

MUSKEGON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1972

Vol. 22 No. 9

September 2022

T W I G T A L K

Newsletter



Celebrating 50 years in 2022

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President's Message

By Dawn Westcomb Kelley

The first membership meeting for this year will start on Saturday, September 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the lower level of Hackley Public Library. The time might be a little early for some, but this time of day just might get you energized. Some of you might be able to stop by Torrent House after the meeting to do some research.

Check below for the details on our FIRST General Membership meeting since 2019! We are so excited to see all of you, so pass the word to your genealogy family and friends. Our presentation for the September meeting will be **'Re-Start, Re-Set, Go!'**

After 2 years of COVID, we could all use a review of the basics. This presentation will review the steps, with some helpful tidbits of information along the way. For our out-of-town members, any handouts or slides from any of the presentations will be (available (per copyright regulations) and can be emailed to you after the meeting. Read more from membership chair, Karen Frazier, who has a new membership section in Twig Talk.

Do you remember the "Show and Tell" in our past meetings? We would like to restart this practice at each of our membership meetings, starting in September. Bring whatever you want to share – a research story, a special item you discovered, or your published family tree book. Anything that was a genealogy high point during our 2-year hiatus.

MCGS Board of Directors has been busy since April, revisiting old business and developing new plans. We need your input! What would you like your Society to provide? What topics are you interested in? What skills would you like to learn, or improve? Please contact any Board member at 1972mcgs@gmail.com with your ideas.

Over the last few months, we have reviewed our governing documents (By-Laws) and are now in the process of update where needed. Next will be working to update the Policies and Procedures. You will receive more information over the next few monthly meetings.

We will have more information on the upcoming year for 2023.

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Thank you for your continued support, Stay safe and healthy!

Library News from the Muskegon Area District Library

As of August 17, 2022, the Laketon Township Branch has a new library. The location is at Reeths Puffer Administration Building, 991 W. Giles Rd. with hours: Wednesday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Inspirational saying

“I am bound to them, though I cannot look into their eyes or hear their voices. I honor their history and I will cherish their lives. Their story will be told and I will remember them”.

By Owain Couch, The Genealogy Guide

TIP – Family Tree

Charting what you know about a problem ancestor through the years, by making a chronology, can help solve your research puzzle. Start with the earliest date you have for a person and then list everything you know about him or her and the immediate family. Include your speculations, but make these clear by highlighting them or adding a question mark.

Muskegon County History Book Volume 2—Kathy DeCormier, Chair

We are excepting stories starting September 1, 2022 through February 15, 2023. Please submit your stories to 1972mcgs@gmail.com or middlaker@frontier.com. More information to follow in the coming months.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Held every month except July and December.

Karen Frazier
Muskegon County Genealogical Society
Membership Committee Chair
Research Committee Chair



The MCGS Board of Directors are excited to re-start the monthly General Membership meetings. Details are below:

Location: Hackley Public Library, Lower Level (Handicapped Accessible with ramp & elevator). Use the front door only.

Date: September 17, 2022

Time: 10:30am to 12:30pm. Doors open at 10:00am

Presentation: Re-Start, Re-Set, Go!

After our two year hiatus due to COVID, we thought it was a good opportunity to review the basics of genealogy research. The presentation for September's meeting provides a step by step process, with tidbits of information along the way.

“Show and Tell” – each meeting will include an opportunity for any members wishing to share things such

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as their favorite research story, a special item found, or their published tree. Members, guests, and public are welcome. All meetings are FREE. Come and mingle with your Society friends and family!

Frustrated and feeling lost in your technology? Here's help!



NEED TECHNOLOGY HELP?

Stop by your local MADL branch for help from Jackie!

