

## President's Message

by Brenda Leyndyke

I am writing this on the morning of turning our clocks back and enjoying the extra hour of sleep that I got last night. The time change as well as the colder weather has me thinking about the upcoming holiday season.

Home for the holidays can take on special meaning this year if you use the time to capture family stories. How many of you have said you wished you had talked to your grandparents, great grandparents, an aunt or an uncle to get their stories? I know I wish I had asked a few questions of family members who have passed on.

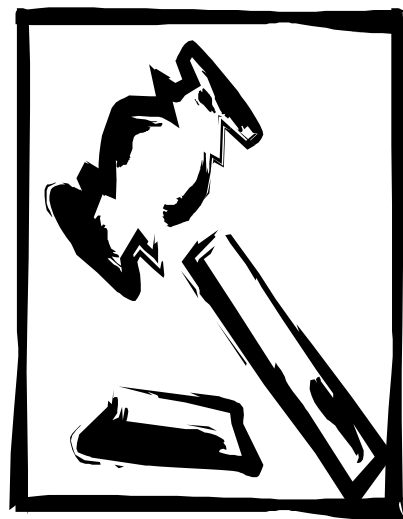
Use this holiday season to capture those memories or stories. Think about videotaping or audio recording family dinners. Include the tech- savvy relatives to help with this. Encourage the younger generation, most who have smart phones, to record the stories. The possibilities are endless in this technological world that we live.

Does your aunt always bring her favorite salad? Ask her for the recipe and get the details on when she started making it, where she got the recipe, etc. Is there a favorite after dinner tradition, football in the yard or on television? Do you play a favorite board game? Ask questions about traditions and how they started. Does mom always serve the turkey on the same platter? Is it a family heirloom? Asking her where she got it is a good way of starting a conversation about family heirlooms. Don't forget to take pictures.

Don't know what questions to ask, here is a link to 58 questions to get the conversation flowing: <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/52-questions-52-weeks/> Think about what you had wished you had asked your ancestors and ask those questions. Keep your questions open ended, instead of yes and no answers, and you will be amazed at the answers you get. Even the most reluctant relative will add something to the conversation once he/she is comfortable.

I hope you have a joyous holiday season, one that is filled with recording memories. The next generation will love having these stories to pass down to future generations.

*Brenda Leyndyke, President*



## Research Assistance Provided Before CCGS Meetings

Beginning with the January 26, 2016 meeting, the CCGS board will be available to help people with their research. This assistance will be available on a first come, first serve basis starting at 6 p.m. Board members will be available until 6:45 p.m. to answer your questions, provide tips to further your research and to help you if you are just starting out researching your family. The board will not be available to conduct research for you, but to help you with the next steps in your research. No matter if you are a beginner who doesn't have a clue what to do, or an experienced researcher who is stumped, bring your questions and we will do our best to help you.

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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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## 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>

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

## November 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting Details

**November 24, 2015, 7 pm.** Our November meeting will be a special one that you won't want to miss. We will meet at Fort Custer and tour the museum of the Fort Custer Historical Society, between Battle Creek and Augusta. The museum is housed in a renovated World War II barracks.

**Pre-Registration is required.** Call Brenda Leyndyke, 269 275-0462 starting **November 1<sup>st</sup>** to register. Registration may be made by email at [brae957@gmail.com](mailto:brae957@gmail.com). I need your full name as it appears on your photo ID. Registration deadline is Thursday, Nov 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are registered you will need to bring a picture ID with you. You will be checked in at the gate and escorted to the Museum by Col. John Anderson. Admittance will only be granted to those who have pre-registered and have a photo ID. This is due to the museum being on the grounds of Fort Custer and security regulations are enforced.

Directions to Fort Custer entrance from Battle Creek: Take Dickman Road, West. At the Stoplight on Dickman Road, there is a Chase Bank sign – Hill Brady Road. Turn left(South) on Hill Brady Road and go to the next stoplight which is Denso Road. Turn right. The entrance to the training center is on the left. You can easily see it. Colonel Anderson will meet our group inside the entrance and lead you to the museum. Carpooling is encouraged.

In the event that Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> fills up, we are offering a second date of Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. Please feel free to invite friends and relatives. There is no charge for this meeting.

