

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 8 – Number 3

July – September 2003

Dear Friends,

There is a lot of activity in the world of genealogy right now. In our own society, the book project is progressing well, with all biographies at the publisher's and some already back for proofreading! I have been assured that the book will be here in time for Christmas ... or before, depending on how quickly the proofreading goes. You still have an opportunity to order a book. Pass your family history on to everyone in your family – it will make a great gift!

Are you having trouble accessing records in Michigan? Is the clerk's office refusing to provide you the requested document that is your right to have? If so, contact your delegate to the Michigan Genealogical Council and tell her about your specific situation. Darlene KERN, our society's delegate, will pass that information on to the Council's Research Access Committee for follow-up. Reach Darlene at: 1114 Dillon Circle, Lansing, MI 48917-4059, by telephone at (517) 327-0845, or by e-mail at <dsk-cfkern.7-4@att.net>.

Senate Bill 59 (Heirloom Marriage and Birth Certificate Bill) is still in committee with no movement as of yet. Sen. Tom GEORGE sponsored this bill. Take a minute to let him know you support it. A copy of the bill is in this newsletter [see p. 7].

A new project is underway for anyone with a family member who served in the military during the various wars. The Veterans History Project covers World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf wars. It includes all participants in

those wars -- men and women, civilian and military. It documents the contributions of civilian volunteers, support staff, and war industry workers as well as the experiences of military personnel from all ranks and all branches of service -- the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy, as well as the U.S. Coast Guard and Merchant Marine. For more information on this project, visit <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/about.html>

October is Family History Month. Be thinking about ways that you can involve your family. Take time to talk to your children and grandchildren about their ancestors.

Thank you to all who worked at our various fundraising events this year. I thank Janis KENYON and Joni McCord for all their work on our raffle. The winners of the prizes are: Joni McCORD - First Place - Doll House; Rita COMPTON - 2nd Place - *1881 History of Ionia & Montcalm Counties* Book; Nancy BOUCK - 3rd Place - \$25 gift certificate to the Corner Landing Restaurant. The proceeds from this event go to the building fund project. We are grateful for your support! If you would like to contribute to that project, we would be happy and extremely grateful. The goal of \$60,000 is coming closer each day, with over \$40,000 now in that fund. Not bad for one year's work! This joint effort of the Lake Odessa Area Historical Society and our society has been very successful. Help us complete our goal and get moved into our new home! (Those who have visited our cramped space now really understand why we need this!)

We have been invited to participate in the Smyrna Sesquicentennial Festival on August 2 & 3. We need volunteers to staff our table on those dates. If you can help for an hour or two, call me!

The index for the *1881 History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties* has been compiled and is currently out for bids at publishers. Our goal is to have it completed by the end of this year. Many thanks to Merrilee MORRISON-COTTER and Lori FOX for compiling the data and to Marilee JACKSON for typing it all. It was quite a job, but one that really needed to be done. Watch for more information. By the way -- we still have a few copies of the *1881 History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties* available at a price of \$52 each. Order yours while supplies last!

If you or one of your ancestors attended the Lake Odessa High School, you will want to obtain a copy of a book now available at a pre-sale price of \$30 each. It features 100 years of class photos and points of interest about each class. Contact John WAITE for more information on how to order your copy. John can be reached at (517) 566-7317 or by e-mail at <jrwgen@mvcc.com>.

Enjoy your summer!
Pam SWILER, President

Youth would be an ideal state
if it came a little later in life.
~ Herbert Henry ASQUITH

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Miles A. **CHURCH, Jr.**
9642 Holland Road
Taylor, MI 48180-3068
(734) 946-9435
E-mail: <mileschurc@aol.com>
Researching: **SELLECK, BUCKLEY, CHURCH, CARNEY, LOVE, PHILLIPS**
- Marcia E. **CULP**
2795 W. Beeler Road
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E-mail: <mculp@michweb.net>
Researching: **HAGUE**
- Carol **HAWLEY**
51 Virginia Ave
Ionia, MI 48846
(616) 527-1345
E-mail: <ehawl@chartermi.net>
Researching: **WOODEN, MARBLE**
- Katherine **JOHNSON LANDRY**
1615 Woodhill Drive
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(512) 255-9361
E-mail: not listed
Researching: **JOHNSON, WARD, HOLTON, WING, PERCIVAL, BROUGH**
- Joyce **LANGDON**
1720 Herry Lane
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(616) 527-3474
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Researching: **WINCHELL, EDDY, RADEMAKER**
- Laurel **MANNING**
9784 Lookinglass
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Researching: **LUSCHER, YORK, PEACOCK, DOWNING, WILSON, THORPE, MANNING, BOHR**
- Carol J. **POWELL-SMITH**
1104 - 3rd St. NE
East Wenatchee, WA 98802-4911
(509) 884-3349
<caroljhemmen@hotmail.com>
Researching: **BAILEY,**

PITCHFORTH, LONG

- Leora **STUTES**
2002 Byrnes Road
Lansing, MI 48906-3403
(517) 323-1847
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Researching: **TALCOTT, GOODWIN, MOORE, FERGUSON, MICHENER**
- Shirley **WOODRUFF**
5511 Concord Circle
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
E-mail:
<shirleyw60@cableone.net>
Researching: **RANNEY, BUTTON**
- Margaret **TROYER**
231 South Holmes Street
Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 372-6389
Researching: **SMITH, JESSUP, CRONKRITE, COLLINGHAM**

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

- Kathryn **SLED**
New address:
119 Trowbridge St. West
Meaford, Ontario CANADA
N4L1G4
(519) 538-3315
- Diane **WARNEKE**
New e-mail address:
<warneke@hesenergy.net>
- Concetta **FRANCO**
New address:
5718 South Washington St. Apt.F
Hinsdale, IL 60521
(630) 455-1446
E-mail:
<concetta.franco@bldd.com>
- Lori **FOX**
New e-mail address:
<lorifox@power-net.net>
- Marjorie **GIBSON**
New e-mail address:
<mgibson@netpenny.net>

NOTICES TO MEMBERS & FRIENDS

Hallelujah!!!

Sandy **HEINTZELMAN** has volunteered to be our new Membership Chairperson! Sandy has already proved herself to be

a very capable member of our society and I am sure that she will do a wonderful job maintaining our records. Thank you, Sandy!
~ Pam

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Congratulations to Carole **CRAWFORD CALLARD**, first holder of the Abrams Chair of Genealogy at the Library of Genealogy at the Library of Michigan! Carole is this year's recipient of the P. William **FILBY** Award for Genealogical Librarianship which was presented by Daniel **HELMSTADTER**, President of Scholarly Resources, Inc., at the 100th annual conference of the National Genealogical Society in Pittsburgh, PA. More than 1,800 attended the week-long conference.

