

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 4

October – December 2001

Another year gone by. . . We have had a great year this year! We owe it all to you, the members, who have contributed so much to our society. Because of you, we have over 1,000 obituaries on our web site. Because of you, we have indexed the birth records for 1867-1891 and put them on our site. Because of you, we have indexed the divorces for Ionia county. Because of you, we have new members for our First Families of Ionia County Society. This is only the beginning. . . because of you, all things are possible. On behalf of the board members of the Ionia County Genealogical Society, I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

We have a wonderful collection of Ionia County postcards that are available for \$1 each. They are beautiful, full color photos of landmarks in each township in Ionia County. We thank Joe McCORD for his wonderful photography and Joan for helping create the postcards. If you are interested in owning any of our collection, just let us know or stop in at the depot museum in Lake Odessa when they are open.

Next year promises to be just as exciting as this year. We have already received the first application for next year's First Families member. We are working on adding even more obituaries and articles of interest to our website. Many thanks go out to

Jan CORTEZ, our coordinator, who managed to keep up with us!

2001 had its sad moments, too. We lost three members of our society this year... Mike GOODEMOOT, Bruce FAHRNI, and this month, Helen HALLER. Our deepest sympathy to those families.

October has traditionally been Family History Month. We are hoping that you all took time to spend sharing your family's history with your children and grandchildren.

In January you will be receiving the Annual Report. Please take a moment to browse through the list of our library collection items that have been donated. I think we have an amazing collection considering how much space we have to work with and that we only have been in existence for 5 years! Thank you to all who contributed to this collection. Also a big thank you goes out to Sharon KISELA and Susan CASTRO who worked so hard to organize and catalog our collection. Sharon will be leaving that position at the end of this year, and we need a volunteer to fill that void. It requires coordinating volunteers to cover the last Saturday of the month when our collection is open to the public (10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.). We also open up immediately following our regular meetings on the 2nd Saturday of the month until 5:00 p.m. At that time new items are cataloged and added to the collection, and the library staff makes sure everything is neat and orderly. If this sounds like something you would like to help with, let us know ASAP!! Volunteering in our library allows you to

get familiar with what we have and do some of your own research while you are there. . . don't you need a couple of hours a month to work on your own research? Here is your chance! If you need more information on the position, contact Sharon Kisela at (616) 527-1406 or e-mail her at <kiselas@iserv.net> – she will be happy to share her experiences and is willing to work with anyone while they learn the system. Thanks, Sharon! Another opportunity we have in January is a hands-on workshop-type meeting! All you have to do is bring your favorite writing utensil and either a journal (some will be available for sale at the meeting) or writing paper. Dorothy CLORE, also known as the "Person of Letters", is going to show us how to write our own memories, overcome writer's block, and just plain get started on recording our thoughts & feelings. Think about how you feel when you read your grandparent's diaries or letters. This is your chance to get started on leaving your legacy of words for future generations. I hope that you will come with an open mind and eagerness to learn something that many of us avoid. I promise – you will NOT be graded!! ☺

Thank you again for a great year and we will see you again next year! God bless you and keep you in His care!

~ Pam SWILER, President
Ionia County Genealogical Society

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Amy BROWN
9619 Garbow Road
Middleville, MI 49333
(616) 795-9501
E-mail: <fabrown@iserv.net>
Researching: FOOT, FOOTE,
SHERMAN, HOUSE, MILLER,
BENN, BAILEY
- Marilyn A. ABSHIRE
149 Main Street
P.O. Box 274
Saranac, MI 48881
(616) 642-9912
Researching: BULLARD,
BURKE, BURGESS, PACE
- Corabelle PARKS DeCLERG
873 Kent Street
Portland, MI 48875
(517) 647-6962
Researching: PARKS, BOUCK,
MORSE
- Lloyd DYE
3586 Dildine Road
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-0779
Researching: DYE, WELCH
- Cheryl L. THORNE
907 Prince
Milford, MI 48381
(248) 685-2812
Researching: SAYLES,
GARDNER, WAIVADA,
ALLEN, McKISSICK, DENER
- Greta SLAGLE
1420 Hunter Hill Road
Hudson, WI 54016
(715) 386-4308
E-mail: <slagner@earthlink.net>
Researching: DOWNER, CLARK,
STOUT, BRINK
- Eric P. CONNER (son)
Kay L. BLACK (mother)
209 Northland Drive
Ionia, MI 48846-2123
(616) 522-0098
Researching: SHAFER, CRAPO,
CARPENTER, SOWLE
- Harry J. PEACOCK
7670 Wright Road
Portland, MI 48875
(517) 587-6948
E-mail: <hpeacock@power-
net.net>

Researching: PEACOCK,
LINDLEY, DOWNING, DANIELS,
CONWAY, BUSKIRK, DURAND,
LEMOIN

- Thomas L. PEACOCK
929 McArthur
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
(616) 374-3182
Researching: PEACOCK,
LINDLEY, DOWNING, DANIELS,
CONWAY, BUSKIRK, DURAND,
LEMOIN
 - Richard W. PEACOCK
1003 Jordan Lake Ave
Lake Odessa, MI 48849
(616) 374-8274
E-mail: <dickypea@voyager.net>
Researching: PEACOCK,
LINDLEY, DOWNING, DANIELS,
CONWAY, BUSKIRK, DURAND,
LEMOIN
- ... and please welcome back*
- Diane FISH
12536 Clintonia Road
Portland, MI 48875
(517) 627-7960
Researching: SMITH, FISH,
JUENKER, WILL, PEDERSON,
SHEPARD

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

- Marilee JACKSON
New e-mail address:
<wmj@cablespeed.com>
- Grace WEDDERBURN
New e-mail address:
<gracie12@iserv.net>
- Sharon KISELA
New e-mail address:
<kiselas@iserv.net>
- Pamela SO
New address:
8719 Garrison Road
Peyton, CO 80831
(719) 495-2495



The link to our website can now be found on the WOOD-TV (Grand Rapids, MI) website along with other genealogy sites! Have a look: <<http://www.woodtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=305964>>

Many, many thanks to the hardy volunteers who sat in the rain at the Lakewood Jazz & Blues Festival and sold ice cream for our society. Our profits were not big, but we didn't go in the hole, and our spirits were good as we made the best of a not so great situation. Thank you very much for braving the elements to support our cause!

