

**CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**OCTOBER 22, 1996**  
**GARDNER HOUSE, ALBION, MICHIGAN**

The October meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society took place at the Gardner House, Albion, Michigan. CCGS President, Nancy Hibiske, welcomed 27 members and guests; Sandy Redmond introduced Gardner House hosts and speakers, Mary Deardurff and Martha Fierke. The presentation consisted of an overview of Gardner House, built in 1875, its builders and original owners, and history of the house to the present time. Gardner House was acquired for preservation and restoration 35 years ago. Improvements and acquisitions continue to be made through donations and ongoing fundraising activities. It was also mentioned that genealogical records and information that has been housed at the Gardner House is now in the process of being transferred to the Albion Public Library. The information is catalogued upon receipt, so the process will take place over a period of time.

Following the brief presentation, meeting attendees were invited to view the home and its furnishings and collections, as well as browse the local historical records and information located on the top floor of the house. The hosts were available to provide information and explanations regarding the House and local history. An enjoyable evening browsing through this fascinating early Calhoun County home and, of course, items of genealogical interest, was concluded with refreshments of tea and hot chocolate, cookies and fruit in the beautiful Gardner House dining room.

Members who were not able to attend the meeting on October 22 are encouraged to visit the Gardner House to learn more about the daily lives of our Calhoun County ancestors. And for garden enthusiasts, packets of seeds from the gardens of the Gardner House are available for a very reasonable price. Funds earned from the sale of these seeds will be used to further enhance these gardens.

Respectfully submitted,



**CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**NOVEMBER 26, 1996**  
**BURNHAM BROOK CENTER, BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN**

The November 26, 1996 meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society took place at the Burnham Brook Center in Battle Creek, Michigan. CCGS President, Nancy Hibiske, welcomed 35 members and guests.

Sandy Redmond, Membership Chair, presented a Calhoun County Pioneer Certificate to CCGS member Hazel Miller, descendant of Calhoun County Pioneer, John Miller. Sandy also presented a Lifetime Achievement Award to Hazel Miller, for her great contributions to genealogy as a whole. Sandy announced that CCGS member Sister Georgia Brown is also being presented a Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions.

Nancy Hibiske introduced speaker Shirley Hodges, who gave a presentation entitled *The Role of Women in the Civil War*. Ms. Hodges appeared in period dress, and described the various components and purposes for each article of clothing. Her lively and interesting presentation was accompanied by slides. Ms. Hodges has done extensive research into the lives of individual women in their efforts during the conflict between the States, on the battle field, in the hospitals, and other supporting roles for their mates, fathers, sons and brothers. Through her talk, her costume, and her slides, the audience was given a vivid depiction of the valiant efforts of women in the Civil War.

The next meeting will take place January 28, 1997, at the VFW Hall, Marshall, Michigan. The topic will be Hints and Anecdotes. Members are encouraged to come with their favorite genealogical stories and hints.

Respectfully submitted,

**CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**JANUARY 28, 1997**  
**VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN**

The January 28, 1997 meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society took place at the VFW Hall in Marshall, Michigan. CCGS Membership Chair and Co-Newsletter Editor, Sandy Redmond, welcomed 32 guests.

Member Pat Shirey announced that work on the new library in Marshall is taking place. It is important for members interested in the establishment of a local history room at the Marshall Public Library to contact the library or send letters to the director regarding their interest in seeing that this local history room become a reality. During the discussion it was mentioned that the Albion Public Library is now open on Monday nights. It was announced that the PBS *Ancestors* television series will take place on Fridays at 11:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 5:30 p.m.

The program for the evening was *Hints and Anecdotes*. Members and guests were encouraged to tell their stories regarding experiences in research, tips for researching, and stories, both amusing and factual. Some members came prepared with hints and tips, or stories, and after a few of these had been given many more members and guests supplied information and stories for the rest of the program.

This is the second meeting in the last two years featuring this theme, and it has again proven to be a great success. Meeting participants enjoy the various speakers featured at CCGS meetings, but on occasion also welcome the opportunity to present their own hints and stories. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting will take place Tuesday, February 25, 1997, at the VFW Hall. The topic will be *Identification and Preservation of Old Photographs*, with speaker John Curry, Archivist of the State Archives of Michigan.

