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Upcoming Programs:

AUGUST 19:

Perilous Assumptions: Revisiting Those First Finds

Kris Rzepczynski –
Michigan Archives

Despite the best of intentions, many family-history researchers – particularly as beginners – make incorrect assumptions about records that don't "fit." This program will explore false assumptions, revisiting those mistakes, and the family history discoveries that may await.



A Senior Archivist at the Archives of Michigan where he specializes in family history and Michigan research, Kris has worked in the genealogical community for nearly 20 years.

Next Member Meeting

August 19

Doors open 10:00

Meeting starts at 10:30

Hackley Public Library Lower Level

SEPTEMBER 16:

Your Results are in! Using DNA in Your Research

Jessica Trotter

This presentation explores steps to take and ideas to consider when looking at DNA results and match lists and unexpected results. (A good section of this is strategies for what to do when matches don't answer you back)

An archivist by education—but works in public libraries by day. Jessica has presented regionally for the past eight years including annually for the Archives of Michigan Barbara J. Brown /Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar, for the Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library, at the Ohio Genealogical Society Conference and Fall Retreat in 2022, and at the NGS Conference in 2018 as well as part of their Virtual On-Demand Lectures in 2020. Her genealogy research areas include Midwest, African American, British Isles, Canadian, and Early American research. She also maintains a genealogy research related blog called Genie Road Trip at genieroadtrip.com.

President Corner

Hello,

I hope all of you have been able to enjoy the summer so far. The Society took most of July off on hiatus. It is nice to step away for the month, enjoy being outside, and not sitting inside researching. Of course, the first thing I did was some personal genealogy research so I lost the bet with my husband on how long I could go without genealogy. Well at least there was time for some personal stuff!

The Barbara J Brown seminar in June was awesome. Found original criminal records from the early 1920's for my grandfather. Also was surprised at the vital records books on other states. They have a collection on most of the "feeder" states, the places our ancestors migrated from after coming to the US. Who knew that Kentucky is included!

My road trip to Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, at the Zhang Legacy Collections Center, was a success. I was able to find, via the Muskegon County Tax Rolls, the build date (mid 1915) for my son's home which is in the Clinton-Peck Historic District. I will definitely go back to research the tax rolls further.

Last, don't forget the Society's scheduled trip to the State of Michigan Archives on the first Saturday in August (August 5th this year). Jennifer and I look forward to driving and having hours of conversation all about genealogy! Please email us at 1972mcgs@gmail.com to sign up.

Thank you for your support of the Society!

PIONEERS OF MUSKEGON COUNTY

CONGRATULATION to Judith Daniels Keim



As a member of our society, she has proved her Pioneer Ancestors and received her Pioneer Certificates for:

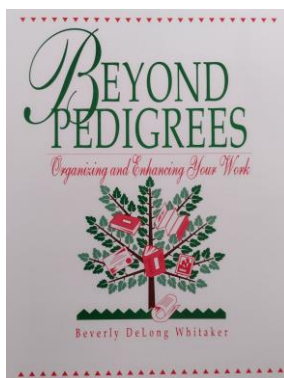
Jacob E. Wyn – 1867
Henrietta Pothoff – 1867
Ellen Wyn – 1869
Nieske Vander Schaff Barsema – 1884
John P. Barsema – 1885
John J. Barsema – 1885

Last Meeting Highlights

The MCGS doesn't schedule a regular member meeting in the month of July. I am hoping that everyone was able to enjoy the beautiful holiday celebrating family – both past and present. I'm sure some of you took advantage of the sale Ancestry.com was offering over the 4th of July holiday. Anyone still interested in an Organizing Your Paper Genealogy Workshop? We are trying to find an upcoming date that will work, if anyone would like to suggest a date, please feel free to email me at my twig Talk email address. Also, our president, Karen, is willing to go into more detail regarding her lesson on Organizing Your DIGITAL Genealogy. Please remember we have society members here to help you every step of the way on your journey of finding your ancestors.

Next Meeting Reminders

Book Draw:



By Beverly DeLong Whitaker

Beverly has created a one of a kind "genealogical assistant". BP will teach you easy and efficient ways to research and discover your family history! One of the valuable skills you'll learn in Beyond Pedigrees: How to manage research on multiple lines at the same time!

Travel Opportunities with MCGS

Make sure to sign up for one of our trips before they pass you by!

August 5:
Michigan Archives
8AM – 6PM

October 4-7:
Allen County Public
Library, Fort Wayne
Times TBD

Sign up online 1972mcgs@gmail.com or at a meeting. Dates are set. Times listed are departure and return. Volunteers needed as we carpool to all events and share the travel expense. Pick up locations can vary depending on where you are coming from.

All are welcome.

For the Archives - bring a sack lunch.

For ACPL - If we have several people sign up, we are looking at renting a house for a much cheaper cost to everyone. Sign up EARLY so plans can be established.

Meet your Officer...



