



# Generations

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Serving Calhoun County, Michigan Family History Researchers Since 1988

## President's Message

The months of May and June seem to be especially hectic for my family as the kids wrap up their school years, participate in spring sports, dance recitals and field trips. These activities can really eat into genealogy research time, and I can attest that I'm in a slump as of late when it comes to my investigations. So in order to shake things up, I'm preparing to become a "guinea pig" for my fellow CCGS members and participate in one of the hottest new areas of genealogical research. And the best part about this project is how perfectly it fits in with the busy spring schedule, in that not much work is required on my part and the cost is right.

What I'm referring to are two small silver packages that are sitting before me as I write. These two kits are my family's gateway to genetic genealogy. The boxes arrived by mail from the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation, of Salt Lake City (of course).

The Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to building the world's largest, most comprehensive database of correlated genealogical and genetic information. Their motto is "Growing the genetic family tree, one branch at a time."

I've been interested in genetic genealogy for some time but I've always been put off by the high prices other services have charged. The twist here with the Sorenson Foundation is that their two genetic tests are free-of-charge for those who volunteer a four-generation pedigree. The testing provided covers both Y-chromosome and mitochondrial DNA analysis, if relevant. The SMGF plans to expand testing further in the future to cover X-chromosome and autosomal DNA (non-sexual specific genetic information that is passed down lineages). I ordered two kits so that my wife could share in the fun too.

Each test kit contains a vial of mouthwash that you swish and spit back into included container. This vial is then mailed back via prepaid postage to the Sorenson Foundation folks along with completed pedigree chart and consent forms. Upon completion of the analysis, the results are posted to the Foundation's website, [www.smgf.org](http://www.smgf.org). The website is well-organized and allows searching the genetic databases by both name and by genetic marker, if you have such information already on hand. I also found some other features of the website interesting, such as integration of Google maps to show origination of various genetic strains and linking of extended pedigree information when available to information found in the FamilySearch.org Ancestral File database. The Sorenson Foundation appears to have taken great precautions to protect the privacy of participants by not disclosing information about persons born after 1906. The organization also disclaims any affiliation with the Church of Latter Day Saints.

So if you are interested in exploring a new branch of our hobby, I recommend further investigation of the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation. The free database participation kits can be ordered directly from [www.smgf.org](http://www.smgf.org) or by telephone at (800) 344-7643. Who knows, you may uncover some lost relations while you enjoy our summer Michigan weather.

- Chris Rau  
President CCGS

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## HIGHLIGHTED LOCATION — Marshall: *Changing Times*

I've found and been presented with some items that show the development of the city of Marshall over the years. This newsletter will showcase a few of these.

Because of Marshall's position on the banks of the Kalamazoo, it was a natural for development of a prominent Michigan city. Marshall's history includes Indians, educators, statesmen, manu-

facturers, railroad men, runaway slaves, an opera house, a boat and yacht club, mills, a brewery, one of the earliest light and power plants, and many other versatile trades and occupations.

Ever heard of a buggy factory? How about a folding bath tub Company? Marshall had a casket company, a hot air furnace company, a bicycle company and even a com-

pany that made school furniture.

Marshall is the location where the current educational system was developed. Marshall was a leading contender for the State Capital.

So many dreams. So many changes. What will happen next? What is your vision of Marshall?

# CCGS News and Happenings

## MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL DELEGATE\*

REPORT: MGC's new web site is up at <http://www.mimgc.org>. Check it out!

### COMING SOON:

- Web site being moved. Links will change.
- Poor House records to be added to web site.
- Non-profit status with IRS completed.
- New cemetery transcription publications to be available.

## NEXT NEWSLETTER FOCUS—Tekonsha

What are your roots to Tekonsha? Tell me about it and I'll see what we can include in our next newsletter. I don't know much about this area, so I REALLY need your help! Help me educate us.

I'm looking for a family for our ancestral tree, articles and photographs of interest about the area and the

area people. Tell me about the first settlers or current issues of importance. In short all things genealogical and historical.

Please Email or send your contributions soon! Address below.