Find the schedule at MADL.org/TechHelp or call her at 231-737-6246 ext 121

Verna Aardema By Melanie Mead

Verna Norberg was born on June 6, 1911 in New Era, Michigan. From the young age of 11, she knew she wanted to be a writer. Around 1935, she graduated from Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, which later became Michigan State University, with a degree in journalism. While in college, she won 3 writing contests. After graduation, she became a teacher and taught 3rd grade in Michigan from 1934 until 1973. She taught at the now long defunct Lincoln School and the newly renovated Lincoln Park Elementary School in the Mona Shores School District. On a personal note, she was my third grade teacher. In addition to teaching, she was a staff writer for the Muskegon Chronicle from 1951 to 1972.

Verna Norberg married Albert Aardema and while being a full time elementary school teacher, she became a mother to a boy named Austin and a girl named Paula. Lore tells us that young Paula would refuse to eat unless Verna was telling her a story. So Verna would sit at the table and make up stories which were basically out and out bribes to get Paula to eat. She would get the settings for these stories from books she was reading. One of these stories was published in 1960. It was called "Tales from the Story Hat!". Eventually, she gave up her career as a teacher to devote more time to her writing. Her stories often used ideophones. An ideophone is a word that sounds like its action and her books are FULL of them which makes them very engaging to children.

More and more often, she placed the stories in either Mexico or Africa. Africa became her favorite because this part of the world was intriguing and unknown to children. She never actually made it to

Africa but did receive a hat from African that was part of the story telling tradition. It had objects dangling from it and a child would choose and abject and the story teller would then create a story centered around that object.

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She became known around Muskegon as the “Story Lady”. She would go to schools, stores, and libraries to read to children.

Over her career as a children’s author, she had 33 books published. The book she is most famous for is “Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears: A West African Tale”, which was written in 1975. It won the Caldecott Award which is basically an Oscar for children’s literature. Over her career, she also won a Lewis Carroll Shelf Award, a Parents’ Choice Award and a School Library Journal Best Book of the Year Award. Several of her books have been selected as Notable Books by the American Library Association. In 1983, another of her books, “Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain” was one of the first books to be read on the PBS show, Reading Rainbow...it was read by another West Michigan native...James Earl Jones. In 1991, First Lady Barbara Bush read one of her stories on an ABC Radio series called “Mrs. Bush’s Story Time”. I talked with her granddaughter for this story and she told me that she was also invited to the White House to have tea with Barbara Bush. That same year, she moved to Florida with her second husband (her first husband had previously passed away). Her last book was Koi and the Kola Nuts which she wrote in 1999...a year before her death at age 88. She is buried in Norton Cemetery by the airport in Norton Shores next to her first husband, Albert.

In 2012, Hackley Public Library (HPL) became a Literary Landmark because of Verna Aardema’s connection to it. You see, she did most of her research at this library and credited the staff for all the help they gave her over the years. One of our “Slow Roll” regulars¹, Carolyn Madden, was a board member with the Friends of Hackley Public Library in 2011. She headed up the effort to get this recognition for the library. A bronze plaque was presented in recognition of the help provided by the library for an American author with her craft. Other Michigan libraries that have been given this distinction include, the Marquette County Courthouse for the help they gave John Voelker in writing Anatomy of a Murder and the Idlewild Library for the help they gave W.E.B. DuBois and Langston Hughes.

Both Verna Aardema and Hackley Library are Muskegon treasures who deserve to be celebrated. Her portrait is also hanging upstairs in the children’s library at HPL.

1. Editor’s note—Melanie writes these stories for a presentation to the bicycle riders group that meets every Monday for a “slow roll” around Muskegon.

A Guide to Indexing

By Gail Taggart

You’re Invited... To Start Indexing

You can help make naturalization records available online at Michiganology.org by participating in the Archives of Michigan indexing project. The naturalization records need to be indexed so that they will be searchable by name.

FamilySearch has streamlined indexing into a web-based portal. A video on the Michiganology website will demonstrate how to find the Michigan Naturalization Project and index using this new tool. Naturalization is the process by which a person born outside the United States becomes an American citizen. Citizenship records can provide a wealth of information to family historians. The amount

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of information varies by year but can include the date and location of a person's birth, occupation, immigration year, marital status, and spouse information, the names and addresses of the people who witnessed the naturalization ceremony, and more.

