

Generations

Volume 12, Number 7 ■ August/September 2000 ■ the newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society



Help plan the future of your society

Planning for the future will be the focus of the next Calhoun County Genealogical Society meeting, and your ideas are needed.

The Sept. 26 meeting will begin with annual reports from officers and committee chairs, followed by the election of a new leadership team (see page 86 for candidate profiles and your ballot).

All attendees will have the chance to play a part in planning the society's activities for the coming year. During the working session, participants will be asked questions like what kinds of projects they think the group should undertake, and what types of programs and speakers would interest them. Start a scholarship fund, host a seminar — all ideas are appreciated.

To prepare for the meeting, start thinking about what you'd like to get from your organization.

An hour before the meeting, at 6 p.m., a computer interest group session will be held. Anyone interested in sharing and learning tips for using computers in genealogy is welcome to gather in the B.E. Henry Building upper-level conference room. ■

NEXT CCGS MEETING:

Society planning session

Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

B.E. Henry Building, Marshall

Elections • Annual reports • Planning

Top tips from our members

What tips have helped in your genealogical research?

This has undoubtedly happened to you. Just when you hit a roadblock in your family research, a genealogy friend suggested a source you hadn't thought about. Or maybe you discovered an organizing trick that helped you avoid that roadblock altogether. What are your best research tips? In each issue, we'll share ideas from members. Send your tip and name to Sue Stuever Battel at 21174 F Dr. S., Marshall, MI 49068 or suebattel@aol.com. To get us started:

Don't know when a marriage occurred? Estimate the date by adding 25 years to the man's birth year or 20 years to the woman's. The marriage most likely happened during that year, plus or minus five years. ■

Detroit 300 celebrates early settlers

by Anita Stuever

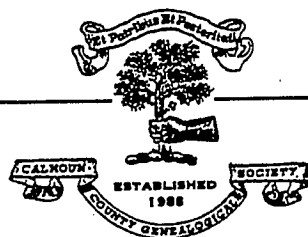
Next year Detroit will celebrate its tricentennial, a 300-year history rich in culture, ethnic diversity, social advancement, industry and commerce. This year-long event, Detroit 300, will celebrate the spirit of the metropolitan Detroit and Windsor communities and recognize the historic achievements of the region's people.

"Our history is binational," said Mary Banks, communications director for Detroit 300. "Ribbon farms' were established by French settlers on both sides of the river. The settlements that are present-day Detroit and Windsor were under the same flag(s) — French and British — until 1796."

The celebration will begin Dec. 31, 2000, with the opening of the Bicentennial Box, a time capsule created by city leaders in 1901. The year will end with the sealing of the Tricentennial Time

Detroit 300 continued on p. 90





Calhoun County Genealogical Society

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 1999-2000 year beginning Sept. 1 are \$12. Memberships are accepted year round. All members receive the bimonthly newsletter *Generations*.

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St. in Marshall, *unless otherwise specified*. Programs are free and open to the public.

Society leadership

President

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Publish your work!

by Sue Stuever Battel

John Kinney is passionate about his plea to all family history researchers: Publish, publish, publish!

Kinney, who has printed precious stories and pictures in his own family history book, urges genealogists to publish their work for the sake of preservation.

"No amount of acid-free paper is going to preserve one copy of anything," Kinney urged.

That's why he advocates printing copies of research work and sharing them with family and friends. "They will preserve them for you," he said.

Kinney, president of the Homer Historical Society, spent 10 years preparing his collection, *Beneath the Old Burr Oak*. He printed it in a large, hard-bound book, along with *Honey's Tree* by Edith Whitehead Weers.

The Homer resident found a book publisher and paid for copies of the volume to share with his family. Kinney said the hand-stitched binding cost him extra, but was worth it because the book will last longer.

If a professionally printed book is beyond your budget, Kinney said any form of publishing will do. Even photocopied pages arranged in a folder will help preserve your family's memories for generations to come. ■

President's *ponderings*

Dear Members,

In the April/May issue of *Generations*, I talked about preparing for a research trip. This June my husband, daughter and I headed for northeast Alabama, where my dad's ancestors had settled in the early 1840s.

