

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.

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 November Calendar

November 8th, Regular Meeting

Jeff Mason: "Coming To America-Emigration, Immigration, and Naturalization"

Social: 5:30pm Meeting: 7:00pm

Writing Group: Sat Nov (no meeting)

Every Tuesday Afternoon:

Probate Packet Scanning (any time during 12-4)

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	Dianna Emerson
Council Delegate	Becky Kendall
Council Delegate (Alt)	Jim Collins, Jo Glasgow
FGS Delegate	Gary Copenhaver
Trustees:	Liz Jones, Shirley Hodges, Becky Kendall

CONTACT US

Phone: 517-543-8792

Email: ecgsnews@gmail.com

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

8/31/17 figures

\$2,668.63 Checking

\$2,222.72 Snack

\$4,499.33 CD

\$3,151.98 Undes Donations

\$1,850.00 Pay Pal

Treasurer's Report

Sher Brown, Treasurer



Get Well Sharlene!

Membership Secretary

As of 9.21.17 the total number of members is 150.

Welcome

Check out the membership form on www.miegs.org.



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). There are now about 16,125 names that are scanned and we are scanning the "Sowles" probate packets!

If you believe there is a scanned probate packet you want to look at and you are a member, email us at ecgsprobates@gmail.com and request the file or files. If you are a non-member, see our Send A Request Page at <http://www.miegs.org/SendRequest.shtml>.

Join us on Tuesday afternoons when you can!

In Memory of Clarence Lee Hodges

November 13, 1936 - October 25, 2017



Obituary

It is with great sadness that the family of Clarence L. Hodges announces his passing on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, at the age of 80 years. He was born Nov. 13, 1936 in Eaton Rapids to Clair L. and Nova Leone Crisher.

Clarence will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 30 years, Shirley and their children, Jonathan (Cathryn) Hodges of Springport, MI, Clarissa (Richard) Van Proyen of Dallas-Fort Worth, Tamara (James) Noe of Eaton Rapids, MI, Jennifer West of Albion, MI and Scott (Teressa) Tausz of Eaton Rapids, MI. Clarence will be fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Alyssea Hodges of Tampa, FL, Kevin Hodges, of Jackson, MI; Kelli (Ty Mosher) Hodges of Homer, MI, Noah Moricz of Springport, MI, Lydia Moricz of Springport, MI, Jonathan (Anatia) Hodges Van Proyen of Tuscon, AZ, Krista (Brian) Spatz of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Joshua Van Proyen of Dallas-Fort Worth, Lindsay Aldrich of Charlotte, MI, Timothy Tausz of Alexandria, LA, Heather Tausz of Everette, WA and Evan Tausz of Eaton Rapids, MI. He also has 8 great grandchildren.

Clarence was also blessed by other children who loved him and thought of him as a grandfather, Kayla, Nichole and Daniel Haight, Josh Willer, Jennifer Garfield, Amanda Brown and Cody Mosher.

He is also survived by siblings Arlene (Carl) Fredrickson of Comstock, CT and Clair Hodges of Mesa, AZ. He was preceded in death by his parents and siblings, Rosella Wilcox, Idabelle Morrison, Betty Peace, Henry Hodges and Duane Hodges.

Clarence is a US Air Force retiree and was very active with VFW Post #4073 in Marshall, MI. During his military career he was stationed in Iceland, Spain, England and Germany as well as several state side locations.

Clarence was active with the Eaton Co. Genealogical Society. He was Shirley's most devoted fan and supporter and he enjoyed travelling with her to genealogy conferences around the country.

Services will be at the J. Kevin Tidd Funeral Home, 811 Finley Dr., Albion, MI 49224. Family will gather with friends on Monday, 30 October 2017 from 4:00-7:00 pm. Funeral services celebrating his life will take place at 11:00 am on Wednesday, 1 November 2017 with Pastor Robert Bolton officiating, a one hour visitation prior to the funeral.

Memorial donations in memory of Clarence may be made to the Albion Free Methodist Church or Hospital Hospitality House of Southwest Michigan in Kalamazoo, MI.

To leave online messages of condolence for the family, please visit www.kevintiddfuneralhome.com.

Eaton County Historical Commission 2017 Heritage Award Program

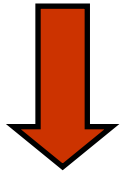
This year, the two award recipients were Rod Weaver, who headed up the World War II Roll Of Honor Project, and the Eaton Rapids GAR group, with Deb Melewski and Stan representing the group.



