

# Eaton County Genealogical Society

Located in the 1885 Eaton County Historical Courthouse

100 W. Lawrence Ave., P.O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813-0337

## Members



Would you like to share your family history? Would you like to place a query in our newsletter? Perhaps someone who reads our newsletter may know something about your ancestors!

Submit your information to P.O. Box mailing address above, or email to [ecgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsnews@gmail.com).

## 2017 Calendar

### Monthly Meetings:

Wed Mar 15 General Meeting

Wed Apr 19 General Meeting

Wed May 17 General Meeting

Wed Jun 21 General Meeting

Wed Jul 19 General Meeting

Wed Aug 16 General Meeting

Wed Sep 20 General Meeting

Wed Oct 18 General Meeting

Wed Nov 8 General Meeting

See our online [Calendar of Events!](#)

### Regular Projects:

Each Tuesday noon—5pm:

Probate Packet Scanning

## 2017 February Calendar

General meetings will resume in March, 2017.

**Writing Group: Saturday, February 11th, 10am-Noon**

Every Tuesday Afternoon:

Probate Packet Scanning (any time during 12-5)

## Officers Jan 1, 2017 through Dec 31, 2017

President	Chuck Chamberlain
Past-President	Bill Haines
Vice President	Kent MacDonald
Treasurer	Sher Brown
Recording Secretary	Judy Chamberlain
Membership Secretary	Dianna Emerson
Corresponding Secretary	Marcy Cousino
Librarian	Sharlene Thuma
Web Maintenance	Sherry Copenhaver
Publicity	Joy Black
Computer Chair	John Evans
Council Delegate	Jim Collins
Council Delegate	Jo Glasgow
FGS Delegate	Gary Copenhaver
Trustees:	Liz Jones, Shirley Hodges, Becky Kendall

## CONTACT US

Phone: 517-543-8792

Email: [ecgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsnews@gmail.com)

Open Room Hours: Tues-Thurs 10am-2pm

**Membership:** Dianna Emerson

Welcome to a new year! I look forward to going to the mailbox each day to see how many membership renewal envelopes are tucked inside. I love it when someone joins the ECGS again after a brief absence. Thank you for your continued support and the Society looks forward to continuing our research together in 2017 and BEYOND! As of January 21<sup>st</sup> there are 59 paid members plus 13 household members for a total of 72 members.

Membership cards will be mailed the day following the receipt of applications. I do not live in Charlotte, so I will pick up applications sent to the Office on a fairly regular basis. There are three waiting at the Office including one new member. There will be a slight delay in cashing your checks once I drop them off in Charlotte. Questions can be directed to [ecgsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsmembership@gmail.com).

The Society has a closed Facebook group with several members at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/173893799750/>. If you belong to the FB group and are not a member of the ECGS and you are interested in membership, please go to [www.miegs.org](http://www.miegs.org) for a member application.

Our newest member is Kevin Oyler from Lansing, Michigan.



*Dianna Emerson*

**Highlights from Board Meeting:** Judy Chamberlain

Here are some highlights from the January 11, 2017, board meeting:

- A new router for the computer system has been installed in the office along with an extender which will make it easier for use of computers in the meeting room.
- The new "iCloud" program, Crash Plan, has been installed on the office computers.
- Our technology person asks that people NOT try to resolve problems with electronic devices, especially by unplugging them, but please contact him.
- Kent MacDonald will be working on making sure the by-laws notebook is up-to-date and in a place that is accessible.
- The Bus Trip to Allen County Public Library is scheduled for November 4, 2017.
- Kent MacDonald is working on speakers for the 2017 year; if anyone has suggestions, please contact him.
- A Volunteer Training Day will be scheduled.
- Volunteer Appreciation Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2017.
- The next Mid-Michigan Genealogical society meeting will be February 22, 2017, at the Family History Center in East Lansing.

## New U.S. Budget Blueprint May Affect Genealogists

Per genealogyinsider (by Diane Haddad & The Family Tree Magazine Staff) at

<http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2017/01/24/>

[ANewUSBudgetBlueprintMayAffectGenealogists.aspx](http://blog.familytreemagazine.com/insider/2017/01/24/ANewUSBudgetBlueprintMayAffectGenealogists.aspx)

Article sent to  
newsletter By  
Liz Jones



If a line item makes it through to the final budget year 2018 from a "planning" document, there could be a genealogical impact. This talks about the starting point of the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) and the grants that help fund museums, archives, libraries, historical records

digitization, and access projects such as the free Chronicling America newspaper search website. Even though it is early in the budgeting process and the blueprint isn't an official proposal, you can give your input about the preservation of NEH funding by following the [instructions on the National Humanities Alliance \(NHA\) website.](#)

## Courthouse Square Association

By Sharlene Thuma



This month, we are sharing some items that are included in the Courthouse Square Association Museum Collection, residing upstairs from our ECGS library room. We would like to share CSA's collections in our newsletter because it is very likely there is excellent genealogy materials people may find if they know to look there.

See their website at <http://csamuseum.weebly.com/>.

Diary of Emma C. **STODDARD** of Charlotte, MI, 1844-1845, accession #90.86.1.

Marriage certificate of Alonzo H. **KESLER** and Emma C. **STODDARD**, 1865, accession #90.86.15.

Black and white group photograph of Libeus and Maria **BUTLER**, golden anniversary, 1918, accession #90.89.1.

Black and white group photograph of the **BALDWIN** family, 1918, accession #91.129.368.

Photograph album of the **TROUTNER** family and relatives, late 1800's, accession #91.129.389.

## Duck Lake Area Local History & Genealogy Group

# DUCK LAKE AREA

## LOCAL HISTORY AND GENEALOGY GROUP

### NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2017  
1:00 P.M.

CLARENCE TOWNSHIP HALL  
27052 R DRIVE NORTH  
DUCK LAKE, MICHIGAN

We meet on the second Sunday of every month at various locations. This month we return to our regular meeting place at the Clarence Township Hall at Duck Lake on Sunday February 12, 2017. Our meetings start about 1 PM after the doors are opened and everyone gets settled. The meeting usually lasts about two hours.

We are a group of individuals who are interested in the genealogical connections of the people and the history of the area. There are no dues and our only request is to attend as often as you can. We usually have coffee and volunteer refreshments at some of our meetings.

Our meetings are pretty informal and everyone gets a chance to tell us about their research and interests in the area with our 'Two Minute' introductions. Attend to get meet others with an interest in research. Use your two minutes to ask questions or discuss a topic.

### Meeting Topics for February

- Two minute introductions.
- Genealogy 101 – Next Lesson
- Local News – Births, Marriages, Deaths

### Next Meetings

Sunday March 12, 2017 1 PM – Clarence Township Hall  
Sunday April 9, 2017 1 PM – Clarence Township Hall  
Sunday May 14, 2017 1 PM – Clarence Township Hall

## Calhoun County Genealogical Society



Join Us!

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS)  
16036 Old 27 North, Marshall, MI.  
All meetings are free and open to the public.

**January 24, 2017 - 7:00 pm**

### **Researching Your New England Roots**

Board President Brenda Leyndyke will share tips for researching your roots in the six New England states, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

**February 28, 2017 - 7:00 pm**

### **Meet at Battle Creek Books**

51 Michigan Ave., Battle Creek  
Learn how local history, ethnic, oral history books and more will enhance your family history research.

**March 28, 2017 - 7:00 pm**

### **Getting Around the Brick-wall**

Local genealogist, James Jackson, will provide tips and tricks for breaking down the brick-walls in your research.

## Capital Area District Libraries



# Family History Open House

Saturday, March 11 • 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Celebrate National Genealogy Day at CADL! Attend a class, get help with your genealogy, or use [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) to find your ancestors!

