

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

President's Message

In November our program will be on becoming a member of the Mayflower Society. That has prompted me to write to you about your taking your genealogical research one step beyond just recording your family history. Perhaps there is a society out there you are eligible to join. Most of them require proof of your lineage and that can be a challenge to find and acquire. You may need to become quite creative in finding these proofs. It brings out more of the detective in you. There of course is the Mayflower Society, which we will learn about. Also, you may find you eligible for the DAR, (Daughters of the American Revolution); the SAR, (Sons of the American Revolution); Jamestowne Society, A society whose members must demonstrate descent from one qualifying ancestor from the Jamestowne colony; Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Membership is open to female descendants, ten years of age or over, of honorably discharged Union soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, 1861 to 1865, ex-army nurses of that War, are also eligible to membership; Order of Descendants of Ancient Planters, The term "Ancient Planter" is applied to those persons who arrived in Virginia before 1616, remained for a period of three years, paid their passage and survived the massacre of 1622. They received the first patents of land in the new world as authorized by Sir Thomas Dale in 1618 for their personal adventure; Sons of Confederate Veterans, The SCV is the oldest hereditary organization for male descendants of U.S. Confederate soldiers. Membership is open to all male descendants of any veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces. Membership can be obtained through either direct or collateral family lines and kinship to a veteran must be documented genealogically. The minimum age for membership is 12; Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States,

Membership is open to (1) lineal and collateral female descendants of the commissioned officers of the Regular and Volunteer Forces of the United States during the Civil War. These are but a handful of the lineage societies out there. Learning and performing the steps to belong to one of these societies, just sparks your interest in keeping genealogy alive and preserves your history. It can be rewarding and fun.

October is Family History Month. We again will be able to have a member put together a display for local libraries. Use your imagination, come up with a plan, something you would like to share during October. If you would like to participate in Family History Month, please give me a call at 781-4568.

See you at our September meeting where we will have our election of officers and have a program put on by Peggy Brumbaugh on Deciphering Old Handwriting.

Judy Groat, President

September 26 meeting :

Deciphering Old Handwriting. Peggy Brumbaugh's interest in genealogy began in 1972 when her grandmother's cousin published a book of his family history. She began serious genealogy research in the 1980s, which has taken her on many wonderful adventures to old family homesteads, spooky cemeteries and archives full of old dusty books. The spark to learn how to decipher came from her grandmother's cousin's book which contained photocopies of old records which she could not read. While still a teen-ager, she went to a library and found a book on deciphering. Once she was able to read the old documents, she was hooked, not only on genealogy but on deciphering. It has been her passion since and she is eager to share her secrets and insights.

October 24 meeting:**So your Female Ancestor**

Has No Surname? Presentation by Karen Krugman. Researching female lines doesn't have to be difficult. This talk contains 12 different places you can search to find your female ancestors surname. Karen has been doing genealogy since 1988, 7 of those professionally. She is the author of 4 books on family history. She currently resides in Birmingham with her husband Mark and their dog Spike.

November 28 meeting:**Candice Whitney**

will speak on becoming a member of the **Mayflower Society**. Candice will tell us about her search for records, including formal birth, marriage and death certificates, which helped her document her family tree to one of 26 Mayflower Pilgrims. She is a 14th-generation descendant of Englishman John Tilley and his wife, Joan Hurst who, with 100 others, sailed to America on the Mayflower in 1620.

A little aside; last **GENERATIONS** I reviewed the book **Mayflower** by Nathaniel Philbrick. Page 70 of the book has a mention of John Tilley and his brother Edward being part of a small contingent from the Mayflower that took part in one of the explorations on New England soil for the initial settlement site of the Pilgrims. Page 89 speaks of 13-year-old orphan Elizabeth Tilley and the death of her aunt and uncle, Edward and Ann.

February 27 meeting:**Mitch Lutzke**, will

speak on his book, **The Life and Times of Kimber M. Snyder: A Soldier in the 78th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry**. This book traces the Snyder family from colonial Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania all the way to Albion, Michigan at the time of the Great Depression. What began as a quest to discover the details surrounding a court martial trial of an ancestor in the Civil War becomes a journey which takes the family through several counties in Pennsylvania all the way to Arkansas, back and forth through the Ohio Valley, and the Civil War. Original documents are used to dissect a controversial court martial for mutiny during the Civil War and later a federal pension officer investigation of a paternity case in order to qualify one of Kimber's sisters-in-law's for a veteran's widow pension. Mitch put in ten years doing the actual research on the book and has documented his work with over 100 sources and roughly 1,800 footnotes. Anyone interested in the Civil War or life in rural America will find his presentation very informative.