Before our trip, I spent many hours researching where to research. Land and census records pinpointed where my ancestors lived. The next step was to locate libraries and courthouses that would hold pertinent records. Many of the libraries had web sites that enabled me to search their catalogs and determine hours. A phone call verified hours (I didn't want any surprises due to an error on a web site) and driving directions. Time was a big factor, as we only had Sunday through Wednesday in the area.

Our first stop was the New Harmony Baptist Church for Sunday morning services. My second great-grandfather John Newton Shirley was one of the first elders of the church, founded in 1872. He is buried with his wife and in-laws in the church's adjacent cemetery. Next to him is a tombstone for his brother James, claiming membership in Co. B, 48th Alabama, the same regiment that John Newton had fought in. I was later able to confirm this by checking his personnel records. In addition to being a meaningful experience to locate John Newton Shirley's grave, the other family stones in

the cemetery yielded excellent information.

My first full day in a library was at the wonderful Wallace College in Hanceville. Before our trip I had researched the library's holdings via their web site and a phone call. One record group that proved the greatest benefit to me was their Civil War person-

"A lot of up-front planning helped to make a whirlwind trip very productive."

nel records that included Alabama State Militia records. And this was only the beginning! They hold copies of many records located at the Alabama State Archives and South Carolina State Archives. I could have spent a week there and barely scratched the surface.

The next two days of research were spent in three different courthouses and another library. It was a research marathon! Accustomed to the restrained atmosphere of researching in Michigan courthouses, I was a little shocked to hear "yes, ma'am, our records are over there; just help yourself." It made researching so much faster. I was

able to cruise through probate indexes, then dig through boxes of original probate records and wills from the 1860s forward, rather than wait for a court employee to take time out from their job to assist me. Marriage, death and land records were also completely accessible.

The last library stop was in Gadsden, Ala. The library has an excellent collection of genealogical records from northeast Alabama, census records for Alabama and surrounding states, and more Confederate military records. In addition, they have a large, cross-referenced collection of family files.

A lot of up-front planning helped to make a whirlwind trip very productive. These research tactics can be applied to any part of the country. Contact the genealogy societies in your area of interest, and find the libraries, archives and historical societies. Call ahead and find out the policies of the courthouses — they may have restricted hours for genealogical research.

The next time I go I'll allow a couple more days for research, and make sure I spend more time with cousins. I'd also like to get more of a "feel" for the area rather than spending full days locked away in libraries. Next time I'll find more cemeteries and visit more churches where my family worshiped, and I'll look for old homesteads. It looks like my list is growing, so I'd better start planning that next trip!

Sandy Redmond

Time to renew your membership

Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership in the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. Annual dues for the 2000–2001 year, beginning Sept. 1, are \$12. Although membership dues are accepted year round, you are encouraged to join or renew now to avoid missing issues of the society's newsletter **Generations**. Please check the expiration date on your mailing label. If the date is 9/1/2000, you have not yet renewed your membership for 2000 and this is your last issue.

Calhoun County Genealogical Society Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address _____ @ _____ . _____

Ballot

*Circle one choice for each office below
or write in a name on the line.*

President

Joy Carter

Vice President

Carlene DeMaso

Treasurer

John Baker

Corresponding Secretary

Ramona Short

Recording Secretary

Brenda Cornish

Bring to the Sept. 26 meeting or
mail by Sept. 15, address at right.

Officers to be elected

With the new membership year comes time to elect new officers of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. A committee has nominated the members listed on the ballot at left. For each office, one member will be elected to a one-year term beginning in September. A member may hold the same office for no more than two terms, and can serve no more than six years in all offices combined.

Other important tasks of the society, such as membership, programs, the Cemetery Project, Pioneer Certificate and the newsletter, are carried out by appointees or volunteers.

Please complete the ballot at left and mail it to the election committee by Sept. 15 or bring it to the Sept. 26 meeting. Feel free to write in a candidate's name. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting. The mailing address is Election Committee, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068.

About the candidates

The following profiles were submitted by candidates.

Joy Carter began researching her family history 30 years ago. She teaches a course for improving the genealogist's skills for organizing research materials, with emphasis on a system for sorting those materials and another system for filing them. She also teaches Family History for the Sunday School organization and serves as a volunteer and consultant at the Family History Center of the LDS Church.

Continued

Elections

Continued

John Baker, who lives outside Marshall, began researching his lineage in about 1978 when a great aunt passed on some family history information. He has been a member of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society since the mid-'80s. Last year he was appointed to fill out the balance of the treasurer's term for the society.

