

Generations

Vol. 15, No. 1 ■ September/October 2002 ■ the newsletter of the Calhoun County (Michigan) Genealogical Society



Annual business meeting, elections slated for Sept. 24

CCGS will hold its annual business meeting 24 September at the B.E. Henry Community Building in Marshall. Brief reports about the last year of society activities will be presented and officers will be elected. The meeting begins at 7 p.m.

A special presentation will be held with George Livingston, Willard Library local and family history librarian, and Cindy Rude, probate court registrar. Earlier this year, the society and the Calhoun County Probate Court began a microfilming project to help the county and genealogists alike. CCGS volunteers spend the summer recording old probate records on microfilm. For each roll the volunteers helped create, the court is giving one roll to the society. At the September meeting, CCGS will donate the microfilm to Willard Library where researchers can gain free access.

After the business session, **Dean France will be on hand to share his collection of Calhoun County memorabilia.** Refreshments will be served. ■

FOCUS THIS ISSUE: *Organizing the overload and documenting your research*

Our next issue will feature computers in genealogy. *Have a story, tip or idea to share?* Contributions are always encouraged. Write to: Sue Stuever Battel, Editor, SueBattel@aol.com or 21174 F Dr. S., Marshall, MI 49068. ■

Get organized! Attend October program

If your years of genealogy research can be measured with a box of disorganized papers, the 22 October program could be for you. CCGS member and part-time genealogy instructor Sandy Redmond will present a session about organizing your genealogy research.

Sandy will provide tips for sorting, filing, organizing and presenting your findings both in paper and electronic form. ■

To organize *or be a genealogy slob*

by Ruby Coleman

Beginning researchers have the best of all worlds ... easier retrieval of sources and data, sharing of information by electronic communication, plus the use of genealogy software.

Many genealogy software packages are on the market today. Most provide features for saving information, documenting it, adding notes, creating research logs, plus attaching scanned objects such as documents and photographs. Even so, researchers soon discover they are drowning in paper. They also discover it is more fun to do the research than file, sort and create order in their research. When it becomes unbearable it must become manageable.

Manageable is the key word. How you keep your genealogy, from information to actual documents, is a personal preference. It must suit your needs and make you happy. The management of your genealogy project must also suit those around you. If you are leaving your diligent research as a legacy for future generations, it must be manageable for them.

Once you have decided to come out of the genealogy slob stage, it is time to make a list of how you want to manage the project. Even with the use of genealogy software and a computer, there will be paper piles and items to categorize and file. For storage of these items, most genealogists prefer to use

Continued on page 86

1877 History of Calhoun County. Soon to be reprinted, \$60 + \$3.30 tax for Michigan residents.

Cemeteries of Eckford Twp., Calhoun County, MI. 110 pages, more than 2,100 names, \$10.

Clarence Township Cemeteries in Calhoun Co., MI. Clarence Center, Dyer, Hunt, Krenerick and Nichols, 66 pages, more than 2,100 names, \$8.

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp., Calhoun Co., MI. Austin and Porter. 35 pages, more than 1,000 names, \$6.

Every-Name Index for Generations, the newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. August 1988–June 1995, 48 pages, more than 2,800 names, \$5.

Marriage Records of Calhoun County, MI, 1836–1890. 248 pages, indexed, \$18.50.

Clarendon Twp. Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI. Bentley Corners (East Clarendon), West Clarendon, St. Joseph and Cooks Prairie, 188 pages, \$15. Purchase Bentley only for \$3.

Lee Township Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI. Lee Center, Partello and Rice Creek, 75 pages, \$8.

Tekonsha Township Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI. Riverside, Windfall and MacFadden, more than 3,600 names, 221 pages, \$18.50.

To order, please send a check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068. Prices include shipping. Michigan residents add 6 percent sales tax. ■

Calhoun County Genealogical Society

The purposes of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society (CCGS) are:

- to gather and preserve information of genealogical value.
- to encourage the deposit of such information in suitable depositories.
- to aid genealogists in the study of family history through the exchange of knowledge.
- to publish and promote Calhoun County and other genealogical materials.

The CCGS is a nonprofit, state-chartered organization. Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues for the year beginning Sept. 1 are \$12. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after May 1 will pay membership for the following year. Members receive the newsletter **Generations** six times per year. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St. in Marshall, *unless otherwise specified*. No meetings are held in July, August or December. Programs are free and open to the public.

