

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 2

April - June 2001

Spring is just around the corner for those of you who happen to have the misfortune of living in one of the colder climates. I happen to be one of those people, so I am counting the days until we can get back out into those cemeteries and get working on those other projects we have going.

Speaking of projects....one that has been put on the back burner for a while is the Funeral Homes Project. We have the records from three of the Belding area funeral homes, but that is as far as we have gone so far. Thank you to Marjorie GIBSON for her efforts in the ones we do have completed. We still have many more to go! If you live in or near (just checking to see if you are paying attention) any one of the Ionia County area funeral homes, contact the funeral director and see if we can copy their records. Usually when there is a funeral, a form is completed and filed that contains all kinds of genealogical information in it. If we could get copies of that information from each funeral home, what a valuable resource we would have! The information gathered is usually what is used by the funeral director to do an obituary. That is the information we are interested in, too! If you are interested in working on one of these projects, let me know what funeral home you are interested in and the dates of records that are available, so that I know who is working on each

funeral home. The information will be kept in our library for use by researchers. We, of course, would like the names indexed for quick and easy reference.

We also have a tax assessment committee that needs attention. We started off with a bang and then came to a dead stop. What happened? The records are still out there, aren't they? Contact Lori FOX at lfox@mvcc.com to tell her what you are willing to help with. We have 4 or 5 booklets ready for publication now for Odessa Twp., but there are 15 other townships out there that need doing. If you don't have time to do the actual transcription, but would like to help, contact the township supervisors and find out where those tax records are for each township and send that information to Lori. We need to know where they are and what years are there.

Those of you who are working on the Lakeside cemetery committee - I received the records from the Odessa Township clerk on disk and will have them available to those of you who did transcriptions. All you need to do is cross-check the sections you did and send your completed files to Marilyn STEWARD. We plan to have this go to print soon! Sebewa Township is almost done, too. Thanks to all of you who have been so dedicated to this project.

Some of you ask what it is you can do - especially those of you who don't live in the area. How can you help?

There are lots of ways to contribute to our goals as a society. The first being, to share what you have. Do you have obituaries of folks in Ionia County? Send us a copy of them. Do you have a box of funeral cards that you don't know what to do with? Send them to us. Do you have old class photos of students from Ionia Schools? Scan them and send the images to us! We will use them in future newsletters! If you have the names of those students, include that information with the photo. We have a wonderful website that is constantly looking for updated information. Submit your obits to the Obituary Site. Scan your old photos and add them to our Ionia County Photographs section.

Many of you have never sent us your 4 generation charts and surname cards - remember being asked for them??? Hmmm??? I thought so! If you don't know what I am talking about, contact us and we will remind you! These are all valuable tools that can be used for research.

I want to thank all of you for your support. Just keep doing what you are doing and we will continue to grow and learn. Best wishes!

~ Pam Swiler, President

~ Only a genealogist regards a step backw rds as progress. ~

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Cheryl A. JORDAN
311 E. Main St.
Blanchester, OH 45107
(937) 783-4765
E-mail: cjordan@erinet.com
Researching: SARLOUIS, SIRLOUIS, NEIDERAUER, EMGE, WAGNER, FULTON
- Cleo M. DOWNING
PIERCEFIELD
3122 Knoll Road
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(517) 647-6613
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Researching: ESTEP, DOWNING, SINDLINGER
- Kristine WICKERINK
514 N. State
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-2924
E-mail: kristy@home.ionia.com
Researching: KILDUFF, CARROLL, HOGAN
- Marlene (Faye) STEPHAN
1594 Marquette Road
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-3277
Researching: FAHRNI, RICHARDSON

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

- Patricia CURRIGAN
<patc1932@yahoo.com>
- Jean MILLS
New area code (810)
<jeanmills@bignet.net>
- M. Augusta SMITH
Contact her at her daughter's
E-mail address:
<hasmith@quest.net>
- Alan GOODEMOOT
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- Gayle CARSON
Address correction:
2118 NW 21st St
Oklahoma City, OK 73107-3516
<gaycard@home.com>
- Fawn DePUY
<depuyf@hotmail.com>

- Clark TINNEY
<kitcat@earthlink.com>
- Eleanor WILLIAMS
<colin@iserv.net>
- Marjorie GIBSON
<mgibson@pathwaynet.com>
- Diane WARNEKE
<warneke@hoptown.net>



Congratulations to Beth WILLS and family on their first grandbaby, Hannah Clare, who was born on Saturday night, March 10, 2001. Best wishes to the new parents and grandparents.

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2001 by Richard W. EASTMAN. It is re-published here with the permission of the author:

Colorado Springs Seeks Missing Owners of Unclaimed Burial Spaces

The city of Colorado Springs, Colorado, is seeking the descendants of Mrs. S.Y.C. HULL, Thos. NULAN, Mary GREENE, Cora V. LaRUE and about one hundred other former Colorado Springs residents. It seems these residents all purchased burial plots more than 100 years ago, and never used them. In some cases, family members were buried, but adjacent plots owned by the same family were left unused.

Most of the cemetery plots in the Evergreen Cemetery were purchased for \$5 or \$6. Similar plots are sold today for \$800 to \$1,000 each, depending upon location.

The city of Colorado Springs is trying to find the heirs who own these plots. If no one claims them by May 9, 2001, ownership will revert back to the city. If you have ancestry in Colorado Springs, you might want to read the full story in the Colorado Springs Gazette, available online at:

<http://www.gazette.com/archive/01-01-15/daily/loc1.html>

A FAMILY'S PRIDE

The roots are deep, the branches wide,
The Tree of Life, a family's pride.

As descendants we are, so ancestors we shall be;
Generations of heritage create our family tree.

Happiness and sadness, for hundreds of years;
A family is togetherness, for laughter and for tears.

So gather up the pictures and record the family lore,
So that all that follow after shall know the family before.

~ Margaret SEMPLE



Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Eldon JACKSON who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on January 18, 2001. They lived on their farm on Bippley Road in Lake Odessa until they moved to Sunfield, MI, in 1978. They have four children, Mike and Susan Jackson of Mexico, Sue and Chris VanEE and Shelly and Ron SCHELTER of Cumming, Georgia, and Sallie and Greg STAMBAUGH of Nashville, MI. They have sixteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

CITING SUCCESS: CYNDI'S LIST YEAR IN REVIEW

Cyndi's List, the online genealogy phenomenon, is fast approaching its fifth anniversary! In addition to

appearing in 10 episodes of the "Ancestors II" PBS television series, serving on the NGS Board of Directors, and conducting numerous seminars, Cyndi HOWELLS has been busy maintaining her site as a premiere genealogy resource! Here are a few highlights from Cyndi's List:

- * 84,950 total links on Cyndi's List (67% increase!)
- * 26,000 new links added
- * 15,000 existing links updated
- * 4,000 submitted links processed
- * 2,000 broken links deleted, following extensive salvage efforts
- * 28 categories added for a total of 148
- * 2 more search engines for exploring the site: FreeFind and Google
- * "People Magazine," "The New York Times" and "USA Today" featured Cyndi's List

Congratulations on your accomplishments in 2000, Cyndi! You can find Cyndi's list at the following site:

<http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Source:
GENERATIONS HERITAGE QUEST
NEWSLETTER
January 8, 2001

MORE TIPS FOR ONLINE SUCCESS!

