



Twig Talk

Newsletter of Muskegon County Genealogical Society

Since 1972

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TWIG TALK

A publication of:

Muskegon County Genealogical Society

C/O Hackley Public Library
316 W. Webster Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49440-1209

www.GenealogyMuskegon.com
mcgs1972@yahoo.com

President:

Dawn Westcomb Kelley
mcgs1972@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Nancy Clark Spoon
nspoon70@comcast.net

Secretary:

Barb LaBatt Martin
baabmaat@aol.com

Treasurer:

Margaret Austermiller Brewster
mmb48@charter.net



2009 Committee's

Membership	Susan Boos
History Book.....	Committee
Hospitality	Jane Weber, Karen Towne
Website.....	Shelly Nelson, Fran Harrington
Pioneer Certificate.....	Eileen Wojewodzki
Library.....	Barb Martin
County Clerk	Margaret Sheffer
Historian.....	Jennifer Lamkin
Member	Kathy DeCormier
Member	Jo Grieve
Member	Sandra Kelley
Member	Monica Smith

"March Dates to Remember"

Tues., 3rd— Board Meeting—6pm T.H.
Sun., 8th—Daylight Saving Time
Thurs., 12th—MCGS Meeting
Masonic Temple—7p.m.
Sat., 14th—Genealogy Workshop
Tues., 17th St. Patrick Day
Fri., 20th—Spring Begins



Meeting, March 12
Masonic Temple - 396 W. Clay Av.

"Census 101"

Federal Census, Agricultural,
Mortality Schedule 1850-1880

State Census & Slave Schedules 1850 & 1860

1930 Merchant Seaman



"Genealogy Helping Hands"

Saturday, March 14

Hackley Public Library

in the Local History & Genealogy Room

"NEED YOUR HELP"

Our MCGS and Hackley Public Library genealogy room is looking for these items listed below:

Muskegon County ONLY

- City Directories Muskegon Co.
 - Missing Volumes are: 1874), 1877,) 1881), 1884), 1994.
 - Muskegon City & Co. Directories that need to be replaced are: 1895-1896), 1897-1898), 1899-1900) & 1906-1907.
 - Church & Business Directories—Old & New
 - Phone Books that we have are: 1929), 1942), (1953 thru 2009)
 - School Yearbooks—Old & New
 - Post Cards—Old & New
 - Picture's-School Houses, Churches, Centennial Farms ,etc
- Look around your house, check out e-bay, yards sales , book stores, antique malls, etc.



Contact - Muskegon Co. Gen. Soc. at: our address above,
by e-mail mcgs1972@yahoo.com or by
Phone—231-740-3698



County Clerk's Office
Margaret Clark Sheffer

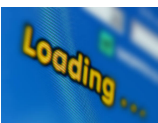
Schedule for the Volunteers
1:00—4:00 p.m.

- March 4.....Jane Gates
- March 11.....Margaret Sheffer
- March 18.....Paula Hoffman
- March 25.....Harold Griswold



Hospitality Committee
Jane Walker Weber
Karen Towne

Our February meeting enjoyed the delicious treat from Eileen Wojewodzki. Peanuts, chips, and crackers were complimented by a homemade taco dip plus a variety of cheeses. There was a selection of fresh veggies. Valentine cookies were a big hit as well!! Paula Halloran drew the door prize for Bonnie Vokits. Certain members found valentine pencils under their chair seats. Fran Harrington gave candy-filled Valentine boxes to each person with some having a prize. We were lucky to be recipients of Fran's Cricket Cutter talents and generosity. Irish month with your green wearing apparel. Let's celebrate the Irish heritage



Website Committee
Shelly Nelson & Fran Harrington

What New On Our Web Site!

- Pinehill Cemetery with photo's—Fruitport
- Muskegon County Female Marriage Index 1859—1959

- WHAT'S ON SALE!**
(Just a few books & much more)
- Michigan Genealogy Sources & Resources
 - The New Loyalist Index
 - In Search of your Canadian Roots
 - Westward Expansion

Thank you, JoAnn Osborn

Members Are Important To Us!

Membership Committee
Susan Boos Gerst

Members present at our January meeting 26 members with 2 guest!

WELCOME

Marty Kubanek, Muskegon

Karin Carlson, Muskegon
Surnames: Boertman, Carlson, Hagland-Heglund, Henderson, Johnson



Library Committee Update
Barb LaBatt Martin

New Books for Genealogy at Hackley Public Library

Above and Below: Lighthouses and Shipwrecks of Isle Royale, by Thom Holden

Daily Life in a Victorian House, by Laura Wilson

Faces of Lake Superior, by Dixie Franklin

Impact of the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant

Isle Royale National Park: Foot Trails & Water Routes, by Jim DuFresne

Seasons of the Leelanau, by Sandra Serra Bradshaw

The Windows of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Early Albany County, NY Death Records 1654-1883



\$\$\$ Dollar Saver Tip \$\$\$

Another Postage Increase Is On The Horizon. The first part of May, the US postage will again increase from 42¢ to 44¢. The amount of the increase is small, but it can add up over time. The Forever Stamp, offered by the US Postal Service, can be purchased now at today's price 42¢ and used forever without added postage up to 1 oz.



Test Your "Geneknowlogy."



What does the O.P.C.S. initials stand for?

Look for the answer in this newsletter.