President
Anita Stuever
(616) 789-9402
AnitaStuever@voyager.net

Vice President
Maureen Vire
(616) 969-9737
mvire53@aol.com

Treasurer
Dave Ruble
(616) 968-1480
DCRuble@iserv.net

Recording Secretary
Marcie Telfer
(616) 963-3899
MTelfer805@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary
Judy Groat
(616) 781-4568
JGroat2800@aol.com

Past President
Joy Carter
(616) 639-9754
cartermous@aol.com

Publications Committee Chair and Webster
Sandy Redmond
(616) 729-5258
slredmond@earthlink.net

Membership Committee Chair
Ilene Woodman
(616) 962-1667
iwoodman@attbi.com

Program and Publicity Committee Chair
Maureen Vire
(616) 969-9737
mvire53@aol.com

Cemetery Transcription Committee Chair
Ruth Kaiser
(517) 857-2747
Ruthmary46@yahoo.com

Archivist
Julia Miller
(517) 629-3852

Pioneer Certificate Chair
Verla Potts
(616) 781-8594
vpotts1548@aol.com

Hospitality Chair
Gloria Huff
(616) 979-4818

Michigan Genealogical Council Delegate
Marlene Steele
(616) 963-0226

Newsletter Editor
Sue Stuever Battel
(616) 789-2848
SueBattel@aol.com

Assistant Editor
Anita Stuever
(616) 789-9402
AnitaStuever@voyager.net

All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** newsletter editor, according to the editorial calendar.

Issue	Date	Articles due
Vol. 15, No. 2	November/December 2002	Oct. 1

Permission is granted to reprint articles unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the source. Copies of individual pages from back issues of **Generations** are \$1 for the first page, 50 cents for each additional.

CCGS ■ P.O. Box 879 ■ Marshall, MI 49068 ■ <http://www.rootsweb.com/~micalhou/ccgs.htm>
CCGS e-mail list: Send a message to calhouncountyg@onelist.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.
Member: **National Genealogical Society ■ Michigan Genealogical Council ■ Federation of Genealogical Societies**



Albion cemetery tour to highlight pioneers

The gravesites of 33 pioneer families will be featured on the annual guided tour of Albion's Riverside Cemetery.

This year's two-hour event begins Sunday, 6 October, at 1:30 p.m. Led by Frank Passic, it starts at the cemetery office located just off M-99 at the south city limits.

Gravesites featured include those of Elijah and Eunice (BERNARD) CORNELL, parents of Cornell University founder Ezra CORNELL.

The event is sponsored by the Albion Public Schools Community Enrichment Program. Admission is free with an optional \$2 program. All ages are welcome. For more information, send e-mail to Frank Passic at albionfp@hotmail.com. ■

Benefits of belonging

Volunteer to help others

CCGS carries out a variety of worthwhile projects for the benefit of genealogists, such as transcribing and publishing county cemetery inscriptions and micro-filming records. Will you share your time and talent? Contact a board member listed on page 82. ■

Short shots

People researching ancestors of Polish descent may find useful information on the web site of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan <<http://www.pgsm.org>>. The site includes feature articles, lists of Polish events, links and more. According to webmaster Jann Soltis, the

Michigan Genealogical Council update

The Michigan Genealogical Council works to serve those involved in genealogical research. The statewide organization is made up of societies including CCGS.

Marlene Steele is our delegate to the council. She also leads the Awards Committee, which will award the annual Lucy Mary Kellogg Award in November.

Among the council's recent activities reported by Marlene:

- Installed CCGS member Verla Potts as a board member. She will serve as trustee.
- Will present information and

possibly a program in February about researching African-American ancestors. Will cooperate with the African American Genealogical Society.

- Announced a 30th anniversary reception for the MGC to be held 14 November.
- Is working to microfilm Michigan death certificates from 1897 to 1914.
- Announced passage of a senate bill to make Michigan birth records available after 100 years instead of the previous 110-year wait. ■

Eaton society hosts bus trip to Fort Wayne library

A bus will transport interested genealogists to the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Ind., on 19 October. Hosted by the Eaton County Genealogical Society, the trip begins at 7 a.m. and travellers will return at 10 p.m. The cost is \$25 per person.

The bus will pick up passengers at the 1885 Courthouse in Charlotte at 100 W. Lawrence Ave. promptly at 7 a.m. Lunch is on

your own. The group will leave Fort Wayne about 6 p.m. and stop for dinner.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Mail your check made out to Eaton County Genealogical Society to ECGS Bus Trip, P.O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813-0337. Include your name, phone, address, e-mail, four surnames you are researching and what you hope to accomplish on the trip. ■

society is seeking Polish and Russian language translators to be listed on the site. If you can translate Polish or Russian documents and would be willing to help others, send e-mail to Jann at jann@gbjann.com.

■■■

America's World War I and II memorials can serve as genealogical resources, according to Donald Conrad of North Carolina. He and

his wife have created a web site, "PVT Donald B. Conrad's Guide to America's World War One & Two Memorials," <<http://web.infoave.net/~donbarb54/>>. Thousands of monuments and memorials are listed by city and state and can provide researchers with genealogical information. The site also has many photographs of World War I monuments. ■

Your genealogy in bite-size pieces

by George G. Morgan

I have a confession to make to you. I am a genealogy procrastinator.

