

President's Message

by *Brenda Leyndyke*

President's Letter

The Michigan genealogy world has been buzzing lately about the two new collections that became available at the Seeking Michigan website. The long awaited Michigan Death Certificates, 1921-1939 images are accessible now. I spent the morning looking for dead people in this collection. The easiest way to get to this collection is to go to www.seekingmichigan.org, click on Advanced Search in the top right corner, check box next to collection name "Death Certificates, 1921-1939", enter your search terms and have fun searching. Each January a new year will be added to the collection up to 1952. The index for 1921-1952 is being added as it becomes available.

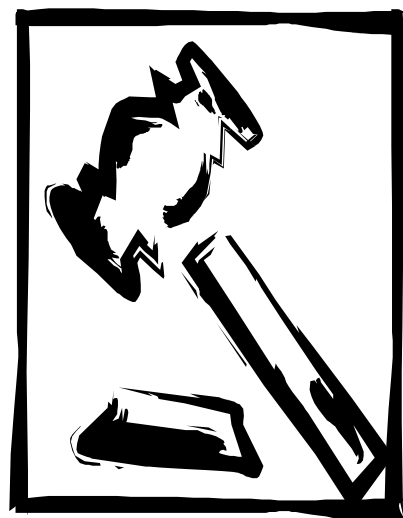
The second collection that became available is the Detroit News Index Cards. The Archives of Michigan received a large donation from the Detroit News, which includes index cards. The index card collection contains a one million subject card index spanning 1890-1990's. To find, click Seek, then Indexes, then Detroit News on the Seeking Michigan website.

Do you want to know the latest and greatest Michigan news that is happening in the genealogy world and help your research as well? Plan to attend our April 28th meeting.

Archives of Michigan Senior Archivist, Kris Rzepczynski, will present "Researching Michigan Ancestors Online". Kris will present key, free Michigan online genealogy resources, including popular and lesser-known sites, as well as effective search strategies for Michigan research.

Now that the snow has melted and it stays lighter later, I hope you will invite a friend and join us for our meetings. We have a great line up of speakers and they would appreciate a captive audience. I hope to see you there.

Brenda Leyndyke,
President



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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 LDS Marshall Branch Church 16036 Old US -27, 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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Become a CCGS fan on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CalhounCountyGenealogicalSociety>

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

Bad Weather Policy: If Marshall Public Schools are closed for the day due to inclement weather then the Calhoun County Genealogical Society meetings will be cancelled.



Top Ten for Ireland Research

Does the recent St. Patrick's Day have you thinking about your Irish Ancestors? Here are ten websites to help you with that research.

Irish Genealogy Project- www.igp-web.com
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) www.proni.gov.uk
National Archives of Ireland www.nationalarchives.ie
National Library of Ireland www.nli.ie
Church of Ireland www.ireland.anglican.org
Workhouses www.workhouses.org.uk
Irish Genealogy www.irishgenealogy.ie
Ireland Gen Web Project www.irelandgenweb.com
Ulster Ancestry www.ulsterancestry.com
Ask About Ireland www.askaboutireland.ie

May 26th Meeting: "What to do with Grandma's Photos" with Dr. David H. Curl



May's speaker, David H. Curl, was recommended by board member Stephanie Tobolski and when you read Dr. Curl's qualifications you will not want to miss his presentation on "What to do with Grandma's Photos"!

Dr. Curl, former adjunct professor of Art at Kalamazoo College and professor emeritus at Western Michigan University, frequently taught advanced photography at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, the Winona School of Professional Photography and numerous workshops. His work has been widely published, and displayed in sixteen one-person shows and more than fifty other exhibitions. Now a publisher and free-lance illustrator based in Kalamazoo, Michigan, he specializes in digital imaging. Formerly, a photojournalist and multimedia producer, he was for 15 years a contributing editor for PHOTOMETHODS and two other professional media magazines. He is co-author or editor of twelve books, including photo/

IMAGING, a widely adopted college text now in its fourth edition. During autumn 2002, he was artist-in-residence at Hiawatha National Forest, leaving a permanent exhibit of 20 framed digital photographs in the Munising Visitor Center.

