TWIG TALK

Newsletter

Since 1972 **Vol. 16 No. 6 & 7** **June & July 2016**

TWIG TALK
A publication of:
Muskegon County Genealogical Society
c/o Hackley Public Library
Torrent House
315 W. Webster Avenue
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Past President: Jane Appleton Schapka
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Thursday, June 9, 2016

TAKE NOTICE: Meeting Starts at 6:30 pm

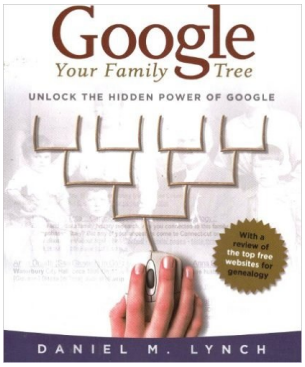
VFW Post 3196, 5209 Grand Haven Rd

"Little Known & Rarely Used Google Resources & Research Tips"

Katherine R. Willson
Professional Speaker,
Genealogist, Artist

A who-when-where approach in your genealogy search, makes big difference. Find out how to research using Google.

Katherine R. Willson of Ann Arbor, MI is a highly acclaimed and professionally trained national public speaker. She gives keynote addresses and conference presentations, facilitates workshops and conducts training on the topics of genealogy, art and military family support.



June's

TICKET BOOK

Find out everything you need to know about Googling your Family Tree

Excellent book to have on your book shelf!

GENEALOGY FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP Off for the Summer, will be back see below!

Sat., Aug 13, 2016 / 10:30am – 12:30pm or 2pm – 4pm

Space is limited, so please pre-register either online at 1972mcgs@gmail.com or call the Torrent House, Local History & Genealogy Dept. at 231-722-7276 ext. 240

HOSPITALITY HAPPENINGS

Our May Meeting had speaker, Melissa Horton, give a fascinating virtual tour of Michigan's Heritage Park. She is an anthropologist who oversees programming and visitor experience at all three of the Lakeshore Museum Centers.

Door prize winner, Jane Schapka, will find her genealogical items helpful in her hobby. The two free draw of books" Cherokees of the Smoky Mountains" and "Life of Frederick Douglas" were won by interested Barb Martin. The ticket winner, Bonnie Vokits, can learn "How to Archive Family Keepsakes" for her heirlooms.

Our generous hospitality couple, Phyllis and John Slater, did a good meeting setup and brought our needed water. Thanks go to them in addition to Phyllis and Nancy Spoon taking great notes! Kathy DeCormier brought luscious watermelon, honeydew and cantaloupe plus strawberries complimented by fruit dip. Cauliflower -broccoli florets along with dip completed her healthy treat. The society provided peanut butter and chocolate chip cookies for our sweet tooth. We're so lucky to be spoiled society members!

For Show N' Tell, President Dawn Kelley, gave an update on the cemetery mapping project handled by her and Bill Hansen. The city cemeteries presented were Lakeside, Evergreen, Oakwood, and Restlawn. Bill Hansen played old records from WKBZ of the Hansen Dairy Bar advertisements as with their Paul Bunyan Sundae. Everyone was amused by the cow mooing sound effects! He also showed his book of actors/ actresses from Montague, MI. Jackie Engel shared some old treasures handed down from her 92-year-old cousin from Allendale, MI. There were some stamps from a collection with a stamped great grandparents love letter written six months before their marriage. A Grand Rapids retail license from September 1862 issued to her 2x great grandparent, William Thornton, was displayed. Membership Register, Paula Halloran, showed her DNA test results from Ancestry. As a tested female, we saw her ethnic lineage map of 14% Irish, 36 % English with some Italian-Greek mix through her mother's mother side. Phyllis Slater had a photo of John's grandfather that was a classroom picture taken in the Netherlands. There were a few photos of Phyllis' mom in school, too! Her Mom's 8th grade diploma is the kind of heritage items we like to see!

Will you have a flag or semblance of one??

INFORMATION FROM OUR MEMBERS

From Pat Straley

Pat Straley displaying a 150 year old ancestor relic that went from tatters to an excellent refinish job. The item was a memorial page of her 2xs great grandfather. A missing photo will be replaced with an enhanced tin type. All this was done by Frames Unlimited, Restoration Dept., 3343 Lousma Dr., S.E. Grand Rapids (Wyoming), MI. (616) 452-8737 or 1-800-632-6167 / **www.framesunlimited.com**

COUNTY CLERK RESEARCH

Muskegon County Building, 990 Terrace St. MCGS volunteers are there every Wednesday from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

INFORMATION & NEW BOOKS IN THE LOCAL HISTORY & GENEALOGY DEPT. CHECK LAST PAGE FOR DETAILS

Always Remember to always check the Local History & Genealogy Dept. for updates at:
http://www.hackleylibrary.org/pg/LOCAL_HISTORY/

American Migration Guide, by John Heisey

Pennsylvania Her Counties Her Townships and Her Towns

Scottish Family Research, by J. Konrad

Guide to the Published Archives of Pennsylvania, by Henry Howard Eddy & Martha L. Simonetti

The Scotch-Irish Who Came To America: A Genelaogical History, by William & Mary Durning

Virginia Genealogical Research, by George K. Schweitzer

Unlocking the Secrets in Old Photographs, by Karen Frisch-Ripley

Beside the Inland Sea, by Gretchen N. Paprocki

Maps Showing the Development of Pennsylvania 1920

Discovering Michigan County By County: Upper Peninsula, by Barbara J. VanderMolen

Discovering Michigan County By County: Lower Peninsula, by Barbara J. VanderMolen

Virginia Genealogy Guide, by John Heisey

CEMETERY MAPS of MUSKEGON COUNTY

Thanks for all your hard work!