Respectfully submitted,



**CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 1997**  
**VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN**

The February 25, 1997 meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society took place at the VFW Hall in Marshall, Michigan. CCGS President Nancy Hibiske welcomed 87 members and guests.

Nancy Hibiske announced that a Genealogy Book Fair will take place at the Lansing Center on Sunday, April 6, 1997, 10:00-4:30 p.m. The Calhoun County Genealogical Society will have a sale table at this book fair. Nancy also announced Calhoun County Pioneer Project applications are available, and that a book on the Hewitt Family genealogy is available for loan.

Nancy introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. John Curry, Archivist of the State Archives of Michigan, and the topic, *Identification and Preservation of Old Photographs*. John Curry is responsible for the largest photographic collection in Michigan, numbering over 350,000 items. Mr. Curry graduated from Michigan State University, the University of Chicago and holds a Masters of Library Science degree from Western Michigan University. He was a founding member of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing in 1955 and served as President and trustee. He is currently a trustee of the Turner-Dodge House, the Friends of the Capitol and the Lansing Public Library. He is a former trustee of the Historical Society of Michigan, the Michigan Archival Association and the American Guild of Organists.

Mr. Curry gave a lively and informed presentation regarding Daguerreotypes (1840-60), Ambrotypes (1855-70), tintypes (1860-80), negatives/wet plates (1860), and dry plates/gelatins (1880). He also discussed carte de visites, cabinet cards, flexible roll negatives, color vs. black and white pictures, as well as videotaping ancestral prints. He discussed storage, stressing cool and dry conditions. He recommended the catalogue, *Light Impressions*, for archival supplies, which can be obtained by telephoning 800/828-6216. A list of bibliographical references, which was in short supply due to the large attendance for this meeting, can be obtained by contacting the State Archives in Lansing, Michigan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society will take place Tuesday, March 25, 1997, at the VFW Hall, Marshall, Michigan. The topic will be *Interviewing and Oral History*, featuring speaker Sandy Redmond.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cheri Ruble*

**CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**MAY 27, 1997**  
**VFW HALL, MARSHALL, MICHIGAN**

The May 27, 1997 meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society (CCGS) took place at the VFW Hall in Marshall, Michigan. CCGS President Nancy Hibiske called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., and welcomed 65 members and guests. Guests were invited to introduce themselves and were welcomed by all members.

CCGS Cemetery Project Chairperson, Ruth Kaiser, announced that the Wednesday afternoon group of volunteers has begun readings in the Tekonsha Cemetery. The Thursday evening group will begin work in Leroy Township. The Clarendon, Eckford and Lee Township projects will soon be completed. Anyone interested in participating in this important project should contact Ruth at a meeting, or call her at 517/857-2747.

Nancy Hibiske announced that subscriptions to the *Ancestry* magazine are available through CCGS for \$21. Nancy also invited volunteers for the Parade of Homes in which CCGS would be represented, and to work on the CCGS book sale and Pioneer Project table the Battle Creek Historical Society's Pioneer Days, on June 28.

Nancy announced that there will be three speakers on the topic of the Civil War for the June 24 meeting. This will be the last meeting until September, as the society does not meet in July and August.

Jackie Hanna was the guest speaker for the evening. She is coordinator of the Calhoun County and Kalamazoo County USGenWeb project website on the Internet. She stated that about 80% of all U.S. counties have webpages, that *FamilyTreemaker* and *Ancestry* are online, as well as the Library of Congress, the Western Reserve Historical Society, and New York County Historians, among many other organizations. Jackie also stated that the Calhoun County Pioneer Project application is on her website. Copies of Jackie's handouts are attached. Her email address is jackiehanna@earthlink.net.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting will take place Tuesday, June 24, 1997, 7:00 p.m., at the VFW Hall in Marshall. Three speakers will present topics related to the Civil War.

Respectfully submitted,