

## President's Message

With the thoughts of the upcoming Memorial Day and not so far in the future, the Fourth of July, our Independence Day, my mind now drifts to our ancestors who fought and served for this great land of ours. Then my thoughts drift off to my German ancestors, who came here after being persecuted in Germany for their faith; to get away from the famine; to leave the servitude and/or to leave behind the poverty. By 1708-09 thousands of Germans had left the Palatine region of Germany and had landed in London in answer to a request from Queen Anne for workers to go to the colonies. She was expecting a few hundred, so when thousands came she had to do something with them. The Protestants were sent to the colonies. The Catholics were sent to Ireland. Many of my Germans ended up in the wilds of New York, in the Mohawk Valley where they cleared the land, fought the 'Indians', French and British, started towns, churches and later, schools. The following story was written about my ancestor John Schell who lived during the 1700's in what is now Herkimer County, New York:

"John and his sons were cutting peas when they saw the enemy watching the blockhouse. It being somewhat rainy and they, being nearly out of provisions, quit work and went to the fort, four miles distant, where Mrs. Schell and the small children of the family were harbored during these perilous times. The next day they returned from the fort and were delayed in going to work by the killing of a large bear which had left his haunts on account of the presence of the numerous Tories and Indians."

This is not untypical of their daily life in those times.

Many fought in the American Revolution and some lost their lives, fighting for the

freedom they so dreamed of; the freedom that they gave to us; the freedom for which their descendents are still defending; the freedom that we must retain.

We all have our own stories of how our ancestors became Americanized, who they were, and where they came from. Let us all remember them this Memorial Day and this Fourth of July Independence Day.

*Judy Groat, President*

## Michigan Genealogical Council Update

A special guest at the March 14<sup>th</sup> Delegate's meeting, Mr. Richard Wheat, Section Chief of Vital Records at Michigan Dept. of Community Health, welcomed the opportunity to get acquainted with the MI Genealogical Council and discussed topics such as: customer service, plans for making data more readily available, the first test data review of the electronic data compiled by the Genealogical Society of Utah, a brief update on GENDIS, plans for the future and his hopes of having a good relationship with the Library of Michigan.

Randy Riley gave an update on the Library of Michigan. He listed areas affected by the severe budget cuts: collection development in all parts of the library, subscriptions, student employees reduced. Library hours will remain the same. The Cemetery Data Base source book is on-line. The Cemetery Atlas will be digitized and placed on-line later. He asked that any MGC member society that has a cemetery reading data base on line, and wouldn't mind having a link to the database, to let either Randy or Kyle Ripley know. Permission letters are being sent to various groups for these links. A volunteer program for donating time to assist in place of the students is set up on a trial basis. October will be Family History Month. Several activities will be scheduled. MGC will conduct a genealogy workshop on 16 October 2004. Fee \$20.00 includes lunch and materials.

Guest speaker was Mary Griffes, director of the Family History Center in East Lansing.

## Clarence Township Genealogy and History Open House

On Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, there was a very nice gathering of enthusiastic genealogists from a tri-county area, held at the Clarence Township Hall. It was hosted by the Clarence Township Genealogy and History Group. There were vendors selling genealogy related books and materials; there were collections of photos, family books and histories, maps; you name it, if it had to do with genealogy it was there. We sold some books and I talked to a few people interested in coming to our meetings. It was nice to see a few big smiles, and even hear a couple of cheers as people found things about their family lines. It is nice that different genealogy groups are uniting for meetings, workshops and seminars. We need more of these, and I wish to see more interested people attending such programs.

Judy Groat, President



The Seeking Leadership Committee will be contacting individuals for officer candidates for the coming year. Our election for new Board Members is held in September. Thank you for your courtesy to the committee.

### 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.

CCGS is incorporated under the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act. Individuals, libraries or societies may join. Annual dues for the year beginning 1 September are \$12.00. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after 1 May will pay membership for the following year. Members receive the newsletter **Generations** six times per year. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Gifford Schultz Educational Service Center -- CISD building, 17111 G Drive North, Marshall, *unless otherwise specified*. No meetings are held in July, August or December. Programs are free and open to the public.

