

SGS FAMILY LINES

Genealogy Gems and News for Sunflower Genealogy Society



Thank you to
all who have renewed
your memberships!
If you have not, and
wish to, please
drop a check at
the Village Center.
THANK YOU!

MEETING FEBRUARY 27 - DUANE ROEN

Weaving Cultural History into our Family History is the topic of this month's program. Our speaker, Duane Roen, is coming to us from the Phoenix area, where he is Professor Emeritus at Arizona State University.

Duane grew up on a dairy farm near River Falls, Wisconsin. He still has a grain bag with his grandfather's initials on it in their home, to remind him of the legacy of his forebears. He and his wife started writing a daily journal in 1978 and have not missed a day.

Since his retirement in 2021 as Dean of the ASU College of Integrative Science and Arts, Duane has continued to provide talks to groups. He is driving to Tucson to share his love of genealogy and writing, and refuses to take even a gas card as thanks. As he wrote to me, "I conduct these workshops because I love doing them. I offered more than 200 of them in 2023, and the pace is increasing in 2024."

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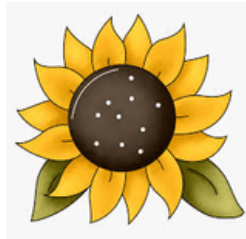


PROF. ROEN

from page 1

If you are like me, you may wonder if you have what it takes to write family history. Then again, do we really know what a family history looks like, what kind of memories are “worth” recording, and how they are put to paper? Maybe there is someone in our families besides us whom we can enlist to be our scribe for our stories. Or, maybe you have already written stories. This session with Duane may help meld these into a more colorful story, one that you can share with your children and grandchildren.

Let's all see what is in store for us on Tuesday, Feb. 27 and welcome the professor into our Fiesta Room. -K.Gunyou



SUNFLOWER GENEALOGY ORIENTATION VIDEO

On January 25, the board held an orientation session in the Tech Room conference room. We recorded this meeting which included a tour of the library cabinets, a description of the mentor program, and a visual tour of the new SGS website.

The 26-minute presentation can be found on our YouTube channel at this link: [SGS Orientation](#)

It will also be posted on the website for future use.

ANCESTORS' TRIP TO AMERICA

Kathryn Smith

The Suevia

“Before we boarded the ship, a priest blessed us all and wished us good luck. We knew we needed it, for the next weeks were not very pleasant.” These are the words spoken by Joseph M. Linenberger as he and his family, along with others, were preparing to leave Europe for America in August of 1878. In “Grandfather’s Story”¹ he describes the trip over the Atlantic to America. “When we were ready to get on the ship many of our group were scared of the big water - the sea - and refused to go into the ship. After talking to them, they realized they could not go back. Our first day on the ship went by very quietly...after leaving the English coast there was dancing, and all kinds of games. We all enjoyed ourselves. I spent most of my time looking over the big sea. About four days passed when a storm blew up. Everyone was screaming. The ship pitched and rolled and cracked. It seemed as if the boat was going to fall apart.”

The Suevia left Hamburg, Germany, for New York on July 19, 1876. On board were the following families from Obermounjou, Russia:²

LEIKER-Michael, Catherina, Marianne, Anton.

LEIKER-Rosalie, Joseph, Nicolaus, Anna.

LEIKER-Jacob, Anna, Conrad (son), Agnese (wife), Heinrich, Catherina, Jacob, Michael, Aloisia, Agnes, Catherine.

RUPP-Jacob, Margretha, Michael, Agnes...Margretha (Mother).

RUPP-Anton, Maria, Alexander, Joseph, Caicilia, Maria, Anna, Rosina.

RUPP-Casperina, Margretha, Casper, Agnes.

[All of these people settled in Ellis County, Kansas.]

¹ Grandfather’s Story, by Helen L. Hall, is a translation of the 629 page German manuscript written by Joseph M. Linenberger in 1902.

² The passenger lists appear in “Work Paper No. 10 of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia” dated Dec. 1972. These lists were prepared by Gewn B. Pritzkau, from the microfilmed copies of the Hamburg Shipping lists on file at the Genealogical Society Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

[This article was first published in The Ellis County Star on March 14, 1974]

TREASURER'S REPORT



January 2024 Treasurer's Report

	Current Month	Fiscal Year to Date	FY 2024 Budget
Memberships			
Renewals	11	20	25
New Members	2	5	5
Total	13	25	30
Beginning Balance	\$2,356.18	\$1,977.19	\$1,977.19
Income:			
Member Dues	\$193.99	\$372.98	\$450.00
Other	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$193.99	\$622.98	\$450.00
Expenses:			
Presenter	(\$80.00)	(\$130.00)	(\$260.00)
Subscriptions	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$210.00)
Library	(\$16.24)	(\$16.24)	(\$50.00)
Marketing	(\$54.27)	(\$54.27)	(\$100.00)
Office	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$30.00)
Other	(\$51.03)	(\$51.03)	(\$50.00)
Total Expenses	(\$201.54)	(\$251.54)	(\$700.00)
Ending Balance	\$2,348.63	\$2,348.63	\$1,727.19

Fiscal Year is 10-1-23 to 9-30-24 to match HOA reporting.

"Fiscal Year to Date" is cumulative beginning 10-1-23.

FY 2024 Budget is board-approved budget.

All data are reported on a cash basis.

This month we had some expenses to reimburse for the expo costs and video costs (John Phillip Colletta series). We had a nice influx of membership payments.

