



TWIG TALK

Newsletter

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November 2020



TWIG TALK

A monthly publication of:
Muskegon County Genealogical Society
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Celebrating 50 years in 2022

President's Message

By Dawn Westcomb Kelley -

Hello everyone, 10 months into this year has gone by so fast, I think my feet have not hit the ground yet! My husband Bill and I have done so.....much yard work so far this year, that needed to get done. There are just a few more house and yard jobs that we hope to finish in the spring of 2021.

I really miss everyone at the monthly meetings, monthly board meetings and the Saturday's, Family Workshop at the Local History & Genealogy Department.

Since we cannot meet for the rest of this year to vote for new officers, all

Monthly Meeting
No Meeting In November 2020



Veterans Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed annually on November 11, for honoring military veterans, that is, persons who have served in the United States Armed Forces. It coincides with other holidays including Armistice Day and Remembrance Day which are celebrated in other countries that mark the anniversary of the end of World War I. Major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

officers for 2021 will remain the same as in 2020 until their successors elected. All meetings for first part of 2021 will be canceled until further notice. If there are any changes that happens between now and January 2021 we let you

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GENEALOGY TIP

Immigrants often traveled with other family members and neighbors from their hometowns. When they arrived in their new home, they may have lived near these people, too. So research passenger lists to see who traveled with your ancestor-look a few pages forward and back. by Ancestry.

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President's Message)

right away.

You know if you have research problems, you can contact us. We are here to help you.

Please be safe and healthy.

MEMBERSHIP

It is that time of year again to send in your membership dues with your application. See page 5 of the November Twig Talk Newsletter. You can pay by sending it with payment to the address on the application or by PayPal from our website <https://genealogymuskegon.org/membership/>



Who, When, Where **What, and**

A genealogy timeline allows me to track the basic facts I want to know about my ancestor in one

place. Use your timeline to document the information you find in documents, newspapers, and books. My timelines consist of tables with five columns; Date, Place, Event, Comments, and Source. This allows me to view everything I know about a person in one place. As I find new information I add a row to my genealogy timeline, with the information in date order.

Create your timeline so that it is most useful to you. You might prefer color-coding events, names, or even sources. Maybe you want to add portions of an original document to your timeline entry, or links to websites. Whenever you're using a geology tool like a timeline it's important that you create it in a way that you will use and that will assist you in your research.

While timelines provide a great place to document your family history findings, don't forget to use them for asking questions or noting next steps. In my timeline's comments section I always add analysis, observation or what information I need to look for. When I add newspa-

per articles, I always include comments regarding follow-up research or even new keywords that I need to use in my search.

Most importantly, make sure you document the source where you found that information in your genealogy timeline. This will help you later when you need to refer back to a newspaper article, document of a website. While this may seem like a lot of work now, it's nothing capered to the hassles of trying to track back to find something later. From Genealogy Bank

Search engines

Make liberal use of your general search engine (like [DuckDuckGo](#) or [Google](#)) to seek out obituaries. Search for a person's name in quotation marks ("John Elliott Stubenhaver"), and you may find obituaries in places you never expected—for example, church newspapers and annual reports.

An article that clearly includes your ancestor's name may not come up with your search results, which means you'll have to be cagier. In other words, you'll want to try both "J. E. Stubenhaver" and "Mr. Stubenhaver," plus all the varieties of misspellings that you have come across in your research.



Updates about Olive Tree Genealogy website and other **FREE** genealogy records. Bringing reviews, genealogy new, genealogy specials and more. Helping you find your family tree and ancestors.

<https://olivetreegenealogy.blogspot.com/>

Research at the Muskegon County Clerk— Services Suspended Until Further Notice

Unfortunately we are not allowing researchers in the office at this time until further notice.



"A man lives as long..... as he is remembered"

Your tombstone stands among the rest;
neglected and alone.

The name and date chiseled out
on polished, marbled stone.

It reaches out to all who care
it is too late to mourn.

You did not know that I exist
you died and I was born.

Yet each of us are cells of you
in flesh, in blood, in bone.

Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
one hundred years ago
spreads out among the ones you left
who would have loved you so.

I wonder if you lived and loved.

I wonder if you knew
that someday I would find this spot,
and come to visit you.

