

President's Note: New Look!

by Brenda Leyndyke, President

Can you believe it is April already? That means we are winding down our program year. We finish the year with three great programs that I hope you will attend.

One is on Railroad Jobs, another is touring Fort Custer Historical Museum's new displays, and the third one is on Using the D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution) in your research.

You may notice a different look for the newsletter. The CCGS board is always trying to make good use of our financial resources and keep dues low. The new look will conserve pages and hopefully costs. Please let anyone on the board know what you think of the new look.

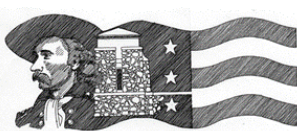
This is the next to the last President's letter I will write. I have decided that I will not run for

election as President next year. The board will be looking for someone to step into the President's position. I hope you will consider serving in this important role. The society is in good shape and new leadership will allow our society to continue the work that was started thirty years ago.

Other open positions include Vice President, Recording Secretary, Nominating Committee, Programs and Publicity, Social Media and Special Projects chairpersons. I plan to stay on the board in my role as MGC delegate and the Newsletter Chairperson. I have enjoyed serving as President and hope the next person to volunteer will too. Thank you to everyone who has helped make my job easier. ■

Important: Sign Up for the May Meeting

It's time to register for the May 22nd meeting. CCGS members and guests will be touring Fort Custer Historical



Museum on the our last tour. They grounds of Fort Custer include a commander's Training Center, cottage and military picture I.D will be Augusta. New displays e q u i p m e n t . required at the gate have been added since Registration is required upon arrival. ■

and must be made by calling Brenda Leyndyke at 269 275-0462 by May 15th.

We will meet at Fort Custer, the entrance is off Armstrong Road. A

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Meetings

April 24, 2018

"Railroad Jobs: What a Day at Work Entailed" with Mark Tomlonson

May 22, 2018

"Meet at Fort Custer to tour Fort Custer Historical Museum"

June 26, 2018

"Using the D.A.R in your Research" with local D.A.R. members.

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 16036 Old 27 N, Marshall, MI. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month, except for December, July, and August.

All meetings are free and open to the public.

<http://www.migenweb.org/calhoun/ccgs.htm>

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Recording Secretary-OPEN
Corresponding Secretary-Chelsea Johnson

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Newsletter-Brenda Leyndyke
Nominating-OPEN
Pioneer Certificates-Darlene Stange
Programs and Publicity-Brenda Leyndyke
Research-Chelsea Johnson
Social Media-OPEN
Special Projects-OPEN
Website-OPEN

Other Society Positions

Past-President-Alex VanZanten
FGS Delegate-James Jackson
MGC Delegates-Brenda Leyndyke and Chelsea Johnson
Alternate-James Jackson

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If you have suggestions for Generations articles, program ideas or speakers, or if you have questions, contact us at

MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com

Grand Rapids to Host National Conference

The National Genealogical Society will be holding a family history conference 2-5 May, 2018. Online registration is closed, but onsite registration is available during the conference. Find all your conference news, including session topics at <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

A society night will be held Wednesday, 2 May from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Amway Grand Plaza Hotel Center Concourse. This is a good time to meet representatives of local genealogical societies and find new research sources and publications. CCGS will be in attendance. Society night is free and open to the public.

Another free activity during the conference is the Exhibit Hall. Various genealogical vendors will be present to display their products. This is a good time to see what is available, including DNA kits. Check the conference website for exhibitors and hall hours. ■

All Aboard for April's Meeting

The society's April meeting topic will be "Railroad Jobs: What a Day at Work Entailed." Railroads 100 years ago were the largest non-farm employer in the United States, but few today realize just what those jobs entailed. Historian Mark Tomlonson will give a presentation on what it was like to work on the railroads, what responsibilities the positions had, and how those jobs have changed in modern times.

