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Upcoming Programs:

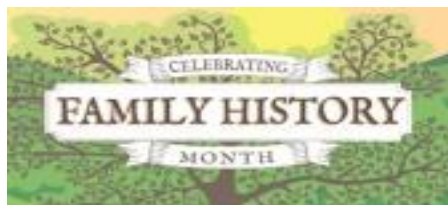
October 18

“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.

We have 4 volunteers that will be presenting this year 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.



Next Member Meeting

October 18

Doors open 10:00

Meeting starts at 10:30

Hackley Public Library Lower Level

November 15

“Member Annual Meeting”

Join us in reviewing and celebrating the year 2025. The MCGS Annual Meeting will include:

- Nibbles and Eats!!
- 2025 Society Accomplishments
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Nominations and Election of 2026 Officers
- 2025 Treasurer's Report (YTD and estimated year end results)
- 2026 Budget Review

Member Gifts! Must be present to win - onsite or via Zoom!



President Corner

Hello,

Have you gone for your fall color tour yet? As I write this it is 83 degrees! Doesn't feel like fall, but the trees are changing. There are few places as beautiful as Michigan in the fall, so find a way to get out and enjoy it. Be sure to include a cemetery or two!

Been on any genealogy research trips this year? Any new finds? Think about participating in our October "Meet My Ancestor!" program. This program is for our members to tell the rest of us a story. A story of a great find, or a struggle for answers. A story you might leave for your children and grandchildren. **Email our society at 1972mcgs@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.** We can help with the show and tell!

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

Karen (Page) Frazier



Membership Renewal

*Remember to renew in
2025 for your 2026 membership
and receive a discount!!*

Look for an email with instructions



Last Meeting Highlights

Twenty members and 2 guests with three Zoom attendees enjoyed another beautiful Saturday (sometimes too beautiful to be indoors!) with our presenter this month. We were given the History of the Daughter's of the American Revolution. This is a lineage Society where you must be a direct ancestor of someone who fought for or aided in the fight for America's Independence.

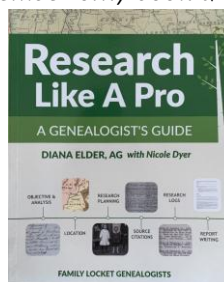
I was surprised as several facts that Sarah shared with us regarding the society: founded in 1890, over 190,000 members WORLDWIDE and 3,000 chapters. I didn't know that there was an age requirement of 18 to be a member, but there is also a children's society as well. Muskegon's first chapter was started in 1893, and it was the 8th one founded in the state.

This society is a service organization that aids in not only the support of soldiers who are at war but also preserving the history of our soldiers with commemorative events. There is a slew of different committees in which one can participate. If you're interested, you need only the previous three generations, and they are willing to help with the rest.

Book Draw winner was Judy Tierney (yes, congratulations! Two in a row!)

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

By the time this is published – we will be on our way!!!



Looking in to 2026:

Archives :
April 4 & August 1

ACPL – Fort Wayne
Sept 30-Oct 3

Board Updates

The September Board meeting covered a lot of updates. The member section of the website has been updated with lots of new databases, including the Harry Cleveland Military photos. The Matt Burns Vital Records Indexes are complete from 1918 to 2023. They are referred to as the "Green Books" at the Torrent House.

Please see the box below for some goodies that are highlighted from the updates. More to come in the next edition!

October will bring with it a new budget for 2026 and looking ahead to November is our Annual Members meeting – please join us to celebrate all the accomplishments our society has done!

We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

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



Our Board is still seeking someone who is detail orientated to take over the Sales Chair position. And are you tech savvy? We are still in need of the Technology Chair position of be filled. If you are wanting more info on either of these, please inquire.

In Progress Special Projects and Activities:

Indexing:

- DD214 (**8625+ names indexed**
21 litres remaining out of 87)
- Justice of the Peace for Muskegon County (**ALMOST COMPLETE**)

Scanning:

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

Binding:
none

NEED VOLUNTEERS: please ask if you are interested!