Below are the 12 cemetery maps for Muskegon County that Bill has finish and now are up on our website.

1. Egelston
2. Evergreen
3. Fruitland
4. Holton
5. Lakeside
6. Oakhurst
7. Oakwood—Muskegon
8. Pine Hill
9. Restlawn
10. Shady Rest
11. Twin Lake
12. Ware

There are more cemetery maps that Bill is working on.

Ten Commandments of Genealogy

In the course of writing this newsletter, I get to see a lot of genealogy information. Most of what I see is on the Web, although some information is in books or in e-mail. Some of what I see is high-quality research. However, much of it is much less than that. Even the shoddiest genealogy work could be so much more if the compiler had simply spent a bit of time thinking about what he or she was doing.

Creating a first-class genealogy work is not difficult. In fact, it is expected. It should be the norm. Please consider the following "rules." If you follow these guidelines, you, too, can produce high-quality genealogy reports that will be useful to others:

1. Never accept someone else's opinion as "fact." Be suspicious. Always check for yourself!

2. Always verify primary sources; never accept a secondary source as factual until you have personally verified the information.

3. Cite your sources! Every time you refer to a person's name, date and/or place of an event, always tell where you found the information. If you are not certain how to do this, get yourself a copy of "Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian" by Elizabeth Shown Mills. This excellent book shows both the correct form of source citation and the sound analysis of evidence.

4. If you use the works of others, always give credit. Never claim someone else's research as your own.

5. Assumptions and "educated guesses" are acceptable in genealogy as long as they are clearly labeled as such. Never offer your theories as facts.

6. Be open to corrections. The greatest genealogy experts of all time made occasional errors. So will you. Accept this as fact. When someone points out a possible error in your work, always thank that person for his or her assistance and then seek to re-verify your original statement(s). Again, check primary sources.

7. Respect the privacy of living individuals. Never reveal personal details about living individuals without their permission. Do not reveal their names or any dates or locations.

8. Keep "family secrets." Not everyone wants the information about a court record or a birth out of wedlock to be posted on the Internet or written in books. The family historian records "family secrets" as facts but does not publish them publicly.

9. Protect original documents. Handle all documents with care, and always return them to their rightful storage locations.

10. Be prepared to reimburse others for reasonable expenses incurred on your behalf. If someone travels to a records repository and makes photocopies for you, always offer to reimburse the expenses.

The above "commandments" apply to online data as well as to printed information. Following the above "commandments" will increase the value of your work and make it valuable to others.

Just a Few Suggestions and Items to Consider In Writing Your Personal History

1. Birth: when, where, parents, surrounding circumstances and conditions.

2. Childhood: health, diseases, accidents, playmates, trips.

3. School days: schools attended, teachers, special activities, report cards, achievements.

4. Activities before, after and between school sessions: vacations, jobs, scouting, sports, fun and funny situations.

5. Courtship & marriage: meeting your spouse, special dates. 6. Vocations: training for your job, your own business.

7. Avocations: sports, home hobbies, genealogy, etc. 8. Special celebrations or holidays you remember.

9. Your ancestors: those you knew personally. 10. Family traditions.

2016 Dates to REMEMBER

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

January 14
February 11
March 10—STARTS AT 6:30PM
April 14
May 12
June 9
August 11
September 8
October 13
November 10
NO meetings July & Dec

Board Meetings
Torrent House
315 W. Webster Ave.

January 15
February 5
March 4
Sat., Mar 19 workshop 10 to 2
April 1
May 6
June 24
August 5
September 2
October 7
November 4
NO meetings July & Dec

Genealogy Family
Family History Workshops

Torrent House Local History & Genealogy Dept., 315 W. Webster
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
January 9
February 13
March 12
April 9
May 7
August 13
September 10
October 1
November 12
NO workshops in
June, July, & December

Remembering Independence Day, July 4th

REMEMBER WHAT TO BRING!

⇒ Pencil or pen and paper to take notes.

⇒ Any genealogy items you would like to donate for the FREE table.

⇒ Money for 15 Generation Charts

⇒ Money for the Ticket Book info on page 1

⇒ **No Show N' Tell in June**

⇒ Will you have a flag or semblance of one??

TORRENT HOUSE
Update

All the windows at the Torrent House will be replaced with brand new Pella windows. So far the Local History & Genealogy Dept. had theirs replaced and what a difference it has made. They will be working on the 2nd & 3rd floor soon.

WMGS Membership Meeting
Saturday, 11 June 2016

"Michigan Boys in Blue"
John Urschel

Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library Street at 1:30 p.m. Presentation are free to the public.

2016 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

REMEMBER, there is NO meeting in JULY!

Aug 11 "Mapping the Cemeteries One by One"
Speakers, Bill Hansen & Thomas Van Bruggen (GIS)

Sep 8 "The 15 Habits of Highly Frugal Genealogist"
Speaker Thomas McEntee / Live Webinar

You still have time to sign-up for the Seminar.

2016 Abrams Fountain Family History Seminar
Friday, July 8—Saturday, July 9
Archives of Michigan
Featuring Amy Johnson Crow, CG

Cost is $60.00
Register online go right to the form to fill out at

https://form.jotform.com/60816020169955

National Genealogical Society Announces

Grand Rapids, Michigan

As the Site for

2018 NGS Family History Conference

Save the Dates—May 2 –5, 2018