The Filby Award is named for the late P. William Filby, the well-known author of genealogical reference books and the Library Director of the Historical Society of Maryland. The Award is funded by Scholarly Resources (Wilmington, DE), the publisher of a number of key genealogical books, microfilm and other resources.

Previous recipients of the Filby Award include: (1999) Lloyd DeWitt **BOCKSTRUCK**, Dallas Public Library, Dallas, TX; (2000) Pamela Hall **COOPER**, Indian River County Public Library, Vero Beach, FL; (2001) Martha **HENDERSON**, Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence, MO; (2002) James **HANSEN**, Wisconsin Historical Society Library, Madison, WI.

Our Deepest Sympathy

is extended to member Linda **STRODTMAN** who lost her uncle, Maxwell E. **TANNER**, who died on March 25, 2003, in Ann Arbor, Mi. He is buried with his wife Kathryn in Forest Hill Cemetery in Ann Arbor.

follow-up to the **RECENT HISTORY OF THE BABCOCK-WATTS BIBLE**
as published in Vol. 8, No. 2:



Mr. and Mrs. S. J. WATTS

"How can I describe it? Propped up on pillows with her covers tucked under her chin when I arrived, Mother Watts gave me her characteristic big smile. She knew something was up because it was not my regular time for coming. I leaned over and kissed her in my usual fashion and she maintained her 'queen receiving the homage of her adoring masses' look. Her hospice nurse was there as was her son and another friend from our church. Then I said, 'I have something to read to you.' She gave the queenly nod and a 'you may proceed' smile. I started to read -- first your masthead (still the smile but the look became more quizzical) and then the box that describes the Babcock-Watts Bible. She dropped the smile and her eyes got wider and wider --- the look

could only be described as 'WOW.' From time to time as I went along she nodded and made short comments that indicated that she had forgotten that most of those words came from herself. By the time I got to the end, having heard the periodic exclamations of those in attendance, her smile was even bigger and she launched again, this time for the nurse, into the story of her deceased husband's role in all of this. I showed her how you had so nicely transcribed the Bible's handwritten family records and then read her your note at the end because she expressed concern that you may not have known that Rev. **MURPHY** of St. Stephen's Community Church has the Bible now. That note satisfied her that people would know where it is. It was clear she was impressed and very delighted that the information in the Babcock-Watts Bible is finally being published so that it is accessible to those searching for it. Further, as I told her, your efforts have made her (and S.J.'s) place in Michigan history visible. Her reaction to this thought was one of humbleness and the whole idea will give her comfort and pleasure for a long time. Our sincere thanks to you from her family and friends for not letting the contributions of this wonderful woman fall through the cracks."

~ Pat **BARNES-McCONNELL**, 18 April 2003

Your editor has since received the following communication:

"I almost fell off my chair yesterday as I was reading my ICGS newsletter that had come in the mail. Can you imagine how surprised I was to see the names of Silas **REED** and his wife Bethia **HURD** as part of the first generation of that 'family record', and as parents of Julia Reed **BABCOCK**. Silas and Bethia are my gr-gr-grandparents and Julia is the sister of my gr-gr-grandmother Lucy Reed **TAYLOR**. I belong to DAR and Silas is my Revolutionary ancestor. Lucy was married to Levi Taylor and both are listed on my First Families certificate along with their son, Palmer Hurd Taylor and his daughter, Grace Reed Taylor **McARTHUR**, my grandmother. I notice there was no date of death for William Babcock, and it is February

7, 1871. Both Julia and William are buried at **BALCOM** Cemetery on Tuttle Road, south of Ionia, as well as Levi and Lucy. Both Julia and Lucy have DAR "Real Daughter" markers on their headstones. Julia and William had a son, Julius C., who married Margaret **MORROW** and their son, Julius L. born 1846, married Martha A. **TAYLOR**, daughter of Palmer and Arabella Taylor and sister of my grandmother. I knew there had been 15 children born to Julia and William but I am not sure how many of them came to Ionia with the parents who settled in Berlin Township south of Ionia. There are probably some other facts that I have forgotten but some of the names of grandchildren are familiar like Philo **BATES**, Ruby Babcock married a Frank **FOX** and they had a daughter, Karolena who was a professor at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant and was also very active in the Mt. Pleasant chapter of DAR. Anyway, I was quite delighted to see all that information and it makes one wonder why anyone would choose that way to get rid of their family's history. Thanks for putting it in a printable form. Contact me if you would like to. Sincerely, Grace **WEDDERBURN** (member of Ionia County Genealogical Society), 8 May 2003."

On 9 May, Grace wrote, "A great big Thank You [to Mrs. **WATTS**] for rescuing [the Bible]. Although it had gone

down through a family line other than the Reed side, it really meant a lot to me to see it. . . . I have a 2nd cousin in Troy, Ohio, who is descended from both lines, being a granddaughter of the marriage of Julius L. Babcock to Martha Taylor who was a great-great-granddaughter of Silas and Bethia Reed. She will just be delighted. . . . Her name is Grayce Lois **CORNELISSE**, 95 years old, and just might have some idea how the Bible might have been passed down. Is there some way that I might get copies of the Bible pages and perhaps they will show spouses, etc. of the grandchildren also. [We sent her photocopies of the actual Bible pages. - Dottie P.]

"Last year I purchased the reproduction of the Schenck book, *History of Ionia & Montcalm Counties* but laid it aside without looking at it very much. For the last two evenings, I have been doing much reading in it to find out that both William Babcock and Levi Taylor were very involved in the early formation and political activities in Berlin township. I even read in which sections of the township they lived and how many acres each had. Since they were brothers-in-law, I am thinking they probably worked together for mutual benefit.

~ Thank you. Grace W"

★ ★ ★ ★

When a man marries a woman, they become one, but the trouble starts when they try to decide which one.

~ unknown

MAILBAG

Louise **CREIGHTON** recently visited our state from New York for the Creighton/McCAUL reunion and is still bubbling from all the excitement! This was the first reunion and hopefully not the last. Louise is related to our members in the **GOODEMOOT** and McCaul families. (If you have a family reunion planned and would like us to announce it, contact our editor, Dottie **PIECHOCKI**, to include it in a future newsletter!)