Karen Page Frazier

My name is Karen Page Frazier and my husband is Gerald "Jerry" Frazier. We have been married 20 years (2nd marriages for both) and we were both born and grew up in Muskegon. I am retired from Cole's Quality Food (the garlic bread people!). Jerry worked 34 years at Sappi Find Papers before they closed, and later retired from Herman Miller.

Jerry loves to hunt and fish, and along with genealogy I do crafts. Jerry and I love to ride bikes, kayak, winery touring, and to travel to new places.

I love to travel, and he tolerates it and goes with me!

Compared to many other members of our Board, I am not a long-term member. I was a Society member and held the Secretary position on the board a few years prior to COVID. At the time I was still working and traveling extensively so eventually I had to resign my membership. After COVID (and after retirement!) I rejoined the society and later accepted the President position.

My genealogy journey started in my 20's, with a new bible and trying to fill in the blanks with my maternal grandmother. I had no idea at the time that what I was doing was genealogy, and promptly forgot about it for a good 20 years. I then became interested again, going down the Ancestry.com rabbit hole and realizing I was related to Jesus! Well, not so much, but I was then hooked and have been doing research ever since.

The best find so far was my mother's half-brother. There was "family lore" that her father had been married prior to marrying her mother. I found him and my mom was amazed at the information available for researching genealogy.

For my father, who was born in a very small town in South Carolina, proving that 7 of his 12 siblings were distantly related to each other was eye opening. This family line has the oldest ancestor, Abraham Page, born 1716 in Floydale, Marion, South Carolina, and died 26 Sep 1778 in North Carolina, due to injuries related to the revolutionary war. His ancestors are part of the earliest immigrants to the USA, and contributed to the establishment of many settlements, especially in North and South Carolina.



August is back to school time. It's the best time to purchase all those supplies needed to organize your genealogy. Remember **COLOR** coordinate.

This Month's Brick Wall Question and Tips



For those still wanting help on how to find some answers to their Brick wall ancestors, I am going to point you in the direction of Connie Knox. She is a professional genealogist whom I've been following and taking advice from for a while. I think she is brilliant in her methods she uses to find elusive family members. She has her own website and YouTube channel where she offers advice and gives sound examples of successes.

She even goes into some DNA stuff. She's major savvy on how to stay organized digitally and uses Microsoft 365 to keep most of her records.

Check out her website [here](#). You can watch her on YouTube [here](#). Or you could click on the image to the right to go right to the show about brickwalls.

Enjoy and I hope this helps you in your search!





Western Michigan Genealogical Society

is hosting its annual

Got Ancestors?! 2023 Fall Conference

on Saturday, October 21st

from 9 am to 4 pm

Park Congressional Church

10 E Park Place NE, Grand Rapids, MI. 49503

Katherine Willson is

the scheduled guest speaker.

Anyone interested should check with the

GotAncestors.org website for information

and registration.

Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

Is offering 10 webinars that are free for the public to join during the month of August.

[Click here](#) and scroll down to Genealogy Events and choose one that interests you... Register for the webinar by clicking on its title!

Southern California Genealogical Society

offers a free monthly webinar covering various topics. This month's presentation is by **Amy Wachs**, on Wednesday, August 16th at 9PM.

[Introduction to Tracing Your Roots in Eastern Europe](#)

will address the challenges involved in tracing ancestry in Eastern Europe by providing an overview of how key historical events changed borders and influenced migration and the availability of records. Historical maps will be used to trace the influences of history on borders and the records available to researchers today. I will also explain, and show samples of, the types of records available.

Amy L. Wachs, JD, specializes in Eastern European and Jewish genealogy. She taught law in Latvia as a Fulbright Scholar and in Moldova as a Fulbright Senior Specialist. She has traveled extensively throughout Eastern Europe, conducted research on-site at state archives in Lithuania and Poland, and visited archives in Ukraine, Moldova, and other countries.

Want the latest and greatest in all things learning via the amazing World Wide Web???

Head on over to [Conference Keeper](#) for "the most complete Calendar and Collection of Genealogy Events on the Internet".

This site boasts it is "the most complete collection of Genealogy events online".

The best part about this website is that it breaks events down by category. Want to learn more about **DNA**, [click the link](#), want to find someone to watch on **YouTube**, [click the link](#) (several channels that I watch were included!!). Want to know what is happening **on any given day**, [click the link](#). There is also a specific place for submissions as well. Maybe MCGS will post some events in the future!!

Michigan Genealogical Council

will be hosting the 2023 MGC Fall Family History Event on Saturday, November 4, with in-person presentations by Michael Strauss. This is a one-day event. Information, including registration, will be available soon on the [MGC website](#) under events.

Sneak peek to the topics: Military Genealogy research, Research in the Civil War, Researching the Civilian Conservation Corp, and Occupational Genealogical Research

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

Technology Merges with Genealogy

Here are several websites (mostly free) that can be utilized to aid in your research needs:

Allen County Public Library (Fort Wayne, IN), Genealogy Center
www.acpl.lib.in.us

Family Search
<https://familysearch.org/>

Find a Grave
<http://findagrave.com>

Is it books or newspapers you are seeking? Try these resources...

