

# 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 6 - Number 1

January - March 2001

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all of you. The year 2000 has come and gone so quickly that I have barely had time to catch my breath! Remember a year ago - we were all worried about the Y2K bug? This year we worried about who would be President... and the beat goes on....

This year, as the years in past, have brought many changes to the society. Some good, some not so good. The good changes are that we are growing in leaps and bounds! This has caused us to look at our meeting location and make some adjustments which we hope will be suitable for a while until something better comes along. We are currently meeting at the Lake Manor Apartments community room which is a nice room, centrally located and close to our library which is still at the Depot Museum. We thank the Lale Odessa Area Historical Society for allowing us to continue to use the depot for our depository.

More good news... our new computer has arrived! Heide Nagel of the Hall Fowler Memorial Library donated one of their used computers when the library got a new one. Now we are able to better use some of the software and CD's available to us. We also thank Joe and Joan McCord for the donation of a desk to put the computer on. In addition, we thank Mike McCartney for putting new casters on the desk, making it easier to move around.

Kudos go out to our cemetery committee! They have walked the Lakeside Cemetery, recorded all the records and are finishing up the details necessary for publishing this information. We thank Marilyn Steward for coordinating this committee. Those of you who are interested in assisting in this project, please contact Marilyn. She will be happy to give you the directions on what needs to be done and the format that is being used.

There are changes in our leadership this year, too. Ford Wright, who has been trustee the past two years, is stepping aside to allow others the opportunity to serve on the board. Yes, this is an opportunity, not a chore, to see what it takes to make this society run smoothly. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes and we need to take a minute to thank those board members who have served, the ones who are about to serve, and those of you who will consider serving in the future. These positions are very important and every meeting is filled with important decisions that affect your society.

In addition, I need to take a minute to thank Bonnie Jackson, who has been working in two positions on the board this year. Last year we created a new position of Correspondence Secretary, which has been a gift from God for me! The amount of correspondence that comes and goes through this society was becoming more than I

could handle alone. Bonnie stepped up and took on the challenge and has handled it with ease. Bonnie has served as Trustee for the Board since 1998. This year, she steps down from that position, as we have made the Correspondence Secretary position a voting position and no board member may hold two voting positions. We thank Janis Kenyon for stepping in to fill the last year of Bonnie's term as Trustee.

The hardest person for me to say good-bye to is Leora Slosser, our editor of our newsletter. Leora has been my right hand since the beginning of our society. She has bravely taken on the task of organizing and typing our newsletter for the past three years, working hard to meet every deadline.



LEORA SLOSSER, *Editor*  
July 1997 - December 2000

Leora and I bonded from the beginning when we learned that we both had been elementary school secretaries, so newsletters and tight deadlines were not unusual for either of us. Leora kept up with me every step of the way and I appreciate her so much. She was always there, ready to insert a last minute addition, moving and rearranging pages to meet my needs. Thank you, Leora.

In preparation for Leora stepping down, she has graciously "groomed" our new editor over the past year. We welcome Dottie Piechocki as our new editor. Dottie, who resides in Wyoming, Michigan, already does her own family newsletter, so she has the familiarity needed to do this job. She has big shoes to fill, but will do so with ease, I am sure. Welcome aboard, Dottie.

The First Families of Ionia County Society committee was amazing this year! We thank the committee members for all the hours they have spent to make this year a record success. We especially thank Jim Moses for his leadership. We also invite the new First Families members to get involved with the committee. We have a lot of fun and make the best friends. Our committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at my home at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in working on this project - contact Jim Moses.

There are others who work behind the scenes that you may not be aware of. . . there are those people who send out the sympathy cards when you have lost a loved one, or an anniversary card for those special anniversaries, or a get-well card when you are in the hospital. . . they are our Sunshine Committee. We thank Ellen Willemmin and Teresa Leak Sweet for taking care of those needs for our society. If you know of a special need, please don't hesitate to contact me so that I can see that we acknowledge it.

Refreshments and welcome person is an important part of our monthly meetings. I thank all of you who have volunteered in the past year, as well as signed up for the new year.

Every year members receive a package at the beginning of the year. It includes items such as the Annual Report, a membership listing, and one other item is the index of our newsletter. We thank Pat Bravender, who has taken on this task. Many times I have referred to the index and others have requested information because of it. We post the index on our website for everyone to use. Thank you Pat!

Speaking of the Annual Report - there have been some folks who think that we should not waste the money to print and mail these reports out to our members. I disagree. I feel that as members, you have the right to know what our society has as assets, and what accomplishments there have been throughout the year. Also, the National Genealogy Society, of which we are a member, has indicated it is one of the guidelines set by them as a form of accountability to the members of the society. Yes, it costs to send it, but that is part of what your membership dues pay for and you deserve to know what is going on in your society. Not everyone has the option to attend local meetings or serve on the committees and board, so this is their way of knowing what we are doing. I will continue to send these reports out on a yearly basis as long as I am in office. I thank those of you who worked hard to put this information together, including our treasurer, Lois Curtiss, whose task is one of the biggest challenges.

Well, I could go on and on with our accomplishments and giving thanks to those who help to make our society so great. If I didn't mention your name, I do appreciate all you

do, I just have run out of space for this issue.

May God Bless You and Keep You in His Care throughout the New Year.

Pamela K. Swiler, President

#### MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER!

Please notice the envelope included in this newsletter. Your renewal is due on 1 January 2001. Using the envelope provided will save all of us on the costs of printing, postage, and time spent on sending reminder letters.

Do yourself a favor and mail your dues now, before you forget!

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Phyllis A. **LOWREY SHELLNBARGER**  
1424 Fourth Avenue  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 374-7029  
Researching: **LOWREY, TISCHER, MC COY**
- Claud **SHELLNBARGER**  
1424 Fourth Avenue  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 374-7029  
Researching: **SHELLNBARGER, KNAPP**
- Debra L. **NICHOLSON**
- Anne **GONZALES**  
8921 Rhea Ave  
Northridge, CA 91324-3824  
(818) 349-7812  
Researching: **HAWLEY, MURPHY, MARBLE, BARNARD, RANDALL, DERRICK, LOVELESS, WORDEN, LIKENS, KENNEDY, BOWEN, POST**
- Mary O. **MILAN**  
11641 Lally Drive  
Lowell, MI 49331  
(616) 897-8043  
E-mail: [tilly11641@aol.com](mailto:tilly11641@aol.com)  
Researching: **SMITH, ROBINSON**

