

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ionia County Genealogical Society is a non-profit volunteer group whose mission is to create awareness and preserve family histories within the Ionia County area. The focus of this group will be to develop genealogical resources and to assist all those seeking local history.

Volume 6 - Number 3

July - September 2001

Greetings, Friends!

This has been the most exciting month for me in the history of ICGS. We have really been working hard to fulfill the goals of the society, and it shows!

Many thanks to Jan **CORTEZ**, our website coordinator, who has been working hard to keep up with us and all the items we have been sending to her. The divorce index for 1858 through 1962 is now complete and on our site. Merrilee **MORRISON-COTTER** tells us that there is an older book of records that we missed, and she is going to get that information to us so that we can add it later.

The biggest success we have had this month is our wonderful group of volunteers who have worked on the birth index records for Ionia County! We are so thankful to all of these folks who have volunteered to get the birth index records transcribed and put on line for us:

Patricia **SCOTT**
Sandy **HEINTZELMAN**
Donna **FOY**
Bill **LASSETER**
Gayle **CARSON**
Pamela **SO**
Russell **MILLER, Jr.**
Beth **WILLS**
Pam **SWILER**
Marjorie **GIBSON**
Denise **VAN DYKE**
Elizabeth **ENGLISH**
Diane **WARNEKE**

Cheryl **JORDAN**
Ruth **SMITH**
Marilee **JACKSON**

We are hoping to have all the birth indexes on line by the end of July. The State of Michigan only allows access to those records that are 110 years and older, so we will have to update this index on an annual basis to add the newest records as they become available to us. Thank you volunteers!

We also owe a big thanks to Leora **SLOSSER** and Phylis **SLAYTON** who have copied the original death records and burial permits for Orleans Twp., Ionia Co. Leora has indexed them, and copies of the records will be available in the near future for a cost of \$1 per copy and a SASE included. We will not ship copies without the SASE. Requests for these records should be sent to ICGS.

Along these same lines, many thanks go to Joan **McCORD** who copied the death records and burial permits for Easton Twp. We will be indexing them soon and have them available to you the same as the Orleans Twp. records.

Tax records is another project we are working on, and Joan **McCORD** is busy copying those records for us for Easton Twp. We thank her for that. We also thank Ford **WRIGHT** for his work on the 1888 Danby Twp. tax assessment roll records, which are available to you for a cost of \$3.75 (includes shipping and handling). Odessa Twp. tax records are completed for the years 1877, 1878, 1879, 1888, and 1889. 1890 and 1892

are in progress. These completed booklets are available for the same price of \$3.75 each. Contact the society if you are interested in ordering any of these items.

If you are in the Michigan area on September 15th, we invite you to bring your antique heirlooms for an appraisal at our event. The "Know Your Junk" Antique Appraisal Fair will be held Saturday, September 15th, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at the Lake Odessa Community Library. The library is located on the main street of town (Fourth Avenue). Our appraiser, Glen **RAIRIGH** from Americana Auctions, will be there to appraise the items brought in to him. There is a fee of \$2 per item, which will be donated to our society. We are very grateful to Mr. **RAIRIGH** for donating his time to do this for us. He has asked that you only bring items you can carry in. Valuations will be oral only - no written appraisals will be given. We thank the Lake Odessa Library staff for allowing us to use their facility for this event.

Again, we thank all of you for your continued support and look forward to working with you in the future.

~ Pam **SWILER**, President

~ Birthdays are good for you;
the more you have, the longer
you live! ~

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Congratulations go out to Mrs. and Mrs. John **COOK** of Lake Odessa, Michigan, who celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on May 20, 2001. John and Jane (**MUTCH**) were married at St. Edwards Church in Lake Odessa and bought their farm on Musgrove Hwy two years later. They raised three children, Jamie, John Jr., and Jeff, on this farm. John is a First Families member and Jane is the daughter of society members Jim and Velma **MUTCH**.

The Cooks celebrated their anniversary with family and close friends at a dinner in their honor. We extend the best of wishes to the couple.

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Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun.

News from our Ionia County website...

Judy **PALMAFFY** has been one of the coordinators who took over our website when Beth **WILLS** resigned. She has worked very hard for us, and we regret to inform you that she has stepped down from that position in order to pursue other avenues in her life. We thank her for her contributions and wish her much success in the future.

Replacing her are two folks who are not strangers to our site, as they were part of the team who worked with Judy. They are Jan **CORTEZ** and Monica **ERICKSON**. Both Jan and Monica continue to work hard for us, making the Ionia County site one of the best on the GenWeb project.



### Grandma's Apron

When I used to visit Grandma,  
I was very much impressed  
By her all-purpose apron,  
And the power it possessed.  
For Grandma, it was everyday  
To choose one when she  
dressed.  
The strings were tied and freshly  
washed,  
And maybe even pressed.  
The simple apron that it was,  
You would never think about  
The things she used it for,  
That made it look worn out.  
She used it for a basket,  
When she gathered up the eggs,  
And flapped it as a weapon,  
When hens pecked her feet and  
legs.  
She used it to carry kindling  
When she stoked the kitchen fire,  
And to hold a load of laundry,  
Or to wipe the clothesline wire.  
She used it for a hot pad,  
To remove a steaming pan,  
And when her brow was heated,  
She used it for a fan.  
It dried our childish tears,  
When we'd scrape a knee and  
cry,  
And made a hiding place  
When the little ones were shy.  
Farm produce took in season,  
In the summer, spring and fall,  
Found its way into the kitchen  
From Grandma's carry all.  
When Grandma went to heaven,  
God said she now could rest.  
I'm sure the apron she chose that  
day  
Was her Sunday best.  
— Becca R.

### 100 years ago:

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was thirty. The remote desert community was inhabited by only a handful of ranchers and their families.

from <GenHumor-L@rootsweb.com>  
~ Thanks, Leora, for sharing both the poem and the statistics!

- Rick **THOMAS**  
P.O Box 624  
Okemos, MI 48805-0624  
(517) 432-9527 Ext 219  
Researching: **GATES** in Orange  
Twp., Campbell & Ionia

- Elizabeth "Betty" **CAREY**  
6413 Saddlebag Lake Road  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 367-4363  
Researching: **PEACOCK, LINDLEY**

- John **PIERCE**  
2215 Marquette Road  
Ionia, MI 48846-9513  
(616) 527-2413

E-mail: <hpvolks@iserv.net>  
Researching: **PIERCE, GOTT, HAYSMER, REDDINGTON, WHORLEY**

- Diane Mulford **BARNUM**  
6800 E. Brown Road  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849  
(616) 367-9507

E-mail: <dbarnum@iserv.net>  
Researching: **MULFORD, REDINGTON, FOW**

- Kathleen **BLACK**  
7260 Lakeridge Dr.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46819  
(219) 747-3408  
Researching: **DINSMORE, SANDBORN, SCOTT, MATHEWS, MAYS, McKENNA** and **BERRY**

Please note these new addresses/  
e-mail addresses for our members:

- Sandra **ANDREWS PAGE**  
P.O. Box 101868  
Fort Worth, TX 76185  
Ph and e-mail remain the same

- Sharon **KISELA**  
New e-mail address:  
<sk\_tree@hotmail.com>

- Mary **MILAN**  
New e-mail address:  
<m.o.milan@att.net>

"It's only a hobby . . . only a hobby . . . only a hobby . . ."

