

President's Note: Celebrating 30 Years!

by Brenda Leyndyke, President

How many years of the last thirty have you been involved in CCGS? CCGS is celebrating its 30th anniversary in October. We are planning a special program brought to you by Albion District Library, Marshall District Library, and CCGS. Our meeting will be held at the Marshall LDS Church, 16036 Old 27 N at 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 23rd.

Guest speaker will be professional researcher and genealogical speaker Dan Earl. Dan has over 25 years as a researcher and has spoken throughout the United States and Canada on topics of genealogy. One of Dan's most popular topics, "Funeral Homes and Family History: They Are Dying to Meet You!" will be our October program. This is a must see presentation. Dan fills his talks with humor and great information. Put it

on your calendar now and join us as we celebrate our 30th.

We would like to celebrate you our members, by joining present members with past and future members. Please invite anyone who has an interest in family history and help make this a great, big, family history celebration.

Unfortunately, this will be my last President's Note, unless others will step up to help. I have been doing the President, Vice President, Chair of Programs and Publicity, and more for quite awhile now. Due to aging parental health care issues I am unable to do the job as effectively as I would like to. Please consider taking on one of these important roles. I am willing to stay on the board and would consider stepping back to Vice President, if a President steps forward. See newsletter for more information.■

Revised Michigan Research Guide Released

National Genealogical Society (NGS) released the revised and updated version of their Research in the States Series for Michigan at the NGS May, in Grand Rapids. Family History Shirley M. DeBoer was Conference held in the original author and



CCGS President, Brenda Leyndyke, used Shirley's work and built upon it. The book sold out at the conference, but copies are available at the NGS website: www.ngsgenealogy.org. Michigan is one of 20 state guides available.■

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Meetings

September 25, 2018

"Organization Schmorganization" with Jeff Mason

October 23, 2018

"Funeral Homes and Family History: They Are Dying to Meet You!" with Daniel Earl

November 25, 2018

"Michigan's Involvement in World War I" with Steve Russo

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>

Officers

President-Brenda Leyndyke
Vice-President-OPEN
Recording Secretary-OPEN
Corresponding Secretary-Chelsea Johnson

Treasurer-Stephanie Tobolski

Committee Chairs

Hospitality-Laurie Hodge
Membership-Marcie Telfer
Newsletter-Brenda Leyndyke
Nominating-OPEN

Pioneer Certificates-Darlene Stange

Programs and Publicity-Brenda Leyndyke

Research-Chelsea Johnson

Social Media-Toni Ardis

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



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

MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com

What's That Mess on the Desk?

Do you have a mess on the desk and don't know how to get the paper, or digital file, monster under control? Join us at 7 p.m. on **September 25th** for "Organization Schmorganization." CCGS favorite, Jeff Mason, will provide tips and tricks to keep your documents nice and tidy, and we'll review some computer file structures that will give you quick and easy access to your digital information.

Jeff has worked as a CPA in the Lansing area for the past 27 years. He has been an active genealogist for the last 42 years, doing extensive research in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. He has also performed extensive research of records in England & Wales, as his English research has taken him to the former Family History Centre in London, the Society of Genealogists in London, the Worcestershire County Records office, and visits to ancestral hometowns in rural England. ■

Funeral Home Records

Most genealogists know to look in a cemetery to find their ancestors, but what about the funeral home? Funeral home records can provide loads of genealogically rich information. This presentation will teach participants what types of records are typically found in funeral homes, how to locate these resources online and "in the field", as well as provide real life examples of how to search for ancillary clues in funeral home records.

Albion District Library, Marshall District Library and CCGS are sponsoring internationally known speaker, Daniel Earl, for "Funeral Homes and Family History: They Are Dying to Meet You!" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, **October 23rd** at the Marshall LDS Church, 16036 Old 27 N. Marshall, MI.

Dan got his start in family history at age 10 when his father took him to the grave of his great-grandfather; that sparked a lifetime of interest in family history. Dan has spent the last 25 years researching his own family history and helping others make history a part of their story. ■

Celebrate WWI's Armistice Centennial

Michigan contributed over 135,000 men and women to the World War I effort. November's program will celebrate the Armistice centennial of WWI. Portage librarian, Steve Rossio, will focus on Michigan's involvement in the war, including the draft, mobilization, and fighting conditions. Steve will provide tips for researching your WWI ancestors and have a display of WWI artifacts for you to see.

The Tuesday, **November 25th**, 7 p.m. meeting will be held at Marshall LDS Church, 16036 Old 27 N., Marshall, MI. ■

Calhoun County Genealogical Society

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

30 Years of Society History

The society's October meeting is a special event and we invite you to join us as we celebrate 30 years of being a society. Our early history is tied to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah when six Albion researchers met while doing research at the library and decided that Calhoun County needed a genealogical society. CCGS was founded in 1988 with 11 founders and incorporators. There were 98 charter members of the CCGS.