Member Pat **CURRIGAN** sends the following:

"April 14, 2003:

By email on Sunday April 13th, I had a request from Judy **CLAPP** for information on North Plains Cemetery. Asking whom to contact about the age of the Cemetery & the stones. Her ancestor, Delilah **RATHBONE** died in North Plains in 1842. On Ionia web page, she saw a Mrs. **RATHBOEN** stone on lot 3136-1 with no dates on it. I looked in *Ionia Co. History* book at Lansing library for North Plains Cemetery & sent her this information:

*'The first burial place used by the public was laid out on Silas **CRIPPEN's** place, in section 30, the northeast corner of the south half - which Crippen donated for public burial places. The first burial there was that of Olive **PALMER** (sister of Silas Crippen's wife) in 1836, her death having occurred on the East Plain. In January, 1848, a township burying ground was established on section 31, and after that the Crippen cemetery was used no more.'*

Judy's reply was, "This is so great! I'm sure that the grave of Mrs. Rathbone is the one that I am looking for. Delilah Foster **RATHBUN/Rathbone** was the sister of Matilda **FOSTER** Crippen, wife of Silas Crippen. Elizabeth/Betsy **LOWRIE/LOWRY**

Palmer was the mother of both Delilah and Matilda Foster (and also Amos Thomas Foster, Jr.) Thomas Foster (father of Delilah) died in New York in 1815 and Elizabeth (mother) married William Palmer. The Palmers moved to Livingston Co. and then Shiawassee Co. in the 1830's. Delilah Foster married John P. Rathbun in 1833 in New York. I have the memoirs of my grandmother's brother which includes a few pages written by my great grandfather Martin Rathbun which tells of his childhood and moving to North Plains to be near his mother's (Delilah) sister Matilda Crippen. I don't know how Olive Palmer fits into this family. I will write for more information on what Ionia Society found when they read the cemetery, but I am sure that this is the grave of Delilah Rathbun/Rathbone. Thank you for your help. I will send you a copy of Martin Rathbun's narrative for Ionia Co.'s website."

"April 29, 2003:

I talked to Bonnie Jackson about the stones at North Plains Cemetery. From what she told me, Mrs. Rathbone is the Delilah Foster Rathbun that I was looking for. Her mother, Elizabeth/Betsy Lowrie Foster Palmer, sister Matilda Foster Crippen & brother Thomas Foster are also buried in North Plains Cemetery so this is a fantastic find for me."

~ our thanks to Pat for sharing this success story!

"We received the ICGS Newsletter [Vol. 8 No. 1] and on page 14 you have a picture of Belding, Main Street asking for identification of the businesses pictured.

According to the 1911 Belding Directory the businesses were as follows (starting from the right side of the picture):

110 W. Main **LAMB Brothers**
Grocers

112 W. Main **A. B. HULL**
Jeweler & Optometrist
114 W. Main **H. P. McELROY**
Barbershop
116 W. Main **UNGER's Bakery**
& Restaurant
118 - 120 W. Main **Frank**
IRELAND Hardware

The next Belding Directory we have is the 1923 - 1924 and none of the above businesses are listed.

Sincerely,
Linda K. **WIERENGA**
Alvah N. Belding Library"

We sincerely thank Linda for her research and for writing us with this information. Your editor is especially pleased to identify the Barbershop, as Hibbard P. McElroy was her gt-grand-uncle and gave her father his very first haircut!

LIBERTY!

"Historians still debate whether anyone besides President [of the Continental Congress] John **HANCOCK** signed the Declaration on July 4, 1776. As an old man, **JEFFERSON** maintained that a signing took place. A majority of scholars are now inclined to believe no signatures were added until August 2, when, by the Congress's order, it had been 'engrossed on parchment.' Some members did not get around to signing it until September. One reason for the slow pace may have been Jefferson's final words, which required everyone who signed to 'mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.'

This was not overstatement. Everyone was keenly aware that the Declaration of Independence was treason. When John Hancock placed his large scrawl at the head of the document, he reportedly said: 'We must be unanimous; there must be no pulling different ways; we must all hang together.'

'Yes,' Benjamin **FRANKLIN** replied. 'We must all hang together. Or most assuredly we shall all hang separately.' "

~ Thomas **FLEMING**, *Liberty! The American Revolution*, Viking Press, New York, 1997.

The Vintage Voice

From the GR Press, Sat, Feb 23,
1946:

Leaves \$97 in Purse in Ionia Phone Booth

Ionia - A long-distance telephone call cost Lester **WOLVERTON**, 51, Orange township farmer, considerably more than he had planned.

He informed Ionia sheriff's officers Friday that in making the call from a Main street building he left his purse containing \$97 in the phone booth. When he returned it was gone.

The pocketbook was found a few hours later a few blocks away but the money was missing.

Three Quit Ionia Offices

Ionia - Resignations of three clerks had Ionia county officials scratching for replacements Saturday. The resignations were those of Mrs. Lois **HANSBARGER**, assistant to Esther **BANHAGEL**, probation officer; Norine **BROGAN**, secretary to County Agent A. A. **GRIFFITH**, and Mrs. Helena **REUHS**, secretary to County Drain Commissioner Jason **PEACOCK**.

Mrs. Hansbarger, who has moved to Brighton, has been succeeded by Mrs. Marion **FULLER** in the probation office.

No successor to Miss Brogan has been definitely lined up, but Mrs. Ruth **DRAKE**, previously employed in Griffith's office has returned on a temporary basis.

Mrs. Reuhs is still on the job in the drain commissioner's office, but is due to leave March 1. She resigned after the return of her husband from service.

From the GR Press, Friday, Feb 22, 1946:

Awaits British Bride

Ionia – First Lt. Zell Mallory **WYMAN**, fighter pilot, had received word Friday that his British bride is en route here to join him. She will be the first English war bride to arrive in Ionia and Wyman was the first Ionia World War II serviceman to marry a Briton. He and Mrs. Wyman, the former Margaret Elsie **STOKES**, were married nearly three years ago while he was based at an English airfield. He is the son of Arthur Wyman, an employe at Michigan reformatory.

Three West Michigan Men Killed in Action

Washington – The war

department Thursday reported that Pfc. Cecil J. **GIBBLE**, son of Mrs. Mary Gibble, Gowen R1, and S/Sgt. Herman F. **HINES**, son of Mrs. Marie Hines, Muskegon, had been killed in action in Europe. T/5 Alvin G. **VAUGHN**, son of Mrs. Ida Vaughn, Belding R1, was reported killed in the Pacific area.

From the GR Press, Thurs., April 26, 1945:

Five Ionia Vets May Be Freed

Allies Overrun Nazi Camps Holding Soldiers

Ionia – Possibility that five Ionia county prisoners of war have been liberated was expressed Thursday by Edwin **HOUGHTON**, chairman of the local prisoner of war committee for the Red Cross, following announcement by the war department that allied armies have

overrun 47 German camps and hospitals where Americans were known to be held.

They are: Sgt. Jack Edwin **RICE**, son of DeWitt Rice of Belding, who was in Stalag Luft 4. He was a radio man on a bomber and was reported missing Aug. 27 and on Dec. 16 reported to be a prisoner of war.