## APRIL SPEAKER by Jim MOSES

Cynthia THEUSCH, president of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society, was our guest speaker for April. She talked about preparing a genealogy research trip to Washington, DC. Starting out with general information about Washington, she told us about lodging and guides for the tourist. She talked about getting around the city using the Metro Line, which goes to many of the tourist – as well as genealogical – sites. Staying just outside of the city will save you \$90 - \$140 per night. After her brief overview of the city, Cynthia told us a good way to prepare for our visit—to get the book entitled "The Center", or one of the others she mentioned, and learn about what research can be done in this area. There are so many places to research in and around Washington that you should read a guide before going. The Library of Congress, the National Archives, the DAR headquarters and the NGS library are just some of the places that offer a multitude of opportunities for us. In order to get the most out of them, however, we need to study in advance and maybe make some phone calls, to find out what can be found at each repository and when they are open. We will, of course, have to follow the rules of each place, and it is much better to know the rules before you get there. Cynthia gave us a good sampling of some of the problems you might encounter if you just show up somewhere expecting to do a lot of research without much preparation. She provided an excellent handout which gives details about the holdings and procedures in several of the great libraries and reading rooms. If you follow Cynthia's advice you will have a good research trip to our nation's capital and have some very interesting places for your family to visit while you are doing your research!

## THE BALLOON ASCENSION OF PROFESSOR EDWARD LA MOUNTAIN

The Ionia County Historical Society Blanchard House, located on Main Street, Ionia, Michigan, has a wonderful museum full of treasures. One such item of interest is a piece of a hot air balloon. The story, although sad, is certainly a notable one.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred CUTLER donated the piece of the balloon to the Ionia County Historical Society in 1926. Mrs. L.P. BROCK was the curator of the collection at the time of the donation. The piece of silk was taken from the balloon after the disaster occurred on July 4, 1873. There was a note printed on the silk, giving a full account of the event. It read:

*"A piece of the balloon that Prof. Edward La MOUNTAIN made an ascension with July 4<sup>th</sup> 1873 at Ionia, Mich from the public square in sight of 10,000 people. There being no net work around the balloon. The balloon simply attached six ropes to ring in the top of the balloon and from that to the basket and when at the height of 1500 feet the balloon encountered a current of air that blew the balloon between the ropes, leaving La Mountain in his basket in mid air. He struck on solid ground, 115 feet from starting point. He was instantly killed. Depression made in the ground 8 inches. Broke nearly every bone in his body. Price of ascension \$200.00. He lived in Brooklyn, Jackson Co., Michigan. F.C. Jr."*

The piece is now framed and may be seen in the Ionia Historical

Society Blanchard House on Sunday afternoons during the summer months. Open hours are 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Donation of \$2 requested.

Post cards of this beautiful home are available for sale at the Lake Odessa Depot Museum for a cost of \$1 each. All proceeds benefit the Ionia County Genealogical Society.

Thank you to Joan McCord for providing this very interesting article.

## ?? QUERIES ??

Pam SWILER would like any available information on Elisha SHELLMAN, who died in 1900. Believed to be a Civil War Union Army soldier from New Jersey, he wandered into the farm of Fredric and Susie CHORELY in Lake Odessa. His wife had died and he stayed with the Chorely family until his death. He is buried on the Chorely's lot in Lakeside Cemetery - Lot 554. Although not a native of Lake Odessa, I would like to know more about this man - how he ended up here, and whether he had any other family. - contact Pam at 13051 Ainsworth Road, Route 3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849 <pkswiler1@juno.com>

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Melvyn J. WEISS is looking for a copy of "The Travis Family Today and Yesterday" by Berdyne D. TRAVIS. It was published in Ionia in 1969. Anyone who can help him locate a copy may contact him at: P.O. Box 282, Blanchard, OK 73010.

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Gary VEALE is looking for information on a HARD Family (originally from Canada or Nova

Scotia) who settled in Ionia county in 1840-1855. The head of the household could have been Jehiel Hard. If you can help him, e-mail Gary at <vealehaven@earthlink.net>

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Mary, at <mbesson@iserv.net>, writes:

Mary Jane KNAPP was born on 21 Oct 1831 in Canada [parents?]. Mary married Wilkinson GERMAN on 05 Mar 1849 in Talbot District, Norfolk, Ontario. Wilkinson was born in Canada.

[What happened to Wilkinson between 1854, '55 and '59 when Mary married again - death? divorce?]

They had the following child: [Were there any more?]

Emily S. GERMAN, born on 04 Jun 1851 in Canada and came with her parents to Ionia Co. at the age of three. She was a resident of this county with the exception of four years that she lived in Ohio. She died on 15 Aug 1929 in Ionia, Ionia Co., MI.

Emily married Thomas Jefferson PICKENS, son of William PICKENS and Elanor VAN DYKE, on 28 Sep 1871 in Ionia Co., MI. Thomas was born on 19 Jul 1850. He died on 13 Dec 1935 in Ionia, Ionia Co., MI. Emily and Thomas were buried in Balcom Cemetery, Ionia Co., MI.

Mary also married (2) William REED on 01 Jan 1805. William was born in Mass. He died on 06 Jun 1873 in Ionia Co., Mi.

"William Reed first saw the light of day on ground made memorable in the 'long-ago,' during the struggle of the

colonies for independence. He was born in 1805, near the Bunker Hill battle-ground, in Massachusetts. At the age of twenty he shipped aboard a whaler, and led the life of a sailor a few years. On his return, he visited his grandparents, residents of New York, and fell in company with Mr. David BEEBE and family who were preparing to come to Michigan; he came with them and located in Oakland County, where Sarah, one of the daughters of Beebe, taught two terms of school, but in the mean time Mr. Reed married her, she completing her school after marriage. In September, 1836, he removed to Berlin township, Ionia Co., and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 3. On the Sunday following his arrival, with the assistance of four men, he erected a log house on his place. He afterwards purchased two hundred and ten acres additional on section 10 upon which he erected substantial buildings. His death occurred in June, 1873, at the age of sixty-seven years eight months and three days. He was married three times, and his third wife survives him. He was the father of ten children,—six by his first wife and four by his second. He was a man who was much respected. He was energetic and industrious, and from having funds barely sufficient to make his first purchase from government he accumulated a handsome property." [copied from <usgenweb/archives/tonia/bios>]

Where and when did Mary J. Knapp/German/Reed die? I have the family Bible detailing marriages, births and deaths of the Reed family, but there is no mention of Mary Jane's first husband. The Bible was taken over by GGrandmother Emily and there is no entry for her Mother's death; it just continues with the Pickens' family.

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## MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL 2001 SEMINAR

Farmington Genealogical Society  
Oakland County Genealogical Society  
Western Wayne County Genealogical Society

**Inkwells to the Internet**  
*A Genealogical Conference*  
*Of the Old Northwest Territory*  
October 18 - 20, 2001

The Michigan Genealogical Council will host a three-day seminar at the Northfield Hilton Hotel in Troy, MI. The conference features over 40 sessions in *ethnic/locality, historical, methodology and computers research*. There will be many vendors who will display a variety of genealogical supplies.

Thursday, three two-hour pre-conference workshops will be available. Friday night at the banquet, Dr. John Phillip COLLETTA will be the featured speaker. Sixteen notable genealogical speakers will be featured in 40 sessions held on Friday and Saturday.

