

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
V.F.W. HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN
OCTOBER 24, 1995

The regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society opened at 7:05 p.m. on October 24, 1995. Mrs. Jo Peck, President welcomed guests and each one introduced himself or herself.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Branch County is having a book sale. Karen Bartels, librarian at the Albion History Room, presented a list of books purchased for the History Room with the \$500.00 donated by the CCGS. Coldwater Public Library is holding an Open House on Sunday, October 29, 1995 at 1:00-5:00. Michigan's 1870 Census Index Volume 7 is printed and in the process of being mailed to libraries. This covers Branch, Calhoun, Hillsdale, and Kalamazoo counties. Volumes 8 and 9 are anticipated by spring. The Cemetery Project needs proof readers on Wednesday or Thursday afternoon or evening. Call Ruth Kaiser. Next month's program will be on November 28th, and will be THE BOSTON TRANSCRIPT AND TIME LINE.

PROGRAM: John Strictland introduced Shirley F. Hodges, President of Eaton County Genealogical Society and Board Member of Mid Michigan Genealogical Society, who presented a slide program on Cemetery Tombstones. The slides represented the progression of tombstones from sandstone through marbles, the types of carvings and engravings, and the current use of laser engraving and portrait immersion. Mrs. Hodges listed the tools needed when going cemetery reading: chalk, soft nylon brush, insect repellent, camera, portable tape recorder and plenty of tapes, county maps, rain slickers and boots, clippers, polarized sunglasses for bright day readings. She stressed writing down or recording the information on the stones... don't trust your memory; watching for clues of the family, circling the stone to be sure all information is garnered; following the rules of etiquette for working in a cemetery. The importance of writing down all names from a very small cemetery was discussed, considering how closely families lived together. Don't try corrections... copy everything as it is. The effects of the elements as well as vandalism completed the program, after which questions were answered.

Respectfully submitted,

Serla Potts, Recording Secretary

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN
November 28, 1995

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society was opened at 7:10 p.m. by President Jo Peck. Announcements were made:

NEWSLETTERS are available tonight for pickup. NANCY HIBISKE, Newsletter co-Editor supplies a column for the Senior Times. Copies are available at the display table.

OTHER societies newsletters are available for the members to read and to keep if they desire. Balance will be given to Willard Library for public use.

THERE are 42 persons present. Five guests introduced themselves and told where they heard of the meeting.

RAMONA SHORT presented a game "Questions and Ancestors" which gets families involved in story telling about their family. Cost is \$9.50. Mrs. Short has the mailing address and order blanks.

RUTH KAISER'S cemetery project is still meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Marshall and Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in Albion. Call in advance.

PIONEER CERTIFICATE project is still under consideration and a sheet was passed around to indicate interest in working on such a project. Those interested met after the regular meeting.

THE president introduced the speaker for the evening, JOHN STRICKLAND, whose topic was The Boston Transcript.

John began with the intriguing statement "My Grandfather's Parents had no Children". He explained how this statement had begun his involvement with genealogy, and how he searched out the mystery of his grandparent's change of name. He continued with an explanation of the Boston Transcript, its history, and how to use it. The Boston Evening Transcript started in 1830. In late 1850 a column was begun called "Dealing with the Dead" that dealt with inquiries regarding people. These inquiries are indexed according to date of query. The transcript is now on microfiche at the Flint Public Library, Library of Michigan, Allen County Library at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, at Detroit and at Toledo. Check the AGI for index. The actual column was published from 1898 to 1938 or 1939. It ran about 40 years. The depression or the beginning of World War II contributed to the ending of the column.

FOLLOWING the program Mrs. Peck announced that her house has been sold and that she and Bill are leaving for California on December 15th. John Strickland as Vice President will serve as President.

*Respectfully submitted,
Urlo J. Potts, Recording Secretary*

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
REGULAR MEETING
VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MI JANUARY 23, 1996

The regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society was opened at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday January 23, 1996 by the President John Strickland. Seven guests were among those present and they introduced themselves. Announcements were made:

A NEW LOGO is needed. Suggestions are welcome.

