

Serving Calhoun County, Michigan, family history researchers
since 1988

President's Message

Well, it's time for our Societies summer vacation to end and our meetings and projects to begin again. Hope you all enjoyed your summer and now, my favorite season begins. Cool nights, warm sunny days, trees beginning to turn color already, and football!

October is Family History Month and once again we would like you to take advantage of the available show cases at Willard Library and Marshall District Library. We need members fill them with their genealogy items: Charts, books, heirlooms, any genealogy memorabilia. The libraries may even add some of their family history books to the display. If any of you would like to take over one of these showcases, please give me a call at 781-4568.

We have Willard Library, booked from Oct. 2-15th, 2005, and Marshall Library from October 2nd through the 30th. This is fun and I will be happy to help you do this. We love to promote our hobby of genealogy and this is a great way to spread the word about our Society.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you on September 27 for our Annual Meeting, and to hear a great program, by Shirley Hodges, "The Orphan Train Movement"

Judy Groat, President

September 27th meeting. Our speaker will be **Shirley Hodges. The Orphan Train movement**, centered in New York City, began in 1854 and continued until 1930. Orphans ... Foundlings ... Waifs ... Half-Orphans ... Street Arabs ... Street Urchins ... were all terms used to describe the children who rode the Orphan Trains. Thousands of children were transferred from the overcrowded orphanages and homes in the large cities in the northeastern United States, to live with families on farms throughout the middle West. The first Orphan Train arrived in Dowagiac, Michigan on October 1, 1854. By 1929, when the Children's Aid Society (CAS) sent its last true orphan train to Texas, roughly 250,000 city children had found foster homes through these programs.

TV Series Seeks Family History Stories

First Flight Productions, of Harrisonburg, Virginia, is producing the pilot and series episodes for a television show called "Across Generations" that chronicle unusual stories genealogists have uncovered in their research into their families' history. Its website has examples of what it calls stories with a real "wow factor" along with details and how to submit your family's story.

<http://www.firstflightproductions.com/>

<http://www.firstflightproductions.com/pilot.html>

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 31 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 35.

Naming the Children

By Dot Moritz in Florida

In reference to a recent Humor section of the RootsWeb Review about the long, unusual names given four children in the late 1800s, I suggest that the list reveals that the mother was a reader of all sorts of literature.

For example, Melanethon (almost certainly should be Melanchthon) was the name of a friend and co-worker of Martin Luther and a mover and shaker in his own right in early Reformation history. However Fenelon was a Catholic bishop or something, not a Protestant of any sort. Agripina is a feminine form of a name from the Bible, Agrippa, one of the Herods of New Testament infamy. And there was a fairly well-known (in his time) Bishop Selwyn for whom the youngest may have been named.

It appears that the parents (probably the mother, but who knows?) were well read and probably simply liked the sound of the names. It can't have been admiration for the people themselves, because their religions, histories and characters are so dissimilar. And with Shakespearean characters, poets, military leaders, etc. in the mix, it points to parents who were great readers.

It does make one wonder what the children were actually called in normal conversation -- Aggie, Melly, Fenny and Selly?

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Flash Solution By Suzanne Heinitz-Dodge, West Valley

City, Utah.

It was with complete empathy that I read Patricia NEIDIGH's story about her genealogy trip that she took without taking her genealogy papers. I did the same thing a few years ago when I took a long-awaited for trip to Massachusetts and Maine.

I have learned my lesson and would like to share my solution. I purchased a flash drive. It is small, about the size of a cigarette lighter. (http://www.usbflashdrive.org/usbfd_faqs.html) Every time I put more information into my genealogy program, I make a new GEDCOM and replace the one I made after the last entries. I carry this with me everywhere!

I use a GEDCOM rather than a backup file, because it can be read by any computer, where a backup file of your genealogy will only be good on your own computer [or require a certain genealogy application to read it]. And you can save yourself packing all of those paper documents.