<i>President</i> <b>Judy Groat</b> (269) 781-4568 <a href="mailto:JGroat2800@aol.com">JGroat2800@aol.com</a>	<i>Corresponding Secretary</i> <b>Cheri Ruble</b> (269) 968-1480 <a href="mailto:DCRuble@iserv.net">DCRuble@iserv.net</a>	<i>Membership Promotion Chair</i> <b>Ilene Woodman</b> (269) 962-1667 <a href="mailto:iwoodman@comcast.net">iwoodman@comcast.net</a>	<i>Records Preservation Chair</i> <b>Cindy Kulig</b> (269) 962-6831
<i>Vice President/Program</i> <b>Maureen Vire</b> (269) 962-0964 <a href="mailto:MVire53@aol.com">MVire53@aol.com</a>	<i>Recording Secretary</i> <b>Marcie Telfer</b> (269) 963-3899 <a href="mailto:MTelfer805@aol.com">MTelfer805@aol.com</a>	<i>Cemetery Transcription Chair</i> <b>Ruth Kaiser</b> (517) 857-2747 <a href="mailto:Ruthmary46@yahoo.com">Ruthmary46@yahoo.com</a>	<i>Pioneer Certificate Chair</i> <b>Verla Potts</b> (269) 781-8594 <a href="mailto:vpotts1548@aol.com">vpotts1548@aol.com</a>
<i>Co-Vice President/Publicity</i> <b>Debby Wilson</b> (269) 781-0641 <a href="mailto:DebbyLW@internet1.net">DebbyLW@internet1.net</a>	<i>Past President</i> <b>Anita Stuever</b> (269) 969-4197 <a href="mailto:anitastuever@comcast.net">anitastuever@comcast.net</a>	<i>Hospitality Chairpersons</i> <b>Arlene Berry</b> (269) 963-7808 <a href="mailto:gmomberry@aol.com">gmomberry@aol.com</a> <b>Barbara Williams</b> (269) 962-2803	<i>Michigan Genealogical Council Delegate</i> <b>Marlene Steele</b> (269) 963-0226 <a href="mailto:MABSteele1@aol.com">MABSteele1@aol.com</a>
<i>Treasurer</i> <b>Dave Ruble</b> (269) 968-1480 <a href="mailto:DCRuble@iserv.net">DCRuble@iserv.net</a>	<i>Publications Chair and Webmaster</i> <b>Sandy Redmond</b> (269) 979-8050 <a href="mailto:slredmond@earthlink.net">slredmond@earthlink.net</a>	<i>Newsletter Editor</i> (pending)	<i>MGC Delegate #2</i> (pending)

All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** newsletter editor.

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 \$1.00 for the first page, \$.50 for each additional page.

Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068-0879

[MichiganCalhounGene@Yahoo.com](mailto:MichiganCalhounGene@Yahoo.com) - <http://www.rootsweb.com/~micalhou/ccgs.htm>

CCGS e-mail list: Send a message to [calhouncountygss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:calhouncountygss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with the word "subscribe" as the subject  
Member National Genealogical Society – Michigan Genealogical Council – Federation of Genealogical Societies

## Recent Acquisitions at Battle Creek's Family History Center

The Calhoun County Genealogical Society recently provided funds to have 14 additional rolls of microfilmed marriage and death records of Calhoun County on permanent loan at the Battle Creek LDS Family History Center. Here is a listing of what is available at the FHC at 1312 Capital Avenue, SW, Battle Creek, MI. The Center is open Tuesday and Thursday from 12:00 noon to 9:00 p.m. Their telephone number is (269) 964-0878.