Currently, Dr. Curl is an active volunteer docent at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. He is a consultant to National Park Service on identification, restoration, preservation and organization of collections of historical photographs. He was a seasonal visitor services specialist for the USDA Forest Service, a communications media adviser in Nigeria for the United States Agency for International Development, and a photo-intelligence officer in the United States Air Force. He earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Ohio University, masters and doctorate degrees in instructional systems technology from Indiana University and was awarded the degree of Photographic Craftsman by the Professional Photographers of America.

Dr. Curl will show attendees how to sort, identify, edit, and preserve precious family photographs with attention given to 19th Century photography. Join us at 7 pm, May 26, 2015 to learn what to do with Grandma's photos so future generations may enjoy them.



Albion Native Authors Book about Williamston, Michigan

Mitch Lutzke, a resident of Williamston and teacher of history at Williamston High School has written a book, “Stories from Williamston’s Past”. The eighteen chapter book features stories about the people, places, and events of Williamston. The book is available through amazon.com and from Schuler’s books on-line or visit their stores in Okemos, Eastwood Town Center in East Lansing or on 28th Street in Grand Rapids.

Mitchell is a native of Albion, graduating from Albion High School in 1980. He is a graduate of Michigan State University and Western Illinois University. He is a board member of the Williamston Depot Museum. Mitch can be contacted through his website: <http://www.mitchlutzke.com/>

Genealogical Research or “Tour-On-Your-Own” in Washington, D.C. Trip Being Offered

Carolyn Mack of Carolyn Mack Tours, LLC was at our March meeting to answer questions about the Washington, D.C. research trip that is being taken, Sunday, October 25-Saturday, October 31, 2015. Participants will travel by motor coach to Washington DC. Opportunities for research at the National Archives and Records Administration, Library of Congress, and Daughters of the American Revolution Library are available. The bus will pick up passengers in Kalamazoo and Marshall. The tour includes:

Transportation by Cardinal Motor coach, Tour Manager, and driver gratuity.

Six nights lodging at Arlington Court Suites Hotel, 1200 Courthouse Road, Arlington, VA

Ten included meals, 6 full American breakfasts, 3 buffet dinners, and 1 plated dinner.

Registration is required. Flyers with sign up information will be available at the April meeting or you may visit www.carolynmacktours.com

Calhoun County Farm Family Since 1850

My family first purchased land in Convis Township in 1850, coming to Michigan from Cuyahoga County, Ohio. We have been American farmers since the mid 1600's.

Revolutionary War veteran, Joshua Palmiter was a fourth generation American of English ancestry whose family originally settled in the Westerly, Rhode Island and Stonington, Connecticut area. He owned 80 acres in Cuyahoga County in 1829. He and his sons farmed, but he was also a Seventh Day Baptist Minister. Joshua died in 1839 in Newberg, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. His son, Enos, is my great-great-grandfather.

Enos Palmiter first appears on the Convis Township 1850 Census, along with his bride, Mary Arnold, his children, George, Noble and Delia, and Mary's two young children. I have not been able to find out what happened to Enos' first wife, Catherine. They settled on a farm in the northern portion of Section 19. Enos was a licensed Methodist Episcopal Minister and a Justice of the Peace. The card picture shown here says "Enos Palmiter, Bellevue, Eaton County" on the back side. I was given this picture, along with many unidentified old pictures. I was thrilled to find it identified! His son, Alonzo, was not listed in the 1850 Census, but he came soon after, because he purchased land from his father on October 12, 1852. Alonzo met and fell in love with a neighboring farmer's daughter, Fannie Sophia Cooley, and they were married on February 16, 1853 in the home of her father, Almond Cooley.