- ♥ Joe & Joan McCORD
- ♥ Genevieve REED
- ♥ Lori FOX
- ♥ Gretchen SLATER
- ♥ Bonnie JACKSON
- ♥ Lois CURTISS
- ♥ Elaine GARLOCK
- ♥ Gary VEALE
- ♥ Bernadine CARR
- ♥ Ellen WILLEMIN
- ♥ Pam SWILER
- ♥ Chris McCLELLAND, Driver –
Schwaan's Ice Cream Sales

Changes in fees for Social Security Records

Please make note of the following changes:

- Fees for Processing Requests for Individual's Social Security Record (effective July 1, 2001):
- * Request for copy of Original Application for Social Security Card (Form SS-5), SSN Provided - \$27
 - * Request for copy of Original Application for Social Security Card (Form SS-5), SSN Not Provided - \$29
 - * Request for Computer Extract of Social Security Number Application, SSN Provided - \$16
 - * Request for Computer Extract of Social Security Number Application, SSN Not Provided - \$18
 - * Search for Information about Death of an Individual, SSN Provided - \$16
 - * Search for Information about Death of an Individual, SSN Not Provided - \$18

JULY SPEAKER

by Jim MOSES

Marilyn STEWARD spoke at the July, 2001, meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Her topic covered much information about cemeteries. She started out with a statement that was funny to us genealogists, who spend a lot of time wandering around in cemeteries. She assured us that cemeteries are not scary places, and during the talk she encouraged us to take our children on a visit so that they will learn about their ancestors, and also so that they will gain a respect for the significance of cemeteries.

Marilyn said that she mourned the loss of small children whose stones she has found, but in the next breath she was talking about the wonderful stories that are told by some of the headstones. A stone can tell much about the person who is buried beneath it. Birth and death dates are usually recorded, and sometimes the stone will tell us when a couple was married, who their children were, and other information that we can use.

A short history of cemeteries, starting more than 20,000 years ago, was given. Marilyn talked about the suspected customs of the Neanderthal people, who are thought to have been the first to bury their dead. This history continued with notes on various types of cemeteries and when they were popular. She mentioned the National Cemetery system that is in place today to honor the members of the Armed Forces; there are 114 national cemeteries, with over two million burials.

Another important part of Marilyn's talk was dedicated to preservation of headstones. She mentioned the Association for Gravestone Studies and talked about what we can do to help preserve the stones, including having dates put on stones where the death date is missing, photographing stones, and making rubbings.

Her talk was concluded with information on how to prepare for a cemetery research trip, and then actually going there to do the research. How to organize the research was emphasized, and details were given on how to record a cemetery and what our own Society is doing in our efforts to catalog Ionia County cemeteries.

TAPE NOW, TRANSCRIBE LATER

This tip comes to us from the Ancestry Daily News at <<http://www.ancestry.com/dailynews>> on 2 October 2001:

"I was recently at a small rural area library researching obits on microfilm. I didn't realize when I started my trip that the library didn't have a microfilm reader with a printer, so I found myself manually transcribing five pages of tablet paper, which consumed all the time I could allow. The next time I will take my trusty little palm size tape recorder and read the document quietly into it. When I get home I'll transcribe my results. Had I had my little recorder I would have saved myself considerable time at the library as well as 'writers cramps,' and may have had more time to search further.

- Sue in Mo"

~ thank you to Leora SLOSSER for sharing this tip!

OUR SYMPATHY

is extended to Marjorie GIBSON, whose step-brother, Delmer E. WARNER, Jr., aged 82, passed away 4 August 2001. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

?? QUERIES ??

"Fellow Genealogists,

My [third] great grandparents, Cornelius and Amarilla SMOCK, came from Schuyler Co., NY, to Danby Twp., Ionia Co., with a daughter and son-in-law, Louvina Margaret and Smith DISBRU (DISBROW), about 1859. They are in the 1860 census. Cornelius died 12 Aug. 1860. Is he the C. Smock buried in the Danby Twp. Cemetery?

By 1870 the family had moved on to Cohoctah Twp., Livingston Co. Amarilla was still with them. By 1880 they had moved on to Burns Twp., Shiawasee Co. Amarilla was not with them. Had she died? Amarilla's parents were Joseph and Levina HITCHCOCK. Would anyone know any more about these people? Were the Hitchcocks in Ionia Co. related to Amarilla? How?

I am willing to share information. Thank you for including this in your newsletter.

Sincerely,

Fran SMOCK WOODROOFE

E-mail <franw@umich.edu>

1449 Morehead

Ann Arbor, MI 48103-6154"

??

Pam SWILER writes:

"I received a request for information on Clarissa (CASE) BENNETT. She was born 5 Aug 1821 in NY and died September 1881. Clarissa may have been married to Sherman Bennett who was a resident of the Hubbardston area in 1881. If there is anyone who has information on this line, please contact me. Thank you."

<pkswiler@voyager.net>

??

"Breed is stronger than pasture."

-George Eliot

Crawling the Web!

If you are researching the O'CONNOR family in Ionia County here is a site you may want to check out. (Sent to us by Jennifer CHURCHILL).
><http://www.genealogy.com/users/c/h/u/Jennifer-A-Churchill/><

Sometimes we have to look outside of our own community to find valuable resources that are available to us. Follow this link to visit the Clarke Library in Mt. Pleasant Michigan, and see what surprises await you!
<<http://www.lib.cmich.edu/clarke/lhbionia.htm>>

How about "Genealogy Libraries on the Web"? You can spend hours at
<<http://www.genealogy.org/~holdiman/LSG/libraries.html>>

The foll wing is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyrighted 2001 by Richard W. EASTMAN. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.

Michigan Family History Network 1883 Pensioners Online Database: The database consists of the pension number, full name of the pensioner, city of residence, cause for which the pension was issued, amount of pension and date on which the pension was issued. This database contains nearly 12,000 individuals who were receiving pensions in 1883. The database is searchable by surname and also by county.
<<http://www.mifamilyhistory.org/civilwar/1883Pension/index.asp>>

Don't forget to visit our own

Ionia County website frequently. New items are posted almost daily. Here are the URL's to remember:

<<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mi/county/ionia/index.htm>>

OR

<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~milionia/icgshome.htm>>

AUGUST SPEAKER

by Jim MOSES

Ship's passenger lists was the topic of discussion at the August ICGS meeting, and Carole CALLARD, from the Library of Michigan, provided much useful information. Carole is no stranger to ICGS; she has spoken here before. This time she started by relating how she began her own family search, with a class in Ann Arbor. Since that class, in 1974, Carole has traced back to Jamestown, in 1613, before crossing the pond for further research. Ships have brought millions of immigrants to our country, and our own searches will invariably lead back to people who came on these ships (unless you are a native American or just immigrated recently by plane). Until the past few years ships passenger lists were hard to find and so many of us were stopped when we had traced back to our immigrant ancestor. In 1984 the Library of Michigan only had a few books on ship's lists, but now they have a large collection. Leading the quest to compile as many lists as possible is a series of books by William FILBY, who started the series in 1982. Carole told us how to use Filby's books, as well as several other collections at the Library of Michigan. The library has Ancestry.com, which is available to patrons, and so we can search online if we wish. Normally we need the full name of our ancestor in order to find him or

her on a list. The older lists do not always name everyone, but more recent lists have all passengers, including stowaways (named at the end of the official list).

