

## President's Message

As a way of getting to know your Society officers better, we will all be providing some biographical material in upcoming editions of the newsletter. Not one to be left out, here is a quick rundown on my pertinent information:

**Name:** Chris Rau  
**Profession:** Application Engineer at a Fortune 500 company  
**Family:** Married with 3 children

I was born in the late 1960s and, as I have mentioned before, I am not a native of Calhoun County. In fact, I have no ancestors in southwest Michigan at all. My wife and I are originally from Bay City, and my research is centered in the Bay, Saginaw, Huron and Tuscola counties of Michigan, collectively know as the "Thumb". Depending upon line, most of my ancestors arrived in Michigan between 1855 and 1865. However, tracing back further reveals that my mother's family was present in pre-Revolutionary War Connecticut, and that another maternal line was

French Acadian in the late 1600's. My research interests lie mainly with my mother's family for the time being.

One major aspect of my job is that I travel very frequently (sometimes too frequently). I often can be found visiting chemical plants, oil refineries, water treatment facilities and other places where liquid materials are formulated, treated or used. My job has taken me to many very interesting places both here in North America and abroad. One of the fun things about travel is that with a little pre-planning, you can often work in interesting genealogy.

Such was the case on a recent trip which took me to Albany, New York. Being the state capital of New York, I was very interested in a visit to the State Library. Knowing that my time would be tight, I prepared in advance with a list of names, dates and locations. And in the end, while only having about 90 min-

*(Continued on page 2)*

## HIGHLIGHTED LOCATION – Tekonsha

Tekonsha proud. I asked for Tekonsha information and I got it! The amount of information I received on Tekonsha could have easily filled more pages. For a little town, the response for information has been huge.

This village is proud of their accomplishments and are showing off. Way to go Tekonsha.

Named after the Potawatomi Indian Chief Tekonquasha, Tekonsha supports a population just over 700. It is located in south central

Calhoun County on the St Joseph River.

Tekonsha is a rural community with a lot of heart and very eager to tell you about it. Look inside to see some samples. If you get a chance, visit and see more for yourself.



## Inside this issue:

President's Message continued	<b>2</b>
About CCGS	<b>2</b>
Ancestors of Juleitte Annis	<b>3</b>
Researching my Tekonsha Grandfather	<b>4</b>
Tekonsha Historical Society	<b>4</b>
Little Lady from Tekonsha	<b>5</b>
CCGS News	<b>6</b>
Generations Newsletter via Email	<b>6</b>
Next Newsletter Focus	<b>6</b>
Membership Enrollment	<b>7</b>
2007-08 Officers and Committees	<b>7</b>

## Ancestors Juleitte Lucinda Annis



Herbert Annis

**Herbert Annis**

b: 20 Dec 1885 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA  
 m: 31 Mar 1913  
 d: 03 May 1953 in Battle Creek, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Juleitte Lucinda Annis**

b: 16 Jan 1917 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA  
 m: 02 Nov 1936  
 d: 16 May 1995 in Battle Creek, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Jesse Annis**

b: 10 Mar 1794 in NY, USA  
 m:  
 d: 01 Feb 1870 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Jessie Annis**

b: 27 Jan 1834 in NY, USA  
 m: 19 Nov 1863  
 d: 21 Oct 1915 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Polly Waters**

b: 08 Aug 1799 in MA, USA  
 d: 20 Mar 1875 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Jeremiah Brand**

b: 1817 in NY, USA  
 m: 14 Jul 1843  
 d: 16 Jan 1863 in Bowlinggreen, KY, USA

**Lucinda Elizabeth Brand**

b: 03 May 1843 in MI, USA  
 d: 07 Mar 1926 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Caroline Wood**

b: 19 May 1822 in NY, USA  
 d: 19 Jun 1903 in Tekonsha, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**John Oliver Wickham**

b: in NY, USA  
 m:  
 d: Bef. 1850

**Theron Wickham**

b: Dec 1844 in Pontiac, MI, USA  
 m: 06 Aug 1886 in Allen, Hillsdale Co, MI, USA  
 d:

**Julia Ann Bishop**

b: 28 May 1815 in NY, USA  
 d: 08 Jul 1869 in Hillsdale, Hillsdale Co, MI, USA

**Jennie M Wickham**

b: 19 Jan 1893 in Allen, Hillsdale Co, MI, USA  
 d: 12 Dec 1959 in Marengo Twp, Calhoun Co, MI, USA

**Rosa Alice Barrows**

b: ABT 1867 in GA, USA  
 d: Bet. 1900 - 1910

# Little Lady from Tekonsha



In 2007 Tekonsha's little lady Dr. Carolyn Geisel was inducted into The Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She was honored for her life work educating many on public health issues. She lectured on the Chautauqua circuit and was reported to be the highest paid lecturer on the circuit in the early 1900's.

