



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

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Thursday, MAY 8, 7:00 p.m.
VFW Post 3195, 5209 Grand Haven Rd
corner of Grand Haven & Porter Rds.



“Finding Family: My Search for Roots and the Secrets in My DNA” with special guest speaker, Richard Hill

Richard Hill has a BS in physics, an MBA degree, and more than thirty years experience in marketing and copywriting. Frequently dealing with technical products and services, he knows how to simplify

complex subjects and make them easy to understand.

In recent years, a personal mission has transformed into a public passion. A decades-long search for his biological family introduced Richard to several forms of DNA testing. Motivated to share his success secrets and tips with other adoptees, he created this educational web site, DNA-Testing-Adviser.com.

In pursuit of his mission Richard has met or corresponded with dozens of authors, bloggers, and other experts in the previously separate fields of genetic genealogy and adoption search. As the unifying expert that bridges these two fields, he has become the go-to person for adoptees and others seeking to find lost relatives or confirm suspected relationships.

Knowing that bigger DNA databases will yield more and better matches for adoptees and genealogists alike, Richard has become an effective advocate for genetic genealogy testing.

If you have an adoption in your family line or are interested in understanding how DNA can help in your research, you must see this special presentation!

FAMILY HISTORY WORKSHOP

Saturday, May 10, 10:30a.m.–12:30p.m. or 2p.m.–4p.m.

Last chance before our summer break!!! Space is limited so please pre-register via email at 1972mcgs@gmail.com or call the Torrent House, Local History & Genealogy Dept. at 231-722-7276 ext. 240. Our Family History Workshops are open to our members too, who will be able to sign up for special help on the same Saturdays as the regular, open-to-the-public sessions (also with limited space).

How About Some Genealogical Trivia!

1. What 2 natural minerals were an important part of Michigan's mining history?
2. Who founded Detroit?
3. Slaves escaping slavery came through Michigan to get to Canada via what (hint: quilters know this)?



MEMBERSHIP

Ingrid Porritt – N. Muskegon, MI
SURNAMERS: Bailey, Dahl, Holcomb, Lee, Porritt, Smith

**Katherine (Kathryn)
Mulready Heilman** –
Fraser, MI



HOSPITALITY HAPPENINGS

Our April Meeting was presented by Jane Schapka. Her informative power point program gave the process of tracking New York ancestors through the many resources available. Many helpful ideas were acquired through this presentation.

Lucky Karen Farmer won the door prize with Pat Straley winning the book drawing. New York ancestors were shared with Paula Halloran's Wheeler Hancock from Pillar Point, NY who had a 105 acre farm.

Phyllis Slater's Stone family of Sterling Station, NY got a complete history by her Muskegon Heights great grandfather's request of his brother. Judy Tierney told us of her Mackey family from England that settled in Syracuse, NY.

Joanne Wood had a cousin from NY pictured on the wall of the VFW.

Carl Esh showed us a 1925 year book from Muskegon Heights.

At break, Linda Welch's homemade yummy breads plus sugar-free cookies were enjoyed.

Nancy Bassett created Easter treats with her tasty cookies and candies.

We were all glad to see Slater's water provided. Your sharing and treat contributions were appreciated!

There will be NO sharing in May due to our special program agenda.



Moment of
Truth for a
genealogist:
discovering
you are your
own cousin.

Free domain from the internet.



COUNTY CLERK RESEARCH

Get your prep work done before we go to Fort Wayne! Or just stop in and start looking up all of your surnames in your family tree who might have been married, died in Muskegon County. You might

be surprised to find new leads! Remember witnesses also are listed, as are those officiating a marriage. Causes of death may not be what you thought. Addresses may not be what you thought. There's a lot to "read between the lines" of these records. MCGS Volunteers 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.