THE GENERATIONS Newsletter is available tonight.

WE HAVE scheduled the Society to decorate the showcase at Willard Library on November 4 through 16, 1996. Ideas are needed. It is stressed that the showcases are locked and any items placed in it will be safe.

THE PIONEER CERTIFICATE Committee will meet on February 13 at the home of Nancy Hibiske. The subcommittee for setup and certification will meet February 6 at the home of Verla Potts. Each meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

THE SALES TABLE is open tonight.

THERE ARE various newsletters available to anyone finding them interesting. Those not desired by the members will be donated to Willard Library tonight.

ON MARCH 31, 1996 there are two shows at the Lansing Center in downtown Lansing: The Genealogical and Historical Book Fair and the Antiquarian Book Sale. Suggestion: take your own bag for carrying the books you purchase!

TOM STRUBLE has membership cards available for those who wish to have an official card.

THE STATEMENT last meeting that the Boston Transcript was the only known program of queries and answers regarding deaths or genealogy has been found to be incorrect. The Hartford Connecticut newspaper also had a similar program. Midland Library has this reference.

BRANCH COUNTY Genealogical Society has the second Marriage Book available from the printers now. The third one is in process. The Early Atlases are being reprinted.

President Strickland introduced Sandra Redmond of Athens who covered the subject "MAKING THE MOST OF THE CENSUS RECORDS". Sandy began by explaining how Congress required proper representation in 1787, and needed a proper base for taxation to pay off the \$3,000,000 debt for the war just recently ended, and how the matter was finally resolved and written into the constitution. She told us what census records are available - Federal, State, the Tax records, the Land records, the Special schedules for agriculture, manufacturing, etc., as well as the slave and Indian schedules. She explained the AIS for speedy search through 1850, Soundex (covering ONLY households with a child over 10 years until the 1880 Census), showed how to establish goals and organize the searching. A handout of the program with a bibliography was passed out. Special references "The Source" and "Atlas of Historical Bountaries" were available to check over. The program was well received and questions followed.

FEBRUARY MEETING: Special involvement is required by all members in February. Be prepared with special tidbits regarding your searches, or family members. Be ready for a fun night of sharing.

Verla Potts Rec. Sec.

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
FEBRUARY 27, 1996
VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

President John Strickland opened the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society at 7:15 p.m. on February 27, 1996. There were 37 members and 5 guests present. Following introductions announcements were made as follows:

1. "Cold" calls for genealogy research brought to the members attention through the Bellevue Lions Club.
2. Monroe County workshop.
3. Book Fair, Lansing.
4. Next meeting will be INTRODUCTION OF PIONEER CERTIFICATE.
5. Certificate committee meets at Nancy Hibiske's March 5.
6. Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society is going on a bus trip to the Detroit Public Library and the Burton Historical Collection on March 10th. CCGS members are invited.
7. Eaton Co. Genealogical Society Workshop on April 27. Applications available.
8. CCGS is responsible for the Display Case at Willard Library November 4-16. Suggestions and genealogical materials welcome. Case is locked.
9. Fall Seminar for the State Society will be at Lansing Holiday Inn Conference Center Sept. 20-21, 1996.
10. Margaret Walker has asked for interest in transcribing death records of 1882.

Marlene Steele opened the evenings Talk Show program by asking us if we were interested in seeing our ancestor's handwriting, and perhaps obtaining a copy of it. Many Vital Statistics were recorded by the individual, especially census lists, and have been placed on microfilm which may be available at Ft. Wayne or Burton or larger libraries. If our ancestors couldn't write or read what the papers were that hung on a wall, then perhaps they didn't get listed in the report!

The members and guests continued with various types of comments, strange ways of finding information, fun happenings, and special ways to search, ending with a 7 generation BK5 tree chart of a family with 13 children. At least 25 participated, extending the program until 9:00 p.m. before adjournment.

It was a thoroughly enjoyed evening!