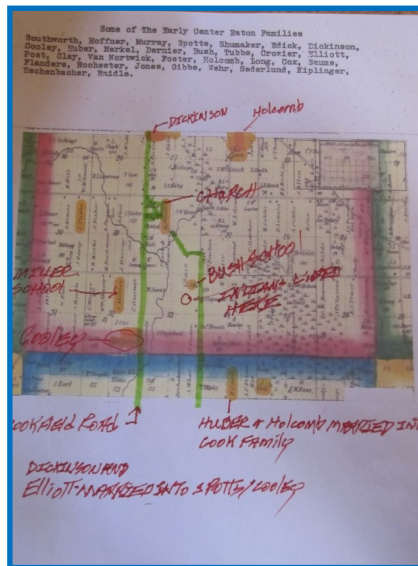
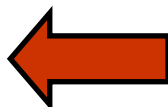
The Center Eaton Community Center hosted this years Heritage Conference.



Harold Holcomb gave a presentation about the history of the Center Eaton Church, which his family belonged to, and his sharpshooter Civil War grandfather from this area. Governor Luren Dickinson belonged to this church and Harold had information and newspaper clippings about him as well.



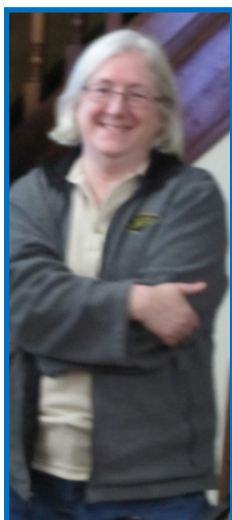
Rod Weaver, gave a presentation on the WWII Roll Of Honor Project and how it began, and about some of his interviews with local living veterans.



October Meeting

"Did I Really Read That?"

Lori Fox gave a very interesting and example-filled presentation at our October meeting about really reading our research to make sure we have the right ancestor!



EATON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL MEETING
October 18, 2017

The president, Charles Chamberlain, called the meeting to order at 7:05. There were 18 people in attendance.

Newspaper Project Update (Marcy Cousino):

- The last films for the Springport papers have been returned from New York. There are no additional films to be submitted for digitization at this time. Some of the Dimondale papers are available on a flash drive so they need to go pick up that.

No response has been received from the State of Michigan regarding the purchase of 20 rolls of film.

Society Business (Charles Chamberlain):

- Copies of the proposed 2018 Budget, as prepared by Sheryl Brown, treasurer, were available for review.
- Copies of the proposed changes to the By-Laws, as prepared by Judy Chamberlain and approved by the Board, were available for review. This will be a major change to the By-Laws so everyone was encouraged to read through the document and contact a member of the board if they have any questions. Copies of the current By-Laws were also available should anyone need it.

Marcy Cousino presented the slate of officers for 2018. The new candidates are:

President:	Chris Brown
Vice President:	Jim Kendall
Recording Secretary	Sherry Copenhaver
Trustee	Liz Jones (to serve another 3 years)

The officers who are currently serving are:

Treasurer	Sheryl Brown
Membership Secretary	Dianna Emerson
Corresponding Secretary	Marcy Cousino
Trustee	Shirley Hodges
Trustee	Becky Kendall

A big "Thank You" to the nominating committee, Marcy Cousino, Sharleen Thuma, and Shirley Hodges, for all of their hard work. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the November meeting.



EATON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

GENERAL MEETING

October 18, 2017

Continued

Announcements:

- The business for the November ECGS meeting will include the approval of the 2018 budget, election of officers and approval of the changes to the Bylaws.
- The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to attend this meeting, especially if you have questions regarding the budget or changes to the By-Laws.

There are still seats available for the bus trip to Allen County Public Library on November 4, 2017. The cost is \$30. Jim Collins and Jo Glasgow will be working with Shirley Hodges on the arrangements.