Ramona Short started re-searching her husband's family about 20 years ago. "I was tired of going to family functions and asking him and others how so and so is related to us," she said. "Everyone always said, 'She is a cousin or an aunt,' So she is your dad's sister? 'No, I don't know how she is connected.' So I was researching in self defense." Ramona plans to publish "A Short Story" when she retires — sometime in the future. As an avid birdwatcher, Ramona admits that when she has a free minute, she can't decide whether to search for birds or search for family. ■

Volunteers sought for committees

Important committees, together with the officers, carry out the work of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. Numerous volunteer opportunities are available. Please consider sharing your time and talents. The committees that could use your help are:

Program. Planning workshops and tours and arranging for guest speakers is the role of the Program Committee. Volunteers with innovative ideas or those who can organize the details of a program are needed. If you have an idea for a program, but aren't ready to serve on the committee, pass your idea on to the CCGS vice president, who chairs this group.

Publicity. If you can work with local media and other outlets to promote CCGS, your skills are wanted here.

Publications. This committee publishes the society's research materials, listed on page 93. Interested members will work with printers to solicit bids and get books printed. Other projects are waiting, too, such as obtaining

Julia Miller volunteers as our society's **historian** and files pertinent records and news articles on the second floor of the Albion Public Library. Access is available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

ISDN numbers for society publications and distributing copies to the Library of Congress.

Cemeteries. If you brake for cemeteries like many genealogists do, a role on this committee may be for you. The society is on a mission to transcribe all the tombstones in the county. Help on one project or assist with coordinating many.

Membership. Can you recruit other genealogists to the society? Help us grow.

Pioneer Certificate. Proof-reading, indexing and other duties are a part of this project.

If your interests match the needs of a committee, please contact the chair or any officer, listed on page 84. Volunteers are important and appreciated! ■

Burton Historical Collection closed until Oct. 15

One of the Midwest's largest genealogy collections was spared from disaster because the library was well prepared when floods threatened the collection July 28. The Burton Historical Collection, part of the Detroit Public Library system, houses a collection of genealogy books and other records.

As Detroit's storm drains overflowed during a one- to two-inch downpour, water entered a basement area housing many books, government documents, magazines and photograph collections.

Document Reprocessors, a company that specializes in repairing damaged books and library materials, has freeze-dried books and other materials from the collection and three other departments.

While they work to restore the damaged documents, the Burton Historical Collection will be closed until Oct. 15. During the closure, library archivists will take the opportunity to inventory the library's special holdings, improving access to genealogy, local history, photos and rare materials. ■

World War II veterans from Tekonsha



Do any of these soldiers show up in your family tree?

