Generations

Vol. 14, No. 2 - November/December 2001 - the newsletter of the Calhoun County (Michigan) Genealogical Society



Visit Willard Library for Nov. 27 meeting

Join us Tuesday, Nov. 27, for the next monthly society meeting. It will be held at 7 p.m. at Willard Library in Battle Creek. Local and Family History Librarian George Livingston will tell us about the extensive local and family history collections of the library. He will discuss new materials at the library, as well as new genealogical products both on-site in the Local History Room and on the Willard Library web page.

Meet in the second floor library meeting room. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

As always, you're welcome and encouraged to bring guests to the meeting. Willard Public Library is located at 7 W. Van Buren St., between Capital and Monroe across from the Miller-Stone Building, Battle Creek, (616) 968-8166. ■

Working for a living

by Michael John Neill

any of us are at least partially defined by our occupation. Most of us need employment to support ourselves, a few descendants and perhaps a genealogy habit. Our ancestors were no different. Learning about your ancestors' occupations may teach you not only about your forebears but also about the time and world in which they lived.

For recent ancestors, determining the occupation may be relatively easy. Census records, obituaries, death certificates, city directories and other records may provide occupational information. Your ancestor may have attended a trade school to learn an occupation. Depending on the time period, birth certificates may also provide information about the occupation of the parents.

The content of such records may vary greatly. My wife's birth certificate has a space for the father's occupation, but not that of the mother. My birth certificate has no space for information about either parent's occupation. My wife and I

FOCUS THIS ISSUE: old-time occupations

In future issues we'll focus on beginning genealogy, Germany and family reunions. Have a story, tip or idea to share? Write to: Sue Stuever Battel, Editor, SueBattel@aol.com or 21174 F Dr. S., Marshall, MI 49068.

The *real* truth about occupations, as recorded in the 1880 U.S. federal census of Washington County, Ga. (SD 2, ED 126):

MAY Kinchen M Farmer
— Sarah Ann Eliz. F Does all the work

Submitted by Hattaway@aol.com and previously published by Julia M. Case and Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG, Missing Links, Vol. 6, No. 16, April 18, 2001. www.rootsweb.com

were born less than a year apart in the same state. These and other records, especially when compared over time, may provide insight into the family's social status. Census records for an ancestor may reveal several different occupations over the course of a lifetime.

Census records are easier to use, for they state occupation directly. It may be necessary to translate archaic job descriptions to modern terms. In some cases, the job may no longer exist and learning what an ancestor actually "did" may provide you a great lesson in history and economics. Early records may imply an occupation without stating directly what it is.

Estate inventories are an especially good source to surmise an occupation. Don't draw conclusions too quickly, however. Compare an ancestor's estate inventory to others from the same time period, especially if you are unfamiliar with the time period and the geographic location. One cow does not a farmer make, nor does one needle and thread mean the ancestor was a tailor.

If your ancestor had more than forty gallons

Eaton County society offers beginners' workshop

Shirley Hodges, a well-known genealogist and lecturer from Albion, will lead a beginning genealogy workshop Saturday, Nov. 17. Shirley is a member of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society.

If you are interested in tracing your family's roots but not sure how to begin, this workshop is for you. Participants will receive handouts and notes that will guide them as they start their research. The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the 1885 Courthouse in Charlotte, 100 W. Lawrence Ave.

The fee is \$15. Coffee and sweet breads will be provided in the morning. Reservations will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Mail your check, payable to Eaton County Genealogical Society, to ECGS Beginning Workshop, P.O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813. ■

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.

The CCGS is a nonprofit, state-chartered organization. Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues for the year beginning Sept. 1 are \$12. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after May 1 will pay membership for the following year. Members receive the newsletter **Generations** six times per year.

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.* No meetings are held in July, August or December. Programs are free and open to the public.

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All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** newsletter editor, according to the editorial calendar.

Issue	Date	Articles due	Major theme
Vol. 14, No. 3	January/February 2002	Dec. 1	Beginning Genealogy
Vol. 14, No. 4	March/April 2002	Feb. 1	Spotlight on Germany
Vol. 14, No. 5	May/June 2002	April 1	Family Reunion Season

Permission is granted to reprint articles unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the source. Copies of individual pages from back issues of **Generations** are \$1 for the first page, 50 cents for each additional page.

CCGS ■ P.O. Box 879 ■ Marshall, MI 49068 ■ www.rootsweb.com/~micalhou/ccgs.htm
CCGS e-mail list: Send a message to calhouncountygs@onelist.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.
Member: National Genealogical Society ■ Michigan Genealogical Council ■ Federation of Genealogical Societies

SHORT shots

Check the date on your mailing label. If that date is in the past, your membership has expired. Please renew today and take advantage of the benefits of belonging to the Calhoun County Genealogical Society. Annual dues are \$12 and can be sent to the address near the bottom of page 14.

Thanks to everyone who filled out the survey in a past issue of this newsletter. We received 24 completed surveys. Board members are taking action to incorporate people's new ideas and suggestions. We're strengthening areas you said you appreciate about the society and considering new benefits you said you would like.

Speaking at the Michigan Genealogical Council conference, Oct. 20, Paul Milner encouraged listeners to learn about the ancestors who brought their families to this country: "They created for you a gift. They put you here in this country. Do them justice. What was their immigrant experience like? Find out about it."

New books at Willard Library

Judd, Dorothy. Family Chronicle's Dating Old Photographs, 2000.

Clarke, Herman D. Orphan Trains and Their Precious Cargo, 2001.

Hutchins, Richard G. Fowlerville Goes to War 1861–1865, 2000.

Woodward, Charles. Coldwater as It Used to Be: The letters of Ezbon A. Fuller, 2000. ■

Genealogy gems

Ancestry.com and RootsWeb combine online family trees

Ancestry.com and RootsWeb.com have combined their free public family tree databases to create what they say is the largest family tree offering available online. All trees formerly available through Ancestry World Tree and WorldConnect are now available from both sites. The combined database includes more than 150 million names

The combined service offers the functionality that RootsWeb.com users have enjoyed on WorldConnect, including descendancy, register, and ahnentafel reports. The new implementation also includes "Post-em" notes, which allow users to make comments on the information they find.