Yes, it's true. Like most people, I lead a busy life, and I don't get nearly the amount of time to work on my own genealogical research, my data entry, my correspondence, and my filing. It always seems I'm traveling on business, doing paperwork, making telephone calls, and other business-related activities. If not those things, I'm either writing the online columns I do at three Internet sites, working on a manuscript for a magazine or for another book. Add to that the reading I need to do to stay abreast of genealogy, and the work I do for and with genealogy societies, and all the chores that need to be done around the house. Gee, I'm tired just thinking of all this!

A while back I finally figured out my plan for dedicating an entire evening or a weekend day to my genealogy just wasn't going to happen. The filing was piling up and the "to-research" and "to-do" lists were pages long with little hope of ever working my way through them. It was disheartening — and messy — to say the least. I finally decided that the only way I would ever make any progress was to attack the work in bite-size pieces. The old adage about a journey beginning with a single step was my answer.

Over the past months, I have learned how to use small increments of time to my advantage to get things accomplished. I've also learned to make use of any opportunity to grab the information I need to move further ahead. I want to share some suggestions about attacking your genealogical workload in bite-size pieces.

Opportunities abound!

Whether we admit it or not, we all have spare minutes in our schedules. The key to being a really effective individual is the use of time-management techniques. Few people can afford to take a single project from start to finish. Most of us must rely on multi-tasking — the process of doing several things at once.

Interspersing genealogical activities among others can help you make some real progress. To that end, here are some examples of ways you can attack your genealogy in pieces.

Assemble papers to be copied

Maintain a simple file folder labeled "To Be Copied" and place documents that need to be copied inside. You can put the folder in the car and have it with you the next time you are near a photocopy machine.

Make or obtain forms for common notes and use them

Most of us have a format for transcribing information. You can either download or print common forms or create your own for transcribing or extracting information from original documents. Forms for transcribing all the U.S. Federal censuses, for instance, and others can be obtained from the Ancestry.com web site for free at <http://www.ancestry.com/save/charts/ancchart.htm>. Make photocopies of the blank forms and file them in folders labeled by type. You can then simply pull one as needed and start working, and not have to take time to make a copy first and without having to make up the format and column labels on the fly.

Create a box of SASEs for correspondence replies

Nothing promotes people responding to you better than enclosing a self-addressed stamped

envelope (SASE). Use your computer printer to make self-addressed adhesive mailing labels and prepare a box of envelopes. Add stamps to a number of them so they can just be pulled and inserted with request letters. Get your children or grandchildren to assemble the envelopes, labels and stamps.

Write quick notes or e-mails

Use spare minutes to knock off quick notes or e-mail messages to relatives to obtain quick bits of information. For example, a quick note to a cousin asking for the address of his or her parents in the 1940s might help you gather property record information on them. Your relatives will be happier, too, to respond to a few smaller inquiries rather than to a list of 50 questions. Keep a box of notecards and stamps handy for this purpose, and don't forget to enclose a SASE.

Make master letter templates for record requests

Invest a little time with your word processor to create a form letter template for requesting vital record copies from courthouses and vital records/statistics bureaus. Your template can include everything except today's date and the names and other information essential for a clerk to locate, photocopy and mail a document to you. Have a supply of SASEs ready, too. This way, when you have a few spare minutes, it is simple to fill in the blanks and whip out a letter.

Review an ancestor and make a list

Select an ancestor you want to learn more about and review all the details and material you have about him or her. Use an oversized index card and write the ancestor's name

at the top. Make a list of the types of information you need and possible locations where it might be obtained. You can use the card to prompt you when writing a letter later.

Use family telephone calls to gather a fact or two

Keep genealogy forms and pencils near the telephone. When you are talking with relatives, use the opportunity to ask quick questions, and then note the answers, who provided them and the date. These become secondary sources for further investigation.

Request a map

Write a request to a state or national tourism board, or to a chamber of commerce, and request a map. Add extra postage to your SASE.

File while watching TV

Television time consists of many wasted minutes, particularly during commercials. However, many programs don't require your eyes to be riveted to the screen. Use this time to sort paperwork into surname piles, and then re-sort by individual and then in chronological or record-type order — whatever way your filing system is set up. Use the time to also insert important documents into archival-safe sheet protectors. And finally, use the opportunity to file materials into your folders or binders. Filing can be mindless work, and doing it in front of the television seems somehow appropriate to me.

For file receptacles that can't be taken to the television, get into the habit of filing three pieces of paper in the file cabinet each night. The pile will soon begin to shrink.

Investigate one new web site a day

Set aside five minutes each day to explore one new genealogy web site. Gather information there at the time, and add a bookmark or favorites link in your browser.

Enter facts in your database a page at a time

Take a single page of information that needs to be added into your genealogy database. Read and enter the data, along with source citations, and then file the document. Doing one page will take only a few minutes and can be done while having your first cup of coffee or tea in the morning, or while waiting for laundry to dry, for a spouse to take a shower and dress to go out, or during television commercials.