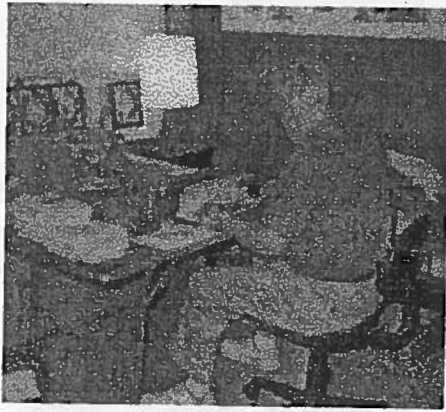
Starting in 1820, each ship's captain had to provide a passenger list for the customs officials, and many of these lists survive. Carole gave us some interesting information including the fact that people did NOT have their names changed at Ellis Island, the fact that almost three-fourths of all immigrants came through the Port of New York, even though there are 101 United States ports, and the fact that there are no indexes for New York lists from 1846 through 1897. The Wall of Honor at Ellis Island should not be trusted as a source that someone came through the island's facilities when entering this country. Other important sources for passenger lists are "The Source", by Lou SZUCS and the "Guide to Genealogical Research at the National Archives". The Library of Michigan is one of the most important genealogical libraries in the country, and we are fortunate to have it so close to where we live. The resources there will be able to help us in most of our searches.

NOTABLE NAMES IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?

"I read with interest the story of the woman whose ancestor was Mary NEE nee NEE. Reminds me of my own genealogy joke: One of my ancestor surnames is SKUCE (from County Cork, Ireland). I wonder if a divorced person by that name would be an ex-Skuce. . . . and if she was not very well off, would that make her a poor ex-Skuce??"

— Unknown author, posted on a genealogy humor list





JOE McCORD

... busy putting together the cookbooks for the society. Cookbooks may be ordered for a cost of \$6 each, plus \$1 per book shipping and handling. Contact the society for orders. Thank you to all of the people who submitted recipes and items of historic interest to be used in our cookbook. We especially appreciate those people who printed and compiled the books and salute them! Thank you, Joe & Joan McCORD, Janis KENYON and Marilyn CAHOON.

The History of the Founding and Naming of Past and Present Ionia County Post Offices

from: *Michigan Place Names* by Walter ROMIG, L.H.D.; Wayne State University Press; Detroit 1896

ALGODON: A post office in Odessa Twp., opened on Nov. 10, 1864, with Edmond VANDECAR as its first postmaster; the office closed on Feb. 6, 1871, but was restored from Apr. 21, 1871, to June 19, 1899; the place was also called Strothers' Corners for George STROTHERS, a pioneer settler who became the postmaster about 1880.

ARTHURSBURG; see LYONS

AVON; Asaph C. SMITH became the first postmaster of this rural post office in Keene Twp. on July 11, 1844; the office was closed on July 10, 1862, but was restored from Apr.

2, 1897, to Aug. 30, 1902.

BELDING; Charles BROAS, from Broome Co., NY, became the first settler here in 1839 and the settlement became known as Broas Rapids; Lucius PATTERSON bought an interest in the Broas Mill property in 1842 and the town was given a post office as Patterson's Mills on Feb. 23, 1857, with Andrew C. REYNOLDS as its first postmaster; Hiram BELDING bought the land of Levi Broas in 1855 and to help pay for it, sold silk goods on commission, thus beginning the Belding brothers silk making business here, which led to the renaming of the town and its post office for them on Sep. 18, 1871; incorporated as a city in 1893.

BERLIN; the first land entry here was made by the first settler, John E. MORRISON, in July, 1833; Alonzo SESSIONS settled here in Oct. of the same year; Berlin Twp. was organized in 1839, with Mr. Sessions as its first supervisor; given a post office named Cass, after Gov. Lewis CASS, on Feb. 8, 1840, with Levi TAYLOR as its first postmaster; the office was renamed Berlin on Apr. 13, 1842, but was closed on Sep. 28 of the same year; given a post office as New Berlin (there was by then another Berlin post office in Michigan), with Mr. Sessions again the postmaster, on Mar. 17, 1855, the office operating until Mar. 5, 1858.

BOLSTER; a rural post office in the general store of E. T. BOLSTER & Son, with Harris M. Bolster becoming its first postmaster on Dec. 28, 1896; they sold out to the WHITE Brothers, and G. N. White became its postmaster in 1900, but the office closed on Sep. 13, 1902.

BONANZA; the RUSSELL brothers, Wellington, Emory, Esteven, Sumner and J. Ashley Russell, began settling here in

1839, and it became known as the Russell Settlement; given a post office named Bonanza, with Horace F. MINER becoming its first postmaster on May 17, 1880; the office was moved to and renamed Lake Odessa on Aug. 10, 1880.

BOSTON; first settled by Jacob FRANCISCO and his son-in-law, Ira A. DANE, in 1836; but they moved away in 1837, the year the first permanent settler, Worcester (or Worster) ENGLISH, came, and the town was also known as the English Settlement; on Dec. 30, 1840, Timothy WHITE became the first postmaster of Boston (named after the township, which had been named by the early settlers, many of whom came from New England); the office was transferred to and renamed Saranac on Feb. 12, 1859.



~ ~ Many thanks to Jane (MUTCH) COOK of Lake Odessa who found this information and shared it with us! As space and time permit, we will publish more post office histories in future issues.

KNOW YOUR JUNK?



Our Antique Appraisal raised well over \$375 and about 52 people attended. Glen RAIRIGH has agreed to do it again for us next year if we want him - people seem really excited about it! We all had a great time! Afterwards many of us enjoyed a great meal put on by Bonnie & Lois's church (hog roast!). It was a great day!

"In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog that will worship him and a cat that will ignore him
- Dereke Bruce

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to Betty CAREY, Tom, Dick and Harry PEACOCK for the loss of their sister, Helen HALLER, and to Lola Haller, who was her sister-in-law. Helen died on Friday, September 14, 2001.