Author unknown

Submitted by Paula Halloran

Twig Talk, March 2009



LAKESHORE MUSEUM CENTER

Check out their programs and new exhibits at <https://lakeshoremuseum.org/> under the Calendar.

Heritage Museum merged with **Lakeshore Museum Center** in June 2020. The museum is dedicated to preserving the economic, industrial & social history of the greater Muskegon area. Our collection includes informational exhibits, artifacts and photos pertaining to Muskegon industries, historic homes and businesses. We have a working steam engine with a line shaft that runs 11 machines tools. We also have a working Brunswick pinsetter, a spring winding machine, and over 80 other companies represented in exhibits.

Do not let the modest storefront fool you, the Museum has over 12,000 square feet of display space spanning three floors and in 2019 we added an elevator for our visitors.

Need a unique venue-for a company event or to entertain family and friends? We have the ideal space. Contact us for more information. 561 West Western Ave., Muskegon, MI 49440,

(231) 722-1363

Hours: Mid-May to Mid-Oct. (May 13 to Oct 17 / Weds thru Sat. 11:00 am to 4:00 pm or by appointment year around.

Google News Archive – From GenealogyGems by Allison DePrey Singleton

Newspapers are a fantastic resource for genealogists. They provide clues to the major events in our ancestors' lives as well as to personal information that adds to their life stories. Newspapers can also provide context for events happening locally, nationally, and worldwide that may have influenced our ancestors. While newspapers are invaluable, they can be difficult to find for some places, especially in digital form. One source for digitized newspapers that often is overlooked is Google News Archive <https://news.google.com/newspapers>

Genealogists know that Google is a great place to search for elusive records, but not everyone is familiar with Google News Archive. Launched in 2006 with Google's purchase of Paperof-record.com, its content began being indexed two years later, but much of the collection was not converted. Copyright issues prevented the online availability of many newspapers, and the task of securing clearance became too much trouble for the project's continuance. Google abandoned it in 2011. Luckily for us, however, the content is still mostly available online. Only as publishers bring copyright issues to Google's attention do they take such specific newspapers as The New York Times offline.

Google News Archive lists the available newspapers in alphabetical order by the title. You will notice right away that some are modern and some historic. As with other listings of digitized newspapers, it is pure luck when you find a free digitized version of the newspapers you are seeking. The News Archive is just another possible tool to assist you in that research.

Once you click on the newspaper you wish to view, you can browse the timeline for issues that might be pertinent to your ancestors' lives. Once the newspaper is open, the functionality of the tools are simple, but they work. You can zoom in and out, which is the main component you need

to read the text of a newspaper. You can link to the article, but with possibility of newspapers being taken down, I would recommend using the Print Screen function or Snip Tool on your computer to save the article of interest to your computer.

While this resource may seem like it is more trouble than it is worth, we all know the joy of finding that “puzzle piece” that fills in a gap in our ancestors’ lives. A newspaper may be the resource that assists you in finding that piece and solving another family mystery. If anything, it might be a good source for more historical context and gaining a better understanding our ancestors. Happy researching!

We are members of The National Genealogical Societies, who merged with Federation of Genealogical Societies. See below to put in the newsletter.

Southern California Genealogical Society Webinar Series

- Join our twice-monthly webcasts with knowledgeable genealogists to help grow what you know. The **LIVE** broadcast is **FREE** and open to the public.

Register at www.scgsgenealogy.com

- **You MUST Register to participate.**
- Click on the Webinar Title you want to attend listed below.
- Register with our partner website, *GoToWebinar.com*.
- Enter your name and email address and answer a few questions. You will receive confirmation of your registration by email.

You will also receive reminders before the webinar. **The reminder email will have information on accessing the handout material.**

On the day of the session, click the link that you received in your invitation to *GoToWebinar.com* to join the online session.

Saturday, November 7 1:00 PM - EST **Researching Your French Canadian Ancestors**

by Johanne Gervais, BSc, MBA

With the right tools, searching for your French

Canadian ancestors in Quebec has never been easier. This session will provide an overview of the Quebec archives website, the BMS2000, Programme de recherche en démographie historique (PRDH), GenealogyQuebec, and FichierOrigine databases. The most common and useful features for each database will be explained.