According to Ancestry.com and RootsWeb.com, they are committed to providing free access to this collection and data submitted will never be sold on CD-ROM. Family data files remain the property of the submitter.

CCGS publications

The 1877 History of Calhoun County, Michigan (reprinted). More than 350 pages, printed on acid-free, archival paper, and is hard-cover, library-quality bound, includes every-name index, \$55. Some slightly damaged copies are available for \$40 (damage includes a scuffed cover, pages stuck together, soiled edge, etc.).

County, Ml. 110 pages, more than 2,100 names, \$10.

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

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp., Calhoun Co., Ml. Austin and Porter. 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. Purchase the Bentley records only for \$3.

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.

To order, please send a check (U.S. funds) payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068. All prices include shipping. Michigan residents please add 6 percent sales tax. ■

Albion area obituaries, veterans names are online

bituaries of Albion-area people who passed away in 2001 are now online, thanks to the folk at Albion Public Library's Local History Room. A database of area veterans is also available. Find both at www.forks.org/albionlibrary, following the link to the Local History Room.

According to the library's public historian, Leslie Dick, current obituaries are added as they are published and they are "adding our entire file as fast as we can." Leslie expects it will take several months to complete the project, but records are added every few weeks. The

Learn about electronic resources at the **Library of Michigan**

he Library of Michigan is offering two, free patron training sessions next month.

Participants can learn about "Electronic Resources," Dec. 15 at 9:30 a.m. or Dec. 18 at 3 p.m.



The sessions are limited to 15 people per class. Each session lasts one hour.

The sessions will be held in the Library of Michigan's Training Center on the first floor. For details, contact the Library of Michigan's Public Services Division at (517) 373-1300. To register by phone, you may call (517) 373-5511. ■

online database is searchable by surname. Copies of full obituaries may be obtained from the Local History Room. CCGS member and library volunteer Julia Miller has been compiling local obituaries for many years.

The searchable veteran database contains more than 2,500 local men and women with wartime service to our country. The list includes soldiers from the Revolutionary War to the

present. Most are World War II veterans. GAR records are being added. The library is conducting a veterans oral history project and has already published many interviews online.

Open Tuesday-Thursday, 12-5 p.m., the Albion Public Library is at 501 S. Superior St., Albion, MI 49224. Send e-mail to Leslie Dick at albhistg@monroe.lib.mi.us or visit www.forks.org/albionlibrary. ■

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Engra Baniel Sollman

Latest Pioneer Certificate recipients

warding pioneer certificates is the society's way of honoring the early residents of Collago of honoring the early residents of Calhoun County and their descendants.

Persons who have proved that their ancestor settled before 1861 are designated Pioneers. Those designated Settlers have ancestors who lived in Calhoun County between 1861 and 1890.

Descendants of settlers from 1891 to 1920 are considered Builders. The society has awarded 307 certificates to date. Below are listed the latest honorees.

	Recipient
	Helen May Coman Evans
	Paula L. DeMaso Bule
	Brad A. DeMaso
	Carlene I. Burlingame De
	Gregg T. DeMaso
	Carla L. DeMaso-Johnson
1	Clifton Franklin Case
1	Glenn Randall Case
	Laurence Allen Case
4	Thomas Edward Case

Case d Case Eleanor Mae Boston Marion Frances Uldriks Brian Lee Baker Donald Eugene Baker Neda Ann Cooper Allen Robert Wilbur Susan Elizabeth Wilbur Janine A. Reed Mary K. Reed Thomas H. Reed Timothy A. Reed Valerie F. Reed Pamela Wandell Fleming Glenn Albert Wandell

Ancestor Designation

William Betterly Pioneer Henry H. Burlingame Settler Henry H. Burlingame Settler ngame DeMaso Henry H. Burlingame Settler Henry H. Burlingame Settler Henry H. Burlingame Settler Zenas Newton Case Pioneer Zenas Newton Case Pioneer Zenas Newton Case Pioneer Zenas Newton Case Pioneer Chester Chilson Settler Chester Chilson Settler Daniel Clark Pioneer Pioneer Daniel Clark Daniel Clark Pioneer Daniel Clark Pioneer Daniel Clark Pioneer Sylvanus Reed Pioneer Henry B. Wandell Pioneer Henry B. Wandell Pioneer

Old-time occupations

ou might be embarrassed to admit that your ancestor was an ankle beater — until you learn that the young person helped drive cattle to market. Your young children might enjoy saying an ancestor was a batman — until they learn that a batman was an officer's servant in the army. Many job titles are no longer used, either because there's no longer a need for the job or it has an entirely different title. Some of our surnames originated from an ancestor's occupation — witness Baker, Carpenter, Fuller, Miller, Page and many others. Does this make me a bluestocking? The following list of old-time occupations describes the work carried out for nearly 500 occupational titles. A more extensive list can be viewed online at http://cpcug.org/user/jlacombe/terms.html.

