

President's Message

by Brenda Leyndyke

The state of genealogy is on my mind as I look out the window on this wintry day. I am reflecting on genealogy as a whole and as it pertains to our local genealogical society. Genealogy is certainly in the forefront of many people's minds these days and our society is in a unique position to be a part of it.

We hear a lot about Ancestry and Family Search, but there is so much more to the genealogy world than that. Television shows such as "Finding our Roots" and "The Genealogy Roadshow" can be found playing on our television now. Another season of "Who Do You Think You Are?" will be starting up again in February. Facebook has over 3000 group pages relating to genealogy. Family History blogging is popular; on any given day I can read over 100 blog posts in my blog reader, Feedly. I don't even follow all the blogs that are available, only a small percentage of them.

My days could be spent immersed in genealogy and I wouldn't have to leave the comfort of my home. I would be missing out on so much if I did this. Although using technology is a great way to conduct research, it isn't the only way.

Using technology for genealogy research is so fast paced and ever changing that I wonder how newcomers to the field keep up. I have received many questions on "How do I begin?" and "Where do I find such and such?"

This is where being a member of a genealogical society comes in. It is a place to get your questions answered, to learn from other genealogists and to hear about the latest resources in genealogy. No one knows the records that are available in Calhoun County as well as those who research in it.

Remember, not every record is online. It still takes feet on the ground in the area one is researching for maximum results.

Whether you are new to genealogy or have been researching for years, I invite you to join us at our monthly meetings. (*See dates and times in newsletter*) We have an excellent line up of speakers over the next few months. Join us to hear about the experiences of a WWII Prisoner of War who spent time at Camp Custer, to learn about how social media (Blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, etc.) can help you with your research, to find out how to research your Michigan ancestors online, and how to use the computer in genealogy. All of this and more is available by attending our meetings. Join us for the very best in local history resources. I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Brenda Leyndyke



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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**

Bad Weather Policy: If Marshall Public Schools are closed for the day due to inclement weather then the Calhoun County Genealogical Society meetings will be cancelled.

\$\$\$Dues Reminder\$\$\$

Your annual Calhoun County Genealogical Society membership are past due. If you haven't paid your 2014-2015 dues you may pay by filling out the membership form included with your newsletter. Pay \$18 to receive Generations newsletter by postal mail or only \$15 to receive it via email. Please make check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society or CCGS and send it to Membership Chair, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, PO Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068-0879 or bring it to our January meeting.



Two important military anniversaries are being celebrated this year. First, the start of World War I happened 100 years ago this past July 28th. The United States entered the war in April, 1917. The second anniversary is the 75th one of the start of World War II. These two important events prompted me to include these Top Ten free military websites for your research.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR): <http://www.dar.org/>

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database: <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

Civil War: <http://www.civilwar.com/>

American Battle Monuments Commission: <http://www.abmc.gov/>

Nationwide Gravesite Locator: <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>

National Archives and Records Administration: <http://www.archives.gov/>

Michigan in the Civil War: <http://seekingmichigan.org/civil-war>

Naval History and Heritage Command: <http://www.history.navy.mil/>

Military Records on Family Search: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States_Military_Records

World War I Document Archive: <http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/>

Valerie Radee Honored with Life Membership.

An honorary life membership was awarded to Valerie Radee at our September annual meeting. Our society would not be in existence today if it wasn't for the efforts of Valerie Radee. Valerie, along with five other women, was on a research trip in Salt Lake City, Utah and decided that Calhoun County needed a genealogical society.

In addition to being a founder, incorporator, and charter member of our society, Valerie has served in many positions of leadership within CCGS. She has been Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Membership Chair, and Co-editor of our Generations newsletter, before the age of computers.

Valerie is a retired Home Economics/Life Skills teacher having worked at Albion Schools for most of her 37 years of teaching. She brought her interest of family history into the classroom with lessons on Family Heritage. Valerie's Calhoun County heritage includes ancestors from Albion and Homer.

Congratulations and Thank You, Valerie, on this much deserved award. Your service to the society has made it a better one.



Support Your Local Society When Using Amazon.com

If you or anyone you know orders anything from amazon.com you can help Calhoun County Genealogical Society at the same time. The Amazon Smile program is offered to nonprofit organizations at no cost to the society or those using Amazon. Selecting Calhoun County Genealogical Society, Marshall Michigan as your organization insures that we will receive a portion of your purchase for our use.

To participate, log in to AmazonSmile.com rather than Amazon.com. The same products and prices are on AmazonSmile, no changes there. The first time you log-in, you will need to choose Calhoun County Genealogical Society, Marshall, MI as the non-profit you want to benefit. Once you have done this a portion of all qualifying purchases will be donated to CCGS. Just make sure you use the AmazonSmile.com and not Amazon.com when shopping. Please help us and spread the word. Thank you.

Annual Bus Trip
to
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ft. Wayne, Indiana

Sponsored by Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society (KVGS)

Join us for a day of genealogy research

DATE: Saturday, March 21, 2015

(No refunds after March 7, 2015)

COST: \$25.00 per person for bus, not meals

<u>City/Town</u>	<u>Leave</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Return (approx.)</u>
Kalamazoo	7:00 am**	The Crew Family Restaurant 3810 East Cork St. & Sprinkle Rd.	9:15 pm
Marshall	7:45 am	Exit 36, 1-69 Park-n-Ride	8:45 pm
Coldwater	8:15 am	Gander Mountain 373 N. Willowbrook Rd.	8:00 pm

***Park on north side of parking lot, near Cork Street (away from the Crew Restaurant entrance)*

Departure from ACPL at 5:15 pm -- Dinner stop on way home in Auburn, IN

Complete one form per person. Make check payable to KVGS.