Help me keep you informed, enlightened and entertained about things Calhoun County and genealogy based.

## SEMINAR

The Lansing Family History Center is holding their annual "Family History Genealogy Seminar" on Saturday, May 10, 2008. The doors will open at 8:30 a.m. at the LDS Church at 431 East Saginaw, East Lansing, MI 48823.

Call ahead for more information and to register your choice in the class sessions (517) 332-2932.

# 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 September 1 are \$12.00. 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. General 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.

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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 the individual pages from back issues of **Generations** at \$1.00 for the first page, \$0.50 for each additional page.

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

Organizational Member of **National Genealogical Society—Michigan Genealogical Society—Federation of Genealogical Societies**



# ***Ancestors of Pauline Devereaux***

**Nicholas Devereaux**  
b: 14 May 1808 in Kilmore, Wexford Co, IRELAND  
m: 1829 in IRELAND  
d: 14 Jul 1855 in Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Thomas Devereaux**  
b: 04 Jun 1847 in IRELAND  
m: 18 Nov 1878 in St Rose Church, Hastings, Barry Co, MI, USA  
d: 01 Jan 1916 in Convis Twp, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Catherine Mary Barney**  
b: 1806 in IRELAND  
d: 24 Apr 1879 in Marshall, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Pauline Elizabeth Devereaux**  
b: 21 Jul 1896 in Convis Twp, Calhoun Co, MI, USA  
m: 15 Jul 1925 in Lansing, Ingham Co, MI, USA  
d: 04 Jan 1976 in Leila Hospital, Battle Creek, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**John Mahar**  
b: 1830 in IRELAND  
d: 04 Sep 1868 in Vermontville, Eaton Co, MI, USA

**Anna Mahar**  
b: 26 Sep 1856 in Holly, Oakland Co, MI, USA  
d: 27 Feb 1946 in Mercy Hospital, Jackson, Jackson Co, MI, USA

**Anastasia Tobin**  
b: Aug 1829 in IRELAND  
d: 16 Nov 1909 in Vermontville, Eaton Co, MI, USA



## Civil War Nick

Nicholas Devereaux, Jr. was born in Ireland and moved with the family to Marengo Twp. in the fall 1850. So impressed with his new country, young Nicholas joined the Michigan 14th Infantry at the start of the Civil War.

He was commissioned Nov 18, 1861, mustered Feb 13, 1862 and yet was on leave to marry in Marshall on March 3, 1862. After the wedding, the town of Marshall made a presentation to Nicholas. Judge Shearman presented Nicholas with a ceremonial sword and sash in appreciation for his service in the war. The following is a transcription of the presentation as printed in the *Democratic Expounder* March 6, 1862:

The friends of Lieut. Devereux, residing in the city, having procured an elegant sword and sash, availed themselves of an opportunity preceded by his brief return to the city, to present the same to him on the evening of the ad inst. The occasion was an interesting one and the Lieut. having on that day proved himself a *Union* man by uniting himself to one of the young ladies of our city. The presentation was made by Judge Shearman. In the presence of the family and friends of the Lieut., including his Honor, the Mayor elect, and other city officers, and a large number of ladies whose grace and beauty gave unusual attraction to the scene. After the presentation, the company sat down to a bountiful repast, prepared by Jeremiah Cronin, Esq. We cannot omit to mention that the sparkling wit of the gallant Capt. Fitzgibbons, of the Regiment of Col. Sin-

clair, to which Lieut. Devereux is attached enlivened the occasion, and proved that his powers of speech were equal to his life known gallantry and bravery as a soldier. The following is the address of Judge Shearman:

Lieut. Devereux I am honored by your friends with the pleasing duty of presenting you with the accompanying sword, their voluntary gift to you, a pledge at once of their friendship and of their faith in your honor as a man and your bravery as a soldier.

We have looked with emotions of gratitude to the gallant men who have achieved our victories in the battle field, and to none does the American nation owe deeper debts of gratitude than to those of your respected countrymen, who have so nobly yielded their services and poured out their blood in defense of American Institution.