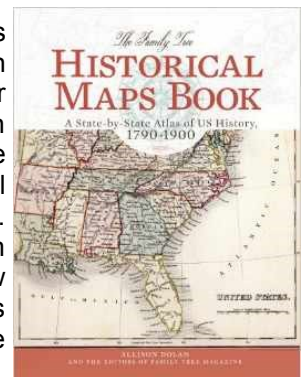
The Muskegon County Clerk is located on the first floor of the Muskegon County Building at 990 Terrace.

We would also love to have more help on indexing the marriage & the death records.

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

GREAT BOOKS

Envision your ancestors' world--as your ancestors knew it--through hundreds of beautiful full-color reproductions of useful eighteenth and nineteenth century maps. The maps illustrate the historical boundaries of each of the U.S. states as they progressed from territories to statehood and show the shifting of county boundaries and names within states over the years.



Inside you'll find: Full-color historical maps of the United States from each decade of the nineteenth century. Detailed, full-color historical maps of all 50 U.S. states. Time lines of significant events in each state's history. Charming nineteenth-century panoramic maps of key cities. Special-interest maps, which provide intriguing peeks into American society from average family sizes to taxation per capita to regional industries.

This book is perfect for family historians researching their American roots. The maps can help you: put research in geographical context; identify jurisdictions that likely hold your ancestors' records; note the potential locations of "missing" records; track and visualize migrations; and understand the evolution of national, state and county borders.

Now available from Amazon.com

NEW BOOKS AT HPL

Here are the latest additions at the Torrent House in the Local History & Genealogy Department of Hackley Public Library. They are always featured on or near the card indexing cases but if you don't see them, just ask. If you have a book you would like to suggest just let us know. We can look into getting it and get you more information.

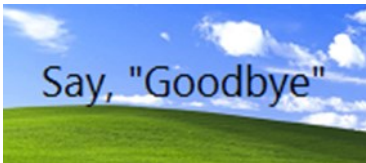
Historical and Genealogical Record of the Michigan Daughters of the American Revolution v. 10 2000-2012

Chicago and the Old Northwest 1673-1835: A Study of the evolution of the Northwestern Frontier, Together With a History of Fort Dearborn, by Milo Milton Quaife

George Croghan's Journal of His Trip to Detroit in 1767

My 88 Years in Muskegon, by Jay Sterenberg

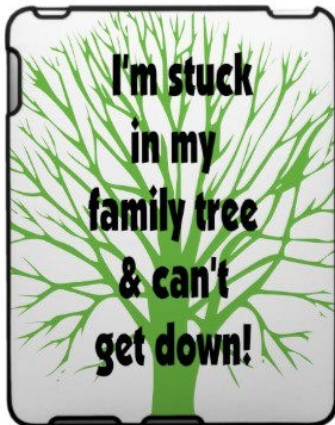
Michigan Home Telephone Directory, February 1929



Windows XP and Office 2003

On **April 8, 2014**, Windows XP and Office 2003 support and security ended. Transitioning to the new Microsoft software can take months. Please be prepared, back up data, and call local computer repair places if you need help.

Answer: 1. Iron ad Copper 2. Antione Cadillac 3. The Underground Railroad



Free domain clipart online.

NEW ADDITIONS OF FREE ONLINE RECORDS

Canada – The Drouin Institute has put online 1.3 million free Quebec obituaries dating from 1999 to the present. These obituaries have been collected from 250 different internet sources. The records can be searched by name and date of death. Access is free. <https://www.genealogiequebec.com/en/avis-deces>

US – The New York Public Library (NYPL) has released an incredible collection of more than 20,000 maps with no known copyright restrictions. These maps can be downloaded in high resolution format for free. The collection is diverse. Included are 1,100 maps of the mid-Atlantic United States from the 1500s to the 1800s; 700 topographical maps of the Austro-Hungarian empire from 1877 to 1914; 2,800 state, county and city maps mainly of New York and New Jersey and finally the really big one for genealogists: 10,300 property, zoning, topographical and Sanborn fire insurance maps of New York city from 1852 to 1922 as well as 1,000 additional maps of the five boroughs and neighborhoods dating from 1660 to 1922. The collection can be searched by keyword. The website also has a tool that allows you to 'warp' (overlay) historic maps onto modern maps. Access is free. [http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/search/index?filters\[physicalLocation_mtxt_s\]\[\]=Map+Division&keywords=&sort=dateDigitized_dt+desc](http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/search/index?filters[physicalLocation_mtxt_s][]=Map+Division&keywords=&sort=dateDigitized_dt+desc)

