



Twig Talk

Newsletter of the Muskegon County
Genealogical Society



Since 1972

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TWIG TALK

A publication of:

Muskegon County Genealogical Society

c/o Hackley Public Library

Torrent House

315 W. Webster Avenue

Muskegon, MI 49440-1208

www.genealogymuskegon.org

1972mcgs@gmail.com

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Thursday, June 12th at 7:00 p.m.
VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Rd
corner of Grand Haven & Porter Rds.

“Nineteenth-Century Photographs- Identification, Dating and Preservation” with Bill and Glenna Christen

They will bring examples of photographs in their collection from 1840 to the early 1900s. You will love their very interesting Power Point presentation which is an overview of the many different photographic processes.

This is the perfect opportunity for you to have an expert examine and date your ancestral photos and perhaps learn hidden clues and much sought after information.

Bill and Glenna will also discuss the care and preservation of photos.

Members: Please bring your photographs needing identification and dating with you to the meeting (please try to limit to 2 photographs per member).

You may remember Bill and Glenna from their wonderful and interesting presentation on Civil War era clothing and dating clothing. Well, they are back to share their vast knowledge of dating old photos! Bill Christen is a retired automotive engineer with a degree in mechanical engineering from Kettering University. He attended the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit while pursuing studies in industrial design and fine arts.

Glenna Jo Christen holds a degree in Education and Information Media from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota.

Both Bill and Glenna Jo have a long history and interest in Civil War era topics as well.

You will be simply amazed at how you can learn to look at a photograph from the past and see so much you never saw before.

Come and learn how to look at our photos in a whole new way.

See you there!

Remember that we DO NOT meet in July and that we DO NOT have Family History Genealogy Workshops on Saturdays at the (HPL) Torrent House for June, July, and August. Have a Happy and Safe Summer! This is your June/July newsletter. You will receive your next newsletter for our August meeting. Feel free, however, to visit the library and do your research any time!



How About Some Genealogical Trivia!

1. What is considered to be the first year photography came about? (give or take 5 years)
2. What company's slogan from 1888 was "You press the button-we do the rest"?

MEMBERSHIP

Maria Chmelarova
Norton Shores, MI



*please
join us*

If you have a friend who might like to join and/or help from near or far, please pass the word about our society.

HOSPITALITY HAPPENINGS



Our May meeting had speaker, Richard Hill, tell of his personal mission of solving his adoption. We learned valuable information about the various DNA testing services for genealogical purposes which he used.

Our door prize winner was Nancy Bassett. Joan Gawron

provided some of this prize.

Donna David was the book draw recipient.

Karen Frazier brought M & M and chocolate chip cookies plus yummy cupcakes. She also provided luscious fruit.

Jane Weber brought fresh veggies.

The Slaters are thanked for the refreshing water.

Do you have ancestor photos that need some identification and dating? Bring them to the June 12th meeting for Bill and Glenna Christen

Answer: 1. 1839 2. Eastman-Kodak

to examine!

Are you an AARP Member? Ancestry.com has a Discount for you!

Here is another benefit for you if you are: From Thomas MacEntee: You can save 30% on Ancestry.com if you are a member of AARP. Below is a link to join for the first time, or to get a discount if you already belong. <http://www.ancestry.com/cs/us/aarp> I recently called in and found out more. I found out about this from Dawn just a few days after my subscription had renewed so I called. To make a long story short, I ended up having to cancel my membership until my refund was credited back to my bank. Then, I called them back to re-sign up. That, in my case was what was most beneficial to me. I have the World membership and the Plus membership. This discount is only good for one year and the Plus membership is not a part of this. Basically, on a World membership that costs \$199 for 6 months, I only paid \$104. It saves you money. Give them a call, they are very easy to work with.

COUNTY CLERK RESEARCH

BE A VOLUNTEER

Can you spare a few hours once in a while to help out down at the County Clerk's office? We could sure use some help typing marriages & death records. It's so simple,



just come in and let us set you up with a book to take information from. Then sit down at the computer and type! Or you can always come in and help visitors find their information. They just need a little guidance. While you are waiting for customers you can always do your own research!

