 AM and 10:30 to 1 PM.

**JULY 18-** Summer Picnic for GRSEC, Carson Park at the Oak Pavilion from 5 to 8 PM.

**AUGUST 20, WEBINAR-** “The 1849 WI Asiatic Cholera Epidemic and Its Implications for Genealogical Research,” presented by Jean Wilcox Hibben at 7 PM Central Time. Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8345097937006932995>

### Thank you to our past presenters

At our March meeting we heard a delightful presentation by Bill Hable on his Czech ancestors and his frequent visits to the old country. Bill had some wonderful exhibits and family tree’s to share with us. He encouraged everyone, if possible, to plan a trip to our ancestors homeland.

Prior to Bill’s presentation, Kevin Harris from the Eau Claire public library gave a short presentation of “What is the Cloud.” All users of cloud-based storage should read the end-user agreements as to who owns what!

Our April presenter was Professor Jane Pederson, retired. Prof. Pederson is the author of “Between Memory and Reality.” Her subject was a murder that occurred in Pepin County in 1866. A fascinating study of a love triangle, who did what and why, and what happened to the cast of characters. Here is hoping Prof. Pederson puts pen to paper and writes the stories of women who murder!

### What is a FamilySearch Affiliate?

Prior to Prof. Pederson’s presentation, we had a brief discussion on using FamilySearch at the Eau Claire library. LE Phillips is a FamilySearch affiliate library. FamilySearch affiliate libraries have privileges to limited-access FamilySearch databases.

### In Wisconsin, the following locations are listed as FamilySearch affiliates:

Buffalo County Historical Society  
Black River Falls Public Library  
La Crosse Public Library- Archives Department  
Wisconsin Historical Society  
Hatch Public Library (Mauston)  
T B Scott Free Library (Merrill)  
Portage County Public Library (Stevens Point)

### FamilySearch affiliates in Minnesota:

Minnesota Genealogical Society (Mendota Heights)  
Hennepin County Library (Minneapolis)

Minnesota Historical Society (St. Paul)  
Rochester Public Library

### For those who “winter” in Florida:

Fort Myers Regional Library  
Jacksonville Public Library

### For those who “winter” in Arizona:

McClelland Irish Library (Phoenix)

There are many other locations in both Wisconsin and Minnesota, I listed the ones closest to Eau Claire. To find the complete listing of all states and countries, go the FamilySearch Wiki, and in the search box type “affiliate libraries” without the quotes. Two more things to remember, you must use a library computer, not your personal laptop and you must have a free, FamilySearch account.

### Those pesky FamilySearch icons and what they mean.

First, not all records have been digitized yet, though FamilySearch believes this will happen by the end of 2020.

Second, not all digitized records have been indexed. This means you have to scroll through each image. Just like using the old microfilm readers, except on your computer.

Third, some records have limited access. “... restricted records are currently available only at family history centers and FamilySearch affiliate libraries. This is usually because of contractual agreements between FamilySearch and the record holders.”<sup>1</sup> This is where we find those icons.

	Available at Family History Centers and affiliates
	Available at home
	Indexed and available at home
	Not indexed, only on microfilm. If you see this icon <b>and</b> the magnifying glass, you can search the index but not see the record.

<sup>1</sup> Leslie Albrecht Huber “What’s New: Search Records at Home,” FamilySearch Blog, 20 December 2017. Accessed 1 May 2019

A tip I read on the MN Genealogical Society website, May 2019. “If you are attempting to view a micro-film and you encounter the “camera & key icon” and you get the message that the film must be viewed at an affiliate library, make a note of that film number. The next time you are at the library, bring the film number and your thumb drive, find the record and download a copy. It’s as simple as that. (pro tip: save the item to your FamilySearch “Source Box” in a folder called “to view at Library” so you can access that record quicker when at the library).”

**Did you know that FamilySearch** has a large number of free classes to watch on your computer? From beginning research to searching for records in a foreign country; even videos in foreign languages! Here is the direct link. [https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Classes\\_in\\_the\\_Learning\\_Center](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Classes_in_the_Learning_Center)

Brigham Young University (BYU) also has a large catalogue of past webinars to view, for free. Join their newsletter list to be informed of upcoming webinars. Here is the direct link to their page. <https://sites.lib.byu.edu/familyhistory/classes-and-webinars/online-webinars/#webinars>

## Time for a Picnic!

Yes, summer will soon be upon us. After the winter we have had, we deserve a wonderful summer. To do our part, we invite you to attend our annual summer picnic in beautiful Carson Park.

Oak Pavilion

**July 18, Thursday**

5 PM to 8 PM

As usual, the board will provide drinks, eating utensils, and paper products.

You bring yourselves and a dish to pass. Please label your items!

Food Items to bring, by first letter of your surname.

A-H	Dessert
I-Q	Salad
R-Z	Hot Dish

And, I believe we will have a game to play!

There were no newsletter submissions by our membership for this issue. I really enjoy reading about our society members ancestors and families. Your articles help me in my own research and writing, giving me

ideas for where to look for a record to how to write a biography of one of my ancestors. So whether you wrote something long ago or more recently, please send it to the newsletter editor (me!). Your writing is very much appreciated by myself and the rest of our society members.