### **Classes 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Welcome

10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Breaking Down Brick Walls Using DNA by Bethany Waterbury

11:30 a.m.-12:30p.m. Crowdsourcing Your Genealogy: Rethinking Brick Walls by Daniel Earl

### **Find & Scan Your Ancestors 12:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Use the library's subscription of [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) to find those elusive ancestors or use scanners to scan your precious family photographs or documents.

### **Meet with a Librarian 1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Meet with a librarian in a one-on-one personalized session to learn about resources you can use to help you break through on your own family research. To reserve your appointment, complete the form on the back of this flyer and submit it to the South Lansing branch or e-mail the form to [antayaj@cadl.org](mailto:antayaj@cadl.org) by **February 1st**.

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#### **SOUTH LANSING BRANCH**

3500 South Cedar Street, Lansing  
517-272-9840

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Capital Area District Libraries

*Everything...right here.*

**cadl.org**

## Capital Area District Libraries (continued)

### **Meet with a Librarian Research Questionnaire**

Answer the following questions. Then attach an ancestral chart and a family group sheet for the family you are researching. You can find a copy of these charts at <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/charts-forms>. Please remember to include sources. Please submit the completed questionnaire to CADL-South Lansing or e-mail it to [antayaj@cadl.org](mailto:antayaj@cadl.org) by February 1st, 2017.

**Name:**

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Preferred Contact Method:**

What is your research goal? Please be specific. Example: I am trying to find the names of the parents of William Smith. William was born July, 4, 1833 in Erie County, New York.

What research have you conducted to help you solve your research goal? Please include resources that you have consulted.

Please provide any additional information that may help us locate information resources for your research goal.

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### **SOUTH LANSING BRANCH**

3500 South Cedar Street, Lansing  
517-272-9840

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Capital Area District Libraries

*Everything...right here.*

**cadl.org**

# ECGS Vertical File VF-9

## Mrs. F. E. Rosenkrans, 1890

Mrs. F. E. Rosenkrans  
will entertain  
The Epworth League,  
at her home, North Cochran ave.  
Friday Evening, March 7, 1890.  
at seven-thirty o'clock.

Five cents.

*Mrs. J. L. McPeak's Family  
City.*

# ECGS Vertical File VF-33

## Nelson B. Cole, 1865-1875

Grace Butts Swarhouse—Grandfather was Nelson Cole. His father was Peter Cole, who came to Oneida Twp from Lorraine, Ohio and before that, New York, and built a log cabin just off Saginaw north of Oneida Center.

*Nelson B. Cole  
Tax receipts  
from Saginaw Ohio before that New York  
his father was Peter Cole who came to Oneida Twp built log cabin just off Saginaw north of Oneida Center.*

# Tax Reciepts

Received of *Nelson Cole* upon the following described Tract of Land, the sum stated below, for Taxes assessed in said Township for the year 1865

SUB-DIVISION OF SECTION.	SEC.	TOWN.	RANGE.	ACRES.	STATE TAX.	COUNTY TAX.	TOWN TAX.	ROAD TAX.	SCHOOL TAX.	RECAPITULATION.
<i>20 1/2 of 20 1/2 of N 20 1/2 of 22 4 N 40 W 40</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>4 N</i>	<i>40 W</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>195</i>	<i>112</i>		School Tax, ... <i>116</i>
<i>Personal</i>					<i>3</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>4</i>		Road Tax, ...
										Town Tax, ... <i>203</i>
										County Tax, ... <i>301</i>
										State Tax, ... <i>76</i>
										TOTAL, ... <i>676</i>

Oneida, January 11, 1865 \$6.96

*Abram D. Hixson* Town Treasurer.

Received of *Nelson B. Cole* for *Grand Ledge Burying Ground Association* to them paid, by *Nelson B. Cole* hereby granted unto *Grand Ledge Burying Ground Association* the right of burial in their grounds, and embracing *Lot 2, Block 6* subject, nevertheless, to assessment and forfeiture, as provided by law.

Dated, *July 15*, A. D. 18*70*

*Abram D. Hixson* President.  
*Samuel Chadwick* Clerk.

TOWNSHIP TREASURER'S OFFICE, }  
Received of *Nelson Cole* *Grand Ledge Jan 30 1866*

10 Dollars and 43 Cents, in full for State, County, Town and School Tax, for the year 1865, on the following described Land:

Subdivision of Section.	Sec.	Town.	Range.	Acres.	State Tax.	Co. Tax.	Town Tax.	Road Tax.	School Tax.	Re. capitulation.	\$	Cts.
<i>20 1/2 of 20 1/2 of N 20 1/2 of 22 4 N 40 W 40</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>4 N</i>	<i>40 W</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>221</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>239</i>		State Tax: <i>112</i>		
<i>Personal</i>					<i>21</i>	<i>51</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>49</i>		County Tax: <i>272</i>		
										Town Tax: <i>361</i>		
										Road Tax: <i>288</i>		
										School Tax: <i>239</i>		
										TOTAL: <i>10 33</i>		

Grand Ledge, Jan 30, 1866 \$10.43

*Abram D. Hixson* Treasurer of *Oneida*

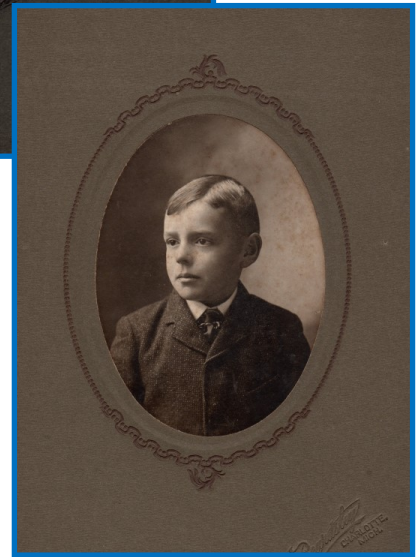




## Various Photo Groups

Rod Weaver has been working with ECGS to scan and restore some of the photographs in our collections.

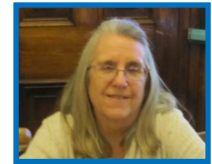
**P-651**



These photos come from the P.651 Collection. The people are unidentified and if you know who they are, please let us know by contacting us at [ecgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsnews@gmail.com)



# Mulliken Cookbook



Thanks Sue Thompson for sharing this with us!



## QUICK GOULASH

Dice medium size onion  
Add onion to 1 pound hamburger and brown.  
Then add 1 can Franco-American Spaghetti,  
Season to taste

For best results, bake for 20 minutes.

Zeda Welch,  
Mulliken, Michigan.

*Zeda Welch*

# Quick Goulash



## BAKED PORK CHOPS

Put pork chops in a baking dish (seasoned).  
Pour a can of small green peas over them  
and a can of tomato soup and bake in oven  
about 1 hour.

Leone Cove,  
Mulliken, Michigan.

*Leone Cove*

# Baked Pork Chops



## TUNA FISH SALAD

- 1 cup tuna fish
- 1 cup tomatoes (or 2 medium fresh tomatoes)
- 1 cup cooked rice
- 3/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon minced onion

Break tuna fish apart, add rice, onion and to-  
matoes. Then add mayonnaise and season to  
taste. Mix well with a fork.

Waneta Bosworth  
Mulliken, Michigan

*Waneta Bosworth*

# Tuna Fish Salad



## Probate Packets

The website is updated about once a month with the list of probate packets that have been scanned ([www.miegs.org/Files/ProbatePacketScanned.pdf](http://www.miegs.org/Files/ProbatePacketScanned.pdf)). There are now about 12,820 names that are scanned and we are scanning the "P" probate packet folders.

