

President's Message

by Brenda Leyndyke

Welcome to the start of our 29th year of connecting Calhoun County, Michigan, family history researchers! We have an excellent lineup of topics and speakers and I encourage you to save the date for all of them, you won't want to miss a single program.

2017-2018 Calendar of Events

September 26-Immigration and Naturalization Records. Ideas on how to find your ancestor's immigration and naturalization records will be presented by Jeff Mason.

October 24-Finding Your Genealogy Roots with DNA. The first of two DNA programs that will be presented this year will introduce participants to the resources available for using DNA in genealogy with Julia Fuller.

November 28-Share Your Heritage. Help others explore their roots by sharing a piece of your heritage. Bring a family heirloom and share the story behind it, or make a family recipe for others to enjoy. Don't forget the recipe!

January 23-What's New at Willard Library? Hear the results of Willard Library's recent strategic planning and budget process and how it will enhance your use of the library's resources for genealogy.

February 27-Finding Your Genealogy Roots with DNA, Part II. Julia Fuller

will return for the second of two DNA programs providing attendees with a deeper understanding of how DNA can help in your family history research.

March 27- Using Your Family History Center at the Battle Creek Family History Center (1312 Capital Ave SW.) Attendees will be updated on recent changes in Family Search and shown free resources that are available to help with your research.

April 24-Railroad Jobs:What a Day at Work Entailed. Mark Tomlinson will present to attendees what a day working on the railroad was like for one's ancestors.

May 22-Tour New Displays at Fort Custer Historical Museum on M-96 between Battle Creek and Augusta .

Tour new displays at Fort Custer including a commander's cottage and military equipment. Registration will be required by calling 269-275-0462 after May 1st.

June 26-Using the D.A.R. in your Research. DAR members, Martha Bunde, Vicki Friddle, and Judy Groat will explain how to use the DAR database, the organization, and one's local chapter in researching your ancestors who served in the Revolutionary War.



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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.



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
Open

Past President
Alex VanZanten
(269) 979-4393 • alexvz47@msn.com

Programs and Publicity Chair
Open

Membership Promotion Chair
Marcie Telfer
(269) 963-3899 • matelfer@comcast.net

Records Preservation Committee Chair
Open

Publication Committee Chair
Open

Pioneer Certificates Chair
Karly Blake
(816) 248-1800 • kblake6408@att.net

Generations Newsletter Editor
Jan Goodson
(269) 962-5604 • janice.goodson@omega-link.com

Social Media Chair
Open

Special Projects Chair
Open

Hospitality Chair
Laurie Hodges
• sad15535@gmail.com

Research Chair

Chelsea Johnson
(810)923-5627 • cjohnson27@gmail.com

Nominating Chair
Open

Website Chair
James N. Jackson
(269) 288-1655 • jjacks01@yahoo.com

Toni McPeake Ardis
• tardis427@comcast.net

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**

Election of Officers

September is the time of year where I, your president, beg for help. I have very dedicated officers and committee chairpersons, but more help is needed. It is important to fill the following positions for a couple of reasons: one, it prevents burnout of the present board. An unfilled position's work still has to be done for a functioning society and that work falls on someone who is already doing their own job and two, it is important to have fresh input from members on the board. I am a very open President and welcome all ideas, I will never say, 'we have always done it that way'. So, here goes, I beg you to help in the following positions:

Vice President

Treasurer

Chairperson of Programs and Publicity

Chairperson of Social Media

Chairperson of Special Projects

Please call President Brenda Leyndyke, with your interest in the above positions at 269 275-0462 or let any board member know of your interest. A full policy and procedure manual with the information you need to do your job is available, just let Brenda Leyndyke

Upcoming Events throughout Michigan

Tuesday, October 3 6:30PM: Jackson County Genealogical Social hosts Karen Krugman presenting: "Stumble".

Sunday, October 8 2PM: "Hear History Speak" Oak Hill Cemetery Sojourner Truth, Erastus Hussey, Leon Gillette, William Palmer, Ellen G. White, Crying Mary and T Ben Johnston will be portrayed during this event.

Saturday, October 14 9AM-4:45PM: Got Ancestors?!-Legal Matters! Western Michigan Genealogical Society is featuring The Legal Genealogist, Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, at the Salvation Army Grand Rapids Kroc Center. Judy will be presenting four sessions that day on Copyright Myth-conceptions, When Worlds Collide, DNA and the Golden Rule, and No Vitals? No Problem! Judy is a well sought after regional, national, and international genealogical speaker. For more information, go to <http://GotAncestors.com/>

Upcoming Events throughout Michigan cont...

Monday, October 16 7:00 PM: "Online and Offline Sources for Locating Photos of Your Ancestors" Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society will host nationally known genealogy speaker, Katherine R Willson, at Portage District Library, Portage, MI.

Saturday, October 21 9AM-4PM: Saturday, October 21, 2017 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. A Day with Pamela Boyer Sayre and Richard G. Sayre at the Michigan History Center in Lansing. Topics include The Library of Congress; National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) websites; Researching Military Service Records; Rogue and Rascal Relatives; Michigan Naturalizations Indexing Project; Research at the Library of Michigan; Using Census Records; and Using Michigan Documents. Go to mimgc.org for more information and registration.

Saturday, November 4: Eaton County Genealogical Society Bus Trip to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Cost \$30. Pick up in Charlotte, Marshall, and Coldwater. For more information and registration go to <http://www.miegs.org/BusTrip.pdf>

Tuesday, November 7 6:30PM: Ontario to Michigan Migration with Shirley Gage Hodges at Jackson County Genealogical Society monthly meeting.