LIBRARY NEWS

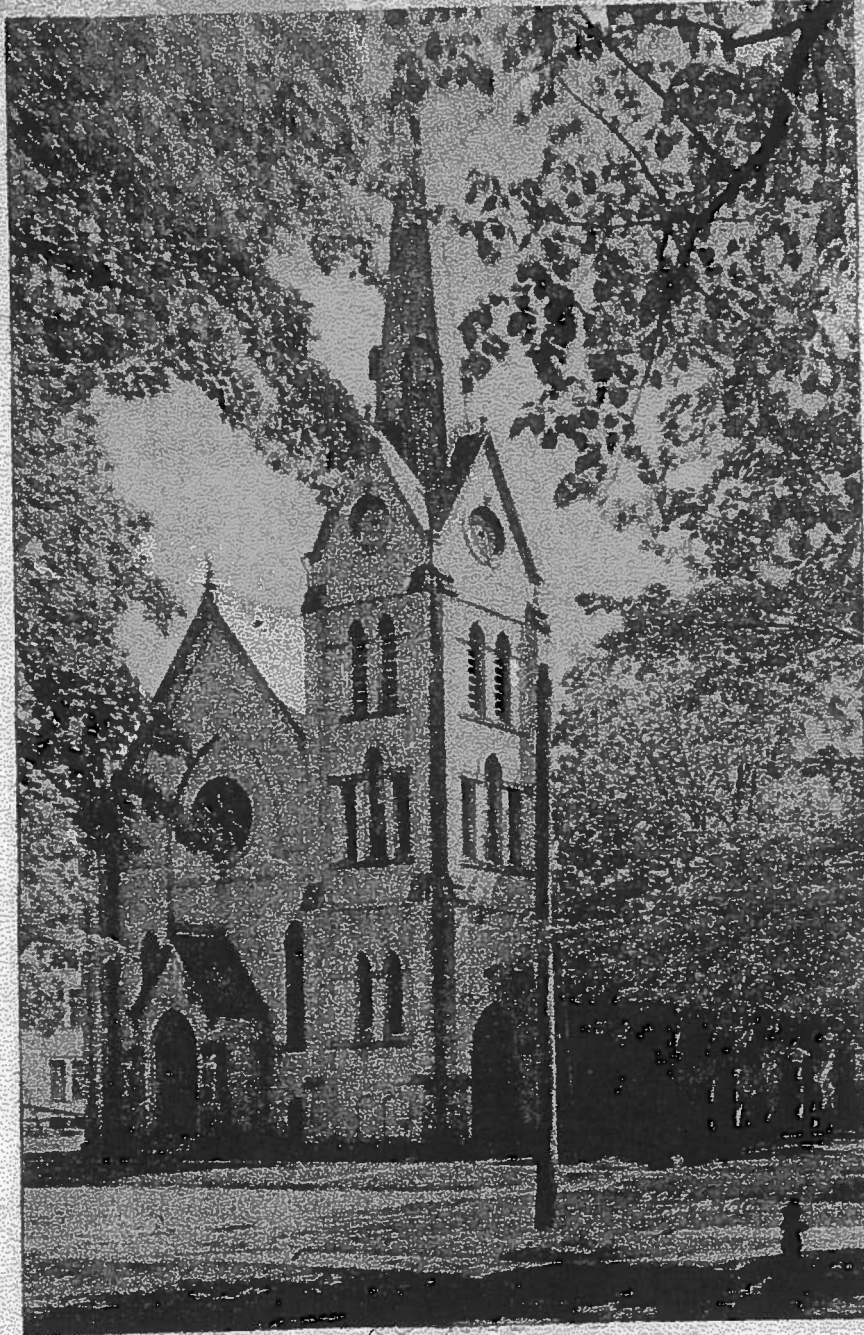
Twenty (20) reels of microfilm were donated to the Library of Michigan, on Sept. 6, 2001, by the Ingham County Genealogical Society. The microfilm is of the "Ingham County News" newspapers, published from 1895 through 1934. Included were rare old issues of 1846, 1857, 1859, 1862 and 1865. If you have Ingham County ancestors, you'll want to see these next time you visit the Library of Michigan.

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

by Jim MOSES

I was fortunate enough to be asked to be the guest speaker for the September meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society and I talked about a subject that interests me greatly. My talk was entitled "What Else Can You Find At The Cemetery?". I have been interested in gravestones ever since I grew up (just a block from the Portland Cemetery). At that time I was interested in the sizes and shapes of stones, and also the fact that some of them had been there for a long time.

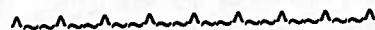
My emphasis changed over time, and now I am very interested in the symbols that appear on stones. We all know that we can get names and dates from tombstones, but the symbols that are on them also tell a story about the person who is



Baptist Church Portland, Mich.

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."



buried there. A handout that was given to everyone explained some of the symbols that can be found. Many times these symbols represent the wishes of the family or of the deceased, the way that they want to be remembered. If a small child died, for instance, the family would make sure that this baby was known to have been loved by putting an angel or a lamb on the stone. Religious expression is often noted by having a Bible or a verse from the Bible on the stone.

While researching I found that in the 1600s one of my ancestors was a tombstone carver and I have seen some examples of his style. It is quite primitive, but it was done with care, by hand. Today laser cutters can make a tombstone into a piece of art, and the stones that are used are harder, so they will last longer than some of the older stones.

My talk consisted mainly of a slide show depicting some of the symbols that we can find on older, as well as newer, monuments. All of the pictures were taken in the Portland Cemetery. I talked about the various military, religious, fraternal organization and hobby symbols you are likely to find as well as the small metal symbols that are placed in the ground near the stone (usually to hold an American, VFW or American Legion flag). I concluded with a call, as Marilyn STEWARD did two months ago, to help with projects to preserve the stones and to record all the information on them, not just the names and dates. I gave the names of some organizations that have helpful hints on preservation.

Valerie (STODDARD) CURREN writes, "At the Detroit Public Library, I ran across this gem: 'An Ionia man said he started to climb his family tree until he ran into an Indian and a circus performer, whence he came down again and decided to do no more delving into the past.'" *Ionia Sentinel-Standard*, Monday, April 22, 1935



JOHNSON SCHOOL, 1935
Sebewa Township, Ionia Co., Michigan

Left to right:
Robert CARTER, Margaret SINDLINGER, Ruth AUGST,
Marjorie AVES, Mildred SINDLINGER

This charming image comes from Pam SWILER, with the message: "I was digging for a photo in my mother-in-law's dresser drawers and found a treasure chest of photos that I just have to share with our members. Mildred RICE, who is pictured in this photo, is a First Families member. My mother-in-law is Marjorie AVES, now Mrs. Harold SWILER."



From the "*Columbian Register*", New Haven, Conn.,
 Saturday, February 15, 1840:

"Glorious chance for Girls. — It is well known that the Government of Texas, to encourage emigration from the United States, have offered a handsome bounty in land to any female who shall marry a citizen of Texas. A lady of Mobile, wishing to have a little more light on the subject, and to find out if possible what sort of an animal she would be required to wed, in order to obtain the land, addressed the editor of the *Galvestonian* for information. To all her questions he gives straightforward answers. He says that on the reception of the letter, he called a meeting of

bachelors, and there was not one of them but agreed, in case an importation should be sent out to take and provide for at least one; and one chap went so far as to offer to take six, if they could do no better. As to the comeatability and quality of the land, he says that it will not come to them, but they can go and find it as good as ever lay out of doors, and well adapted for raising soldiers, cabbages, lawyers, potatoes, pumpkins, cotton, sugar, dandies, ladies, babies, pigs, and chickens. Girls, Texas is the place. Pack up your dudds, take your knitting work, and be off on the first boat."

The Vintage Voice

~ news & notices from early Ionia newspapers

*From the Portland Observer,
20 April 1875:*

G. W. ST. JOHNS has sold his stock of groceries to Emery JOSLYN of Sebewa.

George YOUNG and Clark PIERCE, jurors from Sebewa.