The Founders were Patricia Geyer, Valerie Radee, Marilyn P. Hennon, Joan Von Holten, Margaret M. "Peggy" Sindt, and Martha Smith. The Incorporators included the six founders and Marlene L. Plassman, Helen L. Radee, Ramona Short, Mary T. Dunes and M. John Fox.

For thirty years CCGS has been serving the genealogical community of Calhoun County and that is something to celebrate. Join us Tuesday, October 23rd at 7 p.m. at the Marshall LDS Church for a special celebration. ■



CCGS Thanks Board Members and Seeks More Leaders

Your board is a group of hard working individuals who keep the society running. Thanks go out to those who have served this past year: Brenda Leyndyke, Toni Ardis, Chelsea Johnson, Stephanie Tobolski, Laurie Hodge, Marcie Telfer, Janice Goodson, Darlene Stange, Alex VanZanten, and James Jackson.

CCGS has room on its board for more leaders. If you can volunteer a couple of hours a month to serve your society please contact President Brenda Leyndyke at (269) 275-0462 or brae957@gmail.com

2018-2019 positions available include President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Nominating Committee Members, Programs and Publicity and Special Projects volunteers.

Job descriptions are available for all positions. Each volunteer will receive a folder with a list of duties for their position. If you would like to see one before you

volunteer, please email Brenda at brae957@gmail.com.

The Nominating Committee is a group of three people who find volunteers for open positions. The Program and Publicity volunteer works closely with the Vice President and schedules programs (which are done for this year!) and writes press releases of upcoming meetings. Special Projects finds and oversees any projects that the group would like to participate in.

With no staff, volunteers are the lifeblood of our society. It takes many hours to carry out the important work of an active society, but many volunteers make light work.

Officers and committee chairs attend monthly board meetings, in Battle Creek, to make important decisions for the society. It's rewarding to have a hand in carrying out worthwhile projects, meeting people and having fun.

Consider sharing your time and talents. ■

Annual Meeting to be held September 28th

Our 2018-2019 annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28th at 7:00 p.m. Election of officers will take place at the meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor, but the person nominated has to agree to serve.

Please consider volunteering in one of these positions.

President: OPEN

Vice President: OPEN

Recording Secretary: OPEN

Corresponding Secretary: Chelsea Johnson

Treasure: Stephanie Tobolski

Pioneer Certificates Issued

by Darlene Stange

Do you have an ancestor who was part of Calhoun County's History? Did your ancestor reside in Calhoun County prior to 1921? If you can prove the connection and the residency prior to 1921, you are eligible for the Calhoun County Pioneer Certificate program.

Go to our CCGS web site at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~micalhou/pionist.htm> for more information and to apply for your certificate!

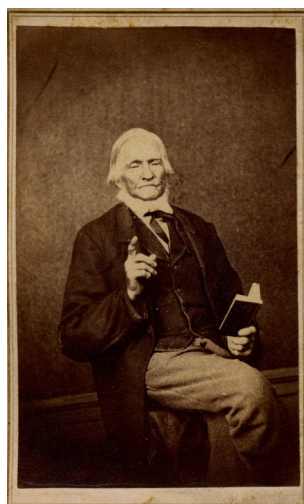
LATEST PIONEER CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

Pioneer Certificate Categories	
Pre 1861	Pioneer Gold Seal
1861-1890	Settler Silver Seal
1891-1920	Builder Seal

No.	Recipient of Pioneer Certificate	Ancestor
372	Isabella Lilyanna Dominguez	John Grove Bean
373	Kenneth Nagel	Hon. Roy H. Brigham
374	Olivia Elsie Dominguez	John Grove Bean
377	Kimberly Ann Derrenkamp	Daniel Henry Billinghamurst
379	Darlene Ann (Palmiter) Stange	Enos Palmiter
380	Dennis Lee Palmiter	Enos Palmiter
381	Lonn Norman Palmiter	Enos Palmiter
382	Ryan William Stange	Enos Palmiter
383	Jenny Leigh Stange	Enos Palmiter

No.	Recipient of Settler Certificate	Ancestor
375	Martha J Longo Bartel	John Anderson
378	Judy Karns	Merritt N. Cleveland

No.	Recipient of Builder Certificate	Ancestor
376	Martha J Longo Bartel	George Keyser



ENOS PALMITER (1794-1883), Alonzo Palmiter (1826-1905), Charles Palmiter (1879-1957), Harrie Palmiter (1899-1963); Norman Palmiter (1925-2001)

Five recent Pioneer Certificate recipients descend from the family of Enos Palmiter. Enos was born in Hartford, Connecticut in 1794, started his family in New York and Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and settled in Convis Twp., Calhoun Co., Michigan in 1846. He came from a long line of farmers and ministers and was, himself, a farmer, justice of the peace, and minister. Every generation forward to today has had Calhoun County farmers, including Charles and Harrie Palmiter, owners of Palmiter & Son Dairy in Battle Creek from 1919-1946, and Dennis and Lonn Palmiter, third-generation Athens farmers. Lonn's son, Jason, now farms with his dad and uncle, too. Perhaps he will wish to apply for a certificate, as well.

