

## 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.**

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Volume 9 – Number 3

July – September 2004

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From the President...

Hopefully you are all enjoying your summer. Now is the time to get out into those cemeteries and gather the valuable data needed for your family history stories.

A thank you goes to Bonnie Jackson and her work in getting hats and bags with a logo for our society. If you are interested in seeing them or purchasing one, contact Bonnie at (616) 642-6704. They will be available at the next meeting.

We are also making plans for a Chili Cook-Off on November 5, 2004. More details will be available very soon. Bonnie Jackson and Wayne Swiler are in charge of this project. We are very excited about it and hope you all will participate.

Please be careful when getting copies of images from county history books off the Internet. Just this past month a scam was brought to my attention whereby someone is taking out one family name and inserting another and then sending it to people – they look authentic, so it is really hard to tell! I was amazed when I saw images from our very own Histories of Ionia and Montcalm counties book with bogus information in it.

The Library of Michigan is seeking volunteers to help a minimum of 2 hours per week. If you can give a couple of hours or more, contact Edwina Morgan and she will get you started. Then you can join myself and several other of our members who already donate their time!

If you can't make it to Lansing and want to help right in our own community, stop in and see Diane Adams, Registrar of Deeds and see how you can help with the Internet project now in progress. Help put records on the Internet and make these precious documents available for everyone.

Best wishes and happy hunting....Hope to see you soon!

Pam Swiler, President  
Ionia County Genealogical Society

**WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS**

**Linda CIANGI**  
618 Hackett Street  
Ionia, MI 48846  
(616) 527-4945

Researching:  
**HOLLAND, CIANGI,  
DALICANDRO**

**Cassandra Maureen  
LUCE HANSON**  
185 Woodhaven  
Idaho Falls, ID 83404  
(208) 552-0636

[hanson26@cablone.net](mailto:hanson26@cablone.net)  
Researching: **LUCE,  
GRAHAM, VAN  
NORMAN, VAN  
ORMAN, GRINNELLS,  
PETTIT, JENKS,  
CAREY, YONKERS,  
ORVIS, AUSTIN,  
BINGHAM, BARBER.**

**Jolene COATES-  
JONES**  
5524 Chaparral Drive  
Murray, UT 84123  
(801) 268-0092  
[dansk9@comcast.net](mailto:dansk9@comcast.net)

Researching:  
**HEILMAN,  
COATES, ASH,  
HAYES, BEECHLER,  
SCHWARTZ, BRIGGS,  
MANN,  
BLIGHT**

Other counties:  
Genesee, Lake, Pinora,  
Osceola, & Elk.

**Barbara A. JONES**  
920 Home Ave.  
Fort Wayne, IN 46807  
(260) 744-0470

[redrose1938@yahoo.com](mailto:redrose1938@yahoo.com)  
Researching: **ALLEN,  
ROWLEY, NUMMER,  
BRADFORD.**

Other areas: Germany,  
Canada, & England.

**Returning Member:**  
**Diane Fish**  
12536 Clintonia  
Portland, MI 48875  
(517) 627-7960  
[fishes@power-net.net](mailto:fishes@power-net.net)  
Researching: **SMITH,  
MOYER**

**FAMILY HISTORIES  
OF IONIA COUNTY  
BOOK**

Beautiful hard cover  
hefty book filled with  
families you know and  
love. Excellent gift idea!

\$55.00 each  
\$3.30 MI state tax  
\$6.00 Shipping  
Order by contacting:  
ICGS  
13051 Ainsworth Road  
Lake Odessa, MI  
48849-9406

**Our Condolences  
To**

Marilyn & Larry Cahoon  
and Carol Narrin, in the  
recent loss of their aunt.

Cleo & Gordon  
Piercefield,  
Bill & Lori Fox & Family  
In the loss of great - aunt  
Dorothy Reames of Holt,  
her cousin, Thomas  
Downing and her  
husband's uncle Fox.

Darlene Selleck Kern  
In the passing of her  
father, Cleve Selleck.

Nancy Porter & Family  
In the loss of her  
husband Lyle Porter.



# Ionia County First Families

## Highlight on First Families of Ionia



### County Society Member No. 19

#### Cynthia Lee (Cash) Donnelly

**Cynthia Lee CASH** was born in Larimer Co., Ft. Collins, Colorado. She is the daughter of **Ned Stanley Cash** and **Betsy Virginia BALMER**. Cynthia is the wife of **John DONNELLY**.

