

# GENERATIONS



*The Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society*

*Founded 1988*

**Volume 12 / Number 2**

**October / November 1999**

*The next meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society:*

## **Native American Research**

- ≡ **Guest Speaker: Dawn Mackety**
- ≡ **Tuesday, November 23, 1999**
- ≡ **7:00 p.m.**
- ≡ **B.E. Henry Building,**
- ≡ **615 S. Marshall Street, Marshall, MI**



Dawn Mackety will be speaking to the Calhoun County Genealogical Society on how she was able to trace her Potawatomi ancestors.

Native American research can be very challenging and rewarding. Discovering the tribe of an ancestor assists in following the tribe's customs and researching when and where the tribe existed.

History buffs and genealogists alike will enjoy hearing about her research.

Dawn is the MSU Extension 4-H Youth Agent in Calhoun County. Her responsibilities include youth and club development, volunteer management and public relations. She has previously held positions with Kingman Museum of Natural History and the Humane Society - Calhoun Area.



Remember! No CCGS meeting in December. Enjoy the Holidays.

## CCGS Officers and Board Members

President: Sandy Redmond

(616) 729-5258

Acting Vice President: Nancy Hibiske

(616) 962-3498

Treasurer: **VACANT**

Recording Secretary: Brenda Cornish

Corresponding Secretary: Ramona Short

(616) 965-4452

Membership Chair: Ilene Woodman

(616) 962-1667

Acting Program Chair: Nancy Hibiske (see above)

Cemetery Project: Ruth Kaiser

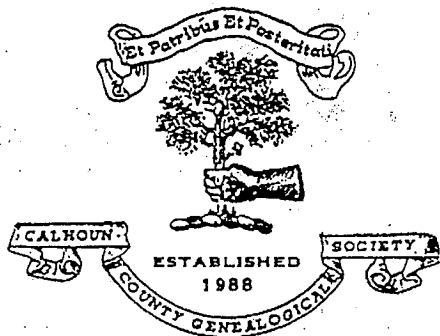
(517) 857-2747

Past President: Nancy Hibiske

Pioneer Certificate: Verla Potts (616) 781-8594

Newsletter Editors: Sandy Redmond (see above)

Nancy Hibiske (see above), Ed Williams (616) 963-4829



The Calhoun County Genealogical Society is a non-profit, federally tax-exempt, State-Chartered organization. Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues for the 1999 /2000 year beginning September 1 are \$12.00. Memberships are accepted year round. All members receive the bi-monthly newsletter Generations.

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at the B. E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall, Marshall, MI *unless otherwise specified*. Programs are free and the public is invited.

## Research Materials Available from the Calhoun County Genealogical Society

The 1877 History of Calhoun County, MI (reprinted) Over 350 pages, printed on acid free, archival paper, and is hard-cover, library-quality bound, includes every name index. \$55.00

Cemeteries of Eckford Twp. Calhoun County, MI (110 pages, over 2,100 names) \$10.00

Clarence Township Cemeteries in Calhoun Co., MI (Clarence Center, Dyer, Hunt, Krenerick and Nichols) (66 pages, over 2,100 names) \$8.00

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp. Calhoun Co., MI (35 pages, over 1,000 names) \$6.00

Every Name Index for Generations, the Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society August 1988 - June 1995 (48 pages, over 2,800 names) \$5.00

Marriage Records of Calhoun County, MI 1836-1890 (248 pages, indexed) \$18.50

### ***N - E - W!!!***

Clarendon Twp. Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI, Bentley Corners (East Clarendon), West Clarendon, St. Joseph and Cooks Prairie (188 pages) \$15.00

### ***N - E - W!!!***

Lee Township Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI, Lee Center, Partello and Rice Creek (75 pages) \$8.00

MI residents must add 6% sales tax. All prices include shipping. To order the above publications please send a check payable to:

*Calhoun County Genealogical Society*  
P.O. Box 879  
Marshall, MI 49068

## president's ponderings

Dear Members,

In our last several newsletters a call has gone out for desperately needed officers. Unfortunately, we still have two vacant, *very critical* positions yet to fill, that of Vice President and Treasurer. Your current officers and core volunteers have been heavily involved for the past four years, (and some folks longer than that), and to be perfectly honest, are getting "burned out." Any genealogical resource you find anywhere is because someone compiled the information and made it available. As members of the Society, we have a great opportunity to produce excellent resources for fellow genealogists. And, the Society cannot function properly without a full slate of officers. Where are your gifts and talents? Even if you not quite ready to take on an office, there are many opportunities to participate. Just let one of your officers know. Here is the current status of the various offices:

President – Sandy Redmond. Per our by-laws, this is my last year as President of the Society.