*Anita*

## The Governor’s Pardon Papers

Prof. Jane Pederson’s presentation on the 1866 murder of a husband by his spouse and her boyfriend, included the use of court records. Prof. Pederson indicated she used the Governor’s Pardon Papers. So where is this record group, how can you access it and what is included in these papers?

“The custodian of the court record, prior to its destruction under this chapter, shall give at least 60 days’ notice of such destruction in writing to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, which may preserve any records it determines to be of historical interest. Notice is not required for any records for which destruction has previously been approved by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin or in which the State Historical Society of Wisconsin has indicated, by blanket waiver, that it has no interest for historical purposes.”<sup>2</sup>

So the Governor’s Pardon Papers are held by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The WI Historical Society (WHS) is found in Madison, Wisconsin. Located at one end of the State Street mall, anchoring the other end is the capitol building. Part of the WHS mission is to assist government agencies with records retention and preserving historic properties and sites.

These records are open to the public unless they are marked confidential. All records held by the State Archives (WHS) can be sent to an Area Research Center, such as the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire. If the records are in microform, they would be available through interlibrary loan. If you cannot travel to Madison, the record can come to you here at the UW-EC.

“Wisconsin. Governor: Pardon papers, 1837-2010” is the complete title of this collection. There are 297 boxes and 290 records cartons of files containing the

2 “Retention and Maintenance of Court Records,” Chapter SCR 72.04, Wisconsin State Legislature, <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/scr/72>. Accessed 1 May 2019

following: “Files containing applications for pardon, petitions for or against the pardon, opinions of the judge and district attorney who tried the original case, transcripts of testimony and other court papers, medical and prison conduct reports, pardon proclamations, and other records.”<sup>3</sup>

There is a note attached to this finding aid that Pardon Papers from 1987-1988 were accidentally destroyed. Also there is a restriction on access to some of this material. The restriction is for a certain year, 1989, pending a clarification; another is for the year 1990 because it has not yet been determined by the Governor’s office; and 1993-2001 is restricted because of the use of social security numbers, medical records, etc. It is amazing what you can find out by just researching from your computer at home.

The series that would interest most genealogists would be “Part 1 (Series 98): Original Collection, 1837-1981.” The finding aid for this collection lists each archives box and carton. Early records by year only, later years by the year and then by the first letter of the surname of the convict. Starting in 1956, each box corresponds with a name, some have multiple surnames in each box. There are additional notes attached to some entries, such as; Also known as... or “this file was out when transferred to...”

The Original Collection is now stored off-site. This means you will have to know the box number for the material you want to look through in order for WHS to transfer that material to the WHS library site or to a local research center.

There is also a finding aid for “Index to Pardon Dockets, 1837-1997.” The abstract and notes reveal that these are index cards arranged alphabetically by last name of the person petitioning for the pardon.

“Pardon Dockets, 1868-1972” Contains pardons requested, granted, or denied and shows the name of the convict, date and court of conviction, statements and reasons for granting or denying the pardon.

This all took about 15 minutes of my time to look up the collection. The advantage was the fact that Prof. Pederson mentioned the collection as one of her sources. That is the importance of knowing where someone got their information. It is not a criticism to

3 “Pardon Papers, 1837-2010,” Wisconsin, Governor. <http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/wiarchives.uw-whs-ser00098>; accessed 2 May 2019.

be questioned on sources for information. It is the beginning of a step down a pathway to more knowledge. One other thing to remember, pardons happen at the request of the convict, usually after serving a certain percentage of their sentenced time. Newspapers frequently post an article on Governor’s pardons. Our open lab on June 19, at the LE Phillips Library is on the using newspapers.com! *Anita*

## One More Thing...

### Share Your Voice

The Wisconsin Historical Society will be at the LE Phillips Memorial Library on Wednesday, June 5, from 6 to 7:30 PM, hosting a public forum to share your thoughts and ideas as they create a brand new history museum that “connects and tells the story of all Wisconsinites.” This event is co-hosted by the Chippewa Valley museum and advanced registration is preferred (contact the library please).

6 PM will be the welcome and introduction of the project and at 6:30 PM you will be able to give your feedback and share your ideas. They are also encouraging young people to attend and share their ideas. Hope to see you there!

### Reclaim the Records News

Since the fall of 2018, Reclaim the Records as filed eight Freedom of Information lawsuits (FOIL). This group is responsible for genealogists being able to finally see the birth and death index for the state of New York. Even though Ancestry.com has placed these record groups behind a pay wall, anyone can still access them through the non-pay site of Internet Archive.

This spring Reclaim the Records filed one of their largest lawsuits against numerous agencies and people in their official capacities (NYC commissioner of Health, NYC registrar, etc.) in New York City.

Reclaim the Records is asking for “uncertified digital scans of every New York City death certificate from 1949-1968.” New York State has the rule of a fifty year restriction on viewing death certificates. But recently, New York City (which has its own vital records jurisdiction) pushed that restriction to seventy-five years. The rest of outstate New York continues the restriction of fifty years. The lawsuit is asking for a judge to rule

that the City has passed rules that are “arbitrary and capricious.”