Phyllis normally works on preparing the probate packets for scanning. This day, she is scanning because we are nine boxes ahead on the preparation of the boxes. Thanks Phyllis!

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Chris, Marcy, Pat, Phyllis



Become A  
Volunteer



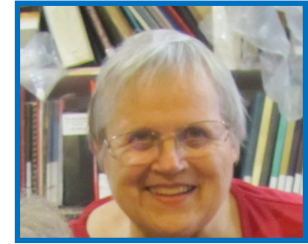
Mike brings in books he has scanned since his last visit, and picks up more books to scan. He is scanning scrapbooks currently. He typically comes in and trades every week

If you believe there is a scanned probate packet you want to look at and you are a member, email us at [ecgsboard@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsboard@gmail.com) and request access to the file or files.

**Join us on Tuesday afternoons when you can!**

## The ECGS Writing Special Interest Group

Writers Group by Shirley Hodges



We had a great day at the January Writer's Group meeting. Everyone is welcome at these meetings. We are hoping to help all individuals who are interested in preserving their family histories. If you have samples of your work, please bring them with you. We really enjoy seeing what the others have done. If we can't accomplish anything else, I hope we can help people realize that their stories really are important.

We had some nice success stories with people getting projects done for the families for Christmas.

Pat Campion was not able to be with us, but she had shared a book that she had finished with us at an earlier meeting. She did a pictorial book of her first 18 years and wrote a narrative to go with it. Pat plans on working on her life as an adult next.



Judith St. King was new to the group. She shared a novel, *Incomplete Diary of Good and Evil* with us that she had written. It was published in time for Christmas. The novel is fiction but is based on Judith's background and her many years of living in the Traverse City area near the State Hospital. She has also written a series of family memories that she had posted on Facebook. This is a great idea of you have several family members involved. It is always interesting to see the others perceptions of the same events.

Several people in the group had audio and film tapes converted to modern technology for their families for Christmas.



## The ECGS Writing Special Interest Group (continued)

Some time was spent during the meeting discussing our goals for next Christmas.

There is no more precious gift that you can give your loved ones than the stories of their families. There are many ways these stories can be preserved and we encourage people to use the method they are most comfortable with. Some ideas are:

- Newsletters. One individual suggested making a book out of Christmas newsletters that had been sent out by the family over the years.
- Time capsules. This could be a great treasure to leave for a grandchild.
- Family organization or reunion books.
- Posters. Great ideas for family celebrations or reunions.
- A genetic family history, which identifies specific physical traits (eye color, height, weight, complexion). This can be very important to let others know of causes of death and family illnesses.
- Family recipe collections. If you could include a picture of the ancestor along with their favorite recipe, it would be even more meaningful.
- Heritage albums. More than a scrapbook; a heritage album is a record of the life of a family and includes photographs, documents, and so on.
- A record of your findings and experiences as you begin with one ancestor and work backwards. You can choose whomever you wish to write about.
- A collection of family traditions and their origins.

You will make good progress if you follow a consistent schedule in creating your family history. Start now to write a family history, even if you only work on it for 20-30 minutes a day. Those minutes—and the work you do—will add up over time, and you will accomplish a lot if you work regularly and consistently.

Our next meeting will be February 11 from 10:00 - 12:00.

Hope to see you there. Please feel free to invite anyone who you think might be interested.



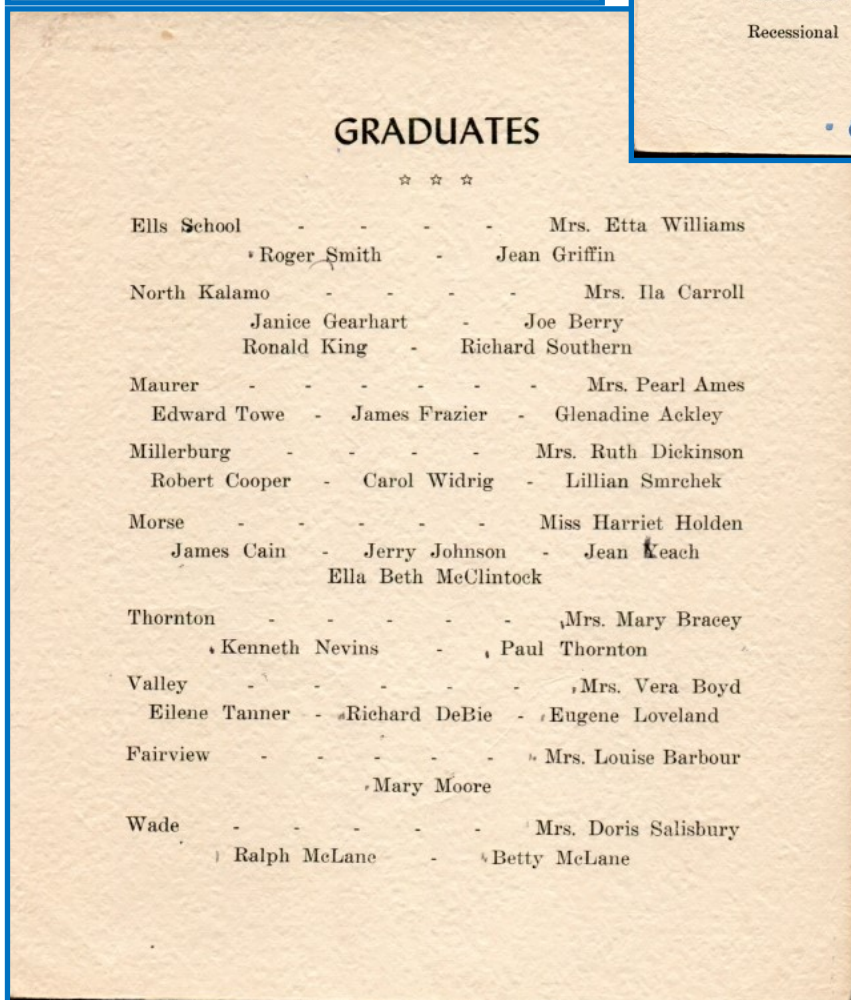
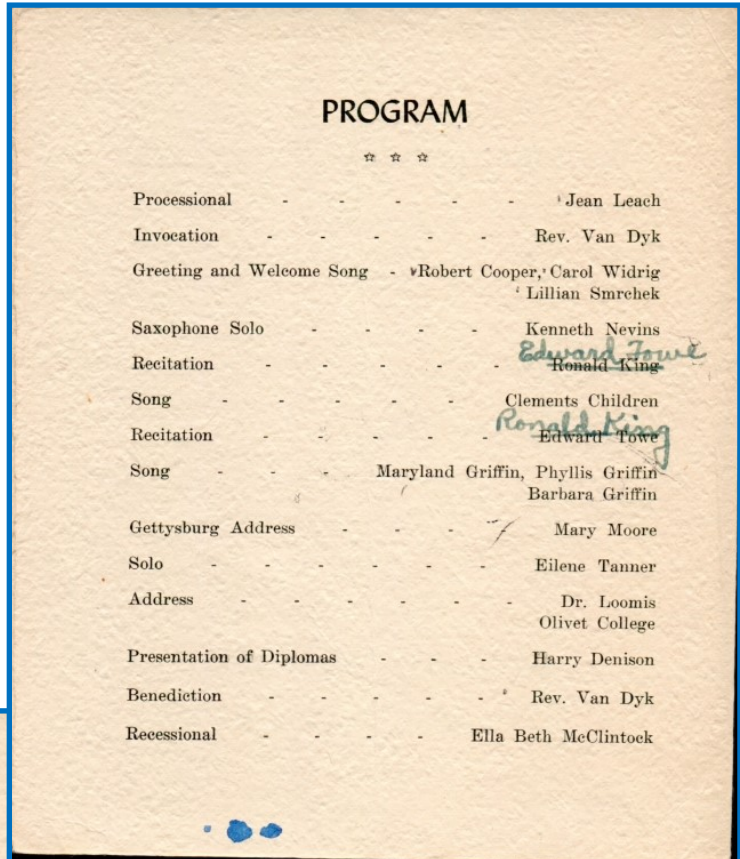
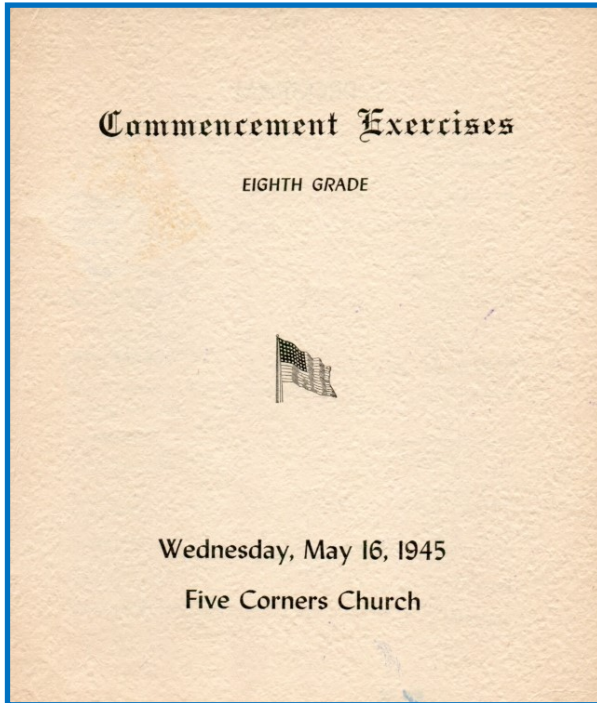
"I wish I had realized that family history is a perishable commodity. It disappears with time, as memories fade, and as loved ones pass on. I wish I had known that the most important aspect of family history is preserving a record of the present for the future." -Guy Black