You go to join others of a devoted band, who are to risk their lives in defense of American liberty of the American Constitution and the American Union as it was made by the fathers of the Republic. On that field of battle to which you are hastening, you will meet with other gallant patriots of your own countrymen and you will be excited to enthusiasm by the acts of Shields, Mulligan, Corcoran, Meagher and others whose names are already enrolled on the records of fame and whose gallant deeds have given courage and hope to millions of men whose destiny at some future day, must be freedom from the thralldom which has so long oppressed them.

In presenting you with this token of esteem and confidence, it is our prayer that heaven may shield you from the dangers of the battle field and nerve your arms with feelings of reliance

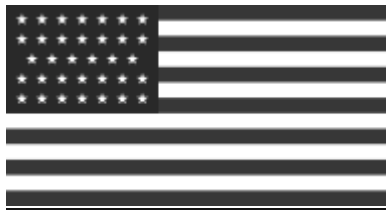
on Him who has promised to defend this right. It is our fervent prayer that you may soon return to us in safety, but should it be your destiny to fall, let your last grasp of this memorial of our affection be accompanied with the recollection of this scene and of the love we all bear you, cheer you with the reflection that your name will be embalmed in our hearts, as one who defended with his heart's blood, the free institutions which have so long been looked upon as the last hope of the oppressed in all nations of the globe.

Lieut. Devereux, who was taken entirely unprepared, said:

You all know, my friends, that I am neither a speaker nor a writer. I am endeavoring to fit myself for the field-that field which is to reflect glory or shame, victory or defeat upon a life I willingly and voluntarily consecrate to the defense of that flag which shielded me when tyranny and oppression drove me from my lovely home. Though it hath been often said that Irishmen are foremost in love and war, I confess to a timidity and bashfulness which, on this solemn occasion dictates silence. By my future acts, Judge Shearman, and not by any feeble effort of mine to respond to your chaste, elegant and eloquent words, do I purpose replying to your flattering encomiums.

God knows, Judge Shearman, that though we Irish are guilty of many improprieties of this land, I could challenge history to produce one who has ever voluntarily laid profane hands upon that ribbed emblem of our country's greatness, which they all revere and respect. If the fate of battles should allot me a return amongst you once more, I shall feel it the proudest task of my life to bestow upon you, one and all, what I feel tonight the sincerest thanks of my inner heart.

## Civil War Nick (Continued)



US Flag 1861-1863



Nick Devereaux bravely fought for company B Fourteenth Infantry until discharge Feb. 13, 1865. Upon completion of his duties he returned to Marshall and his bride. He set up shop into his father-in-law, Jeremiah Cronin's building at 105 West Michigan Ave. The business was the Devereaux Boot and Shoe Store.

Nicholas and Elizabeth (Cronin) Devereaux lived the remainder of their lives in the Marshall area. After Nicholas died in 1884, Elizabeth continued to run the store. She

died in 1904. They did not have any children.

Do you have a Civil War relative from Marshall? Nick lives on through military documents and news articles such as the ones presented here and through family stories, pictures, land records, census data, government documents, obituaries and cemetery records. But mostly Nick lives on because someone took the time to gather these mementoes together and assemble the story of "Civil War Nick." Thank you to Nick's cousin Francis Akins for Nick's story.

Akins, Francis. The Devereaux Family. 10 October 2007

### **Genealogical Research Tour to Washington DC**

Conducted by Carolyn Mack Tours take a trip to Washington DC Sunday, October 19—Saturday, October 25, 2008. For more information go to [www.carolynmacktours.com](http://www.carolynmacktours.com) or call 269-327-4389.

## Not yet a CCGS member?



**If** you're not yet a member of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society, please consider joining to take advantage of the many benefits of belonging.