History of Naturalization

1790 - Uniform rules were established for naturalization. These rules included a two-year residency requirement before individuals could begin to file for citizenship. Moreover, individuals had to have at least one year of the two-year residency within the state from which they filed paperwork. Another rule gave children of naturalized citizens automatic citizenship.

1795 - Additional requirements to the naturalization process were added, three-year residency to file a Declaration of Intention, five years to file Petition. Derivative citizenship for wives and minor children also provided.

1804 - Widows and children of an alien who died before fulfilling the naturalization process were granted citizenship.

1824 - The residency requirement between filing the declaration and final papers was reduced to two years.

1855 - Alien females who marry a U.S. citizen were automatically naturalized. This was repealed in 1922.

1862 - Aliens over the age of 21 who served in the military could become citizens after 1 year of residence.

1906 - The Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization was established, and alien registration required. Residency requirements were now two years to file Intent, with 5 years for final papers. This standardization resulted in a huge expansion of the information collected and found in the records.

1907 - Native-born women who marry an alien lost their U.S. citizenship and took on the nationality of their husband. This law was repealed in 1922, but women's citizenship lost under these circumstances was not restored until 1936.

1918 - Aliens who served in the military during World War I could become citizens without any residency requirements.

1921 - The first Immigration Act establishing quotas based on ethnic origins became law.

1922 - Women over the age of 21 were entitled to citizenship in their own right. This law discontinued "derivative citizenship" where a women's citizenship status was based on her husband's or father's status. Residency requirements were also removed from submitting a declaration of intent.

Resources - at the Archives of Michigan. In addition to content on Michiganology, you can find more original records and published books on naturalization at the Archives of Michigan.

Source: Archives of Michigan: <https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives>

Alexander Rodgers' Family

By Franceis Harington

They were married at St. Peter's Church in Lancaster, England on April 8, 1847. Her name was Jenet Pyle and his was Alexander Rodgers. Jenet Pyle was born April 26, 1829, in New Castle, England, to Adam and Mary Ann (Briggs) Pyle. Her father was a glass blower by trade and the Superintendent and General Manager of Glassworks, the largest glass blowing company in England. He was also well known for making art glass. He was born in Scotland but moved to England as a young man and started his family there. Alexander Rodgers was born on May 24, 1824, in Edinburgh, Scotland, to Alexander and Margaret (McNeil) Rodgers. His father was a successful, well-to-do farmer with a large estate. (The younger Alexander Rodgers will be referred to as Alexander Sr. for the purposes of this article because not only was his father and grandfather named Alexander but so was his son. He was referred to as Alexander Sr. in most of the articles I found.) Alexander Sr. was an industrious young man and quite mechanically inclined so he was sent to England as an apprentice at the Bolton Iron Works in Bolton, England. Sometime after relocating to England, he met and married Jenet.



In 1848, Alexander Sr. was employed by one of the finest machine shops in England but decided to move to the United States for even better opportunities. He and Jenet landed at Boston on October 11, 1848. From Boston, they moved to Maine where he worked for a couple years and helped to build the first steam-hammer used by the government and also, where his son Alexander Jr. was born in 1850. By 1854, the Rodgers had made their way to Ottawa County, Michigan, where their sons Adam F. (1854), John (1856), and Hugh (1858) were born. Alexander Sr. was working for William Ferry in his machine shop at the time. He noticed that they received a large amount of work from the lumbering mills in Muskegon because they didn't have a reputable machine shop of their own. He thought it was the opportunity he'd been waiting for, so he decided to start a machining shop in Muskegon.