[www.tmgenealogy.com](http://www.tmgenealogy.com)



## School Records—From VF.014

We have different school records that have been donated by various people over the years stored in our vertical files and the majority of these are included in our School Database.

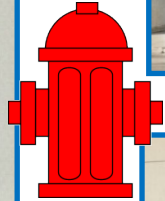


**Eighth  
Grade  
Graduates  
1945**



# Charlotte Fire Department Photos

These are some photos from our P.642 collection.

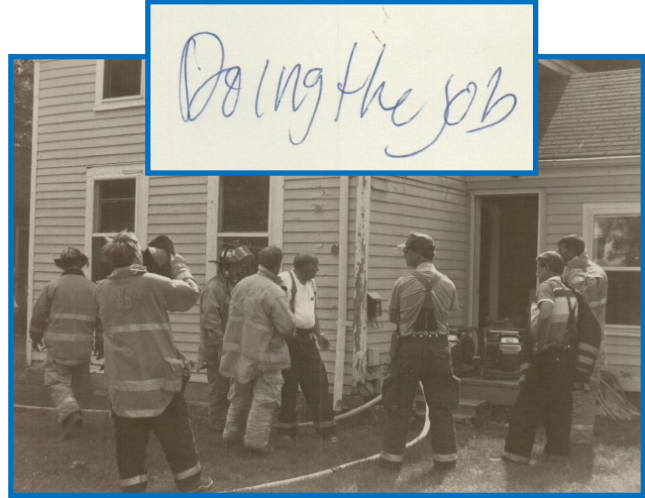


P.642.as  
s Oct. 1993

11870W School  
Visit fire  
First Lutheran

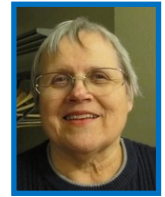
CFD at place  
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men, Jerry Baum, Fred Wieting - Souled

8670W  
Charlotte Firefighters  
do the job



# How to Cope with a Snow day

By Shirley Hodges



The holidays are over, but we're still smack dab in the middle of winter, and the cold weather is hitting some areas especially hard. When you live "North of the Grits Line" you need to be prepared to have a few snow days. If you find yourself snowed in during a blizzard, here are some fun ways to make the most of it.

Sitting around the house and not knowing what to do is not only unproductive, it's boring. The best way to get rid of boredom is to do something you've been putting off or to challenge yourself to do something you have never done before. There are plenty of things you can do when you're bored. They could be wacky, weird, productive, creative or just fun! Here are some ideas on things to do on a boring day at home.

Look through old family scrapbooks, yearbooks and photo books. Basically, indulge in nostalgia. Make some notes as you go. You will discover that you have some great ideas for the family history you want to write. You can create your own scrap book. It really can be fun and you can flaunt it later. I encourage you to bring things like this to the writers group so others can get ideas on things to do.

If you haven't made a bucket list, think about doing so. Make a list of things you want to do before you die. This may also include things that you want to do within a month or six months. It is your list so you can put anything on it that you would like to accomplish. Go crazy with it.



Make a collage out of old family pictures. Decide on a theme to use so your collage will be a great tool to bring back family memories.





## How to Cope with a Snow day (continued)

Do some research on subjects that interest you. You might want to learn more about the location where your ancestors lived. You can turn to the internet. You can check out Wikipedia as they have great information. When you can add information about the places your ancestor lived it will help you to understand why they did some of the things that they did during their lifetimes.

One of the most productive things you can do is to review your notes and take another look at the documents that you have accumulated in the past. You may have been working on a brick wall that you've been trying to break down. You might already have the sledgehammer in your possession. The notes and photocopies from prior research might not have seemed relevant when you originally did the research. When you look at them with a fresh eye and factor in what you've learned since then, they can open up all sorts of possibilities. A name or location that did not mean anything to you at that time can be quite relevant now.

This might be the ideal time to explore the websites and catalogs of state historical societies, state archives, state and local genealogy societies, and the libraries in the areas where your ancestors lived. You might find that all sorts of things have been added since the last time you checked them out.

Whether the weather is frightful or delightful, you don't need to feel stuck inside this winter. We don't get many opportunities to take a day off and use it how we wish, so if you're snowed in with nothing to do, you might as well make the most of it—even if that just means kicking back and watching old *I Love Lucy* episodes for eight hours straight.



### Obituary Book One

Many obituary scrapbooks were put together by many volunteers over the past 25-plus years and we thank them!

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**George H. Spencer** 1948  
**Dies at Hospital** Ref. 11

Former President of Eaton County Savings Bank Had Been Ill Three Weeks

George H. Spencer, for many years as well known and highly esteemed as any citizen of Charlotte died Sunday afternoon at the Hayes-Green-Beach hospital where he had been a patient for three weeks. Illness due to his advanced age, 86, was the cause of his death. The funeral was held at the Cheney funeral home Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. M. J. Woodward, a former reader of the Christian Science society officiating. Interment at Maple Hill.

Mr. Spencer one of a family of several brothers, including the late Russell S. Spencer was born in the old Spencer home at Carbondale, Pa. He came here in an early day with a short stopover in the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti neighborhood and for perhaps a half century was a partner in the grocery firm of Lamb & Spencer, without doubt through all this time the largest and best known business of this character in the county. In the early days of the firm they handled the Standard Oil Co. account and operated one of the largest egg-shipping plants, outside of Detroit, in the state. The firm shipped Eaton county syrup and sugar to all parts of the country in fact all their operations were on a scale in keeping with their admitted leadership down through the years in the grocery field. Mr. Spencer never accepted political office but did serve for many years on the cemetery and library boards as his contribution to public services. When A. D. Baughman, another successful businessman, died creating a vacancy in the presidency of the Eaton County Savings Bank Mr. Spencer served for nearly two decades or until the bank folded. He always carried his full share of the community charities and no name within the period covered by his active life will be recorded higher honor and respect. A son, Lawrence Higby Spencer survives.