Film #	Description
1009291	Death Index, 1888-1933, v. 2-7
2107906	Death Index, 1932-1951
2107907	Death Index, 1952-1979; Death Index (A-Wi) 1980-1985
2107908	Death Index, (Wi-Z) 1980-1985; Death Index, 1986-1996
1009292	Death Records, v. 1-2 1867-1899; Includes Index to v.1, 1867-1882
1009293	Death Records, v. 3-6 1899-1926; Includes Index to v. 5, 1912-1914
2107908	Death Records, v. 7 (p. 1-257) 1926-1931 (Item 3)
2107909	Death Records, v. 7 (p. 257-end) 1931-1933 (Item 1)
1002861	General Probate Index 1835-1976
1009294	Index to Marriages, 1836-1872 and 1885-1917
2107909	Index to Marriages, 1917-1928 (Item 2)
2107910	Index to Marriages 1929-1936; Index to Marriages, (A-Pe) 1937-1943
2107911	Index to Marriages, (Pe-Z) 1937-1943; Index to Marriages, 1944-1950 (Item 1)
1009295	Marriage Records, v. 1-5, (Religious Societies and J.P.'s Records) 1834-1884
1009296	Marriage Records, v. 1-2, 1867-1884; includes Index to v. 1-2, 1867-1884
1009297	Marriage Records, v. 3-4, 1885-1899 (Volume 4 is the first one which lists parents)
1009298	Marriage Records, v. 5, 1899-1908
1009299	Marriage Records, v. 6, 1909-1917
2107911	Marriage Records, v. 7, (p. 1-305), Marriage Records, 1917-1921 (Item 3)
2107912	Marriage Records, v. 7 (305-end), 1921-22; Marriage Records, v. 8-9, 1923-27
2107913	Marriage Records, v. 10, 1937-1943

### "Ties to Homer"

Efforts have been ongoing for more than a year with the Homer History Book Committee, working with the Homer Historical Society in organizing the preparation of an up-to-date volume about the area history, lives and valuable stories of people of the Homer Village and Township as well as the surrounding areas of Albion, Clarendon, and Eckford townships. Contributed articles for the 256 page 8 1/2" by 11" hardbound book have been chosen, edited, typed, proofread and are ready to be archived, while the master copies are soon to be forwarded to the publisher. Extra articles will also be archived at the Sackett School museum.

The publication release date is expected to be in the fall. Cost of "The Ties to Homer" will be \$30.00 with a shipping charge of \$3.50 if one does not pick up the book. The comprehensive history is the first undertaking for the area since 1894 and will be a valuable asset to future generations of researchers.

Orders will be taken at the Homer Public Library, and contact persons are Jo Anne Miller at (517) 568-3116 or Marjorie Neuffer at (517) 629-7374.

## What Happens to This Paperwork?

Have you considered what might happen to all the papers you have generated through your research? Here is a tip that has floated around the internet and has been received by your editor through several messages.

### Genealogical Codicil to My Last Will and Testament:

To my spouse, children, guardian, administrator and/or executor:

Upon my demise it is requested that you DO NOT dispose of any or all of my genealogical records, both those prepared personally by me and those records prepared by others which may be in my possession, including but not limited to, books, files, notebooks or computer programs for a period of two years. During this time period, please attempt to identify one or more persons who would be willing to take custody of the said materials and the responsibility of maintaining and continuing the family histories.

[If you know who within your family or friends who are likely candidates to accept these materials, please add the following at this point: "I suggest that the persons contacted regarding the assumption of the custody of these items include but not be limited to", then list the names of those individuals at this point, with their addresses and telephone numbers if known].

In the event you do not find anyone to accept these materials, please contact the various genealogical organizations that I have been a member of and determine if they will accept some parts or all of my genealogical materials.

[List of organizations, addresses and phone numbers at bottom; include local chapters, with their addresses, phone numbers and contact persons if available as well as state and national contact information and addresses.] Please remember that my genealogical endeavors consumed a great deal of time, travel, and money. Therefore it is my desire that the products of these endeavors be allowed to continue in a manner that will make them available to others in the future.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Recent E-mail from Website

I found your address on the Calhoun County site. I'm descended from the Raether and Lutzke families who lived in Albion. You may know of my second cousin, Margarete Gress Gorman.

I no longer live in the US, but I am interested in contacting other descendants who might be researching these two families. I have quite a bit of information and I have visited the estates in Pomerania from where the families emigrated. I have posted to the Rootsweb sites, but I thought it might be worth letting you know of my interest in case there are any current Society members who are researching these families. I hope to visit in the area next month when I am in Michigan on a short visit.