## **Do You Have Yearbooks from Albion High School?**

Albion District Library is in the process of digitizing the Albion High School Yearbooks, but they are missing a few. They have a complete set up to the 1970's. If you have any Albion High School yearbooks from the 1970's forward, the library would love to have them. You may donate your yearbooks, or loan them to the library, for digitization. You may contact Jennifer Wood at Albion District library for more information or to donate your yearbooks. Contact Information: Albion District Library, Local History Room, 501 South Superior St., Albion, MI 49224. 517-629-3993

## 1989-2002 CEMETERIES TRANSCRIPTIONS--- by Ruth Kaiser, coordinator, 2015.10.27

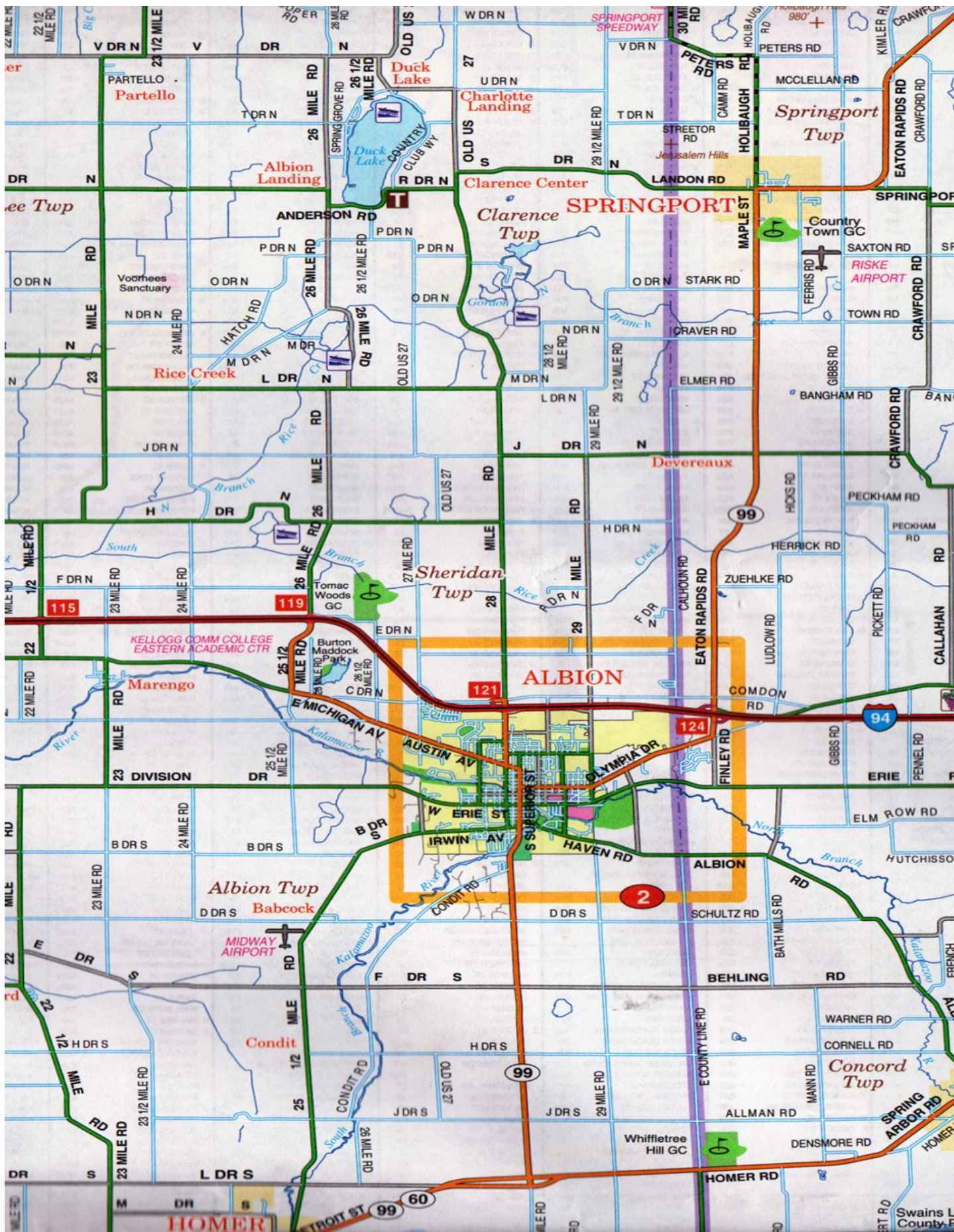
When we began transcribing, the town cemeteries were just beginning to computerize their cemetery records. When I worked at the Albion Civic Life – Volunteer Center 1988-1992, I proof read the entries for the city department.

