

# GENERATIONS



*The Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society*

*Founded 1988*

**Volume 11 / Number 5**

**April / May 1999**

***The next meeting of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society:***

## **Using Land Records in Genealogical Research**

- ◆ Presented by Morris O. Thomas
- ◆ Wednesday, April 28, 1999 (yes, Wednesday!)
- ◆ 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall, Marshall, MI

Special guest speaker for the evening is Mr. Morris O. Thomas

- Professor of Geography, Lansing Community College
- Visiting Professor of Geography, Michigan State University



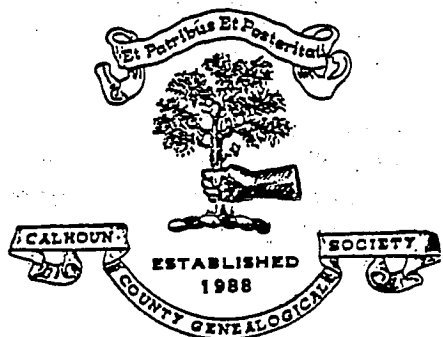
Professor Thomas will explain how to use the United States Public Land Survey System (USPLSS) and Metes and Bounds descriptions to glean genealogical information from many sources. Land research sources include abstracts from land grants, deeds, tract books, rural property inventories, tax assessments, survey notes, cadastral maps and topographic maps.

Michigan's land records provide a wealth of information that would be of interest to genealogists. Most of the land in Michigan was surveyed between 1815 and 1855 using the USPLSS method. Some parcels had been surveyed earlier using the Metes and Bounds method.

This program of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society is free and open to the public.

## CCGS Officers and Board Members

President: Sandy Redmond  
(616) 729-5258 (H)  
Vice President: Nancy Hibiske  
(616) 962-3498 (H)  
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(616) 6714733 (H)  
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(616) 781-1205 (H)  
Corresponding Secretary: Tern Plotas  
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(517) 857-2747 (H)  
Past President: Nancy Hibiske  
Pioneer Certificate Chair: Verla Potts (616) 781-8594 (H)  
Newsletter Editors: Sandy Redmond (see above)  
Nancy Hibiske (see above)



The Calhoun County Genealogical Society is a non-profit, federally tax-exempt, State-Chartered organization. Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues for the 1998/1999 year beginning September 1 are \$12.00. Memberships are accepted year round. All members receive the bi-monthly newsletter Generations.

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the VFW Hall located at 800 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall, MI *unless otherwise specified*. Programs are free and the public is invited.

## Research Materials Available from the Calhoun County Genealogical Society

The 1877 History of Calhoun County, MI (reprinted) Over 350 pages, printed on acid free, archival paper, and is hard-cover, library-quality bound, includes every name index. \$55.00

Cemeteries of Eckford Twp. Calhoun County, MI (110 pages, over 2,100 names) \$10.00

Clarence Township Cemeteries in Calhoun Co., MI (Clarence Center, Dyer, Hunt, Krenerick and Nichols) (66 pages, over 2,100 names) \$7.00

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp. Calhoun Co., MI (35 pages, over 1,000 names) \$6.00

Every Name Index for Generations, the Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society August 1988 - June 1995 (48 pages, over 2,800 names) \$5.00

Beginner's Guide to Family History Research by Desmond Walls Allen and Carolyn Earle Billingsley (46 pages) \$9.00

Bentley Corners Cemetery, Clarendon Twp., Calhoun Co., MI (14 pages) \$6.00

Marriage Records of Calhoun County, MI 1836-1890 (248 pages, indexed) \$18.50

St. Joseph Cemetery, Clarendon Twp., Calhoun Co., MI (25 pages) \$6.00

Transcriptions of the Gravestones in the Rice Creek Cemetery, Lee Twp., Calhoun Co., MI (49 pages) \$6.00

MI residents must add 6% sales tax. All prices include shipping. To order the above publications please send a check payable to:

**PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS**  
**Calhoun County Genealogical Society**  
**P.O. Box 879**  
**Marshall, MI 49068**

## president's ponderings

Well, here we are nearing the end of April, and that just doesn't seem possible. Of course, for seriously afflicted genealogists, that means a summer of unparalleled joy scrounging through cemeteries! Our faithful cemetery researchers are still hard at it. They don't even rest throughout the winter, because that's the time when all their data gets checked, double checked, and rechecked. Volunteers are *desperately* needed to help with this project. Please contact Ruth Kaiser at 517-857-2747 to get in on the fun.