- Judith WENZEL  
2149 Fulham Dr.  
Naperville, IL 60564  
(630) 904-9294  
E-mail: [jwenzel158@aol.com](mailto:jwenzel158@aol.com)
- Velma MUTCH  
1059 Emerson  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
- Bill Roger POST  
17990 North Shore Dr. #86  
Spring Lake, MI 49456  
(616) 842-8158  
Researching: POST, CRAWFORD
- Bernadine CARR  
2211 Lapo Road  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 374-8747  
E-mail: [gfcarr@iserv.net](mailto:gfcarr@iserv.net)  
Researching: THOMAS, DANIELS
- Phyllis SLAYTON  
13733 Six Mile Road  
Belding, MI 48809  
(616) 794-0257  
Researching: WARNER,  
DAVIDSON, ANTCLIFF, CUTLER

### Thank you!

Thank you to the following people who signed up for either refreshments or as the welcome person (or both) for our monthly meetings from June through November, 2000:

- ♥ Sharon Kisela
- ♥ Sue Carpenter
- ♥ Ellen Willemmin
- ♥ Jim Moses
- ♥ Elaine Garlock
- ♥ Leora Slosser
- ♥ Janis Kenyon
- ♥ Lori Fox

If you have not signed up for 2001, it is not too late! We appreciate your help.

From the Portland Observer, Wed., January 11, 1905, Page 4, Column 3, transcribed exactly as written:

"A school teacher in a district near Portland (it may have been in the village and it may have not) received the following note from the

mother of one of her pupils: 'Dear Mis, You writ me about whipping Sammy. I hereby give permission to beet him up eny time it is necessary to learn his lesens. He is juste like his father - you have to learn him with a clubb. Pound nolege into him. I wante him to git it, and don't pay no atension to what his father says. I'll handle him.'"

*--- thanks to Ford WRIGHT for sharing this amusing article with us!*

Did you know the Library of Michigan has new hours? Beginning last Sept. 11, the reference area is now open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday! Great news for those hardy all-day researchers!

Please note these new addresses/e-mail addresses for our members:

- LaVerne & Mary AVES  
<[lmaves@voyager.net](mailto:lmaves@voyager.net)>
- Patricia CURRIGAN  
<[patc1932@yahoo.com](mailto:patc1932@yahoo.com)>
- Jacob FACE  
801 Inverness Ave, Apt 5B  
Nashville, TN 37204  
Phone 615-298-5752  
<[jacob89@hotmail.com](mailto:jacob89@hotmail.com)>
- Diane WARNEKE  
912 Wing Tip Circle  
Hopkinville, KY 42240  
<[warneke@hoptown.net](mailto:warneke@hoptown.net)>
- Ellen WILLEMIN  
8619-29th Ave E  
Palmetto, FL 34221  
[winter address change until April 19, 2001]
- Sharon BRAINARD  
<[knitwit@mymailstation.com](mailto:knitwit@mymailstation.com)>
- Marion McGINN  
1188 Whisper Lane  
Sebring, FL 33870-1241  
Phone 863-386-1159  
[winter address change until mid April, 2001]

50% of my forefat e  
were fema el

### CONGRATULATIONS!

to Jacob FACE on his recent graduation from CMU and best wishes in his new job!

### From Our Mail Bag...

We recently received this letter from Mr. Bill POST of Spring Lake, and have transcribed the information to the best of our ability.

Mr. Post writes:

"I have been researching a pioneer family of Orleans, Twp. for several years and I have much data on them. They came from Kingston, N.Y. about 1836 and settled first near Detroit and then later in Orleans. The \_\_\_ Co. N.Y. Genealogical Society sent me their records on the Post family, and I have photo copy of the family Bible records for comparison.

There are children on the Bible records who don't show up on the other records, taken from the baptism of the Old Dutch Church of Kingston, N.Y., and visa versa. They are Eliza, Elvira, and Sarah, who inherited the Bible. Margaret's son Thomas SLEIGHTON is recorded. I have a jo \_ Sarah appears in Orleans married to Warren BABCOCK. Note that Samuel H. Post does not appear in the Bible records.

William Henry Post was my G-G-G-Grandfather. He is buried in the cemetery on the corner of Belding Road and Johnson Road in Orleans (Greenes' Cemetery). His brother Edward BRYUN (pron. 'Brown') Post is buried in Orleans cemetery. I have records on many of their children."

A copy of the Bible record was included and is transcribed as follows:

Births: Samuel Post was born in the year of our lord 1780 March 30.  
Salutie van vliet was born December 25 1786.  
Sattarday April 15 1805 was my son William born

My daughter Margaret was born on Monday the 29 of March 1807  
February 5 1811 ws my son Edward brown born

My daughter Eliza - [rest of sentence not legible]  
August 25 1816 was my daughter Nancy born on Sunday morning  
Sept 16 1819 ws my son William Henry born  
June 14 1822 was my daughter Sarah Cathrine born on Tuesday morn.

Marriages: 1804 was Samuel H. Post married to Seletje VnVliet by the Rev Mr Poll on the 24 of January.  
- End of Bible Records -

Additional Notes included:  
Samuel POST m. Seletje  
VANVLIET

1. Wilholmus Post b. Kingston RDC 5-1-1806
2. Margrit Post n. 4-24-1808
3. Eliza Post b. 6-26-1814
4. Edward Bruyn Post b. 2-23-1812
5. Henrietta Post b. 2-23-1810
6. Nancy Post b. 8-25-1816
7. Willim Henry Post b. 9-16-1819 Kingston RDC, but Bill Post says b. 7-25-1818 Kingston or Esopus; d. Orleans, Mich 8-9-1894. M. 1843 in Pennsylvania ELIZABETH NICHOLS, b. Pennsylvania 1822 d. Orleans, MI 11-8-1896
- 1, Eugene 1850

*Photo of Wm Henry Post included in letter, but not clear enough to put in newsletter*



Congratulations to Joe & Joan McCORD who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in October 2000!

The National Genealogical Society announced recently that the Family History Library will be discontinuing their accreditation program. Those of you who may have applied for accreditation or already have the Accredited Genealogist (AG) credential have several options available to you. For further information, you can contact the Genealogical Society of Utah.