In 1858, Alexander Sr. found a small shop owned by lumbermen Ryerson and Morris. They had bought it from another man who tried to start a machining business but wasn't able to make a go of it so they sold it to Alexander Sr. The first year, he worked the shop by himself doing everything – draughtsman, pattern maker, moulder, machinist, engineer, and office manager. His reputation for fine workmanship grew and his business increased. Soon, he had more work than he could handle and needed more space and more help. He bought two acres of land on the lakefront at the ends of North Jefferson and First Streets. He formed a partnership with John Dodge and Adam Patterson. Dodge withdrew from the partnership after 3 years. They built a small machine shop there in a 25 x 50-foot shed and hired a couple of men to help. In 1861, he added a 50 x 70-foot foundry. In

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1864, he bought out Paterson and added another building 80 x 100-feet with three stories and once more, he was sole proprietor of the business. That was also the year his daughter, Janet, was born. In 1865, his youngest son, Lincoln, was born and the youngest daughter, Margaret, was born in 1868. Alexander Sr. had an extensive knowledge of engines and other machinery used in the lumber mills so his business quickly grew. He had several patents and inventions that were invaluable to lumbering businesses all over the globe. In 1869, Alexander Sr., sold interest in his business to his sons, Alexander Jr., Adam, John, and Hugh, and it was reorganized under the name Muskegon Iron Works. The sons took over the operations with Alexander Sr. still being President.

In 1871, Alexander Sr., was the first Alderman of the 2nd Ward. He withdrew from the office after his beloved wife, Jenet, died after falling off a chair and while hanging curtains in their home. She fell with such force and in a way that caused severe internal injuries. She died within minutes. In her last moments, when Alexander found her and asked what happened, all she could say was "I am dying". Before they could get news of her death to her father in Scotland, they received a letter from him to Jenet, asking her when she was finally coming to visit. It had been 24 years since they'd seen each other. Mrs. Rodgers was such a well-liked person that hundreds of Muskegon residents lined the streets to follow the funeral procession to Evergreen Cemetery.

In 1875, Alexander Sr., became a lumberman. He started a first-class lumber manufacturing mill in Lakeside, being able to manufacture between 20,000,000 to 25,000,000 feet per year.

In 1877, Alexander Sr. married Caroline Wilhelmina Lange. The Rodgers family home was located at the bottom of 1st Street, near the south shore of Muskegon Lake, not far from the foundry. Alexander Sr. built a beautiful Victorian style home on Lake Street, currently known as the Port City Inn. A few years later, in 1882, Alexander Sr. purchased a spacious home with a wrap-around porch on Morris Street from lumber baron and former mayor, O. P. Pillsbury, who had decided to leave Muskegon. Alexander Jr. and his family took over the Lake Street home.



In 1882, the business was incorporated as "Rodgers Manufacturing Company. By 1884, the Rodgers's Iron Manufacturing Company released a "statement of affairs" to the Chronicle. It stated the company has Capital Stock, authorized at \$90,000 (today that would be \$2,640,342.86), Capital Stock paid in at \$80,000 (\$2,346,971.43), and total indebtedness of \$24,977.27 (\$732,761.74). It listed Alexander Sr. as President, and the Board of Directors as: John Rodgers, Alex Rodgers, Sr., Alex Rodgers, Jr., Hugh Rodgers, and W. F. Chrystal, with Mr. Chrystal as Secretary. This once, one man operation, would grow over the years to employ 100+ men and be one of the most successful businesses in Muskegon. After the lumbering industry started winding down, the company focused on marine and stationary engines, boilers and pumps. One was the Wolverine Direct Acting Steam Pump used in pumping stations or for fire protection in buildings and shops.

By 1888, the availability of timber for the mills in Michigan was greatly reduced, so Alexander Sr. moved the operations to Tomahawk, Wisconsin, under the name Somo Lumber Company with his son, Hugh, assisting him in the management of the mill. Hugh would later partner with brother, Lin

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coln, in the endeavor.

Alexander Sr. was not only a successful businessman and lumber manufacturer but also had an excellent eye for real estate. He managed to acquire some of the most desirable land in downtown Muskegon, and most of what would come to be known as "brewery hill". He purchased large tracks of land in Lakeside, including the property that would later become the Central Paper Company. He also owned a large amount of land in North Muskegon. Mr. Rodgers was a very wealthy man.