**Oliver O. Weiler** 1968

VERMONTVILLE — Services will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Vogt Funeral Home for Oliver O. Weiler, 70, of R. 1, Vermontville. Burial will be in Potterville Cemetery.

Mr. Weiler died Wednesday at a Charlotte hospital.

He is survived by his wife, Laura; a son, Norman of Lansing; a brother, Walter of Vermontville; two stepsons, Duane and Robert Edwards of Mason, and seven grandchildren.

**EDGE**  
AND GRAND LEDGE TOWNSHIPS  
EDGE, EATON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

**An Axe Fell  
Cutting Neck**

Jan. 1 - 1944

**Mrs. J. B. Bradley**

Pearl P. Bradley, 66, died at Mercy hospital in Jackson late Wednesday afternoon after a five weeks' illness following a major operation. She had been ill for several weeks preceding the operation. Funeral services will be conducted from the residence, at 215 East Knight street, Saturday afternoon at two o'clock, the Rev. Richard Miles officiating. Burial in Rose Hill cemetery. The body will be taken to the residence from the Stewart Funeral Home Friday forenoon.

Surviving her are one daughter, Mrs. H. V. Webster of this place, one son Chester, a lieutenant in our Air Forces overseas, three grandchildren and two sisters, Mrs. H. R. Gillette and Mrs. Caroline Benson of Howell.

Mrs. Bradley was the widow of the late Dr. James B. Bradley, former auditor general of Michigan, who died in 1940. She had lived in Eaton Rapids for about 30 years.

**Could Not Extricate Heel From Fence**

HUNG THERE FROM MORNING UNTIL NIGHT

When He Was Found Unconscious By His Wife

A peculiar accident that culminated in a tragically fatal ending was experienced by a local resident Monday morning. Leon Noecker, aged forty six years left his home on said morning to cut wood on the farm of his father in law, Frank Ferguson in Oneida township. He carried with him, his axe. When nearing his destination he cut across lots and in climbing over a wire fence into the woods where he expected to work, caught his foot and fell in such a manner that his neck was severely gashed by the axe. There is every indication that he struggled without avail to free himself until he was so weakened from loss of blood that he could struggle no longer. The accident happened about 10:00 o'clock in the morning and the unfortunate man remained in a partly suspended position, his head and shoulders resting on the ground and his foot still entangled in the fence. It was evident that he had labored hard to extricate his foot which he finally succeeded in doing by pulling his foot out of his shoe which was found on the opposite side of the fence.

At evening when it was time for Mr. Noecker to return, his wife went after him with the family automobile. When she reached the home of her parents and found that her husband had not reported there, she went into the woods to locate him and finally discovered him where he had fallen, practically unconscious. The unfortunate gentleman was removed to St. Lawrence hospital where he passed away at 6:00 o'clock, Tuesday evening. The deceased is survived by his wife, two sons Leonard and Murrel at home and one sister, Mrs. Elmer Criss. The funeral will be held Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the home 614 E. Jefferson and 4:00 o'clock at the Needmore church with Rev. Roth of the Charlotte Congregational Church officiating. Burial will be made in Needmore Cemetery.

Feb. 15 - 1943

**Mrs. Jane Helder**  
**Organist, Dies**

(Grand Rapids Press)

Mrs. Jane Munger Helder, 59, wife of J. Hans Helder, 105 Benjamin Ave., S. E., died Monday evening at her home after an illness of several months.

She was born in Eaton Rapids and came to Grand Rapids in 1910. A graduate of the University of Michigan, where she majored in piano, she also had studied at Albion college. For 20 years she was soprano soloist at Trinity Methodist church and for eight years organist and choir director at St. Paul's Methodist church. She was one of the organist at the Metcalf chapel nine years.

Surviving besides the husband is a son, 2nd Lt. Bert Helder, stationed at Dodge City, Kan. in the air corps, and a daughter, Margaret, at home.

Funeral services were held Thursday at 2:00 p. m. in the Metcalf chapel. Burial will be in Woodlawn cemetery.

**SPENCER BOMERSHEIM**

Spencer Warren Bomersheim, aged 9 months and 4 days, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Bomersheim, passed away at the home on South Clinton St. Monday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock. Aside from the parents, the grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Spencer and Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bomersheim survive. The funeral was held from the home Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, Rev. G. E. Wright, officiating. Interment was made in Oakwood cemetery.

**MRS. FRANCES O. POTTER**

Mrs. Frances O. Potter aged sixty-nine years passed away Monday morning at 4:15 o'clock. She was the widow of the late Myron Potter. Surviving are a foster son Carl Marsh, one sister in Lansing and several nephews. The funeral was held from the home on West Jefferson street, Wednesday afternoon, Rev. J. T. Prosser, officiating. Burial was made in the Fulliken cemetery.

Obituary Book One (continued)

2.

**Reginald D. Foster**  
 Reginald D. Foster son of William and Mathilda Foster was born in Eaton county May 12, 1874 and passed away June 18, 1940 after a very brief illness at the age of 66 years. He was united in marriage to Blanche Bryan who passed away in January 1901. In September 1902 he was united in marriage to Hazel A. Fowler of Reading, and to this union the following children were born: Huber of Lansing, Russell of Pittsburg, Penn., Howard who passed away in 1923, Lawrence of Laconia, New Hampshire and St. Petersburg, Florida, Max of Holt, Lorene Keupfer of Harrison, Louise Fullerton of Millett, Helen of Laconia, New Hampshire and Charlotte and Jack at home. Mr. Foster has spent his entire life in this community except for seven years in Lansing and two in Dimondale. Besides Mrs. Foster and the children mentioned he is also survived by one grandson, Karl Keupfer of Harrison and an aunt, Mrs. Cora Edick of Lansing and several cousins.

**Wm. Bunker, 88, 1940  
 Died Tuesday Eve**  
 Wm. Bunker, 88 years of age, died about six o'clock Tuesday evening at the home of his son, Bert Bunker, near Three Bridges after a short illness. Funeral services will be conducted from the residence Friday afternoon at 2:30, the Rev. Grant Gordon of Vicksburg officiating. Burial will be made in the Bunker mausoleum at Rose Hill cemetery. Mr. Bunker was a native of this locality being born in Aurelius township in 1852 where, with several years spent in Eaton Rapids, he had spent most of his life. Since the death of his wife in 1930 he has lived with his son at whose home he died. Mr. Bunker, in his active years, was a carpenter. He was one of a large family and is survived, besides his son, Bert, by one brother, Henry, and one sister, Mrs. Phoebe Woodruff; one grandson, Arthur Bunker; one granddaughter, Mrs. Tom Cuckson, and three great-grandchildren, all of this community.