Mitch was born and raised in Albion, Michigan, graduated from Michigan State University in 1984 (BA degree, Telecommunications) and from Western Illinois University (1990, a second BA and a teaching degree in History). If anyone would like to purchase his book before his presentation, let me know and I'll put you in contact with Mitch.

The Daily Chronicle (Marshall) June 1, 1906

PERSONAL

Miss Jennie Bentley left today on a visit to Detroit.

Henry Graff left this morning on a twelve days sojourn in Detroit.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Slater and daughter are visiting in Battle Creek.

General Freight and Passenger Agent J. E. Bucknell of the J. & H. C. T. Co. was in town today.

Harold Furner was in Ypsilanti today.

Geo. Hard went to Detroit this morning.

Mrs. E. A. Blaurock of Rushfield, N. Y. is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Furner.

Mrs. Ella Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Henderson and little son of Indianapolis, Ind., are visiting their mother, Mrs. Barbara Taylor.

Mrs. Frank H. Mitchell and son Francis are spending the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paschel Hughes of north Marshall.

Mrs. O. W. Casper and children and Miss Ruth Brewer left today on a visit to Springfield, O.

Mrs. Bert Belcher returned to Niles today after a visit at Chas. Belcher's.

Miss Marjorie Mitchell went to Ann Arbor this morning.

Mrs. Adam Clarke and daughter attended the W. C. T. U. county convention at Battle Creek today.

Miss Florence Allen visited Mrs. F. E. Mason in Union City this week.

A. P. Grohens left this morning on a business trip to Los Angeles, Cal., in the interest of the Lambert Food & Machinery Co.

A. L. Ward returned home from a business trip this morning.

Miss Ethel Wright returned from Detroit this morning.

Mrs. Mary Beeley Lombard of Kalamazoo, who has been the guest of her father, returned home today.

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|---------------|-----------------|-----|----------------|---------------------|
| MASTERS | William | 4 | July 23, 1860 | Marshall |
| McKENSEY | James | 37 | Aug 30, 1868 | Albion |
| McNAUGHT | Frank | 41 | June 8, 1870 | Marshall City |
| MEAD | Henry R. | 29 | May 29, 1868 | Battle Creek |
| MORSE | Planter (Col'd) | | July 31, 1853 | Marshall |
| MOSIER | Olive | 71 | Sept 22, 1861 | Clarence |
| NICHOLS | Nancy | 54 | June 26, 1866 | Marshall City |
| NICHOLS | George | 22 | Aug 27, 1870 | Convis |
| NIGGINS | Lawrence | 91 | Jan 25, 1853 | Tekonsha |
| NOT KNOWN | Hannah | 39 | Oct 30, 1859 | Pennfield |
| OWEN | James | 75 | Aug 31, 1862 | Marshall City |
| PAQUA | Charles W | 3mo | Sept 11, 1867 | Battle Creek City |
| POINTER | Louisa Jane | 23 | May 6, 1866 | Clarence |
| PROBASCO | Peter | 69 | Oct 26, 1865 | Eckford |
| RYMAY | Jacob | 63 | Dec 5, 1867 | Marshall City |
| SHANER/SHAVER | Catherine | 40 | Sept 19, 1860 | Emmett |
| SIMPSON | John | 82 | July 16, 1860 | Battle Creek |
| SQUIRES | Norman | 39 | May 13, 1861 | Convis |
| STANHART | William | 57 | June 10, 1853 | Clarendon |
| STANLEY | Lucy Ann | 17 | Aug 8, 1853 | Battle Creek |
| STANNARD | Albert | 58 | Mar 21, 1866 | Newton |
| STANNARD | Mrs. | 67 | Aug 12, 1867 | Marshall City |
| TEN EYCKE | John | 24 | Feb 21, 1854 | Marshall |
| TOWNSEND | John | 60 | Sept 29, 1861 | Battle Creek City |
| TURREL | Jerusha | 69 | Sept 27, 1862 | Marshall City |
| TYES | James | 45 | June 10, 1852 | Transient |
| VAN SLYKE | James (Col'd) | 30 | May 21, 1866 | Battle Creek City |
| VROMAN | Carrie | 15 | April 6, 1870 | Clarence |
| WALKER | Lucinda J. | 4 | Aug 13, 1870 | Clarendon |
| WALZ | Anna Barbara | 18 | Dec 2, 1854 | Marshall, Transient |
| WARRING | John | 42 | Jan. 5, 1864 | Marshall |
| WEST | Nancy Jane | 50 | April 12, 1870 | Marshall City |
| WHALAN | Maurice | 63 | May 25, 1865 | LeRoy |
| WILSON | Lucina | 60 | Jan 21, 1859 | Burlington |
| WYKOFF | Mary | 58 | April 18, 1863 | Marshall City |