Want to go to Germany? Well, the National Genealogical Society is putting together a research trip to Germany from August 26 to September 8, 2001. For more information, contact John T. Humphrey at the NGS website <[www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)>

(3) Eastern Cherokee applications to the Court of Claims (order form NATF Form 83).....	17.50
(4) Land entry records (order form NATF 84).....	17.75
(5) Bounty land warrant application files (order form NATF Form 85) .....	17.25
(6) Pension files more than 75 years old (order form NATF Form85).....	37.00
(7) Pension documents packet (order form NATF Form 85) .....	14.75
(8) Military service files more than 75 years old (order form NATF Form 86).....	17.00

#### New NARA Fees Schedule

For those who don't have time or access to the NARA web site, below are the basic fees. The NATF form 80 is replaced by NATF form 85 for pension files. There are two different files to choose from: a Pension Documents Packet for \$14.75 which will include the following if they are in the file: Declaration of pension; Declaration of widows pension; Adjutant General statements of service; Questionnaires completed by applicants; "Pension Dropped" cards; Marriage certificates; death certificates; discharge certificate. The second option is the complete file (all pages) for \$37.00. The revised fees went into effect on November 13. Information on the fee schedule is published on NARA's web site at <http://www.nara.gov/nara/newfees.html>. A copy of the final rule is also available through that URL..

Type of record and order form/  
Price:

- (1) Passenger arrival lists (order form NATF Form 81)..... \$17.25
- (2) Federal Census requests (order form NATF Form 82)..... 17.50

#### OCTOBER SPEAKER

by Jim Moses

Randy RILEY, from the "North Plains Rileys", and Special Collections Supervisor at the Library of Michigan, in Lansing, Michigan, was the guest speaker at the October 14, 2000, meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Randy gave a presentation on the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. The Library of Michigan, the State Archives, the Michigan Historical Museum and other offices are all located in the same building, which allows us to visit just one place for many of our needs. He explained the differences between the Library (a repository for printed materials) and the Archives (a repository for original documents).

The Michigan Collection is a great resource and, aided by the Abrams Foundation and other grants, anything dealing with Michigan is purchased, along with items from other states. The Abrams Foundation administrators have donated over one million dollars to the library, all of which has been designated to be used for

genealogical and historical materials, and since Randy says that 80% of all visitors to the library are genealogists or local historians, the benefit is great.

As part of his presentation Randy gave us tips on how to use the various collections and the responsibilities of the various staff members. All librarians are trained in genealogical research, so they can point us to the places we need for the searching we want. Randy also discussed the responsibilities of the patrons. For example, we should not copy older "crumbly" books, and we should be willing to let others use the copy machines when the library is busy.

The Library of Michigan is one of the top ten libraries for genealogical research in the country, so we are very fortunate that most of us live close to it. They have many pamphlets and other learning aids to assist genealogists. The collections are not only of Michigan materials, but there are materials from all over the country, with an emphasis on the eastern states. We can all help to improve the library by taking care of the collections there and also, if we publish anything, a donation to the library will be most welcome. Randy suggests sending two copies, one for on the shelves and one for the archives in case something happens to the first copy.

"Learn from the mistakes of others; you can't live long enough to make them all yourself."

## NOVEMBER SPEAKER

by Jim Moses

"The Joys of Genealogy" was the topic presented by Shirley HODGES at the November 12, 2000, ICGS meeting. Shirley has spoken to us several times in the past, and she keeps coming up with new material to entertain and teach us. Shirley started her talk with comments about being addicted to genealogy and by stating that many of us get so caught up in the techniques of our hobby that we forget to have fun, too. Some of the "joys" of genealogy come in our noticing that we are currently living our own family history. We should note it and write about it. Other "joys" come in helping others find their families, and the joy that we can get in giving reverence to those who have gone on before us.

One thing Shirley does is that she gives a family history book as a baby gift. This can later be given to the child, who may develop an interest in the family's past. Joy also comes when helping a child from a broken family find something about his or her past, or by showing a senior citizen that they can still contribute by recording or writing their own stories. Helping someone in the library find that long-lost cousin or just listening to their story of a recent find brings joy, too.

A great joy comes from finding our own "new" relatives, living or dead. Shirley said that she has "an overwhelming sense of joy in having the responsibility for saving and preserving her family history", as well as the joy of writing her own life story.

I think that many of us have experienced some or all of these "Joys Of Genealogy" but listening to someone talk about them brings them freshly to our minds.

One other thing Shirley talked about, that does not necessarily bring joy, but peace of mind, is the study of genetic genealogy. This subject may help someone figure out why certain things in their lives are the way they are, and this can help someone cope with problems that they discover are not caused by themselves. When people know about certain diseases or conditions that are passed on from generation to generation they can have the peace of mind that comes from knowledge.

Shirley, as we all know, embodies the joyful genealogist in how she reacts to the world around her, so she is very suited to bring these joys to us. As you may have noticed, most of these "joys" come from our relationships with others, even if we do not know them, so remember to be a "Joyful Genealogist".

### CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to members Merrilee MORRISON-COTTER and Polly McKENDRY on the recent passing of their mother Agnes MORRISON. Many of you met her at the First Families banquet in years past. She has attended every one with the exception of this year since her illness.

### OBITUARY

Submitted by our new member Al DAWSON with the comment, "This was the sister of my great-grandmother":

COURT, Ida Easterday  
Mrs. Ida Easterday Court, aged 91 of Lowell, widow of Melvin D. Court, passed away Sunday at Butterworth Hospital after a lingering illness. She is survived by two sons and daughter-in-laws Maurice J. and Evelyn Court, Richard L. and Hollice

Court, four granddaughters Susan Fleck, Joanne Clock, Barbara Herchelmann and Catherine Court, one grandson Richard L. Court Jr., three great-granddaughters, seven great-grandsons, and several nieces and nephews. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at two o'clock at the Funeral Chapel, Rev. Richard Greenwood officiating -interment Oakwood Cemetery. The family will meet friends Monday and Tuesday 7-9 PM. Chapel hours are 9 to 9. Memorials may be made to L.H.S. Margaret Court memorial fund. Mrs. Court lies in state at the Roth-Gerst funeral home, Lowell.  
--Grand Rapids Press-May 19, 1975

Visit Al's personal website at:  
<http://www.familytreemaker.com/users/d/a/w/Al--Dawson/>

**EARLY DIVORCE RECORDS  
PRIOR TO 1880  
FOR IONIA COUNTY, MI**  
compiled and transcribed  
by Beth Wills

Continued. . . . Letters H and M. Surnames from A through M are now online at  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/iondiv.html>  
More will be added as space permits.