Our good friend Shirley HODGES reminds us that we can download all sorts of useful research forms, such as all the Federal Census years, family group sheets, four generation charts, cemetery logs, blank soundex cards, Canadian and Irish Census forms, and much more from the following website:
<http://www.ancestrycorner.com/forms.htm>

◆◆◆

Also, from Shirley -- another great website to check out:

~ www.ancientfaces.com ~

Here you are able to post family photos, unidentified photos, recipes, stories, special events, etc.

◆◆◆

Are you seeking Swiss ancestors? Joan McCORD shares this research possibility: Therese METZGER, living in Switzerland, is willing to do research and photocopying, *on site*, for a fee. Her terms are \$25 for one hour's work at the library in Bern and an initial extra \$10 for travel expenses to Bern. Photocopies, postage, etc., are additional. If considering this option, please contact Therese directly at metz.thw@bluewin.ch for specific inquiries and costs. [Your editors in no way endorse or recommend this researcher; we merely pass along the information to be used at your own discretion.]

From THE PORTLAND
OBSERVER, 9 October 1901

WAS KILLED BY THE HOGS

One of the most horrible accidents which has been our duty to chronicle occurred a Sebewa last Wednesday and the most distressing feature about it is that the accident resulted fatally. About noon Mrs. Ansel GREEN [aka Hannah Elizabeth "BOYER" Green] living 1 1/2 miles west of Sebewa Corners, desiring eggs enough to fill out a crate to take to town, went to a straw stack in the barnyard to see if she could find the necessary number. In the yard was a sow and pigs and some shoats weighing perhaps 125# or 140#, the sow being a large hog, probably weighing 250#.

Mrs. Green had scarcely got into

the yard when she was attacked by the whole bunch and thrown to the ground. The clothing about the lower portion of her body was torn from her and her legs horribly mutilated. Her left arm and hand were laterally chewed to a pulp and the under part of her right arm between the elbow and the shoulder was torn into shreds. The right side of her face and neck were also horribly mangled and her breasts showed where the hogs had put their teeth upon her when they were tearing her to pieces.

How the hogs came to attack her will never be known for she did not regain consciousness sufficiently to tell the story. Neither will it be known how she managed to escape from the beasts for the same reason but she had strength and presence of mind enough to get to the fence and drag herself over it before her son, attracted by the unusual noise of the herd, found her and conveyed her to the house in an unconscious condition.

Dr. MORSE of Sebewa was first summoned and he, with the assistance of neighbors, bound up the torn and lacerated body as best he could and Dr. PEACOCK of Sunfield was sent for. As soon as he arrived, the wounds were properly dressed and the sufferer made as comfortable as possible but the flesh and muscles were so torn and mangled and the bones so crunched and broken that nothing like satisfactory surgery could be performed. She lay in a semi-unconscious condition until Saturday morning about 9 o'clock when she was relieved from her awful suffering by death and it must have been a welcome visitor to herself and family. Dr. Morse said that, had she lived, she must have suffered amputation of the left arm and she would have been crippled for life in arms and legs

and her face would have been disfigured horribly. Just before she died, she recovered consciousness sufficiently to converse a little with those about her. When asked how she managed to get away from the hog she said she first gave up and thought she surely must be eaten up alive and then she prayed to God to give her strength to get away from them and she seemed to have it, to be lifted up from the ground and carried to and over the fence. Mrs. Green was 53 years of age and a sister of Mrs. W. H. DARKEN [aka Margaret Eliza "BOYER" Darken] of this village. Her maiden name was Boyer and she formerly resided near Hoytville. Besides a husband, she leaves four children three sons and a daughter, the latter a student in the Portland schools.

She was a most estimable lady, well loved by all her neighbors and acquaintances. Funeral services over her remains were conducted Monday afternoon. While on the way to the bedside of Mrs. Green, her sister, Mrs. Benjamin PROBASCO [aka Mary Jane "Boyer" Probasco], was thrown from the Buggy by the horse going into the ditch and she was quite severely injured, she having had one rib broken and being otherwise quite badly injured.

*Note: shoat also shote (shot)
noun: A young pig just after weaning.*

Thank you to Sue THOMPSON & Robin Lee BOYER, who found this article in Letha Marie PHELPS' files while doing research in Lansing at Dave & Audrey COOPER's home, niece of Letha Marie Phelps.

CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathy to member Lori Fox on the passing of her uncle Bruce DOWNING in Ionia on Feb. 23, 2001. His funeral was held in Sunfield, MI.

?? QUERIES ??

Mr. George P. KOCH writes that he would appreciate any help locating the records of the former Evangelical Lutheran Church on West Washington Street [Lake Odessa?]. Contact him at 804-288-8195 or write to 1706 Ranch Drive, Richmond, VA 23229.

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Elizabeth CONNELLY writes, "I am searching for information concerning my great-great grandmother, Rosetta CASE FISH who was born in Canada and died in Ionia County 8 April 1863. She is buried in Saranac Cemetery. Her husband, Samuel FISH apparently died in New York in the 1840's and Rosetta and her daughters, Catherine Laura and Sally, came to Ionia County. Catherine married John Adams ELLSWORTH and eventually moved to Minnesota. According to affidavits in the Pension application of John Ellsworth, Rosetta was also related to Harriet ANDREW, the wife of John W. CRANE of Lake Odessa, and to Ephraim Henry CASE and his wife, Louisa ELLIOTT, who were married in Saranac 27 May 1855.

Thank you."
Beth Connelly
7935 Greylock Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45243
ecconnelly@prodigy.net

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From Rose HIGGINS comes this note: "I am researching my

ancestor, William B. VANSICLEN, who lived in Odessa, Ionia County, after 1865 until 1879 when he died. I obtained his death record, which held no new information other than his date of death of 15 August 1879. No place of birth other than New York. I was wondering if you might know who to contact there in Lake Odessa, concerning him and his family. He was married to Elizabeth DOTY Nov. 1865, in Gratiot County MI. She was married previously to a Wm. DOUGHTY, but have not confirmed that information. Any advice you could give would be greatly appreciated. Thank you."