Benefits include:

- Subscription to *Generations*, published bimonthly
- Free monthly meetings and special programs (no meetings July, August or December)
- Membership card on request
- Networking with other genealogists
- E-mail list keeps you up to date on society activities (Send a message with "subscribe" as the subject to [calhouncountyggs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:calhouncountyggs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).)
- 10 percent discount on society publications, workshops and research trips

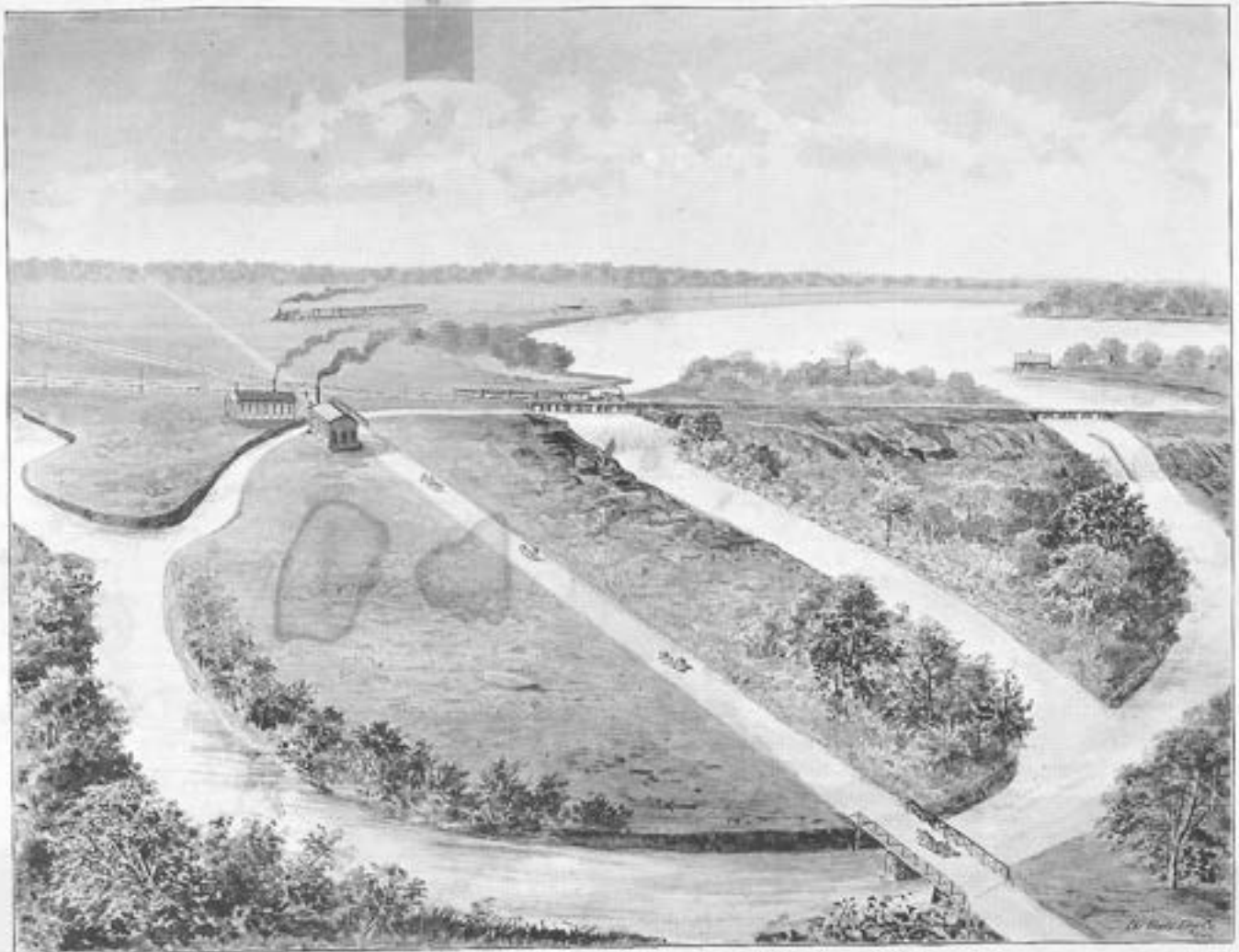
Membership is \$12 per family for the membership year, September 1 to August 31. Beginning September 1, 2008, dues will be \$15 for members who choose to receive the printed newsletter, or \$12 for those who choose to receive *Generations* electronically. Memberships are accepted at any time during the year. Send your dues to CCGS Membership Chair, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068.