Orville Alldaffer	T. R. Bowling	*Gresley Brott	Joseph Millard	Clifford E. Hunn
Elwin D. Badger	Laverl Casey	Meredith Clark	Harvey B. Randall	Victor H. Varner
Robert C. Cooper	Charles Crooks	Frederick Goheen	Rex Rainey	Vernon M. McAtee
Henry Covey	Vernon Camp	Russell Eldred	Russell Scherer	Ken Walbeck
Glenn Camp	Merl Dye	Richard Vernor	Robert Smith	Jay Johnson
Derby Dustin	Lester Senker	Elmer Marvin	Bernard Tobolski	Herbert McMurtrie
Earnest Foster	Paul Senker	Maurice Hodges	George Watson	Lloyd Newland
Warren Foster	John Hawkins	Warren Howard	Starr Walbeck	Duane E. Brewer
Ronald Foster	Earnest Hill	Lewis V. Jenkins	David Martinson	Lyle D. Ritchie
Peter Foster	Richard McAtee	Charles Millard	James Alexander	Ken Batton
Forrest Hutchins	Dr. D. B. Morrison	Daryl Leatherbury	Wesley Miller	Rex Saltzgaber
*Leo Long	Earnest Rarick	John Rigg	Allen Mains Jr.	Edward J. Semmelroth
*Lawrence Miller	Clair Rarick	George Scherer	Cecil Denbrock	Darrell Kanauss
Donald Rogers	Howard E. Rarick	Lewis Scherer	*George Allen	Ralph Brauker
Paul Saltzgaber	Charles Shaffer	George Sholes	Earnest Allen	Charles Fauver
Albert C. Schue	Alfred Teufel	Frederick Teufel	Raymond Patterson	Claude Rounds
Ronald Shedd	Norris Weimer	Harold Weimer	John McCray	Robert Bigelow
John Shedd	Marshal Norton	Ford Fearnow	Richard Hodges	Anthony Berk
Ray E. Shedd	Stafford Norton	Mac Doolittle	Earl Abel	Ned Martinson
Bert Shedd	John Norton	Willard Miller	*Paul Bayles	H. MacLong
Clyde Shedd	Daune St. Clair	Emil Combs	*Robert Casebeer	Lloyd Casebeer
James Boyles	Herbert Petch	Harold Nelson	Norman Grimes	Leon Disbrow
Gilbert Mossman	Vernie Holbrook	James Hunn	Lloyd E. Vincent	Ben Murrey
Ed Marble	Wayne Olney	Earnest Hoyt	Virgil Owen	Charles Luby
Cyril Lawton	Earnest Crandall	William French	Russell Owen	Ken Culver
Grover Raymond	Harris Hayne	Steven Davitian	Virginia Hayne	Ralph Shedd
James Shaffer	Millard Hill	*Hearl Spradlin	Eugene Reincke	George Raymond Jr.
John Houghton	Lee Dean	Earl Abendshein	Duane Hoag	Leslie A. Foster
Lawrence Feiler Jr.	*Earnest Waffle Jr.	*Roy Anderson	Lyle Rogers	Perry John Prater
Charles Vandybogurt	*Joseph Teufel	*Clare Long	Lewis Jenkins	Laverlman Casey
*Cecil Badger	William King	Roy H. King	Dale Ossenheimer	Robert Mosier
*J. W. Randall Jr.	Dale Lavern Vincent	*Harold F. Vincent	George Rogers	Carl Waffle
*Tom Randall	Leon M. Brady	Raymond Breneman	Robert Sizeland	Steven Groholski
Howard Vincent Jr.	Ward Blashfield	Joe Burnstyn	Clare Bush	Edward Kowalski
Donald Abel		David W. Culver	Eleanor Abel	Robert King
		Donald Branch	Douglas Olds	Ralph McFadden
		Calvin Dean	Freeman Ivey	Frederick Cummins Jr.
		Herbert Hall	Bryan Downey	Ralph Covey
		Eugene Wilkerson	John Upston	Frederick Thenon
		Milford Spangler	Jefferson Feiler	Robert Foster
		James Hunsicker	Donald Scherer	Kenneth Waite
		Leo Howard	Glen Prater	
		Lloyd Jenkins	*Thomas A. Prater	



Dirt Roads

What's mainly wrong with society today is that too many Dirt Roads have been paved.

There's not a problem in America today — crime, drugs, education, divorce, delinquency — that wouldn't be remedied if we just had more Dirt Roads, because Dirt Roads give character.

People that live at the end of Dirt Roads learn early on that life is a bumpy ride. That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes, but it's worth it, if at the end is home ... a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog. We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a Dirt Road with other kids, from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved. Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape if they knew they'd be welcomed by five barking dogs and a double-barrel shotgun. And there were no drive-by shootings.

Our values were better when our roads were worse!

People did not worship their cars more than their kids, and motorists were more courteous. They didn't tailgate or the guy in front would choke you with dust and bust your windshield with rocks.

Dirt Roads taught patience.

Dirt Roads were environmentally friendly. You didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk, you walked to the barn. For your mail, you walked to the mailbox.

What if it rained and the Dirt Road got washed out? That was the best part. Then you stayed home and had some family time, roasted marshmallows and popped popcorn and pony-rode on Daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of Dirt Roads, you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap. Most paved roads lead to trouble; Dirt Roads more likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a Dirt Road, the only time we even locked our car was in August, because if we didn't some neighbor would fill it with too much zucchini.

At the end of a Dirt Road, there was always extra springtime income. When city dudes would get stuck, you'd have to hitch up a team and pull them out. Usually you got a dollar ... always you got a new friend ... at the end of a Dirt Road. ■

"Calling All Good Men"

Civil War reenactment with Bill Gwaltney comes to Battle Creek

As a nationally respected Civil War historian, Bill Gwaltney has served as the historical consultant on the movies *Glory*, *Dances with Wolves*, and Alex Haley's *Queen*, as well as documentaries such as *The Buffalo Soldiers* for the Discovery Channel. He'll bring his talents to Battle Creek, Saturday, Sept. 9, as he presents a passionate historical drama portraying a Civil War sergeant recruiting volunteers.

