

Call to Action!

by Jim Jackson, President

CCGS is YOUR organization and it faces a very precarious future.

This note is to encourage our CCGS membership to step forward for vacant leadership roles that affect the future of our Society.

The Calhoun County Genealogical Society was established in 1988 with four specific goals in mind:

To gather and preserve information of genealogical value

To encourage the deposit of such information in suitable depositories

To aid genealogist in the study of family history through the exchange of knowledge

To publish and promote Calhoun county and other genealogical materials

If CCGS is to continue as a viable organization, it can do so only with a diligent and engaged membership willing to make it so. Any organization is only healthy if it has enough active members.

CCGS's ongoing challenge has been to recruit and retain enough skilled and committed members to serve on its board. As board members leave, the challenge to the entire membership is clear: to step forward and take ownership of CCGS by assuming leadership roles. The following positions are currently vacant:

Recording Secretary – The Recording Secretary shall keep records of all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Board. This includes: taking minutes of monthly board meetings, the annual meeting, and any other Society meeting at which official business is conducted. The Recording Secretary also

emails minutes to board members before subsequent meetings and signs minutes after approval.

MGC Delegate and (2) Alternates – We are allowed two delegates and two alternates. The Michigan Genealogical Council meets the second Thursday at 1:00 p.m. of odd months; Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & Nov at the Historical Center in Lansing. Delegates report back state-wide significant events to our membership.

Our current Vice-president, Alex VanZanten, has agreed to move from Vice-president to President, but several additional members of the board will be forced to leave the Board due to term limitations stated in our By-laws. Those positions include:

Vice-president – serves in absence of the President and chairs the Programs and Publicity Committee, which plans programs for each meeting. Also may perform other duties as assigned by the President.

Corresponding Secretary – The Corresponding Secretary shall be responsible for all correspondence with members, other groups and individuals.

Treasurer – The Treasurer shall collect all dues and monies, attend to all disbursements and have charge of all funds of the Society. The Treasurer shall have the authority to disburse funds of the Society.

I have confidence that Alex will be excellent in his new role of President, however, it should be obvious to all that no incoming President can keep our Society running all by himself.

All Board Members are expected to attend a majority of regular and board meetings. Our board meetings are the third Thursday of

every month (except July, August and December) at 7:00 at the LDS Church, 16036 U.S. Hwy 27 N. Our regular meetings are the fourth Tuesday of every month, except July, August and December, same place and time.

Most of these positions require no genealogical skills, and less than one hour per month, in addition to the meetings. Existing board members will assist and work closely with new officers and chairs to get started with their new duties. Expenses for performing Society duties are reimbursed by the Society or can be deducted on income tax forms as volunteering for a non-profit organization (501c3) under charitable deductions. If you are new to genealogy, getting involved is a great learning experience. For those members who have been waiting for more experienced members to step forward, this message is for you. This is YOUR opportunity to step forward and revitalize CCGS with new ideas.

If you would like to discuss the responsibilities of any above positions, please contact any board member below. You are under no obligation if you call for more information. We want the Society to continue and that can only happen if we fill these positions with the right candidates. Please consider joining the CCGS board – you will find it a very rewarding experience. Thank you and I hope to hear from you in the very near future.

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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 a nonprofit organization recognized as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. Individuals, libraries or societies may join. Annual dues for the year, beginning September 1, are \$18 for members choosing to receive **Generations** through postal mail or \$15 for members electing to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Memberships are accepted year-round; dues received after May 1 will pay for the following year's membership. Members receive **Generations** newsletter six times per year. All are invited to submit articles to the **Generations** editor. Permission is granted to reprint articles unless otherwise noted. Please give appropriate credit to the source. Copies of pages from back issues of **Generations** are available for \$1.00 for the first page and \$.50 for each additional page. General meetings are held at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month at the LDS Marshall Branch Church 16036 Old US -27, 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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Calhoun County Genealogical Society

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Become a CCGS fan on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CalhounCountyGenealogicalSociety>

CCGS e-mail list: Send a message to calhouncountygss-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Organizational Member of **National Genealogical Society • Michigan Genealogical Council • Federation of Genealogical Societies**

The following on-line Canadian records are available Free:

* Quebec - Library and Archives Canada (LAC). 1825 census of Lower Canada. Lower Canada is modern-day Quebec and this census covers some 74,000 households. This early census only lists the head of each household, their occupation and the number of family members. The database can be searched by family name, first name and keyword. Remember, only the head of the household is listed by name. <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1825/Pages/1825.aspx>

* National - 1901 census of Canada. This updated version includes revisions to the database that were sent in by users as well as revised district and sub-district information. The 1901 Canada census was the fourth general census of Canada (1871, 1881, 1891 and then 1901). It covered the provinces and territories then in existence: B.C., Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories (current day Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon, Nunavut, etc.). The database can be searched by province, name and keyword. See <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1901/Pages/1901.aspx>