Cynthia followed her mother's line back to before 1881. Her mother, still living at the time of her application, was born in Denver, Colorado and is the daughter of **Helen Marilla BROOKS** and **Horace Maurice BALMER**.

Helen Brooks is listed in the 1880 census for Danby Twp., near Portland, Michigan and was born October 27, 1876 in Portland, Ionia Co., Michigan. Helen marries Horance Maurice Balmer, an undertaker, in Larimer Co., Colorado on September 10, 1901. She dies in Rochester, Olmstead, Minnesota on

July 22, 1934. Helen Marilla Brooks is the daughter of **Isaac Newton BROOKS** and **Ruby Marilla ROBERTS**.

Isaac was born in Danby Twp., Ionia County, Michigan in 1845 and was married to Ruby on June 23, 1870 in Danby Twp., Ionia County, Michigan. They were farmers.

Isaac dies of consumption on September 24, 1886 in Danby, Ionia County, Michigan. Ruby was 30 years, no months and 4 days at the time of her death on April 30, 1882. Cause of death was "\_\_\_\_\_psy of heart." Apparently the record was not clear enough to determine what the exact wording was. Both Isaac and Ruby are buried at the Danby cemetery, Portland, Michigan.

Isaac Newton Brooks is the son of **Charles G. BROOKS** and **Eleanor L. MACUMBER**. Charles was born in Connecticut in 1811 and was married to Eleanor on January 22, 1850 in Eagle, Michigan. He dies in Ionia County, Michigan in 1882. Eleanor was born in New York ca 1827.

Cindy Donnelly has a rich history in Ionia County and we thank her for sharing it with us. More information on the Brooks family is available in the 1881 History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties by John Schenck in the section about Danby. There is also more information in the society's library.

If you are interested in becoming a First Families of Ionia County Society member, contact Jim Moses, or any other committee member for an application and instructions.

## **PRESERVE LAND ABSTRACTS**

Land abstracts are a detailed list of all the owners of a parcel of land usually beginning with the patent when the first purchaser bought the land from the US government. Prior to title insurance, these abstracts were used by lending institutions as proof of ownership. We are attempting to collect a copy of any land abstract of any piece of property located in Ionia County. We do not want the originals but a photocopy of all the information which may be on one large sheet of paper or on several sheets of 8 1/2 by 11 paper. If someone does not want the original abstract, the genealogical society will be happy to accept that donation and preserve it for future researchers. Please bring these abstracts to the next genealogical meeting or mail them to the society address but note on the address Attention: Lori Fox, abstracts.

Let's see how many of these precious records we can collect by December 31, 2004.

It is well to take note about the possibility of occupations following a name without a comma. Very few people in the colonial period had three names.

John William Carpenter in 1785 was probably John Williams, carpenter.

John Henry Taylor may well have been John Henry, tailor.

Some wills and deeds have been found to have been indexed by occupation, not the name.

## **INQUIRY.....**

Searching for Jay Lewey SMITH, b. in or near Lansing, Michigan, December 7, 1885. His parents were John F. and Cora Phelena (sp?) Hicks Smith. Both born in New York state. Some connection to Ionia, Michigan (Photo says Merell & Smith, Ionia, Mich.) He is about 2 years old in the photo. If you can help, please contact Benita at the address above.

Benita June Smith Bowman  
752 E US Hwy 50  
Brownstown, IN 47220-9515  
Phone: (812) 358-4696

Handshaking has a long and "shaky" history. Scholars say the first shake on record occurred after the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Then warriors grasped each other's forearms as a gesture of peace and to check for weapons in the 16th and 17th centuries and in the beginnings of the 18th century the handshake was not used as a greeting. It served to seal the peace between two parties or as a contract for closing business deals. Even a warring husband and wife would settle their dispute with a handshake. The Quakers are believed to be the first to popularize the handshake as a greeting. A group known for its rejection of worldly vanity, the Quakers favored the egalitarian (promoting equality) handshake to grander gestures of the day such as bowing, hand kissing and sweeping one's hat.

# Speakers Notes...

By Jim Moses

## APRIL

Many thanks go out to Bonnie Jackson who took notes for me during the April meeting of the Ionia County Genealogical Society while I was on the way home from Alabama with our Youth Group after a week of missionary work. Our talk for April was given by Lori Fox, who talked about the benefits of using land abstracts for finding genealogical information. Lori started out by describing the Township and Range system of surveying that was used in Michigan (and many other states). Using this way of surveying, the state was divided into townships which were further subdivided into sections. Each township has 36 sections. These sections were numbered beginning in the northeast corner and going across the township toward the west, for six sections, then dropping down and going back to the east, snakelike, until the entire 36 sections were marked. Each section is one square mile, or 640 acres. There are further subdivisions of the sections. A common subdivision was 160 acres, or a quarter section.