Alonzo and Fannie Palmiter are my great-great-grandparents. The 1870 Federal Census for Convis Township shows them living on 14 Mile Road. The plat map shows A. Palmiter's 100-acre farm in Section 16. There are no Palmiters listed in Section 19. I have a copy of a deed indicating Alonzo purchased 20 acres on April 13, 1872. This, added to the 80 acres purchased before 1870, gave them 100 acres in Section 16 at S Drive and 14 Mile Road. Here they raised their five sons (Samuel, William, Nelson, Theron, and Charles) and two daughters (Minnie and Carrie). According to the 1880 Federal Census, Alonzo's father, Enos, was living with them and he was a widower. He died March 25, 1883 and is buried in Convis Township's Austin Cemetery, next to his son, Noble, who was a Civil War veteran and former Convis Township Justice of the Peace. William and his brother Theron married sisters, Ada and Cora Palmerton in the 1800's. Theron farmed 80 acres in Emmett Township until 1904. Nelson also farmed in Emmett Township for a time. Fannie's health was declining and she and Alonzo moved in with their daughter, Minnie McGuire, on West Main (now Michigan Ave.) in Battle Creek in about 1904. They lived there until their deaths in 1905, Fannie in January and Alonzo in October. Their graves are in Oak Hill Cemetery, on the corner of the section where Sojourner Truth and C. W. Post are buried.

Alonzo and Fannie's youngest son, Charles, continued to work the family farm. William is listed as owner on the 1906 Plat Map because he was the Administrator of his dad's estate, but Charles was purchasing the farm. In 1900 William owned 120 acres on L Drive and 9 ½ Mile Road (Palmiter Road) in Pennfield Township. This is where William and his wife Ada lived, next to her family farm homesteaded by her grandfather, Sylvanus Palmerton. Sylvanus moved from New York to Marengo Township in 1835 and then homesteaded the 160-acre farm in Pennfield Twp. in 1838. Sylvanus Palmerton was one of the first settlers in the area. I learned the full history when I read Ada's obituary. She no doubt wrote it herself and gave the full history of her family home, including her father, John B. Palmerton, being 14 years old when the family moved to the farm. Ada was born on the farm, and she and William moved back to live there after her father died. The house has been well cared for and looks beautiful today. Considerable renovation has been done to it, but I understand the woodwork inside is all original. I have pictures as it originally looked, one taken about 1909 with William, Ada and their children (Clarence, Floyd, Edith, and W. Louis) sitting on the front steps, along with his brother Charles and Charles' children, Harrie and Lucille.

Charles Palmiter was first listed as owner of the farm on 14 Mile Road in Convis Township on the 1916 plat map. Charles and Anna Belle (Gibbs) Palmiter are my great-grandparents. Anna's family was from Bellevue, and that is where they are buried. Charles and Anna lived on the dairy farm with their four children, Harrie, Lucille, Bernice, and Wayne. Around 1919 Charles purchased a home in Battle Creek at 553 Maple (Capital Ave. NE) and started a dairy with his eldest son, processing the milk in the basement and delivering it by horse and wagon. At first they hand-dipped the milk and brought it in from the farms. By 1922 he had a hired hand going to the farmers to collect the milk and bring it to the dairy. They would live in town in the winter and move back out to the farm in the spring. Palmiter and Son Dairy first appeared in the Battle Creek Directory in 1922. The son was Harrie Palmiter, my grandfather.

Harrie and Genevieve (Richardson) Palmiter were married in 1921 and lived with her widowed father John Richardson at 41 Wabash, Battle Creek. Harrie and his father farmed and operated the Dairy until 1939 when Harrie and Genevieve bought a farm in Athens and doubled the size of the farmhouse for their six children, a son and five daughters. Harrie and Norman, my father, spent the next several months renovated the barn, adding a new milking parlor for their dairy herd. In the meantime, their cows were kept on the farm in Convis Township. Once they started milking in Athens, they hauled their milk to the Palmiter Dairy that was now operated by Charles and his youngest child, Wayne.