Thanks to Terri Plotas, Timira Volstomer and Pat Geyer for their dedication to the Society by managing our vendor table at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Genealogy and History Book Fair. This event was held Sunday, April 11 at the New Lansing Center. On the other side of the convention hall was the Antiquarian Book and Paper Show. Both events were heavily attended, and the CCGS did very well with over \$150 in book sales. Most importantly, we had a tremendous amount of interest in our society, and handed out lots of informational brochures.

There are some great events scheduled for this summer – check out page 64 of this newsletter. Additionally, you may be interested in The Abrams Genealogy Series, Using the Library of Michigan's Abrams Foundation Historical Collection:

April 30, 1999	Cemetery Records and Resources (Rare Book Room)
June 1, 1999	How to use Ancestry.com (Computer Training Center)
June 4 (Repeat)	How to use Ancestry.com (Computer Training Center)
August 13, 1999	Vital Record Research (Lake Huron Room)
October 15, 1999	Genealogy and the Internet (Lake Huron Room)
December 3, 1999	Beyond 1920: Current Sources of Genealogical Information (Lk Huron Room)

Fees are \$10 per session, or \$40 for all sessions. Contact Carole Callard or Randy Riley at 517-373-1300.

We received a wonderful letter of encouragement from our Past President Jo Peck. Always the volunteer, Jo is the President and Newsletter Editor of the Temecula Valley Genealogical Society (which she founded!). She also sent us copies of their newsletter, which we will share at upcoming meetings. Some of her suggestions for *our* newsletter, which we are really excited about, include: have a local historian write a column, a column with regular updates from the Albion and Battle Creek libraries, a genealogy how-to series from knowledgeable members, etc. As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are seeking assistance on the newsletter. THANK YOU to Ed Williams who has stepped forward to volunteer. He will definitely need help, and we are excited about our members regularly contributing material.

Finally, we are still seeking officers and members to volunteer on the election nominating committee. Our Membership Chair, Ilene Woodman, has graciously agreed to return to her post for a second year. I will stay as President. So, opportunities exist for Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. Additionally, we have not had an Historian for the past two years, and would like to re-activate that position. Please let any of your officers know what position you would be able to fill. We are in the process of writing descriptions of the responsibilities of each of the offices, so the new officer will have a great guideline to go by. We sincerely have a *great* time as officers, and the "shared load" helps to take the burden off.

## History of Marengo Township

*Below is a synopsis of the Marengo Township history as found in the 1877 History of Calhoun County. Originally published in 1877, the Calhoun County Genealogical Society had the History republished in March of 1998. See page 60 of this newsletter for information on how to order a copy.*

The first entries of land were made on June 16, 1831, by Seeley NEAL, Ashel WARNER, Elijah CRANE and A. DUSTIN. On July 4, Colonel John AINSLEY and Erastus KIMBALL moved in. Joseph AMES came in August, Thomas CHISHOLM September 1, Alfred D. WRIGHT on the day following, Elijah A. BIGELOW November 28, Nathan PIERCE the day after, Alfred KILLAM on May 30, 1832, and M. J. BAGG upon the 31<sup>st</sup>.

When the "Michigan fever" – a term applied to the general desire to emigrate to the Peninsular State – was at its height, Mr. AINSLEY and wife were residents of Pennsylvania. They were three years married, young and ambitious. Their personal property was two trunks, a chest of tools, and a baby. Financially there was a credit of three hundred dollars. Arrived at Detroit and unacquainted with the country, they were undecided what course to take. Acting on the advice of a road acquaintance, they set out for Calhoun County, whose fine lands had been graphically described to them. George W. DRYER and family arrived in 1833, and the description of family movements as told by Mrs. Dryer is worthy of record here. The last night passed on the journey was spent at Maynard's tavern. Of this she says, "I had known ever since leaving home that this was to be our final stopping place, and had, of course, attached considerable consequence to it. I had not expected to find much of a village, not an eastern hotel, but I must confess that I was a little disappointed when, coming in sight of a small log cabin, I was informed it was Colonel Maynard's. I did not then understand the difficulties encountered in building in a new country. Humble and unpretending as was the outward appearance at Maynard's, we found comfort and good cheer within, and though not exactly an eastern hotel, we had an eastern host and hostess, if true politeness and good breeding are meant by that term.