Respectfully submitted,

Verla Potts, Recording Secretary

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 26, 1996
V.F.W. HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

President John Strickland opened the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society at 7:15 p.m. on March 26, 1996. There were 42 present by count. After introducing and welcoming guests the announcements were made as follows:

The Newsletter deadline is May 13th.

April guest speaker is Mr. Robert Hency, author of *Empires* and Mr. Art Angood President and CEO of the Miller Foundation.

May meeting will be at the Albion Public Library and will be *The History of the C.C.G.S.*

In June we will again have John Steed, producer of *Brothers Keeper* computer program to explain his updated version of the program.

September will be the Annual Meeting at the VFW Hall.

October meeting will be held at the Gardner House, Albion.

The Michigan Council Seminar will be held Sept. 19, 20, 21, 1996 at the Lansing Holiday Inn Convention Center. The CCGS will operate a sales booth with our new cemetery book, older cemetery books, marriage index and our non-sales items, the Pioneer Certificate applications and our new tri-fold brochure which will be available.

Next spring we will sponsor a Genealogical Workshop. Sandy Redmond will be Chairperson.

Corresponding Secretary Cheri Ruble explained the Book Exchange Program and told what books we have received and placed at Willard Library.

Verla Potts and Val Radee reported on the trip to the Detroit Public Library and the Burton Historical Collection.

John Strickland reported on the Mansfield, Ohio certificate program and the many Pedigree charts generated through the program. This led into our own certificate program.

THE PIONEER CERTIFICATE PURPOSE AND INTENT: 1. To accumulate five generation family charts. 2. To acknowledge people who were here. 3. To acquaint people with genealogy, and hopefully acquire additional members to the society.

SANDY REDMOND explained the application forms and certification process.

MARLENE STEELE explained the sources required and passed out the "Michigan Sources of Proof" used with the 1987 Sesquicentennial Certificates. She stressed that copies of source material should be sent in, not originals.

KATHY McMANUS showed a sample of the Certificate and explained the meaning of the terminology used.

NANCY HIBISKE discussed the publicity needs and asked for area papers to add to our lists, etc. Kinds of publicity discussed were word of mouth query letters, Accessvision and Local Access of Albion, press releases, Internet and Great Lakes Freenet, brochures and where to place them such as volunteer centers and motels.

The need for a translator of Old German language was brought up. Ericka Flores was suggested as a translator.

The meeting was adjourned with members and guests enjoying cookies and hot drinks along with continued discussion of the certificates.

Respectfully submitted,
Verla Potts, Recording Secretary

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
REGULAR MEETING, VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN
APRIL 23, 1996

The President, John Strickland, opened the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society at 7:05 p.m. on April 23, 1996. Seven guests and members were present.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Kalamazoo Public Library is under construction and is closed. Temporary Library facilities are located at Century Plaza.

The Genealogical Society at Holland is sponsoring a workshop.

The Sixth Annual Conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies is at Rochester, New York, 14-17 August 1996.

Tonights speaker has donated a signed copy of "Empires" to be given away as a door prize. Each attendee was invited to sign a slip for entry in the drawing.

The Latter Day Saints have opened a new Family History Center at Jonesville in Branch County.

Ruth Kaiser reported Cemetery Committee news: meeting Monday nights at Marshall for proofreading Austin and Porter Cemeteries; meeting Wednesday afternoons to read Clarence Center Cemetery using Mr. Stone's index; meeting Thursday evenings at one of the Eckford Township cemeteries. Call her for information. Cook's Prairie is nearly ready for printing.

NEXT MEETINGS: MAY 28TH AT THE ALBION PUBLIC LIBRARY to follow in our own footprints - The History of our own Society.

JUNE 25 at Marshall VFW Hall - John Steed BK5 Update

AT THE TABLE: Membership and subscribers forms for the FSG and "Forum" magazine.

Newsletters from other societies for viewing.

Application and instructions for the Pioneer Certificate.