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Surnames

If anyone else has information on these surnames or would like to know if there is a link with your surnames, please contact the people on this list.

editor's note: this is a new feature I will include in each publication.
Let me know :

1. who you are;
2. how you can be reached, i.e., mailing address or e-mail [or both];
3. what ancestor's surnames you are looking for.

What surnames I have by the end of every month I will try to put them into the next publication. Send your surnames to DaveWallace@sbcbglobal.net

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.

CCGS is incorporated under the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act. Individuals, libraries or societies may join. Annual dues for the year beginning 1 September are \$12.00. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after 1 May will pay membership for the following year. Members receive the newsletter **Generations** six times per year. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Gifford Schultz Educational Service Center --- CISD building, 17111 G Drive North, Marshall, *unless otherwise specified*.

No meetings are held in July, August or December. Programs are free and open to the public.

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All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** newsletter editor.

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 \$1.00 for the first page, \$.50 for each additional page.

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Member National Genealogical Society – Michigan Genealogical Council – Federation of Genealogical Societies

GERMAN-AMERICAN ROOTS: More than Shoo Fly Pie and Apple Pandowdy. Can't find your ancestors among the Pennsylvania Dutch? Perhaps they were part of the Germanna Colonies of Virginia. Germanna Colonies Family History.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~george/>

http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~george/who_is_a_germannan.html

Read and search John Blankenbaker's outstanding

"Germanna Notes" at:

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~george/johnsgermnotes/germnhis1.html>

Previously published
in RootsWeb Review: 10 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 32.

Eaton Co. Genealogical Society Bus Trip to Fort Wayne

Date: Saturday, 5 November 2005, from 7 a.m. to 10: p.m.

Place of Origin: 1885 Courthouse, 100 W. Lawrence Ave.,
Charlotte, MI Cost: \$27.00

The bus will leave the 1885 Courthouse promptly at 7:00 a.m. Lunch is on your own. We will leave Ft. Wayne about 6:00 and will stop enroute for dinner. (In the past it has been Cracker Barrel.) Doughnuts and coffee will be provided in the morning. There will be a pick up at the "park and ride" in Marshall also.

Reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Mail your check made out to Eaton County Genealogical Society to

ECGS Bus Trip,

P. O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813-0337.

Cancellation(s) will receive a full refund with replacement only.

Please include the following:

Name:

Phone:

Address:

E-mail address:

4 surnames you are researching:

What do you hope to accomplish on this trip:

Be sure and indicate which location you want to be picked up at, Charlotte or Marshall.

October 25th meeting.

George Livingston, Local & Family History Librarian at the Helen Warner Branch Library in Battle Creek will speak on **Genealogy 101**, an introduction to genealogical research, as well as a refresher course for more experienced genealogists. The meeting will be held at **Willard Library** in Battle Creek.

Courthouse Square Fundraiser Civil War Lecture Series

presented by Shirley Gage Hodges

- Michigan in the Civil War
- Women in the Civil War
- Families in the Civil War
- Generals of the Civil War

Where: 1885 Eaton County Courthouse
100 W. Lawrence Avenue, Charlotte, MI

When: Tuesdays in October 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15 for 4 sessions, \$5 for individual sessions
(Includes admission to the museum)

Call the museum office (517) 543-6999 for more information. **Call or mail** your check to
CSA, P. O. 411, Charlotte, MI 48813

AMREV-HESSIAN MAILING LIST WEBSITE ---

to help researchers of so-called Hessian (German mercenary soldiers) ancestors. After the American Revolution, an estimated 3,000 to 6,000 Hessian soldiers stayed behind in the new U.S.A., either properly discharged or deserting before departure of troops. Many of the Hessians who stayed in America settled around Lancaster and Reading, Pennsylvania, and Frederick, Maryland.

Others remained in Canada -- the majority of them Brunswickers.

<http://freepages.military.rootsweb.com/~bonsteinandgilpin/>

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Humor/Humour: Ah, Shucks!

