



# *By Root and Branch*

*The Pierre-Fort Pierre Genealogical Society Newsletter*

*Volume 40, Number 1, February 2018*

With the new year, it seems we are checking up on ourselves to see if we have accomplished what we intended to do in the previous year. Do we ask ourselves “With all the time I spent on research, what did I really accomplish?” Sometimes we are hard on ourselves.

We can make lists for what we want to do, but the important thing is this: *Don't beat yourself up for what you didn't accomplish!* It isn't worth it – life is too short to be too critical of what you have or haven't completed. Remember that the unexpected happens, priorities change, and events don't always turn out as planned.

Keep looking for those elusive records, one of these days that very one that you needed will show up. There are more and more records becoming available on the Internet. Someone might finally decide to put their tree on Ancestry or FamilySearch and it will give you just the hint you need!

Editor, Linda Lowe ([pierregen@pie.midco.net](mailto:pierregen@pie.midco.net))

***Need Help with a Membership Problem? Have a Suggestion for presentations?  
Contact a Society Officer!  
Society Officers for 2016***

Linda Lowe, President	<a href="mailto:pierregen@pie.midco.net">pierregen@pie.midco.net</a>
Carol Olson, Vice President	
Virginia Hanson, Secretary	<a href="mailto:virginia.m.hanson@state.sd.us">virginia.m.hanson@state.sd.us</a>
Nancy Friend, Treasurer	
Lori Sears, Past-President	
Dan Peterson & Lorraine Kintz, Board Members	

## **Contents**

Note from the Editor.....1	Society Meeting Schedule.....2
Society Officers.....1	FamilySearch Record Availability.....2

## ***Pierre/Fort Pierre Upcoming Society Meetings Schedule***

The Pierre/Fort Pierre Genealogical Society meets each month except December at 7 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. Our meetings are usually held in the LDS Church at 506 N. Jefferson, Pierre, SD. If there is a change, the members will be notified via email or phone.

Our February meeting will be on February 20. We will be having a presentation by Sara Casper from the SD Archives.

The March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a “round robin” where we will bring ideas, problems, etc. to present to the group for added help in finding what we need.

April 17<sup>th</sup> will be an information video.

If you haven't been to the society's website lately, it is well worth a visit. Since Rootsweb has been shut down for a few months, our website has been moved. It is now located at <http://myweb.midco.net/sdgensoc>. You'll find databases and up-coming events.

## ***FamilySearch.org Record Availability***

**Not all digitized records have been indexed.** While indexing continues to move forward at a rapid pace and while many volunteers from around the world have joined in the effort, digitization continues to be a step ahead of indexing (if you would like to help index records, learn how got to the indexing like on FamilySearch.org. When you search historical records using an ancestor's name, your search includes only indexed records. To find your ancestor in unindexed records, you must browse the records, looking at each page for your ancestor's name. The FamilySearch icons don't differentiate between collections that have been indexed and those that have not been, only whether the actual records are available at FamilySearch. **Some records at FamilySearch have limited access.** You may receive a message or see an icon (icons are explained below) that indicates you don't have access to certain records. 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. In some rare instances, you will be able to view such records at a family history center only, not at a FamilySearch affiliate library. FamilySearch may receive permission in the future to share these records online, so keep checking back.

Icons near the records will help you distinguish what kind of availability to expect. In the catalog, icons are found in the Format column by the listed record. They are also listed next to the record title in the Records section. Here is an explanation for some of the icons:



**These three icons are the most prevalent ones. The first is a tree, which means the person you are searching for is one a tree in the system. The second is for a transcribed record. And the third means there are images of the original record.**

**To Join or Renew a Membership:**

Membership is for calendar year. If membership is paid anytime in the year up to November, it is for the current year. If paid in November or December, it is for the next calendar year.

Individual: \$10.00 per year.

Family Membership: \$12.00 per year.

Memberships include a subscription to the Pierre/Ft. Pierre Newsletter emailed as a pdf file, so an email address is required.

Name:

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City,

State,

Zip:

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Mail request and check to:

Pierre/Ft. Pierre Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 925

Pierre, SD 57501

Questions or inquiries - **[pierregen@pie.midco.net](mailto:pierregen@pie.midco.net)**



# *By Root and Branch*

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*Volume 40, Number 2, May 2018*

I love reading books. One of the most exciting things about doing family history research is moving beyond names and dates to begin exploring the stories of our ancestors' lives.

There are many types of books that may contain information about your ancestors — these include published pedigrees, books on the history of a surname in a certain location, those focused on the descendancy of a specific individual, specialized pedigrees relating to a certain subject as well as town or county histories. Published family and local histories offer a potential rich source of information about your personal family history. Even if a family genealogy has not been published for your ancestors, local and family histories can offer insight into the places your ancestors lived and the people they may have encountered during their lifetime.

Before you head to the local library or bookstore, however, take time to explore the hundreds of thousands of genealogies, local histories and other items of genealogical interest available online for free!

I have included websites which either have online books, or will lead you to sites that do have ebooks. Have fun browsing.

Editor, Linda Lowe ([pierregen@pie.midco.net](mailto:pierregen@pie.midco.net))

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Note from the Editor.....1	Society Meeting Schedule.....2
Society Officers.....1	Online Books.....2

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June 19 – This meeting will be a short PowerPoint presentation about "What to take in an emergency" focusing on genealogical items. Then we will have a discussion and idea-sharing time.

July 17 -- We will watch the Ancestry Academy video "Finding Your Military Veterans on Fold3"

August 21 – This month's meeting is our annual potluck dinner. It will start at 6pm.

If you haven't been to the society's website lately, it is well worth a visit. It is located at <http://myweb.midco.net/sdgensoc>. You'll find databases and up-coming events.

## ***Online Books***

Imagine a free virtual online library of rare historic books from all over the world to help you discover rich, unknown details about the lives of your ancestors. There are over 200,000 historic volumes online for free at [books.FamilySearch.org](http://books.FamilySearch.org). The growing online collection, which began in 2007, is invaluable to genealogists and family historians in finding their ancestors.

### **Hathi Trust [www.hathitrust.org](http://www.hathitrust.org)**

This may not be a site you've heard of, but they have more than five million books online of general interest with a very respectable collection of genealogy and local history. This site is a full text search site. That means you can search INSIDE the books in addition to searching titles and descriptions.

### **Google Books <http://books.google.com>**

This is the granddaddy of the books sites. They purport to have north of four million books, scanned and uploaded for your reading pleasure.

### **Internet Archive <http://archive.org>**

This site has about three million records – all full text books – no extracts or sample pages. Further, it has other media in its collection. You can find audio, video, and even old websites that are no longer active through the Wayback Machine.

### **Cyndi's List <https://www.cyndislist.com/books/ebooks/>**

Here you will find links to sites which have ebooks

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Mail request and check to:

Pierre/Ft. Pierre Genealogical Society

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