In 1946, Charles sold the dairy with 8 routes to Ashley Dairy. He set his two youngest children, Wayne and Bernice, up in business a few blocks north of the home/dairy, in Verona. One building housed two businesses. Bernice started Verona Soda Grill at 954 Maple Street, and Wayne's business was Verona Implement Sales and Service at 956 Maple. Wayne was only in business a few years, but Bernice's restaurant continued until she closed it in the late 1960's. She changed the name to Fox's Restaurant when she married Howard Fox in 1954. Fogg Motors now owns the building at 956 Capital Ave NE. The name Palmiter is carved in stone above the front door. The Palmiter home and barn at 553 Capital Ave. NE were torn down in 2013.

Harrie and Norman continued farming in Athens. The barn burned and they rebuilt it in 1954. The picture is of Norman milking in the new parlor. Harrie died in 1963 and Norman in 2001. Norman's two sons, Dennis and Lonn, and Lonn's son Jason now farm over 900 acres. They are no longer in the dairy business, having sold the milk cows in December of 2013.

Darlene (Palmiter) Stange

An excellent line up of programs is planned for the 2014/2015 year. The Program Survey results guided the program choices this year. All meetings are free and open to the public. The programs with an * will be held at our usual meeting place of LDS Church, 16036 Old 27 North, Marshall, Michigan. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except August, December and July. Please take note of the change of date for the Helen Warner Branch Library Lock In. Let's make this year's attendance one of the best. The programs planned offer something for everyone, from the beginner to the more experienced researcher. Invite a friend and join us as we explore our family history this year.

***May 26-7 pm. What to do with Grandma's Photos-with Dr. David Curl.** Attendees will learn how to sort, edit, identify and preserve photographs of the 19th Century in order that future generations may enjoy them.

June 23-7 pm. Computer Genealogy with Shirley Hodges- The number one most requested speaker this year was Shirley Hodges. Shirley, an Albion resident, is a local and regionally known speaker having spoken at numerous lectures, seminars and workshops. Her presentations are filled with information, examples, and humor. Shirley's presentation will show attendees how to use the computer in their genealogical life.

July-No Meeting

Interested In Genealogy?

Do you want to share your interest with others? Do you want to help make your society a better one? Then become a Calhoun County Genealogical Society (CCGS) volunteer. CCGS has a unique role in educating others about family history, preserving genealogical information for future generations of researchers, and promoting the genealogical resources in Calhoun County.

Volunteers are needed to help with planning programs and events, finding members to serve in leadership roles, and writing press releases and newsletter articles. The main qualification needed is your desire to help make your society a better one. All of these opportunities can be done from the comfort of your home.

Contact Brenda Leyndyke at 269 275-0462 or bleyndyke@gmail.com to volunteer for these opportunities.

2015-2016 Programs

The board is in the very early planning phase for programs for our September 2015 to June 2016 program schedule. If you or someone you know would like to speak to our group we would love to have them. If you have any suggestions for programs or speakers for next year we want to hear from you. You can let any board member know or email Brenda Leyndyke at brae957@gmail.com or by phone 269 275-0462.

Please Help!

It is that time of year that we need 2-3 people for a short term position. The board is looking for volunteers who would be willing to serve on a nominating committee, which is required by our by-laws. If you are willing to make a few phone calls asking for members to serve as Vice President, Chair of Programs and Publicity, and Nominating Committee Chair, please let Brenda Leyndyke know at brae957@gmail.com or 269 275-0462. Brenda has been doing double duty this year as President and Vice President, and Chair of Programs and Publicity and would appreciate someone stepping up to help. Please consider serving your society in this capacity.

Generations

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

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 LDS Marshall Branch Church at 16036 Old US-27 N, Marshall MI

May 26 -What to do with Grandma's Photos-with Dr. David Curl

June 23 - Computer Genealogy with Shirley Hodges

July—No Meeting

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