T/Sgt. George H. **FRIEND**, brother of Lawrence Friend, Ionia, who was in Stalag 17B.

T/Sgt. George W. **ROBINSON**, son of Mrs. Mabel **HUFF**, Ionia, Stalag Luft 3.

T/Sgt. Howard K. **BROCK**, son of Mrs. Jennie E. Brock, Lake Odessa, unofficially reported to have been transferred to Stalag Luft 3.

Pvt. Archie F. **LEWIS**, son of Mrs. John **BADDER**, Portland R1, Stalag Luft 4.

Houghton emphasized no confirmation of their release has been received.



Wed 61 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert B. **HANSON** Have Resided at Hudsonville, Jenison, Clarksville

Clarksville – Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert B. Hanson, 91 and 77 years old respectively, celebrated their sixty-first wedding anniversary quietly at their home here Tuesday.

Mr. Hanson and Miss Lillie A. **SPORE** were married March 28, 1878, at Rockford by Rev. Washington **GARDNER**, who later became secretary of state and also served as a member of Congress. William Spore, brother of Mrs. Hanson, is the only person now living who attended the wedding. He now resides near Cutlerville.

After their marriage the couple lived at Hudsonville, Jenison and Clarksville. Mr. Hanson, who was born in South Valley, NY, but came to Michigan as a boy, was a blacksmith for more than 50 years. Mrs. Hanson was born at Rockford. Mr. Hanson is the oldest living member of Crescent lodge, No. 322, F&AM, of Grandville.

There are four children, Mrs. Agnes **OHLER** of Grandville, Mrs. Lilly **MASON** of Bear Lake and Mrs. Pearl **ROTH** and Bert A. Hanson of Clarksville; seventeen grandchildren and twenty-one great-grandchildren.

~ Unknown newspaper, 1939

Grandpappy and his wife were discussing their 50th wedding anniversary when she said, "Shall I kill a chicken tonight?"

"Naw, said Grandpappy, "Why blame a bird for somethin' that happened 50years ago?"

**"HEIRLOOM MARRIAGE
AND
BIRTH CERTIFICATE
BILL"**

SENATE BILL No. 59

January 23, 2003, Introduced by
Senators **GEORGE, BIRKHOZ,
Van WOERKOM, BROWN,
CHERRY, ALLEN, JACOBS,
BERNERO, McMANUS,
CROSEY, PRUSI** and
SCHAUER and referred to the
Committee on Commerce and
Labor.

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368,
entitled "Public health code,"
(MCL 333.1101 to 333.25211) by
adding sections 2862 and 2882a.
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF MICHIGAN ENACT:
Sec. 2862.

(1) In addition to the original
marriage license certificate filed
with the state registrar under
section 2861, the state registrar
shall issue, upon request and
payment of a fee established by
rule, an heirloom marriage
certificate representing the
marriage of the individuals named
on the original marriage license
certificate. The state registrar
may establish procedures for the
administration of an heirloom
marriage certificate.

(2) The department shall
promulgate rules that establish
the amount of the fee for each
separate design of an heirloom
certificate of marriage. The
department shall establish each
fee in an amount that is more
than the estimated actual cost to
the department for a similar
design, not to exceed the
estimated fair market value of a
comparable artistic rendition. The
fee required under this
subsection is in addition to the
fees established under section
2891 for a copy of an original
marriage license certificate. The
state registrar shall transmit that
portion of the fee that exceeds
the actual cost of preparing and
administering an heirloom

marriage certificate to the state
treasurer for deposit in the
genealogy projects fund
established in subsection (6).

(3) The department of history,
arts, and libraries shall design
each heirloom marriage
certificate available for issue
under subsection (1). An heirloom
marriage certificate must be in a
form consistent with the form and
content prescribed by the
department under section 2811 to
protect the integrity of vital
records and must be suitable for
display. It may bear the seal of
the state and may be signed by
the governor.

(4) The department of history,
arts, and libraries is responsible
for the marketing and promotion
of an heirloom marriage
certificate.

(5) An heirloom marriage
certificate issued under
subsection (1) has the same
status as evidence as an original
marriage license certificate.

(6) The genealogy projects fund
is established in the state
treasury. The money in the
genealogy fund shall be spent
only as provided in subsection
(9).

(7) The state treasurer shall direct
the investment of the genealogy
projects fund and shall credit
interest and earnings from the
investment to the fund. The
genealogy projects fund may
receive gifts and devises and
other money as provided by law.

(8) The unencumbered balance in
the genealogy projects fund at
the close of the fiscal year shall
remain in the genealogy projects
fund and shall not revert to the
general fund.

(9) The department of history,
arts, and libraries shall use the
money in the genealogy projects
fund only for department of
history, arts, and libraries
programs related to genealogy.
Sec. 2882a.

(1) In addition to the birth record
copies and certificates issued
under section 2882, the state

registrar shall issue, upon request
and payment of a fee established
by rule, an heirloom birth
certificate representing the birth
of the individual named on the
original birth record or certificate.
The state registrar may establish
procedures for the administration
of an heirloom birth certificate.

(2) The department shall
promulgate rules that establish
the amount of the fee for each
separate design of an heirloom
certificate of birth. The
department shall establish each
fee in an amount that is more
than the estimated actual cost to
the department for a similar
design, not to exceed the
estimated fair market value of a
comparable artistic rendition. The
fee required under this
subsection is in addition to the
fees established under section
2891 for a copy of an original
birth certificate. The state
registrar shall transmit that
portion of the fee that exceeds
the actual cost of preparing and
administering an heirloom birth
certificate to the state treasurer
for deposit in the genealogy
projects fund established in
section 2862.

(3) The department of history,
arts, and libraries shall design
each heirloom birth certificate
available for issue under
subsection (1). An heirloom birth
certificate must be in a form
consistent with the form and
content prescribed by the
department under section 2811 to
protect the integrity of vital
records and must be suitable for
display. It may bear the seal of
the state and may be signed by
the governor.

(4) The department of history,
arts, and libraries is responsible
for the marketing and promotion
of an heirloom birth certificate.

(5) An heirloom birth certificate
issued under subsection (1) has
the same status as evidence as
an original birth certificate.

~ For more information, visit
<http://www.michiganlegislature.org/>

SPEAKER REVIEWS

by Jim MOSES

Bonnie JACKSON was kind enough to take notes for me during the April meeting because I was working at the Eaton County seminar that day. Our speaker was John Waite, who has given talks to our group in the past. His subject was "Skeletons In Our Family Closet". He began by reminding us that every family and every generation has some of these "skeletons" hidden away from public view. John started with the definition of a skeleton – "gives a supporting framework for ligaments, muscles and life" and then went on to show how discovering our family skeletons can be the framework that puts life into the history of our relatives.