ACATER: supplied food provisions

ACCIPITRARY: falconer ACCOMPTANT: accountant

ACCOUCHEUR / ACCOUCHEUS: assisted

women in childbirth

ADVERTISEMENT CONVEYANCER: wore

sandwich boards

AERONAUT: balloonist or trapeze artist

ALE DRAPER: seller of ale

ALE-CONNER / ALE FOUNDER: tested quality and measure of ale served in public houses

ALL SPICE: grocer

ALMONER: gave alms or charity to the poor

on behalf of a parish

ALNAGER / AULNAGER: examined the

quality of woolen goods

AMANUENSIS: secretary or stenographer AMBLER: royal stable officer who tamed horses

ANCHORITE: hermit or religious recluse ANKLE BEATER: young person who helped

drive cattle to market

APPARITOR: summoned witnesses in the

ecclesiastical courts APRONMAN: mechanic AQUAVITA SELLER: sold alcohol

ARCHIATOR: physician

ARCHIL MAKER: made violet dye from lichens, used in the textile industry

ARMIGER: squire who carried knight's armor ARMOURER: made suits of armor or plates of

armor for buildings, ships and so on ARTIFICER: highly respected skilled or

artistic worker

AURIFABER: goldsmith

AVENATOR / PLANTIFENE: forage merchant AXEL TREE MAKER / AXEL TREE TURNER:

made axles for coaches and wagons BACK WASHER: cleaned wool in the worsted

manufacturing industry

BACK'US BOY: kitchen servant (from "back

of the house")

BACKMANN / BACKSTER / BAXTER / BECK /

BECKER / FURNER / PISTOR: baker

BALISTER: archer

BALLER / BALLER UP: assisted a potter by

measuring balls of clay

BAND FILER: metal worker in the gunmaking industry

BANDSTER: bound harvested wheat sheaves BANG BEGGAR: parish officer who controlled the length of stay of strangers to the parish BANKER: dug trenches and ditches to allow drainage of the land, placing surplus earth in

banks around the edge BAREMAN: beggar or pauper

BARGEE / BARGEMAN: worked on or owned

and operated a barge BARKEEPER: toll keeper

BARKER: tanner BARTON / BARTONER: in charge of a

monastic farm

BASIL WORKER: worked with sheep and goat skins BATHING MACHINE PROPRIETOR: owned and leased changing huts to seaside bathers BATMAN: officer's servant in the army

BAUER: farmer

BAYWEAVER: wove bay, a fine woolen fabric

also known as baize

BEAD PIERCER: drilled holes in beads BEADLE / BEDEL / BEDELL: parish officer who kept order and served as town crier

BEAMER: warped a textile loom

BEARER: worked underground carrying coal to containers for lifting to the surface BEATER: cleansed and thickened cloth by treading it underwater with fuller's earth BEAVER: made felt used in hat making

BEDMAN: sexton

BEDWEVERE: made webbing for bed frames

or wove quilts

BEESKEPMAKER: made beehives

BELHOSTE: tavern keeper

BELLOWFARMER: maintained church organ BELLY BUILDER: built and fitted piano interiors

BENDER: cut leather

BESOM MAKER: made brooms

BESSWARDEN: looked after parish animals

BEVER: made beverages

BIDDY: female servant, usually of Irish stock BILL POSTER: put up notices, signs and

advertisements

BINDER: bound items such as books and hats BIRD BOY: employed to scare birds away

BLACKING MAKER: made shoe polish BLAXTER / BLEACHER: bleached cloth or paper pulp

BLEMMERE: plumber

BLINDSMAN: employed by post office to deal with incorrectly addressed letters and parcels BLOODMAN / BLOODLETTER: used leeches for letting blood, believed to cure many ailments BLOOMER / BLOOM SMITHY: produced iron from ore

BLUESTOCKING: female writer

BLUFFER: innkeeper or landlord of a pub BOARDMAN: truant officer who checked school attendance; tenant of manorial land who paid rent by maintaining manor's table BOARDWRIGHT / CARPENTER: made tables and chairs

BODEYS / BODY MAKER: made bodices for

women's garments

BODGER: made wooden chair legs and spars, usually in woodland where timber was cut BOLL: looked after power looms in the

weaving industry BOLTER: sifted meal

BONDAGER: bonded female farm worker BONDMAN: bonded to a master to learn a

skill or trade

BONE LACE MAKER: made pillow lace BONE PICKER: collected rags and bones BOONMASTER: road surveyor responsible for

BOOT CATCHER: servant at inn who pulled

off travelers' boots

BOOTHMAN: corn merchant BOTCHER: tailor or cobbler

BOTTLE BOY: pharmacist's assistant BOWLMAN / BOWLWOMAN: dealt in crockery BOWYER / BOWER: made archery bows



Old-time occupations, from p. 17

BOZZLER: parish constable BRABENER: weaver

BRACHYGRAPHER: shorthand writer

BRAILLER: girdle maker

BROOM-DASHER: dealer in brooms **BROTHERER** / BROWDERER / BRODERER / BROIDERER: embroiderer **BROWNSMITH:** worked with

copper or brass **BUCK** WASHER:

woman who did laundry

BULLOCKY: attended to daily needs of cattle

BULLWHACKER: oxen driver

BUMBOAT MAN: sold goods to passengers

and crew of ships at anchor

BUNTER: female rag and bone collector

BURGOMASTER: mayor

BURLER: inspected clothing for quality

BURYE MAN: grave digger BUSHELER: tailor's helper

BUSKER: hairdresser or street entertainer

BUSS MAKER: gun maker



BUTNER: button maker

BUTTY: negotiated mining contracts and

supplied labor

CADDY BUTCHER: butcher that dealt in horse

meat

CADGER: beggar CAFENDER: carpenter

CAFFLER: rag and bone collector CAINER: made walking sticks CALENDER: recorded documents CALENDERER / CALENDERMAN / CALENDER WORKER: operated machine with two large rollers (calendars) to press and finish fabrics or paper

CAMBIST: banker

CAMBRIC MAKER: made cambric, a fine linen

or cotton fabric

CAMISTER: minister of the cloth CAMPANER: bell maker CANTING CALLER: auctioneer CANVASER: made canvas CAPER: cap maker

CARDMAKER: made cards for combing wool

CARNIFEX: butcher

CASHMARIE: sold fish, usually at inland markets

CATCHPOLE / CATCHPOLLA: sheriff's

assistant or bailiff

CATECHISTA: teacher of religion

CELLARMAN: looked after beer, wine and spirits in public houses or a warehouse CEMMER: hand combed yarn before weaving CHANDLER: candle seller, grocer, provisioner,

usually associated with provisioning ships CHAPELER: made and sold hats

CHARWOMAN: cleaning woman CHIP: shipwright or carpenter CHOWDER: fish monger CLAPMAN: town crier