The FOIL request was submitted 7 Feb 2019; New York City denied the request on 11 Feb 2019, on March 7 Reclaim the Records appealed, but were denied again on March 21. This case was filed in the Supreme Court of New York on 17 April 2019. To read more on this subject, click here

<https://www.reclaimtherecords.org/state/new-york-city/?v=7516fd43adaa>

### German Military Record Vocabulary

Yes, Wisconsin has plenty of German ancestry. But when you cross the pond to the motherland, can you read the German? If one of your German ancestors served in the military, here are some of the more important terms to understand and recognize.

Schlacht .....	Battle
Kämpfe .....	Fight, conflict
Krieg .....	War
Waffen .....	Arms
Amt .....	Office
Wehrmacht .....	Armed Forces
Dienstgrad .....	Military Rank
Grenadier .....	Rifle or Infantryman
Stab .....	Staff
Versetzt.....	Transferred
Entlassung.....	Discharge
Bestrafung, Strafe.....	Punishment
Tot .....	Dead
gefallen .....	died in battle

To find even more terms and read a great blog, head to Katherine Schober, SK Translations  
<https://sktranslations.com/>

Yes, I follow her both through the blog, Facebook and Twitter! I'm addicted. The above list is from the April 16, 2019 blog article of the same name.

### What to do with your spare time

I frequently travel with my husband. The exotic locales we travel to are Rochester, MN, Madison, WI, and Kansas City, MO to name just a few. These are frequently one night trips, maybe two nights away from home. So when he is in a meeting I head to the nearest library.

Rochester, MN has a very nice library, attached to the skyway system even. No need to get my feet wet. It is easy to connect to their computer system with my laptop, or even use their computers as a guest. They

are also a FamilySearch affiliate library. The research computers and scanners are on second floor; along with microfilm for the Rochester Post-Bulletin.

Madison, WI has almost too many wonderful places to research. Memorial Union library has a great collection of Norwegian farm books. You will need a visitors card so stop at the front desk first. For all things Norwegian, head to the Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library. Non-members can visit the library, but must pay at \$15.00/day user fee. The maps and farm books (all in Norwegian) are wonderful. My favorite stop, by far, is the library at the Wisconsin Historical Society, now also a FamilySearch affiliate library. Bonus to walk over to Memorial Union for coffee and to watch the sailboats float by. Kansas City, MO, who would have thought this location would be a favorite. Besides being the location of a National Archives, they have a great public library with the Missouri Valley Room highlighting the history and genealogy of the area. For genealogists, the Midwest Genealogy Center is located in Independence, just a few short miles away (you will need a rental car). This is one library I wished I lived closer too.

<https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy>

Harry Truman's Presidential Library is also located in Independence!

### ANSWER TO LINDA'S RIDDLE:

Why Pilgrims of course!

Would you like to receive the Sawdust City Roots newsletter via email? Become a member and make sure Tom Davey has your email address!

*We need to haunt the house  
of history and listen anew  
to the ancestors wisdom. -*

Maya Angelou

# JULIA ROLETTE BRUNET

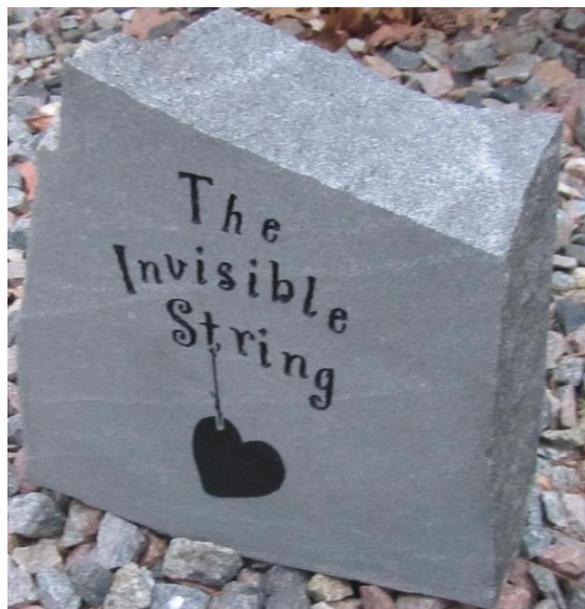
**HISTORICAL MONUMENT DEDICATION**

**CORNELL, WI CEMETERY**

**SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019**

**2:00PM**

**BRIEF CASUAL PROGRAM; FINDING JULIA; POEM; UNVEILING**



The Cornell Cemetery is at the junction of Highways 178 and 64.



**GRSEC Newsletter**  
**Chippewa Valley Museum**  
**PO Box 1204**  
**Eau Claire, WI 54702**

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**GRSEC Membership Application**

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**Name (Last, First, MI)**

**Please print or type**

---

**Street Address**

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**City, State, Zip**

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**Phone**

**Email**

**Date**

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**Area of Research and Surnames**

Annual dues of \$10 per household/year are collected in May. Please make your check payable to GRSEC and return with completed form to: GRSEC c/o Chippewa Valley Museum, PO Box 1204, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1204