US – FamilySearch.org has added some 1.7 million more indexed records to its collection of muster rolls of the US Marine Corps. The original documents come from the National Archives and cover the period from 1798 to 1892. A typical muster roll shows the name of the officer or enlisted man, rank and unit, date of enlistment (or date of re-enlistment), name of the ship and any appropriate notes, such as promotions, etc. In some cases, additional information may also be included, such as injuries or illnesses and date of death or discharge. For challenging situations, information may also include date of desertion, date of apprehension, date of court martial and the court martial sentence. The collection can be searched by first and last name. Access is free. <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1916228>

Information courtesy of Genealogy In Time online newsletter, April, 2014.

On the next 2 pages you will find an interesting index of Michigan Counties. Part One is in this Twig Talk. Part Two will be in the next issue. Interesting facts are coming about some old counties you have never heard of too! Information obtained from various encyclopedias both online (including Wikipedia) and offline (World Book).

County	County Seat	Created	Origin	Name From
Alcona	Harrisville	1840	Was Negwegon County until 1843	Native American created by Henry Schoolcraft
Alger	Munising	1885	Part of Schoolcraft County	Russell A. Alger 1836-1907
Allegan	Allegan	1831	Part of Barry County	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Alpena	Alpena	1840	Part of Mackinac County was named Aamickee County until 1843	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Antrim	Bellaire	1840	Part of Mackinac County was named Meegisee County until 1883	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Arenac	Standish	1831	Annexed to Bay County in 1857 and reinstated in 1883	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Baraga	L'Anse	1875	From part of Houghton County	Frederic Baraga 1797-1868
Barry	Hastings	1829	Unorganized territory	William T Barry 1784-1835
Bay	Bay City	1857	Part of Arenac, Midland, Saginaw Counties	Saginaw Bay
Benzie	Beulah	1863	Part of Leelenau County	Riviere Aux-Bec-Scies (French)
Berrien	St. Joeseph	1829	Unorganized territory	John M. Berrien 1781-1856
Branch	Coldwater	1829	Unorganized territory	John Branch 1782-1863
Calhoun	Marshall	1829	Unorganized territory	John C. Calhoun 1782-1850
Cass	Cassopolis	1829	Unorganized territory	Lewis Cass 1782-1866
Charlevoix	Charlevoix	1869	Parts of Antrim, Emmet, and Otsego Counties	Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix 1682-1761
Cheboygan	Cheboygan	1840	Part of Mackinac County	Cheboygan River
Chippewa	Sault Ste. Marie	1827	Part of Mackinac County	Ojibwa Native American Tribe (Chippewa)
Clare	Harrison	1840	Part of Mackinac County. Was Kaykakee County until 1843	County Clare, Ireland
Clinton	St. Johns	1831	Unorganized territory	DeWitt Clinton 1769-1828
Crawford	Grayling	1840	Part of Mackinac County. Was Shawano County until 1843	William Crawford 1732-1782
Delta	Escanaba	1843	Part of Mackinac County	Greek Letter Delta (refers to the triangle shape of original county which was originally parts of Menominee, Dickinson, Iron, and Marquette)
Dickinson	Iron Mountain	1891	Parts of Iron, Marquette, and Menominee Counties	Donald Dickinson 1846-1917