**W. L. Huber  
 Dies in the South**  
 Had Been Active in Many Semi-Public Enterprises; Was a Spanish War Veteran  
 William L. Huber, eldest son of Daniel and Henrietta Huber was born July 21, 1870, at Greensprings, Ohio. At an early age he moved to Michigan, where he lived most of his life. In 1898 he volunteered his services in the United States army being a member of Co. G, 35th Michigan Infantry, from which he was honorably discharged in 1899. He married Mary Elsie Vickery in 1900, to which union two daughters were born, namely, Mrs. Ruth Bugbee, of Walton township, and Miss Henrietta Huber, of Charlotte. His wife preceded him on April 29, 1939. For many years he was a well known farmer in this vicinity. Was a member of the Congregational church, Charlotte Grange, Masonic Lodge No. 120, Farm Bureau, Federal Farm Loan association, and also a member of the 4-H club fair. For the past year and a half he had made his home in Biloxi, Mississippi, on account of poor health, where he passed away with a serious heart ailment on Jan. 28, 1941. Besides his two daughters he is survived by: two sisters, Miss Jessie A. Huber, Jackson; Mrs. Allie Kitto, Charlotte; and three brothers, Charles D. Huber, Charlotte; Lester Huber, St. Joseph, Mich., and Frank Huber, Gary, Indiana; also a host of friends. Funeral services were held Friday at the Pray funeral home, with the Reverend Russell H. McConnell, of the Congregational church, officiating. Interment was in Maple Hill cemetery.

igan. June 28, 1940  
**Obituary**  
 Lavern C. Patterson was born at Mansfield, Ohio, February 22, 1888 where he grew to manhood. After the death of his father he and his mother moved to Michigan to join his sister, Mary, who had preceded them there. He was united in marriage to Ethel Dickinson November 25, 1909. To this union was born two children, Della and Robert D. Mrs. Patterson passed on June 5, 1928. Until the time of his illness in 1931, he was an active farmer, manufacturer and dairyman the latter two enterprises having been located in the city of Eaton Rapids. During his life he knew much suffering and many heart aches, including the care of an invalid father, an ex-officer of the Grand Army of the Republic; and the loss of his wife in early life. However, during all his life his thoughts were for his family and others. Even during his long illness his first thoughts were for his children. Besides his daughter and son he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Leona McGregor of Lexington, and Mrs. Mary Post of Charlotte. Mr. Patterson died Wednesday night at his home in Charlotte. Funeral services were held Saturday at 2:00 p. m. from the Pray Funeral home. Burial in Maple Hill cemetery.

**Arthur M. Sherman**  
 Harold Sherman was in Lansing, Monday, to attend funeral services for his uncle, Arthur M. Sherman, 78 years old, who died at his home there early last Friday morning. Mr. Sherman was born here November 23, 1861, and for years was sexton of Maple Hill cemetery. He had resided in Lansing for the last four years, going there from Saranac. He is survived by four grandchildren, Mrs. Diette Woodcock of Lansing, with whom he lived; Mrs. Frances Stewart of Grand Rapids, Lloyd Sherman of Lansing, and Gerald A. Sherman of Saranac; 13 great grandchildren, and one great great grandchild; one brother, Dell Sherman of Lansing, and several nieces and nephews. Burial was here in Maple Hill cemetery.

**Mary E. Briggs**  
 Mrs. Mary Etta Briggs, at 92 one of Eaton county's oldest residents, died Friday at her residence in Kalamo township after several years' illness. Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at 2 p.m. from the Pray funeral home, Charlotte, with Rev. Theodore Seavolt of Mulliken officiating and burial in Kalamo cemetery. Survivors include a son, Leon, of Kalamo township; four grandchildren, eight great-grand children and one great-great-grandchild. Born July 6, 1858, in Ottawa county, she had lived in Kalamo township a great share of her life. She married Nelson Briggs on June 30, 1875, and he preceded her in death several years ago. For several years before his death they resided on the present Vernon Hoke farm west of Eaton Rapids.

**Gerald F. Bonnett**  
 Gerald F. Bonnett, 50, a veteran of the World war passed away Monday at the U. S. Marine hospital in Detroit. The body was brought to the Pettit and Rice Funeral home and funeral services will be conducted this (Friday) afternoon at two o'clock from the home of his mother, Mrs. Nettie Atchison on the Charlotte-Eaton Rapids road with burial in the South Eaton cemetery. The Rev. C. W. Punter will officiate. He is survived by his mother and one uncle, Fred Pixley.

1900  
 Mrs. Betsey Stewart, her son, Amos, and grandson, Donald, were killed at the Fuller crossing of the Michigan Central railroad last Sunday when the wagon in which they were riding was struck by a train.

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## ECGS Scrapbook.1

Most of the scrapbooks we have in our library have been indexed and people who are researching can find these when looking up names. However, it has just been this past year that these scrapbooks have been scanned. Here are a couple of pages from one of these scrapbooks.

Many of these scrapbooks were created by dedicated volunteers from ECGS's 25+ years of hard work! They worked diligently at putting together our wonderful library of materials!



**HER MOTHER'S DRESS**—Mrs. Anna Bidwell, of Sunfield, is shown wearing her mother's "best dress." Mrs. Bidwell, 87, has all the letters written to her mother by her father while he was serving in the Union Army during the Civil War. Pressed flowers found in one of the letters are in the frame she is holding.

### She Prizes Dad's Civil War Letters

By ANN E. DOW  
(Journal Special Writer)

**SUNFIELD** — Mrs. Anna Bidwell, 87-year-old Sunfield widow, has a house full of valuable antiques, but nothing she has prized as much as the letters her father wrote to her mother during the Civil War.

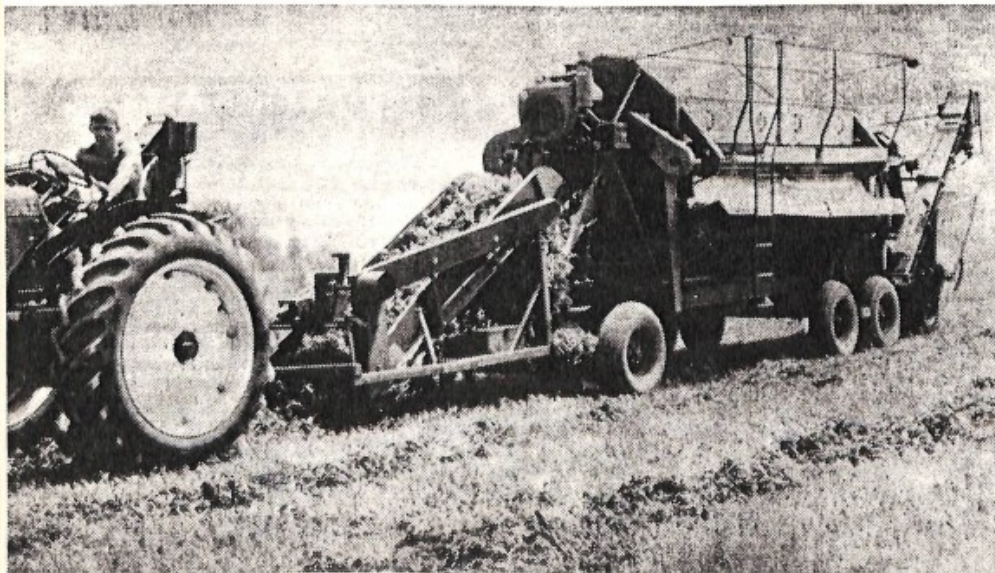
Mrs. Bidwell is the sole surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Litchfield, and she has possession of all the letters.

In one of them Mrs. Bidwell found some pressed flowers, picked by her father while he was with the Union Army at Huntsville, Ala. She is the only living daughter of a Civil War veteran, now living in Sunfield, and she was a charter member of the Daughters of Union Veterans when it was formed here in 1926.

Mrs. Bidwell, who was born in a log cabin near Sunfield, does her own housework, including canning fruit, and is a good seamstress.

The mother's dress and some of the letters will soon be in the Michigan State Museum, she says.