The program takes place from 7 till 8 p.m. at Battle Creek Central High School's McQuiston Learning Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Gwaltney performs reenactments throughout the country, including the Buffalo Soldier monument site in Washington, D.C.

This presentation by Willard Library is free, but seating is limited. Please reserve your seats by calling the KCC Lifelong Learning Office at (616) 965-4134. Leave your name and the number of tickets you need.

This collaborative program with Heritage Battle Creek is a rare opportunity you won't want to miss — mark your calendars now! ■

Detroit 300

Continued from cover

Capsule, to be preserved for opening in 2101. The biggest celebration will be the Detroit 300 Festival, July 20 – 26, 2001.

The Detroit 300 Commission has created many opportunities for involvement, including a program similar to Calhoun County's Pioneer Certificate Project. One need not be a current Detroiter to participate in the Original Settler or Early Family programs.

Descendants of families who settled in the area during Detroit's first 50 years (1701–1750), or were among the first in their ethnic group to settle in Detroit, will receive an Original Settlers of Detroit Tricentennial Certificate. One representative from each verified descendant line will be invited to participate in tricentennial events. Descendancy Charts will be placed in the Detroit 300 collection of the Library of Michigan and the Detroit Public Library's Burton Historical Collection.

Descendants of other early families that settled in the Detroit area will receive an official Early Family of Detroit Tricentennial Certificate and one representative from each descendant line will be invited to participate in tricentennial events.

Residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties in Michigan and Essex County in Ontario are eligible for Centenarian recognition. Those who will be 100

years or older in 2001 will receive a Centenarian Tricentennial Certificate and be invited to participate in tricentennial events. Their memories will be captured on the Detroit 300 web site throughout the year 2001.

Family reunions taking place in the four-county area during 2001 can become officially registered and receive a family certificate. They will also receive *My History* guidebook compliments of the National Endowment for

the Humanities. Families and others can order a commemorative personal history book containing the history of Detroit with pictures, a timeline showing the family connection to Detroit's history and a narrative of their family's history with pictures.

Application forms, as well as further information, are available at the web site www.detroit300.org or by calling Lynn Smith at (313) 871-2942. ■

FINDING *your place in history*

The National Endowment for the Humanities is helping families explore, preserve and share their family histories and learn how their family stories connect to history.

The program, *My History is Your History*, offers ways to follow your family's story and discover America's history through a guidebook and web site.

You don't have to be from Detroit to benefit from the program, which was offered to reunion planners participating in Detroit 300.

The guidebook and web site outline 15 things you can do to save America's stories, including easy-to-follow steps for conducting oral history interviews and preserving family treasures.

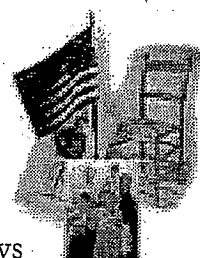
Also included are a variety of family and classroom activities to give children a personal connection to history.

The web site provides a "virtual front porch" where families can post stories and photographs, create family trees and discover their families' place in America's history.

The program is aimed toward the novice genealogist, but even the expert genealogist will find it a good resource, and perhaps a way to involve the rest of the family in genealogical pursuits. Beginners can learn how to find clues in family papers, play detective with photos and uncover history in your attic. Experts will find a wealth of resources and places to visit.

The *My History* guidebook can be downloaded from the web site, www.myhistory.org. Printed copies are available at libraries and, for a \$3.75 shipping and handling fee, by calling toll-free (877) NEH-HISTORY. Or send a check payable to "Superintendent

Continued



Breathing life into ancestors

Web site offers plethora of questions to help write family biography

by Ted Pack, reprinted with permission

How many times have you found an ancestor and wondered what they were like; what made them laugh, what made them cry, what made them give up the farm in Vermont and move to Kansas? What was the Civil War like, not for the generals, but for an 18-year-old farm boy in the 118th Ohio Volunteer Infantry? What was it like to marry at 18, move to the howling wilderness we now call Indiana, and be expected to provide for your new wife with axe, plow and musket?