Rose's email is [<jr@cei.net>](mailto:jr@cei.net)

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The following is condensed from a letter by Connie DANIELS QUANZ: "My g-g-g-grandfather, Tillison DANIELS (178/9 - 1849) lived in Bennington, Pownal, Manchester, & Arlington, VT, also in Rensselaer, Wyoming Co., Cayuga, & Bath, NY. He & his wife Mary WEAVER (1787 - 1848) had 11 children: Oren; Anders (Andrus) 1812 - 1894; Norman; George T.; Jobe; Yuba; Asa; Diana (Dana); Kendrick; Walter (William?). Oren (1809 - 1875) & wife Susan RODES had 10 children. Their son William Harrison Daniels (1840 - 1882) married Eliza SITTERLEY and had 4 sons: Addison; Byron; Herbert; & my grandfather Elmer (1875 - 1938). Addison went to Rochester, NY; I have no info about him. Herbert married but had no children. Byron (1870 - 1926) married 3 times and had 6 children, 4 of whom are still living.

I never knew my grandfather Elmer, as his marriage to my 19-year old grandmother

♥ Genealogists are time travelers! ♥

Gertrude was annulled by her guardians. He died in 1938 & is buried beside his ex-wife in NY.

I have located cousins in Ann Arbor & Grand Rapids, MI. The family in G.R. descends from Andrus Daniels, who had 5 children: Eunice; Winifred; Tillison; Oren; & Ray.

I would like to correspond with anyone willing to share their Daniels family info. I will give you all I have to share.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Constance Quanz
2453 County Road 90
Wayland, NY 14572-9503"

???

Says Margaret ROSENBROOK, "I am searching for information on my family. I have discovered, much to my surprise, that they were from Ionia. I am trying to trace a hotel owned by my g-grandfather in the mid to late 1800's. The 1870 census lists John TOMPKINS as a hotel keeper and my g-grandfather, William H WARFIELD as a hotel clerk. I am wondering if you would have any information about what building that might have been and if it is one of the historical buildings listed with the society.

Can you help me? I would really appreciate it very much.

Margaret Rosenbrook
<rosenbrookm@state.mi.us>

???

"Walking, I am listening to a deeper way.

Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me.

Be still, they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands."

--Linda HOGAN, Native American Writer

Who's This?



Don't recognize her? Well, this is Evalyn Ruth BONN, class of 1955 – Ionia High School. The yearbook, *The Ionic*, says "Some think the world was made for fun and frolic. So do I." She was involved in the Glee Club, the G.A.A., Dramatics, Pen Pal, and the Commercial Cub. All of that prepared her for her current position with Ionia County Genealogical Society. . . . still don't know who she is? She is known to all of you as Bonnie JACKSON – our Correspondence Secretary, wife of First Family Member, Daryl Jackson!

OUR SYMPATHY

is extended to the family of Wayne and Pam SWILER whose father, Harold Kassner Swiler, passed away on Monday, Jan. 22, 2001, at his home in Lake Odessa. Our prayers are with them.

"Being defeated is only a temporary condition; giving up is what makes it permanent."

~ Marilyn Vos Savant



Library of Michigan Update

The 2001 Abrams Foundations Series schedule is, as follows:

Apr. 28 – Passenger Lists
Jun. 9 – Family Reunions
Aug. 25 – Ontario Records
Oct. 27 – African American Research Resources
Dec 1 – Military Records

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New purchases include:

- 23 reels of African American Slave Records
- 230 reels of MI, IL, OH Non-Population Schedules
- 2500 fiche of Civil War Battles and Campaigns
- 700 reels of Compiled Civil War Service Records for IL, IN, NY, OH, PA & the Colored Troops
- 628 reels Military Records covering part of the Revolutionary War, some of the War of 1812, & some of the Mexican-American War & Indian War
- 1300 reels of Passenger lists, not just the Index
- 1000 fiche cards with passenger list information
- 6000 fiche from the US Indian Claims Commission
- 581 reels of Southern Women & their families in the 19th Century – papers & diaries

+++

Construction and changes that might disrupt use of the Genealogy floor, within the next year are:

- New microfilm cabinets will be installed, probably starting in the newspaper room
- Microfiche will probably be moved to another area
- An ergonomic desk area and patron work areas have been planned for the 2nd floor

Patrons will be notified via the Library's website and through news releases of the closings.

~ by Randy RILEY, taken from the Minutes of the Michigan Genealogical Council Delegates' Meeting, held at the Library of Michigan on Jan. 11, 2001



MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL 2001 SEMINAR

Farmington Genealogical Society
Oakland County Genealogical Society
Western Wayne County Genealogical Society

Inkwells to the Internet
*A Genealogical Conference
Of the Old Northwest Territory*
October 18 - 20, 2001

The Michigan Genealogical Council will host a three-day seminar at the Northfield Hilton Hotel in Troy, MI. The conference features over 40 sessions in *ethnic/locality, historical, methodology* and *computers research*. There will be many vendors who will display a variety of genealogical supplies.

Thursday, three two-hour pre-conference workshops will be available. Friday night at the banquet, Dr. John Phillip COLLETTA will be the featured speaker. Sixteen notable genealogical speakers will be featured in 40 sessions held on Friday and Saturday.

Visit the web site at <http://www.rootsworld.com/~mimgc> or write to
2001 Seminar
24462 Broadview
Farmington Hills, MI 48336-1810

Registration forms will be available May 1, 2001.

We are deeply saddened by the death of Myron H. **GOODEMOOT**, recent First Families member. "Mike", 79, of Lake Odessa, passed away Tues., March 6, 2001. The funeral services were held at Friday, March 9, at the Koops Funeral Chapel. Burial will be in Lakeside Cemetery. Our sincere sympathies go out to his family and friends.

SARANAC FRESHMAN CLASS, 1913: *update!*

You may remember in our last issue, we shared a portrait of the freshman class of Saranac High School, 1913. The students' names had been pencilled on the back by Dorotha **YOUNGS**, one of the pupils. However, she didn't recall the surnames of two of the girls and forgot one of the boys altogether.

It pays to publish!

We received letters from two of our members offering corrections and additions! Sharon **KISELA** writes, "Was showing my mother [Melissa **THORPE YOUNGS**] the Newsletter and the school photo which contained Frances and Dorotha Youngs; she recognized Eva as Frances' best friend (who later, incidentally, married into another of our family's branch on my mother's side--the **BRANSON'S**). Velma was Eva's sister and their maiden family name was **HAYES**."

Member Marilyn **CAHOON** offered these comments: "We have that same picture in our possession, but not all were identified either. You provided some of the names that were missing. However, we had the middle boy in the first row identified as Harold **JONES** and the first boy's last name as **HAUTER**. . . . There are three **CAHOONS** in the picture and they are all cousins. Arthur Cahoon in the back row is my husband's uncle. He owned the Cahoon Motel on M-21 west of Ionia.

Dewey Cahoon lived in Saranac and owned and operated a car body shop there. Tragically, Fred Cahoon died at age 19."

[Upon closer examination of Grandma's handwriting, your editor agrees with you, Marilyn! We misread Hauter as Hanter, and your ID of the middle boy as Harold Jones has convinced us that the correct order is Henry **HAUTER**; Forrest **GREENE**; Harold **JONES**; Stanley **AYERS**; & Paul **COURTER**]

Thank you, ladies, for your sharp eyes and ready research skills!!