**A-10 THE STATE JOURNAL** Friday, June 28, 1963  
Lansing, Michigan



**PEAS FOR SOUP**—The pea harvest is underway again in the Lake Odessa area and 15 acres were combined this week on the Don Sailer farm, at M-66 and State Road, about 10 miles northeast of Lake Odessa. The peas are taken to the Lake Odessa Canning factory where they are frozen for processing into split pea soup. The area where peas are harvested this year extends around Lake Odessa, Woodland, Sunfield and Mulliken. The canning company is an important industry, which hires from 100 to 500 men and women during the summer crop season. The peak comes during the tomato and lima bean harvest.

### ECGS Scrapbook.1 (continued)

## Residents of Sunfield Scattered Over Globe

(Special to The State Journal)  
 SUNFIELD—Sunfield has many area citizens traveling to far places this summer.  
 Miss Naomi Sayer, a sophomore at Central Michigan University,

was selected with 20 other young people by the Albion-Lansing District Methodist Youth Fellowship to take part in "Operation Friendship" in Costa Rica. This month-long, Methodist work program is provided to help missionaries with summer work of building, repair and teaching in the Bible school. Miss Sayer is the only Spanish-speaking member of the group.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smyth are visiting Alaska on a camping trip. Mr. Smyth teaches in the

Lansing public school system. Mrs. Smyth is the first grade teacher in Sunfield.  
 Also on a camping trip are Mr. and Mrs. Gary Cline. On their five-week trip they intend seeing the high spots of the nation, from Louisiana to Oregon. Mr. Cline

will teach school in Saugatuck this fall.  
 Theo Lenon, elevator manager, visited Russia for three weeks with 21 men of the "People to People" group.  
 Floyd Fleetham is on a 60-day bicycle tour of Europe with the Division of Educational Travel group. Mr. Fleetham has written home that he saw the Queen of England, and Pope Paul in Italy. Mr. Fleetham teaches school in Grant.

## Sunfield Girl Gets Graduation Present Early

(Special to The State Journal)  
 SUNFIELD — Linda Richards, 16, of Sunfield has received one graduation gift two years in advance.

The gift from her grandmother, Mrs. Carl Schafer of Marshall, was a 12-day tour of western states. Linda was accompanied by her grandmother and a friend, Patty Benjamin also of Sunfield. The girls are both juniors at Lakewood High School and will graduate with the class of 1965.



The trip started in Chicago where the three boarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars special tour on the Northern Pacific Railway. The highlight of the trip for the girls was the Veterans of Foreign Wars convention in Seattle, Wash. Linda's grandmother, Mrs. Schafer, was a delegate to this convention. They also visited Yellowstone Park and the Worlds Fair grounds. Linda is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gerals Richards. Patty is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dar Benjamin.

Mrs Rose Edgel at the Walters convalescent home in Portland celebrated her birthday Nov. 14. She received nearly 75 cards and gifts, among them a birthday cake from Mrs Margaret Shortz. Mrs Nellie Stemler, Mrs Margaret Shortz and Mrs Lila Lumbert were among her many callers.

## To Graduate



Marilee J. Hough of Sunfield will be graduated from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo Saturday, June 10. She will receive a bachelor of science degree (cum laude).

Her parents are Mr and Mrs Roy Hough of Sunfield highway.

Mrs. Anna Bosworth fell down the back steps last week, having suffered a slight stroke. Callers were Mrs. Norma Smith of Detroit, Almira Dooling, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hawkins, and Elwood Hawkins. Lyle Bosworth and Emerson Newth put a new railing on side of steps. Brett remains about the same, unable to get out doors yet.

19  
 Jimmie Carroll of the navy and 15 other servicemen guarded the President's plane at Olathe, Kansas, two and a half hours while he was at his brother's funeral. The plane was supposed to land at Kansas City but it was too foggy.

*Joe Grand*

Dear Editor,

This past Sunday we lost a part of Sunfield past and present. John Fleetham has been a part of this town longer than most of us can remember. For years his barber shop was the center of village activity and John could always come up with a new story or two. John was the first to extend us a warm welcome as we moved into town and shared some information with us. He was a good neighbor and often at night I would see him sitting by the window keeping an the neighborhood. As John and others have left us this year we have become a little less without them but we have become a little more for their having been a part of us. We would do well to pattern our community involvement and concern for others after them. John, we will miss you.

1980 Sincerely,  
 Doug Schlappi

1968  
 Mr. and Mrs. Bart Piercefield wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Hazel Ann, to Clyde Woodman, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Woodman of Mulliken. An August wedding is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. Giles Rogers of Augusta afternoon callers at Cedric Roots. Dick Rogers and Marilyn Spencer of Augusta were evening callers, also Mr. and Mrs. Millard Root of Chester.

By  
Shirley  
Hodges

# SEND US YOUR STORIES!

We would love to hear your stories. If you would be willing to write a story for our newsletter it would be of interest to our other members. Here are some ideas:



Tell us the story of your ancestors who came to Eaton County and when they came.



Tell us the stories of your Civil War Ancestor, who either served or lived in Eaton Co. If you haven't submitted your paperwork application for the Civil War Ancestor Certificate, you might want to do that.



Tell us the story of your ancestor who was a teacher in one of our early schools in Eaton County.



Tell us the story of an ancestor who might have worked in one of the factories or businesses in Eaton County.



Send your stories and pictures (if any) to [ecgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsnews@gmail.com).



Tell us the story of one of your ancestors from Eaton Co. who might have been a farmer in the early days. It was the farmers who helped turn this land into a nation. All the stories are important.