Thank you. - K. Gunyou

GENEALOGY EVENTS



Right around the corner, 2/29-3/2, is the virtual (and in-person) RootsTech conference in Salt Lake City. It is free to attend online. They offer about 120 online sessions, and most aren't overly long. They vary from Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced--reminds me of skiing! You can find out more and register here: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/>

INTRO TO THE MY HERITAGE KNOWLEDGE BASE AND MY HERITAGE WIKI

Come and learn about two valuable learning resources from MyHeritage.com: the MyHeritage Knowledge Base and the MyHeritage Wiki. Each of these websites has articles that will help start your genealogical experience or expand your current experience level into previously unfamiliar areas and enable you to master your skills and help you make the most of your research.

Presented by James Tanner

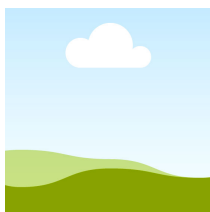
Tue, Feb 13, 2024: 12:00 PM MST

AI AND GENEALOGY: TROUBLE AHEAD?

While AI (artificial intelligence) might be the current "hot" buzz word, the fact is that many genealogy vendors and even genealogists have already been using this technology for years. The AI industry is at a cross-roads and within the next five years, it will permeate almost every aspect of business and society. Learn how AI is currently being used to improve the genealogy experience, and whether or not you should seek out other uses of artificial intelligence for your own genealogy research.

Presented by Thomas McEntee

Wed, Feb 14, 2024: 12:00 PM MST



Visit <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/>
to register for these and other free webinars

GENEALOGY TIPS

Kim Gunyou

Here are a few tips for starting and making headway in your family tree research. Number 1 is something I repeat to myself occasionally when getting deep into the branches and wondering if i'm still on an accurate path. Go back to what you know and retrace the sources for the clear line.

[Adapted from the Arizona State Library (azlibrary.gov) website]

1. Work from the present to the past.

- This is the most important rule to follow! Always prove death, marriage and birth information starting with yourself and working backwards through time. Do not skip generations or you may miss important clues that can help you trace your family back to past generations.

2. Start with your family and friends.

- Be sure to talk to family members and relatives. They may provide information that will help you fill in some gaps before beginning your research.
- Ask about family tradition, old Bibles, pictures, and documents that may hold clues to your family's origins.
- Check your own home for documents, pictures, diaries, letters, newspaper clippings, etc. that may contain family information.

3. Pedigree chart or ancestor chart

- The first thing you must do is fill out a pedigree (ancestor) chart. This is your road map that will show you where you need to begin your research and the correct path to follow.
- Write down all birth, marriage and death information that you know for yourself, your parents, grandparents, and so on.
- Be sure you use the maiden name and not the married name for women.
- Write dates on your pedigree chart as shown in this example: 11 Feb 1831.
- Pedigree or ancestor charts can be printed from our SGS website or free ones from [Ancestry.com Charts and Forms](#)

4. Family group sheet

- The family group sheet lists a couple's children and shows their relationships, ages, and other detail not on the pedigree chart.
- Use a second family group sheet if there is a second marriage and list the children of this marriage.
- Family group sheets can be printed from the SGS website or from Ancestry.com link above.
- A family group sheet is used for each family listed on your pedigree chart.

5. Correspondence log

- Be sure to include the date your letter was written, the address, and any response that was received. You can also include the amount of any money that was sent.
- In genealogy, it is common courtesy to include a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) when requesting information.
 - a. A correspondence record form can be printed from [Ancestry.com Charts and Forms\(link is external\)](#).
 - b. Use a correspondence log to help keep track of letters you write to relatives, libraries, archives, courthouses, societies, etc.

6. Research log

- List all information such as date of search, film number, the name of the source and name of the library or archive in which it was found.
- List the source even when you don't find any information. This will prevent you from checking a source twice for the same information.
- Research log sheets can be printed from the SGS Website or Ancestry (above links).
- When you go to a library or archive take a research log with you to keep track of what you are doing.

7. Research notebook

- Use a three ring notebook with dividers for pedigree chart, family group sheets, research logs, maps and any other information you will need for your research.
- Never take original documents, such as birth certificates, to the library. Instead, make a photocopy to keep in your notebook.
- This is what you take to the library to do research.

8. Maps.

Maps are essential for doing good research. They can provide clues that can lead you to locating family records.

- Be sure you know the county name for the time period your ancestor lived there as county boundaries and names may have changed over time.
- Check out old county maps, plat books and topographic maps for surnames, cemeteries, schools and churches in the area you are researching.
- A [Map Collection](#) is housed in the Polly Rosenbaum State Archives and History Building at Phoenix's Arizona State Library. Also, the U.S. Geographical Survey provides additional information about using maps for genealogy and has other online resources of interest to genealogists:
 - [U.S. and Territories Geographic Names Search Form](#)(link is external).
 - This site is useful for identifying the locations of cemeteries and other historical places.[Using Maps in Genealogy](#)(link is external).

9. Filing system

- Your system should be easy to use so others can understand it.
- A good way to start is to file by surname or locality.
- *Managing a Genealogical Project*, by William Dollarhide, is a book that can help you organize your files.
- Cyndi's List also has a section on [Organizing Your Research](#)(link is external).
- Establish a good filing system for storing and retrieving the information you have collected.

10. Get a good "how to" book on genealogy

- *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, by Val Greenwood.
- *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, edited by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking.
- *Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*, by Christine Rose and Kay Germain Ingalls.
- The "Beginners" section of Cyndi's List has additional resources listed under: [Publications, Software & Supplies](#)(link is external).