Look up a county government seat from way back when

You know you need to know the correct county and the county seat for the period during which you ancestor lived in a location. This helps you find the correct place to search for records, and you should be entering the correct county in your genealogy database. Take a few minutes to look up a county and its seat and make a list of years and locations. You then will have a reference page for when you want to recheck records for that ancestor in the future, as well as for doing data entry in the future.

Work wisely

As you can see, there are endless ways to save time and to slip in a little genealogy into your spare minutes. Adding a little organization and applying some simple time-management principles can help you make time and use it more effectively. Try this approach to and see if you aren't making more progress, faster.

Copyright 2001, MyFamily.com. and its subsidiaries, reprinted with permission from Ancestry Daily News, <<http://www.ancestry.com/dailynews>>. ■

Citing sources

One thing genealogists need to do is cite their sources. I well remember my early days of family tree searches. I would record new information into three-ring notebooks (long before the invention of the personal computer). I would write down names, dates, places and perhaps a bit more information that I was lucky enough to find.

Unfortunately, in those early days I did not write down where I obtained the information. Nobody told me that I needed to do this, and I wasn't smart enough to figure it out for myself. As time passed, I frequently found new information that contradicted what I found earlier. When I discovered these discrepancies, I needed to determine which piece of information was more accurate. The question arose time and again, "Where did I find that information?" Sadly, I often did not know.

The better solution would have been to always write down where I found the information along with the data itself. This is known as citing your sources. To quote author Elizabeth Shown Mills in her excellent book, *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*: "Any statement of fact that is not common knowledge must carry its own individual statement of source. ... Source notes have two purposes: to record the specific location of each piece of data and to record details that affect the use or evaluation of that data."

I am older now and, hopefully, wiser. I have spent many, many hours weeding out incorrect data and now hopefully have documented all my sources of information. I wish that someone had told me years ago about the need for source citations; that one step would have saved me many, many hours of backtracking. I hope that, by writing this article, I can

Continued on page 86

Sources, continued from page 85

influence some genealogy newcomers to have better habits than I did.

Of course, citing a source is not as simple as writing down the name of a book. You also should record the book's author, publication date, the page on which you found the data, and even the name of the library or other repository where you found that book. Serious genealogists will also record the library's call number.

Not all genealogy information is found in books. You also find information in hand-written records in courthouses, as well as in family Bibles, on microfilm, on web pages, in e-mail, and other places. Each source of information may have unique requirements for recording the source references.

My favorite reference for how to record genealogy sources is the book mentioned earlier: *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian* by Elizabeth Shown Mills (Genealogical Publishing Company, 1997, ISBN#: 0806315431, <http://www.genealogical.com/item_detail.cfm?ID=3846>).

A web site also gives excellent information about sources. Duke University's *Guide to Library Research* web site contains "Assembling a List of Works Cited in Your Paper." These web pages contain a wealth of information about citing articles in books, magazine, journals, letters, personal interviews and more. It is an excellent reference, although not aimed at the genealogist. The downside is that it does not provide specific information about citing census, land or other genealogy-specific records.

While not as complete as Mills' book, "Assembling a List of Works ..." still provides information every genealogist should know. Read it at <http://www.lib.duke.edu/libguide/works_cited>. ■

From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, copyright 2002 by Richard W. Eastman. Re-published with permission.

Index to Grantor Deeds

September 1872 through December 1874

The Calhoun County Index to Grantor Deeds indicates deceased persons who were sellers of property. The actual records are held by the Calhoun County Clerk and Register of Deeds, 315 W. Green St., Marshall, MI 49068, web site <<http://co.calhoun.mi.us/docs/documents.html>>. This information was transcribed by a CCGS member and is made available as part of the society's mission. A portion of the list will be printed in each issue of **Generations**. The complete index contains 1,312 names from Isaac C. ABBOTT to Charlotte A. ZIMMERMAN and spans April 1865 to January 1901.