The Hotel has set aside a block of rooms for seminar attendees, at \$89 per night. The deadline to take advantage of these rates is 27 September 2001. Be sure to mention "MGC Seminar" for the special rate.

Visit the MGC web site at  
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc>>  
or write to  
2001 Seminar  
24462 Broadview

"Behold the turtle, he makes progress only when he sticks his neck out."

— James Bryant CONANT

## MAY SPEAKER

by Jim MOSES

Our own Lori FOX was the guest speaker for the May meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society. Her topic was something we have all done, or wish we had done - diaries. We aren't all as lucky as Lori, who inherited a whole trash bag full of diaries from her ancestors. Some of us have to rely on the diaries of others who lived in the same area and had a similar lifestyle, but if you can find original diaries of your own relatives, you have a gold mine of information. As Lori put it, diaries have "all of life's secrets" just waiting for us to read. They can teach us much about daily life. One favorite passage that she read to us was about courting in Sebewa in the late 1880s. To emphasize the importance of diaries, Lori gave some examples from her collection, giving us insight into the neighbors and friends of her great-grandmother, Maude ESTEP DOWNING, as well as Maude's views on events of the time. One very helpful hint was that we should check the newspapers of the time that the diary was written, because they will also be describing events and people and may help us identify some of the abbreviations that were used in the diary. Diaries may be in many different formats. Some are written in notebooks of various sizes and shapes, while others are just on loose-leaf paper, or on recipe cards, etc. Just in case you are thinking that diaries are only for the women, Lori pointed out that men's diaries are called journals, and so when she challenged us to write about ourselves and our times, the men are included. She said, "We may think things are unimportant but others will value the information." Our grandchildren deserve to know about us through our own eyes, and the only way for that to

happen is for us to let our eyes see and our hands write. In closing, Lori gave us several examples of the events of today that our grandchildren would greatly appreciate reading about. "If we don't tell our stories, who will?"



### OUR SYMPATHY

is extended to Charter Member, Janice SEDORE, who recently lost her mother, Elsie BRYLE (HINCH) LUBITZ. Elsie was born 27 October 1922 in Arlington, Fayette County, Iowa, and died 16 April 2001.

### Glossary of Terms from the Dutch Reformed Church, with English translations:

*Bevestigt* – Married  
*Dese navolgende zyn gedoopt door my* – The following have been baptised by me  
*Doop-dag* – Baptismal date  
*Doop register* – Baptismal register  
*Door my* – By me  
*Geboorte-day* – Birth date  
*Getuygen* – Sponsors  
*Huys-vrouw van* – Wife of  
*Kinders, Kinderen* – Children  
*Moeder* – Mother  
*Vader* – Father  
*Naamen der geenen die in den* – Names of those who have been united  
*Houwelyke Staat bevestigt zyn* – in the Holy State (of matrimony)  
*Op beleydenisse* – On confession  
*Ouders, Ouderen* – Parents  
*Overleden* – deceased  
*Register der getrouwde Leiden* – Register or marriages  
*Slaaf, een* – A slave (male)  
*Slaavin, een* – A slave (female)  
*Trouw-day* – Marriage day  
*Trouw-tyt* – Also Marriage day  
*V. D. M. (Verbi Dei Minister)* – Clergyman  
*Weduwe van* – Widow of  
*Wedr., weduwer* – Widower

Citation: Transcript of the Marriage and Baptismal Records of the Refomed

Protestant Dutch Church of the Bight, Colonie, N. Y. Made by W. Burt Cook, Jr. (Transcript copied by Howard I. Becker, R.D. #1, Rexford, NY).

– Submitted by Betty WHITE to <SIMONDS-L@rootsweb.com>

### The Michigan Masonic Museum and Library



An Agency of the Masonic Foundation of Michigan, Inc. and The Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan

The Michigan Masonic Museum and Library serves as the "fraternal heritage center" for the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, and its appendent bodies. It has two other aims as well: documenting Michigan History, and serving as the prime collection documenting the American Fraternal Movement (1860 – 1940.)

The aim of the facility is to allow complete access to the collection, for all people – members, scholars and all citizens of the State of Michigan. With almost 6000 sq. ft. devoted to its book collection, the Library includes an automated system, with dedicated software, providing wide access to the collection both in the building proper and through the Internet. Patrons may browse the collection, order materials, and communicate with the staff.

Grand Rapids Masonic Center  
233 East Fulton St., Suite 10  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3270  
(616) 459-9336  
1-888-748-4540 (in MI only)  
(616) 459-9436 (FAX)  
<library@gl-mi.org>  
<www.gl-mi.org/library>

(Our thanks to Al & Kathy BRYANT for sharing this info!)



## Wonders from the Web!

This interesting website has photos purchased from antique shops and flea markets and placed on the site for possible identification and claiming! Check out  
<[www.lostleavesphotos.com](http://www.lostleavesphotos.com)>

If you are working on writing your family history, here is a great way to incorporate important dates in history into that timeline. Thank you to Jim MOSES who shared this site with us. <[www.ourtimelines.com](http://www.ourtimelines.com)>

Another website that you might want to visit is <[www.michbar.org](http://www.michbar.org)>. This is a searchable database which contains court opinions in Michigan's Court of Appeals and Federal District Courts 1998-current.

Good friend Shirley HODGES sent this to us. (Ask Pam how good she was at playing the games!) <<http://www.ssa.gov/history/puzzles/concatenate.html>>

For those of you having trouble reading the old census records, help has arrived! *Ancestry.com* is introducing "Handwriting Help". Available through the Census Images Online, this pop-up menu contains several handwriting samples for each letter of the alphabet. The small pop-up window allows you to compare the writing as you view census images. You can access this new feature by clicking on the "Handwriting Help" link in the beige sidebar on the image page.

We were amazed to discover all the genealogy software available for those who use Palm Pilots as their everyday planner. Check out this site:

<[http://www.palmgear.com/software/answer\\_category.cfm?categoryIDs=188](http://www.palmgear.com/software/answer_category.cfm?categoryIDs=188)>  
Isn't it great that genealogy is being considered in our daily planning!?!  
◆

Here is another site that Shirley sent us – School Alumni Lists: with over 7500 records from selected U.S. schools, the dates range from 1879-1972.  
<<http://userdb.rootsweb.com/alumni/>>  
◆

Don't forget to visit our own Ionia Co. website frequently. New items are posted almost daily! Here is the URL to remember:

<<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mi/county/onia/index.html>>  
or  
<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/icgshome.htm>>  
◆

Ionia Co. World War II veterans? If you haven't checked this part of our website, you might be really missing out. Take a minute and visit! <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/WWII2.html>>

Congratulations are in order for Bill and Lori PIERCEFIELD FOX who will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary September 18, 2001. May you be as happy today as you were 30 years ago, and continue to be 30 years from now.  
♥♥♥

It is impossible to make anything foolproof, because fools are so ingenious. — author unknown