John listed several types of skeletons that some families might wish to keep hidden from others. These include adoption, orphans, criminal activity (murder, prostitution, thievery, swindlers, etc), alcoholism, insanity, illegitimate births, divorce, quitting school, dishonorable discharge from the military, incest, suicide, abortion – and the list goes on. Anything that might tarnish the family name has potential for being hidden away.

There was also a list of five things that we as genealogists must deal with when we work on our family histories. They were:

1. Always respect the privacy of others.
2. Be sensitive to others' feelings.
3. Don't be pushy so that others will not give us information.
4. Be patient, and a good listener.
5. Do not be demanding, rude, or unfeeling.

John gave some examples of some of our possible skeletons and how to research them. He started with criminal behavior by telling us that records may be found in courthouse records, Justice of the Peace records,

Probate records, and on the internet by searching rootsweb.com or ancestralfindings.com for prison, federal prison and other types of legal records.

Illegitimacy is sometimes hidden in a family because of marriage circumstances. Different places and different religions recognize marriage differently, so in the eyes of some everything might be fine, but in the eyes of others the marriage (and therefore the children) are not legal. He gave us some terms for these children and mentioned parish registers as a possible source.

Many families have someone who is mentally ill. These records are not easy to access but they are held by institutions where the person may have been a patient, the state archives, and certain census records which list the "insane".

John finished his talk with: "It is not the responsibility of the genealogist to expose the sins of the past, but to document a history that explains the circumstances of the past in relation to the present."

Our speaker for the May meeting was Roland WINTERS, who hails from the Marshall area. He gave a talk entitled "History of the Grange in Ionia County". Mr. Winters has vast knowledge of the Grange since he has been a member since he was a baby and has been very active in the organization. He is currently on the historic preservation committee at the state level.

The Grange began after Oliver Hudson KELLEY went south in 1867 to organize farmers to produce food for the country. Mr. Kelley was a Mason, and so, when the organization began, they had ceremonies similar to masonic ceremonies.

At first only farmers could join the Grange, but now it is open to anyone. The focus is similar to

other service organizations, in that they do about half of their work on community service projects and half on social programs within the group. It was started to help pass legislation that was pro-farmer, and the group also had educational programs as well as social gatherings. The Grange was the place where everyone met for important matters, as well as parties, dinners, and so on. Roland's Grange organized the local fire department.

As with other organizations, there are annual conventions and "degree" work. There are also awards for outstanding members. The seventh degree is the highest level in the grange and is conferred at the national conference. It is not seen by the public. Something different among the Grange groups is that women have completely equal rights with the men, and there are even certain offices that can only be held by a woman. Also, anyone who is at least 14 can be a full member.

The various Granges have historical and personal information that can be of help to genealogists and each hall keeps its own records. If a hall closes, then the records are supposed to be transferred to the state. Among the records are applications for membership, the charter, secretary records, and other things. Mr. Winters told us that there are currently three Grange halls in Ionia County, and some people raised their hands as members. These three are in Berlin Center, Ronald, and Banner. The South Boston, Portland, and Danby Grange records are kept at the state and are contained in 50 boxes of information the Grange has kept. These boxes will soon be housed either at Michigan State University or the Bentley Museum at the University of Michigan.

Roland's talk was interesting [continued on page 10]

Migrange

03/28/97

34-Changes

Grangename	Grangenum	County	Township	Dateorg	Datedorm
Banner	640	Ionia	Orleans	1879	1936
Banner Community	1829			02/29/1938	A-1964
Belding	646		Otisco	1880	1880
	1581			04/30/1914	1933
Berlin Center	272		Berlin	02/18/1874	A
Campbell	153		Campbell	12/14/1873	1882
Collins	627		Portland	05/24/1876	1882
Danby	185		Danby	12/27/1873	12/1891
Easton	186		Easton	12/29/1873	1902
Flora Danby Ionia	1043		Danby	1902	1909
Ionia	191		Ionia	12/30/1873	1890
Keene	270		Keene	02/18/1874	1887
Lakeside	1693		Odessa	02/23/1823	2003
Lyons	302		Lyons	03/14/1874	1882
Maple	780		Portland	1898	1902
Metherton	480		North Plains	08/08/1874	1882
North Plains	281			02/23/1874	1890
Odessa	429		Odessa	05/21/1874	1882
	1435			03/02/1910	1923
Orange	188		Orange	12/20/1873	1902
Orleans	325		Orleans	03/23/1874	1903
Orleans Center	1875			04/29/1946	10/07/1974
Otisco	187		Otisco	12/29/1873	1890
Palo	435		Palo	05/22/1874	1876
Pewamo	430		Pewamo	05/21/1874	1890
Portland	174		Portland	12/10/1873	1979
Ronald	182		Ronald	12/31/1873	A
Saranac	161		Saranac	12/17/1873	1876
Sebewa	163		Sebewa	12/19/1873	1890
Shiloh	943		Shiloh	1902	1902
South Boston	175		Boston	12/11/1873	03/1986
Wagar	457		Sebewa	08/04/1874	1882
West Campbell	422		Campbell	05/21/1874	1882
Woodards Lake	190		Ronald	12/31/1873	1890

and we learned a lot about a subject that most of us had never considered, and since most of us in Ionia County are descended from farmers, it might be a good idea to check out Grange records.

"Unusual Tombstones" was the subject for the June meeting of ICGS, and the topic was presented by Clyde **CHAMBERLIN**, who is the compiler of the popular newsletter "Solitude in Stone". Mr. Chamberlin has traveled all around our country and some others, too, obtaining photographs of unusual tombstones, and he brought a selection of about 200 of them for us to see. His slide show was a variety show, letting us see tragedy, hatred, love, poverty, lavishness and humor all within a few minutes.

Some epitaphs are hilarious, and he had a few of them for us to laugh at. One of them was "this is only the shell, the nut is gone". An example of the respect someone had for a dead relative, even though they were poverty-stricken, was a simple "stone" made by filling a cardboard box with cement, and then scratching the name with a nail.

Clyde started collecting photos in 1982, and now has thousands of them. Some of the ones he showed us were of crypts so expensive they cost more than most of our homes, and right nearby would be one that was just a fieldstone. Some of them evoke sadness, with a lamb laying on the stone, and "Our Punkin" as the last words, or the row upon row of stones with "man" or "woman" and no name because they were all unidentified shipwreck victims.

Mr. Chamberlin said that most cemeteries in this country have the graves on an east-west axis,

and that this sometime helps (and sometimes hinders) the preservation of the wording on the stone. Many stones were beautifully carved, but nature and man's acid rain have reduced them to something unreadable. He showed an example of a stone that was encased in glass to prevent weathering. He also showed simple carving all the way to very elaborate scenery on a stone. If the stone has been colored, you should leave a tidy sum to the carver so he can retouch it every seven or eight years, especially if it faces west.