Index	Recorded	Grantor first name	Last name	Liber	Page
6	1872 Sep 6	David	POULE	L77	188
6	1872 Sep 6	John	LUSK	L77	190
6	1872 Nov 25	William F.	WISE	L77	560
6	1872 Dec 10	Sylvester	HUNT	L77	609
6	1872 Dec 14	Morrison	SACKELL	L77	623
6	1872 Dec 17	John G.	SMITH	L77	627
6	1872 Dec 17	Justin P.	AVERILL	L77	629
6	1872 Dec 20	John P.	AMES	L77	635
7	1873 Feb 1	William	DAVIS	L77	758
7	1873 Feb 14	Calvin	LOOMIS	L78	107
7	1873 Apr 2	Charles	WARING	L78	352
7	1873 May 3	Beuf. F.	JAMES	L78	471
7	1873 May 14	Green	PACKER	L78	554
7	1873 Jun 13	Daniel	DEAL	L80	29
7	1873 Jul 1	Arca	WALLING	L80	87
7	1873 Aug 14	Charles	OSBORNE	L80	222
7	1873 Aug 19	Louisa F.	LUDDEN	L80	248
7	1873 Aug 30	Andrew	HAYES	L80	278
7	1873 Dec 31	William	VARY	L80	700
7	1874 Jan 12	Henry	DRAKE	L80	754
7	1874 Jan 19	James	LAKE	L80	789
7	1874 Feb 5	William	COLEMAN	L80	56
7	1874 Feb 11	Herman	ELLIS	L82	97
7	1874 Feb 21	Alvin T.	BUSH	L82	139
7	1874 Apr 6	Ephraim	SHEPARD	L82	332
7	1874 Apr 16	John	GRODEVANT	L82	421
7	1874 May 9	Grenville	BEARDSLEY	L82	494
7	1874 May 23	Simeon	CORTRIGHT	L82	536
7	1874 May 27	Harold	COLTON	L82	544
7	1874 May 28	Augustus	MATTIER	L82	548
7	1874 Jun 2	John	LANDRETH	L82	572
7	1874 Jun 23	Thomas	FAY	L82	624
7	1874 Jul 13	Tisdale	POFFER	L83	33
7	1874 Aug 15	Gregory	HILL	L83	126
7	1874 Aug 19	Hiram	GRIFFITH	L83	140
7	1874 Aug 29	Sarah	DEWITT	L83	184
7	1874 Sep 1	William	COONS	L83	193
7	1874 Sep 3	Anthony	TENEYCK	L83	196
7	1874 Sep 28	Laura A.	LAW	L83	272
7	1874 Oct 1	Burr	TREADWELL	L83	307
7	1874 Oct 10	Eliza	LAPHAM	L83	363
7	1874 Oct 16	Nathaniel	FORD	L83	403
7	1874 Oct 21	Samuel	MARSH	L83	432
7	1874 Nov 28	Jeremiah	HINCKLE	L83	605
7	1874 Dec 25	Richard	HART	L84	61

October is Family History Month

Gov. John Engler has proclaimed that October is Family History Month.

The Library of Michigan in Lansing has announced special hours and training sessions in celebration of the month.

To thank its supportive users, the library will remain open until 8 p.m. on Wednesdays in October. It opens at 8 a.m. Traditional hours will resume in November.

A number of free training sessions will be presented by Library of Michigan staff. Call (517) 373-5511 to register for any of these learning opportunities:

Wednesday, 2 October

Beginning Your Genealogy Research
9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Training Center, first floor

This session will serve as an introduction to getting started with family history.

Saturday, 5 October

Genealogy Research with the 1930 Census
9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Lake Huron room, second floor

Researchers will be provided with an overview of how to more effectively use the recently released 1930 census resources.

Sunday, 6 October

Genealogy Appreciation Day and Award Presentation

2 p.m.–4 p.m.

Reception in the Rotunda

Comments from Jo Budler, deputy state librarian, Mark Hoffman, deputy director of History, Arts and Libraries, and James Haveman, director of the Department of Community Health, regarding the importance of genealogy in gaining a better understanding of Michigan's history. Presentation of the Genealogy Achievement Award.

AncestryPlus:

An Online Genealogy Resource

3:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Training Center, first floor

Researchers will be introduced to the various resources available on the Internet through AncestryPlus.

Wednesday, 9 October

Genealogy Research with the 1930 Census
3 p.m.–4 p.m.

Lake Huron room, second floor

Repeat of 5 October session.

Beginning Your Genealogy Research

6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Training Center, first floor

Repeat of 2 October session.

Saturday, 12 October

Abrams Genealogy Series:

French Canadian Resources

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Forum, first floor

The library's traditional and electronic French Canadian resources and strategies for locating French Canadian ancestors will be discussed. \$10 fee.

A Restless People: Migrations from New England to Michigan, 1775-1900
2 p.m.–4 p.m.

Forum, first floor

Ralph J. Crandall, executive director of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will present.

Sunday, 13 October

A Discipline in Transition: American Genealogical Scholarship in the Twenty-First Century and Services for Midwest Genealogists at the New England Historic Genealogical Society

1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Forum, first floor

Ralph J. Crandall, executive director of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, will present.

Wednesday, 16 October

AncestryPlus:

An Online Genealogy Resource

3 p.m.–4 p.m. and

6:30 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

Training Center, first floor

Repeat of 6 October session.

Saturday, 19 October

Finding Michigan Vital Records

2 p.m.–3 p.m.

Lake Huron room, second floor

This session will provide information about how to locate Michigan vital records at the Library of Michigan and direct researchers to resources located outside of the library.

Wednesday, 23 October

Finding Michigan Vital Records

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Training Center, first floor

Repeat of 19 October session.

Saturday, 26 October

How to Organize Your Genealogy

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

Lake Huron room, second floor

Attendees will be provided with information about how to document their research and organize their genealogical findings to save time and promote publication.

Wednesday, 30 October

How to Organize Your Genealogy

3 p.m.–4 p.m.