Thank you for passing on this information.

Sincerely, Diane Treacy-Cole

[Diane.treacy-cole@virgin.net](mailto:Diane.treacy-cole@virgin.net)

## Query

Need proof that the parents of Joseph H. Washburn who is buried in Marengo Village Cemetery (died 4 April 1862) are Elisha Washburn and Hannah Clark. I have two different birthdates for Joseph which need clarifying. June W. Wilkinson, 711 50<sup>th</sup> Ave. Plz. West, Bradenton, FL 34207

[Jwilkin464@aol.com](mailto:Jwilkin464@aol.com)

## FLEISHER GENEALOGY

Our thanks go to a recent inquirer, Carol Murphy Fleisher of Webster Groves, MO, who sent a copy of the genealogy of her husband's ancestor, Simeon Fleisher (1814-1881) after having research done for her in Calhoun County. Some of the names listed in the genealogy as living in Calhoun, Eaton, and Kalamazoo counties are: *Fleisher, Croop, Hartwell, Shultz, Weeks, Phelps, Gordon, Morgan, Bartsche Culp, Harrison, Lincoln, Wells, Wochholz, and Dexter*. The volume has been placed in the Helen Warner Branch of Willard Library in Battle Creek.

## SUMMERTIME CAUTIONS

Now that summer research trips are being planned, please be aware of cautions regarding personal identity and how it can be stolen:

- Put your Social Security card away. Don't carry it with you. Think about it...when is it used? You already have the number listed with the charge card companies; you already have a job; where do you need it other than that? It is not necessary for identification. Don't print the number on your checks, either.
- Do carry minimal credit cards in a separate place from your purse or wallet. Also have the loss-notification-800 numbers in another accessible place. If your credit cards are stolen, call the *Social Security Office nearest you immediately* as well as the credit card companies. That blocks new credit card applications.
- There are new ATM machine threats. This site shows a new way ATM card number and pin numbers are being stolen. If you don't have a computer, visit your library and check this URL. It is shocking. <http://www.utexas.edu/admin/utpd/atm.html>
- Hotel key cards: keep them and destroy them later. NEVER leave them behind and NEVER leave them in your room. It's just a piece of plastic, right? Not so according to the Southern California law enforcement professionals assigned to detect new threats to personal safety issues. A key obtained from a hotel chain that was being used for a regional Identity Theft Presentation contained the following information:
  1. Customers (your) name
  2. Customers partial home address
  3. Hotel room number
  4. Check in date and check out date
  5. Customers (your) credit card number and expiration date!

When you turn in these cards at the front desk your personal information is still encoded. Any employee might access this information simply by scanning the card in the hotel's scanner. Or an employee might take a hand full of cards home and use a scanning device, access the information onto a laptop computer and go shopping at your expense. Hotels do not erase these cards until an employee issues the card to the next hotel guest. It is usually kept in a drawer at the front desk with **YOUR INFORMATION ON IT!!!**

Bottom line: keep the card, destroy it yourself. They won't charge you for the card.