Mail form & check to: Jan Wright, 1853 Cumberland St., Kalamazoo, MI 49006
janwright8607@yahoo.com 269.532.6681 (cell)

Clip at line

Clip at Line

Clip at line

Clip at Line

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: *(Please bring a list of current medications)*

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

PICK-UP POINT *(Please circle):* **KALAMAZOO** **MARSHALL** **COLDWATER**

KVGS Website: www.mikvgs.org

An excellent line up of programs is planned for the 2014/2015 year. The Program Survey results guided the program choices this year. All meetings are free and open to the public. The programs with an * will be held at our usual meeting place of LDS Church, 16036 Old 27 North, Marshall, Michigan. Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, except August, December and July. Please take note of the change of date for the Helen Warner Branch Library Lock In. Let's make this year's attendance one of the best. The programs planned offer something for everyone, from the beginner to the more experienced researcher. Invite a friend and join us as we explore our family history this year.

***January 27-7 pm. Annual Show and Tell.** Bring your latest success story, research find, family recipe, genealogy tip, tech gadget, newest resource, etc. and share with the group. This is a great opportunity to learn from others in a laid back and relaxing atmosphere.

***February 24-7 pm. I'll See You Again, Lady Liberty.** Author Ernst Floeter of Grand Ledge, Michigan will be our guest speaker. Ernst will share his accounts of his boyhood in Nazi Germany and his time as a World War II German P.O.W. Ernst was a Prisoner of War held in Michigan, Illinois, and New Mexico. After the war ended, Ernst sailed from New York Harbor for Germany, but not before informing the Statue of Liberty that he would see her again. "I'll See You Again, Lady Liberty" is the title of Ernst Floeter's autobiography.

***March 24- 7 pm. Social Media for Genealogy.** Chicago based social media specialist, Kirsten Agnello-Dean will help you discover new ways to improve your genealogy research by using social media. Did you know that there are over 3000 Facebook Groups dealing with Genealogy and Family History? Learn about Facebook Groups, Twitter, Pinterest and more as it relates to your family research.

***April 28-7 pm. Researching Michigan Ancestors Online-** Kris Rzepczynski, Senior Archivist at Archives of Michigan, will share Michigan online genealogy resources as well as effective search strategies for Michigan research. Kris is one of our most requested speakers. He will share his vast knowledge of our home state and how to research in it.

***May 26-7 pm. Genealogy at Bentley Historical Library-**Karen Jania, Head of Access and References Services at the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library will be our guest speaker. Karen will share with the group the rich genealogy resources available at the Bentley and how to access them.

June 23-7 pm. Computer Genealogy with Shirley Hodges-Location to be announced. The number one most requested speaker this year was Shirley Hodges. Shirley, an Albion resident, is a local and regionally known speaker having spoken at numerous lectures, seminars and workshops. Her presentations are filled with information, examples, and humor. Shirley's presentation will show attendees how to use the computer in their genealogical life.

July-No Meeting

Interested In Genealogy?

Do you want to share your interest with others? Do you want to help make your society a better one? Then become a Calhoun County Genealogical Society (CCGS) volunteer. CCGS has a unique role in educating others about family history, preserving genealogical information for future generations of researchers, and promoting the genealogical resources in Calhoun County.

Volunteers are needed to help with planning programs and events, finding members to serve in leadership roles, and writing press releases and newsletter articles. The main qualification needed is your desire to help make your society a better one. All of these opportunities can be done from the comfort of your home.

Contact Brenda Leyndyke at 269 275-0462 or bleyndyke@gmail.com to volunteer for these opportunities.

CCGS MEMBERSHIP FORM

Use this form to pay annual CCGS dues. Your membership expiration date is printed on the top line of your mailing label.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email address _____

Alternative email address _____

Surnames researching _____

☐ Check if you would like to receive **Generations** newsletter by email in Adobe Reader (PDF) format instead of postal mail.

☐ Check to request a membership card.

Save money on dues! Pay \$18 to receive **Generations** newsletter by postal mail or only \$15 to receive it via email.

The membership year is September 1 through August 31, but new members are welcome at any time. Dues received between June 1 and August 31, 2013, will cover membership through August 31, 2014.

Your name, contact information and the surnames you are researching will be published in this Annual Membership and Surname Directory. To opt out of sharing your information with CCGS members, you may contact Membership Chair Marcie Telfer.

Please make a check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society or CCGS and send it to Membership Chair
Calhoun County Genealogical Society

PO Box 879

Marshall, MI 49068-0879

CCGS use: Check number _____ Amount _____ Date received _____ Paid-through date _____

CCGS DIRECTORY CORRECTION FORM

Use this form to correct information published in this directory. Please print your name exactly as you want it published. Below your name, complete only lines where changes are needed. Information will be saved for future editions of this directory.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Email address _____

Alternative email address _____

Please send to Membership Chair
MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com or
Calhoun County Genealogical Society
PO Box 879
Marshall, MI 49068-0879

To request a searchable PDF file of this 2012-2013 Annual Membership and Surname Directory, please email Anita Stuever at MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com.

Add these surnames I am researching _____

Delete these surnames from my list _____

CCGS use: Date received _____ Correction(s) made _____

Generations

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

Don't forget to renew
your membership!!

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.

January 27—Annual Show and Tell.

February 24—I'll See You Again Lady Liberty Author: Ernst Floeter

March 24—Social Media for Genealogy Kirsten Agnello-Dean

April 28—Researching Michigan Ancestors Online

May 26— Genealogy at Bentley Historical Library Karen Jania

June 23 - Computer Genealogy with Shirley Hodges

Have ideas for future programs? Please contact President Brenda Leyndyke, whose contact information is on page 2.