**Date/Name/Record #**

1864 **HALEY**, Harriet vs. Nathan 363  
1875 **HAMILTON**, Clarisse vs. Charles 1203  
1869 **HAMLIN**, Charles vs. Cordelia 705  
1871 **HAMLIN**, Oscar vs. Jane 876  
1871 **HANER**, George vs. Kate 819  
1870 **HARMON**, Henry vs. Jennie 788  
1876 **HARNDEN**, Orwin vs. Lizzie 1267  
1865 **HARRINGTON**, Louisa vs. Edwin 414

1873 **HARRINGTON**, Mary vs. Orville 990  
1874 **HARRINGTON**, Jane vs. Herman 1093  
1869 **HASSETT**, William vs. Rhoda 704  
1876 **HAWES**, Helen vs. Edwin 1271  
1875 **HAWLEY**, Mary vs. Edward 1152  
1871 **HAYSTEAD**, Naomi vs. Eridon 873  
1877 **HEARSEY**, Mason vs. Mary 1350  
1866 **HENDRYX**, Mary vs. George 466  
1875 **HENRICK**, Margaret vs. David 1140  
1875 **HENRICK**, David vs. Margaret 1220  
1872 **HICKS**, Maria vs. Charles 929  
1874 **HILL**, Lyman vs. Charlotte 1117  
1879 **HILL**, Lyman vs. Charlotte 1508  
1865 **HINES**, Richard vs. Jane 426  
1874 **HINKLEY**, Cordelia vs. David 1104  
1866 **HISCOCK**, Anna vs. Henry 443  
1866 **HOGAN**, Comelius vs. Mary 478  
1876 **HOGLE**, Albert vs. Harriet 1260  
1874 **HOGLES**, Daniel vs. Abbie 1098  
1869 **HOLLY**, Harriet vs. Era 706  
1868 **HOLMES**, Elizabeth vs. Charles 771  
1879 **HOLMES**, Ira vs. Amelia 1571  
1869 **HOPGOOD**, Thoams vs. Georganna 676  
1866 **HOSFORD**, Mary vs. Samuel 484  
1876 **HOSFORD**, Lucinda vs. Orvis 1273  
1864 **HOSTED**, Hiram vs. Susan 373  
1875 **HOUCK**, Lorenzo vs. Maryella 1221  
1867 **HOWARD**, Joseph vs. Ann 517  
1876 **HOWETT**, Eunice vs. James 1292  
1872 **HOXIE**, Eleanor vs. Job 931

1879 **HUBBARD**, Mary vs. John 1533  
1868 **HUNTER**, Alfred vs. Maria 528  
1874 **HUTCHINS**, Joanna vs. William 1120  
1879 **MANNING**, Lucetta vs. Charles 1563  
1875 **MARCH**, Hepsie vs. Wilbur 1204  
1879 **MATHER**, Caroline vs. Henry 1542  
1870 **MAXWELL**, Claracy vs. James 787  
1866 **MAY**, Ann vs. Thomas 482  
1875 **MEAD**, Anna vs. William 1129  
1879 **MEGARAH**, Mary vs. William 1579  
1874 **MELINS**, Hiram vs. Laura 1102  
1873 **MELINS**, Laura vs. Hiram 1005  
1874 **MILLER**, Frank vs. Hubert 1035  
1871 **MISNER**, Ellen vs. William 851  
1877 **MISNER**, Frances vs. Francis 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

**FIND A GRAVE**

Here is another website that we found quite interesting - a little slow running, but worth trying. It is [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) Check it out - we entered a couple names and it takes a while to get the information in, but it could be a valuable tool for those who are trying to locate their loved ones.



## WORD OF THE DAY

from The Learning Kingdom's "Cool Word of the Day" for December 21, 2000:

pedigree [n. PED-ih-gree]

In human genetics pedigree is used to trace the inheritance of specific traits. However, the word pedigree is most often used in the context of animals. It is a genealogical record that shows the purity of a breed. Example: "The breeder told us the horse's pedigree as part of his sales pitch."

Pedigree is also your family tree, the line of ancestors that have preceded you. Near synonyms include lineage, breed, blood, and ancestry.

Pedigree is a variation on the late Middle English word *pedegru*, which was derived from the similar sounding French phrase for foot of a crane (*pie de grue*). The three splayed out toes on the crane's foot were thought to be a good way to describe the appearance of the lines on a genealogical chart.

## INTERVIEWING TIPS

"Years ago I made separate audiotaped 'interviews' with my parents. I asked questions about where each lived, school memories, first jobs, first cars, how they met, prices, styles, etc. Every time a name was mentioned, I would find out who that person was and how he or she was related to me. Mother would make a list of topics, and the next time we got together, she would tell me about the items on her list. It was so much fun making the tapes, not to mention hearing the stories. My dad said he didn't have much to say, since he 'was born and went right to work.' When he started, he filled up both sides of the tape in one sitting. Now my parents have both passed away, and I can still play their tapes of stories. I made copies of the tapes

and mailed them to my siblings. They are priceless. It is well worth the effort to record precious memories that cannot be found in a file somewhere."

-- Helen McKissick Thompson,  
quoted in Ancestry.com  
November 27, 2000

## TIME CAPSULES

from The Portland Observer,  
17 February 1874:

Nerve – The Ionia Sentinel of last week has the following: The best exhibit of nerve lately heard of is Merrit BRINDLE, of Odessa, who some weeks ago came to a doctor of this city and wanted a finger re-amputated. It seems that in skinning some animal, he had cut his finger and poisoned the wound at the same time, that dry gangrene set in, and he amputated the finger at the first joint with a jack knife. This did not arrest the process of decomposition, and this had presented a terrible appearance. The doctor told him the better way would be to cure the disease before performing the operation, and if he would place himself under his charge, and with security for pay, he would fix him all right. Brindle went away without making any arrangement. Yesterday he was in town again, with his wound all healed. It seems he went home on the previous occasion, and tore the flesh from his finger with a vise, and then sawed off the bone with a handsaw. It's a rough, homemade job, but it didn't cost a cent.

We are glad to see that L. E. SHOWERMAN, of Sebewa, who has been layed up a greater part of the winter with a felon and erysipelas in his hand, is able to be about. His hand, however, is not by any means well, and his physicians are of the opinion that he will not get the use of it this summer.

3 March 1874

Very often from twenty to fifty persons, women, children, babies, and if the weather is too cold for them to stay out doors, men and unruly boys are crowded into a twelve by sixteen room (Portland depot), which it is impossible to keep free from tobacco spit and tobacco fumes, to await the arrival of trains.

Men wanted -- Let us hear no more complaining that men can get nothing to do. Hands are wanted on the railroad in Sebewa. Clark & Sargent are paying \$1.75 per day, cash, and will procure good board at Halliday Hotel for \$3.60 per week. We have enough stout able bodied men in this village who are spending their time lounging around billiard saloons and other equally disreputable places of resort, to supply these contractors with all the help they need.

10 March 1874

The people of the township of Berlin and some parts of Orange, Sebewa and Campbell, who have been in the habit of going to Ionia to sell their produce and do their trading, are every year put to a great inconvenience by being shut off from that place from three to six weeks in each year. This year they have been shut out by high water at least two months.

