

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ionia County Genealogical Society is a non-profit volunteer group whose mission is to create awareness and preserve family histories within the Ionia County area. The focus of this group will be to develop genealogical resources and to assist all those seeking local history.

Volume 5 - Number 3

July - September 2000

DEPOT DAY

Saturday, July 29, 2000

- ◆ Food
- ◆ Entertainment
- ◆ Historic Displays
- ◆ ICGS will have a table with the society's items for sale, such as note cards, magnifiers, Tax Assessment Roll booklets.
- ◆ Located on Emerson Street, one block south of the fairgrounds in Lake Odessa, MI

COMPUTER FUND REPORT

The computer fund is growing nicely! Thank you to those of you who met the challenge of Duane STRINDEN in Sedro Wooley, WA. Many of you have contributed \$10 each to our fund. The balance as of June 1st is \$165. If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, send checks payable to ICGS to the society address. Be sure to mark "computer" in the memo part of the check so that it is properly recorded. At \$10 each we will soon reach our goal!

MERGER OF ROOTSWEB and MYFAMILY.COM

An announcement on June 21, 2000 by RootsWeb gives the following information.

You have helped create at RootsWeb one of the largest and most popular sites on the internet. In May, we had over 149 million page views (according to Nielsen NetRatings combined home and work statistics), sent over 155 million e-mails and handled over two million downloads of files from the various archives hosted at RootsWeb. This is an incredible community of genealogists, and the advances we're all making in our research, due to the sharing that occurs here is unprecedented.

The more popular RootsWeb becomes, the most costly it is to simply stay alive and online. Even with generous support, expenses continue to exceed revenue. We ran up a truly scary loss last year. Without outside help, it's not clear how long we'd be able to go on like this.

MyFamily.com (you may know them better as Ancestry.com) recognizes the importance of the genealogical community that has grown here at RootsWeb, and wants that community to continue to thrive. They're excited to provide the financial stability we need to ensure RootsWeb will be around for years to come.

RootsWeb will still be at www.RootsWeb.com. You will still get all of the services and benefits we promised you, such as mailing lists, and access to PML, the feature that scans all our mailing lists and message boards for the surnames you specify. You won't be charged to access RootsWeb. Our Privacy Policy

(<http://www.rootsweb.com/rootsweb/pledge.html>) and our Acceptable User Policy

(<http://www.rootsweb.com/rootsweb/au.html>) are unchanged. You will deal with the same RootsWeb volunteers and employees. If you would like more information, please check out our official press release at: <http://www.ancestry.com/home/celebrate/rootsrelease.htm>

The Fund Raising Committee needs your help! The committee has been busy brainstorming ideas to raise funds to help our society. Joan MC CORD has collected pop cans -- so far she has collected more than 300 cans and turned in the money to our society. She is asking you to meet that challenge by collecting pop cans in your area and turn them in and send the funds to ICGS. Also, the fund raising committee is looking for someone to help write a grant for the society. There are funds available to non-profit groups such as ours through the Ionia County Community Foundation, which is part of the Grand Rapids Foundation. If you are interested in working on that project, contact Marilyn CAHOON, Joan MC CORD, or Janis KENYON.

We have received a copy of the Bible records for the **BARNES** family from Edwin B. **WILLIAMS**. Thank you Mr. **WILLIAMS**!

From The Ionia Sentinel Standard,
February 2, 1899

RICE-WATERS

Ed. **RICE** and Miss Alice **WATERS** were united in marriage, Jan. 18, 1899 by Rev. D. H. **SHELLY**, of the Matherton circuit, at the home of the bride, and in the presence of about 40 invited guests, including Mr. and Mrs. **WARDROP** and Mr. and Mrs. E. **ROBINSON**, of Mt. Pleasant, Fred **BAKER** of Shepardville, and Frank **EGLESTON**, of Mecosta. Miss Elma **BROOKS** played the wedding march, Ernest **WATERS** was groomsman and Miss Mary **NASH** bridesmaid.

After congratulations, a fine supper was enjoyed, music and visiting followed. The young couple received many valuable presents to start out with in life.

Ronald Grange Officers

The recently installed officers of Ronald grange are:
Master, Herbert **POWELL**; overseer, D. O. **CHENEY**; lecturer, A. L. **DICKINSON**; chaplain, steward, Fred **COOPER**, assistant steward Earl **EAVEY**; gate keeper, Louie **MINIER**; treasurer, Emery **DANNER**; secretary, Herbert **KELLOGG**; Lady assistant, Mrs. D. **TALCOTT**; Pomona, Miss Hannah **BUCKLEY**; Flora, Mrs. D. O. **CHENEY**; Ceres, Mrs. **VAN NORMAN**.

From Jerry **ENGLE**, of Lake Odessa

"I'm trying to dig up my family roots, but I think someone put Round Up on them"

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- ♦ Helen **ROBINSON**
759 Jordan Lake Avenue
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
(616)374-8668
Researching: **GOODEMOOT**
- ♦ Becky **LIVERMORE**
8620 Brown Rd.
Woodland, MI 48897
(616) 367-4536
e-mail: tomlivermore@webtv.net
Researching: **GOODEMOOT**
- ♦ Lois Jane **STEWART**
2544 Buckeye Dr.
Cosby, TN 37722-2936
(423) 487-3077
e-mail: tmirls@planet.com
Researching: **CORRIGAN,**
CURRIGAN, CROSS, MORSE
- ♦ John George **GORMAN**
(husband of member June Gorman)
965 Hess Lake Dr.
Grant, MI 49327
(231) 834-8700
e-mail: gorman@triton.net
Researching: **CLUTE, BLYSTONE,**
CRONKITE
- ♦ Ann L. **SLOWINS** (wife of Grayden)
3226 E. Musgrove Hwy.
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
(517) 566-8184
Researching: **PRYER, PHILLIPS,**
BALDWIN, FRIEND
- ♦ M. Augusta **SMITH**
5722 Chaparral Cir NW
Albuquerque, NM 87114-4907
e-mail: hamoocow@aol.com
(daughter's address)
Researching: **CHAFFIN, MOSHER**
- ♦ Steven R. **BENNETT**
1441 Granada
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
(734) 665-0064
e-mail: dogface1441@yahoo.com
Researching: **BENNETT, COMER,**
KELLEY, ALLEN, MOURER
- ♦ Kenneth F. **TOWNER**
11155 Okemos Road
Portland, MI 48875-9405
(517) 647-6852

- Researching: **TOWNER, MOORE**
- ♦ Gordon A. & Donna J. **ROGERS**
5130 Pettis Ave.
Belmont, MI 49306-9637
(616)874-8771
Researching: **QUANT, HESS,**
CHAMPLIN
 - ♦ Helen M. **SIMMS**
3950 Green Road
Lyons, MI 48851
(517) 647-2347
Researching: **TOWNSEND,**
GOODENOUGH, COOK
 - ♦ Kitty L. **WHITNEY**
12950 Partlow Street
Grand Ledge, MI 48837
(517) 627-4227
e-mail: kit.whitney@worldnet.att.net
Researching: **ROBERTSON,**
BENJAMIN, HENDERSON,
PATTERSON, GEE

Welcome Back Members:

We invited past member to renew their membership and join us again. We would like to welcome back the following member:

- ♦ Sharon **BRAINARD**
5162 Charles St.
Ionia, MI 48846
(517) 855-2554

Change of Address:

- ♦ Richard **BARNES**
14350 Keiber NE
Greenville, MI 48838
(616) 754-3197

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

- ♦ David **BELDING**
dsbel@anet.com

Please notify us of any changes in mail, phone and e-mail. Also winter addresses for "snow birds".