Among the many interesting stones he showed was one that had the whole history of a man's family on it, another with a four-generation chart on it, and others that the genealogist only hopes to find.

Clyde's talk was very interesting, and if you like to learn about tombstones, as well as see photos of them, you may subscribe to his newsletter. If you are interested, let me know and I will supply his mailing address.

*from IONIA COUNTY,
MICHIGAN, pp. 197—199*

BROOK FAMILY IN IONIA COUNTY

The first ancestor of the Brooks family in America was Thomas Brooks, who came to America from Suffolk, England, about 1630, and settled first in Watertown, Massachusetts, then Concord. He became a furrier by trade, but held many offices by appointment of the court, one of which was to prevent drunkenness among the Indians. He seems also to have been interested in land values, for there is recorded a purchase by him of four hundred acres in Medford, a town eleven miles from Boston, but now a part of the city, for which he paid four

hundred and four pounds.

The descendants of Thomas Brooks for a generation or two lived mostly in Massachusetts, but later spread to all the New England states, and from there to the West and South. They have been more or less eminent in all the walks of life, ecclesiastical, civil, commercial and industrial, specializing in shipbuilding and farming.

As heroes of the Colonial, Revolutionary and later wars they have rendered patriotic service. One, the Hon. Ebenezer Brooks, was a delegate to Boston in 1776 to form the Constitution of the United States, and again in 1788 to ratify the Constitution.

The name Brooks first appears in Ionia County, Michigan, 1846, when one, William Brooks, born in 1802, came by ox team with his wife and nine children from St. Lawrence County, New York, locating in Ionia township, finally taking up two hundred and twenty acres, and devoting his life to farming. His eldest child was about twenty years of age and his youngest less than a year. He died in 1869, and his wife, Caroline (KENT) Brooks, born in 1805, whom he married in 1824, died in 1887, both being buried in Ionia.

The parents of Caroline Kent were Nathaniel Kent and Hannah (MEAD) Kent. Hannah Mead had first married Luther DORWIN, by whom eleven children were born. From the marriage to Nathaniel Kent one daughter, Caroline, was born. The Kents, like the Brooks', originally settled in Massachusetts and actively figured in the Colonial and Revolutionary wars, which the time demanded, Kent's Hill, Maine, being named after one, Nathaniel Kent.

The direct descendants of William and Caroline (Kent) Brooks are, Caroline E., William, Jr., Minerva, Milton B., Nathaniel K., Curtis, Stephen, Erastus and Angelo.

The parents of William Brooks were Caleb Brooks and Hannah (ELLIS) Brooks, born in the Green Mountain state, but during the latter years of their lives resided in New York. Caleb entered the Revolution at thirteen years of age. He also fought in the War of 1812. He made a visit to his son in Michigan in 1855 and died in Antwerp, New York, at the venerable age of ninety-seven years, and his wife died there after she had passed her one hundredth birthday.

The branch of the Brooks family with which this history especially deals is Nathaniel Kent Brooks, fifth child of William and Caroline (Kent) Brooks, who was born at Gouverneur, New York, 1831, came to Ionia County about fifteen years of age, and was apprenticed as a miller by trade, but, preferring the open life, he early took up farming in Ronald township, Ionia county, where he bought and cleared one hundred and forty acres of land. He married, December 10, 1854, Emily A. LOCKE, whose first ancestor in America was one William Locke, who came to America from England at the age of six years in 1828. Records show that his parents died before he embarked, and he came with a family by the name of DAVIES. He grew, prospered, and married, December 25, 1855, Mary CLARK. He left nine children, and these scattered, some going North and some West. Emily A. Locke's father was Bezaleel, who came to Ionia county, Michigan, 1847, from Jefferson County, New York, where he lived twelve years, going there from Massachusetts. His father was Reuben, and his grandfather, Ebenezer, and great-grandfather, William, and before him, William, Jr., then William, Sr.

The children of Nathaniel K. and Emily (Locke) Brooks are as follow: Marion (died young), Lillie F., Lida A. (christened Eliza) and Dwight Z. Lillie married,

November 9, 1881, James H. TIBBITS, of Berlin township, Ionia county, moved to Washington, D.C., and was for many years in employ of government, later associated with Carnegie Endowment for Peace. He died, 1915, greatly respected and beloved for his kindly and beautiful life. To Lillie and James H. Tibbits were born Greta Marion, 1884, and Russell D., born 1893. Greta married, June 3, 1909, at Washington, D.C., W. R. DEAR, surgeon in United States Army, and their children are, R. B. Dear, born 1911, and Florence, born 1914.

Lida (christened Eliza) married, September 15, 1885, in Ronald, Ionia county, Michigan, Louis P. MILLER, a noble and self-made man, whose father had been scalped by the Indians near Decatur, Texas, in 1867, while on a deed of mercy to a fellow man. Louis P. Miller, born January 17, 1855, of Berlin township, Ionia county, moved to Chicago, Illinois, and engaged in the publishing business. The husband dying in 1891, the wife carried on the business until 1908, when she retired from business.

Born to Lida (Brooks) and Louis P. Miller, two sons: Stanley Nathaniel Miller, April 24, 1888, graduated Cornell University, 1912. T. Palmer Miller, born June 29, 1890, graduated Dartmouth, 1912, both unmarried at present time.

April 18, 1912, Lida (Brooks) Miller married at Syracuse, New York, Mr. James TAYLOR, of Wingate, Westhoughton, Lancashire, England, for many years philanthropic worker in India and Africa.

Dwight Z. Brooks married, August 29, 1895, at Sparta, Michigan, Adine HUTCHINS HINMAN, a descendant of John ALDEN, of "Mayflower" fame.

[publisher & year unknown]
~ thanks to Elaine GARLOCK for contributing this article

Living in Sin

By a vote of 26-21, North Dakota's state Senate has rejected a measure that would have repealed a 113-year-old ban on cohabitation. The Associated Press reports the law "says a man and woman may not live together 'openly and notoriously' as if they were married." Cohabitation is "listed among other sex crimes, including rape and incest."

"It stands as a reminder that there is right, and there is wrong," said Sen. John ANDRIST, a Republican. "Just because something can't be enforced, I don't think it necessarily means that we should feel compelled to take a position to take it off the books."

It's easy to mock this, but down in Oklahoma one couple may have gotten the message. Reuters reports Zyness O'HAVER "finally decided to pop the question" to Sallie WARREN, with whom he's been living in sin, "and the Oklahoma City couple became husband and wife on Wednesday." O'Haver told reporters that "it was about time I made an honest woman" out of Warren.