CLARK: clerk

CLASSMAN: unemployed laborer

CLAVIGER: servant

CLOGGER: made wooden shoes

COAL RUNNER: tended coal carts underground COBLEMAN: fished from a flat-bottomed boat

COCUS: cook COHEN: a priest

COLLAR MAKER: made horse collars or shirt collars COLLIER: coal miner, coal merchant or one

who worked on coal barges

COLONUS: farmer

CONEY CATCHER: rabbit catcher CONNER: inspector or tester COOPER or CUPER: made barrels CORACLE MAKER: made coracles, small

round boats used fishing COSTER WIFE: female fruit seller COSTERMONGER: fruit seller COURANTEER: journalist CROCKER: potter

CROFTER: tenant on a small piece of land CROPPER: tenant paid with a share of the crop

CROWNER: coroner CURER: cured tobacco

CUSTOMER: customs tax collector

DATELER / DAY MAN / DAYTALEMAN: casual worker, usually employed by the day

DELVER: ditch digger DEVIL: printer's errand boy

DEVILLER: operated the devil, a machine that tore rags used in the textile industry

DEXTER: dyer

DEY WIFE: female dairy worker

DISH TURNER: made wooden bowls or dishes DISTRIBUTOR: parish official attached to workhouse / poorhouse who looked after

secular needs of the poor DOG LEECH: veterinarian

DOG-WHIPPER: drove dogs away from a

village

DOMESMAN: judge

DONKEY BOY / DONKEY MAN: drove a

carriage for passengers

DRAGMAN: fished by dragging a net along

the water's bottom

DRAGOMAN: interpreter or quide in Turkish

or Arabic

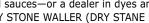
DRAGOON: served in mounted infantry DRAGSMAN: drove a small stage coach or carriage for public transport or private hire

DRAPER: dealer in fabrics and

sewing needs DRAYMAN: cart driver DREDGERMAN: collected

and sold bits and pieces that had fallen overboard

from vessels



DRUMMER: traveling salesperson

and sauces-or a dealer in dyes and colors DRY STONE WALLER (DRY STANE DYKER in Scottish): built stone walls, usually of stones removed from fields, skilled in fitting together stones without cement or mortar and generally without cutting the stone DUFFER: peddler of cheap goods DUSTMAN / DUSTBIN MAN: collected

DRY SALTER: dealer in pickles, dried meats,

domestic refuse EARER: one who plowed

ELEPHANTS TEETH DEALER: dealt in ivory

ornaments and other items

ELLERMAN / ELLIMAN: sold lamp oil

ELYMAKER: oil maker ENDHOLDERNN: innkeeper

ENUMERATOR: collected and recorded census

information from householders ESQUIRE: attended

a knight, later became a title for a man of standing in

society

ESTAFETTE: mounted

courier

EWE HERD: shepherd

EXCHEQUER: revenue collector

EYER / HOLER: made eyes in sewing needles

FABER: artisan

FAKER: hand-tinted photographs FANCY-PEARL WORKER: made buttons or fancy goods from mother-of-pearl FARANDMAN: traveling merchant

FARRIER / FERROUR: farrier or blacksmith FEAR-NOTHING MAKER: wove fear-nought, a thick woolen cloth used for protective clothing and for lining portholes, walls and doors of powder magazines onboard ships FEATHER-DRESSER: cleaned and prepared

feathers for sale

FEATHER-WIFE: woman who prepared

feathers for use FEVER: blacksmith

FIDDLER: used a fiddle (small knife) to remove the flashing from cast clay forms

such as bowls

FILLER: filled bobbins in mill FIREBEATER: tended the boilers that powered machinery in cotton mill

FIREMAN: removed explosive gases from mines or stoked boilers on ships and locomotives

FISCERE: fisher, caught fish FITTER: coal broker

FLATMAN / FLOATMAN: navigated a broad,

flat-bottomed boat for transport

FLAUNER: confectioner

FLAXDRESSER: prepared flax for spinning

FLESHEWER: butcher

FLESHMONGER / FLESHER: butcher or one

who worked in a tannery FLETCHER: arrow smith

FOGGER: peddler or low-class lawyer

FOOT STRAIGHTENER: assembled watch and clock dials

FOOT-POST: letter carrier or messenger who traveled on foot

FOWER: street cleaner, sweeper

FRAMEWORKER KNITTER: operated machine

that made hosiery

FREEMASON: stonecutter

FRESER: made frieze, a rough plaster FRIPPERER: bought and sold old clothes FRUITESTERE: female fruit seller FULLER: shrunk, beat and pressed cloth

FUNAMBULIST: tightrope walker

FURNER: baker GABELER: tax collector

GAFFER: leader of work crew, or one who smoothed, heated and formed lips on

glass bottles



GAFFMAN: bailiff

GAGER: collected liquor taxes GANNEKER: tavern keeper

GAOLER: jailer

GATER: employed to stand guard or keep watch

GATWARD: goat keeper GELDER: castrated animals GERUND GRINDER: Latin instructor

GILDER: applied gold leaf GINOUR / GYNOUR: engineer

GIRDLER: leather worker who made girdles

and belts, chiefly for the army

GLASS COACHMAN: driver of two-horse

carriage hired by the day

GLASSEWRYGHT: glass wright, maker and

mender of glassware GRIMBRIBBER: lawyer GROOVER: miner

GUINEA PIG: unattached or roving person

whose fee was usually a guinea HACKER: maker of hoes

HACKNEY MAN: rented horses and carriages HAIR SEATING / CURLED HAIR MERCHANT: dealer in horsehair upholstery stuffing

HAIRWEAVER / HAIRMAN: wove cloth, wholly

or partly of horsehair

HAWKER / HUCKSTER: peddler HAYMONGER: dealer in hay **HEADSMAN:** executioner HEADSWOMAN: midwife