Lori gave a definition of a land abstract, 'a history of the title or deed to a piece of land'. Until the 1980s the land abstract was how people proved they owned a piece of land. Starting in 1980, though, title insurance took the place of the land abstract.

A land abstract lists all owners, plus any mortgages or tax liens, as well as leases for that particular piece of property. The listing includes the Liber and page number, the date of the document, and several other pieces of information, including the names of everyone involved in the transaction.

If you have the Liber and page number you can go to the courthouse to get copies of each document mentioned in the abstract.

The abstract for some property purchased by Albert Gibbs from the United States government in 1868 was shown, and all of the information that can be gained from the abstract was discussed. This included names of children, deaths in the family, marriages, and all of the transfers of land, all the way down to 1977, when Lori and her husband William purchased the same piece of land.

Land abstracts are good ways to track people because any time there was a change in ownership (even a loan with the property as collateral) it is documented on the abstract. It is a little different from the census, where we are tracking people through time as they move about the country, because the land doesn't move, but the abstract records the history of that single spot from the time that it was sold by the government up to the present.

## MAY

Jim Moses spoke to the ICGS in May. The talk was about some of the things that people should (or should not) do as they begin their genealogies. Many of these things have been learned the hard way—by making mistakes, or by not doing something that should have been done. The first thing I mention to my students when they take one of my classes is that they should start with the known, and go to the unknown. There are many other things that need to be done, too, such as keep pedigree charts and family group sheets, and to document everything—what you find and also what you tried to find but couldn't find. Documentation is as important as what was found, and many people start out without doing it. Some other tips that were offered were to read a lot—learn from what others are doing. Subscribing to at least one genealogy publication will help a lot. Joining a society is also very important because it can help—there are speakers at the meetings, publications about the local area, and many people who have had the same problems you are having and who can offer suggestions (besides, you probably don't have many people in your family who are working on the family

history, so you can find people to talk to at the meetings).

If you use a computer program for your family history make sure you put all of your notes and documentation in the proper areas of the program, and do periodic backups of your work. Keep the backups at some other location. One thing I have found that helps is to do exercises to try to prove certain parts of your family. If you have ancestors who lived in Ionia County before 1881 a perfect exercise is to try to prove your relationship to them by filling out the application for First Families. You can also pretend you are trying to join a society like the Daughters of the American Revolution. As you put all your documentation on paper you can easily find the gaps.

Part of the discussion centered around specific problems, like where to find information, how to interview your relatives to get data on them and your ancestors, finding alternate sources if the place you are looking doesn't have the information you need, and remembering that just because something was written and published somewhere does not necessarily make it true. Also, you should make it known, either through your will, or by telling everyone who will listen, what you want done with all of that stuff you have collected once you die. Perhaps the biggest piece of advice is this: never give up. Maybe some day that final piece of information will be located and you can shout out—I FOUND HIM.

## JUNE

The June meeting of the ICGS was our annual 'show and tell' session. This is a meeting where we all get to tell about projects we are working on, as well as project we have recently completed. Many people contributed to the meeting and made it very interesting. Pam Swiler, our President, started off by talking about scrap books she has completed for her stepsons. These books give family history that is directed toward the person receiving the book. She told how she obtained some of the records and how she put the books together. Pam also showed us projects she is working on including copying a book from the Methodist Episcopal Church, and her family research books.

Eleanor Williams had information about the

'Life and Times of Mark and Leona Westbrook' in a scrap book, as well as information about the winter of 1936 and the Ionia County Airport. John Palmer talked about a jail break, finding pictures on the internet and a man named Lomer Griffley who supposedly was well over 100 years old. On another internet note, Gary Veale told us about Scottish and British research and had a handout of Scottish name. Louise Cook talked about passengers on the barque 'Southerner', which came to Holland.

Sandy Heintzleman showed us about her genealogy, from the perspective of using a PDA (Personal Data Assistant) and a computer. She puts all of her information on the computer and then transfers it to the PDA, which she can take anywhere, without having to carry all of those folders and notebooks that most of us use.

Bonnie Jackson showed us a heritage album that she created, and read her introduction to the group. It was a very stirring page and made us all think about why we do our work.