On August 19, 1897, Alexander Rodgers Sr., died of Bright's disease (now referred to as Nephritis



– an inflammation of the kidneys, caused by toxins, infection or autoimmune conditions). His funeral was held at the Muskegon Opera House. Not only was the Opera House filled with family, friends, business associates, and his fraternal brothers, but hundreds of people were also standing outside on the street. I'm sure, if you know any Muskegon history, you will recognized some of the names of those in attendance: Jiroch, Hume, Emery, Mann, Hovey, Billinghamurst, Wilson, Hills, Hoyt, Erwin, Sanford, Tillotson, Arms, Riordan, and Hackley, just to name a few. All his children were there except for Adam who was working in California and couldn't make it back on time. Alexander Sr. was a well-respected

and much-loved man, with a reputation for fairness and honesty throughout the community. He was a member of Muskegon Lodge No. 140 of Free & Accepted Masons, the Muskegon Commandery No. 22 Knights Templar, and the Muskegon Chapter No. 47 of Royal Arch Masons. He was a stockholder in the E. H. Sheldon Co., the Heap Manufacturing Co., and the Muskegon Valley Furniture Co. He was Supervisor of the 4th Ward and a member of the Board of Public Works. He was Vice President and a Director of National Lumberman's Bank.

I was surprised to find out that Alexander Sr. did not have a will. In 1902, with Alexander Jr. as the executor of his father's estate, the children devised a plan that they thought would be fair to all. They drew lots...yes, lots. Every piece of property that was part of the estate, was written on a separate card with the location and approximate value. Then the cards were placed in a box and one by one (in order by their age) they each drew a card, and they continued taking turns until all the cards were gone. According to the Chronicle, Hugh and Janet were the luckiest in the lottery but they all did quite well. His wife Caroline had already been awarded the house on Morris Street.

In 1913, The Rodgers Iron Manufacturing Company went into the hands of a receiver on a voluntary petition for bankruptcy. The business was instructed by the court to continue operating. In 1914, it was reorganized under the name of Lakey Foundry and Machine Company with William B. Lakey as Vice-President and General Manager and Otto G. Meeske was the President.

Alexander Jr. worked for his father and then became President of the Rodgers Iron Mfg. Co. and a member of the Board until 1913. He married Margaret Schehn in 1873. They had 5 children: Mabel R., Janet M., George H., Fred B., and Adam A. He moved to Detroit, Michigan in 1916, and died there in 1923.

Adam worked in the Rodgers Iron Mfg. Co. for a time and learned the trade as machinist. He later worked as a Travel Agent and was Superintendent of the Wood Packaging & Basket Company. He married Sophronia Campbell in 1877, they had no children and later divorced. He moved to California where he worked as a machinist in different companies. He also worked in Colorado and Oregon. Adam F. Rodgers died in Portland, Oregon, in 1911.

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John also worked for his father and became Vice President of Rodgers Iron Mfg. Co. He worked for the company for 30 years until he retired in 1911. He married Carrie E. Moore in 1880 and had 2 sons: John E. and James E. John died in Traverse City, Michigan, in 1915.

Hugh worked for the family business for a time and then went to work in his father's saw mill learning the business from the ground up. He moved around the country engaged in different endeavors for a few years then returned to act as representative for Rodgers Iron Mfg. Co. He later partnered with his father and helped to build the saw mill in Tomahawk, Wisconsin and served as an Alderman for that city. He married Alice LeBoeuf in 1885, and had 6 children, Alexander, Pyle R., Eugene, Hugh Jr., Rosa, and Carrie. Hugh died in Detroit, Michigan in 1931.

Janet married Frederick H. Miller in 1885, and had a daughter named Margaret. Janet died in Los Angeles, California in 1949.