## Portland Photographers till 1899

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| ARMS, F. C.                    | 1891 – 1893 |
| GREEN, R. E.                   | 1891 – 1897 |
| GREEN & ARMS                   | c 1890      |
| SHOWMAN,                       |             |
| Lorenzo K.                     | 1863 – 1885 |
| SHOWMAN & REED                 | 1877 – 1879 |
| SHOWMAN & GREEN                | 1887 –      |
| VAN HORN,                      |             |
| George J.                      | 1899 – 1920 |
| WHITE, George J.               | 1872 – 1875 |
| WOOD, George W.                | 1897 – 1899 |
| VAN HORN &<br>HEDGE, George J. | c 1890      |

~~~The source is Randy Gladstone. It helps to identify our photographs if we know what years the photographers were in business.

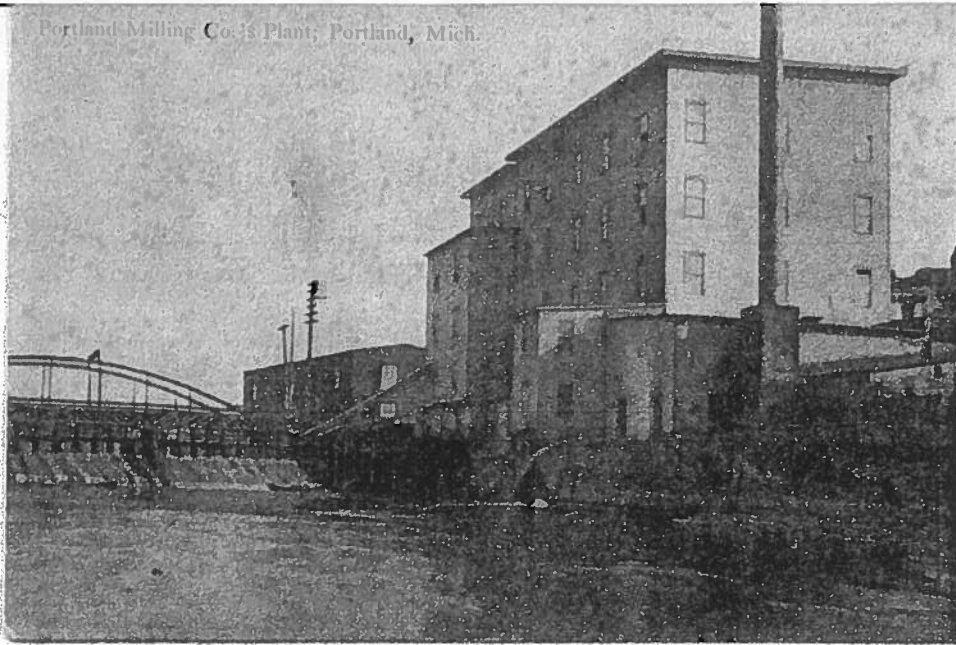
Headstone Photograph Project

The Ionia Co. Genealogical Society has been working on updating transcriptions of gravestones in Ionia Co. As part of this project, if anyone has pictures of gravestones in Ionia Co., would you please send them to me? I will take scanned images by e-mail or pictures by regular snail mail. We are compiling a book for the ICGS library, as another of our wonderful projects to help genealogists with research in Ionia Co. All help is appreciated.

Also, I do take pictures for researchers of cemeteries in Ionia Co. and some in Montcalm Co. Let me know if you have a request. I take these in black and white unless there is a very colorful stone.

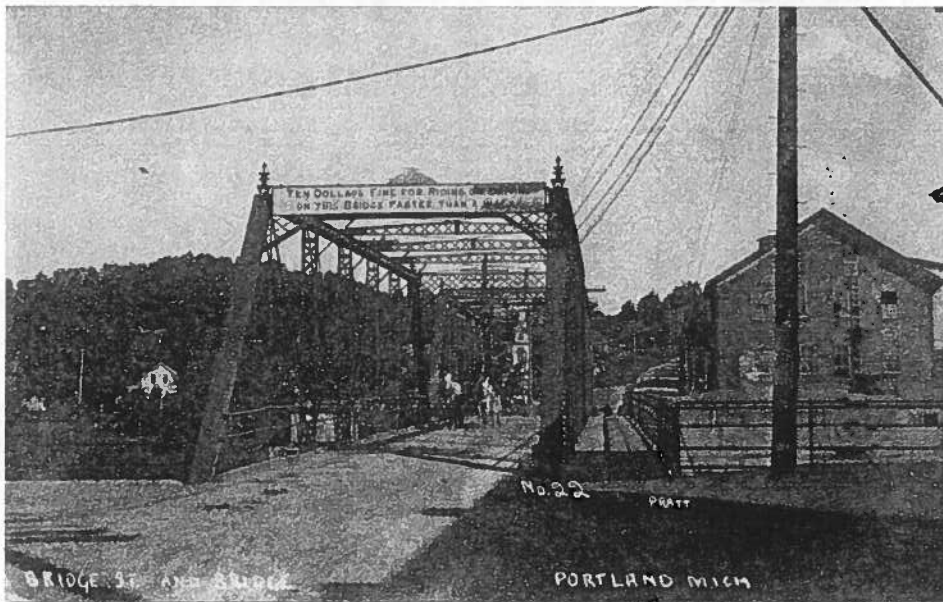
Contact Teresa LEAK SWEET
2692 W. County Farm Rd.
Sheridan, MI 48884
<tree@pathwaynet.com>

Portland Milling Co.'s Plant, Portland, Mich.



Scenes of Life in Portland, Early 1900's

Pam SWILER shares these postcards with the following comments: "My husband's Aunt Marilyn COMPTON let me borrow some old postcards that she has been saving for years. They were from her mother's and grandmother's collection of notes from other relatives throughout the years. I thought they might be of interest to some of our members." The sign over the bridge reads: "TEN DOLLARS FINE FOR RIDING OR DRIVING ON THIS BRIDGE FASTER THAN A WALK."



What to use for an Epitaph. . .

Four brothers were at a monument sales company seeking to buy a stone for their mother who had passed away several days before. After a lengthy discussion, one brother said: "She was married to a banker, an actor, a minister, and an undertaker." Another brother spoke up and said: "That's it! — One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go!"
~~~~ from *Solitude in Stone* by Clyde A. Chamberlain (Thank you, Pam!)

We are deeply saddened by the death of Bruce FAHRNI, who passed away in April. His funeral was held in Clarksville. Bruce and his wife Roslyn were First Families members. They also put their great-grandson, Gerald GRIESER, and grand-daughter, Alice GRIESER, in the FF Society. Our sincere sympathies go out to his family and friends.

### Searching the Ellis Island Database

Dear fellow genealogical/historical society,

Edward ROSENBAUM and Stephen MORSE are pleased to announce their collaborative effort to make searching the Database even easier. Morse's free "Searching the Ellis Island Database in One Step" website at <http://sites.netscape.net/stephenpmorse/ellis.html> offers a solution to one of the problems with the Ellis Island database: the inability to enter all of your information in one place. In addition to specifying the name of your ancestor, Morse's page lets you easily include the age, year of arrival, gender, first name, ship, ethnicity, and port of departure. It also allows you to search in ways that are not otherwise possible — such as by entering only the first letter of the last name. Furthermore, the Ellis Island website restricts the allowable choices of ports/ships/ethnicities based on the name or partial name you enter whereas Morse's page does not.

