

## *President's Note: The "State" of the Society*

*by Jim Jackson, President*

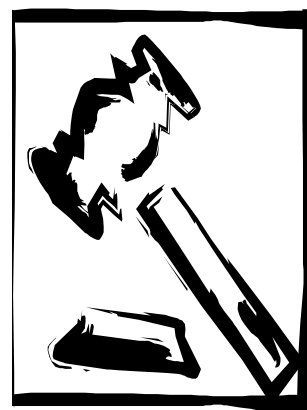
The "State" of the Society is very well thank you. With our recent volunteers stepping forward it has eased the multiple duties of your board members, but this could still be improved upon. We still need someone to fill the Vice-President slot among others. While I enjoy scheduling speakers, it takes time that could be used elsewhere, which both affects myself and other board members who assist in this process. I'm sure everyone feels that others could do a better job than themselves, but the OTHERS have not yet stepped forward. Now is the time for you to come to the aid of your Society, and I'm sure you will appreciate doing so. There are other positions currently available so if you would be interested in joining our board in any capacity please contact me by my contact information on page 2, or just talk to me at a meeting. Our board meets the third Thursday of each regular meeting month.

Our bylaws committee and board have been busy proposing amends to this important document of how we do business. For those of you that have been involved with this work in other societies, you know that this is not a simple task. Change one paragraph and it may make another section redundant. Re-word one sentence and it becomes open to multiple interpretations. Now I know why there are so many arguments over our U.S. Constitution, each viewpoint made to verify the agenda of opposing sides. I would like to thank the entire board for working and re-working this process. Please see the proposed amendments on pages 4-6. This constitutes the notice the bylaws require before members can vote. Members will be asked to vote to accept or reject each proposed amendment at the June 26 society meeting.

Another hat I wear is Commander of Colgrove-Woodruff Camp #22, Sons of Union Veterans in Marshall. Our camp hopes to participate in the Memorial Day parade in Marshall, starting at the fountain and marching through town to Oakridge Cemetery. At the military section (where the cannonballs are stacked), there will be a few brief words and the SUV have prepared a brochure to hand out to the public with a short bio of all the soldiers buried in that section. While there are hundreds of Civil War soldiers buried in this cemetery, there are only a few who were buried in this military section. I invite you and your families to join us in observing this Memorial Day tradition.

For our members to the south, the Sons of Union Veterans are also participating in a Civil War headstone dedication in Oak Grove Cemetery in Coldwater on Memorial Day, following their parade. Captain Jonas H. McGowan, from the Ninth Cavalry gave the first Decoration Day address at the cemetery where he is now buried. His grave was unmarked until recently, and this headstone dedication is open to the public, including families and children. The details are still in the works, so please contact the local Chamber of Commerce offices for more details. We are hoping to have some reenactors to fire a volley at this dedication.

Whatever your plans for this holiday, Memorial Day should be more than just the kick-off of the summer season. Remember your ancestors who fought in all wars and their families who sacrificed during those periods of our world's history.



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## 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 a nonprofit organization recognized as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Individuals, libraries or societies may join. Annual dues for the year, beginning September 1, are \$18 for members choosing to receive **Generations** through postal mail or \$15 for members electing to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after May 1 will pay for the following year's membership. Members receive **Generations** newsletter six times per year. All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** editor. Permission is granted to reprint articles unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the source. Copies of pages from back issues of **Generations** are available for \$1.00 for the first page and \$.50 for each additional page. General meetings are held at 7 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.

### President

**James N. Jackson**

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**Open**

### Recording Secretary

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### Making Connections Committee Chair

**Open**

### Promotion of Genealogy Committee Chair

**Open**

### Seeking Leadership Committee Chair and Webmaster

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## Calhoun County Genealogical Society

PO Box 879, Marshall MI 49068-0879 • MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com • <http://www.rootsweb.com/~micalhou/ccgs.htm>

**Become a CCGS fan on Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/CalhounCountyGenealogicalSociety>

**CCGS e-mail list:** Send a message to calhouncountygss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Organizational Member of **National Genealogical Society • Michigan Genealogical Council • Federation of Genealogical Societies**

