



Twig Talk



Newsletter of the Muskegon County Genealogical Society

Since 1972

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TWIG TALK
A publication of:
Muskegon County Genealogical Society
c/o Hackley Public Library
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Before

After

**Thursday,
September 13, 2011**
7:00 p.m.
Masonic Temple
396 W. Clay Ave.

“Family Pictures Come To Life by Restoring Them ”

Speakers
Kathy (Broughton) DeCormier
and
Dawn Westcomb Kelley

Kathy DeCormier and Dawn Kelley will present a very interesting and informative program on how to care for, maintain, and repair historic photographs. History has certainly provided an interesting variety of photographic memories, but with all those photograph types, how do you take care of and repair your treasured memories? Kathy DeCormier has been studying various techniques in photo restoration and care for a while now. She will be sharing with us her knowledge of what works and how to care for and repair photos. Part 2 will be in January 2013

“Ten Minute Topic” will focus on some hidden search gems. There’s a variety of little known search gems available to us. Well, they will be “little known” no longer! Pick up your copy of these secrets at our September meeting.

Guest Are Always Welcome To Come!



“Genealogy Family History Workshops”

We are back, limited to 6 people for ea. workshop.
Pre-register at 722-7276 ext. 240 or email us at
NEW EMAIL 1972mcgs@gmail.com or call 231-740-3698

TORRENT HOUSE

Saturdays, September 8, October 13, November 10

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

and

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

On September 5, 1882, some
10,000 workers assembled in
_____ to participate in
America first Labor Day
parade celebrated.
Answer on page 2



County Clerk's Office

Jane Gates
Dawn Kelley
Barb Martin

Wednesday's 1:00—4:00 p.m.
141 E. Apple Ave.
2nd Floor



Hospitality

Jane Walker Weber
Paula Halloran
Connie Fales

The August meeting had a helpful presentation based on a Webinar given by Kay Bosch. She gave many helpful ideas for breaking "Brick Walls." Lucky Phyllis Slater won the door prize of sheet protectors, binder clips & etc. She and her epicurean husband, John, treated us with windmill and Italian cookies plus crackers with cheese. They offered bottled water to quench "happy taste-buds." Kay Bosch brought a pot of heritage soup to tantalize our appetites. Thanks for the goodies! Twig Talk sleuths were: Joan Gawron, Phyllis and John Slater, Nancy Bassett, Karen Farmer, and Kay Bosch. They shared their stories of ancestral dogs. Think of the delight their descendants will enjoy someday with these recalled memories with sparks of humor!! Did your ancestor have a barn? A photo or item from it would be great to see!



Membership

Susan Boos Gerst
tsgerst@yahoo.com
Kathy Broughton DeCormier

We give a warm welcome to our
NEWEST members.

Perry Siplon, Overland, KS
SURNAMENES: Siplon, Walker, Vandenbeldt,
Newville, Steketee

Cheri Gerhart, Montague, MI
SURNAMENES: Diodio, Mongiello, Nastastia(e),
Siano, Veahia

Members are important to us so please keep in touch. Share your news with us. Let's celebrate together! And don't forget to keep your phone, address, and email information up-to-date.

Answer from page 1 is New York City



Library

Barb LaBatt Martin

Hackley Public Library—Torrent House

Local History & Genealogy Dept.

Monday thru Saturday

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

NEW BOOKS

The Bidwell Family Volume I: The Lineages of the Sons of John Bidwell, Early Connecticut Settler

The Bidwell Family Volume II: The Lineages of the Daughters of John Bidwell, Early Connecticut Settler

Grand Haven Area Our People Their Stories,

by Wallace K. Ewing & Marjorie Bethke Viveen

The Motorcycle, The Merchant And The Man,

by William P. Hansen

1889 The Book of Death: Muskegonites Who Died In The News, by William P. Hansen

Lakewood! Next Stop Lakewood. In The News, The Early History of Lakewood, Muskegon County,

Michigan Volume 1, by William P. Hansen

Holland's Heritage: A series of sketches and narratives having to do with the founding of Holland, Michigan

Joe Beyrle: Hero of Two Nations

Don Munson's WJBC Sesquicentennial Stories:

Glimpses of McLean County's 150 Years

Military History (Michigan Boys) Company "D", 66th Illinois: Birge's Western Sharpshooters in the Civil War, 1861-

1986, by Lorenzo A. Barker

WEBSITES



www.linkpendium.com Linkpendium's goal is to index every genealogy, family history, family tree, surname, vital records, biography, or otherwise genealogically-related site on the Internet. **PLEASE HELP!** When you find a useful new resource, go to the right Linkpendium page and click on the "Add your favorite Website(s) to this page" link.

www.Govgenealogysearch.com

GovGenealogySearch.com is designed to help you find things like mug shots, land patents, bankruptcy liens and license verification. Those can help you with certain genealogy projects, and this site also has a few document categories that are even more specifically geared toward genealogy – cemetery records, passenger lists, census numbers, marriages and more.

www.ancestorhunt.com Search for ancestors and locate your family surnames in some of the best and largest free genealogy databases online. Start with the Genealogy Search Engines and Contents menu which is found on each page so you can't get lost. Or browse the free genealogy resources found throughout this page.



Genealogy News & Tips

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(P.S. If you see typos, we can't
change it because it is copyrighted.)

TEN TIPS ON RESEARCHING GENEALOGY ONLINE

1. Gather All of Your Genealogy Information

Before starting any type of genealogical research, it's a good idea to gather all of your known information. This way you will not waste time searching for people that you could have easily found with just a phone call or a letter. You will be amazed at how many names, birthdates, marriage dates and other details about your ancestors you can collect just by talking to family members.

You can also look through old records that family members may have including journals, wills, deeds, baptism records and marriage, birth and death certificates. Spread the word that you're beginning a family tree or pedigree chart, and other family members may want to get involved.

2. Become a Member of an Online Genealogy Chat Room Computers and the Internet connect thousands of people from all over the world each day and there are tons of genealogy chat rooms. Take advantage—you can learn a lot from other genealogists. This is a great way to learn the tricks of the trade and share success stories.

3. Subscribe to an Online Genealogy Search Website

Genealogy websites come with various features and capabilities. You may want to use more than one during your research. Some websites are free of charge while more comprehensive sites require a subscription fee. Before choosing a site make sure it's going to provide the information that you need. Remember some sites search by country or ethnic background—these can work to your advantage if you're looking for ancestors from a certain country. However, if you're not, the site will do you little if any good.

4. Make Genealogy Research Fun and Gratifying

There is usually no monetary award for doing genealogy, and knowing who your great-great-grandfather is, typically won't get you ahead in life. So—why do people do genealogical research?

People research their past for a number of reasons, but everyone who is involved in genealogy does it because they enjoy it. They find satisfaction in learning about their roots. Remember you are learning about real people who once walked the earth. Instead of just learning names and dates, try to find stories about your ancestors, look for pictures and diaries. In some cases, you may be able to interview someone who knew the person.

5. Use Various Genealogical Resources There are so many sources available to genealogists it's a good idea to use a number of them during your investigations. Don't put all of your efforts into one website. Use a number of different websites and databases. There are also genealogy libraries where you can conduct your research. The largest of these libraries, The Family History Library, owned and operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, has satellite libraries all over the world and is open to the public at no charge. It houses the records of close to a billion people and offers Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, has satellite libraries all over the world and is open to the public at no charge. It houses the records of close to a

billion people and offers other resources as well. A library like this can be a great asset if there is one in your area.

6. Involve the Entire Family Build a family tree and family relationships at the same time—genealogy is a project the entire family can work on and contribute their findings. You can start an email or snail-mail newsletter to share experiences and information with family members. Family reunions are also a time when the whole family can get together, share stories about forefathers and foremothers and work on genealogy.

7. Subscribe to a Genealogy Newsletter Many online genealogy websites offer a newsletter. Newsletters offer great tips on how to locate those hard-to-find ancestors. Newsletters will often explain how to use different databases or tools and let you know when new databases become available. It's also great to hear motivational and inspiring success stories of others, or share one of your own.

8. Create a hard copy of the Genealogy Information In today's world of technology, we tend to want to digitize everything, but there are some good reasons to create hardcopy information to go along with your digital data.

