



# Independent Researchers

If you wish further assistance with your research, please contact one of the people listed below. All the researchers are familiar with and have used our collections. Contact the researchers directly for further information on their research areas, experience, and fees. The Minnesota Historical Society does not endorse any particular individual on the list. The Society cannot vouch for the quality of the services provided nor is the Society responsible for the results provided.

*Researchers are listed alphabetically followed by their special research interests.*

**ARPI, RICH** (651-739-6986), [rich.arpi@comcast.net](mailto:rich.arpi@comcast.net), 2445 Londin Lane, # 410, Maplewood, Mn. 55119  
Archives and manuscript research; newspaper articles and obits; census, birth and death records; local sports teams and individuals; mining, lumbering, tourism, and environmental issues; the Iron Range. Over 20 years doing own research and MHS and elsewhere.

**AUTHENTIC ORIGINS, SANDY MOCHAL THALMANN** PO Box 8052, Rochester, MN 55903, 507-292-0308. E-mail: [sthalmann@charter.net](mailto:sthalmann@charter.net), website: <http://www.authenticorigins.com> Professional genealogist specializing in on-site research of all types of historical and genealogical records in Minnesota, northeast Iowa and southwest Wisconsin. Special interests include adoption research, problem-solving and analysis.

**BUNDICK, TESSIE** [bundi003@umn.edu](mailto:bundi003@umn.edu) Great Northern Railroad Records, Glacier National Park

**CLAXTON, ANNA PIERSON** 8793 Decker Ave., Northfield, MN 55057 (507)664-9536. Email [akclaxton@yahoo.com](mailto:akclaxton@yahoo.com)  
Immigrant groups: Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, "lost" immigrants. Locating Scandinavian origins, genealogy.

**DEBBIE'S HISTORICAL and GENEALOGICAL SERVICES**, Debbie Boe, 2287 Clover Field Drive, Chaska, Minnesota 55318, 952-361-4251. Website: [www.debbiesgenealogy.com](http://www.debbiesgenealogy.com), E-mail: [debbieboe@presenter.com](mailto:debbieboe@presenter.com). Professional researcher, genealogist, and paralegal. Services include (but are not limited to) genealogical research, family tree investigation, house history research, legal research, and general research services. Will visit on-site locations to review original records or search for information

**ESSIG, CAROLYN** (612) 618-7755. E-mail: [cmessig@msn.com](mailto:cmessig@msn.com). Minnesota to the Civil War, Minnesota women, general frontier/western expansion, house/neighborhood history, fur trade era (1820s-1850s), exhibit research & education programs.

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**GREGORY, LORIS SOFIA**, (952) 431-5586, [lorissofia@frontiernet.net](mailto:lorissofia@frontiernet.net). Efficient researcher and writer with 18+ years experience in MHS Reference Library, Museum Collections, Exhibits, and Historic Sites as well as other collections and Internet research. Expertise in Minnesota and Midwestern history, including Dakota, Ojibwe, daily life, material culture, nature, women's history. Website: [lorissofiagregory.com](http://lorissofiagregory.com).

**HERMES, BEVERLY A.** 12617 Fairgreen Ave., St. Paul, MN 55124-8213, (952) 953-0730. E-mail: [bhermes1@aol.com](mailto:bhermes1@aol.com). Oral history transcribing, Minnesota family history and subject research.

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**JOHNSON, DAVID**, 208 S. Jefferson, New Ulm, MN 56073, (507) 354-4825. Email: [johnnydshouse@hotmail.com](mailto:johnnydshouse@hotmail.com)  
Scandinavian ancestry (with local connections overseas), church records, obituaries, newspapers, city directories, censuses, military and veterans records, death records, Native American research. Specializing in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century US research.

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Certified genealogist with focus on Minnesota and the Midwest; 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> century US migrations; MN cemeteries; and dealings with common surnames. Genealogical research and lectures.

**KURPIERS, RON** 461 Sibley St, St. Paul, MN 55101, (651) 224-8180. E-mail: [rkurpiers@earthlink.net](mailto:rkurpiers@earthlink.net). Historical & genealogical research including Minnesota census, newspaper, death records, naturalizations, city directories, military, veteran records, and archival manuscript research.

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Census records, newspaper article search, death certificate look-up.

**LANMAN, THOMAS E.** 2697 Kempston Dr., Woodbury, MN 55125-3440. Past president, Minnesota Genealogical Society; Genealogy Help Desk Volunteer, Minnesota Historical Society. (651) 731-5402. E-mail: [telanman@comcast.net](mailto:telanman@comcast.net) Genealogical research, Minnesota and Scandinavian immigrants to the Midwest, Quick feedback on MHS lookups.

**MCGINNIS SCOTT D.** Historical Research Services, 2605 Christian Parkway, Chaska, MN 55318, (612) 210-1424. E-mail: [scottmcginnis@earthlink.net](mailto:scottmcginnis@earthlink.net). **ESA Phase One; environmental litigation support; railroads; corporate/business history; genealogy; city directory; historic photograph locating service.**

**MARTIN, VIRGINIA L.** 695 Hague Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104, (651) 228-0254. E-mail: [marti137@tc.umn.edu](mailto:marti137@tc.umn.edu) St. Paul history, urban history, and political and labor history. Have also extensively researched in areas including rural history, ethnic and Native American history, in government documents and papers, and in collections of individuals and organizations in MHS.

**NIELSEN, STEVE** 343 Roslyn Pl, Minneapolis, MN 55419, 612-798-4894, [nelsen.steve13@gmail.com](mailto:nelsen.steve13@gmail.com). Archival/manuscript research, death certificate, newspaper article, obituary searches. Quick turnaround on MHS lookups.

**RICE, TOM Ph.D.**, CG, Certified Genealogist; 3976 Hazel St., White Bear Lake, MN 55110, (651)-426-9440, E-mail: [info@heritagehunters.com](mailto:info@heritagehunters.com), website: <http://www.heritagehunters.com>; Genealogy Help Desk Volunteer, Minnesota Historical Society; Professional researcher, lecturer, consultant and writer; onsite research in archives and courthouses; all record types-local, state and federal; look-ups, problem analysis, lineage studies, compilation and book production. Focus on upper Midwest, and where Midwestern migrants came from - British Isles.

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Archival research and analysis for complex litigation, business and corporate matters (environment, labor, national parks, Native Americans and other subjects in Minnesota and northwestern United States) and searches in railroad records, government documents, newspapers, and other relevant sources.