?? QUERIES ??

♦ I am looking for the family of David M. and Annis CHAPIN who lived in the area of Ionia around 1880-present. David and Annis came to MI from PA. I believe David had a brother, Sidney CHAPIN who was married to Emma. Sidney and Emma lived in Ionia also. My great grandparents are Clarence and Isabelle CHAPIN. I believe Clarence is a brother to David and Sidney as I have a photo of some CHAPINS and the names David M. CHAPIN, Annis DUNSMORE CHAPIN, and Sidney T. CHAPIN are on that picture. I would like to correspond with anyone that recognizes these names so I can figure out who is who.

Karen in TX.

e-mail: kecstevens@juno.com

♦ Looking for descendants of Thomas Albert SHELLNBARGER. Thomas was born about 1864 in Ohio. He was married to Pearl S. ACKERMAN and Virginia M. IERCE. I don't have dates for either marriage. He may have lived in Lake Odessa in Ionia County or near Hastings in Barry County. His parents were Daniel SHELLNBARGER and Rebecca PORTER.

Duane MILLER, Merrill, MI

e-mail: damiller@journey.com

♦ My ancestors came from Canada to Ionia and are buried there in Ionia cemetery. They are Joseph Emery JONES, b. 1828; married in England to Anna APSEY JONES, b. 1836. One daughter Alice JONES born in Stony Creek, Canada. Other children, Louisa, Victor, J.A. Bert, and Homer JONES were born in Ionia. My grandmother Louisa Delia JONES SIMINGTON, husband and one daughter are buried there. If you can give me any information on this family, let me know.

Ruth L. HAKIUS

3830 Greely Chapel Rd.

Lima, OH 45806-2804

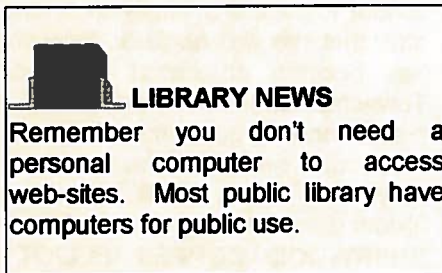
If you have information that may help someone, but you are not on the internet, please send the information to Pamela K. Swiler, President,

ICGS, 13051 Ainsworth Rd., Route 3,
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

Melinda STRONG of TX recently submitted a nice family history of Avis Augusta SMITH which included some very fine photos. Anyone seeking information on this line, should contact Melinda. She has done a nice job.

Melinda STRONG, 311 Northridge
San Antonio, TX 78209-2944

e-mail: strong@texas.net



LIBRARY NEWS

Remember you don't need a personal computer to access web-sites. Most public library have computers for public use.

The following items have been received by the ICGS Library Committee from Rose RAAB of Fenwick, MI, to be made available to our members for in-house research until October, 2000. What treasures, thank you Rose!

Brother Against Brother, Time-Life Books History of the Civil War

Cherokee Roots - Vol. 1: Eastern Cherokee Rolls

Cherokee Roots - Vol. 2: Western Cherokee Rolls...by Bob BLAKENSHIP

The Buffalo Ridge Cherokee by Horace R. RICE, Ed. D.

Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan, 1855-1868

Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan, 1870-1909

Potawatomi Indians of Michigan 1843-1904 ... (all) by Raymond C. LANTZ

Who's Looking for Whom in Native American Ancestry - Vol. 1 by Laurie Beth DUFFY

The New England Historical and Genealogical Register

Vol. XIX (1865), Vol XXIII (1869), and Vol. XXV (1871) through Vol. XXIX (1875)

The Goodwin Families in America by Judge John S. GOODWIN

Medway, Massachusetts Births, Marriages and Deaths 1748-1850 by Francis D. DONOVAN

Paxton, Massachusetts Birth, Marriages and Deaths 1748 - 1850, Edited by Marcia L. Membrino and Paul A. RUSSELL

Vital Records of Tisbury, Massachusetts to the Year 1850 by The New England Historic & Genealogical Society.

New Hampshire Marriage Licenses and Intentions 1709-1961 by Pauline Johnson OESTERLIN

What's News in Coos County? (New Hampshire) by Milli S. KENNEY

Manchester Historic Association Collections Vol VI: 1911 (New Hampshire)

Staten Island Church Records (New York) by Tobias Alexander WRIGHT

Hancock County, Indiana Tombstone Inscriptions: One Hundred Years 1833 - 1933 by Sue BAKER, CGRS

A Midwife's Tale - The Life of Martha Ballard Based on her Diary 1785-1812 by Lauren THATCHER ULRICH

NATIONAL CONFERENCE
"CELEBRATING THE CENTURY"
July 20-22, 2000

Sponsored by Allen County Public Library and the Allen County Public Library Foundation. "Genealogy in the New Millennium". The conference will be held at the Grand Wayne Center in Ft. Wayne, IN.

The Allen County Public Library will have extended hours for the convenience of researchers.

For a registration brochure send an e-mail message to Curt **WITCHER** putting "Millennium Conference" in the subject field with your name and address in the message. Or send a post card with your name and address to "Millennium Conference", c/o Historical Genealogy Department, Allen County Public Library, P.O. Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

If you need to request vital records from the State of Michigan, check out the following web site. You can print out the forms to request copies from <http://www.mdmh.state.mi.us/PHA/OSR/FRAMEC.htm>
Thanks Shirley **HODGES** for this information.

Before you visit the FHL in Salt Lake City, you should search the FHL Catalog in advance at a Family History Center or at <http://www.familysearch.org/> to determine if the films are in the library. Then send a letter or an e-mail to the library, preferably four weeks before the visit, listing the films needed in the priority order. Library staff can verify which films are available in the library and which need to be ordered. The request should include your telephone number or e-mail address. Requests should be sent to:

Family History Library
Library Attendant Supervisor
35 North West Temple
Sale Lake City, UT 84150-3400
E-mail address:
<fhl@ldschurch.org>

ICGS SPEAKERS by Jim Moses

MARCH

The March speaker for the Ionia County Genealogical Society was LaVonne **BENNETT**, who gave an interesting talk about Berlin Township. LaVonne started her family research in a fairly typical way—her daughter brought home an assignment from school to create a family tree, and, after that she was hooked. Now she has become an expert on Berlin Township and has worked as a professional for quite some time.

LaVonne said that you could not even talk about Berlin Township history without talking about Margaret **SHERWOOD COPPES ELLIOTT**, who passed away in November. Margaret had done much research into the families of Berlin Township and had published several books about them. Margaret also, it seems, was LaVonne's mentor and LaVonne has had access to Margaret's material to assist her in her own research.