There were several others who gave information about their family vacations, as well as other projects. One of the projects that we all learned a lot about was that of Ginny Read, who has had to start all over after her fires.

In addition to our people talking about what they have been doing, we had a special guest, Diane Adams, the Register of Deeds for Ionia County, who told us of projects under way in her office to get many of the records online. When this happens we all will have greater access to these records, without having to go to the courthouse to get them.

*Come all ye Yankee farmers who wish to change your lot,  
Who've spunk enough to travel beyond your native spot,  
And leave the village where Ma and Pa do stay,  
Come follow me and settle in Michigania.  
From 19th Century Folksong*



I'm researching, among others: Hummel, Reed, Budd, Neitz, Clements, Clemens (according to oral family history, connected to Samuel Langhom, but haven't confirmed yet), Sines, Price, Pollard, Hansbarger (Hershburger), Rhode (Roth), Moser, Tusing, Brock, Waite, Eldridge, Blossom, Phillips, Knoll and Creighton that relate to Ionia County.

My Hummel family moved to Odessa Twp., Ionia County, MI in the spring of 1880 - Reuben and Mary Ann Rhode (Roth) Hummel, their sons, Jacob & wife Sarah Ellen Price and children, Son Quintus and wife Lydia Brock and children, son Peter and wife Elizabeth Pollard and children, son John and wife Catharine (Kate) Price and children, Reuben's sister and brother-in-law Samuel and Anna M. (Maria) Hummel Moser.

Peter and his family later moved to Washington State. And, at some later date, Reuben and Mary Ann's daughter Eliza Ellen Hummel Tusing and family moved to Lake Odessa.

My Hummel line originally came to America in 1752 (Elias Hummel) and settled in the Drylands Region of Pennsylvania near Hecktown (Part of William Penn's Tract). In January of 1755, Elias, his wife and eldest son sought refuge at the Moravian Compound near Bethlehem from the Indian uprising that was taking place. Elias' oldest son, Adam, fought in the American Revolution.

Adam Hummel, in turn had an eldest son named Adam who was Reuben Hummel's father. Reuben Hummel and Mary Ann Rhode (Roth) were married in Easton, PA in 1839. In about 1855 or 1856, they moved with their family to Eden Township, Seneca County, Ohio. Their two oldest sons, Jacob and Quintus volunteered for service in the Union Army at Tiffin Ohio in 1861. Jacob enlisted in the 65th New York Volunteer Infantry and Quintus enlisted in the 3rd Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. Jacob developed a

severe case of measles with complications during his service and had health problems the rest of his life, dying at the early age of sixty-three. Quintus had a horse shot out from under him in the midst of battle and broke his left leg, which did not heal properly causing him lasting problems.

In 1867 Jacob married Sarah Ellen Price, Daughter of David and Catherine Hottinger Price. The Prices had originally settled in America in Virginia. David and Catherine and family moved to Seneca County, Ohio about 1852. David and Catherine are both buried in a Price Family Cemetery in Eden Township, Seneca County, Ohio (there is a Hershberger "Hansbarger" Cemetery on the opposite side of the same mile). Jacob and Sarah and family were living with Reuben and Mary Ann up until a house fire destroyed their home in about 1872. I have not been able to determine where, in Seneca County, Reuben and Mary Ann lived after the destruction of their home, but I do know that Jacob and Sarah moved to Henry County, Ohio as next door neighbors to Jeremiah Hansbarger and his wife (I believe she was also a Price - they later moved to Lake Odessa).

Then, for some unknown reason, most of the Hummel clan and many of the associated families moved to Odessa Township, Ionia County, Michigan in the spring of 1880.

Jacob and Sarah had eleven children, the next to the youngest son was Marion, my grandfather, who was born in Odessa Twp., Ionia County. Sometime in the late 1800's, Jacob and Sarah moved to a farm in Sebewa Twp., Ionia County. Jacob died in 1909 and Sarah was killed in a house fire in 1912 in their farmhouse. They are both buried in Lakeside Cemetery in Lake Odessa.

My grandfather Marion married Mable Blanch Eldridge (parents Reuben E. Eldridge and Ella Blossom) and they had fourteen children, the second son being my father Maurice Allen (Stub) Hummel. Sometime in the early 1900's Marion and Mable moved to a farm on Bismark Highway north of Vermontville in Eaton County. Later they bought a farm one mile south on Kelly Highway (my Cousin now lives on that farm, and his son lives in the house on Bismark). Grandma Mable died in 1945 and Grandpa

Marion died in 1950. Both are buried in Lakeside Cemetery, Lake Odessa along with three of their sons who died as toddlers (one son was killed in a wagon crash in Portland in 1923 when some boys threw stones at the horses and spooked them. Grandma suffered a broken hip and other injuries).