CONDOLENCES

We offer our sympathy to First Families Member Rick **AINSWORTH** and family on the passing of his father, Arlon Warren Ainsworth, on January 17, 2001. Mr. Ainsworth is survived by three children, seven grand-children, & four great-grand-children.

from "*The Bates Bulletin*"
Series IV, Volume V
October 1926, Number 1, p 163

"SHE SLAPPED THE PREACHER"

"Considerable newspaper publicity has been given to the case of Martha **BATES**, of Whitesburg, Ky., who, according to reports, when her pastor declared that no virtuous woman would bob her hair, promptly marched down the aisle and slapped his face. For this she was sentenced to forty days in jail, but seventeen days later the pardon commissioner, a bobbed haired woman, recommended her pardon, which the governor granted. The sympathy of the editor is with Martha."

JANUARY SPEAKER

by Jim Moses

January was our month of talking about our experiences, so the speaker for the month was not just one person, but several of our members. Our speakers told stories of how they became interested in genealogy, their personal stories of great finds, or ideas for finding that elusive piece of information that you just have to have to make the connection between ancestors. These stories were enjoyed by all.

Special thanks go out to Teresa, Dottie, Sue, Leora, Pam, Ford and Bonnie for standing up and sharing with the rest of us.

I was in the Philippines gathering information on several hundred of my wife's relatives, so I was not able to be at the meeting. I hope I didn't miss any names of those who volunteered to talk. If I did, please let me know.

100 years ago:

The average life expectancy in the United States was forty-seven.

Only 14 percent of the homes in the United States had a bathtub.

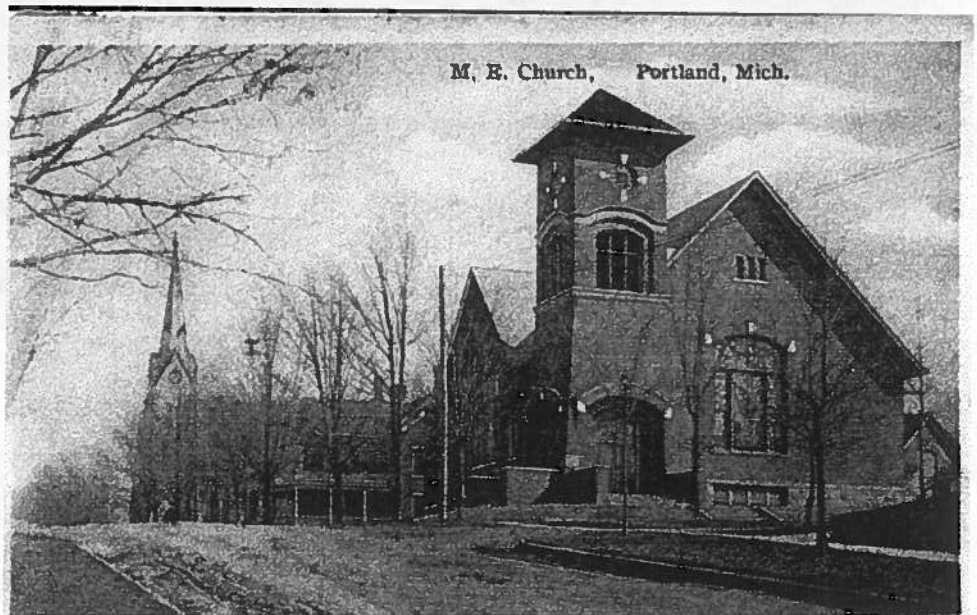
Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone. A three minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.

There were only 8,000 cars in the US and only 144 miles of paved roads.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was ten mph.

Coca-Cola contained cocaine instead of caffeine.

from <GenHumor-L@rootsweb.com>
~ Thanks, Leora, for sharing these!



Scenes of Life in Portland, Early 1900's

Pam Swiler shares these postcards with the following comments: "My husband's Aunt Marilyn **COMPTON** let me borrow some old postcards that she has been saving for years. They were from her mother's and grandmother's collection of notes from other relatives throughout the years. I thought they might be of interest to some of our members. The first card is postmarked 1909 and looks like it might be Kent Street, but I'm not sure. [anyone know?] The second postcard is dated 1908." ~ Thank you, Pam!

Have you visited our Ionia County websites? No?! You will be amazed and inspired! Check out each of them at
<<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mi/county/ionia/index.htm>> &
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/icgshome.htm>>

FEBRUARY SPEAKER

by Jim Moses

Robert **TORP-SMITH**, a long-time resident of Portland, who was a surveyor in the 1950s, was our guest speaker for February. His subject was one of particular interest to him, because he talked about Lucius **LYON**, who was an early surveyor in Michigan (and other places).

Bob started with a short history of the formation of Michigan and the other states that came out of the Northwest Territory. He told us about the beginning of the township and range system of surveying. The original states of the new United States of America had given land to the federal government rather than keep their claims to all land east of the Mississippi River, and it was decided that these lands needed to be surveyed before being opened up to settlement. The system used in most of the colonies would be difficult to use in such a vast area, so Thomas **JEFFERSON** was put in charge of a committee to come up with a different way of surveying. The result, after some modifications, was the present township and range system.

Mr. Torp-Smith explained some of the problems of surveying with primitive equipment in a totally wooded environment and some of the extraordinary tasks that these men completed. He also gave us a biography of Lucius Lyon, who named the town of Lyons after himself. Lyon had learned surveying in 1818 and by 1822 was in Detroit to survey portions of Michigan. He did many important things, including establishing the northern border of Illinois. He also became a delegate to the Territorial Congress, where he helped draft the original Constitution of Michigan. Later he was one of the first senators from Michigan. He

died in 1851, at the age of 51, after a short illness. He never married and was considered to be quite good at his callings. He had been named Surveyor General in 1845.

Robert also brought along some equipment which he had used during his time of being a surveyor, as well as one of the 'chains' that had been used by early workers. He taught us quite a bit about the early history of our state. (By the way, Lucius Lyon, even though he owned land in several states, lived several years in Michigan, even having a home in Lyons for a short time).

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birthplace.

What occurs more often in December than in any other month? -- Conception.

There are more collect phone calls on Father's Day than on any other day of the year.

~ from "Cool Facts to Dazzle Your Coworkers"

I SAW A DUCK!

I saw a duck the other day.
It had the feet of my Aunt Faye.
Then it walked, was heading south.
It walked just like my uncle Ralph.

And when it turned, I must propose,
Its bill was formed like Aunt Jane's
nose.

I thought, "Oh, no it's just my luck!
Someday I'll look just like a duck."

I sobbed to Mom about my fears,
And she said, "Honey, dry your
tears.

You look like me, so walk with pride!
Those folks are from your DADDY'S
side."



Anonymous, posted to the
<NYFingerLakes-L@rootsweb.com>

Eaton County Genealogical Society

Presents Its . . .

