

## President's Note: Greetings and Happy New Year

by Jennifer Wood, President

For those of you I've not yet had the pleasure to meet, my name is Jennifer Wood. I'm an archivist and historian by training. Currently, I manage the Local History Room at the Albion District Library.

Before saying anything else I want to take the time to thank outgoing President (and incoming Vice President) Brenda Leyndyke for her years of leadership on the CCGS Board. In addition to the roles above, she has served as Chair of Programs and Publicity, ably edited our *Generations* newsletter, and represented the Calhoun County genealogy community at the state and national levels in a variety of capacities. Her commitment, competence, and research skills have contributed greatly to the Society's success over the years, and continue to set an example of what serious family history research can accomplish.

As Program Chair, Brenda has also devoted much energy to arranging our upcoming 2019 calendar. We have an exciting range of events this spring, including talks on Yankee Yorker migration to

Michigan, the First Michigan Colored Troops in the Civil War, and 19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> century psychiatric hospitals. We'll also be learning more about family history resources available at the Library of Michigan, and visiting the Battle Creek Regional History Museum.

One of my particular professional interests is the intersection of local/public history, genealogy, and "scholarly" history. I'm hoping to further strengthen and develop relationships between the CCGS and other groups and constituencies that make up our historical community. And I'd also like to encourage you to attend programs given by our sister organizations, such as the Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society, Eaton County Genealogical Society, Duck Lake Area History Group, and the "History Happy Hour" networking group when you can. It's an excellent way to enrich your genealogist's toolkit with a wider range of (nearly always free) presentations. And you'll expand your research network and meet many wonderful people!■

## Winter Meeting Cancellation Policy

Occasionally, CCGS needs to cancel regular meetings because of the weather. Our policy is *if Marshall schools are closed that day, or cancel evening activities due to bad weather then the CCGS meeting will be cancelled.*

Please check WWMT.com for complete closing information.



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## Meetings

**January 22, 2019**

"Stump the Experts!"

**February 26, 2019**

"Yankee Yorkers Trekking Canal Style"  
with Brenda Leyndyke

**March 26, 2019**

"Assylums: A Dark History of Psychiatric Institutions" with  
Jody Owens

Unless otherwise specified, meetings are held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 16036 Old 27 N, Marshall, MI. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month, except for December, July, and August.

**All meetings are free  
and open to the public.**

[http://www.migenweb.org/  
calhoun/ccgs.htm](http://www.migenweb.org/calhoun/ccgs.htm)

## Officers

President-Jennifer Wood

Vice-President-Brenda Leyndyke

Recording Secretary-Darlene Stange

Corresponding Secretary-Chelsea Johnson

Treasurer-Stephanie Tobolski

## Committee Chairs

Hospitality-Laurie Hodge

Membership-Marcie Telfer

Newsletter-Brenda Leyndyke

Nominating-Alex VanZanten

Pioneer Certificates-Darlene Stange

Programs and Publicity-Brenda Leyndyke and Luanne Frey

Research-Chelsea Johnson

Social Media-Luanne Frey

Special Projects-OPEN

Website-OPEN

## Other Society Positions

Past-President-Brenda Leyndyke

FGS Delegate-James Jackson

MGC Delegates-Brenda Leyndyke and Chelsea Johnson

Alternate-James Jackson

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If you have suggestions for Generations articles, program ideas or speakers, or if you have questions, contact us at

MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com

## Stump the Experts!

The January meeting will be a fun question and answer time where attendees get to have their burning questions answered. Or will your question be the one that stumps our panel of “experts”? “Experts”, CCGS members, will be available to answer questions from all researcher levels, from beginner to advanced.

Examples of questions might be how do I find my ancestor’s World War II service records; how do I find divorce records in Michigan; where do I find Catholic church records for a marriage?

Bring your most difficult research question and see if you are the one to “Stump our Experts!”

If you are the one who stumps the expert, you get CCGS bragging rights and your question will be published in our next newsletter. ■

## Yankee-Yorkers Trekking Canal Style

New York (Yankee Yorkers) migration is a rich part of Michigan history. Many of these Yankee Yorkers travelled via the Erie Canal. Attendees will see the reasons for this migration, the impact the Erie Canal had on westward expansion, and Michigan, jobs created by the Erie Canal, and resources for further research in New York.