Anita Stuever has updated the membership promotion brochure. If you would like copies to distribute to genealogists who are not members or to leave at your favorite research repository, please pick them up at a society meeting or contact a board member. Spread the word about the benefits of membership!

### **NOTICE**

For those of you that have requested to receive the CCGS newsletters electronically, **you should have received your first electronic issue!** We are testing our electronic distribution. If you asked to have your newsletter emailed but have not received it, please Email [annheisler@aol.com](mailto:annheisler@aol.com)

## Marshall 1895



Bird's-eye View of the Marshall Water Power Located within the City Limits. Showing the fine Water Power and Sites Offered by the City for Manufacturing.

Do you see the City of Marshall in the above picture? Pretty different, right? One of the items left to me by my grandmother was a book *Souvenir Edition Marshall, Michigan: Headlight—Sights and Scenes Along The Michigan Central Line*. The Chicago Photo-Engraving Company Publishers of Chicago, Illinois put together a newspaper called *Headlight*, a periodical devoted to the interests of railroads and railroad centers, and in June 1895 it focused on Marshall, Michigan as part of the "Niagara Falls Route" - Chicago to New York. This book included the portions specific to Marshall. The items included on this page and the next page are pulled from this book.

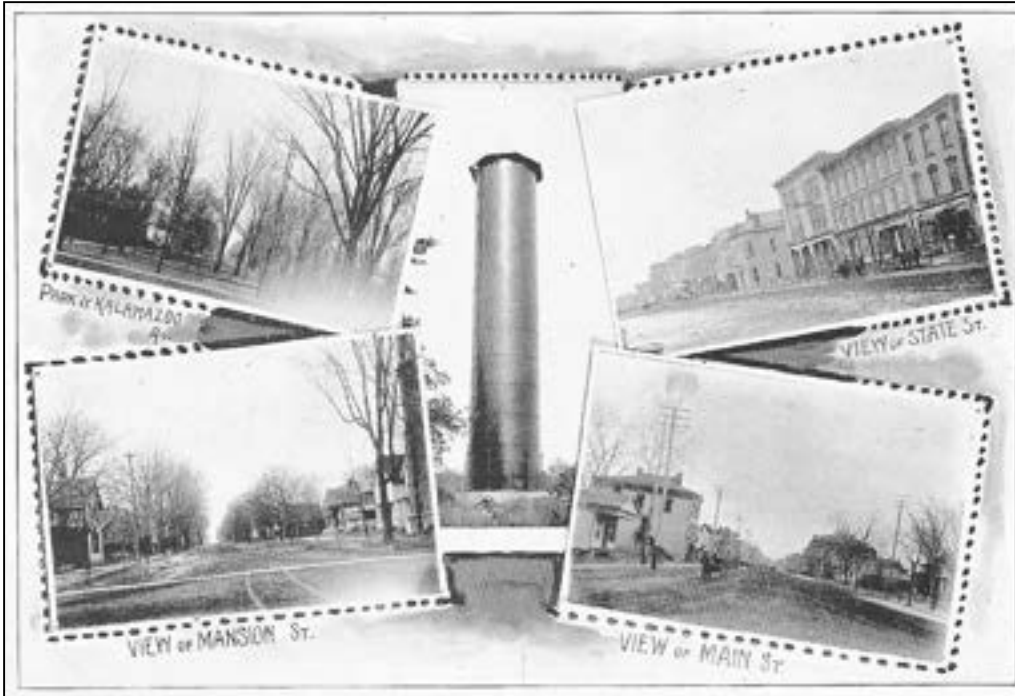
The following article is retyped from this Souvenir Edition. The City Officials article includes two of the official's biographies from the book.

It is not the intention of HEADLIGHT to go

into anything like a historical review of the progress and development of this charming city on the banks of the picturesque Kalamazoo. Rather it is the province of this paper to deal with the present and the future. Still a very brief glimpse into the city's past may not prove wholly uninteresting.