Upcoming Events

September

8th: 1:30-3:00 pm. Diana Barrett "World War I Women's Cards", Grand Rapids Public Library

17th: 7:00 pm. Shirley Hodges "Michigan-Ontario Migration" at KVGs meeting, Portage District Library, 300 Library Lane, Portage

19th: 5:30 pm. Shirley Hodges "Hints for Researching at Allen County Public Library" 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte

October

13th: CeCe Moore-Your Genetic Genealogist, Got Ancestors?! Seminar.
www.wmgs.org

November

3rd: 9-4. John Phillip Colletta, Lansing, MI (see article to the right)

10th: 7 am—9:30 pm. Eaton County Genealogical Society **Bus Trip** to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne. To register <http://www.miegs.org/BusTrip.pdf>

13th & 14th: Western Michigan Genealogical Society **Bus Trip** to Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne. To register, http://www.wmgs.org/pdf/BusTrip_2018-Tu-We-Nov13-14-form.pdf

Email your events to michigancalhouncene@yahoo.com.

Member Tip: *Write a Productive Query*

Did you know that as a member of CCGS one of your benefits is to include two queries a year in the "Generations" newsletter?

A well-written query will get the best results. You wouldn't want to put a for sale advertisement in the newspaper and forget the phone number to call. Writing a query is kind of like writing an advertisement, you need to include all pertinent information.

Use these tips to write your query:

1. Ask a specific question about one individual or couple.
2. Add a subject line, especially when sending an email query. Surname, place name and dates should suffice.
3. Use actual names, David, Sarah, etc., instead of he or she. It eliminates confusion.

4. Use abbreviations that are well known to the genealogical community.: birth (b), marriage (m; m1; m2) death (d). Spell the word out if in doubt.
5. Include only the information relevant to your query. You may find your stories interesting, but the important information will get lost in your query.

Your goal is to write a query that can be read quickly and easily, one that provides a result! Keep it simple, specific, concise and clear and submit it to MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com Add "Newsletter Query" to your subject line.



A Day with John Phillip Colletta

Spend the day with Dr. John P. Colletta, an internationally known, entertaining speaker. He was the keynote speaker at the recent NGS conference in Grand Rapids.

Dr. Colletta will be the featured speaker at the Michigan Genealogical Council's Fall Seminar, **November 3, 2018** at the Michigan History Center, 702. W.

Kalamazoo, Lansing MI.

Dr. Colletta will be speaking on the following topics:

- Finding the Town of Origin: U.S. Sources for Discovering an Ancestor's Native Town Overseas
- Lesser Used Federal Records: Sources of Rich Detail about Ancestors' Lives

- The County Courthouse: Your "Trunk in the Attic"
- Breaking through Brick Walls: Use your Head!

This event is sponsored by the Michigan Genealogical Council, along with the Archives of Michigan and the Library of Michigan.

More information and registration is available at mimgc.org

Researching World War I Ancestors in St. Louis, Missouri

Most genealogists know of the fire that happened at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1973. The fire caused extensive damage to the Army and Air Force Official Military Personnel Files (OMPF). The loss included records from 1912 to 1964. World War I record loss was devastating.¹ OMPF's are available for the Navy and Marines.

What is an Army researcher to do? There are alternate records available to researchers at the National Archives and Records Administration in St. Louis, Mo.

These records provide genealogical information that may help in one's research of WWI ancestors.

What's Available for WWI?