HEALD KNITTER: operated machine to knit fabric

HEMPHECKLER: flax worker

HENCHMAN / HENSMAN: horse groom HETHELEDER: provided heather for fuel HEWER: cut coal, stone or other substance

in a mine

HILLARD / HILLER / HILLIER / TILER:

covered roofs with slate HIND: farm laborer HOBBLER: towed boats on a river or canal HOGGARD: pig or

hog driver

HOLSTER: groom, took care of horses HONEY DIPPER: extracted sewage from catch

basins and outhouses

HOOKER: 16th century reaper, or 19th century textile worker who operated a fabric-

folding machine

HORSE LEECH: veterinarian, farrier HORSE MARINE: pulled barges on canals

when horses could not be used

HORSE-HAIR CURLER: dressed horse hair

used in upholstery

HOSIER: retailer of stockings, socks, gloves,

nightcaps

HOUSE WRIGHT: house builder HOWDY WIFF: midwife

HOYMAN: carried goods and passengers by water INTENDENT: director of a public or govern-

ment business

JACK: young male assistant, sailor or lumberjack JACK-SMITH: made lifting machinery JERQUER: customs officer who searched ships JOBMASTER: supplied carriages, horses and

drivers for hire

JONGLEUR: traveling minstrel KEMPSTER: wool comber

KNACKER: harness maker, buyer of old

horses and dead animals

KNELLER / KNULLER: chimney sweep who solicited customers by knocking on doors KNOCKER-UP: woke up northern mill and

factory workers on early shifts KNOCKKNOBBLER: dog catcher KNOLLER: tolled bells

LAGGER: sailor

LAMPA / LAMPE: glass blower,

oil lamp maker LASTER: shoe maker LATTENER: brass worker LAVENDER: washer woman

LEAVELOOKER: examined food for sale at market

LEECH / SAWBONES: physician

LEHRER: teacher

LINKERBOY / LINKERMAN: carried a link or torch to guide people through dark city streets

LISTER / LITSTER: dyer LITTERMAN: horse groom LOADSMAN: ship's pilot

LOBLOLLY BOY: ship doctor's assistant LONG SONG SELLER: sold popular song

sheets on the street LORIMER: made horse gear LOTSELLER: street seller LUM SWOOPER: chimney sweep LUTHIER: made and repaired stringed musical instruments

MAIL GUARD: armed guard, frequently former soldier, employed on mail coach

MALENDER: farmer

MALSTER: brewer, made or sold malts

MANTUAMAKER: dressmaker

MARSHALL: horse doctor or shoe smith MASHMAKER: maker of mash-vats or mashels

used for mixing malt

MATCHET FORGER: knife maker

MELDER: corn miller MERCER: cloth seller

MILESMAN / LENGTHSMAN: kept a length of

railway track in good repair

MILLER'S CARMAN: delivered flour or seed to

customers

MILLPECK: sharpened millstones

MILLWRIGHT: designed and built mills or mill

machinery

MOLITOR / MULTURER: miller

MONDAYMAN: worked for landowner on

Mondays in lieu of rent

MONTHLY NURSE: assisted women during

the first month after giving birth

MOULDER: made bricks, molds or castings MUDLARK: sewer cleaner, riverbank scavenger NAGELSCHMIEDMEISTER: master nail smith NAVIGATOR: laborer building canals or railways

NEATHERD: cow herder

NECESSARY WOMAN: emptied and cleaned

chamber pots NIMGIMMER: doctor NOB THATCHER: wig maker

OUTWORKER: carried out their occupation at home PACK THREAD SPINNER: operated machine

that made thread or twine

PACKMAN: traveled, carrying goods for sale in a pack PAD MAKER: made small baskets for measuring

PANTLER: butler

PAPER-STAINER: made wallpaper

PARKER: park caretaker

PASSAGE KEEPER: cleaned passages and alleys

PASTELER: pastry chef PASTOR: shepherd

PAVER / PAVIOUR: laid paving stones PEELER: police officer, constable, bobby

PERAMBULATOR: surveyor PERUKER: wigmaker

PETERMAN: commercial fisher PETTY CHAPMAN: itinerant dealer in small

goods, a peddler

PIPER: innkeeper

PICKER: cast the shuttle on a loom

PIECENER / PIECER: pieced together threads

that broke in a spinning mill PIKEMAN: miller's assistant PILOT: steered a ship PINDER: dog catcher PINER: laborer

PITMAN: coal miner PLAIN WORKER: performed plain sewing or needlework as opposed to an embroiderer

PLAITER: made straw plaits for hatmaking

POLEMAN: surveyor's assistant POLLER / POWLER: barber

PONDERATOR: inspected weights and

measures

POSTER: worked in quarries breaking rocks POTTER CARRIER: chemist or pharmacist POWER LOOM TUNER: maintained mill's

PRECEPTRESS: woman head of school

PREDIGER: preacher PRENTIS: apprentice PRICK LOUISE: tailor PROTHONARY: law clerk PUBLICAN: innkeeper

PUMPMAKER: maker of canal locks

PUNKY: chimney sweep QUARREL PICKER: glazier

QUILLER: operated machine that wound

yarn onto spools

RAG AND BONE MAN: collected rubbish, usually in exchange for a small item such as

a block of soapstone

RAG MAN: collected and sold old clothes and rags RAG PICKER: sorted through rags to find

reusable ones

Old-time occupations, from p. 19

RAKER: street sanitation worker

RATONER: rat catcher

RATTLEWATCH: stood guard for a town RECTIFIER: distilled alcoholic spirits

REDSMITH: goldsmith

REELER: operated machine that wound yarn

onto bobbins

REEVE: church warden



RENOVATOR: repaired clothing

RIPPER / RIPPIER: sold freshwater fish at market or made and sold baskets

ROCKGETTER: rock salt miner RODMAN: surveyor's assistant

ROLL TURNER: carded wool, cotton or other

fiber into rolls for spinning

ROLLEYWAY MAN: maintained underground

roads in mines

SANDESMAN: ambassador or messenger SCAPPLER: shaped stone roughly for finishing

by stonemason

SCAVELMAN: cleared waterways and ditches SCHRIMPSCHONGER: artisan who carved

bone, ivory or wood

SCREENER: screened ore at surface of mine SCUTCHER: beat flax to soften the straw