Lake Huron room, second floor

Repeat of 26 October session. ■

Organizing the Past web site

Proclaimed as the site, "for when you wake up one day and notice you have a large family mound instead of a well-pruned tree," this web site is devoted to organizing family history: <<http://www.genealogytoday.com/guide/thepast/index.html>>. ■

Organize, *continued from cover*
file folders, binders or notebooks. On your list determine how you will categorize (by family units, surname) and file (by notebooks, file folders).

Begin sorting the stacks of papers and documents. This can be done by family surnames or family units or locations. It may take some experimenting to determine the method you wish to use. The method must be suitable for retrieval of records plus storage available to you. If you have more than one family file in your genealogical software, it may be desirable to categorize the stacks of papers and documents according to those files. They can also be sub-divided into other categories.

Several years ago I visited with a scholarly genealogist who had some wise information about record keeping. One of his suggestions was to index. After all, none of us enjoy books that are not indexed. At the beginning of your file folder, binder or notebook, include an index. As you add pages to it, briefly detail the information on the index sheet.

Documents and photographs should be stored in archival folders or protectors. Many of those are available in office or art supply stores, as well as on Internet. Once again, make an index of the documents and photographs. Information entered into your genealogy software file can be referenced to a specific file folder, notebook or archival box.

Correspondence logs, research logs and other charts and forms can also be placed in the file folders or notebooks you are creating. Information from those should be transferred to your genealogy program. If you are taking a laptop computer on research trips, be sure you have

these logs and other needed information on the computer. Lists of surnames, their Soundex codes and a location list where your ancestors lived (town, county, state or country) are beneficial.

It is very important to record information, document it and create research logs on your computer as you do the research. Saving this for a rainy day is non-productive. Once the stacks of paper are neatly filed in a retrievable format, it will be easier to keep up with the papers, documents and information generated from your research.

Preparing for a research trip can be exciting. I have a Traveling Research Notebook that is on my desk year round. In it I jot down ideas for various research trips I need to take. This usually includes libraries, courthouses and what information I need to check. Closer to when I will be taking a research trip, I review the information. Maps are placed in the notebook. These are maps showing cemetery locations, directions to the courthouse, street maps, addresses and phone numbers. Once on my way, everything I need is in the notebook.

Never take original files or documents on research trips. Make copies of what you will need and leave the originals at home. Those copies can be utilized over and over as you go to libraries, courthouses and other areas to do research. Don't leave home without the copies.

Do you take notes on those research trips? In the library perhaps you jot down ideas or information from a certain book. Some people prefer to take notes in notebooks, file cards, spiral notebooks and many take notes directly on their laptop computers. Keep your record keeping method

uniform. Scraps of paper or file cards may not file once you get back home.

From the looks of my genealogy room, I am a slob. We all prefer to do the fun things rather than the mundane tasks such as filing. However, it is time I practice what I preach and enjoy sorting and filing. Tomorrow I will do the research! ■

Reprinted with permission from
GenealogyToday.com.

New genealogy tutorial available on CD

Author Ruby Coleman, along with GenealogyToday.com, has launched a new instructional CD: *Genealogy, Climbing Your Family Tree*. The tutorial includes four sets of lessons. It is not just for beginners, as various levels are covered.

Order Ruby's CD tutorial by visiting <<http://www.genealogytoday.com>>. ■

Genealogy gems

British Ancestors makes no-find, no-fee offer

British Ancestors has taken the risk out of engaging professional researchers with its No-Find, No-Fee offer. Researchers throughout England and Scotland will search 1800 to 1950 birth marriage, death, census and church records for your ancestors, and charge nothing if your ancestors are not found.

The company also provides free e-mail consultations and a new Certificate Ordering Service.
<<http://www.britishancestors.com/>>

— *Pioneer Record*, April 2002, p. 14
(Midland Genealogical Society) ■

Book review

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors

If you're a member of the largest immigrant group in the United States, you'll benefit from *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors*. Authors Chris Anderson and Ernest Thode use the term Germanic to include people descended from all historic German-speaking areas.

The book is well organized, with marginal icons used to point out step-by-step walkthroughs, Internet sources, printed sources, timesaving hints, definitions, case studies, research tips and warnings to keep your research on track. It's easy to read and follow. Tips for preparing for research activities include a list of tools to take. Practical, specific, detailed information is given, right down to microfilm numbers to check at the Family History Library.

The authors begin by addressing the importance of finding your ancestor's exact place of origin. They discuss the process of finding and interpreting various records to narrow down the location.

The book is an excellent reference for deciphering German handwriting and typefaces, with a wealth of examples included. The handwriting guide is especially detailed, both showing and describing the differences between specific letters.

Appendixes include German word lists with more than 700 words in categories such as relationships, occupations, holidays and place names — all with the equivalent English terms. Also included are contact lists for more than 130 national, regional, Catholic and Lutheran archives and societies — most in Europe.