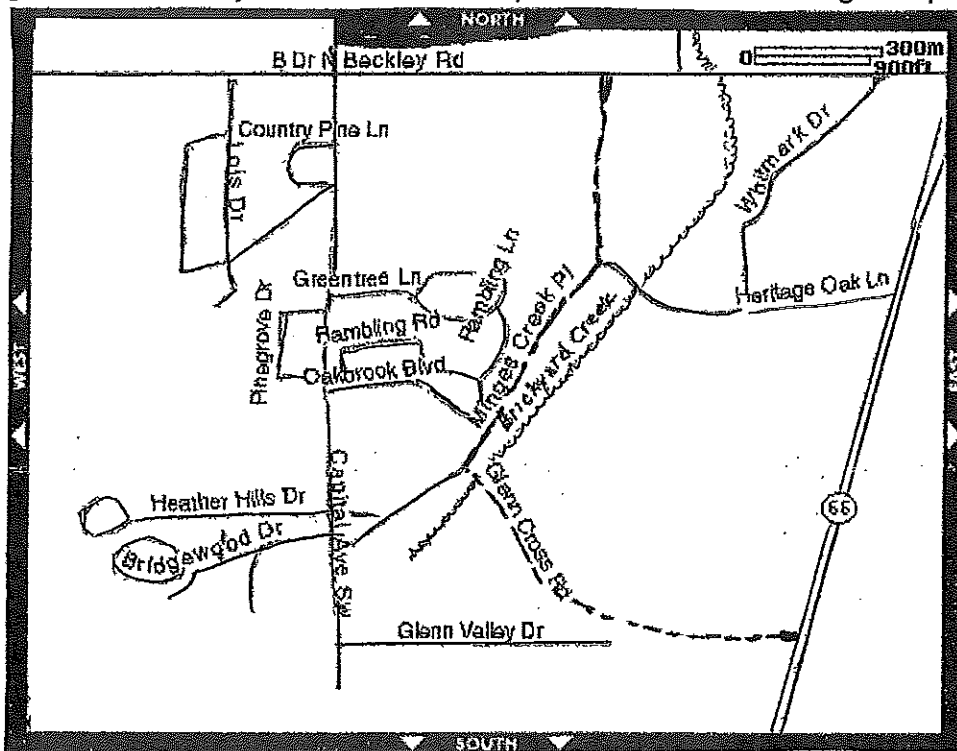
That information is courtesy of: Sgt K. Jorge, Detective Sergeant, Pasadena Police Dept.

Now, go have a happy and successful research trip.

**Research Access** information presented at the MGC Delegates' Meeting by Joanne Harvey: Legislation is being worked on to enable the single sheet certificates in Vital Records Certificate files to be filmed and placed at the Library of Michigan. Joanne proposed a motion "That the MGC encumber \$13,000.00 to be used for the purchase of MI Dept. of Community Health provided MI Vital Records Certificate copy films for the Library of MI; prioritized first by obtaining death *Announcements/Friendly Forum* certificates, then birth certificate copies, and marriage certificate copies after 1925". Discussion on the motion indicated that knowing monies were available to support this purchase could help to influence passage of the bill by the legislature. Motion was passed. Recommended: All members contact their legislators regarding support of this legislation. Passage of this is extremely important to researchers!

## May 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting at Helen Warner Branch Of Willard Library, Battle Creek

Our next meeting will begin at the Minges Creek Athletic Club, 21 Minges Creek Place in Battle Creek on May 25, 2004. George Livingston will be our host and will give us an overview of the new branch library. We will then cross the road for our library tour. The Helen Warner Branch is located south of Beckley Road. Minges Creek Place enters Beckley Road at a point between Capital Ave., SW and Riverside Drive opposite the Bob Evans Restaurant. Drive south on Minges Creek Place around the curve to reach the Athletic Club and the library. There is handicap parking, and the library branch is handicap accessible. If walking is a problem, meet



us at the library.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

### Abrams Genealogical Series Schedule

Sessions of the Abrams Genealogical Series will be in the Forum or Lake Ontario Room at the Library of Michigan and will begin at 9:30 a.m. The cost is \$15.00 per 90 minute session. Additional information is available at (517) 373-1300, either Randy Riley or Kris Rzepczynski or on the website: <http://www.michigan.gov/hal>

- June 5 Genealogy Resources at the Michigan Library and Historical Center
- August 7 Dutch Genealogy
- October 2 Ships' Passenger Lists
- December 4 Finding Your Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Ancestors

## Tips of the Day

September 24, 2000

Looking for information to add to Generations has been quite a challenge. Too many subjects, and the articles I found were too long for the space left. So while searching through old printouts of my Ancestry.com Daily Newsletter I found many quick tips submitted by readers. Here are some of them.