Vice President – VACANT. Nancy Hibiske is the acting VP. This position needs to be filled immediately.

Corresponding Secretary – We are pleased to have Ramona Short back as an officer in this roll.

Recording Secretary – Thanks to Brenda Cornish for answering the call to take this position.

Treasurer – VACANT. Micki Rastoskey has "retired" from this critical position effective November 1. Micki has done an exceptional job in this roll, and we sincerely appreciate her dedication.

Historian – Thank you Julia Miller for taking on this job. Julia has done extensive work in the Local History Room at Albion Public Library and is a charter member of the Society.

***Please see the page 17 of this newsletter for a "job description" of the Vice President and Treasurer positions.***

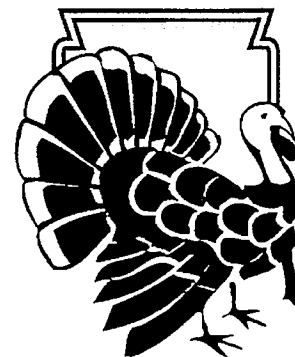
Another task that needs to be addressed immediately is the Newsletter. Thanks to Ed Williams for volunteering to assist with the newsletter. Now, we need someone else to join him. *ANYONE* can contribute materials to the newsletter! Plus, I need one less job on *my* plate, so I can concentrate on the duties of President. Please contact myself or Ed (616- 963-4829) to help.

SO – please email me at [slredmond@aol.com](mailto:slredmond@aol.com) or call me at 616-729-5258 to let me know where you want to make a difference!

Remember – this is *your* society! Its success depends on all of us!

### **THEY DID IT AGAIN, AGAIN!!**

Congratulations are in order to Ruth Kaiser and the Cemetery Committee. ANOTHER new cemetery book has been published. The cemeteries of **LEE Township**, Lee Center, Partello and Rice Creek, are now available. The book contains 1,414 names of people buried in Lee Township. It is 75 pages long, and sells for \$8.00. In addition to tombstone transcriptions, the book contains data gathered from Calhoun County vital records, the 1929 DAR Transcription, Lee Center Association Records, and records of James Koyl and Winston Scott Sebolt.



## A genealogist's Christmas Wish!

### I WANT

"I want ancestors with names like Rudimentary Montagnard or Melchidezick von Steubenhoffmannschild or Spetznatz Gianfortoni not William Brown or Mary Abbott.

I want ancestors who could read and write, had their children baptized in recognized houses of worship, went to school, purchased land, left detailed wills (naming a huge extended family as legatees), had their photographs taken once a year-- subsequently putting said pictures in elaborate isinglass frames annotated with calligraphic inscriptions, and who carved voluble and informative inscriptions on their headstones.

I want relatives who managed to bury their predecessors in established, still-extant (and indexed) cemeteries. I want family members who wrote memoirs, who enlisted in the military as officers and who served in strategically important (and well documented) skirmishes.

I want relatives who served as councilmen, schoolteachers, county clerks and town historians. I want relatives who "religiously" wrote in the family Bible, journaling every little event AND detailing the familial relationship of every visitor.

In the case of immigrant progenitors, I want them to have arrived only in those years wherein passenger lists were indexed by the National Archives, and I want them to have applied for citizenship, and to have done so only in those jurisdictions which have since established indexes.

I want relatives who were patriotic and clubby, who joined every patrimonial society they could find, who kept diaries, and listed all their addresses, who had paintings made of their horses, and who dated every piece of paper they ever touched.

I want forebears who were wealthy enough to afford, and to keep for generations, the tribal homestead, and who left all the aforementioned pictures and diaries and journals intact in the library.

But most of all, I want relatives I can find!