A board shanty was DRYER'S first residence. A buffalo robe hung as a door over the entrance. Several mechanics came out with Mr. DRYER. There were Henry GARDANIER and Wandall BARTLES, carpenters, and Thomas PRYOR, stone-mason. In 1834 George W. PATTISON arrived with his family, and immediately commenced running a team between Detroit and Marshall thereby supplying an avenue for provisions and necessities, which was for several years the main dependence of the community. During the same year PATTISON brought in a stock of goods, and a store was opened by himself and George W. DRYER. They sold to the firm of Harris & Austin, who enlarged the business and continued in trade.

Most of the old settlers have passed away. Among the few remaining are Colonel and Mrs. AINSLEY, S. G. PATTISON, and G. W. DRYER. The latter reside on farms entered by them. Nathan PIERCE visited Calhoun in November 1831, and located large tracts in Marengo and Sheridan. It was not until the spring of 1844 that he removed thither with his family and located on the farm originally entered by DRYER. Mrs. PIERCE died in 1861; he followed her in March, 1862. Dr. R. B. PORTER, a graduate of Castleton college, Vermont, moved in from Washington County during 1836. In 1833, Loren MAYNARD of Madison county, New York, settling on Section 33, erected a log house, and opened the tavern of which mention has been made.

Several men, citizens of Oswego and Cayuga counties, New York, came out to Michigan in 1836 to prospect for land. The party consisted of David MILLER, Caleb HANCHETT, B. H. CARRIER, Abram HADDEN, and Amaziah CARRIER. A saw-mill was built on Rice Creek by George KETCHUM in 1835. Ketchum sold to M. J. BAGG, who operated it some years. The first flouring and grist-mill was built in 1839 by Sidney S. ALCOTT. He engaged as miller John EVANS, just arrived from Rochester, NY. Carding machinery was brought into Marengo by Henry MALLORY in 1835. The pioneer blacksmith was George CHRISTIAN.

## **WHAT'S UP AT WILLARD?**

Kathleen Strang informs us that the following projects are currently underway at Willard Public Library in Battle Creek.

### ***The Collier Collection***

The Ross Collier Collection is a virtual treasure trove of invaluable information for the historian and genealogist alike. Unfortunately, some of the information is difficult to read, and the collection is not indexed. No more! The collection has been photocopied, and in the process was enlarged and darkened to improve legibility. Additionally, it is being *indexed*! Eventually, the collection will also be available on microfilm. Currently the photocopied material is available in three-ring binders.

### ***The E. W. Roberts Photo Collection***

E. Will Roberts was an engraver with Gage Printing. Additionally, he had a passion for photography, and fortunately for area historians, among his favorite subjects was the city of Battle Creek. The photo collection, entitled *Rambles Around Battle Creek*, includes numerous shots of various buildings, lakes and businesses in and around Battle Creek. Kathleen is currently in the process of writing descriptive captions and categorizing the approximately 3,500 pictures in the collection. The long term plan is for the pictures to be available on CD-ROM.

### ***The Battle Creek City Assessor's File***

In 1940 the City Assessor's office made a photographic record of all of the buildings within the Battle Creek city limits. Each photograph is mounted on a card with descriptive information about the property. It's a great way to see what Grandma and Grandpa's house looked like years ago. This collection is also being transferred to CD-ROM.

These very worthy projects are possible due to grants from the Miller Foundation, the Battle Creek Foundation, and the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.