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There are several histories mentioned in the article below. The first article by Rev. Cahalan can be found in *American History Review*, Vol. 23 #2, Jan 1918 pp. 446-485. Does anyone know where the other histories are? Let the editor know and I will let our members know. They might contain some useful genealogical information for someone.

NOTES AND COMMENT

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1778. Hutchins became the first geographer of the United States Government. McDurey's map of 1784 shows what is supposed to be Thomas Jefferson's plan of subdivision of the old Northwest Territory.

The twelfth midwinter meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society was held at Battle Creek, January 25 and 26, jointly with the Battle Creek Historical Society. The sessions were a gratifying success, due in large measure to the fine co-operation of the Battle Creek society. Most of the papers read at the meeting were furnished by members of that society and residents of Calhoun County, as follows:

Rev. James Cahalan, Rector St. Mary's Parish (Marshall), *History of St. Mary's Parish, Marshall, Michigan*; Mr. Charles E. Thomas (Battle Creek), *The Early Industries of Battle Creek*; Mrs. A. P. Redfield (Marshall), *Landmarks of Marshall*; Mrs. Mary Brookway Dickie (Albion), *Reminiscences of William Hudley Brookway*; Mrs. M. E. Henry (Albion), *What Women have Done for Calhoun County*; Mr. W. C. Osborn, Supt. of Schools (Battle Creek), *The Early History of the Public Schools of the City of Battle Creek*; Professor Delos Fall (Albion), *History of Albion College*; Mrs. W. H. Cortright (Hammer), *Early Families of Hammer*; Mr. Forest G. Sweet, *The Story of Battle Creek's First Bank*. Mr. J. H. Brown gave an illustrated talk on *Old Time Scenes In and Around Battle Creek*.

Several papers and addresses were given by persons from outside the county. President Carten spoke briefly in response to the hearty welcome extended by the Mayor of Battle Creek, who presided. Mr. Carten called attention to the splendid part played by Calhoun County in Michigan's history, and the auspicious occasion of Michigan's 80th Birthday for a new start in the work of preserving the records of that history, and expressed the hope that a Calhoun County Historical Society might soon be formed as a result of the meeting.

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"**

Wednesday, May 26, 1880 Wednesday and only the second day of school. I am afraid I shall never be a successful teacher. I haven't the knack (sic) of teaching. I have been for a ramble in the woods with May tonight and I called on Mrs. Hile.

Thursday, May 27, 1880 Only two more days of school this term, I am glad and yet how sorry I am. I shall miss my scholars and May so much. I have been fishing but one fish. Had a nice boat ride in a leaky boat.

Friday, May 28, 1880 School was very nice this morning but this afternoon my boys called other names and Charlie and Leslie with the rest. I went to Lake with May and had a delightful ride on it in a row boat, it rocked so nice.

Saturday, May 29, 1880 I staid (sic) with May last night, had a nice time. Wrote letter for Mrs. Kraar. School is out and I do feel as if I might cry. May came to school and is going to stay all night with me. Burtis has spent the evening, he and we have had a gay time.

Sunday, May 30, 1880 I wrote Georgia this morning, read my S. S. lesson and I felt homesick. After dinner, prepared for S. S. Rode with the Hendricks. Enjoyed the services much.