My father, Maurice, married Betty Jane Reed (parents Leo Dell Reed and Anna Grace Budd who lived their entire lives in Portland, Ionia Co., MI). Leo and Anna along with both of their parents are all buried in the Portland Cemetery. The Reeds originally settled in Michigan in Clinton County in 1836 having come from New York State. Leo's grandfather, Otis Hiram Reed served in the Union Army in the 24th Michigan Infantry, enlisting in St. Johns at the age of 42. By 1870, he and his family were living in Ionia County.

This is only an outline of my direct lineage that relates to Ionia County. I have much more information about the branches of each of these families and am willing to share with any "cousins".

Dave Hummel  
E-mail: DHummel@EnproMech.com

Dear ICGS,  
My g-grandfather, Henry Stiles, was elected C.G. of the Ionia Commandery, No. 11, when it was instituted on March 12, 1861. (Source: "History of Ionia and Montcalm Counties, Michigan", page 156.)

I have searched the *Michigan Historical Society, Vol. 9* for the Ionia Commandery No. 11 and did not find Henry Stiles name mentioned. Could anyone give me some suggestions as to where I could search to find more information on this Ionia Commandery No. 11?

I have already looked on the Masonic web-site to no avail. I would appreciate any help you can give me.

Sincerely,  
Carole M. Fischer  
608 Tennyson  
Rochester Hills, MI 48301-4248  
momfischer@comcast.net

## Correction....

Please note these corrections pertaining to our "Family Histories of Ionia County" book.

Inside front cover under the word Lyons, the picture is not of the Easton Twp. Hall, but the W.S. Webber House that occupies a full block in the village of Lyons.

Page 129, Picture on top of left hand column  
This gentleman is Stanley MILLS, not Henry MILLS as stated.

Corrections submitted by Doris Mills Warren  
Thank you Doris!

If you notice an error please report it to ICGS.

From the book  
*Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things*  
by Charles Panati:

Ring-a-ring o-roses  
A pocket full of posies  
A-tishoo! A-tishoo!  
We all fall down.

The rhyme first appeared in an 1881 book, *Mother Goose*, though in oral tradition it is MUCH older. It is about the Great Plague of London in 1664-65. In the rhyme, "ring - o - roses" refers to the circular rosy rash that was one of the early symptoms of the plague. The phrase "pockets, full of posies" stands for the herbs people carried in their pockets, hoping for protection against the disease. "A-tishoo! A-tishoo! / We all fall down." tell of the plagues fatal sneeze, which preceded physical collapse; literally, the victim fell down dead.



# *Ionia County Grange Members*

We would like to do a memorial series on Grange members in Ionia County for our newsletter and we would like your help. If any member of your family was a member of a Grange in Ionia County, we would like to honor them in a memorial tribute feature of our society newsletter.

**Criteria:**

1. Must have a photo of the person the article is about.
2. Person must be deceased.
3. No more than 250 words per article.
4. Full name of person who submits the article must be included along with a contact address, e-mail or telephone number in case of questions. The name will be the only thing printed in the newsletter.
5. Article may not be copied from a previous publication or book. Must be original material.
6. Information to include (but not limited to) should be:
  - Full name (women include maiden name)
  - Birth & death date and place
  - What Grange was this person a member of
  - What years was this person a member
  - Did this person hold any offices and if so, what.
  - Where did this person live in Ionia County (township, street, city, etc.)
7. All persons to be considered must have lived in Ionia County, Michigan at some time in their life.

Submit stories for consideration by e-mail or postal service to:

Pam Swiler  
13051 Ainsworth Road  
Lake Odessa, MI  
48849-9406  
[pkswiler@voyager.net](mailto:pkswiler@voyager.net)

Note: All stories become the property of ICGS and will be used and or edited at the discretion of the editor of the ICGS newsletter as space allows.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Pam Swiler  
President  
ICGS

***My hobby is  
Genealogy...***

***I raise  
Dust Bunnies  
As pets!***

## *Miscellaneous Facts*

### *City of Ionia*

The first frame house built in the City of Ionia was that of Doctor Lincoln, erected in 1834.

The first white child born was Eugene, son of Darius Winsor, and whose birth occurred August 12, 1833.