Annual Workshop Saturday, May 5, 2001

Keynote Speaker

John Colletta

TOPICS

Using Primary Sources: The
Challenges & the Rewards
Using Newspapers for Family
History Research
The Seventeen Million Stories of
Ellis Island
Breaking Through Brick Walls:
Use Your HEAD!!

at the
Holiday Inn Express
2187 University Park Drive
Okemos, MI

Hotel Reservations
1-800-Holiday or 517-347-6690
Ask for Eaton County
Genealogical Society Rates

Cost of Workshop
\$30.00
(includes lunch)

P.O. Box 337
Charlotte, MI 48813-0337
Ph 517-543-8792
Fax 517-543-6999
E-mail: <ecgsoc@juno.com>
Web Site:
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miecgs/index.htm>>

**Library of Michigan
Tour & Research Day
Offered**

~~~~~  
Eaton County Genealogical  
Society offers research!  
Write or call for flyer with  
details.



## The Vintage Voice

~ news & notices from early Ionia newspapers

*from the Ionia Sentinel, Thursday, January 26, 1899; page 6:*

Married, Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 18, by Justice CURRY, C. B. McCORMICK, of Tidiout, Pa., and Miss Jennie WATERS, of Ionia.

Since the organization of Hiel P. CLARK Post, G.A.R., in this village in July, 1883, twenty-two members have died out of the 124 that have been connected with the organization. The next fifteen years will see much greater losses in their ranks from the grim monster. - Saranac Local.

Rev. W.L. MUNGER, pastor of the Baptist church at Belding, resigned his pastorate there. Mr. Munger has been the officiating clergyman of that denomination for the past five years. He has received a call to a church in Jackson to which place he will remove soon.

The Church of Christ will observe the fortieth anniversary of the organization on Jan. 21. There will be services all day, a basket dinner, and in the evening D.R. LUCAS, of Indianapolis, will give an address on the "Life and Works of Isaac EVERETT". Following this will be a series of special revival meetings, conducted by Rev. Lucas, assisted by an able singer.

Dr. W.H. THOMAS of Ionia, who gave his illustrated lecture on "Rome, the Mistress of the World", Thurs. evening, had the misfortune to miss his connections at Grand Rapids, and

had to be driven here. The audience patiently waited until about 9 o'clock and was repaid by the fine views thrown on a very large screen by a powerful stereopticon, and the elegant word painting he gave in his descriptions. - Rockford Register.

Chas. N. HIGGINS, of Keene, was in the city and renewed his subscription to the Sentinel for another year. Mr. Higgins is one of our old time subscribers, having taken the paper ever since it was known as the Ionia Gazette in the sixties.

### Obituary.

Miss Ella Nora GATES, daughter of Rev. Z. and Laura A. Gates, was born in Berlin township, Jan. 18, 1870. She passed from this life January 8, 1899, leaving a father and mother, three brothers and one sister to mourn her departure.

At the age of three years she moved with her parents to Westville, Montcalm county, where she attended the village school and formed many life-long friends. At the age of 15 she joined the Edmore Baptist church and for seven years she devoted herself to the Christian work of that place.

At the age of 22 she came to Saranac, where she was a devoted worker in the church Sunday schools and young people's societies for four years. One year ago she moved to Holton, Muskegon county, where she continued her Christian work till her last sickness. She has had poor health for the past fourteen years, due to scarlet fever. Her last sickness, which was dropsy, lasted for eleven weeks, and during her severest afflictions she was cheerful and had a kind word for everyone who visited her. She "now rests from her labors and her words do follow her." "For she knew that if

our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens." - Saranac Local.

### IONIANS PASSING AWAY.

#### Death of Caroline HEARSEY and Mrs. Nelson HINDS.

The death list in Ionia continues to grow, two more being added to the already long roll of the past year. Grandma Hearsey, mother of Roscoe Hearsey, died early Thursday morning, of the grip and old age. She was one of the oldest of Ionia's pioneers, having settled her 66 years ago.

Caroline CORNELL was born in New York state Feb. 19, 1820. She came to Ionia settlement in the fall of 1833 with her parents, and was married to Mason Hearsey Sept. 6, 1837. To them were born four children, Roscoe A., of this city, Mrs. Gertrude M. DANIELS, of Cedarville, Cal., Herbert, who died in childhood, and Mason E., of Oakland, Cal., who arrived in the city last Friday.

Her husband preceded her some sixteen years ago. She was the last of a large family of children nearly all of whom lived to old age. She has always been a resident of Ionia, and she is the oldest member of the Baptist church, having united over 60 years ago. Her death was caused by the grip and old age, and she passed away quietly at 3 o'clock that morning.

The funeral was held from the residence, 656 West Main street, on Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment in Oak Hill cemetery.

Mrs. Nelson Hinds, who had been a resident of Ionia since six years of age, died at 12:35 o'clock Thursday morning at the family residence corner of Summit and Pleasant

streets. She had been ill about three weeks, suffering from a severe attack of the grip. The funeral held Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the First Baptist church. Prayer services at the house, for relatives only at 1:30.

The maiden name of deceased was Emma LOCKMAN, her father being one of the pioneer settlers of the county. She was born Aug. 27, 1848, at Branford, Canada, and came with her parents to Ionia six years later. She was married to Nelson Hinds at Lyons, June 30, 1865, and of the union five children were born, four of whom, Nellie, Theodore, Mary and John B.L., with the father, survive her.

Deceased was a woman devoted to her home and family, being a kind, loving and indulgent mother, and a consistent christian. She has been a member of the Ionia Baptist church twenty years, and many are those who will mourn her death, and sympathize with the family. The burial will be in Highland park.

#### THEIR PATHWAYS ONE

Miss Allie J. WILLETT and Frank J. YOUNG United in Marriage.

At the home of Mr. And Mrs. Milan A. Willett, Thursday forenoon at 11 o'clock, was celebrated the wedding of Miss Allie J. Willett, daughter of Mr. Willett, and Frank J. Young.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. G.K. BERRY, in the presence of about 30 invited guests; congratulations and a wedding dinner followed.

The home was tastefully decorated with flowers and evergreens, and there were many handsome and appropriate souvenirs of the occasion.

Mr. and Mrs. Young took the 6 o'clock train that evening for Lansing, where they have gone for

their wedding trip, after which they will return and take up their residence in Ionia.

Ithaca is to have a new \$20,000 hotel, three stories high and Ionia sandstone front.