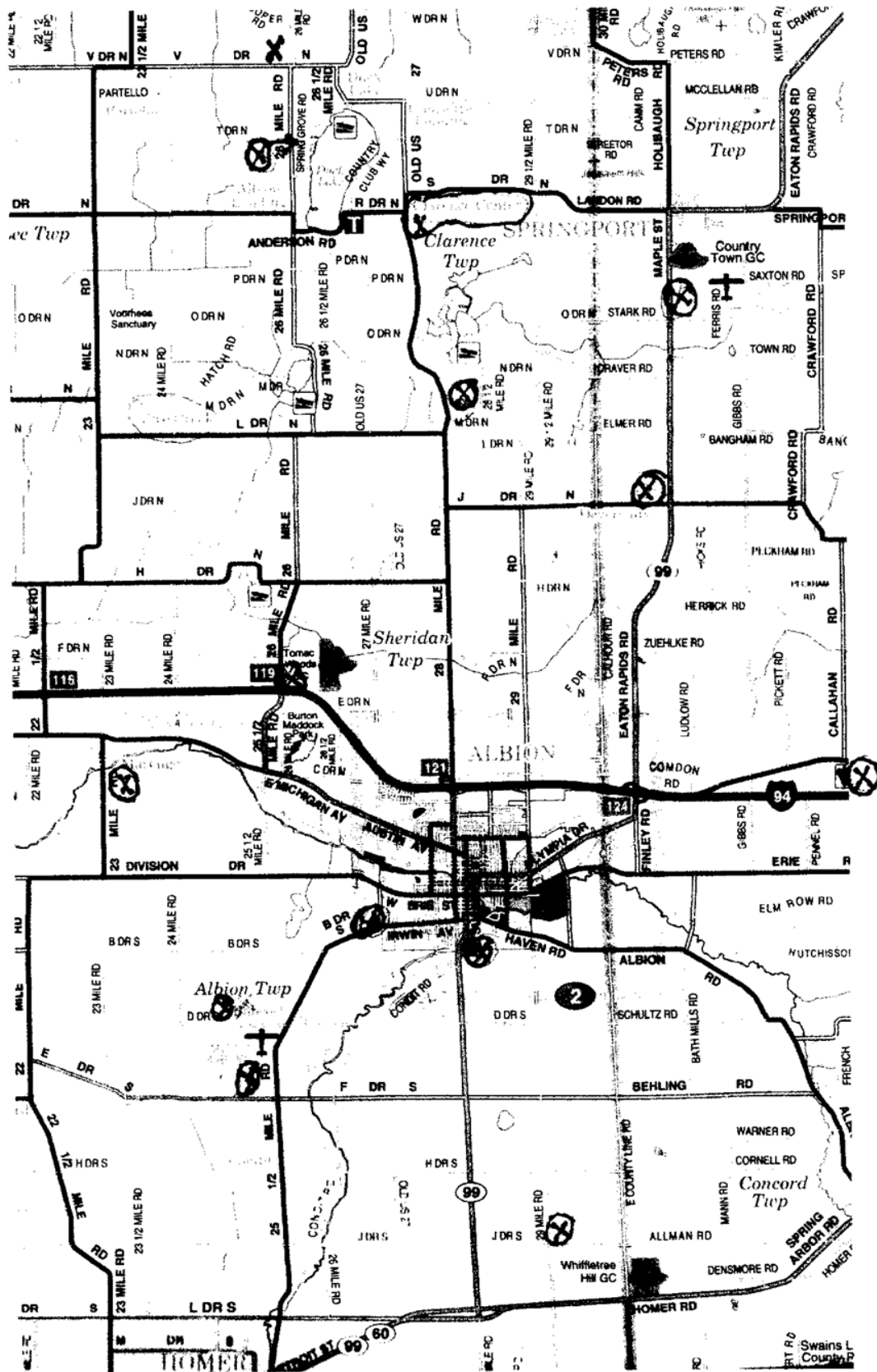
**1989 Rice Creek, Lee Township** coordinated by John M. Fox, Albion Library History Room  
Met at Turkey Farm for lunch and proceeded to Rice Creek. Sections were roped off and instructions provided to read tombstones. Linda Wilbur prepared booklet listed by locations. I added alphabetical listing

**The CCGS board** wanted to provide transcriptions for the rural cemeteries when I was serving on the board. When no one volunteered, I agreed to be the coordinator. We mainly worked in the eastern portion of Calhoun County where the majority of volunteers resided.

**In 1992 Saint Joseph, Clarendon Township** was our first cemetery. It was formerly located by a Baptist Church and in 1992 by the Church of Deliverance. The Clarendon Township clerk was Jannie Smith and we copied the records at her home and I was loaned the records of a descendant of an earlier sexton who had died. It was the first tombstone I had seen with the records of the deceased were engraved on a family tree on the marker. The widow gladly gave permission to reproduce it.









## **Small Cemeteries noted below\*** Check with township clerks

### **ALBION TWP**

**Benham** – South Albion maintained on J Drive S and 29 Mile Road, transcribed by John Kinney;

**Babcock Corners:** B Drive S (Irwin Avenue) becomes 25 ½ Mile at Babcock Corners on old route to Homer.

Few tombstones in woods south of D Drive and old airport. Transcribed by Chris Czopek. Inquire at Calhoun County Libraries

Scattered tombstones in farm woods. Inquire at 25118 D Drive S located north of 25 ½ Mile.