Married JOHNSON-PARAMETER. At the residence of the bride's parents in Sebewa, April 11, 1875 by Rev. Daniel MEYERS, Mr. Chauncy L. Johnson of Muir and Miss Elizabeth S. Parameter of Sebewa.

27 April 1875

Present status of Portland 2,000 inhabitants.

A plowing match is to come off on the farm of W. B. HAYS, in the township of North Plains, May 1.

Died in this village on the 22 inst. Benjamin R. I. PROBASCO aged 22 years 7 months and 6 days.

4 May 1875:

Tonsorial

When you may wish an easy shave
As good as barber ever gave,
Just call on me at my saloon,
At morn, or eve, or busy noon,
I curl and dress the hair with grace,
I'll suit the contour of your face.
My room is neat, My towels clean,
Scissors sharp and razors keen;
And everything, I think you'll find,
To suit the taste and please the mind;
If you'll just call, I'll do for you. --
Henry TATE

11 May 1875

Michael POWELL, of Sebewa, a

man drawing near three score and ten, was tried in the Circuit Court at Ionia last week, on a charge of bastardy with his second wife's daughter, a girl in her teens. Powell was found guilty and made to give bonds for the maintenance of the child, now 3 or 4 years of age.

18 May 1875:

Strawberries in Detroit \$1.00-\$1.50 per quart.

Greenville does not propose to be outdone by Ionia, and has also made arrangements to light the city with gas.

Four thousand dollars a year is \$10.96 a day, Sundays included, and that's what the new superintendent of the DL & LM Railroad gets.

25 May 1875:

We are informed, the mother of M. V. TERRILL, in this township, a lady of nearly eighty years old, who has had to "gum it" several years, is being blessed with a new set of natural teeth, having already cut six within a short time.

The Ionians got ashamed to spell before folks and now have marked spelling schools, where people can go, miss and clear out without being known.

In reporting the trial of Michael Powell for bastardy two weeks ago, we said that the judge required him to give bonds for proper maintenance of the child. This, we are informed, is a mistake, he having obtained a rehearing of the case, when he and his friends expect he will be acquitted.

1 June 1875:

Grasshoppers appear more abundant than ever, at least in

Atchison.

The boys now divide their time between looking at the circus pictures and looking for a chance to earn a quarter to take them into the show.

Spelling schools are not as popular as they "used to was". They have accomplished one good thing, however, in taking the conceit out of a great many people.

Portland may justly feel proud of its Cornet Band as they appear in their new \$300 uniforms.

Another store has been opened at Sebewa by a man named HITCHENS, from Lansing.

It is almost a wonder that Portland hasn't a racetrack, as nearly every village in the state is supplied with one.

from the Lake Odessa Wave-Times, Thursday, May 7, 1908.:

NOTED CENTENARIAN HAS PASSED AWAY

George JACKSON Reached Age
of 104 Years.

HAD HUNDREDS OF
DESCENDANTS

Was Born in Canada in 1803—
Father of Twelve Children—
Blacksmith By Trade.

George Jackson, Campbell's centenarian and one of Michigan's oldest residents, died at the home of his son Samuel near Morrison Lake last Saturday at the remarkable age of 104 years. Had he lived until Oct. 18, he would have been 105 years old. A peculiar coincidence of the death of Mr. Jackson is the fact that Dan WHIPPLE, the oldest man in Michigan, died at Traverse city on the same day at the age of 109 years.

Geo. Jackson was born in

Augusta, Canada, Oct. 18, 1803. He was a drummer boy in the British army and was in one skirmish between the British and Americans. He was married to Jane **WHITNEY** in 1830 and to them were born twelve children, eight boys and four girls, all of whom survive him excepting the oldest son and the fourth son, the former having been killed while helping to build a log house. In 1872 the family came to this county and Mrs. Jackson died the same year. In the following year he was married to Rhoda **BUSTON**.

His grandchildren and great grand-children he could count by the scores, many of whom live near here, others in Canada and still others in Ohio.

ibid., Dec. 29, 1911:

MARRIED AT IONIA SATURDAY

Last Saturday at the M. E. parsonage in Ionia occurred the marriage of Miss Glendora **BADGLEY** oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Badgley of this place to Mr. Milo O. **LAUGHLIN** of Jackson. The young couple left Tuesday for Jackson where they will make their new home. The bride is well known here having spent her school days in the local schools where she had a large circle of friends who along with her many other friends she has made since will join in extending her best wishes for a long and happy married life.

ibid., Jan. 5, 1912:

CUPID HAS DROP ON DIVORCE EVIL

In Ionia County for the Last Year -
Licenses Exceeding Separations.

The marriage license business in Ionia county shows an increase during the past year over 1910 and

there is an indication that Cupid has got the drop on the divorce business. He may be arrested for carrying concealed weapons but if he can escape perhaps he will carry on the good work the coming year.

During the months of 1910 there were 204 marriage licenses issued. During 1911 there were 325 issued, an increase of 21 or about seven per cent. Good interest on the investment. In 1910 there were 83 divorce suits started while in 1911 there were 86 begun. In 1910 there were 76 divorces granted while in 1911 there were but 63, a falling off of almost 20 per cent in the divorce business.

During the year of 1911 the prize of the marriage license department was awarded to Joseph M. **KRAMER**, of Washtenaw, who at the age of 79 led his bride to the altar. The bride was Elnora **DERBY**, aged 57, of Sebewa.

Andrew **LOVERIDGE** and Ann **RYAN** of Ionia township were awarded the prize for persistence, each having been married three times previous to the taking out of their license just before New Years.

ibid., Feb. 2, 1912:

Postmaster **MOULTON**, of Belding, gives notice that the postoffice is not a spooning place. He leaves the lobby open nights and Sundays, but some young people have been making love there and George, who must be getting old, cannot stand for it.

The Ladies of the Congregational church will serve a boiled, 'owl supper' in their dining rooms at the church next Tuesday, Feb. 6. Price 15 cents. Everybody come.

ibid., Friday, Jan. 12, 1912:

PRAYERS FOR PORTLAND

You wouldn't think that Portland needed a thorough, systematic series of prayers for her benefit. It is so. A pastor of one of the local churches is lifting up his voice in supplication for that village every

evening this week. He has the inhabitants subdivided into occupations and devotes an evening to each classification. We are pained to note that he omits praying for the newspaper men of Portland. There are three conclusions that may be drawn from this: They are either so good they do not need prayers; they are so bad that it would do no good; or they are not considered worth the effort. Take your choice, but for us we shall hold to the opinion that they are so well provided with halos they do not need the prayers. Grand Ledge Independent.

BRETZ SCHOOL NOTES

The storm last week kept quite a few at home.

Lucy **AUSTIN** is absent from school this week on account of grippe.

Violet **SHELLENBARGER** is also absent on account of Tonsillitis.

The seventh graders are now reading "the Song of Hiawatha."

We have just received a new globe and hope now to have Geography plainer.

