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Upcoming Programs:

September 20

“Preserving Patriots, The Daughters of the American Revolution and a Legacy of Lineage”

Presented by
Sarah Deming, State Director of
Protocol, DAR of Michigan

Discover how the Daughters of the American Revolution honors the legacy of our nation's founders through time-honored traditions, genealogical research, and historical preservation. In this engaging presentation, Sarah Deming, State Director of Protocol for DAR of Michigan, shares how DAR members impact society by celebrating patriotism with purpose and ceremony, furthering historic preservation, and providing educational resources. Whether you're researching your ancestry or participating in civic life, this presentation will deepen your appreciation for the history of DAR of Michigan.



Next Member Meeting

September 20

Doors open 10:00

Meeting starts at 10:30

Hackley Public Library Lower Level

October 18

“Meet My Ancestor”

Presented by
MCGS Members

The Society is once again celebrating Family History Month with “Meet My Ancestor!” This has been a big success since we began this three years ago. For those unfamiliar, the members of MCGS will be introducing you to one of their favorite ancestors. If you have an interesting ancestor by stories, recipes, or role playing please feel free to sign up by **September 30th** to share them with us as space is limited and always fills.

So, come and join us for a morning of celebrating our vastly diverse heritage. Presentations will be given in a variety of formats, so be prepared to step back in time to eras long gone but not forgotten.



President Corner

Hello,

Summer has gone by in a blur! The first seven months of 2025 have been medically challenging for both me and my husband, but we are doing well and looking forward to a great fall. One of the great things about doing genealogy is you can do it with a cane, using a walker, or even in a wheelchair! It is important at any age or level of mobility to stay engaged in what you enjoy. Make it happen for yourself, or for another.

The August Road Trip to the Archives of Michigan in Lansing was great. A new member attended with Jennifer and I and we all had a great time. Don't forget the Road Trip to Ft. Wayne Allen County Genealogy Library is approaching fast - Wednesday, October 1 thru Saturday, October 4, 2025. You must email us to sign up at 1972mcgs@gmail.com. You can check out the details and associated cost on our website.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our Saturday programs. Over the next few months, we will be reviewing everything our Society has accomplished in 2025 - old projects that are finishing up, and new projects for 2026.

Thank you for your support of the Society. Hope to hear from you soon!

Karen (Page) Frazier



Celebrating our member: *Jane Gates turned 100!!!*

On June 25th our dear member Jane Gates celebrated her Centennial birthday.

Let it be announced that she is also the society's longest living member!!

Congratulations Jane on the amazing milestone!!!



Last Meeting Highlights

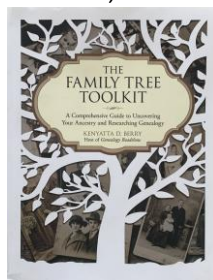
What a beautiful Saturday in August we had!! The meeting is always full when our on-site speaker, Kris Rzepczynski, from the Archives of Michigan comes to share with us. "Michigan Roots: Genealogy Research in the Great Lakes State" was the topic and the take-away he wanted us to remember was "there is no one-stop shopping when it comes to research, you need to be open to searching in multiple places at once. So much is online, but on-site research is invaluable!" I believe that is an invitation to visit the Archives of Michigan!!! Kris also shared that the state of Michigan is the ONLY state that has three statewide record collections for WWI!!

It was reported that there were 35 people in attendance with 4 being guests and 3 on Zoom.

The book draw winner was Judy Tierney

Next Meeting Reminders

Member only book draw:



Diana Elder, AG
with Nicole Dyer

Are you stuck in your Genealogical research? Wondering how to make progress on your brick wall problems? Discover the process that a professional genealogist uses to solve difficult cases. Diana Elder shares her step-by-step method using real world examples, easily understood by any level of genealogist.

Learn to: Form an objective for your research; review your research creating your own timeline analysis; construct a locality guide to direct your research; create a plan to keep you on track; set up a research log to organize and track your research; and write a report detailing your findings and ideas for future research.