O'Haver is 95, Warren is 94, and the two have been shacking up for 77 years. Maybe there's hope for their generation yet.

~ from the *Washington Post*, April 3, 2003, as quoted in "Best of the Web", <http://www.opinionjournal.com/best/>

Good Advice!

- > If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging.
- > Never miss a good chance to shut up.
- > Always drink upstream from the herd.

~ Will ROGERS



HOMER WING,
President.



GEORGIA ROSS,
Vice President.




FRED CORNELL,
Secretary.



PERRY HOWARD,
Treasurer

Officers.


Class '03.

CLASS '03.


- Boothe, Geneva, Scientific
- Callow, Harriett, Scientific
- Canfield, Antoinette, Latin
- Crookshank, Ethel, Scientific
- Cornell, Fred, Scientific
- Cope, Nonee, Latin
- Dobbins, William, Latin
- Dunsmore, Emma, Scientific
- Freeman, Glenn, Scientific
- Fuller, Jean, Latin
- Howard, Perry, Scientific
- Kitson, Hester, Classical
- Lee, Jessie, Classical
- Lovrien, Abbie, Scientific.
- Ross, Georgia, Scientific
- Steele, Martha, Latin
- Sayles, Clinton, Scientific
- Smith, Jane, Preparatory English
- Templeton, Grace, Classical
- Wing, Homer, Scientific.

INSTRUCTORS.


- CHAS. L. BEMIS, SUPT.
- MISS LETTIE V. STEILBERGER, Principal.
- MISS HASSIE H. PRESTON, English.
- J. W. HOWARD, History.
- MISS LEORA A. CHAPIN, Mathematics.
- MISS SUSIE A. PERINE, Science.
- W. D. CHAMBERLAIN, Drawing, Penmanship and Bookkeeping.
- MISS GIGGIE WOOD, Assistant.
- MISS JUAN V. KIRTLAND, Reading.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.


- J. C. TAYLOR, President. A. S. WRIGHT, Secretary.
- J. L. FOWLE, Treasurer.
- JAS. VOSPER. V. H. SMITH. F. A. STIVEN.

*The
Thirty first Annual Commencement
of the
Ionia High School
Thursday evening, June twentyfifth
nineteen hundred and three
at eight o'clock
at the Methodist Episcopal Church
Ionia, Michigan*

THIRTY-SECOND GRADUATION EXERCISES OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

A Splendid Success—Essays and Orations Receive Merited Success—Great Credit due the Junior Class and the Committee on Decorations.

THE thirty-second senior class of the Ionia High school has passed out from its doors with honor and with merit. The commencement exercises were held last evening at the Methodist church under the most favorable conditions. Perfect weather without drew a large audience and the church was crowded to the doors. Every step had been taken to render the

interior of the church attractive and probably no class has ever graduated amid more attractive decorations than did this class of 1903. The senior colors, purple and white, are unusually appropriate for decorative purposes.

Promptly on schedule time Smith's orchestra played "Under the American Flag." To its strains the members of the class entered and took their seats upon the platform. Stuart BARNES and

Wil **STIVEN** acted as head ushers and led the procession in its march down the centre aisle. They were followed by Supt. **BEMIS** and Rev. **M.L. FOX**. Then came the school board and the corp [sic] of teachers who as usual enjoyed the honor of preceding the class. But the eyes of the audience were watching eagerly for the entrance of the graduates themselves. The class, numbering nineteen, were preceded by four juniors, **Annie CALLOW**, **Sarah DERTHICK**, **Eva MONTGOMERY**, and **Nellie HALL**.

The exercises opened with a short prayer by Rev. M.L. Fox, followed by the "Cyrano Overture" by the orchestra. About this time fond parents began to prick up their ears and the entire audience, silently appreciative rather than enthusiastically demonstrative, appeared quickened by a lively interest.

Clinton **SAYLES** delivered the opening oration.... "The Monroe Doctrine," ...setting forth its origin, its aims and its effects....Miss **Martha STEELE** gave a pleasing biography of "Beau Brummel," the fashion plate of the world....The third selection was an essay on "labor" by Miss **Harriett CALLOW**...[presenting] the works of nature as examples of the means and aim of labor....

Perry **HOWARD** delivered a theatrical oration on "How to Make the Most of Life.".... At this point the exercises were punctuated with a song by Thane **BENEDICT**...."Some Famous Women of the Nineteenth Century"...was lavishly bestowed...by Miss **Jessie LEE**....

Homer **WING**, the president of the class, gave a critical summary of the acts of the 57th congress....Miss **Jean FULLER** took her audience [to the fifteenth century]. She reviewed the great changes of the period, in literature, in art, in religion, in discovery...."Progress" was the

watchword of this world.

Miss **Grace TEMPLETON** did reverence to "Scotland's Greatest Poet," in her essay on **BURNS**....Miss **Emma DUNSMORE** drew a graphic word picture of [Benedict] **ARNOLD**, disgraced and dying...as he endeavored to prove that he wasn't what he had proven himself to be....

William **DOBBINS**...gave a good oration on "Labor Organization." He pointed out the value of labor unions as aids to maintaining the comforts of home life....Miss **KITSON**'s essay on Sir William **WALLACE** was full of eulogy for Scotland's patriot....Mrs. **BROCK**, Misses **SCOTFORD**, **BEALS**, and **YATES** rendered "Ben Bolt."

The "National Hymns" were received by Miss **Ethel CROOKSHANK**. She told the well-known story of the origin of "The Star Spangled Banner" and "Yankee Doodle."....Miss **Geneva BOOTHE**'s essay was presented in the form of a question..."Which was the greater, **NAPOLEON** or **CAESAR**?"

The history of the expansion of the United States from the thirteen colonies to its present size was told by Glenn **FREEMAN**....Miss **Antoinette CANFIELD**...in language that would have turned **Jules VERNE** green with envy...chatted about the moon in a most familiar manner. She peopled it with her classmates and entangled them in such unseemly predicaments that the moon, doubtless, seems to them a most undesirable place to dwell.

Miss **Pearl FREEMAN** then sang "A Gypsy, I," in her usually charming manner.

Miss **Abbie LOVRIEN** gave a vivid description of the process of steel casting....Miss **June SMITH** delivered a carefully prepared oration on "Americanism."

"The Modern Newspaper" in general and the political cartoon in particular received the attention of **Fred CORNELL**....Miss **Georgia ROSS** followed the course of the

negro controversy from the days of slavery to the present....

After "Dixie Land" by the orchestra, Professor **BEMIS** presented diplomas to the class in recognition of the good and faithful work it has done. The benediction by Mr. **MARTIN** closed the exercises and the class of 1903 arrived at the parting of the ways where each must follow his own course and bid farewell to the friends of his high school life.