We are there to help you on Wednesdays from 1:00-4:00 p.m. You can also go there any time the office is open and do your research from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Muskegon County Clerk is located on the first floor of the Muskegon County Building at 990 Terrace.

Contact us at 1972mcgs@gmail.com if you can help.

TRIP TO ALLEN COUNTY LIBRARY



Let's not forget to plan in time for our annual trip to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. We will be gone **October 1, 2, 3, & 4, 2014** (Wednesday thru Saturday). More details are coming soon.

If you can drive or would prefer to ride, would like to room with people or alone, please let us know so we can make proper arrangements. A sign-up sheet will be passed at our meetings or email Dawn at 1972mcgs@gmail.com

NOTE: Make the most of your trip to Fort Wayne by doing all of your prep work ahead of time! If you need help, just ask any of us. We can give you all the help you need.

If at first you don't succeed, search, search again. That is why we call it re-search.

Picture posted on Pinterest. Free Domain.

NEW BOOKS AT HPL

A Bicentennial History of Fruitland Township -
volunteer authors

LATEST SOFTWARE NEWS

Here is a list of the latest versions of genealogical software and the cost of each. They are listed in order of Best Reviews based on the Genealogy Software Reviews site listed below. Notice there are many listed here you may have never heard of before. This could be an opportunity for you to find a software that is better suited to your needs.

Go to this site link and find all the information you need!
<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2138513>

Legacy Family Tree	29.95
Family Tree Maker	39.99
RootsMagic	29.99
The Master Genealogist	59.00
Ancestral Quest	29.95
Family Historian	46.50
Heredis	39.00
WinFamily	89.00
Genbox Family History	29.95
Agelong Tree	25.00

Of course there are also many Free software programs too. Google any of these for more information so you can find what is best suited to you.

My Heritage	Legacy Standard
Amazon Family Seek	Ancestral Quest Basics
Ancestris	Cumberland Family Software
LifeLines	RootsMagic Essentials
ScionPC	XY Family Tree
Ahnenblatt	Smart Genealogy

Reminder: Summertime is Family/School Reunion Time!

If you are going to be attending any type of reunion with family and or old friends, make the time to take many photos and LABEL WHO IS WHO! Also, consider recording voices of family and friends, especially if they are getting up in years because there may come a day when you or future generations want to hear that voice again. Also, remember that recordings of family and friends voices can be helpful to a family member who may have Alzheimer's Disease. **Video Tape, record, document, ask questions, take pictures!** This will be important for you and future generations.



NEW FREE ONLINE RECORDS

Belgium – FamilySearch.org has made a huge increase in their collection of civil registration records from East Flanders. An additional 2.5 million images have been added to this collection, which spans the period from 1541 to 1910. This brings the total in this collection to some 2.7 million images. Although some of these records can be searched by first and last name, not all the images have been indexed. It is best to browse through the images, which are organized by place, type of record and year. Access is free. [East Flanders Civil Registration Records] <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2138513>

UK – FamilySearch.org has created a new collection of London electoral registers. This dataset spans the years from 1847 to 1913. It lists the names and addresses of individuals who were qualified to vote in national elections (which at the time would have been adult males). A typical register record from 1897 is shown below. Access is free. [London Electoral Registers] <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/2228170>

Netherlands – The Dutch genealogy website WieWasWie (Who Was Who) is now available in English. A large number of Dutch archive organizations have made their records available to WieWasWie. The website also contains a significant amount of user-generated content. The website is currently free with plans to accept subscriptions in the future. [WieWasWie] <https://www.wiewaswie.nl/en/home/>

UK – A new website has launched this week in the UK called Children's Homes. It is dedicated to providing historical information on the various institutions that provided homes for children in Britain. This includes orphanages, reformatories, workhouses, poor homes, etc. The website is run by Peter Higginbotham. At the moment, there does not appear to be any records uploaded to the website. However, if it is like Peter's other website The Workhouse, it will likely have some records in the near future. Access is free. [Children's Homes] <http://www.childrenshomes.org.uk/>

Link Credit to GenealogyInTime.