* National - 1871 Canadian census - updated. This was the first general census of Canada. It covered the four provinces that were then part of Confederation: Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. This new version includes corrections sent in by users as well as revised/improved district and sub-district information. The collection can be searched by name, age, province and keyword. See <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1871/Pages/1871.aspx>

* New Brunswick - The New Brunswick GenWeb project has put online information on an additional 55 cemeteries in the province and provided updates on a further 16 cemeteries. The records can be searched by name and by region. See <http://cemetery.canadagenweb.org/NB/>

* National - Library and Archives Canada has created a special database for anyone tracing ancestors who arrived from China. The database has some 100,000 records and spans the years from 1885 to 1949. - See <http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/chinese-immigrants/index-e.html>

* Prairies - Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has just released a new version of the 1906 Census of the Northwest Provinces. This census covers the three prairie provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. This census has been available to search before, but it was limited to image searches by geographic region. The new database can now be searched by name, age, and keyword. See <http://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1906/Pages/1906.aspx>

Free Genealogy Databases:

Need access to free genealogy databases? Do you know someone who is just getting started with their genealogy research and needs some help? The Family History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) can help. There are family history centers all around the world. The Centers are free, and are staffed with experienced genealogy researchers to help you. The researchers won't do your research for you, but they can give you many tips on how and where to look for information.

Family History Centers provide free access to many subscription genealogy websites, including:

19th Century British Newspapers

Newspaper Archives

Alexander Street Press (American Civil War Collections)

Ancestry.com (Family History Library Edition)

ArkivDigital Online

FindMyPast (United Kingdom and other British-related country records)

Fold3.com

The Genealogist

Godfrey Memorial Library

HeritageQuest Online

Historic Map Works (Library Edition)

Origins.net

Paper Trail, A Guide to Overland Pioneer Names and Documents

WorldVitalRecords.com

While the LDS Church has indexers world-wide indexing existing microfilm records, those which are not yet available via the internet can be ordered on line and viewed at a Family History Center near you. In Calhoun County, the Family History Center is located at the LDS Church at 1312 Capital Avenue SW, on the west side of the street between Loch Haven Lane and Cascade Drive, and is open Wednesdays from noon to 6:00 pm. Telephone: 296-963-0359.

For those who live outside the Calhoun County area, you can locate a Family History Center near you by going to <http://www.archives.com/genealogy/records.html> Click on your state and scroll through the list to see what center is most convenient for you.

Upcoming Events:

Annual Fall Bus Tour - Sponsored by Carolyn Mack Tours, LLC

Monday ,October 14– Sunday, October 20, 2013

Washington D.C. and Surrounding Area.

Price is 1,023.00 per person (double occupancy)

\$200.00 per person deposit by July 31st, 2013

Price includes –Round-trip transportation with tour manager and driver gratuity, six nights lodging, and 11 meals (6 full breakfasts, 3 buffet dinners, & 2 dinners)

Reserve your seat today! Contact Carolyn Mack Tours, LLC by phone (269) 327-4389 or website

www.carolynmacktours.com or email carolnmacktours@sbcglobal.net

Abrams Seminar at the Archives of Michigan 702 W Kalamazoo St, Lansing MI

July 12, 12:30 - 5pm & July 13, 9am - 5pm

Featured Speaker is Dr. Thomas W. Jones Co-editor of NGSQ since 2002 and past APG board member, BCG trustee, and president Registration of \$50.00 includes full attendance for the seminar, a boxed lunch on Saturday and a seminar syllabus loaded on a flash drive.

More info / registration www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/mhc_aom_abramsreg-2013_418133_7.pdf

Upcoming 25th Anniversary Celebration!

CCGS is celebrating 25yrs. this September. Due to annual elections etc. at our September meeting, we will have the actual celebration at our Oct 22nd meeting at the Albion District Library. If anyone has any special memories or information from the club startup please share them with the newsletter editor and they will posted them in an upcoming issue. (Contact information is on page 2)

Annual Membership List and Surname Directory Update:

As reported in the last newsletter we sent out the annual membership as a separate publication and did not include it in the newsletter for privacy issues. However, there were some names not included in the surname list, we have corrected that and are sending a updated list with this newsletter.

Generations

Calhoun County Genealogical Society
PO Box 879
Marshall, MI 49068-0879

Next meeting is Sept 24.
25th Anniversary is
coming!

Calhoun County Genealogical Society *Calendar of Events*

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 LDS Marshall Branch Church at 16036 Old US-27 N, Marshall MI.

No Meetings for July and August!

September 24 - Annual Elections. If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact the President or Vice President.

October 22 - 25th Anniversary Celebration! We will be meeting at Albion District Library. Jennifer Wood the Historical Librarian will discuss the holdings in the History Room.

November 26 - Tour of Battle Creek Grand Trunk Railroad Depot at 175 Main St.

Have ideas for future programs? Please contact Vice President Alex VanZanten, whose contact information is on page 2.