From an article by George **TOWNER** in a recent *Mensa Bulletin*: "My great-grandfather was born in 1664. He begat my grandfather in 1822, who begat my father in 1870 who sired me at the age of 63. So I spring from a legacy of late parenting. If my son respects the family tradition and has a child in 2064, we could try for Guinness having covered five generations in 300 years. My forebears were strong, self-reliant N.W. England-stock farmers, doctors, and ministers. Or, as a woman remarked to me once, maybe they were just a bunch of dirty old men. Either way, it seemed natural to me to wait until I was 52 to start a family - thanks to Ron **KYSER** for sharing this with us."

**LYDIA MARIA PEABODY STINCHCOMB SCRAPBOOK
INDEX OF CONTENTS**

KEY:

SOURCE—A=Article M=Marriage MA=Anniversary O=Obit

COUNTY—B=Barry E=Eaton I=Ionia ING=Ingham K=Kent M=Montcalm

NAME	DATE	SOURCE	COUNTY	FILE #
DANANHOUR, T. F.	N/A	M	E	LS19
DAVIS, James Alfred	N/A	M	E	LS812
DAY, Millie	3/30/1901	M	E	LS11
DAY, Nina B.	9/5/1903	M	E	LS810
DEAN, Lottie	N/A	M	E	LS811
DEATSMAN, Charles	1/27/1903	O	E	LS85
DEATSMAN, E. H.	N/A	M	E	LS17
DEATSMAN, Rhoda	2/29/1906	M	E	LS817
DERBY, Bernie	N/A	M	E	LS814
DERBY, E. C.	N/A	M	E	LS819
DEUEL, Orlando	10/11/1904	O	E	LS617
DILLEY, Henry	7/3/1899	O	I	LS715
DILLY, Hannah	N/A	M	E	LS113
DOW, John C.	N/A	O	E	LS611
DUNHAM, Nathan	N/A	M	E/K	LS118
EATON, O. R.	2/29/1906	M	E	LS817
EDWINS, Charles (shooting)	5/7/1905	A	I	LS49
ELLWORTH, John	N/A	O	E	LS717
FIGG, Mrs. Emma	N/A	M	E	LS19
FOGLE, Lena	10/29/1901	M	E	LS115
FRIEND, Bessie JOHNSTON	N/A	O	E	LS53
FRYAN, George	3/16/??	M	I	LS813
FRYFOGLE, B. F.	N/A	M	N/A	LS112
GARDNER, Marinda	N/A	M	E/ING	LS22
GODDARD, Rufus	N/A	O	I	LS77
GRAGG, Bessie	5/21/1907	M	E	LS67
GREEN, Fred	N/A	M	E	LS88
GREEN, Thomas	N/A	O	E	LS610
GRIFFIN, Arthur	9/5/1903	M	E	LS810
GRINWELL, Mary Eliza TUNISON	2/3/1903	O	E	LS512
GRISWOLD, Miss	N/A	M	M	LS18
HAGER, Lulu	N/A	M	E	LS88
HALLADAY, Blanch	6/18/??	M	I	LS211
HAMPTON, Mrs. Josephine	N/A	M	E	LS819
HARTWELL, Angie		O	E	LS43
HATCH, Roy	N/A	M	E	LS86
HEATH, Margaret RICHARD WALSH	12/18/10-2	O	E	LS65
HOUGH, Clyde E.	3/10/1901	O	E	LS63
HOUGH, Elmer E.	1/17/1906	O	E	LS62
HULETT, Daniel	12/1/1905	O	E	LS26
HULETT, Daniel	9/11/1905	O	E	LS212
HULETT, Daniel	9/1/1905	O	E	LS31
HYDE, Clara Belle ROGERS	1907	O	E	LS76
INGALLS, Nellie	9/17/1906	O	E/I	LS126
JACOBS, Rev. J.	8/20/1903	O	E	LS515
JOHNSON, Samuel R.	1/20/1905	O	E	LS311
KAERCHER, George	2/26/1906	O	I	LS52
KAERCHER, George	N/A	O	E	LS620
KAERCHER, Mary DURST	2/5/1908	O	E	LS124
KATHAN, Mabelle Lillian	N/A	M	I	LS87
KIMBALL, Rebecca M.	12/31/1902	M	E	LS119
KINNEY, Edith	N/A	M	E	LS95

RAMSEY, Bessie	6/5/1901	M	E	LS14
RANDALL, W. M.	N/A	M	E	LS95
RANDALL, William Hale	2/3/1902	O	E	LS513
RANDOLPH, Maggie	12/18/??	M	Gratiot	LS111
RAWSON, Mabel	3/15/1906	M	E/I	LS94
REAMES, Homer S.	3/15/1906	M	E/I	LS94
REEDER, Maude	N/A	M	E	LS123
REESE, Nellie	N/A	O	B	LS518
RICHARD, Harry	N/A	M	N/A	LS25
RICHARD, Will	2/16/1897	O	E	LS41
RICHARDS, Will	N/A	M	E	LS116
ROGINSON, Mary Ann RUMFIELD	7/23/1904	O	E	LS616
ROZELLE, Elsie	N/A	M	E	LS814
RUFF, Samuel	2/8/1905	O	E	LS58
SACKETT, Lillie C. HELM	7/5/1905	O	E	LS66
SACKETT, Lily C.	7/5/1906	O	E	LS35
SACKETT, William	3/6/1902	O	E	LS514
SAYER, Catherine GENNEBAUGH	5/1/1906	MA	E	LS39
SAYER, Catherine GENNEBAUGH	5/1/1906	MA	E	LS64
SAYER, Ernest L.	N/A	M	E	LS68
SAYER, Jacob	5/1/1906	MA	E	LS64
SAYER, John	5/1/1906	MA	E	LS39
SAYER, Mrs. Will	N/A	O	E/I	LS612
SCHEELS, Emma		M	E	LS214
SEARS, Charles	N/A	M	E/K	LS120
SEARS, Ethelyn	8/10/1904	M	E/I	LS93
SEBEWA, Early Settlers of	N/A	A	I	LS72
SHAFER, Mrs. Burley	N/A	O	E	LS711
SHEARER, Joseph	5/21/1907	M	E	LS67
SHELLEY, Jay P.	9/17/1902	M	E	LS14
SHELLY & ROBERTSON	N/A	A	E	LS210
SHELLY, Marjorie Bessie	N/A	B	E	LS619
SHERRARD, James		O	E	LS127
SHOLTUS, Mrs. Ida	N/A	M	I	LS910
SIMONS, Lulu	N/A	M	N/A	LS112
SINCLAIR, Maud	8/10/1905	M	E	LS96
SMECKER, Alvin M.	N/A	M	I	LS92
SMITH, Rosa	11/6/1900	M	E	LS75
SMOCK, Myrtle	9/17/1902	M	E	LS13
SNELL, Lola Blanch	N/A	M	E	LS812
SNYDER, Lola FISH	2/12/1906	O	I	LS516
STINCHCOMB, Asa	6/14/1901	O		LS517
STINCHCOMB, Leon	N/A	M	I	LS87
STOUT, Elizabeth M. SHENEMAN	12/4/1901	O	E	LS83
SUNFIELD 1903 COMMENCEMENT	1903	A	E	LS71
SUNFIELD FIRE	N/A	A	E	LS32
SUNFIELD HIGH SCHOOL	3/17/1905	A	E	LS213
THOMPSON, Eliza	2/18/1899	O	E	LS310
TOAZ, Tom J.	N/A	O	E	LS216
TOWN, Charles N.	N/A	M	E	LS816
TRAVIS, Lydia A. DE RHODES	N/A	O	I	LS44
TRIPHAGEN, John W.		O	E/I	LS34
TRYON, Maud	2/20/1902	M	I	LS89
TUBBS, Harry	N/A	M	E	LS16
VAN HARGER, Mrs.	1894	A	I	LS510
VAN HOUTEN, Peter	2/14/1897	M	E	LS318
WALSH, Charles	N/A	M	E	LS117
WALSH, Charles (Mr. & Mrs)	N/A	M	E	LS621
WALSH, Mrs. Emeline	12/4/1907	O	E/ING	LS121