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County	County Seat	Created	Origin	Name From
Lapeer	Lapeer	1822	Part of Oakland County and St. Clair County	From the French name la pierre meaning flint.
Leelanau	Suttons Bay	1840	Part of Mackinac County	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Lenawee	Adrian	1822	Part of Monroe County	Native American for man from the Delaware - Shawnee word lenawai
Livingston	Howell	1836	Part of Shiawassee and Washtenaw Counties	Edward Livingston (1764-1836)
Luce	Newberry	1887	Part of Chippewa and Mackinac Counties	Mich. Governor Cyrus Luce
Mackinac	St. Ignace	1818	Part of Wayne (was Michilimackinac County until 1837)	Native American name Michilimackinac
Macomb	Mt. Clemens	1818	Part of Wayne County	US General Alexander Macomb (War of 1812)
Manistee	Manistee	1840	Part of Mackinac County	For the Manistee River-Ojibwe name ministigweyaa (meaning river)
Marquette	Marquette	1843	Parts of Chippewa and Mackinac Counties	Jesuit missionary Pere Jacques Marquette
Mason	Livingston	1840	Parts of Mackinac and Oceana Counties	For a Mecosta Native American leader
Menominee	Menominee	1861	Part of Delta County (was Bleeker County until 1863)	Native American tribe.
Midland	Midland	1831	Part of Saginaw County and unorganized territory	For the geographical center of the Lower Peninsula
Missaukee	Lake City	1840	Part of Mackinac County	For Missaukee (an Ottawa leader)
Monroe	Monroe	1817	Part of Wayne County	James Monroe (5th U.S. President)
Montcalm	Stanton	1831	Part of Mackinac County and unorganized territory	Marquis de Montcalm (French military commander in Quebec)
Montmorency	Atlanta	1840	Unorganized territory was named Cheonoquet County until 1843	House of Montmorency-French Canada
Muskegon	Muskegon	1859	Parts of Oceana and Ottawa Counties	Muskegon River from Ojibwa/Chippewa word mashkig (means swamp or marsh)
Newago	White Cloud	1840	Parts of Mackinac and Oceana Counties	For Chippewa leader
Oakland	Pontiac	1820	Part of Macomb County	For many oak openings in the county
Oceana	Hart	1831	Part of Mackinac County	Lake Michigan - the fresh water ocean
Ogemaw	West Branch	1840	Unorganized territory went to Iosco County in 1867 then back to Ogemaw in 1873	For Ojibwe word meaning chief or leader

County	County Seat	Created	Origin	Named From
Ontonagon	Ontonagon	1843	Parts of Chippewa and Mackinac Counties	For the Ontonagon River (was Nantounagon - Ojibwa means dish)
Osceola	Reed City	1840	Part of Mackinac County was Unwattin County until 1843	Osceola Seminole Chief (1804-1838)
Oscoda	Mio	1840	Part of Mackinac County and unorganized territory	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Otsego	Gaylord	1840	Part of Mackinac County was named Okkudo County until 1843	For Otsego County New York
Ottawa	Grand Haven	1831	Part of Mackinac County and unorganized territory	Ottawa Native American people
Presque Isle	Rogers City	1840	Part of Mackinac County	French phrase for peninsula
Roscommon	Roscommon	1840	Part of Mackinac County and unorganized territory. Was Milenauk County until 1843.	County Roscommon Ireland
Saginaw	Saginaw	1822	Part of Oakland County	Native American reference to the Sauk tribe there
St. Clair	Port Huron	1820	Part of Macomb County	Arthur St. Clair (1st Gov. of NW Territory)
St. Joseph	Centerville	1829	Unorganized territory	St. Joseph River
Sanilac	Sandusky	1822	Part of St. Clair County	Wyandotte Indian Chief Sanilac
Schoolcraft	Manistique	1843	Parts of Chippewa and Mackinac Counties	Henry Schoolcraft (1793-1864)
Shiawassee	Corunna	1822	Parts of Oakland and St Clair Counties	Shiawassee River
Tuscola	Caro	1840	Part of Sanilac County	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Van Buren	Paw Paw	1829	Unorganized territory	Martin Van Buren (1782-1862)
Washtenaw	Ann Arbor	1826	Parts of Oakland and Wayne Counties	Native American name for Grand River "O-wash-ta-nong"
Wayne	Detroit	1815	All lands in Michigan ceded by Native Americans through 1807 Treaty of Detroit	"Mad" Anthony Wayne (1745-1796)
Wexford	Cadillac	1840	Part of Mackinac was Kautawabet County until 1843	County Wexford, Ireland

