

President's Message

by Brenda Leyndyke

Happy New Year! The New Year is the time many people make resolutions. How many of you made New Year's resolutions? How many of you have already broken those resolutions?

I am not a big New Year's resolution maker, but when it comes to my genealogy research, I do make goals. A good way to help one stay on track with their research is by making genealogy goals/resolutions.

Set aside some time to reflect on what needs to be done with your research and create a list of what you would like to accomplish. Look at it as making a to-do list; it won't seem so overwhelming then.

Keep your list simple. Don't add to your list, "Research every Smith who died in the 1800's". You will never succeed with a goal like that, but if you are working on a specific "Smith" person, you could write, "Find the death record of John Smith, who died 1800-1810, in Tekonsha, Calhoun, Michigan." The chances of success will increase greatly with small, easy to achieve, goals.

My goals this year are:

- Use my parents DNA results, upload them to GEDCOM, and understand the results by learning more about DNA in Genealogy.

- Record the research I conducted during a fall New England

trip to my Roots Magic software.

Share my recent research finds via my blog, Journey to the Past.

Your goals may have to do with organizing records, labeling pictures, writing family stories, visiting family members, or joining your local society. No one says you have to accomplish your goals by December 31st, or you have failed. Some goals may take more time to complete. You may want to visit an ancestor's hometown, but need the time and money to complete it. Just add it to the list the following year. If it is written on a list and placed somewhere you can see it, you can work toward that goal.

The good thing about making genealogy resolutions is that you don't have to add 'lose weight' to the list!



| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| President's Message | 1 | Annual Bus Trip | 5 |
| About CCGS..... | 2 | Meet Laurie Hodges..... | 6 |
| News from Archives of Michigan | 3 | Meet Volunteers | 6 |
| Facebook for Genealogy..... | 3 | Upcoming Speakers | 7 |
| Bad Weather Policy..... | 3 | | |
| For Your Information..... | 4 | | |

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.

President

Brenda Leyndyke

(269) 275-0462 • brae957@gmail.com

Vice President

Open

Recording Secretary

Darlene Stange

(269) 965-7671 • suzydoll51@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Stephanie Tobolski

(269) 964-2592 • stofbc-roots@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Arthur Adams

(269) 781-8019 • acadams@aol.com

Past President

Alex VanZanten

(269) 979-4393 • alexvz47@msn.com

Programs and Publicity Committee Chair

Open

Membership Promotion Committee Chair

Marcie Telfer

(269) 963-3899 • matelfer@comcast.net

Records Preservation Committee Chair

Open

Publication Committee Chair

Open

Cemetery Transcriptions Committee Chair and Pioneer Certificates Committee Chair

James N. Jackson

(269) 288-1655 • jjacks01@yahoo.com

Generations Newsletter Editor

Jan Goodson

(269) 962-5604 • janice.goodson@omega-link.com

Hospitality Committee Chair

Alex VanZanten

(269) 979-4393 • alexvz47@msn.com

Research Committee Chair

Chelsea Johnson

(810) 923-5627 • cjohnson27@gmail.com

Nominating Committee Chair

Open

Website Committee Chair

James N. Jackson

(269) 288-1655 • jjacks01@yahoo.com

Michigan Genealogical Council Delegates

Brenda Leyndyke

(269) 275-0462 • brae957@gmail.com

and

Chelsea Johnson

(810) 923-5627 • cjohnson27@gmail.com

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**

News from the Archives of Michigan from Senior Archivist, Kris Rzepczynski

The big news at the Archives is that the naturalization records digitization project is officially underway! Working together with FamilySearch, and with assistance from the Michigan Genealogical Council, the Archives of Michigan will ultimately be posting all of our Michigan naturalization records online for free at Seeking Michigan (www.seekingmichigan.org). No completion date has been given as this is a unique set of records to digitize and eventually index.

Beginning in January 2017, the next year of Michigan death records – 1941 – will become available online at Seeking Michigan (www.seekingmichigan.org). With the 75-year restriction for online access to death records, 1941 online certificates become available in 2017. The 1941 images will take a few weeks to be fully loaded online at Seeking Michigan, so please be patient with us and check back often; in the meantime, the index metadata (up through 1952) will continue to be available.

Save the dates! The 2017 Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar will be held Friday, July 21 – Saturday, July 22, 2017. The Archives is thrilled to be hosting Jen Baldwin as our featured speaker. Stay tuned in the coming weeks for more details, including registration information and the program schedule.

Facebook for Genealogy

Did you know that Calhoun County Genealogical Society has a Facebook page and a group? Facebook has over ten thousand genealogically related pages and groups. Do you need a record translated? There is a group, Genealogy Translations, for that. Do you have Polish ancestors? There is a group on Polish Culture. Do you have research to do in New York? There is a New York Genealogy Group. I bet there are groups or pages on Facebook that can help answer the questions you might have about your family.

I hope you will take a look at our Calhoun County Genealogical Society group and join it. People from out of the area will be looking for your local expertise. Feel free to start a discussion, post pictures, add a file of a record you have in your possession, etc. Let's get the word out about what a great county we live in and how wonderful our historical collections are.

You can find our society group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/744924938997521/>

For a list of genealogically related Facebook groups, check Katherine Willson's 288 page list here: <https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>

Facebook for Genealogy is another resource you need in order to get your family history questions answered.

BAD WEATHER POLICY: It is that time of year to remind you:

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

FYI-For Your Information

The November-December Issue of Generations was not published due to lack of information. Anyone is welcome to send our newsletter editor information pertaining to local resources, stories, history, etc. for inclusion in our newsletter. **Remember CCGS members get two free queries a year, published in the newsletter.** Contact Jan Goodson, janice.goodson@omega-link.com

Our website found at <http://www.migenweb.org/calhoun/ccgs.htm> is hosted through Michigan GenWeb and Calhoun county pages are without a county coordinator at this time. The CCGS board is exploring options that will enable local control of our website. At this time we are unable to make updates to the website. We will keep you informed of any changes to the website when they become available.