Website - Members only section databases Update

Military DD214 Index - Updated (and still growing)

Members Biographies, Obituaries, & Pioneers:

Benfy, Adolph 1852
Brown, William P (African American)
Crosby, Edward - Crosby Transportation Co.
Dill, George & Jones, Abigail
Dill, George - Centennial Farm - Egelston Township
Dixon, William & McElroy, Mary
Easton, Robert & Mills, Mary
Erwin, David & Tillotson, Florence
Galbrielson, Mildred - Four Stores
Gould, Charles - Lumberjack Picnic
Griffin, Martin & Mary - Family Tree
Hills, Charles & Wheeler, Jane
Hofstra, Sake & Zageweg, Wilhelmina
Holbrook, Frank & Fleming, Elizabeth & Popple, Ida

Holt, Henry H.
Hovey, Horace & Scribner, Hannah
Howden, John & Walker, Maria
Hoyt, Hirma & Smith, Ada
Kanitz, Louis & Schneider, Helen & Groch, Augusta
McGraft, Newomb & Dayton, Carolyn
Pleune, Adriaan - Dutch Immigrant Memoirs
Riisberg, Susie (Harnau) - Memories
Rosenkrans Family
Ryerson, Martin and Antoine, Obituaries
Sammis, Henry and Hannah, c1850 Montague
Sandford, Samuel
Sargent, Jacob, Whitehall
Sydnor, Bernice - Seven Generations of Black History
Torrent, John - Early Years in Muskegon
Young, Thomas & Deverall, Elizabeth
Young, Thomas - Muskegon County Centennial Farm



Western Michigan Genealogical Society

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](#)
October 2nd is "FamilySearch.org"
Simply click the program to register
1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM



Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan

47th Annual Genealogy Seminar

October 18, 2025
(fee)



French-Canadian Heritage Society Of Michigan

October 18, 2025
11 am

"Uncovering the mystery
behind the disappearance of
LaSalle's le Griffon in 1679"
Presented by
Steve and Kathie Libert

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.

^^

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society

October 9-11, 2025,
North Charleston, SC
46th National Conference
Registration required.



Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

ACPL is offering 7 virtual programs for October.

To include Documenting your Sources and an Ai program to cover Transkribus!



Upcoming Webinars - Legacy Family Tree Webinars

Register within the link above.

October 3, 2:00pm–
Ten Tantalizing Sources and the Lessons They Teach

October 8, 8:00pm–
7 Essential Tips for Starting German Genealogy

October 17, 11:30am–
Resolving Conflict: A Key to Sound Genealogical Conclusions

October 29, 2:00pm–
Colonial New York Research

PLUS MANY MORE!!!!

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

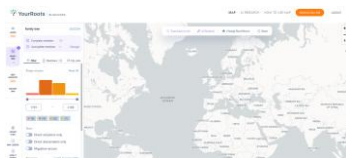


Technology Merges with Genealogy

How many of you are interested in mapping your genealogy? Would you like to be able to see where in the world your family were actually from? Or connecting the history of your family to you? You may be interested in signing up for [YourRoots Map](#). You can "Transform your family tree into a world map!"

It is currently a free service that had an upgrade feature for \$5.00 per month. I signed up for the free version and uploaded my GEDcom file and followed the informational video to get started and I was amazed at how quickly I was seeing different ancestors trace to me from all over the world.

You can also choose to upload your DNA results as well. I haven't explored that far yet, but it certainly is a promising application needing more time to play around with it. I have also attached the link to the [informational video](#) so you could check it out before deciding to jump head first into a new genealogical experience. This is a picture of my map...



EXPLORING THE WORLD OF PODCASTS:

[The Genealogy Trenches Podcast](#)

Meet Ray, a lifelong historian and passionate genealogist dedicated to researching and honoring our ancestors. With an unwavering commitment, Ray not only delves into the intricacies of genealogy but also possesses a genuine passion for connecting people with their roots. Beyond that, Ray thrives on collaboration, eagerly working alongside seasoned genealogists to unravel the stories woven into our family histories. Join this podcast as they explore the fascinating intersections of genealogy.

Frequency: Weekly
Host: Ray Pratt

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



OCTOBER 23, 19??

**What was the year of the
first public television broadcast in Michigan?**

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

Are you
technologically
savvy??

MCGS is still in
need of a
Technology
Chair.

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

Monthly Quote

"If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance"

— George Bernard Shaw,
British playwright

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!!!

Dive Into Muskegon

A Fall season recipe from the *Auxiliary Favorites II*:

Apple Goody

Contributed by Alma Decker, she was the fourth of seven children born to German immigrants Hans Jespersen and Louise Wothe on 8 August 1897 in Wisconsin. She moved to Michigan sometime between 1900 and 1910 and by 1920, at the age of 22, she was a maid in the Clark and Clara Mixer household. On the 23rd of October 1921 she married Mr. Isaac W. Decker, a WWI vet and a window cleaner. From what I can gather from the next three census records, no children were born into the marriage. In May 1970, her husband of 48 years passed away at 75 years old. Ms. Alma Decker passed away 28th of January 1973, both are eternally at rest in Lakeside Cemetery.