Speaker, Brenda Leyndyke, is Vice-President of CCGS and a board member of the Michigan Genealogical Council and Historical Society of Battle Creek. For the past eight years Brenda has written the award-winning genealogy blog, *Journey to the Past*, a two-time winner of Family Tree Magazine’s 40 Best Genealogy Blogs. She revised and updated the *Research in Michigan* book, part of the Research in the States Series, published by the National Genealogical Society. She started researching her family ancestry ten years ago and has traveled to ancestral homes throughout the Midwest and on the East Coast. Brenda’s roots go deep in Michigan, with many ancestors settling here before statehood. ■

## Asylums: A Dark History of Psychiatric Institutions

Historical Society of Battle Creek board member Jody Owens will discuss the facilities that were precursors to today’s modern mental health services. Admission reasons, treatment methods, and discharge requirements will be presented.

Jody Owens is the secretary for the Historical Society of Battle Creek, volunteer at the Archives of the Historical Society of Battle Creek, historical re-enactor, and speaker on a range of historical topics. ■

### Calhoun County Genealogical Society

PO Box 879, Marshall MI 49068-0879 • MichiganCalhounGene@yahoo.com • <http://www.migenweb.org/calhoun/ccgs.htm>

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

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

# September Election Results

The leadership team of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society is appreciative of the members who volunteered to be a part of CCGS team for 2018-2019.

The results of the elections held in September are: (new members in bold)

**President: Jennifer Wood**

Vice President: Brenda Leyndyke

Corresponding Secretary: Chelsea Johnson

**Recording Secretary: Darlene Stange**

Treasurer: Stephanie Tobolski

New committee volunteers are Alex VanZanten, Nominating Committee and Luanne Frey, **Publicity and Social Media**. Thank you for serving. ■



## Meet Your New President

Jennifer Wood volunteered to lead the society as President this year.

Jennifer Wood is the Local History Archivist at the Albion District Library's Local History Room, 501 S. Superior St., in Albion, Michigan, and serves on the board of the Albion Historical Society.

In addition to managing the Local History Room's collection, which documents the heritage of Albion and its people, she provides historical outreach and programming to the local community.

Jennifer holds master's degrees in history from Central Michigan University and in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Previously she has worked with CMU's Clarke Historical Library and the Marshall (Michigan) Historical Society. ■

## Meet Your New Secretary

Darlene (Palmiter) Stange returns as Recording Secretary after a short absence.

Darlene has always been interested in family history. Her Grandma Palmiter was an only child who lost her mother when she was only 21. Her grandmother was especially attached to her three aunts on her mother's side and was forever talking to Darlene about her family, the Dotys, Richardsons, and Walkinshaws.

Her Grandfather and his father operated the Palmiter Dairy at 553 Maple Street (N. E. Capital Ave.) by Piper Park from 1922 to 1946, when they sold it to Ashley Dairy. They also had a farm on 14 Mile Road in Convis Township that had been in the family since the 1850s. Both Grandma (Richardson) and Grandpa Palmiter grew up in Convis Township, and when she looked at Plat Maps and Census Reports for Convis Twp., she learned that there were Dotys, Richardsons, Walkinshaws, Palmiters, and Gibbs farms in Convis Twp. Many are buried in Austin Cemetery, Hicks Cemetery, Bellevue's Riverside Cemetery, and Oak Hill Cemetery. ■

## Special Project: Fort Custer Historical Society Library

CCGS members Jan Gay and Brenda Leyndyke spent the summer and fall working on a special project for the Fort Custer Historical Society library. The work will begin again in the Spring and the plan is to finish the labeling of the materials, create a card catalog, and organize the collection for future use.

Jan and Brenda inventoried the complete collection of books, pamphlets, and magazines, looked up the Dewey decimal numbers for each book, and started to attach labels to each piece in the collection. Fort Custer would like to establish a resource that the public can use. Jan and Brenda will be looking for volunteers in the Spring to finish this project. ■

## Generations

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

*1988-2018  
30 years of serving the  
genealogical community  
of Calhoun county!*

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## Join Us-Membership Application!

### Calhoun County Genealogical Society Membership

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email Family \$15

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Mail Family \$18

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like someone to contact you about volunteer opportunities with CCGS?    Yes    No

Make checks payable to CCGS, send check and completed form to:

CCGS Membership Chair

P.O. Box 879

Marshall, MI 49068

If you would like to receive a membership card, please include a stamped, self addressed envelope with your membership.