Genealogy Tips from Ancestry Online Newsletter

Census Tip

While you are gathering documents for your family, pay close attention to every name on them. When you find an unfamiliar name, use the census to see who they were. Sometimes this can help you to determine whether they had any family relationship to your target family. If you find them living near your ancestors, check to see if the woman of the house is of an appropriate age to be a married daughter of your target family. Also, check to see if anyone familiar is living in the household, such as a child or older person bearing your target surname. Finally, check for other familiar names in the neighborhood. Virginia Sholin Smallwood

Moving Between Censuses

Never assume that a family resided in the same place between censuses. When available, another good resource is the state census. Some states such as Illinois and Kansas had state censuses which were done every ten years, between federal censuses (1825, 1835, etc). For many years I tried to figure out why a few branches of my husband's line left Dunklin County, Missouri, and ended up in Alexander County, Illinois. I looked at the 1865 census to see if they had moved there by that time. I didn't find them in Alexander County but did find them in Massac County, Illinois.

To my surprise I also found my husband's direct-line great-great-grandparents as well as a long lost half-brother of that great-great-grandfather. His great-great-grandparents had moved back to Dunklin County by 1870 to the same area they were living in 1860, so checking the 1865 state census alerted me to the fact that they had moved around between censuses. Why did they leave? The family was originally from Indiana. The area in which they lived in Dunklin County, Missouri, was populated with more Confederate sympathizers than Union. The family most likely left to not only support but allow some family members to join the Union forces. Debbi Geer, St Ann, Missouri
OPCS is: Office of Population Censuses & Survey

Save Local Information

In my city of Everett, Washington, the local sea port, the electric company, water quality board, and the local school district all send the occasional newsletter to all residents. While most of it is frankly rather boring, do not ignore it as a genealogical resource. For example the local port newsletter mentioned the fund raising efforts for a fisherman's memorial monument. This might help me find out where related fisherman in extended family disappeared.

Most of them will contain a history article every so often, which could give you valuable information. Also, even if you are not of that age, check out the lobby of a senior center or nursing home. While visiting the apartments where my dad lives, I found a free newspaper put out for seniors that contained reminiscences of a senior who used to be a wildlife agent for the state. In talking about a lake where he had worked, he mentioned it was created when a local mill dammed off a creek. It happened that the company was owned by my great-aunt's family. So don't overlook local information you might normally discard as "boring." Teri Anne Beauchamp - Everett, Washington

Treasures in "Old Stuff"

I found some "old stuff" nobody seemed to want in my mother-in-law's belongings after she died. My father-in-law didn't want it, so I took it. In it I found ledgers that people signed at the funeral home during visitation, listing their names and addresses from the 1950s. When I asked current relatives, they knew very little about these people. Among the pages were cards from the flowers received, one was from "Your niece Ella Eppley." Ella was a lost relative. No one knew who she married, just that she had gone as a child to live with "Aunt Ann" in Zanesville, Ohio after her mother died. After I found the card, I was able to find (through Ancestry.com) Ella Eppley in Ohio in the 30s. I'm still looking through the "old stuff" for bits and pieces of family information. Joyce Brunson

Adoptees Bearing Birth Name

In some cases adopted children revert to, or even retain, their original last name--especially if they were adopted by relatives. This was the case for a relative of mine who was sought for many years by his deceased mother's family. Knowing that he had been adopted they did not search under his original surname. They located him after seventy years when I put his mother's maiden name into the search banks. Maybe this clue will help others. NYLG



Dates to Remember—2009

March Events

**Board meeting, Tuesday,
March 3, 6:00 p. m.**
Torrent House

MCGS Meeting
Thursday, March 12,
7:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple,
396 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon

Saturday, March 14,
9:30—11:30 a. m.,
“Genealogy Workshops”
at Hackley Public Library, 316
W. Webster, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Join us for hands on help with
your research from society
members. Bring your current
research info with you!

A Look Ahead...

Dates to pencil in
**Genealogy—Family
History Workshops**
9:30 am to 11:30 am at HPL
Saturday, February 7
Saturday, March 14
Saturday, April 7
Saturday, May 2
Off June, July, August
Saturday, September 12
Saturday, October 10
Saturday, November 7
Off December

MCGS Meeting & Program

All meetings start at 7:00 p. m.
at Masonic Temple
Thursday, January 8
Thursday, February 12
Thursday, March 12
Thursday, April 9
Thursday, May 14
Thursday, June 11
Off July

Thursday, August 13
Thursday, September 10
Thursday, October 8
Thursday, November 12
Thursday, December 10

MCGS Board

All meetings start at 6:00 pm
Torrent House.
Tuesday, January 6
Tuesday, February 3
Tuesday, March 3
Tuesday, April 7
Tuesday, May 5
Tuesday, June 2
Off July
Tuesday, August 4
Tuesday, September 8
Tuesday, October 6
Tuesday, November 3
Off December

**Just a Reminder—Membership is
from January 1 — December 31**



March 12 What to Bring...

- Paper and pencil for taking notes.
- Pocket change for any little books or magazines you want.
 - Any little books or magazines you want to donate to our MCGS store.
 - Your Show and Tell to share. stories are appreciated. We want to hear & see what you have to share!
 - Your 4-generation chart completed, it can be printed from any program or written and you also send it in by mail or email at:
mcgs1972@yahoo.com.
 - Your genealogy questions.

*Bring in one of your BRICK WALLS
we will explain more at the meeting.*

*Don't forget to bring a
few of your friends!*

See you there!



“A man lives as long..... as he is remembered”

Your tombstone stands among the rest;
neglected and alone.
The name and date are chiseled out
on polished, marbled stone.
It reaches out to all who care
it is too late to mourn.
You did not know that I exist
you died and I was born.
Yet each of us are cells of you
in flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
entirely not our own.
Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
one hundred years ago
spreads out among the ones you left
who would have loved you so.
I wonder if you lived and loved.
I wonder if you knew
that someday I would find this spot,
and come to visit you.

Author unknown

Submitted by Paula Halloran