## *Newsletter Focus: Bylaws*

Anita Stuever, and Jim Jackson along with all the board have been working hard to update the bylaws. This has been a long and involved process as they are read and reread to make sure the meaning is correct as changes are made. They are included in this newsletter along with all proposed changes. If you have any feedback on these changes please contact Jim or any board member. The changes will be discussed and put to a vote at the June 26 meeting.■

### *Upcoming Events:*

#### June 26

On June 26, Mary Butler of Heritage Battle Creek will present Identifying Old Photos. You'll learn clues to dating photos based on evidence such as clothing, hair styles and props. Mary is an archivist who plans programs for Heritage Battle Creek and manages the Kimball House Museum in Battle Creek.■



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### Newsletter Ideas Needed!

If you have any ideas for upcoming newsletter please let me or any board member know. You can contact me at the meetings or at [Janice.goodson@omega-link.com](mailto:Janice.goodson@omega-link.com). Please help me come with some interesting ideas and articles.—Jan Goodson■

## 1940 Census

The 1940 Census is now available. However, it is not all indexed yet. If you would like to help index, you can go to the Family Search web site and sign up to index as an individual or as part of a group. The Michigan Genealogical Society is a group and we are members so you can join that group.■

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### New Meeting Location: Effective September

The June Meeting will be our last at the CISD building. Remember we do not meet in July or August. Our September 25th meeting will be at our new location at The LDS Church, 16036 Old US—27, Marshall MI.■

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### Morrison Query

Marian Morrison Nimbach sent us a note. She is researching the Morrison side of her family and not having much luck after the 3rd generation. She is planning a visit to Battle Creek sometime this summer to do some research at Willard Library. She would like to correspond with anyone who has an interest in these family members. Her contact information is [Nimbach4166@comcast.net](mailto:Nimbach4166@comcast.net) or 248-390-5519■

**Bylaws of the**  
**Calhoun County Genealogical Society**  
**Calhoun County, Michigan**

**Article I — Name**

The name of the Society shall be the Calhoun County Genealogical Society (CCGS).

**Article II — Purpose**

The Society shall be a non-profit organization. The purpose of this Society shall be:

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

**Article III — Membership**

There shall be two classes of membership: regular members and honorary life members.

The regular membership of the Society shall consist of any person or organization interested in genealogy or family history who has paid current annual dues.

Honorary life membership may be conferred, by vote of the Board of Directors, on any individual who has performed exemplary service to the Society. A maximum of two honorary life members may be selected per year, and they shall remain members for life, with no obligation to pay dues. Honorary life members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of regular members.

Honorary membership may be conferred on any individual by vote of the Executive Board. Honorary members shall have the same rights and privileges as regular members.

The membership year shall be September 1 through August 31.

**Article IV — Dues**

The annual dues shall be set by the Executive Board of Directors and due September 30.

Dues of new members received after May 30 will be considered a paid membership for the following year.

Any member delinquent after November 30 shall be dropped from the membership roll.

Special membership offers may be made at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Only paid members shall be eligible to vote or to hold office.

**Article V — Officers**

The officers of the Society shall be the President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

Those officers make up the Executive Board, which may make recommendations to the Board of Directors on issues that arise between Board of Directors meetings. Such recommendations are not official unless the Board of Directors votes to make them official.

Officers, the chairpersons of standing committees, representatives to the Michigan Genealogical Council, the representative to the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and the immediate Past President shall constitute the Executive Board of Directors. One-third of the number of individuals serving on the Executive Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of Executive Board of Directors business.



Officers and representatives to the Michigan Genealogical Council and Federation of Genealogical Societies shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected and are expected to attend the majority of meetings October through September. Officers may serve no more than four consecutive terms in the same office and no more than six consecutive years as an elected officer.

Candidates for all offices shall be nominated by the Seeking Leadership Nominating Committee. Nominees will be listed on a printed ballot distributed to all members at a monthly Society meeting. Nominations from the floor and write-in candidates shall be permitted, with the consent of the candidate. Officers shall be elected by secret ballot, with the individual receiving a plurality, the highest number of votes declared, elected. In the case of offices with three or more candidates, the Society may choose, by vote of the membership, to vote a second time, dropping the lowest vote-getter(s) from the second ballot. The installation of new officers shall take place at the fall Annual Meeting.