Berlin Township was originally organized as Cass Township in 1836. By 1842 the name was changed to Berlin, and LaVonne speculated that the name might have something to do with all of the places in Berlin in their names in Rensselaer County, New York, where its early settlers lived before coming here. Oliver **ARNOLD** and John **MORRISON** were mentioned as the first settler of the area, along with several others who came shortly after that time.

There was no quitting and going home, and it was a life and death struggle, at least for the first year or two.

LaVonne stressed the fact that coming into a wilderness like Berlin was very hard because you were leaving everything behind. There was no quitting and going back home, and it was a life and death struggle, at least for the first year or two. Clearing

the land, building a home, putting in crops, caring for animals, and other chores just to survive. One example she mentioned was the fact that while the men were out in the woods rounding up cattle, people at home would blow horns or fire guns if it started getting late in order to guide the men home.

LaVonne talked a little about the early cemeteries in Berlin Township. Letts Cemetery dates from about 1840. Saranac Cemetery was mentioned, and she said she has the records from this cemetery. Since her husband was sexton of Balcom Cemetery she also knows a lot about that site. Philo **BATES** was the first recorded burial there.

She also mentioned a few interesting facts about road naming in Ionia County and talked about places that don't exist as towns anymore, like Tremayne's Corners. She left us with the information that in 1840 there was a Cass post office, which was renamed Berlin in 1842, but closed the same year. It was later reopened as New Berlin post office in 1845, but closed permanently in 1858

LaVonne donated a listing from the sexton's records for all burials in Balcom Cemetery prior to 1881 because she knows about our First Families Society and there are many people buried there before 1881. She also donated one of Margaret's books. Both of these will be welcome additions to our library. Thank you, LaVonne.

April

The speaker for our April meeting was our member, Suzanne **CARPENTER** who spoke on How to Plan and Pack for a Research Trip Overseas. The main theme Suzanne's talk was preparation, preparation, preparation. She made a trip to the Netherlands in 1998.

CARPENTER had a very good handout that explained in detail what you might need to do prior to your trip. Beginning as early as possible in advance of your trip, start your planning. Learn several phrases in the language of the country, including the words for birth, baptismal, marriage, death, son, daughter, etc.

One of the most important pieces of wisdom she imparted was the liberal use of address labels. If your address is on everything, there is much less likelihood that things will be lost.

Purchase a small notebook with several sections. Use one section to keep track of each place you visit, including the full address and the name of any official who assists you, in case you need to write for more information. Another tip was to go to the local post office while overseas and put three sheets of paper in an envelope and have it weighed and stamped. You might want to prepare several envelopes. Then, if you have to send for more material after you arrive home, you can enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Use another section of the notebook to number and keep track of each picture you take. Use a separate page for each roll of film. Rest assured you will not remember just where you were. Label each roll before you leave and number each as you use them. Later when you take them to be developed, put that number on the outside of the developing envelope for your own reference. Do not let your film go through x-ray at the airports. Suzanne suggests putting all film in their cannisters in a clear plastic baggy, and showing it to airport security people.

One thing Suzanne stressed was that you need a good camera for your trip. You need to be able to take pictures up close and many cameras will not allow you to do this. In case photocopying is forbidden, you can take a picture of the page.

CARPENTER gave a lot of information on the does and don'ts, but one of the unique things she suggested was bringing a telephone

book from that country home with you so you can look up addresses and phone numbers.

It seems the carry-on bag is the only safe place for your research material, camera, film, etc. If you are ready, go pack that bag and find those elusive ancestors.

May

The May 13, 2000 meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society featured Heidi **NAGEL**, who is the Director of the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library in Ionia. She spoke to us about the past, present and future of the library, giving us a brief history and an outline of some of the projects that are being reviewed or implemented at this time. Ms. **NAGEL** has a Master of Library Science degree and has been heading the library for over two years, having worked in several libraries in New York and Michigan prior to signing on with Hall-Fowler.

Since its beginnings in 1903 the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library has grown to have over 36,000 books, about 1,500 books on tape, 500 videos and about 100 periodicals. Many of our members have visited the Michigan Room, where the genealogy collection is housed. While we may not think so, there is much more to the library than just the genealogy collection, and Heidi is working on strategic planning for the community that uses the facility. Circulation is up a lot the past few years and the library is cramped for space, so many ideas for solutions to the problems have been solicited and received.

Ms. **NAGEL** is concentrating on community needs for the library, as well as several projects designed to make the materials of the library more available to people, especially students. In order to help the community, the library is also involved with projects for young readers and pre-readers. The library has a very small amount of books, according to the population serviced by it, but there is no room for more books, so plans for expansion are being developed.

The historic nature of the building itself is being considered, because building on might damage its appearance, but, at the same time, adding another building somewhere else in town would separate the collections. Much study is necessary to make the library up-to-date and able to fulfill all that the average citizen expects from it.

One possibility that is being discussed is moving part of the collection to another building and keeping the genealogy and local history collections in the present building. Heidi is looking into the possibility of purchasing genealogy CDs to add to the collection of material they now have, which includes all of the Ionia County census records from 1850 through 1920, and a complete collection of the Ionia Sentinel newspaper from 1861 to the present, all of which is microfilmed, except for the past two years (this is something that the Library of Michigan in Lansing does not have—their Ionia newspapers are only microfilmed through the early 1990's). There is still much work to be done, and several years before the library is modernized and able to accommodate every need of the community, but Ms. **NAGEL** is hard at work to achieve her goals.

More Speakers on page 10

If you have heard a really good speaker somewhere and you would like to have them speak at our ICGS meeting, send us their name, address, telephone number and topic of discussion and we will look into it.

Source: From the S. J. HENRY
Scrapbook Collection. Date unknown

Nice Soft, White Hands

Will you kindly give a recipe for good hand lotion in your column?

Answer- This lotion is useful to keep the hands soft and white, especially when there is redness and irritation from household work:

Boric acid power...3 teaspoonfuls
Tragacanth shavings...80 grains (tablespoon)

Glycerin...1/2 ounce (tablespoonful)
Rain water or distilled water: One pint.

Boil slowly, stirring constantly and adding water to make up for evaporation until a clear thin jelly is obtained. Apply a few drops of this to the hands two or three times a day, immediately after washing and before the skin is quite dry. This lotion is excellent for chapping and some men like it for use after shaving.

From the Ionia Sentinel-Standard
October 10, 1925

Mr. and Mrs. Eli GRISWOLD, East Ronald, are the parents of a girl, Esther, born Wednesday, September 31. There are now five girls and five boys in the GRISWOLD family, and all of their names begin with the letter E.

THANK YOU JOAN MC CORD

The ICGS just received the Ionia High School Alumni Directory for the years 1920 through 2000 including Adult Education Graduates. We are thrilled to have received such a valuable item.

MEDICAL TERMS FOR GENEALOGISTS

From the Society Page Newsletter, Fall 1990, Volume 4, Number 3, Page 28

Anthrax: a carbuncle or boil which is larger and more painful than a boil.