The first death in the new settlement was also in the family of Darius Winsor, being their six-year-old daughter, in the fall of 1833.

The first wedding in the settlement was that of Doctor W. B. Lincoln to Anthy P., daughter of Oliver Arnold, the marriage taking place on Sunday, July 5, 1835, Squire Dexter performing the ceremony.

The first railroad to enter either the city of county of Ionia reached this city in the fall of 1857, and in November 1858, was completed through to Grand Haven.

The first boarding house in Ionia was built in 1836.

The first tavern was opened in 1838.

The first Fourth of July celebration was held in Ionia in 1836.

The first teacher in Ionia was Dr. W. B. Lincoln.

The first election in the village of Ionia was ordered to be held on the first Monday in March 1865.

The first election in the City of Ionia was April 8, 1873.

The first Blacksmith was Oliver Arnold, who later established the Arnold Machine Shop.

The first prison "The Walled Prison" – Michigan Reformatory was built in 1885, with the Asylum for the Criminally Insane following soon after.

The first school building was built prior to 1837.

The first church in Ionia was the First Baptist Church.

The first Fair was held in Ionia in 1853.

The first Postmaster was Erastus Yeomans.

The first newspaper was the Ionia Journal in 1843.

*A Family Tree Can Wither  
If No One Tends It's Roots*

# Mr. P. Eugene Smith



## WEDDING ENTERTAINMENT.

Was the honor by the pupils of Mr. Eugene Smith.

The eleventh recital of Mr. Eugene Smith's pupils at the Church of Christ last Monday evening, was a high class entertainment in every respect. The following was the program:

- 1. Gipsy Song (op. 55) . . . . . Dvorak
- 2. A May Morning . . . . . L. Denis
- 3. Military March . . . . . Schubert
- 4. Invitation a la Valse (two parts) . . . . . Weber
- 5. (Suzie Bible) (Athena Edison) (Ethel Metz)
- 6. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 7. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 8. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 9. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 10. Nax Smith
- 11. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 12. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 13. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 14. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 15. Nax Smith
- 16. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 17. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 18. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 19. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 20. Nax Smith

The brilliant rendering of the duets in two parts by Misses Emily and Ethel Metz, was a prime worthy attempt to interpret the underlying thought of the composer.

The "Gipsy Song" was played with fine effect by Fred Stoen, whose close attention to his musical studies is evident in a marked improvement in his last recital.

Miss Helen's recitation, "Anabel the Frolicsome," was a wonderful composition, requiring delicate handling. Her representation of the tickling of water was exquisite.

Emily's first appearance before an audience as a violinist was a revelation to many. The soul of the music seemed to speak through his violin.

A pleasing variety was introduced into the program by two beautiful vocal selections by the ladies in concert, of Mrs. Eugene Smith, and Misses Katharine Livermore and Grace Alford. The voices were very harmonious and well balanced. The thought expressed by the singers was made more effective by the accompaniment of four violins, played by Misses Florence Taylor and Eva Tombeck, and Misses Emily Hilbert and Melvin Lewis.

A large audience responded to the generous invitation of Mr. Smith, whose efforts to educate the musical taste of our citizens are highly appreciated. As an evidence of this, a number of his friends met at his home after the recital, and presented him with a name of \$100.

The ushers were Misses Helen Smith, Lucille Yates, Minnie Williston, Yvonne Kuglerman, and Jessie Lewis.

## WEDDING.

The marriage of Mr. P. Eugene Smith and Mrs. Mary B. Livermore took place Tuesday evening, at the groom's home on Lafayette street, in the presence of over one hundred invited guests, who were received by the groom in person, assisted by Messrs. W. L. Free, Dwight Brooks and Clarence Dingle.

The rooms were nicely decorated, the music room, where the ceremony took place, being almost entirely in white—both exterior, drapery and furniture—and illuminated by colored lights, giving a beautiful effect.

The bride was received at the door by the groom, who received her to the church parlor, and the ceremony by Rev. J. T. Driscoll, D. D., was under the auspices of the church fairly recalled it. After congratulations, excellent refreshments were served by Misses Florence Taylor, Katharine Thacker, Ethel Metz, and Nina Peterson, and they gave another unique feature of the event, in a program of music and recitation, in this order:

- 1. Gipsy Song (op. 55) . . . . . Dvorak
- 2. A May Morning . . . . . L. Denis
- 3. Military March . . . . . Schubert
- 4. Invitation a la Valse (two parts) . . . . . Weber
- 5. (Suzie Bible) (Athena Edison) (Ethel Metz)
- 6. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 7. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 8. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 9. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 10. Nax Smith
- 11. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 12. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 13. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 14. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 15. Nax Smith
- 16. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 17. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 18. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 19. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 20. Nax Smith

Mr. W. L. Free served as best man, and the program was interspersed with poems by Miss Annie Thompson. The responses were all excellent, with many humorous and witty points in accord with the spirit of the occasion.