"I Want" article was originally posted in 1994 to the National Genealogical Conference, HDO bulletin board forum, republished in G.S.M.C. Record, Vol. 23, Number 3, Aug. 1999.

## **Position Description: Vice President**

Plan and coordinate monthly program meetings.

- Topic (timely and useful, interesting to all levels of researchers)
- Speaker (qualified, capable speaker)
- Location (costs, obtain key)
- Ask speaker if they have any special needs (overhead projector, screen, extension cord, early set-up, people to help carry heavy equipment)
- Request speaker's biography
- Write and mail (fax or e-mail) press releases to local newspapers, radio stations, etc. in a timely manner.
- Be prepared to introduce the guest speaker or give President biography on speaker at the meeting.

Preside over the CCGS meetings in the absence of the President. Be familiar with meeting procedures.

Work with the CCGS President on special projects as needed. Plan and participate in book sales, book publication, special meeting planning committees, etc. Attend and participate in monthly board meetings.



## **Position Description: Treasurer**

- Receive and deposit checks into checking account.
- Enter deposits into Quicken computer program under correct accounts.
- Reconcile bank accounts with monthly statements against correct accounts.
- Write out checks for expenses and enter them into Quicken against correct accounts.
- Send in Michigan Annual Report
- Send in Michigan Sales Tax Report
- Keep track of petty cash.

## **New on the Bookshelf**

*Here are some great new books in the Local History Room at Willard Public Library, 7 W. VanBuren, Battle Creek, MI.*

The Boone Family. Hazel Atterbury Spraker, Genealogical Publishing Company (hereafter, GPC), Baltimore, MD. Originally published Rutland, VT, 1922. 929.2 Spr

Virginia Genealogy, Sources and Resources. Carol McGinnis, GPC, Baltimore, MD. 1993. 016.929 McG

Heraldry in America. Eugene Zieber. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, Baltimore, MD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1997. 929.6 Zie

History of Rockbridge Co., VA. Oren F. Morton, published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1999. Originally published 1920 Staunton, VA. 975.585 Mor

The Parish Register of Christ Church, Middlesex Co., VA, 1653-1812. National Society, Colonial Dames of America. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1997. Originally published 1897 Richmond, VA. 929.3 Chr

Mayflower Descendants and Their Marriages. John T. Landes. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1998. Originally published Washington, 1922. 973.2 LAN

The Truth About the Pilgrims. Francis R. Stoddard. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1995. Originally published 1952 by General Society of Mayflower Descendants. 973.2 Sto

Kentucky Pioneer and Court Records. Mrs. Harry Kennett McAdams. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1999. Originally published 1929, Lexington, KY 929.3 McA

Marriage Notices in The Southern Churchman, 1835-1941. Historical Records Survey of Virginia, Works Progress Administration. Published by GPC for Clearfield 1996. Originally published Richmond, VA 1942. 929.3 IND

The Huguenot Settlements in Ireland. Grace Lawless Lee. Published by GPC for Clearfield Publishing, 1999. Originally published London, England 1936. 941.5 Lee

### Will In-Deed!

Here's an amazing indexing opportunity which was brought to our attention by Verla Potts. She writes:

"I was helping a researcher at the Clerk's Office, and we were searching the deed indexes. I helped him with the "W" grantor/grantees. Lo and behold I found numerous entries for Grantor Surname "Will." Guess what the first name was ... "Of!" *These are records of the sales of property as listed in an individual's WILL!*

There are *six index books* of these listings. They start in 1867 and end about 1893 or so. I was flabbergasted! Anyone looking for a sale of estate property for those years is not going to find it in the normal surname list. They are all filed under "W."

I saw names I had researched previously, with no luck [because property sales listed in wills were filed under "W"]. I am still in shock."

Wow. For researchers who were surprised that they couldn't find a record of a deed during this time period, this could be the reason.

This is an **excellent** project for the Genealogical Society to undertake. Please contact Verla for direction on getting started. Verla already has her plate full with so much other volunteer work for the Society, that someone else needs to take this on. If transcribing tombstones or being an officer isn't your "cup of tea," this could be the right project for you to take on.