Apoplexy: stroke

(The) Blue Disease: a blue tinge over the whole body; known as cyanosis; body warmth is reduced hampering breathing; usually fatal.

Bronze John: yellow fever, infectious tropical disease transmitted by a yellow fever mosquito.

Child-Bed Fever: puerperal fever, septicemia: blood poisoning during pregnancy.

Consumption: tuberculosis of the lungs.

King's Evil: scrofula, or swelling of the neck glands; tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands.

Lead Palsy: a sequel to Painter's colic: muscles of the forearm are palsied from lead in the body.

Marasmus: infantile debility; condition wherein a child is unable to absorb nutrition from food.

Milk Leg: phlebitis or inflammation in the leg beginning two or seven weeks after giving birth.

Painters Colic: also known as Devonshire colic or Dry belly-ache; a form of colic experienced with slow lead poisoning.

Pessary: a device worn in the vagina for birth control or to give support to a displaced uterus.

Typhus Fever: also known as Putrid Fever or Ship Fever; contagious disease transmitted to man by the bite of fleas, lice, etc.

EARLY DIVORCE RECORDS PRIOR TO 1880 FOR IONIA COUNTY, MI Submitted by Beth Wills

Continued...Letter M
is now available.

Date/Names/Record

1870 MAXWELL, Claracy vs. James 787
1866 MAY, Ann vs. Thomas 482
1875 MEAD, Anna vs. William 1129
1879 MEGARAH, Mary vs. William 1529
1874 MELINS, Hiram vs. Laura 1102
1873 MELINS, Laura vs. Hiram 1005
1874 MILLER, Frank vs. Hubert 1035
1879 MANNING, Lucetta vs. Charles 1563
1875 MARCH, Hepsie vs. Wilbur 1204
1871 MISNER, Ellen vs. William 851
1877 MISNER, Frances vs. Frances 1335
1874 MOON, Eunice vs. Nathan 1064
1877 MOON, Eunice vs. Nathan 1369
1868 MOON, Henrietta vs. Alfred 785
1870 MORGAN, Francis vs. Hannah 802
1871 MURRAY, Edward vs. Emily 837

From the Ionia Sentinel-Standard,
January 3, 1933

Wedding - MCKENDRY-HOWE

Mr. and Mrs. Fred HOWE announce the marriage of their daughter Leila Alice to Elmer C. MCKENDRY, son of Mr. and Mrs. John MCKENDRY, of Easton, the ceremony being performed Saturday,

December 31, by Rev. H. S. ELLIS, pastor of the Belding Congregational church.

The couple was attended by Miss Fern WANDELL of Ionia and Allen J. MCKENDRY, brother of the groom.

Mrs. MCKENDRY is a graduate of Belding high school and of the Ionia county normal, and at the present time is teaching in the grammar room of the Orleans school.

Many of you have asked about the address of our Ionia County web site here is <http://www.usgennet.org/~ahmilton/index.html> Pamela K. SWILER

The articles below are from the Belding Home News, Vol II, No. 13, September 9, 1880

ROLL OF HONOR

Showing the names of those who, by their liberality, relieved the Christian church at Belding of a burdensome mortgaged indebtedness of \$3,095.00 lacking \$65.00 which is pledged, but not yet paid.

Names/Pledged/Paid

Ladies Mite Soc \$88.25/\$121.25
 E. MUDGE \$78.00/78.00
 E. S. JENKS \$62.00/62.00
 O.W. PUTNEY \$42.50/42.50
 W. A. LUTHER \$37.50/37.50
 R. M. WILSON \$37.50/37.50
 A. C. HUFF \$37.50/37.50
 D. E. WILSON \$32.50/32.50
 H. H. BELDING \$32.50/32.50
 Frank W. KING \$32.50/32.50
 John G. SNYDER \$32.50/32.50
 Wm. SLAWSON \$25.00/25.00
 Geo. W. ELLIS \$20.00/20.00
 Geo. W. CONNER \$20.00/20.00

T. B. MILLARD \$19.50/19.50
 Mrs. S. A. PUTNEY \$19.50/19.50
 Leander COLE \$18.00/18.00
 D. P. BLYSTONE \$15.50/15.50
 S. H. DEWEY \$15.50/15.50
 Mrs. S. J. LUTHER \$14.00/14.00
 Mary L.W. MUDGE \$14.00/14.00
 Ellen B. KING \$14.00/14.00
 Mrs. D.E. WILSON \$13.00/13.00
 Mrs. H. H. BELDING \$13.00/13.00
 Mrs. A. C. HUFF \$13.00/13.00
 H. H. GOODING \$13.00/13.00
 P. E. JENKS \$10.00/10.00
 Aaron WEAVER \$10.00/10.00
 Mrs. W. DIVINE \$10.00/10.00
 Mrs. Anna GIBBS \$10.00/10.00
 Birdie MUDGE \$6.50/6.50
 M. R. ALDEN \$6.50/6.50
 W. F. BRICKER \$6.50/6.50
 Dr. P. COVILLE \$6.50/6.50
 L. M. SMITH \$6.50/6.50
 D. HUBBARD \$6.50/6.50
 C. A. ROWLEY \$6.50/6.50
 E. R. SPENCER \$6.50/6.50
 Thomas CREBBIN \$6.50/6.50
 M. E. DURKEE \$6.50/6.50
 D. B. GREEN \$6.50/6.50
 Schyler CASE \$6.50/6.50
 Lottie DOUGLAS \$6.00/6.00
 S O. SEDERQUIST \$5.00/5.00
 Mrs. J. STOUGHTON \$5.00/5.00
 F. E. RANNEY \$5.00/5.00
 A. L. SPENCER \$5.00/5.00
 J. Milton EARLE \$5.00/5.00
 Mrs. J. M. EARLE \$5.00/5.00
 Mrs. W. SLAWSON \$5.00/5.00
 Calvin BENJAMIN \$5.00/5.00
 G. A. PHILLIPS \$5.00/5.00
 Henriette MARBLE \$5.00/5.00
 Elon MURRAY \$5.00/5.00
 J. B. MILLARD \$5.00/5.00
 Mrs. H. H. GOODING \$4.25/4.25
 Mrs. Martha DEWEY \$4.25/4.25
 W. L. SPRAGUE \$4.25/4.25
 Harlow DEWEY \$2.50/2.50
 W. W. EVARTS \$2.50/2.50
 John WEAVER \$2.50/2.50
 H. INGRAHAM \$2.00/2.00
 Eugene MONTAGUE \$2.00/2.00
 L. H. STONE \$2.00/2.00
 E. Clyde MUDGE \$1.00/1.00
 Clifford C. MUDGE \$1.00/1.00
 Eva GOODING \$1.00/1.00
 Eli KAHLER \$1.00/1.00
 M.H. BARLOW \$1.00/1.00
 Mrs. M. H. BARLOW \$1.00/1.00