PROGRAM: Cheri Ruble, Corresponding Secretary, introduced our speakers, Mr. Art Angood, President and CEO of the Miller Foundation, and Mr. Robert Hency, author of "EMPIRES". Mr. Angood gave the history and purpose of the foundation which was founded by Robert Miller, Sr., and who was also owner of the Enquirer. The foundation began 33 years ago and is for the betterment of the community of Battle Creek. Mr. Angood explained the desire of Mr. Miller to have a true history of the Kellogg and Post families as founding fathers and the impact on the city of Battle Creek. His choice was Mr. Hency as author.

Mr. Hency then spoke of his trials and manner of acquiring the information for the book. He gave many anecdotes about the families and the interrelationship between John and W. K. Kellogg and C. W. Post, the women in their lives, the feuds or non-feuds. He told of his lucky find of a stack of papers at an antique flea market which had letters, invoices, related papers applicable to his research.

Mr. Angood and Mr. Hency explained that Mr. Robert Miller and Mr. Hency are the only arbiters of the book - not the Kellogg Company, the Kellogg Foundation, nor the officers of either of these. Mr. Hency does not keep any of the proceeds of the book, all profit going back to the Miller Foundation.

After questions and answers, the drawing for the doorprize was held. The book "Empires" was won by Shirley Stepp of Lyon Lake.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Gatta, Rec. Secy.

CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
REGULAR MEETING, MAY 28, 1996
ALBION PUBLIC LIBRARY, ALBION, MICHIGAN

President JOHN STRICKLAND opened the regular meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society at 7:05 p.m. on May 28, 1996. There were 36 members and guests attending.

RUTH KAISER reported the Cemetery Tombstone Reading project and the proofreading are coming along nicely. Monday readers meet at the West Eckford Cemetery at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday afternoon readers meet at 1:30 at Clarence Center Cemetery. Call Mrs. Kaiser to notify her if you will be attending so she will know who she can expect and can give you any changes in itinerary.

SANDY REDMOND and NANCY HIBISKE announced the Generations issue was available for members to take home with them.

The meeting was turned over to PEGGY SINDT, first President of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. She explained how the organization evolved from a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah and the desire to be able to search closer to home. The organizers set up the principles of county wide range, encouragement of participation by the change of meeting places, broad membership of researchers, and an annual meeting with special speakers. The first meeting was held in September 1988. The speaker's subject was "Keeping records for the Future".

PAT GEYER informed the membership of the organization and the Articles of Incorporation accepted by the State of Michigan on 21 May 1990. Bylaws were first written on August 1988, revised in August 1989, August 1990, and again in August 1994. There were 97 Charter Members from throughout the county. The first year ended with a treasury of \$1,008.00.

VAL RADEE reviewed the beginning programs. The first Seminar was given by Barbara Madison, "Family History". There were visits to the Probate Office, the Albion College Archivist's with information given on the college and the Methodist Church archives, and Willard Library in Battle Creek. John Fox spoke on searching cemetery records and tombstone reading, followed by the reading of Rice Creek Cemetery and subsequent publication of the information. Another meeting was at the County Clerk's office. The society endorsed Ann Norlander in her bid for the office of County Clerk and her election has been of great benefit to researchers at the Courthouse. Again at the Albion Public Library members held a "Show and Tell" evening.

The society has had several informative Seminars. Ron Bremer came from Salt Lake City to KCC. This meeting was attended by 87 persons. The Seminar "Ancestors in New England" discussed research and migration patterns. In 1990 "Two Trails to Michigan" was held by Curt Witcher and Barbara Madison. In 1991, Curt Witcher teamed with Arlene Eakle on "Civil War Research."

Several other special meetings were Carol Collard, "Mayflower"; John Brundage, "Adoption and the Orphan Train"; Bill and Audrey Caldwell, "How to Plan Your Trip"; and Joanne Harvey, CGRS, "How to Organize Your Stuff". KAREN BARTELS, History Room Librarian, conducted a tour of the History Room facilities, answering questions regarding content and location of records. Members were invited to browse.

Respectfully submitted,

Sepia G. Potts
Recording Secretary