Said Good Bye with a lump in my throat. Enjoyed the walk home immensely. **Monday, May 31, 1880** I began to look for Mr. B at seven, to come and take me to town and it rained so that he didn't come till after noon. I arrived in time to see the procession but did not feel able to go to the cemetery. **Tuesday, June 1, 1880** Cousin Addie & Carence (sic) all gone and it is so lonely without them. We washed this morning and then I helped them get ready. After they were gone I did up the work and then went down town to have my order cashed. **Wednesday, June 2, 1880** A dreary lonesome day. I was going to do all the ironing and haven't done a bit of it, am going at it now though. Mrs. Smalley spent the day here and I was so glad for I think she enjoys it. **Nothing written until: Sunday, June 20, 1880** It is "Children's Day" today and M and I are going to church P. M. Had a pleasant time at the church. Have been to Mr. Collier's this afternoon and have enjoyed it much but am so tired. **Monday, June 21, 1880** It has been a beautiful day though very warm. Washed today, didn't get through until 2:30 P. M. M & I have been to town. It is after dinner and I must go to bed. I wish I could see May. **Tuesday, June 22, 1880** It has been a busy, tired day. Cousin Addie is coming tomorrow and I am so glad. I want to see her so much. I have finished reading Edith Seyle and I am glad for I don't like it. I don't think it does me any good. **Wednesday, June 23, 1880** I worked hard all the morning, had strawberry shortcake for dinner. Cousin A & C came just as we finished and weren't we glad? Only three days more and then we hope to be at home. **Thursday, June 24, 1880** Chancy G. & I went to the mill, for the dock, and then for a boat ride. The mill was splendid and I would have liked to have stayed longer. "Commencement" was very nice. Jeanie looked lovely. **Friday, June 25, 1880** Tomorrow will be Saturday. It is the last day of Mattie's school. I am so glad for she is just tired out. We have just finished packing and have had a merry time with the boys while Cousins A & C were at the reception tomorrow. **Saturday, June 26, 1880** We started this morning. Saying Good Bye to Cousin Chancey's people was like leaving home. Had an awful time getting home. Had to wait 2 hours in Gd. (Grand) Rapids and five in Kal(amazoo) and this just incensed father at B. C. (Battle Creek). **Sunday, June 27, 1880** Home again, home again, isn't it nice, it isn't changed much, though the girls are grown so much, I hardly knew Lottie (Charlotte, her sister) and Crouch. I do hope I am thankful but I'm afraid I'm not. It is Mart's birthday but we didn't go there to dinner fore we didn't go home in time. **Monday, June 28, 1880** Monday, washing day. M & I are tired and so is Miss Gustin. Frank went for our trunks this morning. It is so nice to be at home. Mabel and Agge and Mattie were here tonight. **Tuesday, June 29, 1880** We ironed this morning and in the P. M. rested. Then I walked over to Mr. Robinson's. M. & Miss Gustin went a little way. I had a nice time. I wish I were as good as Georgia. **Wednesday, June 30, 1880** Staid (sic) over night with Georgia and in the morn she brought me home. H, K & I went to Cousin M's yesterday to pick cherries. We picked 1 bu, 2 pks (1 bushel, 2 pecks). Mother canned 11 qts. Miss Gustin is gone. **Nothing written until: Monday, July 5, 1880** What does make me say so many wicked things? I am afraid I never shall be a Christian again but the darkest cloud may have a silver lining and may be nice, may have... Trust & Pray. **Tuesday, July 6, 1880** I have felt better today and happier. I've ironed this morning. I have read some from Self Help and studied Arithmetic some. Mean to read and study some each day. **Wednesday, July 7, 1880** I sewed all the A. M. on my lawn dress. P. M. did house work, made my toilet and prepared supper for 13 persons. After supper I sewed. Mattie fitted my dress. Mother and Hattie went to Mrs. Anderson's funeral. **Thursday, July 8, 1880** Friday, 9. Sick all day. H & M went to the party and had a pleasant time, liked Miss Bock much. Miss Sterling was here a little while. I ate breakfast at 4:30 P. M. Anna A & M. Sterling are sick too. Misery loves company. **Friday, July 9, 1880** Nothing written, see above Thursday, July 8. **Saturday, July 10, 1880** Hattie has gone for Cousin E & Bessie. Look for them every minute. I am trying to learn to move more quickly, but I forget so often that I don't make much head work. This in an awful pen.