### A Generous Offer

A nice note and offer from member Judy Karns:

"Thanks so much to the folks who work on the great newsletters. If I can be of some help to anyone who might need something done in the Tacoma/Seattle area, please let me know and I will try to help."

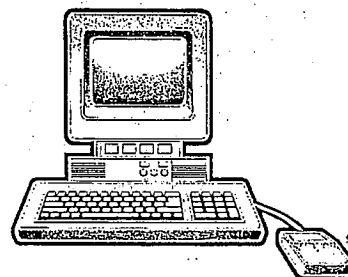
Judy Karns, 1218 141<sup>st</sup> East, Tacoma, WA 98445; [jkarns2@aol.com](mailto:jkarns2@aol.com)

### Why 2-K?

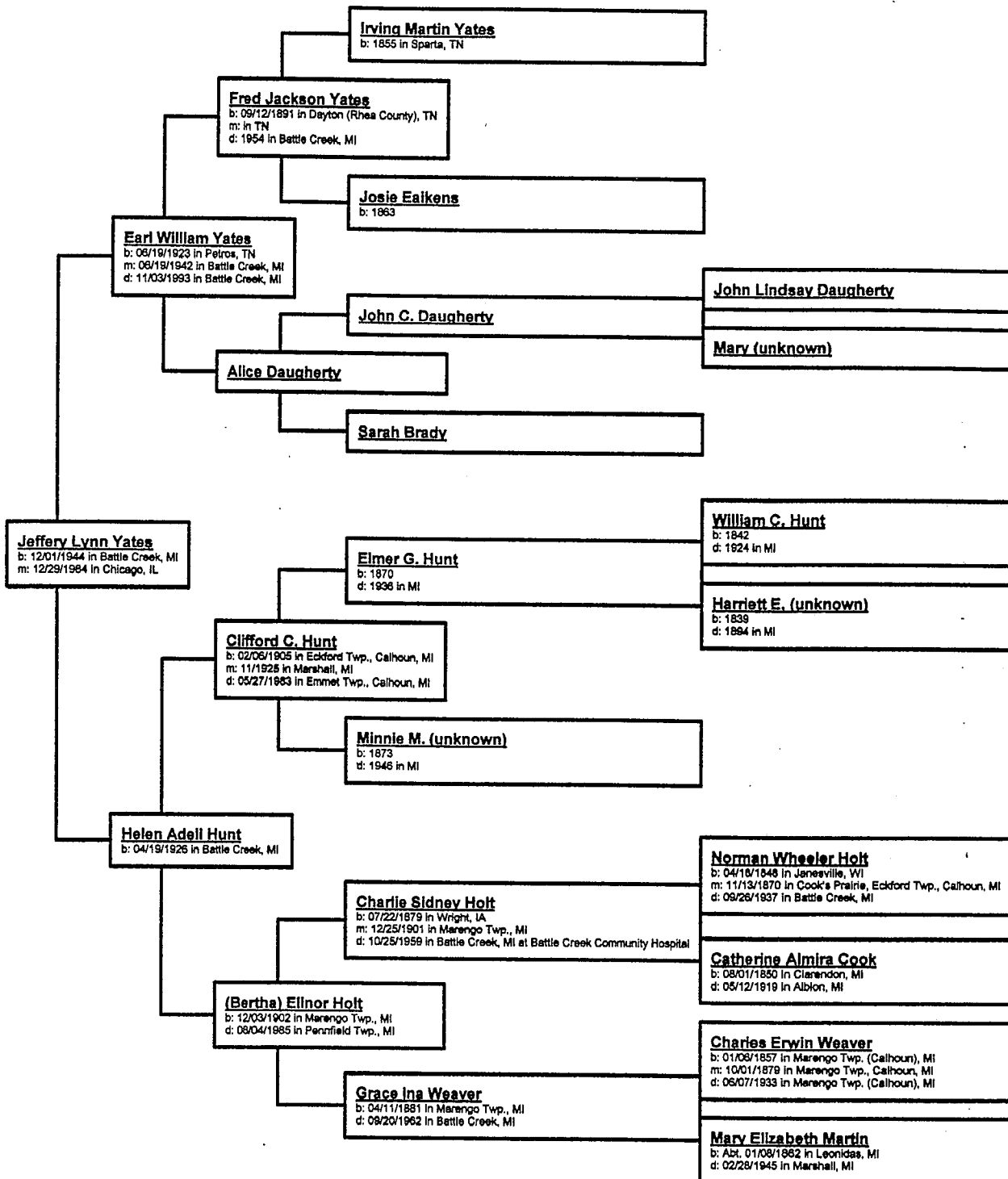
Why another article about Y2K? Because this one you really need to know! ***This is a VERY IMPORTANT item to check on your computer to ensure your computer smoothly rolls over into 2000.*** It is very simple to do, and you don't purchase any fancy software! This is for Windows 95, Windows 98 and NT operating systems.