Edward Rosenbaum's shareware program "Ellis Island Database Name Permutations", available at <http://members.bellatlantic.net/~eir228/eidb.htm>, offers you possible alternate spellings to use when searching for your ancestor. These alternate spellings are based upon letters that were

easily confused with each other when the Ellis Island Database was created, as well as alternate spellings based upon the American Soundex code, and the Daitch-Mokotoff soundex code. Rosenbaum's program also allows you to specify your ancestor's age, year of arrival, gender, first name, and ship. In addition, the program will create a customized web page for you that contains links to search the Ellis Island database for each alternate spelling.

Now these two powerful search tools can be used in conjunction with each other. From Rosenbaum's program you can specify that the customized web page contains links to Morse's website instead of to the Ellis Island website. By doing so you get all the power of the alternate spellings provided by Rosenbaum together with the versatile searching abilities provided by Morse.

Sincerely,  
Edward Rosenbaum  
President, JGS of Bergen County,  
New Jersey  
<<http://www.crosswinds.net/~erosenbaum/jgsbc>>

Our thanks to Pam Swiler for sharing this interesting article!

### In Deepest Sympathy

We extend condolences to the family of Ford WRIGHT, whose father Roy C. Wright, 88, of Lyons, passed away on April 30, 2001. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Scot K. OTIS, pastor of the Portland United Methodist Church, at Schrauben-Lehman Funeral Home, Portland. Interment was at Lakeside Cemetery in Lake Odessa.



### LOOKING FOR A HOME

Leora SLOSSER has pictures of the following people that she would be glad to give to a direct descendant:

Neva GRANGER  
Gladys GRANGER (*probably sisters*)  
Neva GRANGER (*in Indian costume*)

Marvin DeLINE

Bert ALLEN's (3) children, two identified as Nad? and Glenn ALLEN  
Mrs. Bert (Marian) ALLEN

Bert HOUGH (*man and woman*)  
Ronald C. HOUGH (*smiling baby*)  
B[ert] HOUGH (*family group - man, wife & child*)

*Two men seated in front of flag, dated 1915:*  
Bode RILEY &  
Orlie WALLACE

Kate RYERSON (*with child on lap*)

*Two men beside log hauler (only one identified):*  
Bill SIMONS dated 1917 or 1918  
*Two men sitting on steps (possibly logging camp), note states "I only weight 170 lb and nearly 6 ft. tall, not so bad":*  
Bill SIMONS 1917 or 1918

Young woman seated:  
Vermilda ALLEN married E.B. HEMPSTEAD

Many of these pictures are on postcards. Please contact me if you are interested.

~ Leora  
<[lslosser@pathwaynet.com](mailto:lslosser@pathwaynet.com)>

"Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish."

~ John Quincy Adams

## The Vintage Voice

~ news & notices from early Ionia newspapers

*from the Ionia Daily Standard, December 11, 1906; page 6:*

E. H. DEATSMAN sends the Sunfield Sentinel the following list of Ionia county people who have taken up homestead claims in North Dakota: Marvin KENYON, 320 acres; Ella KENYON, 160 acres; James KENYON, 120 acres; Frank KENYON, 160 acres; J. H. CREAMER, 160 acres; H. L. VanBENSCHOTEN, 800 acres; Hal McCLELLAND, 160 acres; C. A. STALEY, Belding, 320 acres; W. A. STALEY, Collins, 160 acres; Rob MERRIFIELD, 160 acres; Will MERRIFIELD, 160 acres; Charles HOPPO, Belding, 160 acres; Bowers PEABODY, 160 acres; Frank PEABODY, 160 acres; Jason PEABODY, 120 acres; Floyd PEABODY, 160 acres; Rob RUMFIELD, 160 acres; E. H. DEATSMAN, 320 acres; in all 4,400 acres.

*from the Ionia Sentinel Standard, 1919:*

### Former Ionia Lawyer Is Ill in Greenville

Belding - Fred WILLIAMS, 79, former Otisco township treasurer and Ionia city lawyer, is a patient at the Graham Convalescent home in Greenville after being found Friday morning in the woodshed of his home by neighbors, Clare and Chas. COMPTON. It is not known how long he was there. He believes that he fell and was unable to get up.

Williams, who was ill with the flu last week, but had been seen about his home early this week, was found after the Comptons missed seeing him for a time.

Williams attended the Ionia high



school in the late 1890's, and then studied law in the office of the late Frank MILLER and E. A. MURPHY. He was admitted to the bar while in Ionia, but practiced little law until he moved to Otisco. He lived in Ionia about 10 years and moved away over 40 years ago.

He is a former justice of the peace in Otisco township.

from the *Lake Odessa Wave*,  
March 23, 1900:

### Campbell

Some of the farmers have hauled out their sugar rigging, getting ready for sugaring.

Miss Barbara WINEY is in the Valley City at present.

Mrs. Mary WINEY is sick with the gripe at this writing.

The auction sale at Mr. RAINGH'S last Thursday, was well attended considering the cold stormy day.

The United Brethren people of West Campbell contemplate building a new church in the neighborhood of the North Fish school house; quite a sum of money is already subscribed and about 17,000 ft. of saw logs at the mills for the timber. They are a persevering people.

Mr. Dan. SHOPBELL and son, of South Woodland, were seen on our streets Thursday.

Miss Maud BARKER is numbered with the Campbell sick. Pneumonia of the lungs is the malady.

### Sebewa Center

Elmer LEAK was born in Eaton county Feb. 10, 1879, died at his home in Sebewa, March the 18, 1900. He leaves a father, mother, two brothers, two sisters and a host of relatives and friends to mourn his early departure. Funeral was held the following Tuesday, at Sebewa Baptist

church, Rev. A. K. STEWART officiating.

T. E. GUNN, who has been sick for some time is still under the doctor's care.

Jesse and M. LEAK were suddenly called home from Eaton Rapids by the sickness and death of their brother.

Miss Carrie SMITH, who has been working for Mrs. C. SINDLINGER, has left for the present and gone to work for her father, O. D. SMITH.

Minnie SINDLINGER, who has been teaching school, is home for the vacation.

Nelson BELL, of Weidman, is visiting his sister, Mrs. John LEAK, of this place.

A. W. MYERS has finished a sawing on the farm of John GRIFFIN and as soon as he can dig his mill out of a snow drift he will move to the DAVENSTRATT job.

All of those who attended the warm sugar social report a good time and all of the sugar you wanted which was of a good quality.

Walter HEINTZELMAN is on the sick list.

from the *Ionia Sentinel*,  
Wed., Feb. 17, 1886:

The Ionia ladies are noted for hospitality, and the last few days they have shown it in an unusual degree. On Saturday evening Mrs. CHESTER and Mrs. SHARPSTEEN gave a party at the residence of the former, in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Ben FRANKLIN, who are about to leave Ionia. Last night a company of ladies and gentlemen met at the house of Mrs. Sharpsteen, laden with sundry baskets and bundles, and in a body proceeded to the residence of Geo. C. WATROUS to surprise Mr. and Mrs. Franklin, who were

to leave on the morrow. When all were in, it was found a very pleasant company had gathered together. With music, games and conversation the evening passed away. The refreshments were elegant; the cigars were fine, and the company in good humor with themselves and the rest of the world. A beautiful arm chair was presented to them by Mr. C. B. WARDLE in a brief and pleasant address. The chair was presented by F. H. DOLAND, T. R. BACK, J. T. WEBBER, Delos G. SMITH, B. S. BUCHANAN, H. VanALLEN, Harry WEILER, R. WARD, F. WALTON, M. L. SMITH, C. B. WARDLE, S. D. PIERSON, C. and J. DYE, Terry DOLAN, John BROWN, and Will ALLURED.

