

# NORTHWOODS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Vol. XXXIII, No. 3

P. O. Box 1132, Rhinelander, WI 54501

August, 2020

## \*\*\*WESLEY A. BEACH (1870-1943)\*\*\*

Wesley Beach was born in Waupaca County, at age 14 he started working in the woods and river drives. By 1890, he came to Oneida County to look over the country, returning here in 1892 to be custodian for the lodge on Virgin Lake owned by the South Side Gun Club of Milwaukee, later managing a private residence and then the Three Lakes Rod & Gun Club. In 1901 he bought Griswolds on Butternut Lake, selling it that same year, purchasing 5 acres on the west

shore of Spirit Lake in Three Lakes Township. By 1925, **The Lakeside** resort was a fantastic getaway – 12 cottages with running water and electric lights, 12 row boats equipped with Evinrude motors, canoes, and home cooked meals including delicacies. In addition, deep lake, white sand, and sloping shores!

**THIS MONTH:** PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE AND LOCATION CHANGE. Please also practice all social distancing rules along with wearing of masks. Remember to bring a chair. We will be having a “sharing time” and discussing virtual meetings for the future.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** Dues for our fiscal year starting May 1st are now due. If you haven't paid, please either mail them to our post office box, listed above, or to Gloria Rahlf, N11376 Braun Dr., Rhinelander, WI 54501, or pay Gloria at the meeting.

**INSTITUTIONAL RECORDS.** It is quite common to find an ancestor in an almshouse, orphanage, poorhouse, sanatorium, or insane asylum. One of the misconceptions is that the person was doomed to stay there until their death. Not so, many people deemed “insane” were released. Some only for a short time and then were readmitted elsewhere. Poorhouses housed people who had no place else to live. That doesn't mean they remained that way. Maybe they had just lost their home to a fire and had no relatives to live with. Many managed to get themselves out of poverty. Some inmates of a sanatorium recovered. Many researchers consider an institutional member to be a dead end or brick wall. One should keep looking for them later in the census records, etc., especially if there is no death/burial record. One of my ancestors was an inmate of the poorhouse for a couple of years, at the age of 83. One would think then, he died there. He didn't, his daughter must have agreed to take him as he died a few years later, miles away at her home. (It was noted in the newspaper that he kept running away so maybe that precipitated the move.)

**ORPHAN PHOTOGRAPHS.** Two photographs were mailed to us by someone in Oregon. The pictures were taken at Rhinelander and at Beloit, Wisconsin. Notations on the back of the pictures are: “**M. O. Berg**” and “**Jennie Berg**”. The person who mailed them to us is a photograph rescuer. If we can find the family they belong to, she would like reimbursement for the pictures, she found at a thrift shop, and the postage. I have done some research and I believe M. O. Berg would be Marius O. Berg, lived for a short time in Rhinelander around 1905. His daughter, Jennie, was born in Trempealeau County in 1902. This is a very interesting hobby – rescuing old photographs and trying to find “their” family.

**ODDBALL SURNAMENES.** Having an unusual surname or given name for that matter, is sometimes a bonus. More often, oddball names are never spelled correctly and frequently misunderstood. Some unusual names are becoming extinct such as: Bythesea, Bytheseashore, Bread, MacCaa, Spinster, Pussett. Some almost extinct names are: Birdwhistle, Berrycloth, Relish, Tumbler, Sallow, Fernsby, MacQuoid, Miracle, Villin, Dankworth, Loughy.

**AUGUST 10, 2020 – 2:30 P.M.**  
**PIONEER PARK OUTDOOR PAVILION**

**MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED & PLEASE  
PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING**

Meetings of the Northwoods Genealogical Society are held on the second Monday of the month (except July) in the downstairs meeting room of the Rhinelander District Library. Membership dues are \$10.00 individual, \$11.00 family.

**CHAIRMAN:** Augden Windelborn

**VICE CHAIRMAN:** JoAnne Rajek

**SECRETARY:** Martha Cole

**TREASURER:** Gloria Rahlf

**DIRECTORS AT LARGE:**

Ila Turgeon

Jan Jacobs

**NEWSLETTER:** Gloria Rahlf

**WEBSITE:** [sites.google.com/site/northwoodsgenso](https://sites.google.com/site/northwoodsgenso)

**NEXT MEETING:** September 14<sup>th</sup>: Zoom Meeting

### Upcoming Events:

**OCTOBER 16 & 17<sup>th</sup>:** WSGS – VIRTUAL FALL SEMINAR. GO TOWSGS.ORG

**STATE HISTORICAL LIBRARY, MADISON, WISCONSIN – LIMITED HOURS, SEE WEBSITE.**

**FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY – SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH – CLOSED!**

**RHINELANDER DISTRICT LIBRARY - LIMITED HOURS AND CURBSIDE PICKUP – SEE WEBSITE**