NAME	DATE	SOURCE	COUNTY	FILE #
WEEKS, Emily A.	N/A	O	E	LS519
WELSH, P. J.	1906	O	B	LS56
WEST, Edith	9/14/1902	M	E	LS12
WEST, Elton	9/14/1902	M	E	LS12
WEST, Warren	10/29/1901	M	E	LS115
WILLIAMS, Florence	8/16/??	M	E	LS314
WILLITTS, Ray	2/20/1902	M	I	LS89
WITHERALL, Cora M.	4/25/1906	M	E	LS97
WOLCOTT, Carrie CAMPBELL	N/A	O	I	LS55
WOLCOTT, Maud	N/A	M	M	LS17
WOLCOTT, Maud	2/16/1897	O	E	LS41
WOLCOTT, Philip	N/A	M	E	LS98
WOLF, D.H.	4/25/1906	M	E	LS97
WRIGHT, Hazel	N/A	M	E/K	LS120
YAGER, Fred	N/A	M	E	LS214

Lydia M. Peabody **STINCHCOMB** was the daughter of Frederick and Mary **RICHARDSON PEBODY**. She was born Sep. 28, 1878, and married Monroe Stinchcomb on Oct. 3, 1894. They resided in the Sunfield/Sebewa area. Teresa **SWEET** has scanned and indexed the scrapbook. She tells us, "Some of the articles are not dated, and I have no idea which papers they came from. I have them on disk and am more than willing to send!" If interested, contact Teresa at <tree@pathwaynet.com>. Thanks. Teresa. for your wonderful work!

The History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties

The Ionia County Genealogical Society announces the reprint of the *History of Ionia & Montcalm Counties with illustrations (1881)* by John L. Schenck. The book is scheduled to be completed by December 2001. Hardbound with over 500 pages, this publication is a must for libraries, historians, or any person who has an interest in the history of Ionia and Montcalm Counties in Michigan. This is a reprint of the original and this now rare publication can be yours by reserving your copy today.

PRICE - \$52.00 U.S.

TO ORDER, COMPLETE INFORMATION BELOW AND SEND FORM WITH PAYMENT PAYABLE TO ICGS TO:

Ionia County Genealogical Society
13051 Ainsworth Road
Route 3
Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9406

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER OF BOOKS: _____

For more information, contact Dale JACKSON at <djax@iserv.com>

(If you don't want to cut up your beautiful copy of the ICGS Newsletter, either photocopy this page or carefully hand-write the above information on a separate sheet of paper and forward to Dale!)

Important Notice!

We are getting ready for our annual report which will include a listing of all members' names, addresses, telephone numbers (including area code changes) and e-mail addresses. If any of this information has changed since last year, please notify Pam Swiler at (616) 374-3141 or e-mail her at <pkswiler@voyager.net>. We want the directory to be accurate, so please help. Also we know that many of you go south for the winter months. Please leave your winter address with us, including the dates you will be gone. The post office will not forward your newsletter and charges us quite a hefty fee to re-mail it, so help us keep our costs down by keeping us informed! Thank you!

"Women and cats will do as they please, and men and dogs should relax and get used to the idea."

-- Robert A. HEINLEIN

ICGS ELECTIONS

Dear Friends,

At our next meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society (November 10), we will need to nominate three people for three positions, as follows:

1. Vice-President – (Teresa Leak Sweet will not be running again next term.)
2. Trustee – (Janis Kenyon has indicated that she would be running again.)
3. Correspondence Secretary – (Bonnie Jackson has indicated that she would be running again.)

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to consider taking an active part in your society by running for an officer position on the board. It is a great way to get in on the ground floor and find out how decisions are made and what we are doing behind the scenes to make the society a success. Anyone who has served on the board will agree that it is a rewarding position and a great learning experience. The main requirement is the ability to attend one meeting per month, with the exception of the month of December. We meet on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. at my home in Lake Odessa on the 4th Thursday of the month. Meetings usually last about two hours. We have fun at our meetings! It is not boring – there is a lot of enthusiasm and excitement in building your society. If you would like to consider running for any of the positions listed above, please contact Ford Wright at (517) 647-6140 or Elaine Garlock at (616) 374-8420. They are our nominating committee members. If you want to learn more about what we do as a board – ask us! Your board of directors is more than willing to share what we have done this past year. Thanks you for your consideration and time.