Mr. and Mrs. Franklin leave for their new home with the best wishes of their numerous friends, and what is Ionia's loss is Jackson's gain.

from the *Ionia Daily Standard*,  
April 23, 1919:

Notice. Ionia, Mich.. - Numerous complaints have been made about people riding bicycles upon sidewalks. We have a strict ordinance against this as everyone knows, and the practice must stop. All violators will be prosecuted. Do not complain if you are caught, as you will be. Take warning and quit. - Earl ALEXANDER, Marshall.

### CONDOLENCES

We offer our deepest sympathy to Gary VEALE and family who recently lost his mother-in-law after a long, courageous battle with cancer. Uyrdas Hazel (STOCKFORD) McLEOD, 79, passed away Friday, May 4, 2001, at her home in Lake Odessa.

# HONOR PAGE



**Valedictorian**

GRAYDEN SLOWINS

"Dear Hearts and Gentle People" Assembly Program 2; J Hop; Senior Prom; Jr. Sr. Play; Latin Club, Secretary 3; Speech 2, 4; Jr. Sr. Banquet.

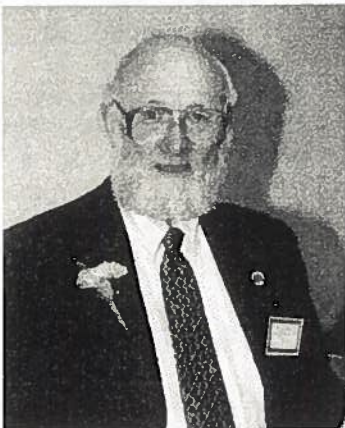


**Salutatorian**

ANN LAKIN

"I'm In the Mood For Love" Assembly Program 2; J Hop; Senior Prom; Jr. and Sr. Play; Latin Club 1, 2; Treasurer, Speech 4; Mixed Chorus 3; Girls Glee Club 3; Portlight 1, 2, 3; Senior Band 1, 2; Pep Band 1, 2; Jr. Sr. Banquet.

You may not recognize this couple right off, but look below and you will see Mr. and Mrs. Grayden **SLOWINS** have not really changed much over the years! In the Portland High School Class of 1950 Cardinal classbook, Ann **LAKIN** "wills her loving attitude toward her boyfriend to Marilyn **MULLINS** who might try it and see what happens." Grayden **SLOWINS** "wills his government project to the R & O in case they need it for future reference"...wonder what that government project was??? Thank you to Ann Slowins for sharing her yearbook collection!



First Families of  
Ionia County  
Members  
**Grayden & Ann  
Slowins**  
2000



## JUNE SPEAKER

by Jim MOSES

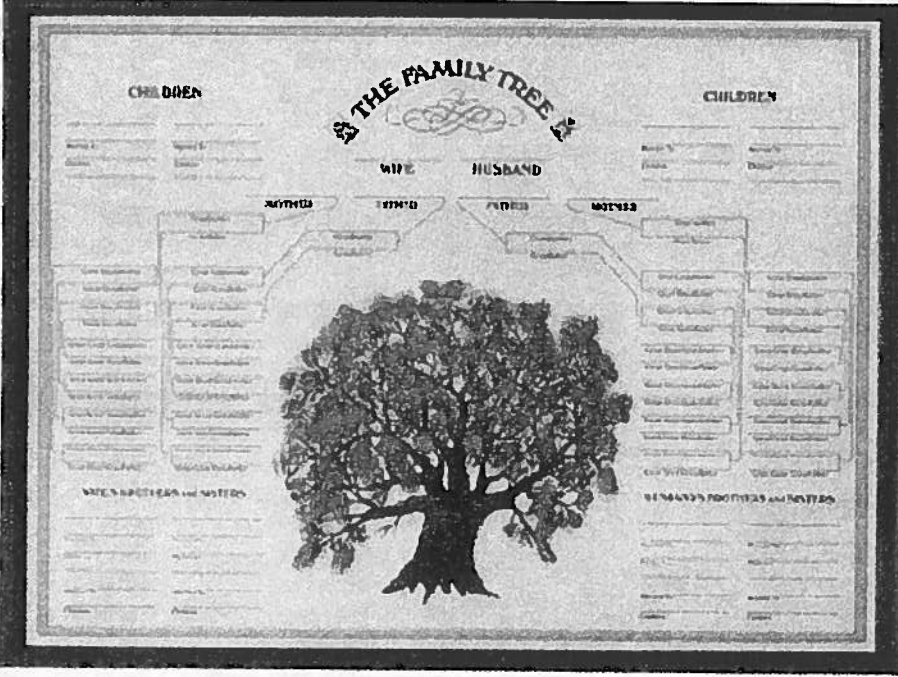
Showcasing the talent in our society, another member, John WAITE, gave the presentation at our June meeting. John has put out a family newsletter for more than ten years and talked to us about the advantages of such a project. He started out by telling us that if we are serious about our genealogy, we should publish, or at least help publish, a family newsletter. There are several reasons for this statement. First, when someone publishes the family stories and events, that person becomes the archive for the family. People start giving things that belonged to someone several generations back, and people start looking to the publisher as a person who receives the information when someone is born or dies. Second, the newsletter motivates you to continue your research. Third, forgotten items get brought out into the light. Things that only one or two people know will be told to the person who writes the stories in the newsletter. A fourth reason to have a family newsletter is that it unites the family, and keeps people connected. They have something to read (in John's case, six times a year) that will keep them abreast of current events in the family, and also teach them about their ancestors.

John can only think of one disadvantage - time. He said it can take a lot of time to prepare the articles, especially if you want to keep it interesting for a wide variety of readers. If it isn't interesting, of course, they won't continue to subscribe. Paper copies of the newsletter are what John thinks are the best. Publishing on the internet is one thing, but having everything on paper, in a binder, is better because it is easier to preserve what was written.

**ICGS Presents**

# THE FAMILY TREE CHART

PRINTED IN BEAUTIFUL AUTUMN COLORS ON PARCHMENT PAPER & CHART IS 18x24 AND FITS INTO A STANDARD SIZE FRAME & WELL ORGANIZED, EASY TO FOLLOW AND SPACED FOR SIX GENERATIONS



**\$8.00 each ~ Available in Sturdy Mailing Tubes ~  
Order a Supply Today Through ICGS!**

The newsletter is a natural outgrowth of our research. We all have so much material that we couldn't possibly fit it into a book, but by spreading it out over several years we can go into as much detail as we want. John says the hardest thing is to get started, so he gave us a handout to help us through that process, plus to give us ideas about what to write. Color makes things much more expensive, but photos add a lot without costing much. A variety of articles and even puzzles, recipes, newspaper clippings, etc., will help improve

the newsletter. It doesn't have to be fancy. The font of the print is important, as is putting your name and address on every issue so that your readers can find you.

John claims he is not an expert, but he has continued even through times when he thought about quitting; the benefits are that he has gathered more information about that one line of the family than all others combined.

When are you going to start your family newsletter? ♦ ♦ ♦

## In Deepest Sympathy

We offer condolences to the **JACKSON** family who lost three relatives in the month of May:

Homer Jackson, aged 91, of Lake Odessa, died May 15. Burial was in Lakeside Cemetery. He was the father of First Family member Eldon (Marilee) Jackson and the uncle of First Family member Daryl (Bonnie) Jackson.