Frank MC KENZIE \$1.00/1.00
 Julia LUTHER \$1.00/1.00
 Mrs. M. D. TRASK \$1.00/1.00
 Frank JERSEY \$1.00/1.00
 Jane BELLIS \$1.00/1.00
 Carroll BROWN \$1.00/1.00
 Mrs. D. FISHER \$1.00/1.00
 Perry BLYSTONE \$1.00/1.00
 W. GAYLORD \$1.00/1.00
 M. A. WETER \$1.00/1.00
 Mrs. S. CASE \$1.00/1.00
 Daniel DEWEY \$1.00/1.00
 Edith LINCOLN \$1.00/1.00
 Bert BLAKESLEE \$1.00/1.00
 Mary BELDING \$1.00/1.00
 Willie MOORMAN \$1.00/1.00
 Belle BROAS \$1.00/1.00
 James ROWLEY \$1.00/1.00
 Ettie KAHLER \$1.00/1.00
 Mrs. L. COLE \$1.00/1.00
 Mamie SMITH \$.50/.50

Total \$1,030.00

LOCALS

Mrs. D. B. BENTON left her home in this township on Saturday last, taking with her two children, clothing and money. Her husband was at church at the time. He found her stopping at T. CURRIE's. He recovered clothing, and wishes to guard the public against harboring or trusting her on his account as he will pay no bills of her contracting.

E. C. HOLMES now occupies the E. F. CROOKS' dwelling. Mrs. S. J. CROMWELL is to open dress-making rooms over the hardware store.

EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS

A teachers examination for Otisco will be held at the school house at Cook's Corners, on Saturday, Sept. 11th, 1880, at which time all persons expecting to teach in this township should be present, as no private examinations will be held, except on showing that it was impossible for the applicant to be present at the regular examination. J. T. JOSLIN
 Supt. of Schools

FROM THE MAILBAG

Hello, my name is Thomas ROOT and I have used the Ionia web site before, but scrolled down the Ionia Genealogical Society page.

I am writing today because I went to Oak Hill Cemetery in Ionia on Yeomans Street and was appalled by what I saw.

A historical cemetery that I believe is older than the city itself in disrepair and neglect (I don't think the prisoners in Ionia mow it anymore).

I then went to my personal archives and found the story Tom Ferguson wrote in 1996 about Oak Hill, that in essence says there is no money and very little hope for Oak Hill.

I found a web site (www.saveamericastreasures.org) and downloaded an application and wondered if this is something the society could apply for?

It is equally disappointing that all the taxes Ionia County and the city collect that something can't be done. Now that the city taxes everyone that works in the prison system, I find it hard to believe that some money couldn't be allocated to preserve Ionia's oldest cemetery that has many Civil War vets, and the town's earliest settlers, along with the rich and elite of that earlier time.

Please forgive me if this letter seems out of line or is beyond what your society does, but I felt that I had to ask someone about it and I remembered your site. I would appreciate your view on the subject (good or bad) and thank you for taking the time to read this.

Thomas ROOT

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Our member, Teresa LEAK SWEET asked the following question on the Ionia County website. We are publishing the question and an excerpt of the response she received as we felt it would be of interest to many of our members.

Teresa asked why so many people in Barry, Eaton, and Ionia Counties were leaving to go to the Dakotas around the turn of the century in 1900.

She received the following reply from Larry D. GOSS at [<rigooss@evansville.net>](mailto:rigooss@evansville.net).

Much of the public lands transferred into private ownership a region at a time, as the survey was completed and the aliquots were identified. Each homestead had to be purchased from the regional land office as it was opened. This migration generally moved from east to west and from south to north -- not only because that's the way the survey proceeded (and the regional land offices opened), but because the population of prospective landowners was coming from the east.

The migration of my own ancestors followed this pattern: up the Connecticut River through Massachusetts and Vermont to the Canadian border, westward to Jefferson and St. Lawrence counties in New York after the Erie canal opened, to Michigan in 1852 (after New York established property taxes), and to Colorado (1867) and the Dakotas when they opened up.

The farms in New York, Pennsylvania, and other eastern states were plastered with hand bills promising that Michigan was a "land of milk and honey" (or words to that effect) and whole communities pulled up stakes and moved.

One of the groups that migrated to the Dakotas in the early 1900's were the displaced Germans from Russia. They had been invited to move to Russia by Catherine the Great and lived there for 150 years or so in their own enclaves on the northwestern shore of the Caspian Sea. She had promised them exemption from serving in the army and they farmed there for many years. With the political unrest that occurred prior to the revolution of 1917 (and the threat of conscription), the whole community moved out and came to the United States. They settled in two locations, one of which was the Dakotas. They tried to set up the same sort of ethnic

German-Lutheran communities that they had in Russia. The problem was that the climate was not well-suited to the type of farming they knew and they had to find other land in a more productive climate. Many of them moved south to Colorado and worked in the sugar beet fields.

For a really good understanding of the timing of the westward migration, check out the state maps from the Bureau of Land Management. You can find a link to this site from Cyndis List [<www.cyndislist.com>](http://www.cyndislist.com). The date of each principal meridian and base line is shown on the maps, starting with Ellicott's line --the western boundary of Pennsylvania-- and proceeding westward from there.

COMING EVENTS

DETROIT 300 CELEBRATES THE ORIGINAL SETTLERS OF DETROIT

Detroit300 is now accepting applications for the Original Settler Family of Detroit. The application can be found at our web site, [<www.detroit300.org>](http://www.detroit300.org) or you can call Lynn Smith at (313) 871-2942 for a copy.

The Ingham County Genealogical Society will hold their annual Seminar this fall on Saturday, October 28, 2000 in Okemos, Michigan, from 9 am to 4 pm. The cost is \$25.00 per person, with lunch, if reserved by Oct. 15th. Speakers are Curt B. WITCHER & Shirley J. HODGES. For information call: Sam PARDEE: 517-374-8178 or send email to: [<icgs@yahoo.com>](mailto:icgs@yahoo.com). Print out a reservation form at [<http://userdata.acd.net/mmgs/icgs.html>](http://userdata.acd.net/mmgs/icgs.html)

HERITAGE BOOKS, INC.

Genealogical Periodical Annual Index now available on-line.

Each year a vast quantity of valuable genealogical data is published in genealogical periodicals and in books. For the past thirty-five years Genealogical Periodical Annual Index (GPAI) has been an essential key to unlocking this vast storehouse of information. Each volume of GPAI provides about 15,000 names, location or topical index citations to the substantive articles in about 350 of the leading English-language genealogical periodicals. In addition, it indexes all book reviews, so that a search in GPAI will uncover not only important periodical articles, but also material published in book form as well. Thus, GPAI is an essential tool for any genealogical literature search, and a tool that serious genealogists need to use repeatedly - having it readily available on-line should prove very useful.

For more information on the volumes of GPAI available go to the Heritage Books on-line library and search the card file for "gpai" or key words in the title. The URL is <<http://www.heritagebooks.com/librar> y>

PLEASE NOTE THAT ICGS IS PARTICIPATING IN THIS INDEXING PROJECT! A complete set of our newsletters have been sent to them and they will be included in the next GPAI.

The Library of Michigan and State Archives Team Up on Collections Project.