Thanks to: Barbara Chisler in Vibbard, Missouri, USA

who writes that she found this wedding announcement in the Excelsior Springs (Missouri) Weekly Call newspaper, dated 11 November 1915: MR. COBB WEDS MISS CORN Miss Margaret Corn was married to Mr. Stanley Cobb recently at El Paso, Texas at the home of the bride's parents. The marriage license clerk at the courthouse refused to issue the license, thinking it was a joke. When he convinced the clerk that it was on the level, Cobb shelled out for the license.

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CASTLE GARDEN. The sesquicentennial of the opening of this immigrant depot in New York City was celebrated August 1 with the launching of a new website by CastleGarden.org. It includes a searchable database of 10 million names.

Led by Dr. Ira Glazier, former director of the Center for Migration Research at the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies and Immigration (now part of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania), CastleGarden.org promises to be a vital resource for genealogists, the general public, and for scholars interested in the history of immigration through the Port of New York.

Castle Garden: <http://www.castlegarden.org/>

Battery Conservancy: <http://www.thebattery.org/>

Historical Society of Pennsylvania: <http://www.hsp.org/default.aspx?id=2>

Researchers might also find helpful the Castle Garden ships passenger lists, 1855-1890, available at:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ote/ships/castle-garden.htm>

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 3 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 31.

Translating Names in Censuses By Sue Moran

While researching my CLIFTON line recently, I noticed two names in the index that were, to say the least unusual. Indeed, they were unusual enough to warrant investigation. The first was Pezckel CLIFTON, whom I encountered living in 1800 in Louisburg, Franklin County, North Carolina. Thinking this was a rather odd name, I used the magnifying feature to examine it and, sure enough, there was Ezekiel. In examining this enumerator's handwriting on other pages, I discovered that his capital E's look very much like P's. (I didn't take the time to locate an Elizabeth, but I shudder to think what form her name took through the person indexing that census).

The second name in an index was "Iafunt" -- child of Thomas and Nancy CLIFTON, living in Downingsville, Grant County, Kentucky in 1870. A quick look at the siblings' names in the census revealed nothing unusual. Why, then, would these seemingly sensible parents name their baby girl "Iafunt?" Wonderful things, these magnifiers -- it turned out that she had not yet been named, hence the misleading "Iafunt" [Infant].

In this same genre, a friend in Colorado spent many hours trying to find her great-grandfather Andy, but to no avail -- until she realized that the lower-case "u" in the name Audy was really an "n". It was common at one time to write "n's" with a sag in the middle instead of the two "humps" used today.

So the next time you're having trouble finding that elusive ancestor, check out the odd names. He just might be hiding behind one of them. Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 17 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 33.

WISCONSIN, MICHIGAN (Upper Peninsula). Court-house hours, rules, statistics on completion of vital records, directions to courthouses, hints on quick index scanning, indexes in various Wisconsin and Michigan counties, what to take to the courthouse and what to expect.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~jharr/court.html>

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 13 July 2005, Vol. 8, No. 28.

Staying Ahead of Technology By George Ferguson

I read the recent posting of the lady who periodically backs up her genealogy off-site -- and to floppy disks. While I appreciate the value of those practices, the best way to execute them remains a nagging concern of mine.

The last computer I bought had no way to deal with floppy disks -- (no floppy drive). As technology rapidly changes, I expect dealing with floppy drives could become a more serious problem down the road. I doubt if CDs or DVDs will be a final solution either. Storage on such media followed by some inactivity by the genealogist may leave nothing but some unusual drink coasters for our descendants.

I currently back up my files to a "flash drive," which plugs into a USB port. Additionally I back up to a portable external hard drive that plugs into my USB port. Both of these items have very short duty cycles and are not attached to the computer during its normal operation -- theoretically they should have longer life and be less subject to voltage spikes, power outages, etc. that aggravate our workaday computer systems.