The letter-writing guide tells how to get addresses, postal codes, pay for postage and format your letter, along with what documentation to send. Three form letters are provided in English and German.

The comprehensive book includes enough history and geography to explain how feudal life, the Protestant Reformation and wars affected the records that were made.

This interesting book pulls a wealth of information into a comprehensive sourcebook and points to other books and Internet sites for those who want further information. It is worth the \$18.99, especially if you need help using FamilySearch. I recommend *Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors* for any amateur genealogist who is serious about Germanic research. Because it's easy to return to a subject, I don't think it would be daunting to a beginner. More advanced genealogists will find it a good reference.

You probably won't find a legitimate family coat of arms or castle on the Rhein, but with this book in hand, you'll know how to research your Germanic heritage efficiently.

S. Chris Anderson and Ernest Thode, *A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors*. Cincinnati: Betterway Books, 2000, 191 pages, indexed, \$18.99.

— Anita C. Stuever

Member queries

If you can help, please respond directly to the writer and copy your reply to CCGS Research Committee, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068 or vpotts1548@aol.com.

Seeking death record of Evelyn WICKHAM MITCHELL who d. aft. 3 January 1966. Last resided at 410 S.W. Capital Ave., Battle Creek, Mich. Her mother Carrie TOOMEY d. 3 January 1966.

Beverly Kinnee
8139 Corunna Rd.
Flint, MI 48532-5505

■■■

Seeking death records of Catherine SAYLES WILBUR d. 6 January 1865 and her husband Henry WILBUR d. 6 April 1897. Michigan census shows Henry WILBUR a Calhoun Co. resident in 1845. The couple had six children: Dorlisca b. 4 June 1837, Clark b. 23 May 1839, Jerome b. 17 July 1841, Adaline b. 8 January 1846, Lewis b. 7 May 1848 and DeWitt b. 4 June 1900.

Judy Williams
6122 N. "G" St.
Spokane, WA 99205-7537

■■■

Seeking biographical information about Jennie Louise BALL (17 December 1885 to 27 October 1978), Marshall native born to Wesley and Louise SKINNER BALL. She was graduated from Marshall High School in 1903, attended Albion College and was a missionary in India before retiring to a missionary home in Asheville, N.C. Believed to have had at least one younger and one older brother. A faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington is researching Jennie for a book about the women who founded the Council for Exceptional Children.

Kimberly Kode Sutton, Ph.D.
409 Scotsdale Dr.
Jacksonville, NC 28546
ksutton@er.rr.com
suttonk@uncwil.edu
(910) 353-2678 ■

A Member's Pedigree Chart: *Are you related?*

ANCESTOR CHART

Name of Compiler Beverly Rowley
 Address 5224 W. Rosewood
 City, State Spokane, WA 99208-3759

1 Lena Rivers Ansley
 b. 23 Oct. 1865/66
 p.b. Marengo, Calhoun Co., MI
 m. 1 Jan 1884/5 Washington
 d. 10 Nov. 1925
 p.d. Blue Creek, WA

2 George Wallace Ansley
 (Father of No. 1)
 b. 15 Mar 1838
 p.b. Calhoun Co., MI
 m. 13 Oct 1863
 d. 1925
 p.d. Long Beach, CA

3 Electa Georgia Duncan
 (Mother of No. 1)
 b. 13 Nov 1843
 p.b. Seneca Falls, NY
 d. 5 Oct 1908 @ 65yrs
 p.d. Medical Lake, WA

4 John Ansley
 (Father of No. 2)
 b. 1807
 p.b. PA
 m. 1878
 d. 1878
 p.d. Calhoun Co., MI

5 Phyllis
 (Mother of No. 2)
 b. 16 July 1810/11
 p.b. PA
 d. 22 Oct 1901
 p.d. Medical Lake, WA

6 Nelson Duncan
 (Father of No. 3)
 b. 7 Jan 1811
 p.b. NY
 m. 1 Nov 1838
 d. 4 Aug 1848
 p.d. NY

7 Ann Sophia Ervin
 (Mother of No. 3)
 b. 17 Sept 1817
 p.b. OH
 d. 18 Jan 1901
 p.d. Pritchville, OH

8 John Ansley, Jr.
 (Father of No. 4)
 b. 18 Apr 1763
 p.b. Preston, Conn
 m. 1786 Wayne, PA
 d. 13 June 1818
 p.d. Paupak, PA

9 Sally Kimble
 (Mother of No. 4)
 b. [blank]
 p.b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]
 p.d. [blank]

10 [blank]
 (Father of No. 5)
 b. [blank]
 p.b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]
 p.d. [blank]

11 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 5)
 b. [blank]
 p.b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]
 p.d. [blank]

12 John Duncan
 (Father of No. 6)
 b. [blank]
 p.b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. 1 Mar 1843
 p.d. [blank]