SEARCHER: customs officer

SECRET SPRINGER: made watch springs SEDGEMAN: applied sedge roofing material SEMPSTER / SEWSTER: sewed professionally SEWER HUNTER: scavenger who concentrated on sewers searching for valuable objects SEWER RAT: bricklayer who specialized in making and repairing sewers and tunnels

SHANTY MAN: lumberjack

SHEARGRINDER: sharpened shears and scissors

SHEPSTER: dressmaker

SHIP HUSBAND: repaired ships in harbor SHOESMITH: cobbler, one who shoed horses SHOT FIRER: in charge of blasting in mines

or quarries

SHRAGER: trimmed and pruned trees

SHRIEVE: sheriff SIMPLER: grew herbs SISSOR or CISSOR: tailor

SKEPPER / SKELPER: made and sold beehives

SKIPPER: master of a ship

SLAPPER / SLAPER: prepared clay for a potter

SLATER: roofer SMIDDY: smith

SNOBSCAT: repaired shoes SOLICITOR: lawyer SORTOR: tailor

SOUTER: tallor

SPALLIER: tin worker who performed chiefly

menial tasks

SPERVITER: keeper of sparrows

SQUIRE / ESQUIRE: gentleman, professional

STAY MAKER: corset maker

STENTERER: operated cloth finishing

machine

STEVEDORE: laborer who unloaded and

loaded ships' cargoes

STICHER: did decorative stitching STOWYER: stowed nets on fishing boats STRAW JOINER: covered roofs with thatch

SUCKSMITH: made plowshares

SUPERCARGO: officer on merchant ship in

charge of cargo

SUTLER: merchant or peddler in army camps

SWAILER: miller or dealer in grain

SWAIN: livestock producer

SWELL MAKER: made shallow baskets SWINGLER: beat flax to remove woody parts

TABLER: operated boarding house

TACKSMAN: leased a large piece of land and sublet it in small lots

TALLY CLERK: kept count of goods arriving at or departing from warehouse or dock

or departing from warehouse or dock
TAPITER / TAPICER: wove worsted cloth

TASKER: reaper

TEAMER / TEAMER MAN / TEAMSTER: person

in charge of a team of horses TEXTOR / TIXTOR: weaver

THATCHER / THACKER: covered roofs with

straw or reeds

THRESHER: separated grain from husks and straw TIDESMAN / TIDE WAITER: customs official

TIEMAKER: made wooden railway ties TINKER: traveling repairer



TIPSTAFF: police officer
TOOL HELVER: made tool handles
TOPMAN: sailor who worked on ship's rigging
TOPSMAN: head cattle driver
TOUCH HOLER: worked in gun manufacturing
TOWNSWAITER:

customs officer

TRAMPLER: lawyer TRANTER: peddler

TREENAIL MAKER: made long wooden pins

used in shipbuilding TRENCHERMAN: cook

TREPANGER: cut timber with a circular saw TRONER: weighing official at a market TROTTER / TROTMAN / TROTT: messenger TROUCHMAN / TRUCHMAN: interpreter TRUGGER: made long, shallow baskets TUBBER: made tubs and barrels

TUBBER: made tubs and barre TUCKER: cleaned cloth goods

TURNKEY: prison warden or jail keeper ULNAGER: examined the quality of woolen

goods to be sold

VASSAL: servant of the lowest order

VENATOR / VENUR: hunter VERRIER: glazier, cut and fit glass VICTUALER: sold food and drink VILLEIN: paid dues to manor's lord in return

for use of land

VINTAGER / VINEROON: grape farmer, wine maker VIRGINAL PLAYER: played a musical instru-

ment similar to a harpsichord

VULCAN: blacksmith WABSTER: weaver

WAGONER: wagon or cart driver
WAILER: employed in a
mine to remove impurities
from coal
WAINWRIGHT: built or
repaired wagons
WAIT / WAKEMAN: stood
guard at night
WALKER / WAULKMILLER:

WARRENER: in charge of land used for breeding rabbits and other small game WATER BAILIFF: in charge of fishing rights

cloth worker

on a stretch of water WAY MAN: road surveyor WAY-MAKER: road maker

WEBSTER / WEBBER: weaver (originally

female weaver)

WHARFINGER: owner of a wharf WHEEL TAPPER: checked for cracks by striking wheels with a hammer and listening for a clear ring

WHEELWRIGHT / WRIGHT: made or repaired

wagon wheels

WHITE SMITH: tin smith WHITEWING: street sweeper

WHITTAWER: made saddles and harnesses WHITTAWER: prepared white leather WOODRANGER / WOOD REEVE / WOODWARD:

in charge of forest or woods WRIGHT: builder or repairer

WYRTH: laborer

XYLOGRAPHER: made and used wooden

blocks for printing illustrations

YATMAN: gate keeper

YEARMAN: contracted to work for a year ZINCOGRAPHER: designer who etched a pattern on zinc printing plates ■

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Happy Holidays

A CCGS membership makes a great holiday gift. Your friend gets all the benefits of membership, including this



newsletter, for the next year. While you're at it, check your mailing label to see whether we've received your dues. Your due date is printed on the top line of your mailing label.

Working for a living, from cover

of whiskey and brandy in inventory (as one of mine did) you could reasonably conclude that they owned a tavern. You should still search other records to either learn more about the tavern or disprove the theory altogether. In this case the inventory included many pounds of apples and spices, along with a counter scale. It appears that my ancestor owned some type of general store or tavern — perhaps the 1850s equivalent of a convenience store. This ancestor is not listed in the 1850 census (when it's likely he was moving from Ohio to Illinois) and died before the 1860 census. Consequently, no record listing his occupation explicitly is known to exist.