Until about seventy years ago the school geographies proclaimed Michigan to be comprised mostly of swamp lands illy adapted for settlement. Govenor Cass' explorations disproved this; and then the idea got abroad that the territory would grow rye and white beans. Previous to 1829 the present site of Marshall was wooded ridge and whortleberry swamp. Until then nature held full sway in these regions for miles about. The only inhabitants were the Indians, who built their camp-fires on the hills and fished along the stream. The only road was the Indian trail, narrow

# Marshall 1895



but well beaten, worn by the traffic of the ages. Here the Pottawatomies congregated at the summons of their chieftain and deliberated in council.

In 1830, Mr. Sidney Ketchum came to these parts from Peru, Clinton County, New York. In April of the following year he was followed by George Ketchum and five men and one woman. The settlement was christened Marshall in honor of the then Chief Justice of the United States. In September, 1831, a saw mill was erected, the village was declared the county seat, and thus was Marshall fairly launched upon its industrial career. The settlement thrived from the beginning. There have been no great booms, nor have there been times of unusual depression. The city of today comprises about four and one-half square miles, the elevation being sixty feet above Lake Michigan. The population last year was about 5,000.



**City Officials.** F.W. Dickey was recently elected mayor. He is the proprietor of the celebrated Seven Oaks Stables,.... Mr. Dickey has a national fame as an honest breeder of horses, and everywhere he is known as a man in whom it is safe to place implicit confidence.

**E. Buck** was elected city recorder in the spring of the present year. He was born in Marshall in 1866, and has always lived here excepting one year spent in Battle Creek. His popularity is shown in his election on the republican ticket in a democratic stronghold. Since last September he has been manager of the *Chronicle* job department, and he has always followed the occupation of printer.

# Marshall High School Class of 1902



School records as a genealogical reference sometimes can reveal themselves in unusual ways. The top photo and label to the left were part of an article written May 1967 in *The Community Ad-Visor*. In the article was a list of Class members still living in Marshall and area that included the married names of the female members.

"Members of the Class still living in Marshall and area are Clara Whitted Stout (Mrs. Claude); Charlotte Lepper Vary, (Mrs. James A.); Floyd Starr; - Cora Palmer Fiske, (Mrs. Ernest); - Marie Winsor Stebbins, (Mrs. S. C.); - and Donna Marshall Deuel, (Mrs. Joe)." The photo was supplied to the newspaper by Donna Marshall Deuel.

The bottom photo is of this class's reunion. The photo is not marked but

another one of the same group is marked 1902 Class—Clara's graduating class. My great grandmother, Clara Whitted Stout is the woman in the front row holding the dark colored purse. She died in 1973. From my knowledge of my great grandmother's appearance during our shared lives, I am guessing that the reunion photo was taken in the late 50's.

So, what can I learn from these? Besides the married names of the ones listed in the article from 1967. I can learn that at least 17 of the original 31 members were alive in the late 50's. I know that at least the 6 listed in the Marshall area were alive in 1967. If I do a little research to associate the 1902 Class Members to their families, I can determine about 31 families that lived in Marshall in 1902. Because they were in

## Top Picture

Top Row—L to R—Clara Whitted, Mr. Wood—Science teacher, Miss Bentley—English teacher, Harry Vernor, Agnes Powell—English teacher, Mr. Garwood—Superintendent, and Susie Dibble.

Fourth Row—L to R—Bessie Wright, Susie Townsend, Charlotte Lepper, Floyd Starr, Jessie Porter—German teacher, Edith Hammond, Alice Alexander, Dale Dobbins

Third Row—L to R—George Martin, Cora Palmer, Reuben Burrough, Ruth Bentley, Nellie Fiske, Will Graff, Bernice Underwood, Ethel Freed.

Second Row—L to R—Nettie Roosa, Lena Rohr, Ernest Fiske, Nellie Hanenberg, Henry Graff, Leona Paxton, and Louise Butler

Bottom Row—L to R—Marie Winsor, Robert Peck, Alice Coleman, Donna Marshall, Frank Whitelam and Edithe Brooks.