### ***Some fun new books at Willard:***

Collecting Dead Relatives. An Irreverant Romp Through the Field of Genealogy.  
Laverne Galeener-Moore, Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., Baltimore, MD,  
1987. 929.1 GAL

Further Undertakings of a Dead Relative Collector. Laverne Galeener-Moore,  
Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1989. 929.1 GAL

History of Wyoming County, New York, 1841-1880. Includes everyname index.

## queries

Queries may be mailed to Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068

### LOTRIDGE/LOCKRIDGE/LAUGHRIDGE

Some time ago I found early settlers in the Calhoun-Barry-Allegan Counties with the surname LOTRIDGE/LOCKRIDGE. Though there are no descendants of these families remaining in the area, just in case there is interest out there, perhaps you might like to inform them of the existence of a very extensive – and VERY helpful – organization. It has members in the U.S., Canada, Ireland, Scotland and perhaps other countries I'm unaware of. For information contact:

Lloyd D. "Joe" LAUGHRIDGE (co-historian)  
742 Wayne Ave.  
Pocatello, ID 83201  
e-mail: [jopoho@juno.com](mailto:jopoho@juno.com)

### YOUNG

Robert YOUNG came from Fermanagh Co., N. Ireland to the U.S. about 1865 with his second wife, Ellen McMILLAN and two daughters, Susan Elizabeth MAYNARD and Anna Sophia BALCOM. Two of his sons, William R. and John M. were already in Calhoun Co. When and where did Robert die, and where is he buried? He is listed in Eckford on the 1870 census, but not on the 1880. Son William is buried in Olivet, son John in Albion. Daughter Anna BALCOM is buried in Marshall, and Susan MAYNARD was last living in Kent Co. Any help would be appreciated.

### WHITE

Asahel WHITE was a pioneer to Calhoun County. Asahel and his wife Alma HUBBS came from Montgomery Co., NY about 1842. Would like to correspond with any WHITE descendants.

Fran Young WILSON  
5888 E. Millerway  
Bloomfield, MI 48301  
e-mail: [BigBSIT@aol.com](mailto:BigBSIT@aol.com)

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1, 1999 **EATON COUNTY GEN. SOCIETY ANNUAL WORKSHOP.** Featured speaker: Roger D. Joslyn. Don't miss this if you have NY ancestors! Holiday Inn South, 6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing, MI. Contact the society at 517-543-8792.

May 12-15, 1999 National Genealogical Society and Virginia Gen. Society present **1999 NGS CONFERENCE IN THE STATES**, Richmond, VA. Contact Conventions in America, ask for group #659, 619-453-3686.

June 26, 1999 Michigan Genealogy Council **GENEALOGY DAY.** Library of Michigan, Lansing. Featured speaker: Sharon DeBartolo Carmack. Contact Diana M. Hebner 810-364-8430.

July 10, 1999 **TRACING YOUR GERMAN ANCESTORS.** Featured speaker: George W. Schweitzer. UW-Whitewater, Hamilton Center, Whitewater, Wisconsin. Contact Delores, 608-752-0714.

August 11-14, 1999. Federation Of Genealogical Society and the St. Louis Gen. Society present **MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS.** Contact the FGS at 888-FGS-1500.

August 21, 1999. **Flint Genealogical Society Seminar with HANK JONES and RUTH BURKHOLDER.** Baker College, Flint, MI. Contact Eleanor Koepke at 810-694-1445.

September 25, 1999. **SOJOURNER TRUTH MONUMENT DEDICATION.** Kellogg Arena, Battle Creek. Contact Michael Evans, 616-965-0521.

October 29-30, 1999. **MGC 1999 SEMINAR.** Grand Traverse Resort, Acme (Traverse City), MI. Featured speakers: Hank Jones and Cyndi (Cyndi's List) Howells. Contact Gayle Price, 3188 N. Three Mile Rd., Traverse City, MI 49686

# 6th Annual GENEALOGICAL INSTITUTE of MID-AMERICA

July 12-15, 1999 • Springfield, Illinois

The Genealogical Institute of Mid-America is a four-day program of formal instruction and intensive studies with a choice of one of the four genealogical courses offered to participants at all experience levels who wish to enhance their research skills, methods, techniques, and access to sources:

The courses are taught by a distinguished faculty in a small class setting that features excellent student /

instructor interaction. The institute also provides participants with an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow family history researchers. Participants will enroll in one of the four featured courses (see reverse side for course descriptions), and may attend the eight general sessions offered.