"Kit", one of the old horses owned by J.M. KIDD and which has been used in a team he has had on his farm at Kiddville for the past twenty years, died a few days ago. - Belding Banner.

John H. MILLS, of Berlin, died last Sunday morning after an exceedingly painful sickness of something over a week. - Saranac Local.

The Ingham County News announces the death of Mrs. Persis DENSMORE, widow of the late Rev. Henry Densmore, at one time a resident of Ionia. She died Sunday, Jan. 1, at the home of Mrs. T. Densmore. Her home had formerly been with her daughter in Grand Rapids, also at Greenville where the remains were buried. She was visiting at Mason when stricken with apoplexy, and was 74 years of age. The old residents of Ionia will remember her well.

#### Modest Women

Modesty in women is no less a charm than beauty and wit. Is it any wonder that women afflicted with physical disorders peculiar to their sex shrink from personal examinations by male physicians? The weaknesses and irregularities of women may be recognized by certain unfailing symptoms. Backache, headache, bearing-down pains, irritability and extreme nervousness indicate derangement of the delicate female organism. Bradfield's Female Regulator is the standard remedy for characteristic diseases of women. Sold by druggists at \$1.00 per bottle.

#### MARCH SPEAKER

by Jim Moses

Peg CHRISTOPHER, a retired teacher, was the guest speaker for the March 10, 2001, meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Ms. Christopher's topic was "Ionia County Rural Schools" and she brought a large display with her to accompany her talk. Her display depicted all Ionia County townships, with maps and photographs of many of the rural schools. Peg speaks from experience, as well as a desire to collect information, as she taught for many years in Ionia County, including twenty-one years in Lake Odessa. She publishes a newsletter for retired teachers, and has been collecting information for several years on the old schools in our county, as a part of her involvement with Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization for women teachers.

There were officially 160 one-room schools in Ionia County, but it is difficult to be certain how many schools have been here because many of them changed their names and also because some had the same name. Many of the original schools were named after the farmer who donated or sold the land where the school was built. Some of the oldest schools in the county have been traced back to 1830.

A history lesson was part of Peg's talk, and she gave us a lot of information about the advancement of education in the area. In the beginning some of the teachers barely had more education than their students, and there was no set course of study, but, after teaching for three years, a teacher would go to the Normal School in Ionia, and be trained in a variety of subjects.

The State of Michigan had three approved floor plans for schools, so many of the schools looked like

others in the vicinity. Some were very distinctive, however, such as the Sessions school, which was built in 1847 and has the distinction of being the oldest landmark in the county, according to Ms. Christopher. This school was built of stone and had angled windows as protection from the Indians. It may still be seen outside of Ionia.

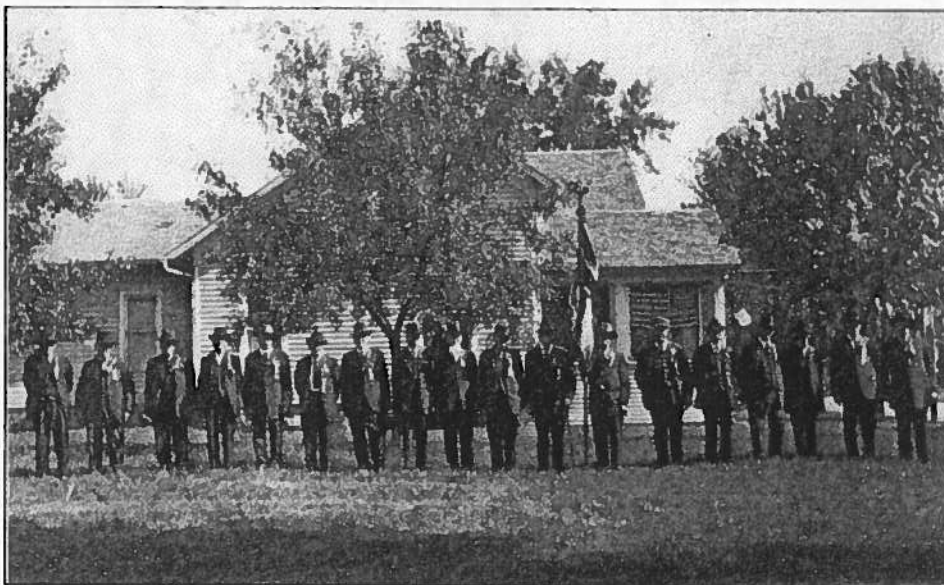
Ms. Christopher told us several stories that she has recorded about the schools, such as the custom of pelting girls with snowballs when they emerged from the outhouse. Some of the rules for teachers were extremely strict, especially for the women. Their clothing and activities were scrutinized carefully, and certain activities, such as going into a pool hall, were causes for dismissal. No alcohol was allowed and teachers, as well as parents, had rules for the upkeep of the building--the parents had to provide certain amounts of fire wood, while the teacher had to arrive by 7:00 in the morning to get the room warm by 8:00.

There has been much collecting of material about our early schools by Ms. Christopher, but she is still looking for photographs or other information about the early schools.

If you have any old Ionia school photos, records, or stories to relate, contact Peg at:  
205 Katherine Ct.  
Ionia, MI 48846  
ph 616-527-2433  
Or email <[pegchr@ionia-mi.net](mailto:pegchr@ionia-mi.net)>

#### Cemetery Photos Online

If you want photos of a cemetery and can't get there yourself, this is the place to find someone who'll go there in your stead. Or you can volunteer to take cemetery photos for someone else:  
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~cemphoto/>>



**Grand Army of the Republic, Belding 1920**  
Does anyone know the names of any of these Veterans? Please share them with us! ~source: postcard inscribed on back "Belding 1920"

from *The Ionia Sentinel*, February 26, 1899:

### BAD RAILROAD WRECK

Wednesday on the Detroit, Grand Rapids & Western.

#### ENGINE AND CARS IN THE DITCH.

The Freight Coming in From Big Rapids Crashes Into a Train on the VanderHeyden Switch at Foot of Prison Hill - Luckily no One Was Hurt - Track Blockaded For an Hour or More.

A bad wreck occurred on the D., G., R., and W. at a little before 3 p.m. Wed. at the VanderHeyden switch just inside of the city limits west of the furniture factory, and at the foot of the grade.

It seems that switch engine 34 was switching about 20 cars at that point, when the Big Rapids freight, No. 52, appeared on the scene at the head of the hill. The yard engine, Engineer SAMAIN, was unable to get out of the way, and the heavy freight, coming down the steep hill, could not be held back, and there was a crash.

Engine 32, Engineer KERSTETTER, was on the freight. This engine struck the middle of the switching train, and

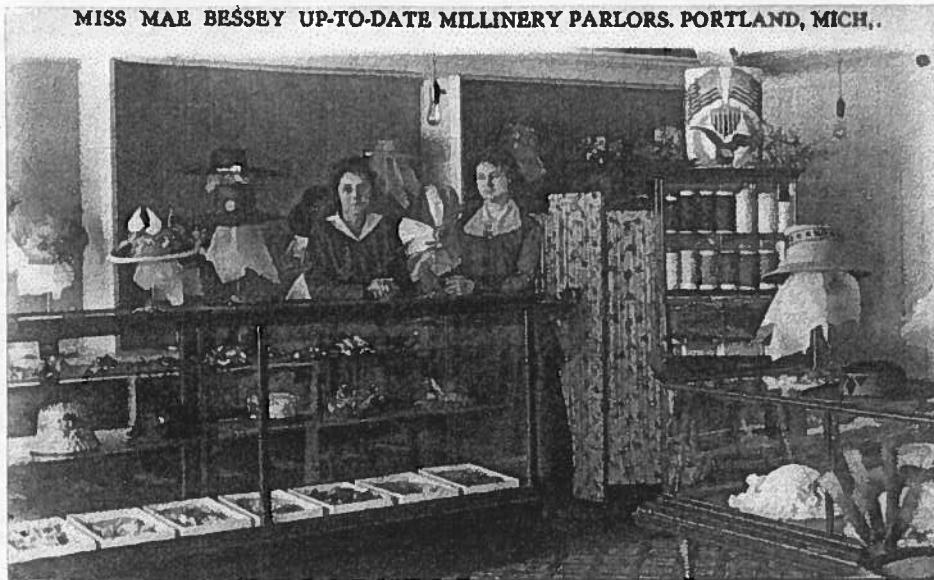
knocked two empty stock cars into the ditch. The 32 then left the track and went about 30 feet towards Main street, and when it stopped it was as complete a wreck as one could wish to see, the engine on its side, smashed and wrenched into every shape.

Several other cars also left the track and are badly smashed. It does not seem quite clear whether the switching crew succeeded in cutting the cars on the siding apart or not before the heavy freight struck them. Anyway the yard engine and several cars got out of the way, running back towards town.

Engine Kerstetter and his fireman left the 32 without trouble, and no one was hurt. The engineer says the freight was going not over six miles an hour when the crash came.

The wrecking crew was soon on hand and the track was cleared early that evening.

About ten years ago a freight going up the hill and a "push" engine coming down collided at almost this same point. • • • •



Can anyone tell us where this shop was in Portland? ~ Many thanks to Ann SLOWINS for sharing this photo with us!

**Obituaries found in the  
Bible of William ESTEP  
Owned by Lori Fox**

**JOHN HACKETT.**

An Orange Pioneer, Passed Peacefully  
Away this Morning.