Also passing was Wanda **BEARD**, the daughter of Benjamin Harrison Jackson, a brother of Augustus Jackson who was Daryl's grandfather.

Lastly, Forrest Dean **STAHL** of Clarksville died at age 63. The son of Clare Stahl, Forrest was the grandson of Florence Jackson, a sister of Augustus Jackson.

## Native American Ancestry?

### Ask your dentist!

Does your family tradition say one of your ancestors was a Native American (Indian)? Haven't been able to prove or disprove it? Your dentist can tell you!

On your maxillary first molar – the sixth tooth from the center of your upper front teeth – is a small bump called "Carabelli's Cusp". Those with only western European ancestry have this cusp on that molar. People with Native American origins do not have this cusp.

⇒ Note! People with Asian ancestry will also be missing this cusp – maybe more proof that Native Americans came over the land bridge thousands of years ago!

~ Thanks to Dr. Vernon **NESMITH**, quoted in "John's Notebook", at <<http://www.wf.net/~jyates/teeth.htm>>



## Dates When Birth & Death Record Legislation Passed

| State          | Death | Birth |
|----------------|-------|-------|
| Alabama        | 1908  | 1908  |
| Alaska         | 1913  | 1913  |
| Arizona        | 1909  | 1909  |
| Arkansas       | 1914  | 1914  |
| California     | 1905  | 1905  |
| Colorado       | 1907  | 1907  |
| Connecticut    | 1897  | 1897  |
| Delaware       | 1881  | 1881  |
| D. C.          | 1855  | 1871  |
| Florida        | 1915  | 1915  |
| Georgia        | 1919  | 1919  |
| Hawaii         | 1896  | 1896  |
| Idaho          | 1911  | 1911  |
| Illinois       | 1916  | 1916  |
| Indiana        | 1882  | 1882  |
| Iowa           | 1880  | 1880  |
| Kansas         | 1911  | 1911  |
| Kentucky       | 1911  | 1911  |
| Louisiana      | 1914  | 1914  |
| Maine          | 1892  | 1892  |
| Maryland       | 1898  | 1898  |
| Massachusetts  | 1841  | 1841  |
| Michigan       | 1867  | 1867  |
| Minnesota      | 1900  | 1900  |
| Mississippi    | 1912  | 1912  |
| Missouri       | 1910  | 1910  |
| Montana        | 1907  | 1907  |
| Nebraska       | 1905  | 1905  |
| Nevada         | 1911  | 1911  |
| New Hampshire  | 1905  | 1905  |
| New Jersey     | 1848  | 1848  |
| New Mexico     | 1919  | 1919  |
| New York       | 1880  | 1880  |
| North Carolina | 1913  | 1913  |
| North Dakota   | 1908  | 1908  |
| Ohio           | 1909  | 1909  |
| Oklahoma       | 1908  | 1908  |
| Oregon         | 1903  | 1903  |
| Pennsylvania   | 1906  | 1906  |
| Puerto Rico    | 1931  | 1931  |
| Rhode Island   | 1852  | 1852  |
| South Carolina | 1915  | 1915  |
| South Dakota   | 1905  | 1905  |
| Tennessee      | 1914  | 1914  |
| Texas          | 1903  | 1903  |
| Utah           | 1905  | 1905  |
| Vermont        | 1857  | 1857  |
| Virginia       | 1912  | 1912  |
| Washington     | 1907  | 1907  |
| West Virginia  | 1917  | 1917  |
| Wisconsin      | 1907  | 1907  |
| Wyoming        | 1909  | 1909  |

## CONDOLENCES

Our sincere sympathies are offered to Pamela **SO** and family upon the passing of her father, Kenneth Ralph **MONTGOMERY**. Mr. Montgomery, aged 59, died unexpectedly May 13, 2001, in Washington, D.C., while on a business trip. He was born in Bellaire, MI, the son of the late Leo Aldrich and Ruth Clarissa (**WILTSE**) Montgomery. He had lived in Hudson, MA, for the past 28 years.

from "The Ionia Sentinel"  
March 8, 1900:

"The prevailing snow storm will go on record as comparing favorably with any experienced in several years. The roads in the country can hardly be traversed, while the railroads are having their hands full keeping trains running. . . .

Half a dozen Ionians were on the Greenville train due to reach Ionia at 5:30 p. m. Monday. They got here at 4 o'clock Tuesday morning, ten and a half hours late. The train got caught in the drifts between Orleans and Chadwick, and it took two or three engines and a big gang of shovelers to pull it out. There were quite a number of passengers aboard and they had a nice social evening. The banquet was served by neighboring farmers, and included a big pail of milk, and sandwiches and friedcakes in abundance."

## SINCERE SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Jim **MOSES** whose grandmother, Beatrice (Bea) Moses passed away on June 21, 2001.

**LYDIA MARIA PEABODY STINCHCOMB SCRAPBOOK  
INDEX OF CONTENTS**

**KEY:**

SOURCE—A=Article M=Marriage MA=Anniversary O=Obit

COUNTY--B=Barry E=Eaton I=Ionia ING=Ingham K=Kent M=Montcalm

| NAME                                | DATE         | SOURCE | COUNTY | FILE # |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|
| ALLEMAN, Mrs.                       | 1894         | A      | I      | LS510  |
| ALLEN, Joe                          |              | M      | E/ING  | LS22   |
| ALSBRO, Myrtle                      | 9/30/1901    | M      | E      | LS114  |
| AMON, Allen S.                      | 8/10/1904    | M      | E/I    | LS93   |
| AVES, Frank                         | 7/17/1902    | A      | E      | LS99   |
| BAIR, Frank                         | 10/31/1905   | M      | E      | LS815  |
| BALE, Charles                       | 3/30/1901    | M      | E      | LS11   |
| BARLAND, Everett                    | 9/30/1901    | M      | E      | LS114  |
| BARNES, Harmon                      | 5/2/1903     | O      | E      | LS623  |
| BARNUM, Sara E.                     | 2/28/1906    | M      | E      | LS91   |
| BASCOM, E.M.                        | 3/15/1907    | A      | E      | LS21   |
| BENEDICT, Mrs. M. Ency              | N/A          | M      | E      | LS816  |
| BENEDICT, J.                        | 9/30/1901(?) | M      | E      | LS69   |
| BENEDICT, Jud                       |              | A      | E      | LS48   |
| BENHAM, Carl                        | N/A          | M      | E      | LS122  |
| BENNETT, Lottie                     | N/A          | M      | E      | LS16   |
| BENNETT, William                    | 7/21/1906    | O      | E      | LS51   |
| BERA, Ethel                         | N/A          | M      | E      | LS125  |
| BERA, Hattie JAMES                  | 12/18/1904   | O      | E      | LS825  |
| BERA, Tressie HAMMOND               | 1/6/1902     | O      | E      | LS84   |
| BICKELL, Gertrude                   | N/A          | M      | I      | LS820  |
| BINNS, Loren                        | N/A          | O      | B/E    | LS24   |
| BINNS, Loren                        | N/A          | O      | B      | LS74   |
| BISHOP, Delos                       | N/A          | M      | E      | LS811  |
| BISHOP, E. Lovell                   | 2/28/1906    | M      | E      | LS91   |
| BISHOP, William H.                  | 1904         | O      | E      | LS713  |
| BLACK, Lillie Alice                 | N/A          | M      | E      | LS68   |
| BLACKSOM, Mrs. Eva                  | 2/14/1897    | M      | E      | LS318  |
| BLAIR, Ida                          | 6/6/1901     | M      | E      | LS110  |
| BOSWORTH, Hattie DAY                | 10/12/1902   | O      | B      | LS827  |
| BOYER, Andrew W.                    |              | O      | E      | LS27   |
| BOYER, Davis                        | 9/17/1902    | M      | E      | LS13   |
| BRIGGS, George R.                   | N/A          | M      | I      | LS910  |
| BRIGGS, John C.                     | 4/3/1912     | O      | E      | LS511  |
| BRIGGS, Myrtle L.                   | N/A          | M      | I      | LS92   |
| BRIMMER, Mr & Mrs. Gaylord (MEYERS) | N/A          | M      | E      | LS828  |
| BROWN, Archie                       | 9/14/1902    | M      | E      | LS12   |
| BROWN, Mildred                      | 9/17/1902    | M      | E      | LS12   |
| CAMPBELL, Carrie                    | N/A          | M      | E      | LS98   |
| CAREY, Lena                         | N/A          | M      | N/A    | LS25   |
| CAREY, Mrs. Calvin                  |              | O      | E      | LS410  |
| CHAMBLIN, Gladeus                   | 3/5/1902     | M      | E      | LS15   |
| CHILDS, Mabelle                     | N/A          | M      | E      | LS86   |
| CRYDERMAN, Celia                    | N/A          | M      | E      | LS116  |