A New Trend (Whether We Like it or Not):

Using Ebooks and Downloading straight from your local library. The time is coming, and sooner than we think; when we will no longer need to run to the library to check out a book, movie, or anything. Many libraries all around the country are jumping on the E-Revolution Bandwagon. Soon you will be able to sit at home, scroll through books, movies, newspapers, magazines, etc.. And download your choices with your online library card. They will then be available to you for a limited time for your perusal.

So, how many of you have a Kindle or a computer that you can read Kindle e-books on? How many of you have a Nook? We would really like to know because there are now so many free and low cost genealogy based and historical books available for those readers. If enough of our members have the capability to read e-books we will publish more information on what is available and help with how to use them better. Let us know. Please send an email to us at 1972mcgs@gmail.com to the attention of Kay. Let me know what you use and what you are interested in.

Important Upcoming Dates 2014



Regular Meetings

7:00 p.m.
VFW Post 3195
5209 Grand Haven Road

June 12
No meetings in
July & December
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13

Board Meetings

5:30 p.m. at the VFW
VFW Post 3195
5209 Grand Haven Road

June 12
No meetings in
July & December
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13

Genealogy Family History Workshops

Torrent House Local History & Genealogy Dept.,
315 W. Webster
2 sessions!

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Please preregister online at
1972mcgs@gmail.com
or call 231-722-7276 ext. 240

No workshops in
June, July, August & December

Fall
September 13
October 11
November 8

Family is the cornerstone of the old world
and the promise of the new.



At our June 12th meeting you will be able to buy tickets for the book drawing of "More Dating Old Photograph's 1840-1929"

For The June Meeting:

BOOK DRAWING This is a great informational book. The drawing for this book is for members only. The book is: **Evidence Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian**, by Elizabeth Shown Mills

And don't forget:

➡ **Share Time**
We would love to hear about your recent research discovery.

➡ **Bring your pen/pencil and paper to take lots of notes.**

➡ **Bring money for book drawing tickets.**

➡ **Bring money for our MCGS store. We have 15 Generation Charts. \$3 ea.**



See You at the JUNE Meeting!

What's coming to MCGS

July - No Meeting

August 14 - Program **"Mistakes Everywhere"**
Speaker, Diane Oslund. Diane will show examples: of mistakes found in vital records, obituaries, census records etc. and will discuss ways to verify the information. It also covers the fact that not all discrepancies can be resolved and suggests how to handle the data until 'hopefully' it can be resolved at a later date.

Diane Oslund has been researching her personal family lines since the late 1970's and has helped others research their families for the past 15 years. She started speaking on genealogical topics in 2003. She has authored or co-authored books on some of her family lines. Co-authored with Karen Krugman "Ford Family Cemetery" (Henry Ford's burial place) and has helped transcribe several cemeteries in Lenawee County. She has held several offices in a local genealogy society.

September 11 - Program **"Organize Your Genealogy Life" Part 1** by Family Tree Magazine

- ◆ Conquer the Chaos.
- ◆ Choose the best genealogy filing system for you.
- ◆ Decide what to keep and what to toss.
- ◆ Keep a neat genealogy space (no matter large or small).

Watch our Twig Talk newsletters for the remainder of our programs this year and next.