WorldCat Archives
<https://worldcat.org>

Google Books
<https://books.google.com>

Library of Congress
Chronicling America
<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/>

Need websites that could suggest other places to look for clues...

FamilySearch Wiki
[FamilySearch Research Wiki](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/FamilySearch_Research_Wiki)

US Gen Web Archives
<https://usgenweb.org>

And of course, it needs repeating:
Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites
<https://cyndislist.com>

Check out all the free websites on the World Wide Web that can aid in your search for answers!!

PSST...
Just click the links!!

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



AUGUST 18

On August 18, 1933, Baby Face Nelson robs first bank in Grand Haven, Michigan. To read more about this Day in History and Baby face Nelson visit the [Michigan Day By Day](http://www.michigandaybyday.com) website.

Monthly Quote

*If you look
deeply into
the palm of
your hands,
you will see
your parents
and all
generations
of your
ancestors.
All*

*of them are
alive in this
moment.
Each is
present in
your body.
You are the
continuation
of each of
these people.*

*— Thich
Nhat Hanh*

MEMEBERS.... Do you have an ancestor you would like to share with others? Here is your opportunity to share a story about one of **your** Muskegon relatives. Simply submit your article to twigtalk1972@gmail.com by the 15th of the month and you can become a published author!!!!

Unless we have some member contributions for this section of our newsletter, it will be filled with other material. Some suggestions were, recipes of old, Photos from the Past, and Do you remember when? If you have any further suggestions of what YOU wish to see in your newsletter, please submit them to Twigtalk1972@gmail.com.

Dive Into Muskegon

A 1930's image of Muskegon's Occidental Hotel courtesy of the actorscolony.com website. Originally opening its doors in 1868, it quickly became the premier hotel in Muskegon.



Recipes of Old

Butter Cookies

2 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour
 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb butter

1 egg yolk
1 cup sugar

Cream butter, sugar and egg yolk. Add flour and mix well. Take about one teaspoon of dough and roll in hands and shape in a ring. Dip in slightly beaten egg white, then in mixture of white sugar and cinnamon. Bake in 375* oven 10-15 minutes until just lightly browned

Recipe courtesy of Edith Klomp Berean Church Muskegon, Michigan recorded as written in the "Cooking to the Glory of God" Cookbook. Second edition (publication year not stated)



DNA TODAY

Up-level your DNA education with this free webinar series!

- DNA Ethnicity Estimates: How to Actually Use Them!
- Organize Your DNA Matches Simply and Efficiently
- Double dip your DNA: YDNA + Autosomal DNA – a Case Study
- Test. Analyze. Repeat: Long-term DNA Strategies for Success

Each live webinar lasts about 40 minutes, plus time for questions. **You will receive access to a recording afterward, even if you can't attend live.** Live attendees receive a handout summarizing the talk and packed with "next steps" learning links and resources.

Each webinar covers a specific aspect of DNA testing that will have you taking action with your DNA test results to find the connections and answers you have been looking for! One signup will get you access to all four webinars: attend whichever ones you like.

Click [this link](#) to find out specific information related to each topic with a detailed description. I've already taken all of them and plan to repeat. Diahn is an amazing instructor full of enthusiasm and knowledge and she even answers any questions related to the topic at hand. Want to get more proficient with your DNA? I suggest learning from Diahn Southard.

OTHER GREAT DNA RESOURCES

MORE information about Diahn Southard and YourDNAGuide...

Did you know you can find free, educational videos on her [YouTube channel?](#)

Maybe the one to the right will be of interest to you...Just click to watch!



How many love learning without even leaving home?

Well...

YOUR DNA GUIDE

Has a Completely **FREE** Webinar Series with Diahn Southard Now Available

This is a rotating series. [Click here](#) to see when the next one is scheduled and register!

MCGS MEETING PLACE

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



Saturdays at 10:30am

2023 Meeting Dates

August 19

September 16

October 21
Family History Month

November 18
Annual Meeting

Dec – No Meeting

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!



NEW BOOKS!!!!

- In the Pines - Part IV: An Atlas of Michigan Logging Railroads by James S. Hannum
- The Rabbit in Me: A Chronicle of My Seven Years in Prison by Bart Bryars
- Getting There Almost a Lifetime of Stories by Donald Schneider
- A Guide to Norwegian Genealogy, Emigration, and Transmigration by Liv Marit Haakenstad
- Ships and Shipwrecks Stories from the Great Lakes by Richard Gebhart
- Great Lakes Champions: Grassroots Efforts to Clean Up Polluted Watersheds by John H. Hartig
- Sharing Your Family History Online: A Guide for Family Historians by Chris Paton (Donated by MCGS in Memory of John Archer)

OFFICERS

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Thank you for allowing us to serve you!



Members of the MCGS are available at the County Clerk's Office on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to assist in Genealogy Record Searches. No appointment is necessary.

TWIG TALK

A monthly 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

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genealogymuskegon.org

facebook.com/MuskgonGenealogicalSociety