Lincoln started working for his father when he was 15 years old. He learned the business through on-the-job training. He later partnered with Hugh in the lumber mill in Tomahawk. After the mill burned in 1899, he came back to Muskegon and partnered with Edward Behrens in the Rodgers Burner & Boiler Company. He was elected to the Michigan State Legislature in 1901 for two terms representing the interests of Muskegon. He married Emma Behrens in 1898. They had 2 children: Abigail and William. Lincoln died in Tulare, California in 1947.

Margaret married Harris J. Morris in 1889. They later divorced. They had two children: Janet and Margaret. Margaret died in San Francisco, California, in 1946.



Have you ever gone through Evergreen Cemetery and noticed a large, beautiful monument of a young girl reading a book? That is the monument for the Alexander Rodgers Sr. family plot, where Alexander Sr., Jenet, Lincoln (and some of his family) along with Hugh are buried. It is opposite the mausoleum; in case you ever decide to visit. Many of the other family members are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Sources: Genealogybank.com – Muskegon Chronicle, Findagrave.com, Hackley Public Library Local History & Genealogy Dept, Lakeshore Museum Center, Muskegon and Its Resources (Muskegon Board of Trade), The Advantages and Surroundings of Muskegon (Muskegon Board of Trade), Romance of Muskegon (Alice Prescott Keys), Ancestry.com, The Lumber & Forest Industry of the Northwest pg. 237, The History of Michigan (C. Moore), Historic Michigan, Vol III Muskegon County, and Commemorative Biographical Record of the upper Wisconsin Counties (J.H. Beers & Co) Note: Except for birth and death dates, any other dates are approximate because the dates varied, depending on who was writing the articles I found.



Welcome to our new members who joined in July & August! Our Society currently has 61 members from Michigan, Texas, Washington, Maryland, California, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

- Patrick Conley, from Yakima, Washington – researching surnames: Conley, Carpenter, Keniston, Matthews, Pennell
- Kristine Smets, from Baltimore, Maryland – researching surname: DeVos
- Barbara Whitacre, from Roanoke, Virginia

Thanks to all members, new and old, for your continued support of our Society. We encourage all members to submit their surnames that touched Muskegon County. Please reach out to MCGS with any questions you may have. —. Karen Frazier, Membership Chair

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UPCOMING GENEALOGY EVENTS

Events are from Michigan Genealogical Societies, or about Michigan records.
Unless noted ALL ARE FREE and most require pre-registration.

September 9:



MCGS Board of Directors Meeting: 10:30am at Torrent House.

September 10:



Hackley Public Library – Basic Intro to Computers: 10:30am at HPL



West Michigan Genealogy Society: 1:30pm at Grand Rapids Public Library. No registration required. See website for topic

September 12:



Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society: Beginning Germanic Research – Virtual at 7:30pm EST. We will be exploring how to find where in “Germany” our folks came from, looking at the language and writing, and online resources to search. There will be time for questions.

September 14:



Legacy Webinars: Michigan, an Upper Midwest Researchers Dream – Virtual at 8:00pm EST. Michigan is a state of many people: Native Americans, fur traders, French explorers, British military, and then settlers from all over the world including many from Canada and the Northeast U.S. The records and indexes are amazing as are the libraries, historical societies, archives, universities that are filled with resources. Online indexes and record images add to the dream. Learn about the people, resources, businesses, farms, military, and vital records.

September 17:



MCGS General Membership Meeting: 10:30am at Hackley Public Library. Topic: Re-Start, Re-Set, Go! Review of Basic Genealogy Research Steps. No registration required.

September 23 to 25:



Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society: Annual Conference – Crossing Borders. 3 days. Pacific Standard Time zone. For German-speakers in Poland and Ukraine, your ancestors' journey often occurred in stages. At this weekend convention, speakers will review why Germans would have moved to Galicia, Pomerania, and East Prussia and Lithuania, and why they might have moved on to Poland and Ukraine. We'll also have speakers in research in Ukraine and how to expand your research beyond the usual sites. Follow the convention blog for updates as time draws closer to the opening of registration, which is free for all attendees.