Johanne Gervais, BSc, MBA, worked for



over 25 years at various large companies in Montreal developing and implementing computer business systems. She became interested in genealogy while helping her husband write a book about his family for his mother’s 90th birthday. She is the founder of the Québec Genealogical eSociety (www.genquebec.com), a completely virtual non-profit genealogical society focused on Quebec research launched at RootsTech 2018.

Wednesday, November 18 9:00 PM EST

From Chernorudka to Chicago - Learnings From One Family’s Immigration Path



by Jane Neff Rollins, MSPH, is a professional genealogist. Her genealogical education includes ProGen 29, SLIG, and the Forensic Genealogy I

Documenting the migration paths of my grandfather and his 3 siblings (1904 - 1911) involved home sources, oral history interviews, passenger lists, naturalization documents, Russian-language directories, microfilm and other sources. You will learn how you can apply this process to identify your ancestor’s town of origin and the likely route between it and the departure port and more.



MUSKEGON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION for 2021

** Our membership begins January 1 through December 31 **

- New Membership Renewal Membership
- \$25.00 Single in the USA \$30.00 Single USD\$ outside the USA
- *Membership cards are available on request. Send a small SASE with your membership payment.*
- We are a non-profit organization 501 (c) (3)
If you wish to make a donation, please fill in the amount \$ _____

*PHONE (____) _____

*E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

*NAME _____

*ADDRESS _____

*CITY _____ *STATE _____ *ZIP _____

Please make check or money orders payable to MCGS

**MAIL TO:
MCGS**

Attn: MEMBERSHIP
C/O HPL - Torrent House
315 W. Webster Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49440-1208

MCGS USE ONLY

Date Received _____
Check # _____ Amount Paid _____
Paid Cash _____
Money Order _____
PayPal _____

2020 Dates to REMEMBER



MCGS Meetings

2nd Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
VFW Post 3195
5209 Grand Haven Road



January 9
 February 13
 March 12
 April 9 (cancelled)
 May 14 (cancelled)
 June 11 (cancelled)
 August 13 (cancelled)
 September 10 (cancelled)
 October 8 (cancelled)
 November 12 (cancelled)
NO meetings in July & December

Genealogy Family History Workshops

Hackley Library-Torrent House
 Local History & Genealogy
 Dept., 315 W. Webster Ave
 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Space is limited, so please pre-register, by calling the Torrent House, Local History & Genealogy Dept. at 231-722-8016 Tues thru Sat, between 10:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

January 11
 February 8
 March 14
 April 11 (cancelled)
 May 9 (cancelled)
 September 12 (cancelled)
 October 10 (cancelled)
 November 14 (cancelled)
NO workshops in
 June, July, August & December

PLEASE READ about the re-opening of Torrent House - Local History & Genealogy Department on the Hackley Public Library website at: <https://hackleylibrary.org/local-history/local-history>



Muskegon Genealogical Society

2020 Officers

President: Dawn Westcomb Kelley
Past President: Jane Appleton Schapka
Vice President: Ingrid Porritt
Secretary: Tom Shepherd
Treasurer: Nancy Clark Spoon

Committees

Facebook Norman Dagen
 Historian Board Members
 History Book Project..... Kathy DeCormier
 Hospitality.....Jane Weber
Maria Chemelarova
John & Phyllis Slater
 Library Barb Martin
 Membership Paula Halloran
 Chris Nowak
 Newsletter Editor..... Tom Porritt
 Pioneer Program..... Barb Martin
 Programs & Publicity Ingrid Porritt
 Tom Shepherd
 Bill Hansen
 Gale Taggart
 Special Projects Dawn Kelley
 Website Board Members
 County Clerk Office ... Members
 Michigan Genealogical Council.
Gail Taggart, Delegate

The first Thanksgiving was held in the autumn of 1621 and included 50 Pilgrims and 90 Wampanoag Indians and lasted three days. Many historians believe that only five women were present at that first Thanksgiving, as many women settlers didn't survive that difficult first year in the U.S.



HISTORY BOOK UPDATE

We care what happens to our members, their families, and everyone around us. History Book, Volume 2 will be extend until further notice. We will let you know of the new date in the next few months. This is very difficult time for everyone. If you have any questions, you can email us at 1972mcgs@gmail.com or send your information to Kathy DeCormier at middlaker@frontier.com — In the subject area put "History Book Volume 2".