John HACKETT, whose serious illness has been noted in these columns, died at 2 o'clock this morning, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. O.W. PRICE, North Dexter street, where he was during the two months of his painful illness.

He was born in County Cork, Ireland, in 1826, and came with his father's family direct from there to Orange, in 1838, where the father, Patrick, located the farm, to a part of which decedent fell heir, and which was his homestead to the time of his death. The father was a brother of Peter Hackett, conspicuous in the early years of Ionia village.

John Hackett was married to Catherine BUTLER of Berlin, Dec. 9, 1854, so that their golden wedding anniversary came within the month of his death. Four children were born to them, of whom two survive: Alice, wife of

O.W. Price, this city, and Robert, who lives on the homestead farm in Orange. Two brothers: Michael and Barney, both of Orange, and one sister, Mrs. J.G. SNYDER of Berlin, survive.

Decedent lived an honorable life, full of good deeds; and he will be greatly missed by the circle of near friends to whom he was best known and was most dear.

Funeral, Thursday morning at 10, at Catholic church.

Sarah PRICE was born in Rockingham Co. Va. April 25, 1848 & departed this life Feb. 23, 1912, age 63 yrs 9 mo & 29 days. At the age of 4 years She moved with her parents to Seneca Co. Ohio where she lived. About 1866 she was united in marriage to Jacob J. HUMMEL. To this union was born 9 children 7 sons & 2 daughters. About the year 1881 She with her husband moved with their children from Ohio to Odessa Twp. About the year 1900 she was converted & joined the M.E. Church. She was always a firm believer in the Religion of Jesus Christ. She leaves to mourn her loss 2 sisters, 7 children, 19 grandchildren and a host of friends. [transcribed as hand-written on a piece of paper in the Wm. ESTEP Bible. ~Thanks, Lori!]

**Grandma's Recipe  
for Wash Day**

*This is an authentic "receipt" for doing the family wash, as it was written out by Grandma for a bride four generations ago:*

1. Bild a fire in back yard to heet kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke won't blow in your eyes.
3. Shave one hole cake lie sope in bilin water.
4. Sort things, make three piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile cullord. 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. Stur flour in cold water to smooth, then thin down with bilin water.
6. Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, then bile. Rub cullord, but don't bile - just rench and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broom stick handle, then rench, blew, and starch.
8. Spred tee towels on grass.
9. Hang old rags on fence.
10. Scrub porch with hot sopey water.
11. Turn tubs upside down.
12. Go put on cleen dress - smooth hair with side combs - brew cup of tee - set and rest and rock a spell and count blessins.

~Author Unknown~  
[submitted by Leora SLOSSER as read in GenHumor, at <[GenHumor-L@rootsweb.com](mailto:GenHumor-L@rootsweb.com)>

Years ago it was estimated that the averag person in the 1970s had somethi g like 485 wants s agai st 75 in the 1870s. Of these, 94 can be classed as necessities. When our wants were fewer there were only 16 neccessities. Over one hundred years ago, according to these figures, there were only about 200 different articles being offered for sale that the average person might need. In the 1970s the total was far above 32,000. Ref. *Bits and Pieces* September 1980

## TIME CAPSULES

from The Portland Observer:

*5 January 1875:*

There was a grand rally at Sebewa Hall on Christmas eve, for the first time to witness Santa Clause with his snow-white whiskers, loaded down with candy and toys for the children, and to assist in distributing the nice and costly presents that hung bountifully on the branches of the well selected evergreen, illuminated with many little wax tapers, clothed with red, white and blue, made it delightful to the eye; and the well selected music, and singing, with speeches and dialogues, and the many beautiful and valuable presents brought cheer to the hearts of all, both parents and children. No less than three hundred people were present, but owing to the hall being small many were compelled to return to their homes without taking part or share or even getting a glimpse of the grandeur prepared by a tasteful committee. We are very sorry so many were disappointed, that our room is so small, but shall be in hopes that before another Christmas Eve we shall have ample room to accommodate all that may come, and may it be a Merry Christmas to all. OWK

*26 January 1875:*

Benjamin WELD died at age 62.

Prof. Ira GUILFORD of Grand Ledge, Michigan has just ended his course of lectures on phrenology at this place. (Sebewa)

*23 February 1875:*

Ore KIBBY is our authorized agent to receive subscriptions for the Observer in Sebewa.

*2 March 1875:*

Mr. John FRIEND was largely interested in the recent smash-up having two carloads of cattle, from which he saved but sixteen.

The Bloomer Grange has passed a resolution that no hen shall be allowed to fool her time away by setting on less than fourteen eggs.

If we had a boy and wanted to make a sure thing on having him become a proficient Rowdy, we would send him to the university at Ann Arbor.

It is said that a young boy living near this village employs his spare time in making counterfeit five cent pieces which he distributes among his playmates and some of them find their way into circulation. This is dangerous business and our young friend had better quit it.

*9 March 1875:*

Death came on the 27 ult (Green Bay, Wis.) to Jonathan INGALLS, a brother of Mrs. M. SAWYER of this village and Charles W. Ingalls formerly of Danby. Mr. Ingalls was born in New Hampshire, January 23, 1804 and was therefore 71 years of age. Mr. Ingalls stopped at Maj. Sawyer's in this village in the winter of 1872-73.

*16th March 1875:*

The Otisco Grange has collected and forwarded \$85.00 for the benefit of western sufferers from the grass hopper. There was one grasshopper sufferer who didn't propose to stay in the doomed country and beg. He arrived at Saginaw a few days ago, having walked all the way from Nebraska.

A letter from Mr. Stephan BUNKER of Kansas - formerly of this place - was received by some of his friends last week, stating that his family was in need of temporary relief. A subscription was taken up for his benefit and also the proceeds of the Universalist social were sent to him.

*23 March 1875:*

The entire proceeds of the next Band Hop, which comes off on Friday evening of this week, will be sent to the grass hopper sufferers.

*30 March 1875:*

The whole county is wild about spelling matches. One next Wednesday at M.E. Church. A copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary to the person who spells the school down.

*13 April 1875:*