October 1:



FRED HART WILLIAMS
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Researching and preserving African American family history since 1979
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society of Detroit: African American Genealogy Case Studies - Combining Traditional Genealogy With

DNA. Virtual at 10:30am. Researching the enslaved is beyond possible, but it's not one size fits all. In this session, learn about a myriad of research strategies and documents outside of the slave schedules that confirm slaveholders and name their formerly enslaved.



West Michigan Genealogy Society: 1:30pm at Grand Rapids Public Library. See website for topic. No registration required.

October 6:



Library of Michigan in Lansing: MyHeritage Library Edition. Virtual at 6:30pm. MyHeritage Library Edition is a family history database available through the Michigan eLibrary with access to a wide range of historical documents, images, and public records. Discover the fundamentals for navigating MyHeritage and learn key strategies for finding specific records within its collections.

October 8:



French/Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan: Bring out your Dead, Plagues, Epidemics and Pandemics. Virtual at 11:00am. The program discusses epidemics from the 1200's to present and where to find unusual data records about the epidemics and records of people that succumbed to them.

October 12 thru 15:



National Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society: Annual Conference over 4 days. Virtual. The AAHGS Annual Conference is the largest international African American conference that promotes African-ancestored family history, genealogy, and cultural diversity by bringing together subject matter experts who promote scholarly research, provide resources for historical and genealogical studies, create a network of persons with similar interests, and assist members in documenting their histories. Typical attendees are historians, genealogists, researchers, scholars, educators, preservationists, media, and beginners.

October 14:



MCGS General Membership Meeting: 10:30am at Hackley Public Library. Family History Month. No registration required.

October 15:



Western Michigan Genealogical Society: Annual Seminar "Got Ancestor's?!" All day on-site at Park Congregational Church. Speaker: **David E. Rencher, AG[®], CG[®], FUGA, FIGRS** – Chief Genealogist with FamilySearch and former Director of the amazing Family History Library in Salt Lake City. COST FOR REGISTRATION, MUST PRE-REGISTER.



Polish Genealogical Society of Detroit: 44th Annual Seminar Includes four live presentations with Q&A, a syllabus, and door prizes. Virtual at 9:00am to 4:00pm: "*Love, Loss, and Exile: The Moments that Define Us*" presented by Anna Kucewicz, Sheffield, England. "**Searching for Your Elusive Prussian Ancestors: A Case Study**" presented by Stephen Wendt, Ohio, USA. "*Genealogy in Ukraine: Discover Online Resources*" presented by Michelle Chubenko, New Jersey, USA. "*Eastern European Ancestry in Bukowina and Galicia*" presented by Michelle Chubenko, New Jersey, USA

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

MCGS MEETINGS

NEW PLACE

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



Saturdays at 10:30am

September 17

October 22

November 19



Torrent House Local History & Genealogy Department
315 W. Webster Ave.

Call for your individual appointment!

231 722-8016

or email us at

1972mcgs@gmail.com

LOCAL HISTORY & GENEALOGY DEPARTMENT

Call 231-722-8016
Sunday and Monday — Closed
Tuesday through Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More on their website
hackleylibrary.org/local-history-genealogy/research-sources-at-the-torrent-house



2022 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

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Gail Taggart, Delegate

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Gail Taggart
Research.....Karen Fraizer
Fran Harrington

UPDATE for HISTORY BOOK VOL. 2

History Book Vol 2 name is "Footprints in History"

1. Starting up on September 1, 2022
2. Last date for submissions: February 15, 2023

Do not wait to put your family history in Vol. 2

If you have any questions or need help, contact us at our 1972mcgs@gmail.com or send your information to Kathy DeCormier at middlaker@frontier.com — In the subject area put "History Book Volume 2".

TWIG TALK

A monthly publication of:
Muskegon County Genealogical Society

c/o Hackley Public Library
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315 W. Webster Avenue
Muskegon, MI 49440-1208

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genealogymuskegon.org

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