Should the office of the President become vacant, the Vice President shall become President for the balance of the term. Other vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the President with the approval of a majority of the Executive Board of Directors.

The Society agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the Board of Directors members from any and all liabilities that may be incurred as a result of carrying out their duties and obligations to the Society, except for willful and malicious injuries to persons or property.

## **Article VI — Duties of the Officers**

The President shall preside over all meetings, appoint standing committee chairs and, when required, shall appoint special committee chairs. All chairpersons shall be appointed with the approval of the Executive Board of Directors. The President shall appoint, and the Board of Directors shall approve, two members to represent the Society to the Michigan Genealogical Council and one to represent the Society to the Federation of Genealogical Societies. The President shall be empowered to disburse funds in the absence of the Treasurer. The President shall be an ex officio member of all committees without the right to vote. The President shall represent the Society at Michigan Genealogical Council meetings and seminars.

The Vice President shall preside over meetings in the absence of the President and shall chair the Programs and Publicity Committee. The Vice President shall perform other duties as assigned by the President.

The Recording Secretary shall keep records of all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Board of Directors and the Executive Board.

The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence with members, other groups and individuals. The Corresponding Secretary shall maintain a current list of genealogists who are willing to do research for others.

The Treasurer shall develop an annual budget, collect all dues and monies, attend to all disbursements and have charge of all funds of the Society. The Treasurer shall have the authority to disburse funds of the Society.

The Executive Board of Directors or a subcommittee thereof shall audit the financial books of the Society. The financial books of the Society shall be presented to the audit committee in August and the results presented at the fall Annual Meeting. The financial books of the Society will undergo an external audit each time a new treasurer takes office.

All Executive Board of Directors members shall attend the majority of meetings of the Society called by the President.

All Board of Directors members shall provide progress reports of their office or committee work at each board meeting, plus a printed annual report for the Annual Meeting.

All officers shall deliver to their successors at the fall meeting Annual Meeting all monies, accounts, records, books, papers or other property belonging to the Society.

## **Article VII — Committees**

The Standing Committees of the Society shall be: Programs and Publicity, Membership Promotion, Records Preservation, Publication, Cemetery Transcriptions, Newsletter, Making Connections, Research, and Pioneer Certificates, Website. The Special Committees of the Society shall be: Hospitality and Seeking Leadership Nominating. Additional sSpecial committees shall be appointed as necessary.

NOTE: The proposed amendment is to list the above-named committees in alphabetical order: Cemetery Transcriptions, Hospitality, Membership Promotion, Newsletter, Nominating, Pioneer Certificates, Programs and Publicity, Publication, Records Preservation, Research and Website.

Standing Committee Chairpersons and Special Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed in September and shall assume their responsibilities in October.

The Program Committee shall plan programs for each meeting beginning in September following their appointment. The Program Chair shall be responsible for presenting the programs planned by his or her committee.

### **Article VIII — Meetings**

The meetings of this Society shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month unless the Executive Board of Directors votes to make an exception. Meetings shall be held monthly except July, August and December.

The Annual Meeting shall be held in the fall as programs dictate each September. Meetings may be held around the county.

Special meetings may be called by the President.

### **Article IX — Board of Directors Meetings**

Each officer, standing committee chair, Michigan Genealogical Council representative and Federation of Genealogical Societies representative shall have the right to make motions, contribute to discussion and vote at Board of Directors meetings. No individual shall have more than one vote, regardless of the number of officer and committee positions the individual holds.

### **Article IX — Gifts**

Any item given to the Society shall become the property of the Society and shall be used as the Executive Board of Directors deems to be in the best interests of the Society unless alternate arrangements are made prior to the receipt of the gift.

### **Article XI — Publications**

All publications compiled or written under the auspices of the Society shall become the property of the Society. All proceeds from the sale of such publications shall accrue to the Society.

### **Article XII — Michigan Genealogical Council State and National Organizations**

The Society shall maintain a memberships in the Michigan Genealogical Council and the Federation of Genealogical Societies. The society will provide representatives as permitted by the organizations.