Marshall in 1902, descendents of these families are eligible for CCGS Pioneer Certificates, at least "Builder" category. Also, if I research the married families of the ones listed in 1967 article, I can determine 5 families in the Marshall area in 1967. Can you think of more we could learn? I would like to know the names to go with the people in the reunion photo. Can anybody help?

By the way, Floyd Starr from this class was class president and is the man that envisioned, founded and built Starr Commonwealth. .

Besides reunion photos and newspaper articles, other school records can help you pinpoint locations, ages and family names. I even have a 1899 yearbook from Los Angeles High School. What a treasure!



# Marshall 1929

Pictures below copied from brochure, *Marshall "Gem City of Southern Michigan"* published by Marshall Business Men's Association; The Statesman Company, Marshall, Mich. (Year unknown)

Saved by my great-grandfather Claude Stout is a newspaper that includes an article about the History of Marshall written by Miss Ruth Van Zandt. At the end of the article it lists the then (1929) current Marshall information, retyped below.

## History of Marshall

....

At the present time Marshall has several large schools. The high and Central schools, located on Jefferson and Green streets, the Capitol Hill school on Washington and Maple streets, the Cary located on Kalamazoo and Green, the Shearman on west Green street, St. Mary's on west Green street.

In 1900 the front section of the high school was built, and in 1923 the back section was built on.

We are starting to tear down the old Central building, and build a large new Junior Senior High school in its place. We are planning on using the extra rooms of the high, Pierce and Shearman schools to put the children in until the new building is built.

Marshall has a skating rink donated and equipped by H. C. Brooks. It is located in east Michigan avenue.

A hospital and library are located at the corner of Madison and Mansion streets.

At present the Wilcox Rich Steel Products Co., employ 485 people. The Michigan Central car shops employ 260 people. The Marshall Furnace Co. employ 140 people. The Flint Foundry 140 people. The Sherer-Gillett Co. employs eighty. The Brooks Appliance Co. employ 60 people. The medicine companies employ 30 people. The Lambert Machine Co. employ 14 and the Simons-Leedle Furnace Co. employ 10.

Marshall has seven churches. They are the Methodist, Episcopal, Christian Science, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran and the Catholic. Three dry goods stores, about thirteen grocery stores, three millinery shops, two banks, two jewelry shops, two tailors, three bakeries, one furniture store, one funeral director, four dentists, six doctors, two depots, two dry cleaners, one fire department, one power house, one gas house, one city water plant, two department stores, one meat packing house, one cold storage building, three men's clothing stores, one American Railway Express office, two rupture appliance factories, one county home, four coal yards, one Dulcinea home, one theatre, five hardware stores, two milk stations, a Branch of the Boy Scouts and Campfire Girls, a Chamber of Commerce and one first-class mail post office. The postmaster is P. A. Mumaw. There are five city mail carriers and five rural mail carriers. There are then mail trains that go through Marshall that leave and pick up mail every day.

Just think of how Marshall has changed or not changed over the years—businesses that have developed or closed and families that have been instrumental in it's evolvement. We are a long way from the "wooded ridge and whortleberry swamp" found by Sidney Ketchum in 1830.



"Looking Forward." *Marshall Evening Chronicle* 30 April 1929, 1:3 (reprinted with permission)

**Generations**

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

**Serving Calhoun County, Michigan  
family history researchers since  
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**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.

- 27 ... May "Handwriting Analysis" by Renee Breitback
- 18 ... June DATE CHANGE. Meeting to be held at 7pm  
TOPIC: Return of Curt Osborn with follow-up to talk about Norway and his research and travels there.
- July/August NO MEETINGS
- 23 ... September Annual Membership Meeting AND Celebration of CCGS 20th anniversary at ALBION DISTRICT LIBRARY, 501 S Superior Street, Albion



**20th Year of Calhoun County  
Genealogical Society!**

**2007-2008**