**JUNE CELIA SMITH
BURNETT**
Class of 1903

~ If you submitted this newspaper article, accompanying photo and commencement program, please let us know so that we may give credit!

Every man wants a wife who is beautiful, understanding, economical, and a good cook, but the law allows only one wife.
~anonymous

Highlight on First Families Member No. 15 Jacob Face



Jacob first impressed us with the presentation of his materials for the First Families of Ionia County Society. His portfolio was so well organized and easy to follow, and the thing that impressed us the most is that he did all of this while attending college as a full-time student.

JACOB GENE FACE was born in Ionia County, the son of **GENE EARL FACE** and **CHARLENE ANN BEACH**. He is a charter member of our society and is currently residing in Oakland Park, Florida.

Jacob followed his grandmother's lineage back to 1837 to qualify as a member of the First Families of Ionia County Society. The **HAYNOR** family was one of the early settler families to settle in Ionia County just after the Dexter Colony was settled. The first census of the State of Michigan showed 509 people living in Ionia at that time. The Haynors were part of that census. Jacob descends from the Henry H. Haynor line.

Gene Earl Face is the son of **EARL LAWRENCE FACE** and **EVA MAY HAYNOR**. Earl Lawrence Face was born February 5, 1920, at Orleans Twp., Ionia County, MI, and he died on March 27, 1967, in Belding, Ionia County, MI. He married Eva May Haynor on

December 6, 1941, in Belding, MI. Eva was born April 28, 1922, in Detroit, Wayne County, MI, and died May 5, 1997, in Greenville, Montcalm County, MI.

Eva May Haynor was the daughter of **ALBERT LAVERNE HAYNOR** who was born June 25, 1891, at Easton Twp., Ionia County, MI, and died January 26, 1975, in Sheridan, Montcalm County, MI, and **ELSIE ANNA SWEERS**, who was born January 18, 1899, in Shiloh, Ionia County, MI. Elsie died April 24, 1986, in Ionia, Ionia County, MI. They were married on June 18, 1921, in Ionia, Ionia County, MI.

Albert Laverne Haynor was the son of **ALBERT CLEMENTS HAYNOR** and **MARY ELIZABETH CONNOR** (a.k.a. **CONNER**). They were married on April 6, 1887, in Ionia County, MI. Albert was born August 29, 1860, in Easton Twp., Ionia County, MI. He died there on October 11, 1939. Mary was born in the same area on May 29, 1868, and died in Ionia, Ionia County, MI on August 8, 1951.

Albert Clements Haynor was the son of **ISAAC BENJAMIN HAYNOR** and **NANCY L. BOULTON**. Isaac was born February 6, 1831, in New York, and died June 18, 1913, in Easton Twp., Ionia County, MI. Nancy was born November 4, 1835, in Lenawee County, MI, and died February 12, 1892 in Easton Twp., Ionia County, MI. They were united in marriage on April 3, 1859, in Easton Twp., Ionia County, MI.

Isaac Benjamin Haynor was the son of **HENRY H. HAYNOR** and **ROXY CLEMENTS**. You can read more about Henry and Roxy in the 1881 *History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties* by John **SCHENK**.

Thank you, Jacob, for sharing your fine history with us. Copies of the documentation for this family can be found in our society library.

2003 Calendar of Events - Ionia County Genealogical Society

August 2003

- 5 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Jim Moses's
9 1:00 p.m. Jerry Morton: "The Sound of Words"
28 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'
30 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

September 2003

- 2 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Jim Moses's
13 1:00 p.m. Shirley Hodges: "Genealogy and Genetics"
25 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'
27 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

October 2003

- 7 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Jim Moses's
11 1:00 p.m. Marilyn Cahoon: "Boston-Saranac History"
23 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'
25 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

November 2003

- 4 7:30 p.m. First Families of Ionia County Society Committee Meeting at Jim Moses's
8 1:00 p.m. Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens: "GeneWeaver"
20 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Swilers'
29 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

December 2003 – NO MEETINGS –

- 29 10:00 - 2:00 Depot Museum open to public for research

** 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., Lake Odessa, MI 48849, PH: (616) 374-3141

VOLUNTEER REMINDERS!

Library staffing

July 26th – Depot Day – George & Jean Booras;
Pam Swiler; *still need volunteers all day!*
(10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

August 9th – Elaine Garlock

August 30th – *Need Volunteer!*

September 13th – *Need Volunteer!*

October 11th – *Need Volunteer!*

October 25th – *Need Volunteer!*

November 8th – *Need Volunteer!*

November 29th – Bonnie Jackson

December 27th – Pam Swiler

Refreshments

July 12th – Jean Edgerly & Bonnie Jackson

August 9th – Ellen Willemin & *need one more volunteer!*

September 13th – Jackie Gilliland & *need one more
volunteer!*

October 11th – Janis Kenyon & Susan Castro

November 8th – Ann Fahey & Velma Mutch

Greeters

July 12th – Jim Moses & *need one more volunteer!*

August 9th – Elaine Garlock & *need one more volunteer!*

September 13th – Jim Moses & *need one more volunteer!*

October 11th – John & Ann Fahey

November 8th – Marilyn Ransom & *need one more
volunteer!*

IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
 13051 AINSWORTH ROAD
 LAKE ODESSA, MI 48849-9406
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 LAKE ODESSA, MI

TO:

*Smyrna
 Sesquicentennial*

August 2nd & 3rd

150 Years!
 1853 - 2003



Saturday ~ 2nd

11:00am Parade
 1:00pm Flag raising ceremony
 National Anthem
 (Corners/Historical Marker)
 1:00pm Activities Begin

- Antique Tractors/Cars (Twp. Hall Grounds)
- Handmade Quilt Display (Maccabee Hall)
- Pie Baking Contest Judging
- Food & Drinks (Maccabee Hall)
- Moon Walk, Dunk Tank, & Giant Slide
- Children's Games & Prizes
- Cake & Baked Goods Walk (Lyceum Hall)
- Jail open for Beardless men & Skirtless women
- Historical display at church
- Civil War Re-enactment camp (field by church)
- 50/50 Drawings all day long
- Clowns, Face Painting, Balloon Animals

3:00pm & 6:00pm
 Civil War Camp Re-enactment

7:00pm - 11:00pm
 Community Dance ~ Free!

- All ages welcome
- Double R Ranch
- The Brushy Holler Band



Sunday ~ 3rd

11:00am Church Service
 Smyrna Bible Church

1:00pm Community Picnic
 Twp. Hall Grounds
 Featuring "The Brushy Holler Band"
 Bring a dish to pass, beverages, and your own table service.

Games & Fun Too!
 Watermelon Eating Contest
 Russ Reeves Singing

Special Guests:



Contest for Best Period Costume!

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