- Burial Case Files
- Deceased Veterans Claims Files
- Nurse Corp Rosters
- Pay Cards and Vouchers
- World War I Award cards
- World War I National Guard papers
- Court Martial records

- Morning Reports
- Unit Rosters, these are indexed by unit, arm of service and then numerical designation(17th Infantry)
- Civilian Personnel Records
- Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)
- Works Progress Administration (WPA)
- Veterans Administration Master Index File 1917-1972
- Deceased Veterans Claims Files 1917-1948
- American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) 1917-1920



NARA is very helpful when requesting information on veterans. Start your World War I NARA journey at <https://www.archives.gov/st-louis> and Genealogy and Historical Research <https://www.archives.gov/st-louis/research>

¹ "The 1973 Fire, National Personnel Records Center" National Archives and Records Administration (<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/fire-1973>)

Photo credit: wiki commons

11th Hour, 11th Day, 11th Month

This November 11th marks the 100th Anniversary of the end of the United States involvement in World War I, the war to end all wars. Germany signed the peace agreement in Compiègne, France the morning of November 11, 1918 and it went into effect at 11:00 am that day. This Armistice agreement ended the Western Front hostilities.

Events leading up to the agreement included Kaiser William II of Germany abdicating on November 9th. and Kaiser Charles I of Austria-Hungary abdicating on the 10th. Poland, Austria and Czechoslovakia were proclaimed soon after.

France celebrates this day as a National holiday, the United States celebrates November 11th as Veteran's Day. Germany holds a day of mourning, "Volkstrauertag."

Photo shows French and German delegates, signing an armistice after the fall of France, inside a railroad coach in the Compiègne Forest in France. Credit: Library of Congress.■



World War I: Research Resources

A few resources available for researching WWI ancestors

Identifying your World War I ancestor is your first step in researching. Your first stop should be the 1930 United States Federal Census. Two questions were asked about military service:¹

1. Whether the person is a veteran of the U.S. military or naval forces mobilized for any war or expedition .
2. If yes, what war or expedition?

Generally, those born between 1872-1900 are a possibility. This takes into account those serving at a very young age or a very old age.

Once you have your names, look for the World War I draft registrations. The WWI Selective Service System was in place from May, 1917 to May, 1919. There were 3 registrations:

1. June 5, 1917 -- all men 21-31
2. June 5, 1918 -- those who attained age 21 after June 5, 1917
3. Sept. 12, 1918 -- all men, 18-45

These cards are available at FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com "United States World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918."

Other WWI resources:

- **Family Search:** United States, YMCA World War I Service Cards, 1917-1919; United States, Index to Naturalizations of World War I Soldiers, 1918. and Various State Collections.
- **Family Search Wiki:** "World War I United States Military Records, 1917-1918."

¹United States Census Bureau, https://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades/index_of_questions/1930_1.html

- **Archives of Michigan:** Check SeekingMichigan.org "World War I Research Guide No. 4d" for Archives holdings. It is under the "Seek" tab, then "Guides".

- **Library of Michigan:** An ANSWER catalog keyword search "World War I" returned over 800 resources.

- **National Archives:** See separate article on page 6.

- **Ancestry.com** (\$): draft registration cards, muster rolls, death records, gravesite registrations, transport service passenger lists and more. Check your local library for free access.

- **Fold3.com** (\$): death files, FBI case files, state department records, Navy cruise books, U.S. Expeditionary Force-North Russia and more.

- **Cyndi'sList.com:** Links to numerous online resources relating to WWI.

- **InternetArchive.com:** a non-profit free resource of books, music, websites and more. A search for World War I returned over 28,000 resources.

- **Google Books:** index of full text books. World War I keyword search returned 30 million hits. Search for state, local, and unit histories here.

- **ChroniclingAmerica:** a historic newspaper division of Library of Congress.

- **State and Local Histories:** check familysearch.org Wiki for "United States World War I State

and Local Histories" list of publications.

- **Unit Histories:** familysearch.org Wiki for "United States World War I Unit Histories".

- **American Battle Monuments Commission:** for burials overseas.

- **Nationwide Gravesite Locator:** for burials in the United States.

- **World War I Document Archive:** archive of primary documents, international in focus.

- **University Archives:** primary sources for researchers. One example is the University of Wisconsin World War I Digital Collection.

- **World War I Centennial Commission:** Check their "Stories of Service" and "Family Ties" sections.

- **Fort Custer Historical Society Museum.** Records and artifacts pertaining to Camp Custer's role in WWI.

- Websites for newspapers, maps, military sites, museums, publications, societies, timelines, war diaries, and more can be found online. Put Google to work for you.



Generations

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

*1988-2018
30 years of serving the
genealogical community
of Calhoun county!*

Join Us-Membership is Due Now!

Calhoun County Genealogical Society Membership

New _____ Renewal _____

_____ Email Family \$15

_____ Postal Mail Family \$18

DATE _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Would you like someone to contact you about volunteer opportunities with CCGS? Yes No

Would you like to donate to CCGS? Yes No If yes, amount _____

Make checks payable to CCGS, send check and completed form to:

CCGS Membership Chair

P.O. Box 879

Marshall, MI 49068

If you would like to receive a membership card, please include a stamped, self addressed envelope with your membership.