She was five feet tall. One of nine children of German born John and Christina Geisel. John was a wagon maker and pretty much self educated. His wife took care of the children and household.



Times were changing and little Carolyn had a drive to achieve. In a time where women were beginning to make their voice known, little Carolyn was ready to speak up and be heard. Her father did not believe a woman as a public force, but he supported her drive for knowledge and promoted her educational endeavors. She received her first of three medical degrees before the age of twenty-one.

Carolyn's siblings did not have her drive and ambitions. Of the eight Geisel children surviving to adulthood only one married and had a family. Brother Fred was often Carolyn's escort on her trips. Sisters Lou and Alice also actively supported their sister in her/their work.



An illness in her early life led Carolyn to treatment at the Battle Creek Sanitarium. Here she studied the practices and techniques for healthy living promoted by the Sanitarium and used in her treatment. She became a vocal advocate for the healthy living regiment.

Initially created as a camp in Chautauqua New York for Sunday school teach-



ers, the Chautauqua movement was the ultimate forum of the time for public education and entertainment. It developed into a place for program offerings in the arts, education, religion and recreation and other locations throughout the nation took on its theme. These entertainment/educational halls became known as the Chautauqua Trail. The programs presented lectures on the various public issues of the times including several very hot topics such as probation and the women's suffrage movement. Dr Geisel lectured on these issues and more all along the Chautauqua Trail. She was also a featured speaker at other venues such as the Battle Creek Sanitarium.

Dr. Geisel did not just speak about the issues of the times, she worked for solutions. With the help of the W.T.C.U. (Women's Temperance and Christian Union) she established in several large cities rescue homes for girls. She fought for all kinds of public causes and worked to improve public life for all.

She taught at the School of Health at Chautauqua and other educational organizations along her path. In 1911 conducted more than 400 public addresses all over the country and in Canada. She was one of the leading proponents for women's right to vote.

Later in her life she again struggled with illness and settled more to her family home in Tekonsha. Here she helped promote and educate on Tekonsha's history including getting a memorial plaque to honor the town's namesake, Chief Te-kon-qua-sha.

Dr. Carolyn Geisel died short of her 70th birthday in the family home. This little woman was a BIG influence on Tekonsha, our state and nation's history.

#### SOURCES:

Jenkins, Judy. *Dr. Geisel's Story*.

*Chautauqua Institution*. Wikipedia. 12 Jul 2008. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chautauqua\\_Institute](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chautauqua_Institute)

Discover your roots. Link to the past.

Join Us

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

### Calhoun County Genealogical Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Surnames you are researching \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to attach a five-generation ancestor chart and/or a query to be published in *Generations*

- Membership card requested (please enclose SASE)
- Check if you plan on purchasing Marengo Twp Cemetery publication (Available Fall 2008 Cost about \$20)
- Check if you would like to receive *Generations* newsletter by e-mail in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format instead of postal mail

Include \$15 if *Generations* newsletter by postal mail and paying after September 1, 2008 OR \$12 if electronic *Generations* or paying before September 1, 2008.

Please make your check payable to Calhoun County Genealogical Society or CCGS. Send to Membership Chair, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 879, Marshall, MI 49068-0879

## 2008-09 Election of Officers—September Meeting!

### 2007-2008 OFFICERS

#### President

Chris Rau served 2007-08, 2006-07, eligible for two more terms.

#### Vice President

Jim Jackson served 2007-08, partial 2007, eligible for three more terms.

#### Treasurer

Art Adams served 2007-08, eligible for three more terms.

#### Corresponding Secretary

Cindy Wilson served 2007-08, 2006-07, 2005-06, eligible for one more term.

#### Recording Secretary

Anita Stuever served 2007-08, 2006-07, 2005-06, eligible for one more term.  
Previously President 2002-03, 2001-02.

#### Immediate Past President

Judy Groat served 2007-08, 2006-07.

Immediate Past President is not considered an office, but is a member of the board. It does not count toward any term limits.

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS (no term limitations)

##### Membership Promotion

Ilene Woodman

##### Records Preservation

Maureen Vire

##### Print Publications

Verla Potts

##### Web Publications

Sandy Redmond

##### Pioneer Certificate

Verla Potts

##### Newsletter Editor

Ann Heisler

#### Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) Delegate

Jim Jackson  
Cindy Wilson

#### Representative to Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)

Jim Jackson

#### Hospitality

Vacant (no current need)

#### Making Connections

Vacant

#### Programs

Jim Jackson

#### Publicity

Jim Jackson

#### Promotion of Genealogy

Vacant

#### Seeking Leadership

Vacant