The Library of Michigan announced that its online card catalogue system, ANSWER, has been expanded to include records and information from approximately 750 manuscripts held by the State Archives of Michigan. The archives staff will also add new entries to ANSWER as they become available.

Those entries will include topics as diverse as Civil War soldier diaries, photograph collections or the Cleveland Cliff Iron Company records from Upper Peninsula. To reach the Library of Michigan or the Michigan Historical Center online visit <www.libofmich.lib.mi.us> or <www.sos.state.mi.us>

SANDERS FAMILY

Information on this family was requested and Kenneth TOWNER has provided the following:

John SANDERS

b. 1800 - d. 1870, buried Danby Cemetery, Ionia County

m. Sarah ?, b. 1809 - d. 1880

Theodore Luther SANDERS

b. 23 Jun 1840 in Akron, OH

d. 17 Feb 1920

m. Sarah Ann COMPTON on 29 Mar 1866. She was b. 1850, d. 1925

Albert Alanson SANDERS

b. 7 Jun 1867

d. 8 Feb 1906

Lois Matilda SANDERS

b. 3 Feb 1870

d. 19 Oct 1870

Urban Cecil SANDERS

b. 24 Oct 1876

d. 20 Jan 1946

Johney W. SANDERS

b. 10 July 1882

d. 19 July 1882

Chloe Ann SANDERS

b. 7 Sep 1884

d. 4 Mar 1906

For more information contact:

Mrs. Donna L. PERRY

741 Wright Lane

Marshall, MI 49068

(616) 781-8639

or

Kenneth F. TOWNER

11155 Okemos Rd.

Portland, MI 48875

(517) 647-6852

Currently we are involved with a newsletter exchange with 25 sister genealogical societies. If you are not taking advantage of these wonderful resources, you are truly missing out on a valuable tool! Just browsing through the names listed in the area I found many familiar names that I am sure, if checked, would connect to many of our members. When you have time, stop in our library, pull up a chair and browse through the newsletters...there are also many research tips that you might learn new techniques from.

Pamela K. SWILER, President

From the Portland Observer, Vol. XVII, No. 23, March 31, 1886.

The following are the officers of Henry Rice Post, 151, G.A.R.

Geo. E. FRIEND - Com.

A. B. LIPPENCOTT - Sr. Vice Com.

John M. BRADLEY - Jr. Vice Com.

J. Wesley REEDER - Adjt.

David CURE - Surgeon

Sam. BRIGHAM - Chaplain

Thos. WADDELL - Quarter Master

J.S.M. PEABODY - Officer of Day

Elisha BRADLEY - O. of G.

Geo. W. LUSK - Q.M.S.

Lucius B. WARRING - S.M.

Thomas LEAK has returned from Indiana and brought back an Indiana girl which he has been wed to. The boys gave him an old fashioned belling Saturday night, after which Thos. set up cigars and hard cider.

O.A. LAPO talks of quit keeping store and going on his farm in the spring. It seems as it all has not turned out as it was expected and promised.

Mrs. S. DOUNING left for McBride Thursday, to visit her daughter Mrs. R. F. BARRY.

The topic of our speaker at the June 10, 2000 meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society was "Tracing Your Native American Heritage" and was ably presented by Ms. Dawn MACKETY, from Battle Creek. Many of us have not been involved with tracing Native American genealogy because of one factor or another, so Ms. MACKETY's talk was both interesting and very enlightening to us. Any preconceptions as to what might be available, or how we would be received by those who hold the records were corrected by Dawn's thorough knowledge of her subject. She talked from her own experiences tracing her family, and gave many insights as to what is available, and the difficulties involved in obtaining proof.

According to Ms. MACKETY, sometimes people were registered with a tribe to which they had no blood ties simply because they happened to be living with that tribe at the time of the registration. This happened in her ancestry. This tribal link is important because in order to be able to effectively research a Native American, you must know the tribe and the band (which is a division smaller than a tribe) to which that person belonged. Each area keeps its own records, and requirements for admission are different depending on the tribe or band. For instance, the tribes of the Three Fires Confederacy are the Potawatomi, the Chippewa (or Ojibway) and the Ottawa (or Odawa). Within the Potawatomi there are many bands, including the Huron, Pokagon, and Hannahville.

A surprising fact to some of us was that we can begin our research by looking at essentially the same types of sources as we do for our other research. If you look at older census records in our country you will see some people who have but one name, and it is hyphenated. These names are of the Native American who talked to the census takers of the time. The census taker wrote as well as they could, and sometimes the name was close to the actual name

of the person being enumerated. Many times the Native American population was excluded from the census because they did not live in the towns of the whites. The census takers had various reasons for not counting them, so many were missed.

This is also the case with marriages. Many marriages were not recognized by the government because they had not been performed by someone the government recognized as legally able to do this task.

Ms. MACKETY gave us a very complete handout on various ways to find a Native American, and there is not enough room here to expound on that list, but it will be very helpful to anyone who is researching in that area. Aside from the regular places where we look for information, a few

other places specific to Native Americans are: The Bureau of Indian Affairs, tribal record books, the Dawes Rolls, tribal school records, missionary records, and a host of other sources.

If you are a Native American, one of the goals of your research is to be able to obtain a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood. The CDIB is issued depending on the conditions of the person's ancestry, and lists the percentages of various Native American groups' blood the applicant has. This gives the proof that you are a member of a certain tribe. Ms. MACKETY gave us an abundance of knowledge on Native American research and we will be able to more effectively do our work when we next confront situation where we will be delving into that area.

Little Cemetery Being Disrupted to Make Way for State Roadway

Concrete evidence that nothing stands in the way of the march of progress being made by the present generation was clearly discernible the past few days, during which a crew of excavators have been busy on a little knoll just south of the Fred Arnold property in Ionia, where an attempt was made to locate the 10 bodies which had been buried in the little private ARNOLD cemetery.

The body of Susan ARNOLD, wife of Oliver ARNOLD, who was said to be the first white woman to have been buried in the Grand River valley, was disinterred Saturday morning and together with the nine others which were buried there, will be reburied at the Balcom cemetery Saturday afternoon. Mrs. ARNOLD was among the first settlers who came here in 1833, her death occurring in January of the following year. Excavators were hard put to locate her grave in view of the fact that about 93 years have elapsed since her burial and the only record of the location of the grave was contained in the memories of several of the relatives.

A remarkable feature of the excavation was that, besides the several pieces of skeleton, there were found pieces of the coffin in which Mrs. Arnold had been buried which indicated that, although nothing was available at the time of her death for the making of lumber, etc., the coffin was evidently made of well carved lumber, there even being found a set of small metal handles.

The body of Oliver ARNOLD, which had been in its grave approximately 68 years, was removed Friday afternoon.

It was expected all bodies would be taken up before the crew quit work Saturday.

The bodies are being taken up to make way for the new route of M-43 which will pass directly through the site of the little graveyard in which all of 10 bodies have rested for over 50 years.

Ionia Sentinel-Standard, July 30, 1927

William J. Barker and Esther Ann Leak (a.k.a. "Ett")
with daughter Alta (Braden)
Esther was born 27 Aug 1867 in Sebewa Township
and died 24 Mar 1938. They were married in 1887.
Alta married Roy Braden.