13 Electa
 (Mother of No. 6)
 b. [blank]
 p.b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. 4 June 1848
 p.d. [blank]

14 Thomas S. Ervin
 (Father of No. 7)
 b. 1791
 p.b. New Jersey
 m. [blank]
 d. 5 Jan 1883
 p.d. Aurilius, Cayuga Co., NY

15 Mary
 (Mother of No. 7)
 b. 15 Sept. 1817
 p.b. Aurelius, NY
 d. 1 Sept. 1871 @ 77
 p.d. [blank]

16 John Ansley
 b. 1745
 m. 6 Nov 1763
 d. [blank]

17 Enloe (Neech) Budy
 (Mother of No. 8)
 b. [blank]
 d. [blank]

18 Levi Kimble
 (Father of No. 9)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

19 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 9)
 b. [blank]
 d. [blank]

20 [blank]
 (Father of No. 10)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

21 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 10)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

22 [blank]
 (Father of No. 11)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

23 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 11)
 b. [blank]
 d. [blank]

24 [blank]
 (Father of No. 12)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

25 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 12)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

26 [blank]
 (Father of No. 13)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

27 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 13)
 b. [blank]
 d. [blank]

28 Peter Ervin ?
 (Father of No. 14)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

29 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 14)
 b. [blank]
 d. [blank]

30 [blank]
 (Father of No. 15)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

31 [blank]
 (Mother of No. 15)
 b. [blank]
 m. [blank]
 d. [blank]

Enor Alfred Humphrey
 (Spouse of No. 7)
 b. 7 Mar 1851
 d. 29 Mar 1922
 p.b. Brighton, Ohio
 p.d. Blue Creek, WA

Form A-1 Copyright 1983 by The Everton Publishers, Inc. P.O. Box 388, Logan, Utah 84301. This is a member's pedigree chart. It is not to be used for a fee catalogue with any other information of any genealogical value.

Renew your CCGS membership

Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership in the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. Annual dues for the 2002–2003 year, beginning Sept. 1, are \$12. Please make check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society. Although membership dues are accepted year round, you are encouraged to join or renew now to avoid missing issues of the newsletter **Generations**. Please check the expiration date written on your mailing label. If the date is 9/01 or 9/02, you have not yet renewed your membership and this is your last issue.

Calhoun County Genealogical Society Membership Form

☐ New ☐ Renewal ☐ Change of address

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

E-mail Address _____

Surnames you are researching (to be listed in annual surname issue with your address, unless you request not to be included)

If you are willing to hold an office, work on a committee or volunteer for a project, please indicate areas of interest

☐ Membership card requested

☐ Membership card not necessary

☐ Check if you would like to receive the **Generations** newsletter by e-mail in Acrobat Reader pdf format *instead of* by postal mail. Be sure to include your e-mail address above.

*Feel free to attach a five-generation ancestor chart and/or a query to be published in **Generations**.*

Officers to be elected

With the new membership year comes time to elect officers. The members listed on the ballot at right have been nominated. For each office, one member will be elected to a one-year term beginning September. A member may hold the same office no more than two terms, and can serve no more than six years in all offices combined.

Candidates are still needed for vice president as well as several volunteer positions. Important functions of the society, such as membership promotion, publications, cemetery transcription and Pioneer Certificates, are carried out by volunteers or appointees.

If you will not attend the 24 September meeting, please complete the ballot and mail it to arrive before the meeting. Feel free to write in another candidate's name. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting. Mail to *Election Committee, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068*. ■

Ballot

*Check one choice for each office.
You may write in a name on the line.*

President

☐ Anita Stuever

☐ _____

Corresponding Secretary

☐ Judy Groat

☐ _____

Vice President

☐ _____

Treasurer

☐ Dave Ruble

☐ _____

Recording Secretary

☐ Marcie Telfer

☐ _____

Bring to the 24 September meeting or mail to:
Election Committee, Calhoun County Genealogical Society,
P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068

Calhoun County Genealogical Society **CALENDAR**

CCGS monthly meetings are typically held the fourth Tuesday of each month except July, August and December and are free and open to the public. Unless noted, meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St. in Marshall.

- 24 September **CCGS monthly meeting:** Annual business meeting plus the Calhoun County memorabilia of Dean France
- 6 October Guided tour of Riverside Cemetery, Albion, 1:30 p.m., contact albionfp@hotmail.com
- 19 October Eaton County Genealogical Society bus trip to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Ind., 7 a.m.–10 p.m., departs Charlotte, ECGS Bus Trip, P.O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813-0337
- 22 October **CCGS monthly meeting:** “Organizing your Genealogy Research” with Sandy Redmond
- 19 November **CCGS monthly meeting:** “What’s New at Willard Library” with George Livingston, local and family history librarian, Willard Library, Battle Creek, second floor meeting room, *note that November meeting is a week earlier than usual*

see page 87 for several Library of Michigan training sessions

Generations

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

**Inside:
Organizing your
genealogy work**