Travel Opportunities with MCGS

Library of Michigan/Archives

Finished for the year

ACPL

October 1-4

We already have a full car
- but willing to accept
more!!
Email us to sign up!



Looking in to 2026:

Archives :
April 4 & August 1

ACPL – Fort Wayne
Sept 30-Oct 3

Board Updates

The August Board meeting was filled with reminders and catching up on the last two months. Lots of volunteering occurred during the society's month off – check out how the "In Progress" section has changed since last month!

The Board has decided to NOT bind the Harry Cleveland Military Collection as once it was scanned it was realized that the

necessity of books was not needed and the benefits of having it digital far outweighed the benefits of actual publications. With that, please be aware that the actual collection is going to a group of WWI and II reenactors who were very interested in the collection.

We currently have 73 members!!

We look forward to seeing you at our regular monthly meetings. If you ever have a concern, comment, question or just something you wish us to know, please do not hesitate to bring it to our attention at one of these meetings! We always look forward to hearing from you – as this is YOUR society.

1972mcgs@gmail.com



Eager to have some of these projects available to the public sooner than anticipated?

Many hands make the work light!!

Volunteer at your leisure to help the society accomplish its goals!

In Progress Special Projects and Activities:

Indexing:

- DD214 (**30 books left out of 87**)
- Justice of the Peace for Muskegon County (**ALMOST COMPLETE**)

Scanning:

- Historical Pioneer Certificates (on going)
- Church books boxes (**half complete**)

Binding:

NEED VOLUNTEERS:

Genealogy Tip of the Month – Citing Microfilm or Digital book

What (same as print book example):

Author(s) name, last name first. If more than one, in order as listed in book; Title of Book - italicized, original year published; Volume (if any) & chapter/page(s) that related to your research (use p for page). Chapter titles are in quotation marks.

Horne, James Carroll, Hornes-A-Plenty: The Saga of the John Ananias Horn Clan in the Southern United States, 2001, "Horns of South Carolina", p 161-173.

Publisher (same as print book example):

Place of Publication, then a colon, then the publisher, and the year (if reprinted or later edition).

Knoxville, TN: Tennessee Valley Publishing

Where & When (different than a print book): Where did you find the book? Did you buy it? Did you access it at a library or archive? A Website? A Digital Bookstore? What date?

FamilySearch Library, Salt Lake City UT. Microfilm ordered & accessed at Hackley Public Library, 3 Jul 2004. Film #1034691.

OR *FamilySearch Library, Salt Lake City UT. <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/catalog/1034691>. Digital PDF downloaded 4 Aug 2004.*

What if any of the above information is not available? Make a note that the information is missing:

Note "n.p." for No place

Note "n.p." for No publisher

Note "n.d." for no publication date.

Note "Anonymous" for no author name

Next article topic: Newspaper articles



Western Michigan Genealogical Society

Sept 6, 1:30 pm Rural Property Inventories
 Oct 4, 1:30 pm Strange, Wicked, Spooky
[Got Ancestors Seminar](#) October 18 9am
 WMGS offers a website that connects all the surrounding area's information in one convenient location called [Common Corners](#)

Library of Michigan

has published the entire year of programs
[click HERE to see the entire listing](#)
 September 4th is "Newspaper Research at the Library of Michigan"
 Simply click the program to register



Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan

47th Annual Genealogy Seminar

October 18, 2025
 (fee)



[Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society](#)

September 8, 2025
 7:30pm - 8:30pm

"Resources for Genealogical Research in Foreign Countries"

Presented by
 Katherine R. Willson.
 Free resources are available for beginning online research in any of our immigrant ancestors' home countries.

Don't forget to utilize [Conference Keeper](#).



Fall family History Event

November 15
 9:00 – 4:00

This annual full-day seminar is co-sponsored by the Archives of Michigan and the Library of Michigan. Our 2025 keynote speaker is Curt Witcher from Allen County Public Library.

This will be both onsite and virtual.

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
[Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society](#)

September 24-28, 2025,
 Atlanta GA.
 110th Annual Conference.
 Registration required.



Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

ACPL is offering 6 [virtual programs](#) for September.

To include North Carolina Research and the British Home Children!



Upcoming Webinars - Legacy Family Tree Webinars

Register within the link above.

September 3, 2025, 10:15 AM
 Finding Your Ancestors in German Directories

September 17, 2025:
 12:45PM: MyHeritage's OldNews.com is Good News for Genealogists

September 19, 2025: 2:00 PM
 Mexican Immigration Records through the Centuries

September 24, 2025: 11:30
 School Censuses: What, When and Where

September 26, 2025: 2:00 PM
 Disclosing Use of AI for Writing Assistance in Genealogy (Paid members only)

PLUS MANY MORE!!!!

Look for future webinars, seminars, on-line learning modules, or workshops from around the web here in future issues!



Technology Merges with Genealogy

So, last month I wrote about how [Ancestor Seekers](#) helped me go back to the 1670s with my German Immigrant's family line. This month I wanted to share with you the website that helped us do it. It's called [Archion](#).

This is a paid site, with subscriptions starting from \$23 (30 days with 50 downloads) to one-full year, and I just received an article from [Ancestral Past](#) titled, "Archion – A Great Resource for German Ancestry Research" as part of their July-August Newsletter. It states that prior to 1871 ALL primary records of important family events were kept by the local churches.

It goes on to describe the value of the site with its 175,000 German Church Books available online for viewing and downloading and are adding more **daily**.

There is one downfall to this site that I will mention: THERE IS NO INDEX FOR SEARCHING BY SURNAME. But don't let that stop you, this is an amazing site if you have a German brick wall you are hoping to break down.

AND, I believe, this website is available for free at any Family Search Center around the country (our closest one is located at 2780 Leonard St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (720) 987-6403. Their hours are Tuesdays 10 – 2 or by appointment.

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF PODCASTS:

[The Photo Detective](#)

As the Photo Detective, Maureen Taylor helps clients learn about all things related to photographs: using clues to identify relatives and settings, preserving images, and handling old photo formats, to name a few. She shares her expertise in this podcast that has run for nearly 200 episodes, and interviews other expert guests on subjects ranging from home movies to English genealogy to narrative nonfiction.

Frequency: Weekly
Host: Maureen A. Taylor

Are you
technologically
savvy??

MCGS is still in
need of a
Technology
Chair.

Contact us
through our
email address:
1972MCGS@gmail.com

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



SEPTEMBER 12, 19??

What year was the first flight over Grand Rapids?

Discover the answer by following [this link](#).

Monthly Quote

*"Some of
my favorite
genealogy
treasures
...
are what
my
ancestors
tried to
hide!"*

*— from Twisted
Twigs*

MEMBERS.... Do you have an ancestor you would like to share? Do you have some advice to help others in their research? Here is your opportunity. Simply submit your article to twigtalk1972@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and you can become a contributor to our publication. All is welcome to share!!!



September 11-14 Heritage Landing

Come and immerse yourself in the culture & activities of Ireland right here in Muskegon with performers, vendors, food and beverages. Want more info? Click the picture to be taken to their website.

Mark your calendars:

Once again the Muskegon famed "City of the Dead" comes to life as there are still "Tales waiting to be told from behind the headstones".

October 11 5pm – 8pm
October 12 with afternoon tours
Evergreen Cemetery
391 Irwin Ave



For local happenings around our area, click the Visit Muskegon picture to go to our town's event's page:



Dive Into Muskegon

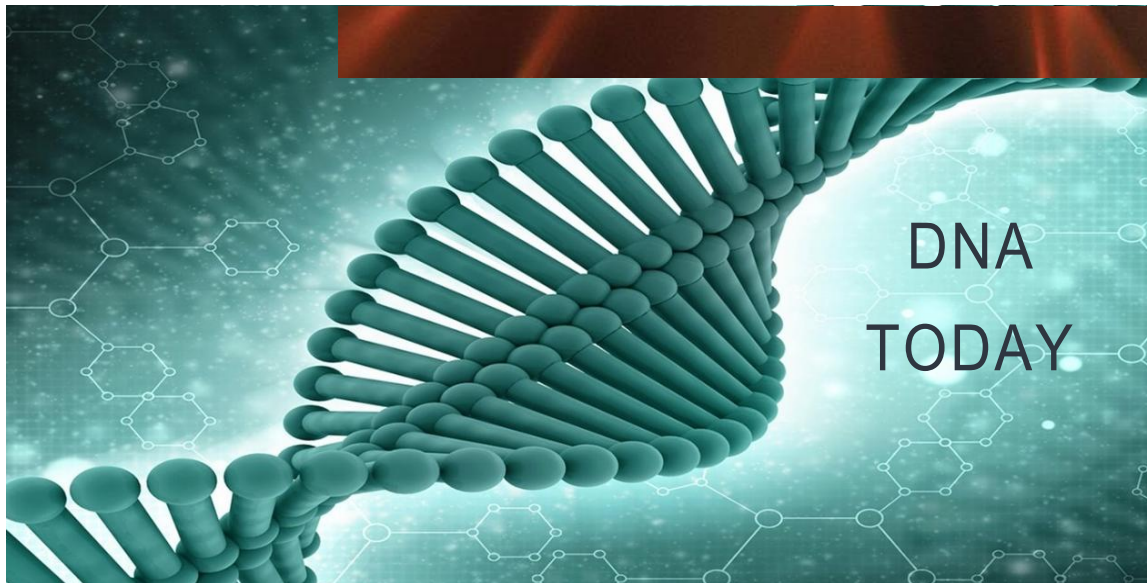
Back to the old time recipes from the *Auxiliary Favorites II*.

June 13, 1945 Miss Marjean Elizabeth DeWind became Mrs. Elvie Victor Borgerding, marrying a WWII Purple Heart honored soldier. Born April 1, 1923 she was the fourth of five children born to Henry and Margaret (Alger) DeWind. In the 54 years of marriage, five children were born but it was only after her children were reared that Marjean went to work as an Executive Secretary for Christian Care Convalescent Home until her retirement in 1998. Unfortunately, she shared only a short amount of retirement time with Elvie who passed away in February of 1999. Marjean lived another 6 years until her passing in 2005. Ms. Marjean contributed several recipes to our Auxiliary Favorites, here is just one of them...

Graham Bread or Muffins

1 c flour
½ tsp salt
4 tsp baking powder
½ c brown sugar (packed)
1 c graham crackers crumbs
2 eggs, beaten
1 c milk
1/3 c melted shortening
Nuts or raisins, if desired

Sift dry ingredients together. Add sugar and cracker crumbs. Add eggs mixed with milk and shortening. Add nuts or raisins. For muffins, bake 15 minutes at 425*; for bread, bake 1 hours at 350*



DNA TODAY

There is news for the Genetic Community...

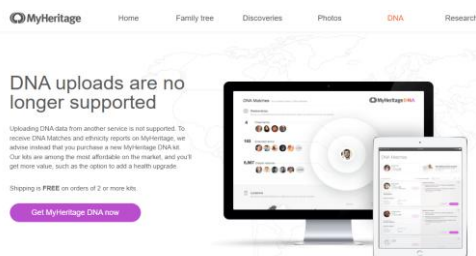
MyHeritage has announced that they will no longer allow uploading of one's DNA from another company to their site. They are joining the ranks of Ancestry.com and 23andMe where you will have to purchase a test kit from them in order to have results. If you have already uploaded your results from another testing company to MyHeritage, I do not believe anything will change.

Diahan Southard (from YourDNAGuide.com) is asking MyHeritage to be open up to the possibility of having a DNA only membership option (similar to what Ancestry.com currently has available) for those not interested in having access to the record collections.

This change became effective August 1.

The going cost of a DNA kit from MyHeritage varies, but I have seen it as low as \$29.00. So, watch the sales, sign up for their email notifications and enjoy the benefits.