That said, I don't believe these devices will be around forever, and so I periodically produce some written reports that I keep with my records (and those of our children). Our eyeball drives will likely be around longer than flash, zip, floppy, and hard drives. Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 3 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 31.

A Twist of Fate

From Mrs. Dale Caverly in Brampton, Ontario, Canada
My mother joked about her grandparents, Ernest Frederick William KNOTT and Mary Amelia Emma Maude BOW. She always thought it was cute that a BOW turned into a KNOTT.

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Editor's note: I read through a variety of genealogy magazines, some which I receive in the mail, some that come from other genealogy societies, and others that I have found on-line. When I find an article with humor that I appreciate (and I hope you do also) or some tip that I think might help our readers, I copy and reprint in **GENERATIONS**.

If you have something that you would like to share, I would really love to pass on what you have to say. Advice such as **Staying Ahead of Technology** (page 4) or an interesting oddity such as **In the Pink Research** (page 5 of this issue) would be of more interest to our readers if those articles came from our readers.

In particular, I probably see well over 100 listings every month for new or updated websites. I go through these lists looking for what catches MY eye, websites dealing with states or countries where my ancestors lived.

The websites for Republic (Oregon) Chapter SAR <http://www.rootsweb.com/~orrcsar/> or

CORNWALL FAMILY. "My Cornish Family." PAYNTER, QUICK, WALLIS, and RICHARDS
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~niloc/CornishFamily.htm> or

MINNESOTA. Hennepin County. 1918. Naturalizations for Olaf, Conrad, and Carl S. Olson (brothers); 3 records.
Patricia Briggs Hagen <http://userdb.rootsweb.com/naturalization/>

don't hold any excitement for me but maybe someone like yourself who is reading this **GENERATIONS** edition might be looking for something just like that. I can't promise that I will be able to find what you are interested in, or that I would even notice it if it was right in front of me, (just this morning, I was looking for some ointment to put on a burn. I couldn't find it so called to my wife asking her where she hid it. She found it. Less than 6 inches from my nose.) but if you are looking for new places to search for ancestors, let me know. If I see a reference to something that might interest you, I'll be happy to pass it along. And please, if you have a story you find worthy of telling, pass it on. Send your stories or requests to *Newsletter Editor*, **Dave Wallace**, DaveWallaceSr@sbcglobal.net

Humor: While attending my mother-in-law's graveside services at the cemetery in Banning, California, we noticed a tombstone for a medical doctor who was buried nearby. The inscription read, "Office Upstairs." Thanks to: D. Terry Huff of Woodcrest, California. Previously published in *RootsWeb Review*: 13 July 2005, Vol. 8, No. 28.

In the Pink Research By Patricia Hughey
While attempting to find an ancestor in the 1870 U.S. census named James Pinkney MULLINS (he used "Pink" as his nickname) I tried using the wildcard "Pin*" in Alabama where he was born. I didn't find him but after perusing over 600 names I had a good laugh at some of the unusual combinations:

The first one I noticed was a young lady of nine named "Pink Hand" in Macon County. She was followed later by "Pink Wood" in Autauga, "Pinkney Pinkney" and "Pink Horn" in Barbour and "Pink Bean" in Bullock. Mr. Bean was not to be outdone by "Pink Hawthorn" who hailed from Evergreen, Conecuh County. Greene County had "Pink Dew," "Pink White," "Pink Green," and lastly, "Pink Lavender." In Jefferson County lived a man called "Pink Snow."

And just when I thought it couldn't get any better, along came a little girl named "Pink Ice" from Madison County! So even though I didn't find my ancestor these names kept me pretty amused. Previously published in *RootsWeb Review*: 3 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 31.

Saving Our Genealogies By Jeanne Park

I would like to comment on suggestions for backing up files. I am 75 years old, and I remember the time when my grandparents had oil lamps to see by and an insulated box on the back porch which the iceman filled with big squares of ice.

I love all the things electricity provided for us today. My computer is a dear companion and my files are legion. They are all backed up on CDs regularly, and each child has a set of these CDs in her safety deposit box.