Another ancestor's early 1700s Virginia estate inventory includes a significant amount of cloth and many types of needles and thread. A quick comparison with other estate inventories from the same county and time period did not reveal other estates with similar quantities of such items. In this case, it seems likely the ancestor was a tailor. There are no records clearly stating his occupation and the estate inventory is most likely the only glimpse we will ever have.

Many of our ancestors may not have had an actual trade or profession in the modern sense. Many of my forebears were day laborers — working whatever job they could for as long as they were able. Day laborers were not likely to leave large estates. Estate inventories for such individuals (if they exist at all) frequently contain scant information. Families in this

economic position might have moved frequently and may be difficult to track.

When one has traced their ancestry back several generations, the occupations begin to vary significantly. In my case, I had to trace back to my third-greatgrandparents to find a family in which the breadwinner was not a farmer. After fifteen generations, I found ancestors who were bakers, coopers, carpenters, millers, teachers, ministers, weavers, sextons and farmers, among other occupations. I was fortunate that church records list the occupation for many of my German ancestors.

You can analyze occupations in many ways. One interesting way is to chart several generations of a family and analyze the jobs that family breadwinners held. In many cases, the finding is a successive chain of farmers. But I've noticed other interesting things. One father was a master carpenter and his only son a carpenter. One family had three generations of men who were both tailors and schoolteachers. Another had three generations of Lutheran ministers. And another had three consecutive generations who were custodians of church property.

Learning about these occupations and their likely duties has taught me about more than just my ancestors. When (or if) I have time, I'd like to learn more about how Lutheran ministers were trained in the late 1500s and early 1600s when several ancestors were involved in that vocation. I might not obtain direct genealogical knowledge, but would certainly learn about the time and lives of my ancestors.

Some occupational titles

indicate social status. Shades of meaning can be difficult enough to decipher in English (planter vs. farmer, for example), but translation may muddle the distinctions in social class. When terms are written in a foreign language, such nuances can be missed easily. Several German words may translate loosely to "farmer" but if they more specifically mean landowner, farmer or farm laborer, it makes a difference.

Many of my ancestors from Ostfriesland are listed as hausmann, warfsmann or tagelöhner. The first owns a "full farm," the second a

Learning about your ancestors' occupations may teach you not only about your forebears but also about the time and world in which they lived.

small house and perhaps some land and the third is a farm laborer.

Some regions may not have records that clearly list occupation. For many of my ancestors who lived in Indiana, Kentucky or Virginia, I'm lucky to establish clear links from parent to child, let alone find further information. Estate inventories (when I have them) point to farming as the primary occupation. The problem is aggravated by the lack of occupations on census records before 1850. If my ancestors did not live in town they likely farmed in some way,

Working for a living, from p. 21

shape or form and probably were handy at other tasks as well.

Your ancestor probably left behind little biographical information. If you're fortunate enough to know what an ancestor did for a living, learning more about that occupation may give you insight into your ancestor's life. I'm always interested in seeing historical reenactments of occupations, especially occupations that were practiced by my forebears. One ancestor owned a mill in Maryland in the late 1700s. Seeing working gristmills from that period has always intrigued me. This type of see-it-for-yourself activity can be a great way to interest children in genealogy. Watching a tinsmith at the Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts is more interesting than staring at a family tree on the computer screen.

There are potential draw-backs, however. I think I'll forgo a visit to the ancestral tavern that was described in a contemporary newspaper as a "house of ill repute!"

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A call for information

Do you have a list of grads from your grandfather's school? A list of Grandma's Sunday School classmates? Founding members of your Grange? We're always thrilled to find our ancestors' names because it places them in a specific place at a point in time. Help your fellow genealogists by keying such lists into any computer program. Webster Sandy Redmond will upload the data to our web site. Her e-mail address is slredmond@earthlink.net

Member query

If you can help, please respond directly to the writer and copy your reply to CCGS Research Committee, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068 or vpotts1548@aol.com.

Seeking the family of Byron JACOBS, m. Mabel Bell PUTNAM in 1905. They had five children: Lyle, Harry, Harold, Marie(?) and Lillie(?).

Patricia Jacobs Brown
Fremont, CA
Triciaspad@aol.com

Conferences, workshops and seminars

Attending seminars is a great way to keep up with the latest information and network with other genealogists. Some opportunities in 2002:

April 27	20th Anniversary Seminar with speaker Curt Witch		
•	Livingston County Genealogical Society, Brighton,		
	Mich., mwilcox@ismi.net		
May 15–18	National Genealogical Conference in the States,		
•	Milwaukee Wisc www.nosgenealogy.org		

Milwaukee, Wisc., www.ngsgenealogy.org
May 24–26 Annual Seminar, Ontario Genealogical Society,
Alliston, Ont., www.ogs.on.ca

July 14–19 International Roots Conference, Dearborn, Mich., www.rootsconference.com

Oct. 26 A Genealogy Workshop with Sandra Hargreaves Leubking, Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor, Mich., Cgriffiny@aol.com

Top tips from our members

How to obtain Branch County death records This issue's tip, from Elma Carpenter:

The Branch County Clerk's office has its index to death records on its web site: co.branch.mi.us. You can search the index and print a form to order a certified copy. The search returns the name and date of death.

Branch County Death Records — 1867 to present are available for research in the County Clerk's office.

Cost: is \$13 for the first certified copy, \$4 for each additional copy of that record made at the same time. Money order only; payable to Branch County Clerk. Mail to 31 Division St., Coldwater, MI 49036. ■



A Member's Pedigree Chart: Are you related?