County	County Seat	Created	Origin	Name From
Eaton	Charlotte	1829	Unorganized territory	John Eaton 1790-1856
Emmet	Petoskey	1840	Part of Mackinac County. Was Tonesgadana County until 1843.	Robert Emmet 1778-1803
Genesee	Flint	1835	Part of Lapeer, Saginaw, and Shiawassee Counties	Seneca word "je-nis-hi-yeh" means beautiful valley named after western New York valley where settlers came from
Gladwin	Gladwin	1831	Unorganized territory	Gladwin, British commander at Ft. Detroit 1763-64
Gogebic	Bessemer	1887	Part of Ontonagon County	Chippewa "bic" meaning rock
Grand Traverse	Traverse City	1851	Part of Omeena County	French "grande travers" means long crossing
Gratiot	Ithaca	1831	Unorganized territory	Captai Charles Gratiot 1788-1855
Hillsdale	Hillsdale	1829	Unorganized territory	From its hilly terrain
Houghton	Houghton	1845	Parts of Marquette and Ontonagon Counties	Dr. Douglass Houghton 1809-1845
Huron	Bad Axe	1840	Parts of Sanilac County	From French named "Lac des Hurons"
Ingham	Mason	1829	Parts of Shiawassee and Washtenaw Counties	Samuel D. Ingham 1779-1860
Ionia	Ionia	1831	Part of Mackinac County	Province in ancient Greece
Iosco	Tawas City	1840	Unorganized territory. Was Kanotin County until 1843	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Iron	Crystal Falls	1885	Parts of Marquette and Menominee Counties	For iron deposits and mining
Isabella	Mt. Pleasant	1831	Part of Mackinac County	Queen Isabella I 1451-1504
Jackson	Jackson	1829	Part of Washtenaw County	Andrew Jackson 1767-1845
Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo	1829	Unorganized territory	Kalamazoo River
Kalkaska	Kalkaska	1840	Part of Mackinac County. Was Wabassee County until 1843	Native American name by Henry Schoolcraft
Kent	Grand Rapids	1831	Part of Mackinac County	By James Kent
Keweenaw	Eagle River	1861	Part of Houghton County	Ojibwe word meaning Portage
Lake	Baldwin	1840	Part of Mackinac County. Was named Aischum County until 1843	Fir several small lakes near Lake Michigan

Important Upcoming Dates 2014



Regular Meetings

7:00 p.m.

VFW Post 3195
5209 Grand Haven Road

May 8

June 12

No meetings in
July & December

August 14

September 11

October 9

November 13

Board Meetings

5:30 p.m. at the VFW

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

May 10

No workshops in
June, July, Aug & Dec

September 13

October 11

November 8



Look what you may get if you come to the May meeting!

This is a great book and an awesome prize!

Book Drawing-May for members only-must be present to win

Unpuzzling Your Past The Best Selling Basic Guide to
Genealogy, by Emily Anne Croom

If you have a book or anything in the area of genealogy that you can donate, we would love to have it. We also offer drawings for things like notebook paper, folders, pencils, anything! Jane Weber has been so gracious to gather up all these goodies on sale and offer them as prizes. If you can help with a prize donation it would be great. Also, if you have an old/new book related to genealogy, we would love to offer it/them as a door prize. What better way to share and help others out with their research! We also share old genealogy magazines at our store table.

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. We will car pool, split gas, hotel, and parking fees.

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 the 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.

What's coming to MCGS

June 12 — “**Nineteenth-Century Photographs-- Identification, Dating and Preservation**”
Speakers, Bill & Glenna Christen

August 14 — “**Organize Your Genealogy Life**”
by Family Tree Magazine

MUSKEGON COUNTY CEMETERIES

As all of you know that almost all the cemeteries in Muskegon County were hit by the straight line winds which uprooted a lot of trees into the cemeteries. We will have to wait at least until June to get started taking pictures of the headstones in Oakwood cemetery. I have know idea what damage it did to some of the headstones. I will contact you soon.

What to bring to the May meeting:

➡ *Bring your pen/pencil an paper to take lots of notes on DNA and adoption.*

➡ *Bring a donation for our hospitality fund and all the yummy goodies they provide.*

➡ *Bring money for our MCGS store.*

See You at the May Meeting!