♥♥ We are indebted to Teresa SWEET for the preceding Observer articles, which she is placing on the MIIONIA-L@rootsweb.com list. Teresa says, "They are from the Robert W. GIERMAN Collection. Bob [transcribed] every article in there before there were copy machines. They go all the way from 1867 - 1914." THANK YOU, to Teresa, Bob, and the Portland Observer! ♥♥

## OLD NAMES FOR OCCUPATIONS

-- compiled by Dan Burrows, [dburrows1@juno.com](mailto:dburrows1@juno.com), who says "I put these 130 items together from many sources and used it as a handout for our local Orange County (NY) Genealogical Society. I was asked by many recipients if the CHART could be forwarded to other lists or used in local newsletters. The answer is yes -- please share this information."

Accomptant : Accountant

Almoner: Giver of charity to the needy

Amanuensis: Secretary or stenographer

Artificer: A soldier mechanic who does repairs

Bailie: Bailiff

Baxter: Baker

Bluestocking: Female writer

Boniface: Keeper of an inn

Brazier: One who works with brass

Brewster: Beer manufacturer

Brightsmith: Metal Worker

Burgonmaster: Mayor

Caulker: One who fills up cracks (in ships or windows or seams to make them watertight by using tar or oakum-hem fiber produced by taking old ropes apart)

Chaisemaker: Carriage maker

Chandler Dealer or trader: One who makes or sells candles; retailer of groceries; ship supplier

Chiffonnier: Wig maker

Clark: Clerk

Clerk: Clergyman, cleric

Clicker: The servant of a salesman who stands at the door to invite customers; one who receives the matter in the galley from the compositors and arranges it in due form ready for printing; one who makes eyelet holes in boots using a machine which clicks.

Cohen: Priest

Collier: Coal miner

Colporteur: Peddler of books

Cooper: One who makes or repairs vessels made of staves & hoops, such as casks, barrels,

tubs, etc.

Cordwainer: Shoemaker, originally any leather worker using leather from Cordova/Cordoba in Spain

Costermonger: Peddler of fruits and vegetables

Crocker: Potter

Crowner: Coroner

Currier : One who dresses the coat of a horse with a currycomb; one who tans leather by incorporating oil or grease

Docker: Stevedore, dock worker who loads and unloads cargo

Dowser: One who finds water using a rod or witching stick

Draper: A dealer in dry goods

Drayman: One who drives a long strong cart without fixed sides for carrying heavy loads

Dresser: A surgeon's assistant in a hospital

Drover: One who drives cattle, sheep, etc., to market; a dealer in cattle

Duffer: Peddler

Factor: Agent, commission merchant; one who acts or transacts business for another; Scottish steward or bailiff of an estate

Farrier: A blacksmith, one who shoes horses

Faulkner: Falconer

Fell monger: One who removes hair or wool from hides in preparation for leather making

Fletcher: One who makes bows and arrows

Fuller: One who fulls cloth; one who shrinks and thickens woolen cloth by moistening, heating, and pressing; one who cleans and finishes cloth

Gaoler: A keeper of the gaol, a jailer

Glazier: Window glassman

Hacker: Maker of hoes

Hatcheler: One who combs out or cards flax

Haymonger: Dealer in hay

Hayward: Keeper of fences

Higgler: Itinerant peddler

Hillier: Roof tiler

Hind: A farm laborer

Holster: A groom who takes care of

horses, often at an inn

Hooker: Reaper

Hooper: One who makes hoops for casks and barrels

Huckster: Sells small wares

Husbandman: A farmer who cultivates the land

Jagger: Fish peddler

Journeyman: One who has served his apprenticeship and mastered his craft, not bound to serve a master, but hired by the day

Joyner / Joiner: A skilled carpenter

Keeler: Bargeman

Kempster: Wool comber

Lardner: Keeper of the cupboard

Lavender: Washer woman

Lederer: Leather maker

Leech: Physician

Longshoreman: Stevedore

Lorner: Maker of horse gear

Malender: Farmer

Maltster: Brewer

Manciple: A steward

Mason: Bricklayer

Mintmaster: One who issues local currency

Monger: Seller of goods (ale, fish)

Muleskinner: Teamster

Neatherder: Herds cows

Ordinary Keeper: Innkeeper with fixed prices

Pattern Maker: A maker of a clog shod with an iron ring. (A clog was a wooden pole with a pattern cut into the end)

Peregrinator: Itinerant wanderer

Peruker: A wig maker

Pettifogger: A shyster lawyer

Pigman: Crockery dealer

Plumber: One who applies sheet lead for roofing and sets lead frames for plain or stained glass windows.

Porter: Door keeper

Puddler: Wrought iron worker

Quarrier: Quarry worker

Rigger: Hoist tackle worker

Ripper: Seller of fish

Roper: Maker of rope or nets

Saddler: One who makes, repairs or sells saddles or other furnishings for horses

Sawbones: Physician

Sawyer: One who saws; carpenter

Schumacker: Shoemaker



Scribler : A minor or worthless author  
 Scrivener: Professional or public copyist or writer; notary public  
 Scrutiner: Election judge  
 Shrieve: Sheriff  
 Slater: Roofer  
 Slopseller: Seller of ready-made clothes in a slop shop  
 Snobscat / Snob: One who repairs shoes  
 Sorter: Tailor  
 Spinster: A woman who spins or an unmarried woman  
 Spurrer: Maker of spurs  
 Squire: Country gentleman; farm owner; justice of peace  
 Stuff gown: Junior barrister  
 Stuff gownsman: Junior barrister  
 Suffercargo: Officer on merchant ship who is in charge of cargo and the commercial concerns of the ship.  
 Tanner: One who tans (cures) animal hides into leather  
 Tapley: One who puts the tap in an ale cask  
 Tasker: Reaper  
 Teamster: One who drives a team for hauling  
 Thatcher: Roofer  
 Tide waiter: Customs inspector  
 Tinker: Itinerant tin pot and pan seller and repairman  
 Tipstaff: Policeman  
 Travers: Toll bridge collector  
 Tucker: Cleaner of cloth goods  
 Turner: A person who turns wood on a lathe into spindles  
 Victualer: A tavern keeper, or one who provides an army, navy, or ship with food  
 Vulcan: Blacksmith  
 Wagoner: Teamster not for hire  
 Wainwright: Wagon maker  
 Waiter: Customs officer or tide waiter; one who waits on the tide to collect duty on goods brought in.  
 Waterman: Boatman who plies for hire  
 Webster: Operator of looms  
 Wharfinger: Owner of a wharf  
 Wheelwright: One who makes or repairs wheels, wheeled carriages, etc.  
 Whitesmith: Tinsmith; worker of iron

who finishes or polishes the work  
 Whitewing: Street sweeper  
 Whitster: Bleacher of cloth  
 Wright: Workman, especially a construction worker  
 Yeoman: Farmer who owns his own land