Mark Tomlonson has been a fan of railroads for as long as he can remember. He posts a daily blog on railroad history that is read by over 2,500 readers, and reprinted in several railroad historical society newsletters. He is well known for his presentations on Kalamazoo County railroad history to historical and other groups. He works as Chief Engineer of WMUK, and is also a part-time musician. ■

CCGS Ends Year with DAR Resources

We finish our program year on Tuesday, June 26th. Local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) members will join us and explain how to use DAR resources in your research. The DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS) is a free resource that helps one with their genealogical research. DAR members will explain more about their organization and how to use it to conduct research. A special social event is being planned for 6:00 p.m. Join us, rain or shine, and talk with fellow members and guests. ■

Calhoun County Genealogical Society

PO Box 879, Marshall MI 49068-0879 • MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com • <http://www.migenweb.org/calhoun/ccgs.htm>

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Spotlight on Athens Cemeteries

Each year, the Athens Area Historical Society sponsors a Tombstone Tour, a guided walking tour of the Athens Burr Oak Cemetery which is lighted with torches, and the entire affair is festive in nature. Local citizens play the roles of citizens no longer with us but who have contributed highly to the history of the wonderful community of Athens. The tour is conducted in the fall each year with two shows on the same day. Each tour usually lasts about 1 1/2 hours. The tour is held regardless of the weather. The sixth tour was held on 9/27/2014 but with a new name "Tombstone Tour and Town Tales." The Society added "Town Tales" to reflect how special places, happenings, and events in Athens' past affect an entire town today. Local volunteers take visitors on a guided tour into the past, as historical figures who are dressed in period costume tell their life stories or a tale of the town's past new event. Special accommodations are made with golf carts for those who need help getting about. Light refreshments are available. The Tombstone Tour is the largest fundraiser of AAHS involving many hundreds of volunteer hours.



The list of local Athens area cemeteries was provided to attendees of the 2017 Tombstone Tour and Town Tales. Visit the AAHS website at www.athens-mi-historicalsociety-com.webs.com for pictures and information from past tours and to learn about the Athens Area Historical Society.

CEMETERIES LOCATED WITHIN TEN MILES OF ATHENS

1.	Abscota	N Dr. S. & 7 Mile Rd.	6.2 mi. NE
2.	Barrington	N Dr. S. & 9 1/2 Mile Rd.	9.5 mi. NE
3.	Beard	38 th St. & Z Ave. E.	6.5 mi. W
4.	Blossom	Corner of Ralston & Blossom Rd.	5 mi. SW
5.	Burlington	M-60, West of Burlington	7.9 mi. SE
6.	Burr Oak	595 V Dr. S, Athens	0 mi.
7.	Factoryville	Leonidas Twp., on Shorts Rd.	3.9 mi. SW
8.	S. Fulton	42 St., Fulton	5 mi. NW
9.	Indian Mission	1 1/2 Mile Rd., Pine Creek	2 Mi. W
10.	Leonidas	Leonidas, Fulton Rd.	6.7 mi. SW
11.	Leroy Congregational	H Dr. S., West of Joppa	7 mi.
12.	Mather-Voyce	5 Mile Rd., between H & K Dr.	6.6 mi.
13.	North Athens	M Dr. S & 2 Mile Rd.	6 mi.
14.	North Sherwood	M-60	1.6 mi. SW
15.	Northside	Wakeshma Twp, N. Fulton Rd. & V Drive	5.9 mi. NW
16.	Old Burg	U Dr. S.	1 mi. E
17.	Riverside	Union City	5.9 mi.
18.	Sherwood	North Main St.	5.4 mi. S
19.	Stimpson	O Dr. S, East of 2 Mile Rd.	3.7 mi. N
20.	Walker	M-66, North of Athens	3.9 mi. N

Source: 2017 Athens Tombstone Walk, Athens Area Historical Society

Generations

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

*Special membership
pricing through May!*

Calhoun County Genealogical Society *Membership Special*

\$10 Renewal Conference Special

Current members who renew by May 22 qualify for this one time price for emailed newsletter copies. This price does not include a postal mail copy of *Generations*.

Name _____ Phone _____

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Please make your check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society or CCGS.

Special pricing expires May 22, 2018. Membership good through August 2019

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