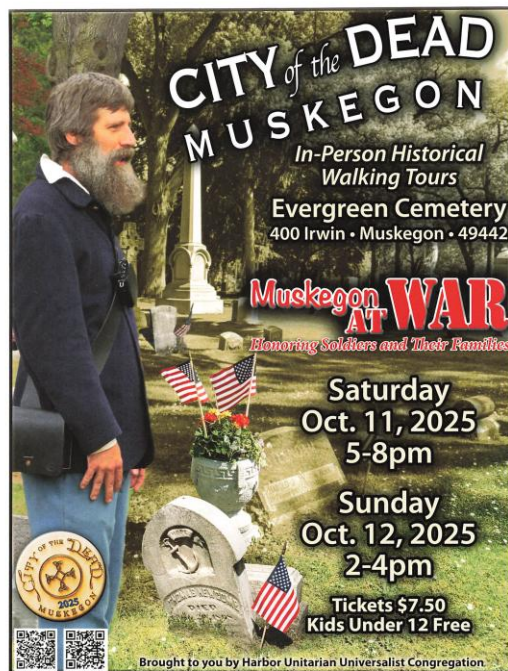
Part I. 2 c sliced apples
1 t cinnamon
½ c sugar
½ t nutmeg

Spread apples in bottom of greased 12x8 inch dish and sprinkle with the sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg.

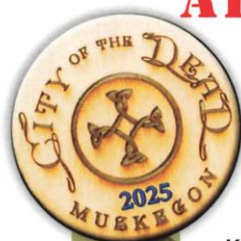
Part II. 1/2c oatmeal
½ c brown sugar
½ c flour
1/8 t salt
1/8 t baking powder
1/8 t baking soda
¼ c butter, melted

Mix above ingredients together, then add melted butter and combine with a fork. Sprinkle over Part I. Bake ½ hour in 350* oven.

Enjoy this fall season!!!



Muskegon AT WAR



In-Person
HISTORICAL
WALKING TOURS
Begin every 15 minutes

Tickets \$7.50
Kids Under 12 Free

- Wear Walking shoes
- Dress for the weather
- "After Dark" tours: bring a flashlight
- Tours last approximately 1 hour

Saturday Oct. 11, 2025 5-8pm
Sunday Oct. 12, 2025 2-4pm

JOIN US ON YOUTUBE AND FACEBOOK



Brought to you by Harbor Unitarian Universalist Congregation



UPDATES!!!!

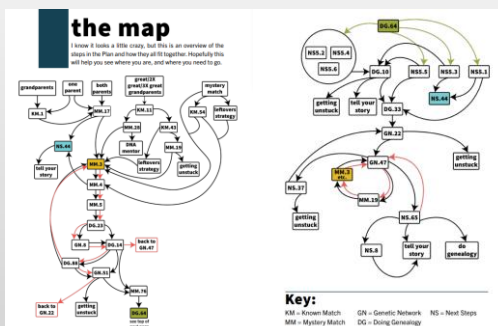
Remember when looking into the regions, with the number of people testing in that region, will help determine whether there is greater probability of your relationship to that region.

[illegible]

DIGging with the Genies

The Genetic Genies

We concluded our learning modules with identifying our mystery matches and learning how to speak to them like we are on a first date! All for the sake of finding the generation of connection! We will then start working on our own DNA questions and seek out the answers using the plan that is mapped out for us by Diahna Southard from YourDNAguide.
(see the Plan to the right)



**“THERE’S
AS MANY
ATOMS IN A
SINGLE
MOLECULE
OF YOUR
DNA AS
THERE ARE
STARS IN
THE
TYPICAL
GALAXY.
WE ARE,
EACH OF
US, A LITTLE
UNIVERSE**

~ NEIL
DEGRASSE
TYSON

MCGS MEETING PLACE

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



Saturdays at 10:30am

2025 Meeting Dates:

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:

No books have been reported for this month.



Its Family history month!
Time to dig out those family photos
and make heirlooms for the
fast approaching Christmas season.
Call for your appointment!

OFFICERS

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Treasurer Jennifer Lamkin
Past President Jane Appleton Schapka

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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
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