## LIBRARY NEWS

*From Ionia:*

We received a letter from Heidi Nagel, Library Director of the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library in Ionia this week. Heidi tells us some disturbing news about the *Ionia Sentinel-Standard Newspaper*. She writes: "For many years, the newspaper paid a monthly microfilming service charge of \$35 to a company in the Lansing area called VUCOM, who sent one copy of the film to the paper itself, and sold the Library individual rolls of the microfilmed newspaper for \$30 each. The newspaper doesn't have a microfilm reader and doesn't see the point in paying to have the paper microfilmed if they are unable to utilize the film. They'd like to cancel the subscription."

This would mean that we would no longer have access to the *Ionia Sentinel-Standard* on microfilm...A tragedy to our county and to the future of genealogy research for the area. The annual cost of the microfilming project is \$420. The library has received a commitment from the Ionia Historical Society for \$100 per year, and the library will continue to pay for the individual rolls which amounts to \$180 a year. They are asking for your help. If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, please send checks payable to the Hall-Fowler Memorial Library, attn: Heidi Nagel, 126 East Main Street, Ionia, MI 48846. Please be sure to indicate that the funds are to be used for the microfilming of the *Ionia Sentinel-Standard* so that they do not get put into the general fund. For more information on this, contact Heidi Nagel at (616) 527-6210.

*From the Library of Michigan:*

Randy Riley tells us that we have received Immigrant Savings Bank

### QUICK TIP: HOW TO FIGURE A BIRTHDATE

— Platte Co, MO, Hist./ Gen. Soc.

Remember this number: **8870**

-- when you want to find the birthdate of someone and you only have the date of death and age.

◆ How do you figure the birthdate? Suppose the person died May 6, 1889, at the age of 71 years, 7 months, 9 days.

1. Write the year, month, day as: 18890506

2. Subtract the age at death: 710709

3. This gives the figure: 18179797

4. Now subtract 8870

5. The result is: 18170927

= Year 1817, 9th month (Sept), 27th day or 27 Sept, 1817 ◆

Did you know there are many funeral homes offering online services such as [www.webobit.com](http://www.webobit.com) which allows people to send condolences to the family which has recently lost a loved one? The benefit to us as genealogists is that they also post the obit online. Although this is a new service, not providing those older obits that we are all seeking, it is a tool for the future that many will grow to appreciate.

Another site to check out is [www.funeralnet.com](http://www.funeralnet.com) which offers the same type of service. Both offer the option of browsing or just doing a name search.

Records for 1840-1900 and Native American Census for tribes nationwide (700 microfilm reels) as well as more research tools from Ireland!

He also announced at the Michigan Genealogical Council the following workshops and dates for 2001:

- Feb. 10th - Beginning Research in the Library of Michigan
- April 28th - Passenger Lists
- June 9th - Family Reunions
- August 25th - Ontario
- October 27th - African American Research
- December 1st - Military Records

If you haven't had an opportunity to attend the workshops offered by the Library of Michigan in the past, you will not want to miss out on these. More information will be available in the future or contact the Library directly.

from the  
**Daily Times: Grand Rapids**

*Friday, August 31, 1883, page 2:*

**General State News**

Ionia contributes liberally for the heathen and lets the hogs and horses feed in its public cemetery.

*September 2, 1883, Page 2:*

The Ionia Sentinel says it is feared that the button factory recently burned in that city will not be rebuilt.

Belding desires a dentist.

*Thursday, September 6, 1883:*

Charles FOOTE, of Ionia, died Sunday at the remarkable age of 102 years and seven months. He leaves a widow 90 years old.

*Saturday, September 8, 1883:*  
Portland, Michigan, September 7 - James SAYERS, whose home was two miles west of this village, was found dead in bed this morning. He visited Grand Ledge yesterday, and on returning went to bed as well as usual. The cause of his death is unknown, and an inquest is being held. Mr. Sayers leaves a wife and children.

*Sunday, September 9, 1883:*  
Portland, Michigan, September 8 - A barn full of hay and grain owned by Thomas WHITE, who lives four miles north of this place, was burned last night, and incendiarism is suspected. Loss \$1,500. Insured.

New Railroad Shops  
Ionia, Michigan, September 8, 1883 - The new shops of the Detroit Lansing and Northern R.R. at this place will be completed about October 15, it is thought. These buildings will consist of the repair shop 250x80 ft; machine shop 250x110 ft; boiler shop 47x47; round house 250 ft in diameter with stalls for 20 engines, and store house 100x20 feet. These buildings are all of red brick with slate roofs, except that of the round house which is of composition. Steam heat will be supplied for the buildings.

*Tuesday, September 11, 1883,*

Page 2:

Mrs. Amelia A. ALDERMAN, wife of a farmer living eight miles south of Ionia, has been an inmate of the Pontiac asylum for some months, and being pronounced cured, her husband went after her on Thursday and brought her home. At the Ionia railroad depot she went out on the platform and soon disappeared, and on Friday, her dead body was found in Grand River.

*Wednesday, September 12, 1883:*

Ionia, Michigan - News has been received here that Virgil VON VLECK of this city, has been found dead in the woods near Palo with a bullet in his head. It is believed that the unfortunate man committed suicide while suffering from severe mental depression, being worn by overwork. He was a very busy man, being cashier of the Second National bank; secretary of the Ionia School Board; secretary and treasurer of the gas company and of the button company, and was formerly manager of the telephone exchange. He gave out under the severe strain to which he was subjected, and at the time of his death was making a visit for a rest with his parents at Palo. His accounts are all right, no whisper of suspicion as to his integrity is heard, and he was greatly respected here. He leaves a wife and two children.

--- many thanks for the preceding to Pam Swiler, who transcribed them on a recent trip to the Library of Michigan.

BRIGHT



IDEA!

Another website that may be of interest to you is called [HeadstoneHunter.com](http://HeadstoneHunter.com). This site brings together genealogists with volunteer photographers who are willing to take pictures of headstones. You can also sign up to become a volunteer photographer. The service is free to users. Once you get the results requested, a check-mark is placed by your name and then others know that you have a copy of the photo.

Check it out!

