

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Newsletter

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We are off to a good start! We have contacted area township clerks, historical societies, librarians, newspapers, radio stations, etc. and put the word out that we are forming the first genealogical society for Ionia County! Many thanks to the Lake Odessa Historical Society for helping to get this project off the ground. Your support is greatly appreciated.

We received a call from Beth Wills who lives in Ionia. She is working on several projects which include the "GenWeb Project", an internet access for genealogists. She has a "home page" on the internet and is very excited about working with us.

One of the things that Beth told us about is a "Querie page" which allows users to list names of people who they are looking for information on. This information is available through-out the whole world! Modern technology is wonderful, isn't it?

Another project Beth is working on is a Surname Index for the Internet. This would also be available to all internet users.

Beth can be reached at her E-mail address: bwills@ionia-mi.net

Thank you Beth for all your hard work!

The Hall-Fowler Memorial Library, located at 126 E. Main Street in Ionia, Michigan has a very nice collection of family histories and research materials. Researchers can find the history of the county, city directories, The Sentinell-Standard on microfilm dating back to 1865, census records, etc.

The library hours are:

Monday through Thursday - 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

They are closed Sundays and holidays. The head librarian is Mary Johnson.

Book Reviews:

"How to Locate Anyone Anywhere Without Leaving Home" by Ted L. Gunderson

A great resource for genealogists! Provides addresses for birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates for every state in the United States. He also lists the Family History Libraries and Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints throughout the world. Other information included is how to access government records, i.e. social security, military, state and federal records, etc.

WANTED: People interested in doing research for the I.C.G.S. Contact Pam Swiler at 374-3141 with name, address, telephone number, and indicate what fee you would charge to do research as well as area of expertise. Information to be published in future newsletter.

WANTED: Volunteers to file, type, organize, etc. Contact Pam Swiler at 374-3141.

WANTED: A four drawer letter filing cabinet for filing family history information. Contact Pam Swiler at 374-3141.

The first official meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society will be held on Saturday, January 11, 1997 at 1:00 p.m. at the Depot, located on Emerson Street, west of Jordan Lake Ave., in Lake Odessa. The meeting is open to the public and everyone is welcome to attend.

Those planning to attend should bring with them a copy of their 4 generation pedigree to be placed on file with the organization. We would also like you to complete a surname index card to be placed in our Surname Index File. Forms and instructions will be available at the meeting for those who have never completed one before.

Those interested in becoming a member of the I.C.G.S. may send in the following information to Pam Swiler at 13051 Ainsworth Road, Route 3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849 or call 374-3141.

Membership Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Home telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____