Family Tree Maker genealogy software is alive and well. Software MacKiev purchased the software from Ancestry and is trying to get the word out that Family Tree Maker is still available for Mac and PC. Software MacKiev has provided our society with a free copy of Family Tree Maker, which will be a door prize at our January meeting. Be sure to come to the meeting for your chance to win.

The Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society will be having its annual bus trip to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana on Saturday, March 18th. Pick up locations include Kalamazoo, Marshall, and Coldwater. The sign up flyer is included in this newsletter. Last year, about six CCGS members attended.

The New York City Marriage Index 1908–1938 is now online at Internet Archive for free. Indexes include Manhattan 1908–1929; Brooklyn 1908–1929; Bronx 1914–1929; Queens 1908–1930; and Staten Island 1908–1938. Records include the marriage application, affidavit, and license from the New York City Clerk's Office. <https://archive.org/details/nycmarriageindex>

Annual Bus Trip
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Sponsored by Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society (KVGS)

Join us for a day of genealogy research

DATE: Saturday, March 18, 2017

(No refunds after March 4, 2017)

COST: \$25.00 per person for bus, not meals

| <u>City/Town</u> | <u>Leave</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Return (approx.)</u> |
|------------------|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| Kalamazoo | 7:00 am** | The Crew Family Restaurant 3810 East Cork St. & Sprinkle Rd. | 9:15 pm |
| Marshall | 7:35 am | Exit 36, I-69 Park-n-Ride | 8:45 pm |
| Coldwater | 8:00 am | Exit 13, I-69 Park-n-Ride | 8:00 pm |

NEW PICK-UP POINT THIS YEAR.

***Park on north side of parking lot, near Cork Street (away from the Crew Restaurant entrance)*

Departure from ACPL at 5:30 pm -- Dinner stop on way home in Auburn, IN

Complete one form per person. Make check payable to KVGS.

Mail form & check to: Jan Wright, 1853 Cumberland St., Kalamazoo, MI 49006

janwright8607@yahoo.com 269.349.8622 (cell)

Clip at line

Clip at line

Clip at line

Clip at Line

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: *(Please bring a list of current medications)*

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

PICK-UP POINT *(Please circle):* **K'ZOO** **MARSHALL** **C'WATER**

KVGS Website: www.mikvgs.org

Meet Laurie Hodges

I was born in upstate New York but moved often growing up. I graduated from high school in Portland, Oregon and received a BS in Engineering from Purdue University. I moved to this area after accepting a position at Kellogg's in 1983. I met my husband (John), married and we have 2 grown sons, Josh (29) currently located in Raleigh, NC and Jason (27) currently located in Phoenix, AZ. I have a stepdaughter and a stepson, four grand kids and 2 great grandkids. I retired from Kellogg in 2013 after 30 years and my husband and I have enjoyed traveling around the US our entire marriage.

I have always loved listening to the 'stories' told by my grandparents and wished I had written them down then. I got motivated when my mom called to say she had a suitcase full of pictures from my great grandmother that she needed to go through (2004). We went through them and identified a lot of the people - I took the time to record my mom's stories, and scan the pictures. I am encouraging her to record her memories of our relatives and her experiences. I have traced back about 4 generations both my mom and dad's side. Both sides immigrated through Ellis Island in the 1800's from various parts of Europe. My husband's mother is from this area but his father is from Tennessee. I am starting to investigate his ancestors but seem to spend more time on the roots out of state!

Genealogy intrigues me because of the challenges, and you never know where it will take you! I enjoy the challenge and to see how different the families' roots are. My mom's ancestors came from Europe, through Ellis Island, Nebraska, then to Washington and Oregon. My father's side stayed in the central New York area but rarely associated with each other - according to me father no one could get along!

Meet Our Volunteers!

It has been a long time since our society has had a full slate of officers for our board. I am so thankful that three people stepped up at our September Annual meeting and agreed to serve on the board. I would like to welcome Vice President and Chairperson of Programs and Publicity, Christi Rapp; Hospitality Chairperson, Laurie Hodges; and Pioneer Certificates Chairperson, Karly Blake. When you see Christi, Laurie, or Karly, please thank them for helping to make CCGS a better society.

Upcoming Programs

January 24th - 7 p.m. Researching Your New England Roots will be presented by President Brenda Leyndyke. Brenda will share tips for researching in the six New England states: Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. State specific tips for finding records will be presented, including birth, marriage, death, land, and probate records. Additionally, general records and resources available for the region will be provided. This past fall, Brenda spent a month in New England researching at many repositories and libraries in the areas where her ancestors lived.

February 28th - 7 p.m. Meet at Battle Creek Books, 51 Michigan Ave., Battle Creek to learn how local history, ethnic, oral history books and more can improve your family history research. Owner Jim Donahue will be showing what books are available for your use in genealogy. Free Parking is available on Michigan Ave. and in the State St. parking lot, behind Griffin Grill.

March 28th - 7 p.m. Our meeting returns to our regular meeting place, Marshall LDS Church, with local favorite, Jim Jackson. Jim will be presenting, Getting Around the Brick-wall. His tips and trips for breaking down those pesky brick-walls are sure to enhance your family history research.

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

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

January 24—Research New England Roots!

February 28— Battle Creek Books

March 28—Jim Jackson

Have ideas for future programs? Please contact Vice President Alex VanZanten, whose contact information is on page 2.