### TIMING YOUR RESEARCH

I keep a kitchen timer by my computer. When I have something else to do or keep an eye on while I'm researching, I set the timer for the time I have left. No more burnt food!  
Carol Snook, January 10, 2001

### GENEALOGICAL ROUND ROBIN

.....about two years ago, we began sending a special box around the (family research) group. The first person placed copies of his or her research in the box and sent it to the next person on the list. That person copied what he or she did not have, added new material, and sent the box on to the next person on the list.....This is a great way to share without repeating what a person may already have in his or her genealogical database.  
Jo Castleberry Branch: Jan 2001

### DIGITAL PHOTOS OF PHOTOS

.....while visiting homes of your family members, use a digital camera to photograph the album pictures and those on the walls of the home. Try the sepia setting for black and whites and colored photos. Works with no covering, with glass, and with curved glass coverings.

### DECIPHER INSCRIPTIONS

Digital cameras are especially effective for photographing tombstones. Play around with the color balance, contrast, and special effects when you are at home using the computer, and you will be able to 'see' the carvings more easily.

### RE-WRITE TO SOCIETIES

If it has been more than ten years since you wrote to a historical or genealogical society to see if your ancestors were included in any town or county histories, perhaps it would be wise to re-check. Some locales may have had bi-centennial or similar celebrations since your previous query and may have marked the occasion with a book on early settlers.

Kathie Marynik September 2000

### SCANNING FOR DAGUERROTYPE DETAIL

I had a number of small daguerreotypes that were quite dark and hard to see clearly. I scanned them into my Printmaster program. They scanned in much larger, and I was able to control the contrast. I then was able to enlarge them to my satisfaction. The result: I could identify everyone. I printed the page onto photo paper. The images printed beautifully, and now I can share them with family members.

Barbara Lenker Sept. 2000

### COPY E-MAILS TO INDEX CARDS

I print a copy of the first page of some of my more important e-mails to large index cards and then file them in a card file. (Set printer paper size.) That way I

have the e-mail address and a brief description of the subject. By looking in the card file, I can easily find out who I corresponded with two or three years ago and what that correspondence was about without having to sort through all my papers. ....

Ruthie Anderson October 2000

### YEARBOOKS YIELD INFO

Don't forget to look in high school yearbooks. Information about colleges, addresses, then use city directories for parents and siblings. Even the ads can be useful.

October 2000

### SCANNING OBJECTS

This is a follow-up to the quick tip about scanning family keepsakes.

Many people may not know how to easily scan an object (as opposed to a piece of paper that will fit nicely on the scanner). Place the object on the scanner glass, and drape a contrasting piece of fabric over the item to obscure the excess light.. Then proceed with the scan. You may have to do this a few times to obtain the quality of scan you want, but it works very nicely.

Jan Tice December 2000

Along this line, another tip suggested placing a sheet of clear plastic over the glass to prevent scratching the scanner's glass. Would kitchen type plastic wrap be strong enough? Or should one use a mylar sheet?

Don't forget any type of cameras for documenting keepsakes!

I find the tips tend to run to technological choices! Whew. Where's my pencil and paper.

## *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 Gifford Schultz Educational Service Center—Calhoun Intermediate School District building, 17111 G Drive North, Marshall.

- 22 May Research trip to Allen County Public Library at Ft. Wayne, IN. Bus leaves Battle Creek's Beckley Road vacant Kmart store parking lot at 8:00 a.m. EDT; Marshall's Kmart parking lot (top of the hill) at 8:15 a.m. EDT; Coldwater Park and Ride on East Chicago St. at 8:30 a.m. EDT
- 25 May A tour of the new Helen Warner Branch Library in Battle Creek hosted by George Livingston, local and family history librarian of Willard Library. The meeting will start at the Minges Brook Racquet Club/Athletic Club with an overview of the new library. We will then cross the road for the tour of the new branch's family and history area. Those with difficulty walking are welcome to meet us at the library location.
- 22 June Our speaker will be John Clark from Sherwood, Michigan. He will present a program on The Civil War Draft
- July-August There are no formal meetings. Members will be busy working on the cemeteries, doing their own research and enjoying the summer.
- 21 September Welcome back! Annual election and Officer Reports on the status of our Society.

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### **Generations**

Calhoun County Genealogical Society  
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