



Connections

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McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter



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Contact Us: newsletter@mcigs.org

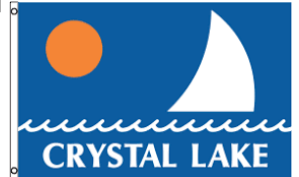
January 2018

Swedenberg

1850 - 1950

with Kurt Pearson

Thursday, January 11, 2018
7:00pm (doors open at 6:30pm)
The Pointe Outreach Center
5650 Northwest Highway



Swedish immigrants Mons and Cecilia (Anderson) Peterson with friends and family.

Crystal Lake's "Swedenberg" has been described as a community within a community, very similar to that of Chinatown or Bucktown. It was located on the west side of Crystal Lake bordered north and south by Woodstock Street and Crystal Lake Avenue, and east and west by Peterson Parkway and Oak Street. While the original settlers of Swedenberg had moved on in the 1950s, this community had left their mark on the city by founding several Swedish structures such as the pump house in McCormick Park and the American Legion hall on Woodstock Street.

Kurt Pearson is a McHenry resident and a Crystal Lake native. Kurt began researching Swedenberg about five years ago while researching his grandfather, Nels P. Pearson. Kurt graduated from Crystal Lake Community High School in 1976 and Knox College in 1980. After playing and coaching basketball for three years in Denmark, he taught high school English for eighteen years before becoming library director at McHenry West Campus. Kurt retired in 2016 and now enjoys genealogy, writing, gardening and travel.

Upcoming Events

Jan 2, 2018 EGS – *“Creating Your Family History Album”* at Gail Borden Public Library. For more information, visit <http://www.elginroots.com>.

Jan 6, 2018 NSGS – *“Digitizing Photos and Slides”* at Arlington Heights Senior Center. For more information, visit <http://www.nwsgenealogy.org/>.

Jan 9, 2018 ISGS – *Finding Scottish Ancestors Online* at online webinar. For more information, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4371369446769984259>

Jan 11, 2018 MCIGS – *Valkommen till Swedenberg!* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

Jan 13, 2018 NSGS – *Looking for European Roots* at Northbrook Historical Society, 1pm. For more information, visit <http://nsgsil.org/>.

Jan 17, 2018 DCGS – *Reconstructing Your Soldier's WWI Experience* at Wheaton Public Library, Wheaton, IL, 6:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.dcgs.org>.

Jan 20, 2018 CAGGNI – *“Brick by Brick: Tracing Your Home's History”* at Schaumburg Township District Library, 10:30am. For more information, visit <http://caggni.org>.

Jan 21, 2018 Cary Library – *“Organize Your Genealogy”* at Cary Area Public Library, 2pm. For more information, visit <http://caryarealibrary.org/>

Jan 31, 2018 Cary Library – *“RootsMagic User Group”* at Cary Area Public Library, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://caryarealibrary.org/>

300,000 Usernames & Passwords Exposed on RootsWeb

Many of you likely saw that Rootsweb was unavailable during the 2017 Christmas holiday. Ancestry shut down the servers hosting RootsWeb content after a security researcher discovered a file located on the servers. The file contained over 300,000 usernames and password combinations of RootsWeb and some (7,000) Ancestry users.

Ancestry made the announcement on Saturday on its blog which can be found at <http://bit.ly/RootsWebSec>. Fortunately credit card or other sensitive information is not stored on RootsWeb. Ancestry has notified law enforcement as well as those customers that are believed to be impacted. At this time Ancestry.com LLC believes that the intrusion was limited to the RootsWeb surname list.

In addition to notifying law enforcement and customers, Ancestry has locked the accounts of the 55,000 customers who used the same password on RootsWeb and Ancestry. Regardless of whether those accounts are active or not, those impacted will be required to change their passwords before being able to login.

As mentioned earlier, the RootsWeb servers have been taken offline. This is done to make sure that the data on these servers is “saved and preserved” prior to bringing the servers back online. For genealogists, many of whom do genealogy research during the holidays, this could result in delayed discoveries. The larger impact is to those organizations that host their pages on Rootsweb (i.e BIGWILL, Lake County Genealogical Society and Kane County Genealogical Society).

While Ancestry claims that only one percent of all Ancestry customers have been impacted by this latest breach, everyone is encouraged to make sure that they are changing their passwords on a regular basis and using a complex password. Forbes magazine recently published an article of the worst passwords of 2017 (go to <http://bit.ly/ForbesSec>). As Lee Matthews states in the article, there are plenty of solutions to help you generate and store your passwords to include [LastPass](#), [1Password](#) and [Dashlane](#).



Membership

Arlene Basten

We would like to thank all of you that have renewed your membership. If you have not had a chance to renew or you would like to become a member, you can renew online at <http://bit.ly/MCIGSMember>.

Please join us in welcoming our newest members to MCIGS:

Pam Bell - Crystal Lake, Illinois

Jerry Johnson - Cary, Illinois

Marilyn Miller - Cary, Illinois

Rick Richards - Overland Park, Kansas

Gerald Schmidt - Chicago, Illinois

Tim Struckmeier - Cary, Illinois

Michelle Wilson - Long Grove, Illinois

MCIGS Library

Claudia Conroy

MCIGS has purchased the 2-volume set of newly published books, *Swedenberg*, written by Kurt E. Pearson. Each volume contains over 600 pages of valuable information about the early Swedish settlers of Crystal Lake. The timeframe is 1850 to 1950.

The author begins by taking the reader back to Sweden with wonderful maps of the country which notes each immigrant's home county. The next section includes a timeline of the settlement of Crystal Lake compared with current United States events. The books continue with detailed biographies of Crystal Lake settlers, including many photographs and maps. Each volume concludes with a cumulative index of people and places with special notations if photos are included on that page.

Swedenberg volumes I and II will be placed in the Crystal Lake Public Library in the genealogy reference section. Please allow sufficient time for the library to process the books and place them in their proper location.

White Like Her by Gail Lukasik is another new book acquisition. This hardcover, written by our recent speaker, is the story of her life as she uncovers her past. The book will be placed in the Crystal Lake Library and will be allowed to circulate.

Upcoming Events

Feb 3, 2018 CGS – *DNA: A Power Tool in a Genealogist's Toolbox* at The Newberry Library, 1:30pm. For more information, visit <http://www.chicagogenealogy.org>.

Feb 8, 2018 MCIGS – *Newspapers.com* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

Mar 3, 2018 CGS – *South Suburban Genealogical & Historical Society (SSGHS)* at The SSGHS Library, 10am. For more information, visit <http://www.chicagogenealogy.org>.

Mar 8, 2018 MCIGS – *Ancestry.com* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

Apr 12, 2018 MCIGS – *Gen202: Beyond The Basics* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

May 10, 2018 MCIGS – *Cook County Social Worker for the Unclaimed Dead* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

June 14, 2018 MCIGS – *GOOGLE for Genealogy* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

July 7, 2018 MCIGS – *MCIGS Summer Conference* at McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.org>.

August 9, 2018 MCIGS – *Probate Records* at The Pointe, Crystal Lake, IL, 7pm. For more information, visit <http://www.mcigs.com>.

August 22 - 25, 2018 FGS – *FGS National Conference* at The Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, IN. For more information, visit <http://www.fgs.org>.



JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY

HOLIDAY PARTY

Drinks & Hors D'oeuvres only

January 14, 2018 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Turnberry Country Club

Village of Lakewood

<http://www.mcigs.org/holidays.html>

\$17.50 per person (\$35 per couple)

PREPAYMENT REQUIRED

