



Connections

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McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter



Volume XXXIX, Number 1

Contact Us: newsletter@mcigs.org

January 2019

January 10, 2019 General Meeting



Maternal Lineage 3 Genealogy Case Studies

Larry Wood is our current MCIGS Newsletter Editor and Director. He has been previously spotlighted in "CONNECTIONS" as having some impressive credentials, being a Mechanical Engineer, a published genealogy author, and former editor and writer of Federal Regulations for the USAF and HUD. He was recognized for this work in the 2001 "Who's Who in America". Larry has been published in the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYGBS) periodical and has also published his 5 volume work on family genealogy.

He will be speaking on his own research of maternal lineages to illustrate how important these non-paternal lines can be and how difficult they are to search. The case studies he will be presenting are each brick wall breakthroughs and should help others with ideas on how to work on difficult cases.

New Meeting Location Thursday, Jan 10th @ 7pm

McHenry County College
Room B166-167
8900 Route 14
Crystal Lake, IL



**NEW LOCATION MAP OF
McHenry County College**

Member Spotlight

We would like to thank the following members for including a generous donation along with their membership renewal dues:

- Ann Wells
- John Becker
- Bruce Peterson

Membership Renewals

Have you renewed your MCIGS membership for 2019 yet? It's easy to renew and pay online at <https://www.mcigs.org/online-membership-application.html>. Prefer to send a check? Simply fill out the membership form and mail it in to McHenry County Illinois Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 184, Crystal Lake, IL 60039-0184.

You can print out a copy of the membership form at <https://www.mcigs.org/become-a-member.html>.

We look forward to your continued membership, and the opportunity to provide you with the knowledge and tools you need to successfully research your family history.

Director Seats Open

Are you looking to network or gain new skills for your resume? Or, maybe you're recently retired and looking for a new outlet for your time and energy?

Serving on the MCIGS Board is a great way to get involved in the community and help support our organization. We currently have two openings on our board for Directors.

Directors are responsible for attending monthly board meetings, advising the President and the board on current trends and issues related to the field of genealogy, voting on motions related to our finances and programs, and helping us plan for the future. Directors may also be asked to serve on committees as assigned by the President. The ideal candidate should be proficient with e-mail and basic word processing. Directors serve a term of two years.

If you would like to learn more about serving on our Board, we invite you to contact our new President, Arlene Basten at arlene.basten@mcigs.org.

In Case You Missed It

DNA Boot Camp Webinars - MCIGS has purchased these webinars for your education. These are FREE to members and you can access them at the MCIGS website under the "Member Access" tab. If you have forgotten your password just contact us at mcigs@mcigs.org.

Amazon Smile - Are you an Amazon shopper? MCIGS is now registered with the Amazon Smile program, which means that every time you shop Amazon using the link on our homepage at www.mcigs.org, or selecting our organization from smile.amazon.com, a small percentage of your total purchase will be donated to our organization.

Current MCIGS Officers and Directors (term expiration)

President (2020) - Arlene Basten
arlene.basten@mcigs.org

1st Vice President (2019) - Jan Polep
Programs Chair
jan.polep@mcigs.org

2nd Vice President (2020) - Kristen McCallum
Membership Chair
Immediate Past President
kristen.mccallum@mcigs.org

Recording Secretary (2019) - Laurie Stage
laurie.stage@mcigs.org

Treasurer (2019) - Tami Allred
tami.allred@mcigs.org

Director (2019) - Ann L. Wells
Conference Speaker Liaison
ann@wellsresearch.net

Director (2019) - Claudia Conroy
Early Settlers Certificate Chair
Library Chair
claudia.conroy@mcigs.org

Director (2020) - Larry Wood
Newsletter Editor
newsletter@mcigs.org

Director (2019) OPEN

Director (2020) - OPEN

Upcoming Events

- 8 Jan 2019 LCIGS Monthly Meeting, 7 PM**
<http://lakecountyilgenealogy.org/about-us/>
- 10 Jan 2019 MCIGS – Maternal Lineage – 3 Genealogy Case Studies, Larry Wood** at The Mc Henry County College, IL, 7pm. <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 13 Jan 2019 MCIGS – Holiday Party, Cost is \$17 per person.** Turnberry Country Club, Lakewood, IL
 1-3 PM <http://www.mcigs.org>
- 16 Jan 2019 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS LIBRARY – Swedish Genealogy Research Help - Kathy Meade,**
 3 PM <http://www.ahml.info/attend/events/1/2019-01>
- 16 Jan 2019 – LCIGS “Show and Tell” bring a family heirloom and share it’s story with us.** Lake County IL Genealogical Society, 10am
<http://lakecountyilgenealogy.org/>
- 19 Jan 2019 BIGWILL Genealogy - Monthly Meeting,**
 10am-Noon <http://www.bigwill.org/meet.htm>
- 21 Jan 2019 A 2-DVD -presentation: “Your Ancestors in Ship Passenger Lists” and “Your Ancestors in Naturalization Records”** by John Phillip Colletta, 7 PM Zion Genealogical Society:
<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~ilzgs/>
- 9 March 2019 MCIGS – Dupage County 44th Annual Conference** at NIU Conference Center, Naperville, IL <https://dcgs.org/>
- 8-11 May 2019 – Journey of Discovery, National Genealogical Society Conference,** St Charles, MO
<http://www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org>

Free E-books from Nathan Dylan Goodwin

Nathan Dylan Goodwin
 Genealogical Crime Mystery Author
www.nathandylangoodwin.com

The Asylum

The Asylum, a short prequel to Hiding the Past is now available to download for all digital formats. This story effectively becomes the beginning of the Forensic Genealogist series, so if you know of anyone who has yet to follow Morton's adventures, send them over to the

following link. All that is required is a name and email address.