The presents were numerous, and many of them elegant. Mr. and Mrs. Smith settle down at once to the practical affairs of life, making their home at the groom's residence, on Lafayette street. Both have a large circle of friends in town, who are in wishing them joy, prosperity and a long and useful life.

You are cordially invited to be present at a

## Recital

given by the  
Piano Pupils  
of  
Eugene Smith

Directed by  
Miss Florence Wagner, Contralto  
Mrs. W. C. Free, Soprano  
Miss Ethel Metz, Violinist

The Church of Christ  
Friday evening, June twenty-eighth  
nineteen hundred and seven  
promptly at eight o'clock

Present the for admittance

## Program

- 1. Gipsy Song (op. 55) . . . . . Dvorak
- 2. A May Morning . . . . . L. Denis
- 3. Military March . . . . . Schubert
- 4. Invitation a la Valse (two parts) . . . . . Weber
- 5. (Suzie Bible) (Athena Edison) (Ethel Metz)
- 6. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 7. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 8. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 9. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
- 10. Nax Smith
- 11. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 12. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
- 13. Mazurka . . . . . F. W. v. Weber
- 14. Harold Spencer Russell Peet
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- 16. Polonaise Brillant (op. 39) . . . . . Chopin
- 17. Cornelia Wandle Ruth Bedford
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# The Hummel Family



Reuben Hummel b. Northampton Co.,  
PA 25 Sept. 1813

d. Lake Odessa, MI 7 Jan. 1900

Mary Ann Rhode (Roth) Hummel

b. Eastern PA 26 Aug, 1822

d. Lake Odessa, MI 12 Oct. 1912

They were Married 13 Oct, 1839 at the  
First Reformed Church  
Easton, Northampton Co., PA



Marion Hummel

Blanch Mable Eldridge Hummel

Photographed on the Bismark Highway  
Farm (Garinger Farm)  
North of Vermontville, Eaton Co., MI

## Indian words for our months:

January - Cold Moon  
February - Hunger Moon  
March - Crow Moon  
April - Grass Moon  
May - Planting Moon  
June - Rose Moon  
July - Thunder Moon  
August - Green Corn Moon  
September - Harvest Moon  
October - Hunting Moon  
November - Frosty Moon  
December - Long-night Moon

I recently returned from a short trip to Washington DC. What an exciting place to visit. One of the museums that is across from the hotel where we stayed was the National Postal Museum – a part of the Smithsonian Institution. I thought I would share some information I learned while there...Pam Swiler

Did you know... that over a hundred years ago there was a dog named Owney that wandered into a post office and fell asleep on the mail bags? He was considered good luck because there was never an accident when Owney rode on a train. Postal clerks attached tags to Owney's collar and jacket to show where he had been. Owney traveled around the world and collected 1,000 tags!

Did you know...that Charles Lindbergh was not called "Lucky Lindy" because he never had a crash while working as an airmail pilot...he was called "Lucky Lindy" because he SURVIVED MANY crashes during his career as an airmail pilot.

Did you know...why the word "Post" often is used in newspaper titles? Although early newspapers, called broadsides, were posted on walls for people to see, the word "post" comes from how the newspapers were delivered, through the post, another word for mail.

Did you know...Montgomery Ward worked with a farmers' organization called the National Grange of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry (commonly called "The Grange") to get goods to customers by mail. The members of the

Grange strongly supported mail order because goods were delivered directly to their homes.

Check out the website for more information about the National Postal Museum. [www.si.edu/postal](http://www.si.edu/postal)  
Also check out this site for death notices of Grange members around the U.S.  
<http://www.nationalgrange.org/MemberResource/memorial.htm>

(Source: Smithsonian Institute National Postal Museum Self-Guided Tour)

### **Ionia Fraternal Organizations in 1891**

Free and Accepted Masons  
Royal Arch Masons  
Knights Templar  
Eastern Star  
International Order of Odd Fellows  
Knights of Honor  
Ancient Order of United Work Men  
Royal Arcanum  
Grand Army of the Republic  
Women's Relief Corps  
Macabees  
Catholic Mutual Benefit Assn  
Knights of Pythius  
Ancient Order Hibernians  
National Union  
Independent Order of Foresters  
National Union  
German Laborers Aid Society