Sponsored by—

THE ILLINOIS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
and UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD

A separate workshop, "Taking Advantage of Your Computer," July 16, 1999, includes four lectures, extensive handouts, and **requires separate registration.**

The institute is held in the university's modern conference center where a full-service food court and campus book store are located. On-campus housing in contemporary, air-conditioned apartment suites is available at low cost. (More than 60% of Institute participants selected this option last year.)

## Four Intensive Courses (4 lectures daily)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Family History Research Principles, Standards and Sources, PART I<br>Michael Neill, M.S.              | 3 The Shaping and Expansion of America to 1870<br>Lloyd Bockstruck, M.A., M.S., F.N.G.S. |
| 2 Family History Research Principles, Standards and Sources, PART II<br>Sandra Luebking, B.S., F.U.G.A. | 4 Irish and Scots-Irish Genealogical Research<br>Steven Myers, M.A.                      |

### Registration Fee:

\$320.00 (\$350.00 postmarked after May 1, 1999) A \$50 deposit by April 30 secures early rate. Fee includes 1 course with syllabus, 8 general sessions, 3 dinners, a banquet and parking.

### Information/To Register:

For further information, to receive a brochure or to register, please contact:

Julie Slack

Office of Continuing Education  
University of Illinois at Springfield  
P.O. Box 19243

Springfield, IL 62794-9243

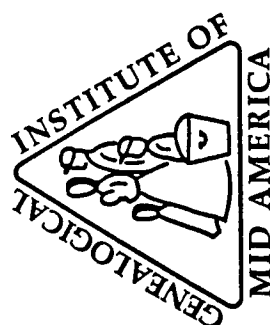
Telephone: 217/206-7464 • Fax: 217/206-7279 • E-mail: slack.julie@uis.edu

Web site: <http://www.uis.edu/~otel/genealogy>

Yes! I'm interested in the Institute. Please send me a 1999 brochure.



Yes! I'm interested in the July 16, 1999 "Taking Advantage of Your Computer" workshop. Please send me a brochure.



July 12-15, 1999 • Springfield, Illinois

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Continuing Education, University of Illinois at Springfield, P.O. Box 19243, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9243, or Fax to: 217/206-7279

NAME ARTHUR ALTON ALLENBORN 3 JAN 1869MARRIED 18 JAN 1890DIED 6 MAR 1937BURIED AT MONROVIA, LOS ANGELES Co., CALIF.RESIDED AT MICHIGAN, WASHINGTON, CALIF. possibly KENTUCKYOCCUPATION SALESMANPLACE SPRINGPORT, JACKSON Co. MICHPLACE SPRINGPORT, JACKSON Co. MICH.PLACE LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES Co. CALIFCHURCH AFF. /

MILITARY SERVICE

FATHER THOMAS HARTSBORN ALLENMOTHER (Maiden Name) SARAH M. YAGER

OTHER SPOUSE

SPOUSE Ida Laura BROASBORN 21 AUG 1872DIED 25 APRIL 1960BURIED AT MONROVIA, LOS ANGELES Co., CALIF.FATHER WILLIAM H. BROASPLACE TEKONSHA, CALHOUN Co. MICHPLACE DUARTE, LOS ANGELES Co. CAMOTHER (Maiden Name) ELLEN ROGERS

OTHER SPOUSE

## CHILDREN

	CHILDREN	BORN		DIED		MARRIED	
		DATE	PLACE	DATE	PLACE	DATE & PLACE	SPOUSE
1	Shirley Edna ALLEN	29 APRIL 1891	SPRINGPORT JACKSON Co. MICH	16 Nov. 1959	MONROVIA L.A. Co. CALIF	16 AUG 1920 TACOMA, PIERCE Co. WASH.	CHARLES HARTWELL CORSON, JR
2	Norma MARGARET ALLEN	14 Sept 1896	SPRINGPORT JACKSON Co. MICH	28 FEB 1986	DUARTE L.A. Co. CALIF		Joseph MARSHALL MILLER
3	Arlo ALLEN	13 JUNE 1901	ADRIAN LENAWEE Co. MICH			MARY MOORE 7 Sept 1926 Glendale, L.A. Co. CA	Jennie LOUISE LINN
4	LELAND THORNE BOWERS ALLEN	18 July 1906	HOMER CALHOUN Co. MICH	27 DEC 1998	NAPLES COLLIER Co. FLORIDA		
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							