It is recommended to actually have your DNA tested at more than one company – because no one knows what the future may bring.



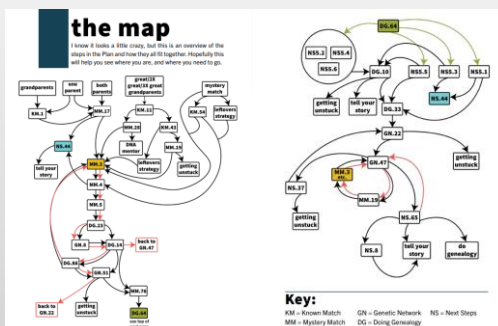
**“FAMILY IS
MORE THAN
DNA,
MORE THAN
WHO WE
USED TO BE,
MORE THAN
WE CAN
IMAGINE WE
WILL
BECOME.”**

DIGging with the Genies

The Genetic Genies

We continued our learning with a quick refresher and moved right back into the “work”. This month we discussed cousin's relationships and one member asked if anyone else had “Double Cousins” (meaning -related on both sides). As unusual as that seems, it is more common than one can imagine!

We are also, one step closer to being turned loose on “The Plan” to work on our own DNA mysteries!



**~ REGINA
BRETT**

MCGS MEETING PLACE

Hackley Public Library
316 W. Webster Ave
Muskegon, MI 49440



Saturdays at 10:30am

2025 Meeting Dates:

SEPTEMBER 20

OCTOBER 18

NOVEMBER 15
Annual Meeting

DECEMBER
No Meeting

2026 Meeting Dates:

JANUARY 17

FEBRUARY 21

MARCH 21

APRIL 18

MAY 16

JUNE 30

MCGS Meeting

Cancellation

Notice

Notification
posted on the
MCGS Website
and Facebook
page and
WZZM Channel
13 Closings &
Cancellation List

HPL – TORRENT HOUSE THE LOCAL HISTORY & GENEALOGY DEPT.

315 W. Webster Ave.
Muskegon, MI
Check [website](#) for hours!



Added to the Bookshelf:

Index of Vital Statistics from The Muskegon Chronicle 1915-1917
Index of Vital Statistics from The Muskegon Chronicle 1918-1920
Index of Vital Statistics from The Muskegon Chronicle 1921-1922
Index of Vital Statistics from The Muskegon Chronicle 1923-1924



Call for your appointment!

OFFICERS

President Karen Page Frazier
Presidentmcgs72@gmail.com
Vice President Dawn Westcomb Kelley
VPmcgs72@gmail.com
Secretary Tom Shepherd
Treasurer Jennifer Lamkin
Past President Jane Appleton Schapka

DELEGATE

Gail Taggart:
Michigan Genealogical Council
National Genealogical Societies

COMMITTEES

Database..... Pam Schaner
Facebook Norm Dagen
Membership Dawn Westcomb Kelley
Membershipmcgs1972@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor Jennifer Lamkin
Twigtalk1972@gmail.com
Pioneer Program Jane Appleton Schapka
Programs Patti Blaszk Mulder
Programsmcgs72@gmail.com
Public Education Maria Chmelarova
Publicity Jackie Engel
Publicitymcgs72@gmail.com
Research..... Fran Harrington
Researchmcgs72@gmail.com
Sales OPEN
Technology OPEN
Website..... Shelly Nelson

MEMBER at LARGE

Gary Versalle

Thank you for allowing us to serve you!

~



The Muskegon County Clerk's Office is once again UNDER CONSTRUCTION. Open research is put ON HOLD until further notice. But once resumed is still **limited to ONLY Wednesdays**.

TO ENSURE THERE IS STAFF AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU, please call ahead of your visit (231) 724-6221.

TWIG TALK

A publication of:

Muskegon County Genealogical Society
C/O Hackley Public Library—Torrent House
Local History & Genealogy Department
315 W. Webster Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49440-1208

1972mcgs@gmail.com

genealogymuskegon.org

facebook.com/MuskegonGenealogicalSociety