<https://dl.bookfunnel.com/76xtn81kn8>



Hear ye Hear ye!

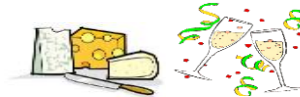
Come one and all to the 2nd annual MCIGS Holiday Party!!!

An opportunity to get together with friends and enjoy a fun afternoon of mixing and mingling.

Register Here:

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

Hearty Hors D'oeuvres, soda, coffee and tea included, with a cash bar.



WIN! WIN! WIN! Raffle tickets provided to win prizes including:

- *The Suffragette's Secret and the Wicked Trade* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin (book)
- Family Tree Maker Software
- MyHeritage DNA Kit
- Free admission to the MCIGS Summer Conference
- Family Tree Wall Art

IMPORTANT DETAILS:

When: Sunday, January 13, 2019 1:00 ~ 3:00

Where: Turnberry Country Club
 9600 Turnberry Trail Lakewood IL.

Cost: \$17.00 per person (guests are invited too!)

Register on-line or mail a check to MCIGS
 Due by January 10, 2019

Krueger Murder Mystery – 1909 Toledo Blade - By Larry Wood

Going back to the Wood family home town of Toledo we find a singularly ghastly story.

My Grandfather George Ellery Wood married Amanda Louise Krueger in 1908. The following year, 1909, my father Mel Wood was born and Amanda's grandparents were murdered in one of the most publicized murders ever in Toledo. The "Blade" newspaper covered this as front page news for most of a week and then off and on for the next several months.

The outline of the story is this:

Ludwig was born in Posen, Germany and emigrated to the US in 1870, his wife following in 1871. He was a cabinetmaker by trade and lived on farms for the last 27 years of his life, 17 years on the farm on which he was killed, and the house burned down to hide evidence.

Residence: Farm at Central and Monroe Streets, Toledo OH. On Wednesday, 31 March 1909 neighbors searched the burned house and grounds of the Kruegers for signs of the old couple. They eventually found the remains of the couple buried in shallow graves under the basement cobblestones. Krueger had sold his farm on the Friday before and Saturday received from Michael Sobeleski, the purchaser, two payments "totaling" \$ 2,000. If you follow the newspaper articles you will see the ensuing court case eventually named Michael Sobeleski as the murderer. I firmly believe they convicted the wrong man for many reasons.

At the murder inquest much information was available. Ludwig is believed to have last seen his son William in the fall of 1908 in Detroit. William disappeared soon after the murder. The other son, Rudolph, had a very poor opinion of his younger brother. Rudolph said his brother had caused their parents a great deal of trouble and that before he left home their father often gave William money and paid his debts. Just before William left home he endeavored to induce his father to will him the farm on the promise that William would care for his parents as long as they lived, but the father refused to do so. This was about 1907.

Rudolph was a very well respected building contractor in Toledo and his opinion of his brother should have raised more concern in the court. Of course, they

already had their suspect and could not find William so things proceeded. I searched the Toledo court records but they claim there is no record of the case. I find that very odd with the newspaper articles covering it daily and listing the Judge by name. Getting beyond that though, Sobeleski was a family man and a rather mild mannered tailor. He had already paid most of the purchase price in cash so did not seem to have a motive. He was also reported as a small man and I find it hard to see him overpowering the old farmer and them murdering both of them, dragging their bodies to the basement and burying them single-handedly. Lastly, the only people who knew the layout of the cobblestones in the basement were Ludwig, Rudolph and William. Together they had laid the basement floor and knew the area well.

For example, there was an overhead pipe above the graves that would have been a particular problem for someone not familiar with the basement. The cobbles were replaced exactly, and to me that points to someone with knowledge of the basement.

Therefore, I believe William Krueger quarreled with his parents one last time and in a rage murdered them both. He knew the basement layout and thought he could cover his crime by burial and subsequent arson. I think they arrested and convicted the wrong man. As a final item - Sobeleski escaped from prison and was never heard from again.

Newspaper research might be a clue to your own family history. I hope to see you on January 10th for my MCIGS presentation at the new McHenry College location and also at the January 13th Holiday Party.



Hint of the Month - Larry Wood

One Document is worth 1,000 family legends. Be sure to get those source documents, wills, probate files, tombstone photos, and of course the birth, death, marriage, draft card/military records. The local VFW will have military records that are hard to find. AND Don't forget the NEWSPAPERS.