		\mathcal{L}	
			16 Jacques La Flamme
			18:1780
		8 Jacques La Flamme	M: 19 Sep 1803
		B:19 Sep 1829	
		P:St Hyacinthe,Quebec	17 Marie Ostie Phaneuf
		M; 19 Sep 1848	B :1782
	4 Dieudonne La Flamme (John)	P:NDR,St.Hyacinthe,Quebec	D:
	B: 7 Jan 1865	D:	18 Jacques Trottier
	P:St.Hyacinthe,Quebec	P:	B:1780
	M: 14 Oct 1890		M:9 Jan 1804
	P: Iosco Co, Mich	9 Libere (Liberty) Trottier	O:
	D:10 Apr 1932	B:1830	19 Genevieve Godreau
	P:Kissimmee,Florida	P:Quebec	B:1782
2 William J La Flame	,	D:	D: 1702
B:24 Sep 1901		P:	
P:St. Hyacinthe,Quebec			20 Joseph Racicot
M:27 Jul 1929			B:1790
P:Mishawaka,Indiana		10 Michael Silvenus Rescoc	M:1825 D:
D:24 Nov 1991		B:28 Feb 1832	
= :		P:Quebec City,Quebec,Canada	
P:Bedford Twp,CC,Mi	e Managed Alasa Danas	M: 14 Jul 1857	B:1812
	5 Margaret Alma Rescoe	P:SsCC,Detroit	D:
	B:10 Aug 1873	D:29 Jan 1895	22 Oliver Menard
	P:Detroit, Wayne Co, Mich	P : East Tawas Josco Co., Mich	B:1822
,	D:21 Dec 1916		M:
!	P:Detroit,Wayne Co,Mich	11 Angelines Menard	D:
•		B:21 Mar 1842	23 Angela Girard
·		P:Detroit,Mich	B:1822
		D:23 Mar 1924	D:
1 Joyce Carol La Flame		P: Michigan	5 .
B :8 Apr 1939	_		24 Jerome B Smith
P:St Clair Shores,MC,MI			B:Abt 1825
M:29 Jun 1957		12 Elmer Jerome Smith	M:Abt 1850
P:Marshall,Mich		B:16 Feb 1856	D:Bef 1900
D:		P:Livonia Twp, Wayne Co, MI	25 Eliza
P:		'M:1880	B :Abt 1830
F •	6 Roy Frost Smith	P:Clinton Co.,Mich	D:Bef 1870
	B:12 Jan 1882	D:9 Oct 1927	26 William Frost
	P:Dewitt,Clinton Co.,Mich	P:Lansing,Ingham Co,Mich	B:1825
Loyal James Laird	- M:7 Sep 1907		·M:1848/1849
(Spouse of no. 1)	P:South Riley, Clinton Co, Mich	13 Emma Lee Frost	D:2 Jan 1887
į.	D:19 Jun 1955	B:Jul 1857	27 Martha Lee
	P:Scotts,Kalamazoo Co,Mich	P:Michigan	B: 1 Jan 1829
	1.000103,110101110200 00,111103	D:28 Oct 1916	D:28 Oct 1916
		P;Clinton Co,Mich	
:		•	28 Jonathan Bishop Keeney
:	:		B :15 Mar 1815
3 Phyllis Leeta Smith	<u> </u>	14 James Allen Keeney	M:1 May 1839
B:19 Nov 1909	 :	B:14 Nov 1850	D :1897
P: Maple Rapids, E, Clinton Co.		P:Lenawee Co,Mich	29 Amanda Mallery
D:1 Aug 1994		M:3 Apr 1878	B:27 Mar 1822
P:Battle Creek,Mich	7 Florence Adel Keeney	P:Clinton Co,Mich	D:9 Feb 1885
	B:5 Nov 1881	D:29 Jan 1921	30 David Warren
	P:South Riley, Clinton Co, Mich	P:Clinton Co,Ml	B:11 Aug 1811
	D:13 Nov 1952	. , ,	M:2 Jan 1837
	P:Scotts,Kalamazoo Co,Mich	15 Genevieve Murray Warren	D:16 May 1895
		B:11 Jun 1855	i
		P:Michigan _	31 Caroline Maria Robards
		D:5 Apr 1938	B:12 Aug 1819
28 Aug 2001		P:Clinton Co Mich	D:20 Nov 1878
ex ruly avvi	•		

Generations

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

Calhoun County Genealogical Society CALENDAR

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 the B.F. Henry Building, 615 S. Marshall St. in Marshall

and open to the public. Unless noted, meetings are held at / p.m. at the B.E. Henry Building, 615 S . Marshall St . in Marshall.				
Nov. 17	Beginning genealogy workshop, Eaton County Genealogical Society, see page 14			
Nov. 27	CCGS monthly meeting: Willard Library resources with George Livingston, <i>held at</i> Willard Library, Battle Creek, 7 p.m.			
Dec. 1	Library of Michigan workshop: "Military Records," Michigan Library and Historical Center, 9:15 a.m., (517) 373-1300			
Dec. 5	Willard Library Internet training session: "Family History 101, First Steps in Family History," Willard Library Meeting Room, 10 a.m.—11 a.m.			
Dec. 15	Library of Michigan patron training session: "Electronic Resources," 9:30 a.m., see page 16			
Dec. 18	Library of Michigan patron training session repeat: "Electronic Resources," 3 p.m., see page 16			
Jan. 22	CCGS monthly meeting: Genealogy Hints and Anecdotes Show and Tell, 7 p.m.			
Feb. 25	(Monday) CCGS members may attend: Presentations by Curt Witcher, "Passenger and Immigration Research" and "The Road Less Traveled:			
	Mega Internet Sites for Genealogists off the Beaten	CORRECTION		
	Path," Miller-Stone Building across from Willard Library, Battle Creek, details TBA	An incorrect meeting date was printed in the September/		
March 26	CCGS monthly meeting: "Ontario-Michigan	October issue. CCGS will meet		

Migration" with Shirley Hodges, 7 p.m.

Jan. 22, 2002, *not* Jan. 29.