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 14-15: Western Michigan Genealogical Society's Bus Trip to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Cost includes overnight accommodations at Econo Lodge, Fort Wayne. Pick up in Grand Rapids, Lake Odessa, Charlotte and Marshall. For more information and registration go to https://www.wmgs.org/pdf/BusTrip_2017-Tu-We-Nov14-15-form.pdf

Monday, November 20 7PM: Where the Heck is it Anyway? Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society hosts professional genealogist, Diane Osland, on organizing your papers and records at Portage District Library, Portage, MI.

Tuesday, December 5 6:30PM: Getting Organized. Jackson County Genealogical Society will host Carolyn Palmer at their regular meeting.

Wednesday-Saturday, May 2-5, 2018: Paths to Your Past, National Genealogical Society 2018 Family History Conference, Grand Rapids, MI. Save the date for the first national conference in our home state of Michigan. Registration will begin December 1, 2017. For more information, go to <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

Spotlight on Calhoun County Resources

The Spring survey responses included wanting to know more about Calhoun County resources. Every newsletter will present an overview of what is available to those researching their Calhoun County ancestors. If you have any information on area resources and would like to share them with the society, please email your information to MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com.

First up, Libraries! Board President, Brenda Leyndyke, visited every Calhoun county library this summer to learn about what resources are available for family history researchers in the library's collection.

The following Calhoun County libraries with local history collections are:

1. Albion District Library 501 S. Superior St., Albion, MI 49224 517 629-3993 <http://www.albionlibrary.org/local-history/>
2. Athens Community Library 106 E Burr Oak Rd., Athens, MI 49011 269 729-4479 <http://athensarea.org/library.html>
3. Helen Warner Branch of Willard Library 36 Minges Creek Place, Battle Creek, MI 49015 269 968-8166 <http://willardlibrary.org/>
4. Homer Public Library 141 W. Main St., Homer, MI 49245 517 568-4021 <http://www.homerpl.michlibrary.org/>
5. Marshall District Library 124 W Green St, Marshall, MI 49068 269 781-7821 <https://www.yourmdl.org/>
6. Tekonsha Township Library 230 S Church St, Tekonsha, MI 49092 517 767-4769 <http://www.tekonlib.michlibrary.org/>

The First Three

Albion District Library: Highlights of the Local History room include obituary database with over 52,000 obituaries; Riverside Cemetery Records; Veterans Project-tapes of veterans who lived in Albion, currently being transferred to DVD including WWII through Vietnam and a couple for Grenada and Persian Gulf Wars; Maps and Atlases for Albion, Calhoun County and Michigan; Sanborn insurance Maps; plat maps; city records; photograph collection and index; special collections; Albion Historical Society Archives; Albion, Marshall and Homer newspapers and more. Local history librarian, Jennifer Woods and her volunteers are waiting to help you.

Helen Warner Branch of Willard Library: In addition to the stacks at the branch library, Willard Library has a lot of digitized items on their website. Some you need a library card to access and some are open access to anyone. Digital and on-site information includes Newspapers 1846-Present; Yearbooks 1895-2005; City Directories 1890-2015; Probate Records Index and Records; Historical Maps 1884-1932; Tales of Battle Creek; Beyond these Gates (1844-1980's); Battle Creek Homes & Buildings, c. 1940; Photographs from Battle Creek's History; Stuart A. Lassen Historical Battle Creek Postcard Collection; Dorothy Martich Black History Photo Archive; Country Club Hills Association: circa 1923; Google Bookshelf, a compilation of books related to the history of the area, that are free and available at Google Books; city and county records; Plat books from 1858; Cemetery transcriptions; local biographies and more.

Marshall District Library: marriages (1836-1915) deaths(1867-1933); census; church records Zion Lutheran Church (1857-1942); Calhoun County atlases (1873 to 1916); yearbooks (1899-2016); Marshall cemetery Indexes; Marshall city records; Marshall and Homer Newspapers and more. Local history librarian, Chelsea Johnson, is available to answer your questions.

Next issue: Athens, Homer, and Tekonsha libraries.

Membership Reminder

Included in this newsletter is a 2017-18 membership form. Memberships are due in September and good until the following August 31. If you paid at the May or June meeting or over the summer, your payment was applied to this year's membership. Membership prices are the same as last year: \$15 for single membership or \$20 for family membership with emailed newsletter; \$18 for single membership or \$23 for family membership and postal mailed newsletter. A family membership is good for all family members at the same address. Membership dues pay for programs and speakers, including handouts; newsletter publication and mailing; hospitality; dues to state and national organizations; government fees; and post office box rental.

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 (limit 8)

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email 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

Membership Options (Select One)

- ☐ Single (\$18) if *Generations* newsletter by postal mail.
- ☐ Family (\$23) if *Generations* newsletter by postal mail, good for one family at same address.
- ☐ Single (\$15) if *Generations* newsletter by email.
- ☐ Family (\$20) if *Generations* newsletter by email, good for one family at same address.

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

CCGS Use only

Check number _____ Amount _____
Date Received _____ Paid-through date _____

Revised August 2016

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.

September 26-Immigration and Naturalization Records

October 24 –Finding Your Genealogy with DNA.

November 28 –Share Your Heritage.

January 23 –What's New at Willard Library?

February 27 -Finding Your Genealogy with DNA Part 2.

March 27 –Using Your Family History Center at the Battle Creek Family History Center.

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