(Source: Genealogical Helper, Nov-Dec 2000, page 40)

## Highlight on First Families No. 6 Daryl C. Jackson



**Daryl Chalmer Jackson** was born in Campbell Twp., Ionia County, MI, and has remained a life-long resident of this area. He has been a farmer on Portland Road in Saranac, Michigan, raising livestock and cash cropping. Daryl and his wife, "Bonnie" (born **Evalyn Ruth Bonn**), just celebrated their 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary on November 28, 2000. Congratulations to both. Together they raised two children, **Darlene** and **Christopher**.

Besides being a farmer all of his life, Daryl worked for 30 years at General Motors Corp. He is now retired from G.M. but continues to farm with his son, Christopher. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting and entertaining his six grandchildren.

Daryl is the son of **Carl Edmond Jackson** and **Amber Cleo Landon**. Carl Jackson was born in Campbell Township on November 8, 1911. He was the son of **Augustus Whitney Jackson** and **Lizzie Ann Kauffman**. In August of 1936 he married **Amber Cleo Landon** in Ionia County. They had

three children: **Daryl**, **Yvonne**, and **Harold**. **Amber** died in July of 1968. **Carl** is still living and resides in Lake Odessa, Ionia County, Michigan.

**Augustus Whitney Jackson** was born in Campbell Twp., Ionia Co., MI on August 14, 1884. He was the son of **Samuel Whitney Jackson** and **Julia Schindle**. On September 19, 1907 he was united in marriage to **Lizzie Ann Kaufman**. Fourteen children were born from this union. They were: **Lester**, **Homer**, **Carl**, **Rita**, **Harold**, **Catherine**, **Bertha**, **Grace**, **Janet**, **Esta**, **Esther**, **Marie**, **Adeline** and **Madeline**.

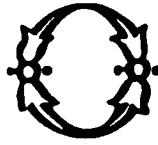
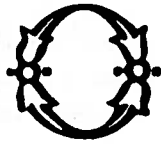
Augustus was a farmer and he died on December 20, 1942, at the age of 58 years old in Ionia County from Coronary Thrombosis. He is buried in the Clarksville Cemetery, in Clarksville, MI. It is believed that his heart attack was caused by him hearing the news that day that his son, Corp. **Harold Jackson**, was missing in action in the southwest Pacific area. He had been missing since November 21<sup>st</sup> of that year.

**Samuel Whitney Jackson** was born at Augusta, Grenville Co., Canada on December 13, 1846. He was the son of **George Jackson** and **Jane Whitney**. Around 1871 he came to Michigan and settled in Berlin Twp., Ionia County. Shortly afterwards he moved to Campbell Twp., where he met and married **Julia Shindle** on December 25, 1878.

There were ten children born from this marriage and their names were: **Hester**, **Joe**, **George**, **Augustus**, **Sarah**, **Ben**, **Mary**, **Florence**, **Loretta** and **Samuel A**.

**Samuel Whitney Jackson** died at his home in Campbell Twp. on December 4, 1928, at the age of 81 years. Cause of death was lobar pneumonia.

Space does not allow for us to continue on this line, but if you are interested, you may contact the ICGS for more information. Thank you, Daryl and Bonnie!



**GEORGE W. HINES and SARAH CRAMER**  
(ODESSA TWP., IONIA CTY., MI)

George W. HINES was b. in Ohio or Indiana ca. 1843 (cen). He was the son of Daniel HINES (b. OH) and Catherine MISAUGU (sp?) (b. PA) (dc). George served in Co. E., 10th Cavalry in the Civil War. (MSS, 40-78) He was a farmer and laborer on the railroad. (cen., 1872 cd) Occasionally George W.'s name is spelled HINDS.

George married Sarah CRAMER<sup>1</sup> b. Oct. 1843 (1900 cen.), the dau. of John CRAMER (b IN?) (dc). George d. 2/7/1925 of an ulcer in Ionia (dc). Sarah d. 6/17/1910 (cem). Both are buried in Lakeview Cem. in Odessa (cem).

Their children were:

1. Perry F. b. Nov. 1869 IN (1890 cen.) He married Mary (TILLSON)<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 1871 (1900 cen.) dau. of Almenah (sp?) TILLSON (mother b. OH in Aug., 1851) (1900 cen.). Perry d. 8/31/1934 in Gladwin (cen). Perry buried in Lakeview Cem. (cem).

Their children were:

Gail H. b. Dec. 1885 (1900 cen)  
Edith b. Oct. 1897 (1900 cen)  
Grace b. Oct. 1898 (1900 cen)  
Gall C. served in WWI (records of servicemen in Michigan State Archives)

2. Mahlon E. b 2/17/1874 in Eaton Cty., MI (IGI), d. 7/24/42 of tuberculosis in Lake Odessa. He was a salesman (dc). He was married at the time of his death (dc)

In the 1900 census, Perry and his family, and George W, Sarah and Mahlon, were living in Lake Odessa. Mahlon was unmarried and living with his parents at this time.

notes:

<sup>1</sup> Sarah's father, John Cramer, and niece, Ida Cramer, were living with the George W. Hines family in Eaton Cty. in the 1880 census.

<sup>2</sup> Surname inferred from mother's name in 1900 census.

**WILLIAM S HINDS and CAROLINE RUSSELL**  
(ORANGE TWP., IONIA CTY., MI)

William S. HINDS was b. ca. 1825 in England (1870 cen). He was a farmer in Orange Twp. (dc). He married Caroline RUSSELL, dau. of Stephen RUSSELL and Mary STANDISH (both of England) (dc). They first appeared in Ionia in the 1870 census. William d. 4/1883 in Orange Twp. Caroline d. of burns on 7/31/1920 at age 89. They are buried in Balcom Cemetery (cem).

Their children were:

1. John Orlando b. ca. 1853 in Canada (1870 cen). He married Ella E. BATES on 2/21/1883 (mr). Ella was b. ca. 1861 in MI (daughter's bc). John d. 1941 (cem) and Ella d. 5/29/1930 (cem.) They are buried in Balcom Cemetery (cem).

Their children were:

Clarissa Caroline b. 9/25/1884 or 1885<sup>1</sup> She married C.B. Smith WELLINGTON in 1905 (mr)

Roy N. b. ca. 1891. Married Sarah L. PAYNE on 9/19/1917 Ionia (mr). Roy d. 2/19/1962 (cem) and Sarah d. 10/13/70 (cem). They are buried in Balcom.