Primarily, you're going to come across a lot of hard copy information as you do your research. Remember computers have only been used to store information for a quarter century. You will likely come across old documents, journals, records and photographs.

Making a scrapbook of your findings is a great way to present your research to others. Looking at a computer screen with scanned documents just isn't the same as flipping through a book. It really helps some people to create a giant pedigree chart or family tree in their office or den so they can visualize the entire puzzle at one time.

Binders are a good way to store information. As your library increases, develop a binder system so information is organized and easy to find.

9. Backup Genealogy Data Often Maybe you've heard horror stories, or have one of your own that ends with the words, "and that's when I lost everything." The importance of backing up computer data cannot be stressed enough. Today's backup software makes protecting and storing your valuable data more convenient than ever. There are a number of different programs to get the job done. Find the one that has the features you need, is user-friendly and in your price range.

There are also various ways of storing data. You can use 3.5-inch floppy disks, zip drives, CDs, DVDs, USB flash drives and external hard drives. Again, choose the one that suits you best. As you gather more information, you may want to invest in a safety deposit box or a fireproof safe to protect your family history.

10. Verify Genealogy Information Found on Web Sources We like to think that everything found on the web is accurate and true. However, you should always verify any genealogy information found on the web, no matter where you found the information. The best way to verify information is to locate and research the source. Many databases include a list of sources but sometimes you'll come across one that doesn't. In this case, look at dates and the type of information and ask yourself what type of source would provide that information.

At some point in your research, you will encounter conflicting information—maybe different middle initials or birthdates. Carefully evaluate each source and try to find other sources with the same information to shed light on the inconsistencies.

Genealogy is an exciting and rewarding pastime that will link the generations and bring families together.

Upcoming Events Dates to Remember—2012

Board Meeting

Meet at 5:00 p.m.
2nd Thursday
Masonic Temple
396 W. Clay

Jan 12
Feb 9
Mar 8
Apr 12
May 10
Jun 14

NO Board Meetings

(July & Dec)
Aug 9
Sep 13
Oct 11
Nov 8

Regular Meetings

Starts at 7:00 p.m.
2nd Thursday
Masonic Temple
396 W. Clay

Jan 12
Feb 9
Mar 8
Apr 12
May 10
Jun 14

NO Reg. Meetings

(July & Dec)
Aug 9
Sep 13
Oct 11

Potluck
Nov 8

Genealogy Family History Workshops

2nd Saturdays
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Hackley Public Library

Torrent House
Local History & Genealogy Dept.
315 W. Webster

NO WORKSHOPS

(June, July, August, December)

September 8
October 13
November 10



What to Bring & What we have at Each Meeting

WE ALWAYS HAVE SOMETHING NEW AT THE STORE

- Pencil and notepaper for all the great information we will share and present.
- Bring change for the Sales Store ... folders, books, magazines, and other great surprises. (If you have any genealogy items you would like to donate for the sales table, please contact us.)
- 12 and 15 Generation Charts are on sale for \$3.00 each
- Your ideas, advice and questions - someone may be able to help!!
- If you would like to make a gift of money donation, please make checks payable to MCGS and always remember your donation is

DINNER ROLLS

This recipe came from Carl Barber's grandmother, Elizabeth Barber who came from Paris, France. Donated from Helen (Snook) (Barber) Stoerman.



2 pkgs. Yeast
2 cups water
Dissolve yeast in ½ cup of the warm water.
2 eggs
½ cup sugar
1 ½ teaspoons salt
Beat eggs, add sugar and salt. Beat until creamy. Add yeast mixture and the rest of the water.
7 cups flour (sifted)
5 tablespoons melted shortening
Knead well. Cover with damp cloth. Let rise till double. Roll out 1 inch thick. Cut with cutter. Bake 425 degrees, 10 – 12 minutes.



PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE

This recipe came from Carl Barber's Grandma, Elizabeth Barber who came from Paris, France.

2 cups sugar
¾ cup milk
¼ teaspoon salt

Boil on medium heat for 10 minutes, always stirring. Remove from heat, add:

¾ cup Peanut Butter
2 Teaspoons vanilla
Pour into butter pan.

HAVE A SAFE
LABOR DAY WEEKEND