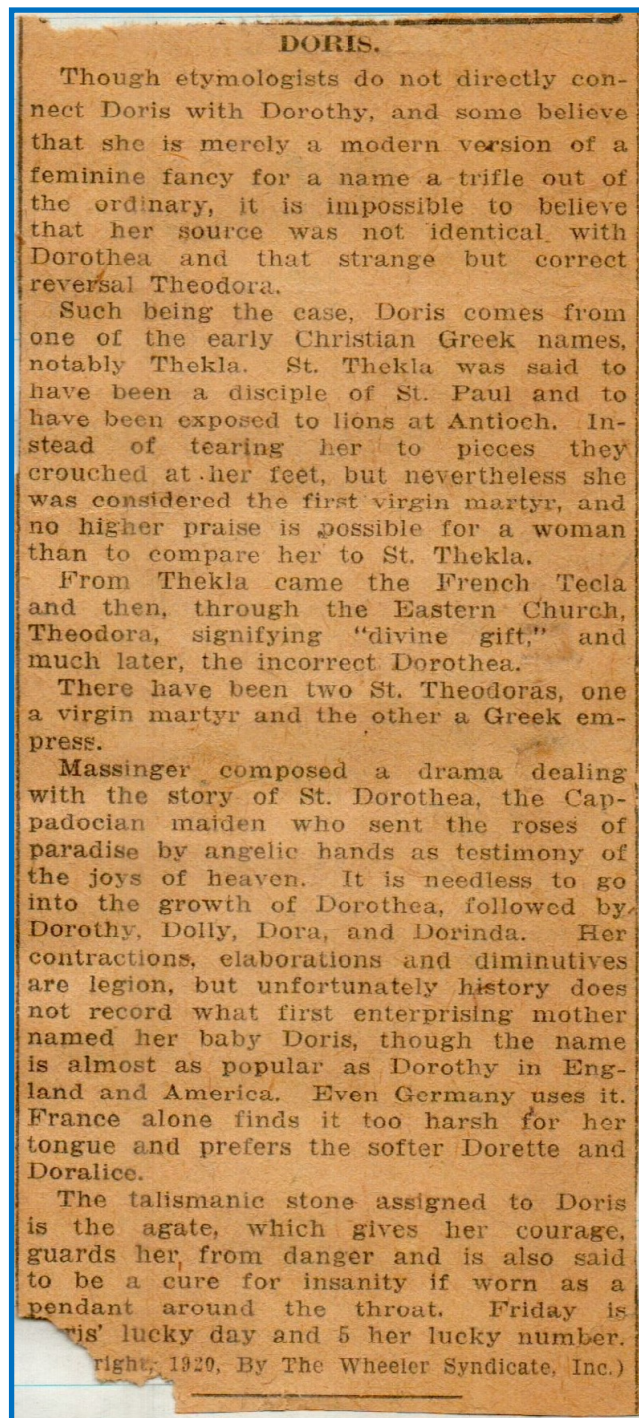
1919

Origins, History & Meanings of Female Names

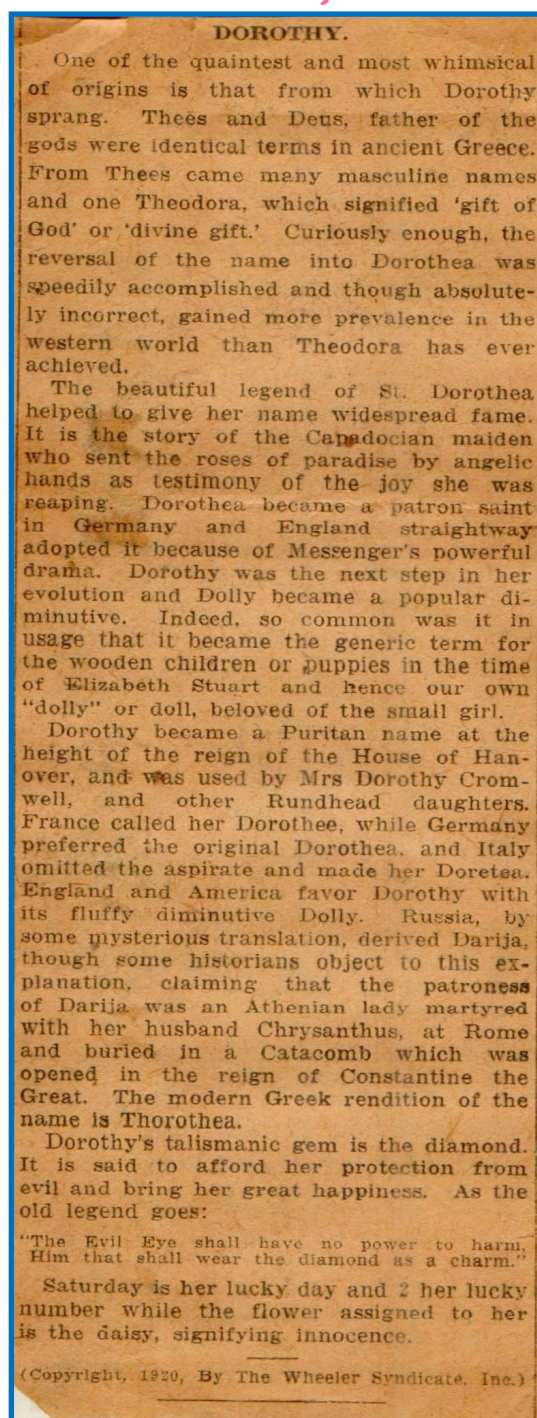
1920

Lyle French donated these newspaper clippings to ECGS from a newspaper series on the origins, history, and meaning of girl's names series published in 1919 and 1920. They are stored in VF.470.

## Doris



## Dorothy



# What's IN A NAME?



This newsletter is created from information members have submitted. **Anyone is welcome (and encouraged!) to submit** Eaton County family history information or articles. Please email these to [ecgsnews@gmail.com](mailto:ecgsnews@gmail.com) and designate the information you would like included, such as your location and/or email address. Your submission must be signed. Pictures are welcomed!

While the newsletter is available for all to read from our ECGS website, only members may post queries and member happenings.

All digital newsletter issues will be available on our website with a target date of posting them on the 1st of each month. See the [www.miegs.org/Newsletters.shtml](http://www.miegs.org/Newsletters.shtml).

Note: Some clipart used in our newsletter was provided by [MyCuteGraphics](http://MyCuteGraphics.com).

### Ways You Can Help to Volunteer at (or for) ECGS

Please note: We appreciate any help we receive! We will never pressure you to help us! We only ask if you have volunteered for room duty and you cannot make it, call (phone numbers provided) us and let us know to get coverage.

Room Volunteers: Room volunteers are here to help people who come in to research. While some of our room volunteers actually help do the research, this is not a requirement. The main tasks are to answer the phone and guide the researchers to our various areas they can research.

Probate Packet Scanning: This is an on-going project that meets regularly at the ECGS room to scan probate packets on Tuesday afternoons. However, anyone can scan when the room is open.

Indexing and/or proofreading at home: Using scanned images, we can show you how to index and/or proofread at your own leisure at home.

Mini Take-Home projects: This is a brand new type of project we are trying. People have taken home several projects and we will see how that goes.

Special Projects: Possibly set up an area in our room that will have special projects that you can work on when you come in. Again... new idea to try! More to come on this.

*Every effort is made to present authentic material; the Eaton County Genealogical Society cannot be held responsible for the accuracy or the publishing rights of material furnished by contributors.*

# Thank You!

Thanks to all of you who donate in any way to our Society! Our Society is run by volunteers and is funded by donations and fund-raisers.



**Eaton County Genealogical Society Publications Order List**  
 P.O. Box 337, Charlotte, MI 48813-0337 Phone 517-543-8792  
 As of January 1, 2015

Item	Cost per item	Total Cost
Cemeteries of Eaton County, MI:		
Brookfield Twp., 41 pp., indexed as of September 1991	\$ 8.00	
Chester Twp., 66 pp., indexed as of July 1990	\$ 8.00	
Roxand Twp., 86 pp., indexed as of January 1993	\$10.00	
Sunfield Twp., 44 pp., indexed as of April 1991	\$10.00	
Walton Twp., 119 pp., indexed as of March 1996	\$10.00	
Maple Hill Cemetery (Eaton Twp.), indexed as of 2009	\$20.00	
Kalamo Twp., 102 pp., indexed as of 2001	\$18.00	
Vermontville Twp., 122 pp., indexed as of 2001	\$18.00	
Burkhead-Green Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI 27 Mar, 1885 thru 29 Dec, 1947, 198 pp., indexed	*** \$18.00	
Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI 18 Nov 1921 to 21 May 1932, 112 pp., indexed	\$18.00	
Naturalization Index for Eaton Co., MI 55 pp.	\$ 4.25	
Eaton County Quest, back issues, #1 through current available (please specify issue no.)	\$ 4.50	
Plat maps of Eaton County, MI, individual townships (please specify which townships). (Note: Shipping up to 16 townships count as one item.)		
1860 Price is \$.25 per Township (Hamlin Twp. Not available)	\$ .25	
1873 Price is \$.25 per Township	\$ .25	
1895 Price is \$.25 per Township	\$ .25	
1913 Price is \$.25 per Township	\$ .25	
Cemetery Symbols CD (see <a href="http://www.miegs.org/Symbols.shtml">www.miegs.org/Symbols.shtml</a> for more information)	\$12.00	

Shipping & Handling

1-3 items - \$2.20  
 3-5 items - \$3.30  
 6 or more items - \$6.60

\*\*\* Note: Please add \$2.50 for each "Burkhead-Green Funeral Home" book.

Sub total \_\_\_\_\_  
 MI res. Add 6% sales tax \_\_\_\_\_  
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Send the above items to (please print)

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Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please make checks payable to: Eaton County Genealogical Society)

Please note: We plan to address publications in the next year and hopefully will be adding more to our selection. Also, we plan to offer these through the website using PayPal.