OLD HISTORY OF TOWNSHIPS IS INTERESTING

Taken from an old history of Ionia County, Michigan published by J. D. Dillenbeck, of Grand Rapids, and printed at Lansing in 1872.

Ronald Township

The Agriculturist who travels in this part of the state finds few more attractive townships than Ronald, either in the character of the soil, the number and purity of its living streams, or the enterprise and prosperity of its inhabitants. It is located in the northern tier of sections of Ionia County, between North Plains and Orleans, and possesses a soil diversified between what is known as "openings" and "plains". The openings predominate, however, with here and there a patch of timbered land. Its main stream is prairie creek, which passes through eight sections in the eastern part of the township. Every section has on some part of it a never-failing spring or stream of living water.

Early Settlement

The first settlers in this township were Mr. George YOUNGER and Mr. Joshua SHEPARD, who came in the spring of 1837, and built each of them a small log house on section 33. The land located by Mr. SHEPARD now constitutes the county poor farm. Their nearest neighbor in Ionia was Mr. Samuel YATES, who settled near the township line in 1835, locating a part of his farm in Ronald. Mr. SHEPARD died a short time after his arrival, but his widow and children remained on the farm and cleared it up. His boys were named Chauncey, William and Norman. In the autumn of the same year Rev. John VAN VLECK came and settled on section 2, in what is now the village of Palo, and Mr. William WOOD settled on Section 19.

During the succeeding winter Matthew VAN VLECK, John VAN VLECK'S father, came and took a look at the country, which pleased him so well that he returned to New

York and brought his family back with him in July 1838. The family consisted of Matthew VAN VLECK and wife, with their three sons, John, Albert and Peter, and two daughters, Catherine and Sarah. Catherine subsequently married Mr. George D. TASKER, their marriage being the first celebrated in the township. A wild turkey of unusual size consisted a part of the wedding feast. Mr. TASKER has since died. Sarah married Leander MILLARD, who now lives near Palo. The entire family are still living, residing near together, blessed with abundant wealth, and widely known and respected. Few towns are as fortunate as Ronald in the character of its early pioneers. Rev. John VAN VLECK is the oldest settler now living in the township.

In 1838 Mr. Alanson SNOW, with a large family, came and settled on section 31. His father-in-law Pangborn, an old Revolutionary soldier, came with him. Mr. SNOW'S mother was the Mrs. SNOW whose murder, in Ohio, by the Indians, furnished one of the darkest pages in the history of Indian atrocities. Mr. Lafayette CHURCH, now a minister in Gratiot county, located a farm and made some improvements, but soon after went away. Mr. J. J. FOOTE also came, but only remained about two years.

In 1839, Stephen and Wellington PAGE came and located farms, which they remained to clear up, becoming among the most prominent men in the township. Both are now living in Ionia village, and are wealthy and enterprising men.

Mr. Eli SOULE came to Ronald in 1840, and remained to clear up a prairie. He is now residing in the east part of the state. William and James JENNINGS came about 1842, and settled about half-way between Palo and the south line. William now resides in Palo, and James is a resident of Ionia. Mr. Joseph L. FREEMAN and family came in 1843. Mr. David DODGE also came in the autumn of 1843, and located a farm, settling on it with his family in 1844. His sons, A.W. and E. W. DODGE, are now well-known in the county; the

former being an attorney in Ionia, and other pursuing the same profession in Hubbardston. One of Mr. FREEMAN'S son, Frank S. FREEMAN, is engaged in business in Ionia, and other William H. FREEMAN, is cashier of the National Bank of Muir.

In 1845 the MOSHER family came from Clinton County, New York and settled on section 14. One peculiarity of this family was that all the children had names beginning with L: Loren, Lawrence, Laura, etc. Mr. George SESSIONS located during the same year on section 13, but left a few years later, and subsequently went to California, where he was killed by the caving in of a mine. Mr. Phineas HUTCHINGS, now residing in Ionia, also came to Ronald in 1845.

The first Sunday school in the township of Ronald was organized by Mrs. David DODGE, in the summer of 1845. This lady died at Ionia in the autumn of 1872, and was buried in the family burying ground near her former residence.

Mr. Alpheus HAWLEY came in 1840 and has improved one of the finest farms in the county. He has been a successful farmer, a notable hunter, and is an experienced dealer in fur, purchasing large quantities every year for a Detroit company.

The township was organized in 1845, and there were 26 votes cast at the first election, William JENNINGS being elected supervisor and W. J. CLARK, clerk.

For the first ten years settlers came in quite slowly, and roads were few and rough. The VAN VLECK family had no neighbors nearer than 2 1/2 miles for several years. At first the nearest settlement in what is now the town of North Plains, was 5 1/2 miles distant. The plains and creek bottoms were in many places covered with almost impenetrable thickets of underbrush, and travel was restricted to certain paths or trails.

Palo

Albert VAN VLECK began trading in what is now the village of Palo about 18 years ago, but it is only a few years since the town arrived at anything like

its present importance. The stream grist-mill in Palo was erected four years ago, the people of the village raising a premium of \$2000 for the man who built it—a good indication of their enterprise and liberality.

The Baptists organized the first church society about 24 years ago, and built their present church building 11 years afterwards. The Disciples built a church-building near Woodward's lake, about 11 years ago. In the meantime the Methodists organized a society, but did not build a church till about three years ago, when they erected their present church in Palo.

The principal manufacturing establishments of Palo are **RUSSELL & STEELE's** grist mill and planing-mill, the foundry and machine shops of **H. and R. MILLER & Co.**, at which are also manufactured agricultural implements and pumps; the **RORY Bros.** pump factory, **John GAUSS's** wagon factory, **John DE PEW's** wagon shop, and **William SCOTT's** wagon shop. There are four dry goods stores, three millinery shops and one hotel.

The village received its name soon after the battle of Palo Alto, in Mexico, and was named in honor of that victory, the name being suggested by Rev. John **VAN VLECK**.

The article above and on the preceding page were copied from The Belding, Michigan, Banner-News, dated May 13, 1937. It is reprinted with permission of the Stafford Group.

CONDOLENCES

Our sympathy to John **WAITE** in the loss of his grandmother, Mrs. Daisy **M. (SPRING) WAITE**. Mrs. **WAITE**, 90, formerly of Rockford, MI passed away March 15, 2000.

We received the following from the Athen County Genealogical Chapter, O.G.S. in Athens, Ohio.

FORTY-EIGHT YEARS IN A COUNTY STORE—An Interview with Letha **PATTERSON** written by Dorothy Jeanette (**ROBINSON**) **CODY**.

I am Letha **PATTERSON**, born in 1898, seven and a half miles northeast of Lakeview, Michigan. My parents were Demetrius and Jennie **ROBINSON**. Demetrius is a Biblical name. My father worked as a foreman in logging camps and at a 400 acre farm. As his work changed from place to place I attended school in a number of places. I started school in Hinton Township in Montcalm County, then went to a school in the township east toward Six Lakes as well as at Horsehead Lake and Greenville where I went to high school

I had one brother who died three weeks before I was born and two sisters, one of whom, Helen **MIER**, now lives in Ionia.