## SOURCES (DOCUMENTATION):

Joseph MARSHALL MILLER D: 10 April 1987  
at DUARTE, L.A. Co., CALIF.JENNIE LOUISE LINN D: 24 MAY 1997  
at MOORINGS PARK NAPLES, COLLIER Co., FLORIDA OVER



DOCUMENTATION:

ARTHUR ALTON ALLEN - BIRTH and DEATH DATES + PLACES  
FROM TEMPLE + LA GORGE MORTUARY

MARRIAGE DATE + PLACE - WEDDING INVITATION

OCCUPATION FROM CENSUS RECORDS + LELAND ALLEN (SON)

CENSUS RECORDS -

Film # 1821936-1920-TACOMA City, Pierce Co., WASH

#1374673-1910 ADRIAN, LENAWEE Co., MICH.

#1244923-1900 ADRIAN, LENAWEE Co., MICH.

#1254585-1880 SPRINGPORT, JACKSON Co. MICH.

Ida Laura BROAS

DEATH DATES + PLACES FROM DOUGLAS + ZOOK MORTUARY

BIRTH - LETTER FROM OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK, CALHOUN Co.  
MARSHALL, MICH. (DATE + PLACE)

CENSUS RECORDS - 1920-1910-1900 - SEE ABOVE

Film # 1254577-1880 VERMONTVILLE VILLAGE, EATON Co., MICH.

LIVED IN CALIF FOR 37 yrs. MEMBER OF FIRST METH-  
ODIST Church, MONROVIA WOMEN'S CLUB + member of  
THE CHARMINADE LYRIC CLUB

BOTH ARTHUR AND IDA ARE BURIED IN CRYPTS AT  
LIVE OAK MEMORIAL PARK - MONROVIA, L.A. Co., CALIF.

SON + GRANDDAUGHTER SAY THE ALLENS LIVED IN  
KENTUCKY CIRCA 1903

\*1. FIRST MARRIAGE TO WALTER WESLEY PARKER ON 26 AUG 1914  
TACOMA, PIERCE Co., WASH.

HE DIED AUG 27, 1919 - ONE SON: JACK WESLEY PARKER 13 JULY 1915

2. MARRIED 2ND CHARLES HARTWELL CORSON, JR. 16 AUG 1920

ONE SON: CHARLES HARTWELL CORSON III TACOMA, PIERCE Co WASH.

B. 13 JULY 1921

Prepared by:

Carol R. Corson

160 Stinger Gap Rd.  
Grants Pass, OR 97527

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**Future Functions of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society**

Programs are always free and the public is welcome.  
For more information call Nancy Hibiske at 616-962-3498

- May 24, 1999      *Anticipated:* Creative Memories Workshop. Learn the proper materials to use to archivally preserve those family photos and paper documents that you've inherited. Also, creative and cleaver ways to create scrap books and colorful mementos. *Anticipated:* This meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Burnham Brook Center, 200 W. Michigan, Battle Creek, MI. *Please watch local media for confirmation of the topic and meeting place.*
- June 22, 1999      CCGS member Pat Geyer will present to us regarding the writing and publication of her book, Sheldon L. Wight, His Story, Including His Civil War Diary - 1865 Pvt. Co. F, 6<sup>th</sup> Michigan Calvary.
- July and August      See you in the cemetery!
- September 28      Kathleen Strang, head of the Local History Room at Willard Public Library in Battle Creek, will present to the Society on the recent projects the Local History Room has undertaken.

All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the VFW Hall, 800 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall, MI *unless otherwise specified.*

**THE CALHOUN COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**PO BOX 879**  
**MARSHALL, MI 49068**

*(please note our new address!!)*