### **Ionia Associations & Societies**

Ionia County Pioneer Society  
Ionia District Fair Association  
Ionia County Bible Society  
W.C.T.U.  
Mutual Benefit Society  
Ionia Bee-Keepers Association  
Utopia Club  
Ionia County Teachers Assn.  
Ionia Light Guard  
Ionia Baseball Club

### **Ionia County Newspapers**

Saranac Local  
Portland Review  
Belding Star  
Muir Tribune  
Lake Odessa Wave  
Ionia Daily Sentinel  
Ionia Express  
Portland Observer  
Lyons Herald  
Belding Banner  
Hubbardston Advertiser  
The Local Mail (Clarksville)  
Ionia Daily Standard

### **1891 Ionia City Directory**

10 Hotels	19 Lawyers
45 Notary Public	14 Saloons
17 Grocers	16 Dressmakers
7 Blacksmiths	4 Banks
12 Boarding Houses	
6 Carpet Weavers	14 Doctors

Also listed in the 1891 Directory:

Ionia Bois Blanc Island  
Summer Resort Association

President: John C. Blanchard  
Vice President: Hiram F. Blanchard  
Secretary & Treasurer: John C. Blanchard Jr.  
Directors: J. C. Blanchard  
H. F. Blanchard  
J. C. Blanchard Jr.  
A. L. Todd

Rumor exists that John C. Blanchard owned  
Bois Blanc Island.

If your ancestor went to sea in the 1800s, he may have applied for a Seaman's Protection Certificate to protect him from imprisonment by Great Britain and other powers. This program lasted from 1796-1897. The applicant presented proof of citizenship and paid a fee of 25 cents. Every three months a list of seamen was sent to the Secretary of State, Washington, D.C. stating each seaman's age and physical description. Write the Archives Division, National Archives & Records, Washington, D.C. 20408.

## Calendar of Events – Ionia County Genealogical Society

### July 2004

- 6<sup>th</sup> First Families Committee Meeting
- 10<sup>th</sup> Hooking Kids on Genealogy
- 22<sup>nd</sup> ICGS Board Meeting – 7:00pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Wilkinson School Reunion (Keene Twp)
- 31<sup>st</sup> Lake Odessa Depot Day! 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### August 2004

- 3<sup>rd</sup> First Families Committee Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Hinderleider School Reunion (Berlin Twp)
- 14<sup>th</sup> Epitaphs on Tombstones with Bill Davis-Bring favorite epitaph!
- 26<sup>th</sup> ICGS Board Meeting – 7:00pm
- 28<sup>th</sup> Lake Odessa Depot Museum is open!

### September 2004

- 7<sup>th</sup> First Families Committee Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> Mary Griffis – Lansing Family History Center
- 23<sup>rd</sup> ICGS Board Meeting – 7pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Lake Odessa Depot Museum is open!

#### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & EVENTS:

- October 2 Got Ancestors? – WMGS Seminar – ICGS will have a booth
- October 5 First Families Committee Meeting
- October 9 Elizabeth Kerstens - CLOOZ
- October 23 First Families Banquet
- November 2 First Families Committee Meeting
- November 13 Conducting Oral Histories
- November 18 ICGS Board Meeting – 7 p.m.
- November 26 Christmas 'Round the Town – Library will be closed
- December 16 ICGS Budget Mtg/ Salad Luncheon
- December 25 Depot Museum will be closed.

\*\* All regular membership meetings are held on the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Saturday of each month, except December, at 1:00pm, 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 5:00pm.

\*\* First Families Committee meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7pm. The meeting takes place at Jim Moses' house, north of Portland.

**IONIA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**  
13051 AINSWORTH ROAD  
LAKE ODESSA, MI 48849-9406  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
STANDARD  
PERMIT NO. 8  
LAKE ODESSA, MI

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### Websites of Interest

1. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~miionia/icgshome.htm>  
Ionia County Genealogical Society website
2. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~migenweb/fgs/>  
Submit your family group sheet!
3. <http://www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org/>  
The Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame  
213 West Main Street, Lansing Michigan 48933 • Phone: 517-484-1880
4. <http://www.funeralnet.com/index.html>  
Search for cemetery information, funeral homes, and obituaries.
5. <http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/micounty>  
Michigan County Histories Search Page
6. <http://www.ioniacounty.org>  
Ionia County's official website