President – Pam Swiler

Vice-President – Teresa Leak Sweet

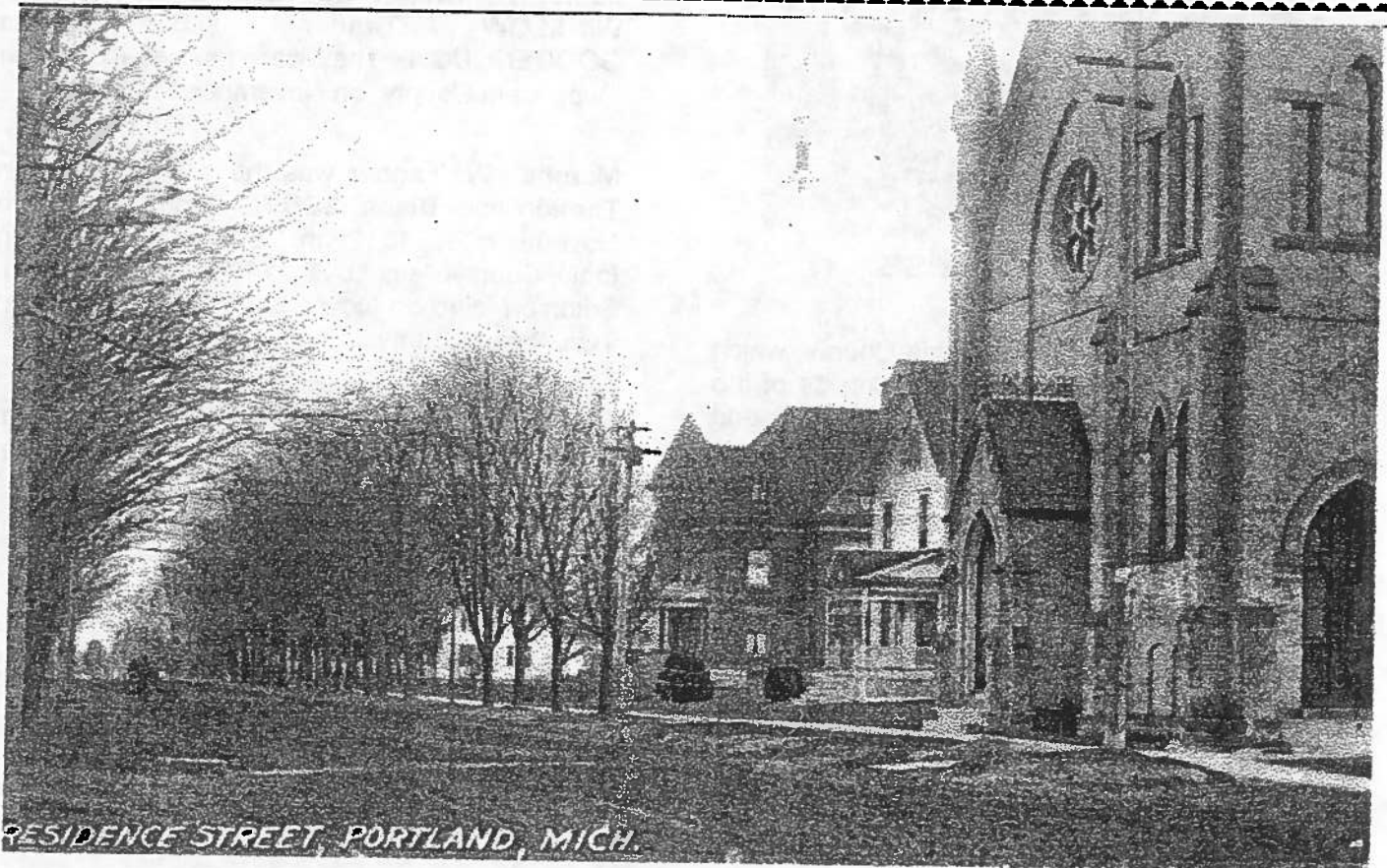
Treasurer – Lois Curtiss

Recording Secretary – Lori Fox

Trustee – Janis Kenyon

Trustee – Marilyn Steward

Correspondence Secretary – Bonnie Jackson



Here is another postcard from Marilyn COMPTON's early 1900's collection.

Highlight on First Families of Ionia County Society Member No. 9



Lois E. Curtiss

Lois is a lifelong resident of Ionia County, which is not to say she has not traveled outside of the area. She has been a missionary in Africa and has taught in many other areas of the world.

Lois Elaine CURTISS was born the daughter of **Stephen Lee Curtiss** and **Sarah Amanda TANNER**, both of Berlin Township, Ionia County, Michigan. Stephen was born September 21, 1892, and died August 8, 1967 – cause of death was an aneurysm. Sarah was born August 11, 1901, and died June 9, 1995. They were married April 18, 1923, in Saranac, Michigan. **Mabel E. HALLADAY** and **Lovina Halladay** witnessed the ceremony, both of

Saranac. **Rev. W.L. Halladay** of the Pilgrim Holiness Church performed the wedding.

Lois qualified for First Families originally from the Tanner line. Later she added other lines. Her chronicle is quite a story of the history of Berlin Township families, which is, unfortunately, much too detailed and lengthy to include in this brief article.

Sarah Amanda Tanner was the daughter of **James Adelbert Tanner** (born October 16, 1872, in Berlin Twp.) and **Carrie Rebecca POTTER** (born September 5, 1878, in Berlin Twp.). One need not go any further to qualify for First Families than this, as this meets the criteria, however, Lois is able to go back to the 1700's in her line and can prove back to 1863 in Ionia County alone!

James A. Tanner was the son of **Marshall WINSLOW Tanner** and **Lovisa GOODENOUGH**. They were married in Orange Twp., Ionia County, on November 15, 1863.

Marshall W. Tanner was the son of **Solomon Tanner** and **Diana EDDY**. Diana was born November 22, 1812, in Vermont, but died in Ionia County August 28, 1900. Her husband, Solomon, died on November 25, 1872, in Berlin Twp., Ionia County.

Diana Eddy was the daughter of **Abraham Eddy** and **Cynthia PHILLIPS**. Abraham died in Ionia County on February 25, 1875.

~~~~~

If you are interested in more details on this line, contact the ICGS First Families Committee and they will help you. Many thanks go to Lois for her hard work and dedication to our society. Lois is a charter member of ICGS and has served on our board since its formation in 1997. We appreciate her commitment to our society.

## 2001 – 20002 Calendar of Events - Ionia County Genealogical Society

### November 2001

- |    |           |                                                                                                          |
|----|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6  | 7:30 p.m. | First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'                                     |
| 10 | 1:00 p.m. | Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "Campbell Township History" – Richard Heaven is the speaker |
| 15 | 7:00 p.m. | Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'                                                                   |
| 24 |           | "Christmas 'Round the Town" at Lake Odessa Depot/Museum                                                  |

### December 2001

NO MEETINGS! Happy Holidays!

### January 2002

- |    |              |                                                                                                                         |
|----|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8  | 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 "Writing in Your Own Voice – For the Fun of It" – speaker is Dorothy Clore |
| 24 | 7:00 p.m.    | Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'                                                                                  |
| 26 | 10:00 - 2:00 | Depot Museum open to public for research                                                                                |

### February 2002

- |    |              |                                                                      |
|----|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 to be announced            |
| 23 | 10:00 - 2:00 | Depot Museum open to public for research                             |
| 28 | 7:00 p.m.    | Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'                               |

### March 2002

- |    |              |                                                                      |
|----|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 to be announced            |
| 28 | 7:00 p.m.    | Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'                               |
| 30 | 10:00 - 2:00 | Depot Museum open to public for research                             |

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS:

- |              |   |                                                                  |
|--------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 13     | - | Sharon Carlson: "Western Michigan University Archives Resources" |
| July 13      | - | Shirley Hodges: "Church Records – The Ties That Bind"            |
| September 14 | - | Jim Lyons: "Researching the Revolutionary War Soldier"           |

\*\* 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  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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

**TO:**

**Membership Fees Are  
Due January 1, 2002  
Check Your Label!  
Don't Miss An Issue!**

.....  
Those interested in membership 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. Memberships run January through December.  
.....

This is a renewal \_\_\_\_\_

This is a NEW Membership \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:**

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

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

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

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

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

Are you interested in becoming a member of the First Families of Ionia County Society? \_\_\_\_\_

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