It is too late to ask our pioneer ancestors, of course, but you can ask your living relatives what their lives were like, and you can write an autobiography. With luck the story will be passed down. If you write a biography of your grandparents, your

grandchildren could have an idea of what life was like for them — a span of five generations. Your children might think of you as dull; mine do. Your great-grandchildren, assuming someone finds a copy of your autobiography in an attic, might find you fascinating.

Some people have a hard time thinking of anything to write, and some of us ramble along for hours at the slightest provocation. I'm the second type of person; most of my relatives are the first type. I wrote two pages of general questions for my relatives. The questions are also on my web site. If you answer all the questions in complete sentences you'll have a start on an autobiography. If you answer each of them with a couple of paragraphs, you will have 30 pages of an heirloom more valuable than a gold watch. You can see it at: www.thevision.net/tedpack/bioguide.html ■

Finding

Continued

of Documents" to My History, Pueblo, CO 81009.

William R. Ferris, National Endowment for the Humanities chair, said "Our nation's story is a rich tapestry woven over the years from the threads of each individual, each family and each region of our land. One African proverb says, 'When an old man or old woman dies, a library burns to the ground.' I encourage you to record the voices of the old and not-so-old men and women of your family while these libraries are still open."

Finding Your Place in History suggests you consult American- and world-history timelines to compare important events in your family's history with regional, national and international events. Trace your family's movement on maps, recent and historical. Let these connections lead you to books and web sites that focus on the events, time periods and geographic areas that you found in your ancestors' stories. This broader perspective will help in your genealogical research, and it will also make your own story more meaningful to you. Follow your family's history and you will discover America's history. ■

"Our nation's story is a rich tapestry woven over the years from the threads of each individual, each family and each region of our land. One African proverb says, 'When an old man or old woman dies, a library burns to the ground.' I encourage you to record the voices of the old and not-so-old men and women of your family while these libraries are still open."

— William R. Ferris, National Endowment for the Humanities

Historical farm can be a source for Homer family facts

by Sue Stuever Battel

If your family roots emanate from Homer, Mich., you'll want to explore what the local history group has to offer at its Blair Historical Farm.

The Homer Historical Society received the 100-acre property, once owned by the town's first doctor, in 1975 as a gift from his granddaughter. Today it's a museum featuring a 19th century farmhouse, a 1910 barn and two other outbuildings.

The house highlights period décor and furniture, with many pieces donated by Homer-area families. Whether or not the name Blair shows up in your family tree, the society holds many genealogical resources at the farm.

Members of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society, who visited for their June meeting, were especially interested in one first-floor bedroom of the home. Covering the bed was a bright, yellow and white quilt with the names of dozens of

people embroidered on the spokes of its pinwheel-design blocks. The name of a church, family or other organization was embroidered in the center of each pinwheel and the quilt was dated 1934.

For family researchers, the real treasures are in the barn. The society has created a climate-controlled storage area inside the wood structure to house photos, receipts, obituaries and other resources. What's more, dedicated volunteers have cataloged the items. (A list of surnames was printed in *Generations* in 1997 and is available to CCGS members.)

According to historical society member Dee Camp, one way

to explore the farm is to attend the group's annual Fall Festival. This year's event is **Saturday, Sept. 23**, and is open to the public. The all-day affair showcases historical crafts on the front lawn, plus antique farm machinery, old-fashioned foods and the nature trail. Members even make corn cakes using the Blair family recipe.

Whether you have roots in Homer or are simply a student of history, you're sure to enjoy a visit to the Blair Historical Farm. For information, contact the Homer Historical Society, 505 Grandview, Homer, MI 49245, (517) 568-3116. ■

BASICS *for storing old documents*

Mary Lou from the Homer Historical Society offers these tips:

- Use acid-free storage materials. Clear, acid-free folders (which look like plastic) are readily available in office supply stores.
- Wear gloves when handling anything old. The oils in your skin can damage items.
- Seek out a temperature- and humidity-controlled environment.

Benefits *of belonging*

FGS good source for magazine, other society contacts

Members of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society can take advantage of their organization's associate status in the Federation of Genealogical Societies and earn a 35 percent

discount on membership. For \$11, CCGS members can join and receive *Forum* magazine.