The President and another delegate shall represent the Society at Council meetings and seminars. The Executive Board shall name two alternates who will represent the Society in the event the delegates are unable to attend.

Expenses for representing the Society shall be reimbursed as deemed appropriate by the Executive Board of Directors.

### **Article XIII — Amendments**

Amendments to the bylaws shall be considered at the Annual Meeting or at a special meeting called by the President for that purpose and shall take effect upon the assent of two thirds of the members present and voting.

Notice of amendments to be acted upon shall be mailed to the members no later than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting or the special meeting called for that purpose.

### **Article XIII XIV — Rules of Order**

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

### **Article XIV — Dissolution**

In the event that the Society should decide by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership to disband, such items as are in its possession or custody shall be directed to suitable public repositories by the Executive Board of Directors.



Last amended 23 October 2007

## *Member Profile: Janice Goodson*

I was born and raised in Battle Creek. History was always a favorite subject of mine in school; however I didn't do anything with it after college. I got a job at Kelloggs, got married etc and just got busy with life. My parents decided to retire to Seattle ( my sister had moved there and they liked the area). I helped my mom pack up all the family photos so I had an idea what she had. They moved in 1992, and then my dad passed away in 1995.

I became interested in Scrapbooking when my oldest goddaughter was born 10 years ago. I started wanting some older family photos for my scrapbooking projects. This started my interest in family history. When I went for a visit to my mom I wanted to get some copies of some family pictures. I spent one whole day of my vacation going through and sorting all her pictures. I sorted out some and scanned those so I had copies. I was able to ask questions about a lot of the pictures. I made my mother an album documenting her life to date.

When on a later visit to my mom (she was living with my sister at the time and I was mom sitting) I answered the phone and the person asked for my mom by her maiden name. I recognized the name and gave the phone to my mom; it was her cousin that she had not spoken to in over 20 yrs. She was seeking information on our line of the family and they were planning a family reunion in Flint. I was able to get together some dates and family information for her and was able to attend the reunion. A lot of the family tree for my mom's mother's side of the family had been done and I was given a copy of that. However, this led me to want more information on my dad's side of the family.

I became interested in genealogy. I did not know where to get started. I signed up for a month's free trial on ancestry.com and was able to locate some information. I did not know enough to really know how to look for what I needed. I found out some information by hit and miss searching. My mother passed away two years ago and I inherited all of her family pictures. I also inherited some family papers, including birth, death and marriage certificates of my parents and grandparents. This additional information helped me have a place to start. I went to the "Lock-in" meeting of the Genealogy Society at Willard Library two years ago and I joined the CCGS at that time. This gave me some good basics to start searching.

I have since attended meetings and learned about a lot of websites and other tips that have helped me locate additional information. I am still a novice and have a lot to learn but I am enjoying the journey and the challenges of researching family history. I decided this year to take on the challenge of newsletter editor. I am looking forward to this challenge.■

## What's New at Willard Library?

Willard Library Newspaper Search - 1846-1926 The new full-text searchable, digital collection of Battle Creek Newspapers.

Coming soon 1927-2002!

New university-quality microfilm reader/printer/scanners that revolutionize your microfilm searching.

Battle Creek Yearbooks On-Line—Collection includes digitized yearbooks for the five public high schools in Battle Creek and will not include the last 10 years.

Battle Creek Central High School 1894-2000

Harper Creek High School 1962-2000

Lakeview High School 1925-2000

Pennfield High School 1979-2000

## **Generations**

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Calhoun County Genealogical Society  
PO Box 879  
Marshall, MI 49068-0879

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### **Calhoun County Genealogical Society** *Calendar of Events*

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.

June 26 Identifying Old Photos by Mary Butler of Heritage Battle Creek. Mary will give clues to identifying dates of old photos based on evidence such as clothing, hair styles and props.

NOTE: We will be moving to new location for the September Meeting. New location is LDS Church at 16036 Old US-27, Marshall MI.

September 25 Family Search by Glenda Peckham

Have ideas for future programs? Please contact President Jim Jackson, whose contact information is on page 2.