Lydia M. Peabody **STINCHCOMB** was the daughter of Frederick and Mary **RICHARDSON PEBODY**. She was born Sep. 28, 1878, and married Monroe Stinchcomb on Oct. 3, 1894. They resided in the Sunfield/Sebewa area. Teresa **SWEET** has scanned and indexed the scrapbook. She tells us, "Some of the articles are not dated, and I have no idea which papers they came from. I have them on disk and am more than willing to send!" If interested, contact Teresa at <tree@pathwaynet.com>. Thanks, Teresa, for your wonderful work! Watch future newsletters for more installments of the **STINCHCOMB SCRAPBOOK!**

## Highlight on First Families No. 8



### Leora Tucker Slosser

Leora was born in Saranac, Ionia Co., Michigan, the daughter of Leo Willard **TUCKER** and Hazel **TRUMPOWER**. Leora is a charter member of our society and resides in Greenville with her husband Allen.

Leo Willard **TUCKER** was born June 16 of 1906 in Boston Twp., Michigan. On May 29, 1931, he married Hazel in Elkhart, Indiana. Leo died January 23, 1959 in Howell, Livingston Co., Michigan. Cause of death is listed as Coronary Thrombosis. Hazel died several years later of cardiac arrest on November 28, 1977. The death certificate lists Hazel as being buried at Otisco Cemetery. Leo is buried at South Boston Cemetery.

Leo was the son of Earnest **TUCKER** and Mabel **JORDAN**, another familiar surname in both Ionia and Barry counties. Earnest was born January 2, 1881, in Boston Twp., Ionia Co., Michigan. He married Mabel on February 28, 1906, in Lake Odessa, Ionia Co., Michigan. Earnest spent his entire life on the family farm, which was homesteaded by his father. He and his wife had two sons, Leo and Kenneth, and two daughters, Boneita and Jean. He was a member of the Grange of South Boston, Clarksville F. and A.M., and other farm organizations.

Earnest died of coronary thrombosis on November 4, 1954, in Ionia County. He is buried at the South Boston Cemetery. His wife, Mabel, died September 10, 1967.

Earnest was the son of Samuel Eastman **TUCKER**, who was the first person to settle from this line in Ionia County, Michigan. Samuel was born in Stratford Co., Vermont, but according to his marriage license, he resided in Boston Twp., Ionia Co., Michigan, at the time of his marriage to Abigail M. **LIVERMORE** on March 30, 1869. He and his bride were married in Grand Rapids, Kent Co., Michigan. He was listed as a farmer. He was 25 years of age and Abigail was two years younger.

Samuel died in Saranac, Ionia Co., Michigan, of apoplexy on November 20, 1914. He was a retired farmer at that time and was listed as being 71 years, 7 mos, 19 days. His wife died August 28, 1927, of carcinoma of the liver. She was listed as 81 years, 18 days old at her death. She was the daughter of David **LIVERMORE** and Eliza **GOODENOUGH**. Samuel and Abigail are shown on the 1870 census for Boston Twp., Ionia Co., with Eliza Livermore residing with them.

Although there is much more information available, space will not allow us to print all that is contained within the pages of Leora's First Families application. We would like to point out that our readers will soon find many connections to other First Families members as this series continues. Thank you, Leora, for all you have done. For more information on how YOU can become a First Families member, contact our society.

## 2001 Calendar of Events - Ionia County Genealogical Society

### July 2001

- 10 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at the Depot Museum  
14 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "Recording Cemeteries" -- Marilyn Steward is the speaker  
26 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
28 10:00 - 5:00 DEPOT DAY at Lake Odessa/Museum open to public for research

### August 2001

- 7 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
11 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is: "Immigration and Ship Passenger Lists" -- Carole Callard is the speaker  
23 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
25 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

### September 2001

- 4 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
8 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic to be announced  
15 12: 00 - 4:00 "Know Your Junk" Heirloom Appraisal Fair at the Lake Odessa Community Library. Proceeds to benefit the ICGS.  
27 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
29 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

### October 2001

- 2 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Swilers'  
13 1:00 p.m. Regular Membership Meeting; program topic is "The GAR in Michigan " -- James T. Lyon is the speaker  
25 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'  
27 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research  
27 Tentative date for First Families Banquet

### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS:

- September 15 - Deadline for First Families Applications  
November 10 - Richard Heaven: "Campbell Twp. History"  
December - NO MEETINGS! Happy Holidays!

\*\* All regular membership meetings are held on the second (2nd) Saturday of each month, except December, at 1:00 p.m., in the Community Room of Lake Manor on Emerson Street, Lake Odessa, just west of the Depot Museum. The public is welcome and refreshments will be served. In addition, the Depot library will also be open following each monthly meeting until 5:00 p.m.

### ICGS Newsletter:

Editor: Pamela Swiler

Asst Editor: Dottie Piechocki

NEED TO REACH US? ICGS, 13051 Ainsworth Rd., Route #3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849, PH: (616) 374-3141

FAX: 616-374-8424 or email: <pkswiler1@juno.com> or <pkswiler@voyager.net>

# Ionia County Genealogical Society

13051 Ainsworth Road – Route 3

Lake Odessa, MI 48849

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**Lake Odessa, MI**

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.....  
Those interested in becoming a member of the I.C.G.S. should complete the form below and send it with \$15.00 annual membership fee made payable to *Ionia County Genealogical Society*. Send to: I.C.G.S.; 13051 Ainsworth Road, Route 3, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9406.  
.....

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List surnames you are researching: \_\_\_\_\_

Which committees are you interested in helping out with? \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: All information may be published in upcoming newsletters or placed on the internet GenWeb Project unless you indicate in writing otherwise.**