Even if you have a new computer, promised to be Y2K compliant, you should check the following procedure because the "normal" default setting will result in a two digit, "00" reading at the turn of the year. This procedure will get your computer operating on a four digit year indicator. **It takes approximately two minutes to fix.**

1. Double click on "My Computer."
2. Double click on "Control Panel."
3. Double click on the "Regional Settings" icon (it looks like a planet).
4. Click on the "Date" tab at the top of the page.
5. Where it indicates, "Short Date Sample," look at what appears in the box to the right and see if it shows a two digit year. The box just below (at "Short Date Style") will show "MM/dd/yy." That is the default setting. This date HERE is the date that feeds application software and WILL NOT roll over in the year 2000. It will roll over to "00."
6. Click on the scroll bar arrows next to "Short Date Style" and select the option that shows MM/dd/yyyy. Be sure your selection has FOUR Y's showing, not two. Click once on your new selection to highlight it.
7. Click on the "Apply" button at the bottom right.
8. Click on the "OK" button to finish. Then close "Control Panel" and "My Computer."



Ancestors of Jeffery Lynn Yates



I can trace my Cook's and Holts to 1600's on the Eastern seaboard. An uncle of Catherine Almira Cook was the man who settled Cook's Prairie.

## **EXCELLENT SOURCE AT ALBION PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Contributed by Julia Miller

A popular resource for genealogists with connections in the Albion area is the obituary file in the Local History Room of the Albion Public Library. With entries dating from the 1850's to the present, and literally thousands of names, it is useful for research, especially in conjunction with other materials in the room such as cemetery records, plat maps, death records, city directories, census records, and local histories.

File cards record basic information, name, birth and death dates, and date of obituary with source, usually Albion newspapers: Albion Mirror, Albion Transcript, Albion Evening Recorder, or Albion Recorder. Cards for married women usually record her maiden name and the name of her husband, and are cross referenced. Obituaries are clipped and filed alphabetically with these cards. If the obituary has not been clipped the card should show where it can be found in the newspaper or on microfilm. Copies are available via copy machine or reader-printer for a small fee. Our dream is to make this information accessible on the Internet, *but to make this come to pass we will need the help of many volunteers.*

### **1862 Homestead Act Information Available**

If your ancestor obtained land under the 1862 Homestead Act, or bought land from the government, the application is sure to be on file. These files hold a four-page questionnaire filed by the applicant (among other papers). Included are the names of family members and other data. Write to: Civil Archives Division, National Archives and Records Service GSA, Washington, DC 20409

*From SGS Newsletter May, 1999*

### **More Land Patent Info.**

Check out the Bureau of Land Management site, it's GREAT. [www.glorecords.blm.gov](http://www.glorecords.blm.gov)

## **Fraternal Organizations Web Sites**

From Jackson County Newsletter, Nov/Dec 1999

Freemasons: [www.grandlodge.org/masonlinks.htm](http://www.grandlodge.org/masonlinks.htm)

Grange: [www.grange.org](http://www.grange.org)

Independent Order of Odd Fellows: [www.ioof.org](http://www.ioof.org)

Knights of Columbus: [www.kofc-supremecouncil.org](http://www.kofc-supremecouncil.org)

Knights of Pythias: [www.pythias.org/index.html](http://www.pythias.org/index.html)

## **Web Humor**

There is some SERIOUS researching happening on genealogy mail lists. The following, however, from the [Missouri-L@rootsweb.com](mailto:Missouri-L@rootsweb.com) mail list, demonstrates it can be down-right hilarious and fun, too!