Harry **PATTERSON** and I were married when I was young. I did not go to work for about two years. My first job was to cook for a crew of men at Fallasburg Park near Lowell. For about six years we farmed near Saranac before we went to Ionia where I worked in the Hayes Body Corporation shop. When the depression struck and there were no jobs to be had, we came out to Sebewa and started our business in the West Sebewa store.

My husband, Harry **PATTERSON**, was born near Lincoln Lake in Montcalm County. His father's name was Richard and his mother was Elnora **HEWITT**. We have daughter, Rosamond **COOK**, who lives in Kalamazoo. She had finished high school in Ionia at the time we came to Sebewa. Harry was several years older than I. He worked in Minnesota and Wisconsin, lumbering, before we

were married. He worked for my father on the big farm and that is where we became acquainted.

When the depression came we felt panicky. We had no jobs with a home partly paid for in Ionia, a car and a radio partly paid for. We had thought that if we gave a good day's work for our money we would not be out of a job, but we got pitifully out of work. Harry scouted around and tried to find work all over. He was a marvelous worker—he would work at anything that was honest and honorable—yet he couldn't find a job anywhere.

He came out to West Sebewa to look over the store that was for sale and we decided we would go into business. Harley **PEACOCK's** people had been running the store and were living here at the time. We bought the place from them. The store was encumbered to the Webber bank of Portland and the Maynard Allen Bank was liquidating the assets of the closed Webber Bank. We took the store on a rental basis for one year and had the privilege of buying.

We started with very small capital, I think only \$74 though that would buy three or four times the amount of stock it would today. Just as fast as we could accumulate earnings we added to the stock. We held dances in the hall upstairs and that helped immeasurably to pay for the place. The first year here Rosamund stayed and helped. She had an orchestra for the dances. She played the violin, Dorothy **HOY** the piano, Glenn **GOULD** the clarinet and saxophone, and Russell **PATRICK** had the drums.

This article will be continued in the next newsletter.

Highlight on First Families of Ionia County Society Member No. 4



James R. Moses

James Russell Moses was born in Ionia, Ionia County, Mich., the son of James Luther Moses and Patricia Ann Quigley. In 1949, he was baptized at Saint Michael Church in Grand Ledge, Mich.

In 1976, Jim met and married Mirla Gamboa at the Saipan Community Church in Saipan, Mariana Islands, which is located in the Pacific Islands.

Jim and Mirla have four children, three girls in college, and one son, in grade school. They currently live in Lyons, Ionia County, Mich. Jim is employed with Auto Owners as a Systems Analysis. In his spare time, Jim serves as the Committee Chairperson for the First Families of Ionia County Society, teaches a beginning genealogy class, and is very active at St. Patrick's School in Portland, Mich. Jim has been doing genealogy actively for the past 11 years.

Jim's father was born in South Haven, Mich., in 1926, however, in August of 1948 when he married Patricia A. Quigley, he resided in Ionia, Mich. He was listed as a hospital attendant

James Luther Moses was the son of James William Moses and Lucy Kathryn Sage. His wife, Patricia, was the daughter of Russell Alger Joseph Quigley and Ellen Margaret Kelley.

Russell A. J. Quigley, b. 23 Dec 1889, died in 1981 from a stroke in DeBoer Nursing Home, Muskegon County, Mich.

Ellen Margaret Kelley was born in December of 1890 at Muir, Ionia Co., Mich. She died in March of 1968 in Ionia, Ionia Co., Mich. Ellen and Russell were married on 12 Oct 1909 in Ionia, Ionia Co., Mich.

Ellen M. Kelley was the daughter of Charles Alfred Kelley and Mary Ellen Hallahan. Charles was born in New York in 1847. Mary Ellen Hallahan is listed as residing in Ionia County in the 1860 census at the age of six years old.

Russell A.J. Quigley, son of Charles James Quigley and Alice Georgiana Findley, was for in Ionia County, Berlin Township, Mich. 23 Dec 1889. He married Ellen Margaret Kelley 12 Oct 1909 in Ionia.

Charles James Quigley was listed as residing in Ionia County in 1870 to 1897 according to declaration for pension records. He served in Co. G Tenth Michigan Volunteer Infantry and was honorably discharged the 6th of December, 1862.

Space does not allow for the entire history of James Russell Moses, however, his family's story can be reviewed in our library at the Depot Museum, or by contacting Jim directly. We thank you Jim for your undying efforts and support of our society.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the ICGS First Families Society, contact us and we will send you an application!

2000 Calendar of Events - Ionia County Genealogical Society

July 2000

- 8 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting, Dale Jackson, author of Jackson Family History speaking on Publishing Your Family History
- 10 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers
- 27 7:00 p.m. ICGS Board of Directors meeting at Swilers
- 29 DEPOT DAY. Not open for research

August 2000

- 1 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers
- 12 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting, Bill Atkinson will speak on Salt Lake City Research
- 24 7:00 p.m. ICGS Board of Directors meeting at Swilers
- 26 10:00-2:00 Depot Museum open to public for researchers

September 2000

- 5 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers
- 9 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting, Speaker from Family History Library in Grand Rapids
- 15 Deadline for applications for First Families Society
- 28 7:00 p.m. ICGS Board of Directors meeting at Swilers
- 30 10:00-2:00 Depot Museum open to public for researchers

October 2000

- 3 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers
- 14 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting, Carole Callard speaking on Unique Sources at the Library of Michigan
- 26 7:00 p.m. ICGS Board of Directors meeting at Swilers
- 28 First Families Banquet - Details to be announced.

November 2000

- 7 6:30 p.m. First Families Committee Pizza Celebration at Depot
- 11 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting, Shirley Hodges speaking on The Joys of Genealogy
- 16 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers

**All regular membership meetings are held on the second (2nd) Saturday of each month, except December, at 1:00 p.m. at the Lake Odessa Historical Society Museum Depot on Emerson Street, Lake Odessa, MI. The public is welcome, and refreshments will be served.

ICGS Newsletter:

Editor: Pamela Swiler

Asst Editor: Leora Slosser

NEED TO REACH US? ICGS, 13051 Ainsworth Rd., Route #3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849, PH: (616)374-3141

FAX: 616-374-8424 or e-mail: pkswiler1@juno.com or pkswiler@voyager.net

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

c/o Pamela K. Swiler
13051 Ainsworth Road
Route 3

Lake Odessa, MI 48849

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

TO:

**Depot Museum
Open last Saturday
Of each month
For Researchers
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

Those interested in becoming a member of the I.C.G.S. complete the form below and send it with \$15.00 annual membership fee made payable to the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Mail it to: ICGS c/o Pam Swiler at 13051 Ainsworth Road, Route 3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849.
.....

Membership Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Home Telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____

List Surnames you are researching: _____

Note: All information may be published in upcoming newsletters or placed on our internet web site unless you indicate in writing otherwise.