I do not mean to sound like doom and gloom, but if you had no electricity at all, those CDs would be of no value. I decided that there should be at least one paper copy of all my genealogy information -- and I have a large file. It is not easy. You can do outline descendant trees or registers for each main line. But then you have to do many separate files to pick up all the other lines that don't show on a direct line.

It took me a week or so to decide what and how and then to print. But now I have three of the very large loose-leaf notebooks that contain -- I would guess -- 80 per cent of the names and relationships in my files.

I am glad I did it -- and I hope no one ever needs to open those books. I hope no one ever has to use it because I hope we are never without electricity. But there is an even better reason for never wanting to use it -- it has no index!

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Do you know who I am?

This is the third of nine photographs from a collection given to the Calhoun County Genealogical Society by the Clinton County Historical Society. All photos were taken by either

- ◆ Reid & Sharpe Photographers of Battle Creek
- ◆ Mast Photographers of Marshall, or
- ◆ S. B. Smith Studio of Marshall.

If you can put a name to this photo, please let us know. The original can also be yours if you desire. CCGS will be putting these pictures onto our web-site. It would be great to have names and dates to go along.

Included with the nine photographs was a post card from Mrs. Bea to Miss Lucille Armstrong, Battle Creek. The card was postmarked Saginaw Feb 16, 1950. According to Mrs. Bea's message, she was returning to her home in East Tawas and had fun at Les & Velma's. Do these names have significance to anyone?

French or Huguenot Ancesters?

Any of you whose families go back to Colonial Virginia should look for their family in the Manakin Huguenot Society website <http://www.huguenot-manakin.org/>. These French Protestants, who didn't use the word "Huguenot", fled France to avoid religious persecution of the worst kinds and went to Protestant countries such as England, Holland, Ireland, and others. Many of them came to Virginia via land grants from the English king who needed to populate, and therefore lay claim to, Virginia and surrounding areas. There were a good many French families, but business was done in English, so the names got changed every which way, with some names getting a different spelling in every document! RENO is a perfect example, along with REVERE (REVOIRE), PEROT or PARROT (PERREAU) and many others. When you find help at an organization such as ours, you have three ways to say "thank you." You can join the organization; you can make a donation; and you can send your family records to become part of the library. At Manakin, we have wonderful documents that exist only there.

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COURT IN THE OLD DAYS Barber County (Kansas) Index, February 4, 1937 "Lawyers frequently find some remarkable court records. A. L. ORR, local attorney, recently found an entry in the record of the district court that is somewhat out of the ordinary. This ... divorce case was to be heard at the term of court soon after the terrible Elm Creek flood here in 1885. Here is the journal entry: "Whereupon E. SAMPLE, Esq. presented a motion asking a withdrawal of the petition in said action filed and the dismissal of the said action. On consideration the Court doth find that the said action was an action for divorce, that upon this day and prior to the assembling of this court a summons bourne by the swift and silent messenger of the Great Tribunal had been served upon this plaintiff that as the night died away she floated out upon the ocean of eternity up to the throne of judgment; That the prayers addressed to this court have been answered by another, that the Supreme Court has summarily disposed of all the issues in this action by granting the decree of divorce and taking said plaintiff and her minor child from the jurisdiction of this Court to one from which no error lies and whose rulings are wisdom. It is ordered therefore that said cause be dismissed and that no costs be taxed in this action."

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: 24 August 2005, Vol. 8, No. 34.

The **Calhoun County Genealogical Society** has received a transcription of a diary written by Susan Errington in 1880. Like most diaries, it is a "day in the life of" this young girl living in Muskegon, Michigan. While not exactly Calhoun County, it is none the less an interesting look at what life was like in our area at that time. **GENERATIONS** will print excerpts as space permits. We wish to thank Myra Herron for the time and effort she has given in transcribing this diary and for giving it to us. *Thank you, Myra.*

**THE YEAR 1880 FOR
SUSIE ERRINGTON
MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN**

**INFORMATION TAKEN FROM A DIARY GIVEN
TO SUSIE ERRINGTON, WITH THE INSCRIPTION**

***"SUSIE ERRINGTON, A CHRISTMAS GIFT,
1879, MUSKEGON"***

Perhaps by examining the family history of one of the trees in the forest of history, we can come to a better understanding of the forest.