WANTED: One slightly researched grandmother, nationality unimportant, age and location, unimportant. Willing to trade one allusive, heavily researched grandmother, for any extras you might have in your line.

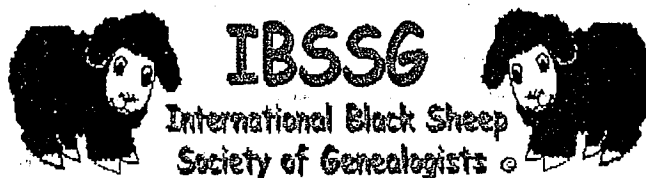
MINE: Flossie (MARTIN, FIELDS, BAXTER, ALBERT, GRUGETT, HOUSEHOLDER) B. 1904-05 Nashville, TN. Comes complete with six children, two husbands. Currently at rest in New Hope Cemetery, MO (maybe). Has travelled - knew the Congressman Zimmerman family of MO. Pictures included in trade. Was said to be Black Dutch.

YOURS: Only requirement, she must like Indians, as we are Cherokee.

TRADE NOTES: If you don't have any spare grandmothers, may trade for grandfather, or possible black sheep of family.

### **And, Speaking of Black Sheep!**

Check out this really great web site!  
<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~blksheep/>





**"The Genealogist's Address Book"**

*Contributed by Ed Williams*

By Elizabeth Petty Bentley, Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 1995, Willard Library reference 929BEN. 653 pages.

This is a BIG, fairly recent publication. Just the list of contents – which appear on its cover – suffice to summarize this valuable reference book.

- National Addresses
  - National Archives and regional centers
  - Government departments & agencies
  - Vital records offices by state
  - Libraries, genealogical societies, historical societies, -- national focus
  - Independent publications – national focus
- State Addresses
  - Archives
  - Libraries
  - Historical societies
  - Genealogical societies
- Ethnic and Religious Organizations/Research Centers
  - Ethnic archives, libraries, societies
  - Religious organizations and archives
- Special Resources
  - Lineage & hereditary societies
  - Surname registries
  - Adoption registries
  - Immigration research centers
  - Computer interest
  - Genealogical computer software
  - Professional bodies
  - Newspaper columns
  - Publishers
  - Microform publishers
  - Self-publishing
  - Booksellers
  - Antiquarian book dealers
  - Lending Libraries
- Index to Periodicals and Newsletters
- General Index
- Yellow Pages Directory of Advertisers



## **"Family History Logbook – A Timeline Journal From 1900 to 2000"**

*Contributed by Ed Williams*

By Reinhard Klein, Betterway Books, Cincinnati, Ohio  
Copyright 1996, Willard Library reference – 929.1 KLE. 219 pages

In drafting the story of my family's history, I from time to time have tried to put family events in the context of national and international news that were going on at the same time. Once while surfing the Internet I came across a site that gave a few facts on some of the important events of this century. This book, "Family History Logbook – A Timeline Journal from 1900 to 2000" does a good, concise job of listing important events which happened each year from 1900 to the year of publication.

For the year 1900, for example, it cites the following:

**Headline:** William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt are elected president and VP.  
**Government:** Hawaii becomes a territory. (Also) The U.S. adopts the gold standard.  
**Tragedy:** Hurricane kills 6,000 in Galveston, TX. **Labor:** The average workweek is 59 hours. (Also) There are about 100,000 "lady typewriter" in the workplace. (Also) The International Ladies' Garment Workers Union is organized. **Health:** Major Reed proves malaria is transmitted by mosquitoes. (Also) The average age of death is 47. **Organizations:** The first Junior League. **Activism:** Carry Nation and followers destroy saloons in Kansas. **Ecology:** The U.S. has 30 head of bison. **Inventions:** Kodak introduces the Brownie box camera. (Also) Hills Bros. Begins packing ground roast coffee in tins. **Transportation:** 144 miles of U.S. roads are hard-surfaced. **Books:** "Lord Jim" by Joseph Conrad; "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser; "The Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum; and "The Man that Corrupted Hadleyburg" a short story by Mark Twain. **Music:** A popular song is "A Bird in a Gilded Cage" (Also) The player piano is a must-have in middle-class homes. **Dances:** The Cake Walk is the popular dance. **Fashions:** Shirtwaists become fashionable (Also) A lady's bicycling outfit may consist of a cotton bodice with a large bow, wool knickerbockers, black wool stockings, and leather lace-up boots. **Sports:** The five-sided home plate is introduced to baseball. (Also) The Davis Cup is established. **Fame:** Casey Jones dies on the doomed "Cannonball Express". (Also) "The Great Houdini" begins his career. **Miscellaneous:** The U.S. population is 75,994,575; one-third of all residents are foreign born; and 60 percent of the population is rural.