### **SHERIDAN TWP.**

**Davis tombstones:** on 26 ½ Mile north of I-94 by the Tomac Golfcourse west of fence row on 3 tee-off (all have surname Davis except Nettie Fowler; readable deaths from 1830-1865

**Reed Cemetery** H Drive N east of 29 Mile located in back of the former William Collier Farm shown on 1990 plot map. Sixty readable markers CCGS transcribed in 1995 when a Boy Scout Troop renovated the area; not maintained and farm buildings removed. Check Generations article in summer of 1995 or neighbors

### **NORTHEASTERN CALHOUN**

#### **LEE TWP.**

Rice Creek: L Drive N & Hatch/24 Mile

#### **CONVIS TWP. 1995-1996**

Austin, 15 Mile between P and Q Drive N.

Porter, N Drive N between US 27 & I-69

#### **CLARENCE TWP.**

**Clarence Center:** 27 ½ & R Drive N

\*Dyer: M Drive N east of 28 Mile

Hunt: V Drive N east of 26 Mile

Krenerick: 27 Mile & L Drive N

Nichols: 26 Mile & R Drive N

### **SOUTHEASTERN CALHOUN**

#### **CLARENDON TWP.**

Bentley Corners: 22 ½ Drive S

Cook's Prairie: ½ Mile N of M-60 on 23 Mile

St. Joseph: 22 ½ Mile & T Drive S

West Clarendon: M-60 just east of 18 ½ Mile

#### **TEKONSHA TWP.**

\*MacFadden: 17 Mile & P Drive S

Riverside: V Drive S east of Old US27

Windfall: Jackson Road just south of M-60

\*indicates small cemeteries

also see Albion and Sheridan Townships above.

Discover your roots. Link to the past.

*Join Us*

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

### Calhoun County Genealogical Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ New Membership ☐ Renew Membership

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Surnames you are researching

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ Membership card requested (please enclose SASE)

☐ Check if you would like to receive *Generations* newsletter by e-mail in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format instead of postal mail.

*Include \$18 to receive *Generations* newsletter by postal mail OR \$15 to receive an electronic copy via email.*

*Please make your check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society or CCGS. Send to Membership Chair, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068-0879*

The membership year is September 1st through August 31st but are welcome at any time. Memberships received after May 30th will extend through the *following* August 31st.

*CCGS Use only*

Check number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Paid-through date \_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder: Your CCGS annual dues were due September 30.** A membership form is included in this newsletter. Please return the form with your check for dues or bring it to the November 24 meeting. Dues are \$15 for email newsletter subscribers and \$18 for postal mail newsletter subscribers.

## Why Join?

Are you one of the guilty ones who has the “*why should I join attitude*”? You are not alone as I have been asked this question a time or two lately. Reasons for joining a genealogical society may vary from person to person, but joining a genealogical society can benefit you in a number of ways.

Joining Calhoun County Genealogical Society allows one to network with other family history researchers, to learn new skills, to learn from other members, and to become a better researcher. While researching at home in your bunny slippers may be comfortable, belonging to a group that shares the same passion as you do for genealogy is fun!

Our program lineup of nine meetings a year provides you with the tools you need to be a better researcher. This year you have the opportunity to learn about Calhoun County resources, military records, databases relating to Michigan genealogy, German research tips, genealogy education resources and more.

Your dues support the society in the following ways:

- Newsletter publication
- Speaker fees and handout copies
- Meeting refreshments
- Dues to National Genealogical Society; Federation of Genealogical Societies, and Michigan Genealogical Council
- Non Profit Fees
- Certificates and Awards
- and More

Please support the Calhoun County Genealogical Society by joining or renewing your membership. Take advantage of the knowledge the group and speakers provide. You will become a better researcher for it.



## **Lifetime Membership Award Granted at September 2015 Meeting**

Two charter members and incorporators of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society were honored with a Lifetime Membership Award at the September meeting. Marlene Plassman and Ramona Short were given this honor for the importance they played in our society's history. They were instrumental in helping to create our society. Over the past 27 years their dedication and spirit of volunteerism has helped make our society what it is today. Marlene and Ramona have served in many board capacities and donated countless hours to our society. The CCGS board is honored to give Marlene and Ramona this award.

Congratulations!



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

**November 24-Meet at Fort Custer and Tour Fort Custer Historical Society.**

**December-No Meeting**

**January 26-Beginning Genealogy**

**February 23-Marshall District Library.**

**March 22-Researching War of 1812**

**April 26-Seeking Michigan.**

**May 24-Get Smart!**

**June 28-German Research Tips with Don Heider**

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