Revealing Census Notes

In an 1870 U.S. census, I found this notation for an adult daughter living at home with her parents. Her occupation was listed as "no gumption." -- Thanks to: James Cobb

I found this note at the end of the New York 1825 census for Pamela, Jefferson County: "Oldest inhabitant in town is 105 years and no prospect of her dying." -- Thanks to: Carolyn Springer in Fresno, California, USA

Rebecca Crow's occupation was "living at ease" in J. R. Strong's household in the 1880 Rusk County, Texas census. He was her son-in-law. -- Thanks to: Katherine L. Short in Breckenridge, Texas, USA

Previously
published in RootsWeb Review: 7 September 2005, Vol. 8, No. 36.

Thursday, January 8, 1880

Grace R. back at school again. I was one minute tardy this afternoon, carelessness. Stayed to Society tonight, Nellie Collins elected Editor because Julie R. resigned. She resigned not expected. We have got to be examined tomorrow. I dread it.

Friday, January 9, 1880

Did not get up until after seven this morning. Mr. Aims visited the school today. We had writing this morning, examination Geography this afternoon. Johnie Smalley was married Tuesday to Miss Bloome they sent us some wedding cake. I didn't give or receive help on examination.

Saturday, January 10, 1880

Baked pies, cookies, Rolled fried cakes, did up the Saturday's work. Aunt Melissa and Cousin Nelia came in the afternoon. I mended in the evening. Had callers. Frank W's birthday. Had a letter from father.

Sunday, January 11, 1880

This has been a lonely Sun(day). It rained. M & I were about sick, didn't go to church. Have written to G, L & E and Belle Seamen. Now I am going to study my Sunday school lesson and then am going to bed.

Monday, January 12, 1880

Cousin Chancy went away this noon to be gone the rest of the week. M & I went to Mr. Engle's to their 6 hr. wedding this evening. Had a nice time, got acquainted.

Tuesday, January 13, 1880

Aunt Melissa lighted the fire this morning and went to washing. We got the white clothes all ready to hang out before breakfast. I've been almost sick all day and am going to bed.

Wednesday, January 14, 1880

Took my dinner to school to-day so that I could read "The Talisman" during noon. Went downtown this morning and bought a blank book for my dictations lesson, it cost ten cents. Made mistakes in lesson. Met George Howell on the street.

Thursday, January 15, 1880

My birthday. A beautiful day, a beautiful evening for my new year. It is very windy tonight, we can hear L(ake). Mich(igan) roar and tremble quite plainly from here. I only made two mistakes in my dictation exercise.

Friday, January 16, 1880

Warm but cloudy. Aunt Maria's birthday, she is 76. Mattie is almost sick with a cold. I hope it is nothing more. Mrs. Collier was here tonight. Mr. & Mrs. Engle called this evening. I missed on 'diminution' tonight.

Saturday, January 17, 1880

Mattie was sick with cold all day. We were going down to have one of her teeth drawn but Grace Reed came to call on me and it was to (sic) late. Mrs. & Miss Gustin called on Aunt M. M & I called on Mrs. J. Smalley.

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 Gifford Schultz Educational Service Center--Calhoun Intermediate School District building, 17111 G Drive North, Marshall.

- 27 September Shirley Hodges, "The Orphan Train Movement."
25 October George Livingston, Genealogy 101, held at Willard Library in Battle Creek
22 November Roger Groves from the Marshall GAR Hall.
December no meeting
22 January
26 February
-

Generations
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**Serving Calhoun County, Michigan,
family history researchers since
1988**



ALWAYS

ZIP