2. Elizabeth A. b. ca. 1854 in Canada (1870 cen). She married Martin POST in Ionia on 8/20/2876 (mr).
3. William E. b. ca. 1856 in Canada (1870 cen). He married Mary MILNER in Ionia (mr). William d. 4/15/1924 (cem). Mary d. 1940 (cem) Both buried in Balcom.
4. Stephen R. b. ca. 1859 in MI (1870 cen). He married Sarah Eugenia WRIGHT who was b. ca. 1853 in Canada (dc). Stephen d. 3/12/1906 of gastritis in Orange (dc). Sarah d. 5/10/1886 of consumption (dc). Buried in Balcom.<sup>2</sup>

Their children were:

Harold b. 10/22/1884 (br), d. 12/3/1902 of pneumonia (dc). Buried Balcom

Lina Belle b. ca. 1883, never married. d. of peritonitis on 6/15/1925 (dc). Buried Balcom.

5. **Caroline** b. ca. 1864 in MI (1870 cen). She married Clarence J. **WOLVERTON** (mr).
6. **Albert H.** b. ca. 1871 in Ionia (bc). d. 6/30/1959 (cem). Buried Balcom.

*Notes:*

<sup>1</sup>Two birth certificates are filed in Ionia exactly one year apart.

<sup>2</sup>A Mary B. Hinds is buried at Balcom with the rest of the members of this family. She was the dau. of Gottlieb **SEYBOLD** and Mary **MUSBACK** (both of Germany). She was b. ca. 1858 in Berry Co. and d. 3/20/1941 of old age (dc). She is likely the second wife of Stephen R., whose first wife died in 1886 at age of 33.

Many thanks to Patricia **BRAVENDER** for these latest in her series of **HINES/HINDS** family articles. Pat can be reached at [brav@iserv.net](mailto:brav@iserv.net).



## SCHOOL DAYS

— In the photo at the bottom of this page is the freshman class of 1913. Saranac High School.

The names of the students, as remembered by one of their number, Dorothea **YOUNGS RICHMOND**, follow:

*Back row, left to right:*

Fred **CAHOON**  
 Dewey **CONNER**  
 Herbert **CONNER**  
 Dewey **CAHOON**  
 Wilbur **BROOKS**  
 Arthur **CAHOON**  
 Donald **GAFFNEY**  
 Dwight **KELLY**

*[third row, cont'd.]*

Helen **POOLE**  
 Thelma **HASKINS**  
 Blanche **MERRITT**  
 Viva **STERN**  
 Gertrude **LOCKER**  
 Amanda **MARKER**

*Third row, left to right:*

Hazel **BOWEN**  
 Frances **YOUNGS**

*Second row, l to r:*

Edna **HARWOOD**  
 Eva \_\_\_\_\_  
 Velma \_\_\_\_\_  
*[cont'd. next page]*

### FRESHMAN CLASS

### SARANAC HIGH SCHOOL

DEC. 1, 1913





[Saranac 1913, second row,  
cont'd.]

Escellie HENRY  
Frances DENNIS  
Frances HOXIE  
Dorothea YOUNGS  
Leah AYERS

Front row, left to right:

Henry HANTER  
Forrest GREENE  
Stanley AYERS  
Paul COURTER

As you can see, two of the young ladies' surnames are missing, as is the name of one of the young men in the front row. If you can identify these people, make corrections, or want copies of this picture, contact Dottie SIMMONS PIECHOCKI at <gpiechocki@msn.com> or call 616-531-2885.

Christine Horn, writing to the Ontario County [NY] Finger Lakes List, says: "At the Family History Center at the LDS Church where I am the director, we get mail sometimes that brings a smile and often a chuckle. Thought I would share it with all of you."

- To the FHC, enclosed, please find my grandmother. I have worked on her for 50 years without success. Now see what you can do.
- I've looked for grandpa for over 20 years. Do you have him in your library?
- I am sorry we do not have complete families. The trouble here is extracting the children from the minister.
- Our grandfather was found dead, crossing the plains in the library.
- For Sale: We have an antique desk just right for genealogy work and a lady, with thick legs, and large drawers.



You never know what you might find lying around an old antique shop...

Pam Swiler is collecting yearbooks from Ionia County Schools and found four of them at the Lake Odessa Antique Mall of St. Patrick School from Portland, Michigan. Pam says, "What a surprise to see our very own Lori PIERCEFIELD FOX (Society Secretary) as one of the teaching staff there! Lori was Sophomore Class Advisor as well as the teacher for Shorthand and Typing I and II. The yearbook tells us that it was her first year teaching at St. Pat's and that she has a B.A. from Michigan State University. Her interests and hobbies were sewing, crocheting and "refunding"??? I am sure there is a story behind that one!



LORI FOX 1981

I apologize that the photo didn't scan as well as I would have liked, but hats off to Lori Fox anyway!"

### OUR SYMPATHY

is extended to Richard Heaven and his family who recently lost two cousins, Herbert J. and Ruby Heaven, both of Clarksville.

The Society has a wonderful collection of postcards that are now available to all our members. They are beautiful photographs taken throughout the county by Joe McCord and then placed in postcard format with the name of the location embossed on each one. If you are interested in the collection, they are \$1 each and include places such as the Lake Odessa Depot Museum, The Lighthouse in Lake Odessa, The Courthouse in Ionia, the Webber House in Lyons, The Hall-Fowler Library in Ionia; the welcome sign in Portland, Saranac, just to name a few. A complete list of what is available will be included in our next newsletter with a few sample photos so that you can see just how nice they are. If you can't wait, contact us and we will let you know what is available!

### WHERE DOES OUR MONEY GO?

The Lake Odessa Area Historical Society is trying to raise funds to re-build the old freight house that used to be by the depot in Lake Odessa. It would be located directly behind the Depot Museum and would include space enough for us to have our library and meetings there. The ICGS board and membership voted at our November meeting to support this effort by donating one dollar of our membership dues to this cause. It is a small drop in the bucket, but we want to show our support in this worthwhile effort.

☺ A family tree can wither if nobody tends its roots!



**Ionia County Genealogical Society**  
13051 Ainsworth Road – Route 3  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

PRST STD  
U.S.POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 8  
LAKE ODESSA, MI

TO:

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!  
MEMBERSHIP DUES  
ARE NOW DUE!**

**Check your mailing label.**

**If it does not say 2001, you have not paid your dues for this year.**

.....  
Those interested in becoming a member of the I.C.G.S. should complete the form below and send it with  
\$15.00 annual membership fee made payable to *Ionia County Genealogical Society*. Send to: I.C.G.S.;  
13051 Ainsworth Road, Route 3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9406.  
.....

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List surnames you are researching: \_\_\_\_\_

Which committees are you interested in helping out with? \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: All information may be published in upcoming newsletters or placed on the internet GenWeb Project unless you indicate in writing otherwise.**