These same categories (headline, government, tragedy, etc.) are addressed for each following year.

The book also provides space for entering family milestones and sources of information (photo albums, cassette recordings, diaries, newspaper articles, etc.) for each year of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The author notes (once you start using the book) ... "you may find that your life was affected by history and popular culture in ways you never realized.... The main idea behind this book is to leave a body of organized material about your life for future generations." You may also then use this information base as a springboard to write your (and your relative's) story. It may also serve as a springboard for beginning (or updating) a genealogical search.

The book concludes with basic tips on collecting and organizing your material.

Eaton County Genealogical Society  
presents

# Workshop 2000

on May 6, 2000

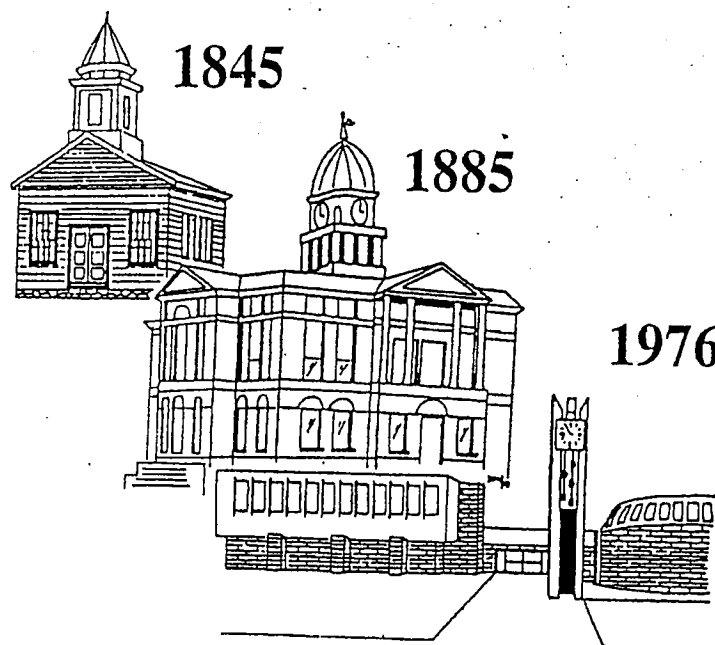
with keynote speaker

## Dr. George K. Schweitzer

Major Genealogical Indexes  
Migration Routes and Settlement Patterns  
Ohio Genealogical Research

also speaking  
**Shirley J. Hodges**

"Whither Thou Goest:  
Tracing Your  
Female Ancestors"



If you are interested  
in a flyer  
please contact  
the society at...

P.O. Box 337 - Charlotte, MI 48813-0337  
Phone 517-543-8792 Fax: 517-543-6999  
E-Mail: [ecgsoc@juno.com](mailto:ecgsoc@juno.com)  
Web Site: [www.userdata.acd.net/~mmgs](http://www.userdata.acd.net/~mmgs)

**Future Functions of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society**

Programs are always free and the public is welcome.  
For more information call Nancy Hibiske at 616-962-3498

***All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.***

- November 23<sup>rd</sup> Dawn Mackety will speak on "**Native American Research.**" More details will follow in the next newsletter. *Meeting to be held at the B. E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St., Marshall, MI, 7:00 p.m.*
- December No Meeting – Happy Holidays!
- January 25<sup>th</sup> TBD
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Shirley Hodges will talk to us on "**Family Historian or Packrat.**" Sounds interesting! *Meeting to be held at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St., Marshall, MI, 7:00 p.m.*

**THE CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
PO BOX 879  
MARSHALL, MI 49068**