A few mornings since, we are informed, Mr. D. W. GODDARD, of Sunfield (Sebewa), for many years supervisor of that town, arose, and upon going to the door, found a basket containing a girl baby about three days old. Not wishing to adopt the young hopeful, he took it to the poor-house at Ionia, but as infants are not admitted to that institution while so young, the little stranger was taken back and will probably find a home with Mr. Goddard's family for the present. It is not known who is the mother of the child.

♥♥ We are indebted to Teresa SWEET for the preceding Observer articles, which she is placing on the MILONIA-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! ♥♥

"A pessimist is one who makes difficulties of his opportunities, and an optimist is one who makes opportunities of his difficulties."

~ Harry Truman

**Regina Hellena LAUX** was born July 19, 1920, in Otisco Twp., Ionia Co., Michigan. She was the daughter of **Frank Laux** and **Elizabeth BREUER**.

Regina was a schoolteacher in the public school system for many years. She taught for five years, then left to raise her family, then returned and taught until she retired in 1980.

Regina married **Martin G. MASON** at the age of 27 on June 19, 1948, in Belding, Ionia Co., Michigan. He was an electrician who resided in Belding, Michigan. He was born in Smyrna, Michigan, the son of **George Mason** and **Maude TULLY**. Regina resided at 1026 Masonic Avenue at the time of their marriage. **Kayren Mason** and **Pauline MALONE** witnessed the wedding, both of Belding. The Catholic Priest, **C.E. STEVES**, wed them. Neither Regina nor Martin had been married before.

Martin died on January 6, 1990, in Belding, Michigan, of Metastick Carcinoma due to carcinoma of the throat. He had worked as a security guard in a factory according to his death certificate.

Regina's father, **Frank Laux**, was also born in Otisco Twp., Ionia Co., Michigan, on February 15, 1880. He was the son of **John Peter Laux** and **Helen DOHM** (Also listed as **DORN** and **DOHN**).

Frank's wife, **Elizabeth**, was born in Obersgegan, Germany, on October 22, 1882. They were married in Beal City, Isabelle Co., Michigan, on November 21, 1905.

Frank was only 49 years and 13 days old when he died on February 28, 1929, of sugar diabetes. Frank was also Catholic and therefore was given a traditional Catholic

## Highlight on First Families No. 7



### Regina H. Laux Mason

funeral and was buried at the St. Mary's cemetery at Miriam, Michigan.

Frank and Elizabeth listed four sons and two daughters still living at the time of his death. They were **Edward**, **Clarence**, **Theodore** and **Arthur**. The daughters were **Regina** and **Pauline**.

Frank had always resided on the family farm where he was born and which was his home at the time of his death. His great-grandfather, **John GASPER**, was the first family member to live there. **Mrs. Susan Gasper Laux** followed her father, **Mr. Gasper**, then **Peter Laux**, and finally **Frank Laux**. It is not known, at the time of this printing, if the children kept the family farm after Frank's death. **Mrs. Laux** moved to the city of

Belding after his death and resided at 1026 Masonic Avenue.

**Elizabeth Laux** died unexpectedly on October 10, 1950, after she had had a series of light strokes. She was a member of St. Joseph's church, St. Cecelia circle and Rosary society, and of the Blue Star Mothers. She was buried at St. Mary's cemetery, Miriam.

Frank's mother, **Helen Dorn Laux**, died December 6, 1919, in Belding, Michigan, from heart disease. Her parents were listed as **John Dohn** and **Mary SELIN**.

Frank's father, **John Peter Laux**, was born in New York State, October 3, 1854, and came to Otisco, Ionia Co., Michigan, when he was but 18 months old. **John Peter Laux** died September 16, 1923, from cancer of the face, neck and lower jaw. He was 67 years, 10 months and 13 days old.

Regina loved genealogy, along with other hobbies like gardening, but she never knew that she had been accepted into the First Families of Ionia County Society. Regina turned in her application on August 21, 1997, and she died unexpectedly on August 27, 1997. She was 77 years old. Three of her daughters accepted the certificate in her honor at our banquet. Regina was a charter member of ICGS and we appreciate her hard work and contribution to our society. She was also a member of the Belding Gardeneers, the Grattan Historical Society, and the Belding Literary Club. She was very active in her church and in her community. Thank you and Rest in Peace, Regina.

For more information on the First Families of Ionia County Society, contact **Jim MOSES** at

<[jmoses@mvcc.com](mailto:jmoses@mvcc.com)>

or call (616) 374-3141.

## 2001 Calendar of Events - Ionia County Genealogical Society

### April 2001

- 3 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
14 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "Preparing a Research Trip to Washington, D.C." -- Cynthia Theusch is the speaker  
26 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
28 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research  
28 Women's Festival in Ionia; volunteers needed -- contact Lori Fox

### May 2001

- 1 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
12 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "Treasures Found in Personal Diaries" -- Lori Fox is the speaker  
24 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
26 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

### June 2001

- 5 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
9 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "How to Compile and Publish a Newsletter" -- John Waite is the speaker  
21 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
30 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

### July 2001

- 3 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
14 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "Recording Cemeteries" -- Marilyn Steward is the speaker  
26 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
28 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS:

- August 11 - Carole Callard: "Immigration and Ship Passenger Lists"  
September 15 - Deadline for First Families Applications  
October 13 - James T. Lyon: "G.A.R. in Michigan"  
November 10 - Richard Heaven: "Campbell Twp. History"  
December - NO MEETINGS! Happy Holidays!

\*\* All regular membership meetings are held on the second (2nd) Saturday of each month, except December, at 1:00 p.m., in the Community Room of Lake Manor on Emerson Street, Lake Odessa, just west of the Depot Museum. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served. In addition, the Depot library will also be open following each monthly meeting until 5:00 p.m.

### ICGS Newsletter:

Editor: Pamela Swiler

Asst Editor: Dottie Piechocki

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

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

# Ionia County Genealogical Society

13051 Ainsworth Road – Route 3  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

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.....  
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.**