When traveling out of town for family research, genealogy societies at your destination can be

helpful in locating local resources. To find them, inquire with the FGS office. For details or to join, see www.fgs.org or contact FGS at P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940, (512) 336-2731. ■

Ingham County society to host educational seminar

Family history researchers are invited to learn more about military records, explore the joy of genealogy and visit vendors' exhibits at an Oct. 28 seminar in Okemos. The all-day event is hosted by the genealogy society of Ingham County.

The speakers are Curt B. Witcher, military records, and

Shirley J. Hodges on the joy of genealogy. The seminar promises plenty of door prizes and freebies.

The event runs from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Holiday Inn Express, I-96 at exit 110, Okemos.

Advance registration is \$25 per person if reservation is

received by Oct. 15. The fee includes lunch and organizers will print four surnames you're searching in their registry hand-out. After Oct. 15, the cost is \$30, but lunch and the surname listing are not available.

To register, contact Jean Crawford, 1951 E. Columbia Rd., Dansville, MI 48819-9746. ■

Calhoun County research materials available from society

The 1877 History of Calhoun County, MI (reprinted). More than 350 pages, printed on acid-free, archival paper, and is hard-cover, library-quality bound, includes every-name index, \$55.

Cemeteries of Eckford Twp. Calhoun County, MI. 110 pages, more than 2,100 names, \$10.

Clarence Township Cemeteries in Calhoun Co., MI. Clarence Center, Dyer, Hunt, Krenerick and Nichols, 66 pages, more than 2,100 names, \$8.

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp., Calhoun Co., MI. 35 pages, more than 1,000 names, \$6.

Every-Name Index for Generations, the newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. August 1988–June 1995, 48 pages, more than 2,800 names, \$5.

Marriage Records of Calhoun County, MI, 1836–1890. 248 pages, indexed, \$18.50.

Clarendon Twp. Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI.

Bentley Corners (East Clarendon), West Clarendon, St. Joseph and Cooks Prairie, 188 pages, \$15.

Lee Township Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI. Lee Center, Partello and Rice Creek, 75 pages, \$8.

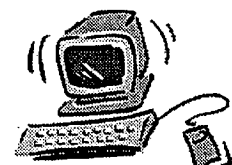
Tekonsha Township Cemeteries, Calhoun Co., MI. Riverside, Windfall and MacFadden, more than 3,600 names, 221 pages, \$18.50.



Michigan residents please add 6 percent sales tax. All prices include shipping. To order, please send a check payable to:

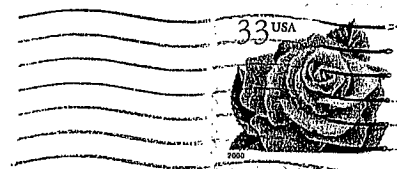
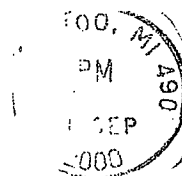
Calhoun County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 879
Marshall, MI 49068

Have you subscribed to the CCGS e-mail list? We'll automatically send you meeting notices and other important information about the society. Send an e-mail message to calhouncountygs@onelist.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line. It won't overload your mailbox — just a few messages a month.



Generations

Calhoun County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 879
Marshall, MI 49068



Returned For Better Address

Calhoun County Genealogical Society **CALENDAR**

Programs are always free and the public is welcome. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St. in Marshall, unless otherwise specified. For more information, contact Nancy Hibiske at (616) 962-3498 or javertdog@aol.com.

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| Sept. 19, 2000 | Board meeting. At the home of Verla Potts, Marshall, (616) 781-8594. |
| Sept. 26, 2000 | Society Planning Session. During this work session, give your input to help plan programs, projects and other facets of CCGS work for the coming year. |
| Oct. 24, 2000 | Tour of Battle Creek's Historic Adventist Village. Meet in the village's meeting house, 6:30 p.m. (note earlier time). Watch local media and the next issue for details. |
| Nov. 28, 2000 | Recording Family History. A professional videographer will share tips for capturing special memories and recording your family history. |
| December | No meeting. Enjoy the holidays with your family! |
| Jan. 25, 2000 | Hints & Anecdotes. Special help for genealogists. |

Computer Interest Group. Learn tips for using technology in genealogy research. Meets before every regular meeting in the B.E. Henry Building at 6 p.m., upper-level conference room.