Upcoming events:

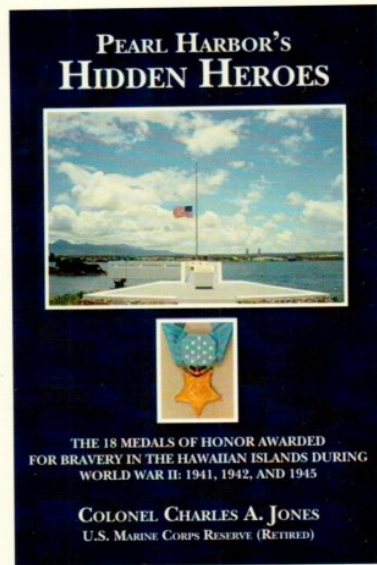
2017 Fall Family History Event - October 21, 2017, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. Visit the Michigan Genealogical Council website www.mimgc.org for registration information.

Thank you to Jim Collins and Jo Glasgow who provided the "spooky" cookies and apple cider. They were very good.

An informative program was presented by Lori Fox on "Did I Really Read That?" Lori told of her experiences in doing research and how just assuming the information you read is correct is not always so. At one point she was looking for a relative and read information in the U.S. Census reports and other documents that made her sure it was this person. However, later she discovered that there was another person with the same name and that dates were similar to those she had for her relative. She emphasized that we need to read things carefully. She also went through various documents such as birth and death records and showed how we need to read all of the information given and that some of it may not always be correct. Read the documents carefully!

The speaker for the November meeting will be Jeff Mason who has graciously consented to fill in for the scheduled speaker Shirley Hodges. His topic will be "Coming to America—Emigration, Immigration and Naturalization".

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017 (note the date change to the second Wednesday). Social/gathering time at 5:30, program at 7:00.



Pearl Harbor's Hidden Heroes by Colonel Charles A. Jones USMCR (Retired) is the story of the 18 Medals of Honor awarded for bravery in the Hawaiian Islands during World War II. Sixteen of the Medals were awarded for December 7, 1941. One was awarded for the Battle of Midway 1942. One was awarded for noncombat bravery in the West Loch of Pearl Harbor in 1945. Finally, the author discusses the special Medal of Honor awarded to Billy Mitchell for foresight in military aviation.

AVAILABLE FROM AMAZON

**CONTACT THE AUTHOR
CAJONESDT@GMAIL.COM**

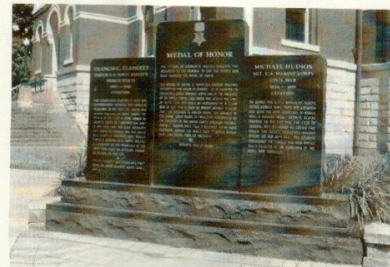
A Brand New Book!

Pearl Harbor's Hidden Heroes

(This 556-page book is available on Amazon for \$25.95.)



The Flaherty IMO. (Photograph courtesy of Chuck Brandon, 2016)



The MOH Memorial at the Eaton County, Michigan, Courthouse; Ensign Flaherty's inscription is at left. (Photograph courtesy of Chuck Brandon, 2016)

Page 481 features Chuck's photos and page 511 shows acknowledgement from ECGS.



By Sherry Copenhaver.

Some time ago, I sent some materials about our Medal of Honor award recipient Frances Flaherty to retired Colonel Charles A. Jones, who was researching him for a book. He was also looking for photos and while I did send some photos, I knew Chuck Brandon had better photos and Chuck did send him photos. His book has now been published and he sent both Chuck and me an autographed copy of this awesome book! I received the book on October 24th, so I have not had time to read the entire book yet, but in skimming it, see pages 128-132 and 411-417 for information on Frances Flaherty.

From Eaton County, Michigan, I received information about Ensign Francis Flaherty from Sherry Copenhaver of the Eaton County Historical Society. Charles Brandon kindly sent me photographs of the county's memorials to Ensign Flaherty.

Mr. James R. Hall, the circulation and advertising assistant at Michigan History magazine, sent me a magazine article mentioning Ensign Flaherty.

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For Sherry—
Semper Fidelis,
Charles A. Jones
Colonel USMCR (Retired)
2 October 2017
Thank you
Please see pages
481 & 511

You Are Invited!

Please join us for the General Meeting of ECGS to be held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. This meeting will include approval of the 2018 Budget, election of the officers for 2018, and major changes to the By-Laws. All members are encouraged to attend.

Social/researching time at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Special speaker : Jeff Mason

The topic is “Coming to America—Emigration, Immigration and Naturalization”.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO BY-LAWS

NOVEMBER 2017

This is a total major revision to the By-Laws. The following are the changes that have been approved by the Board.

ARTICLE #VI, Executive Board,

- Item #1: Delete "and Resource Room Chairperson"
- Add Item #4: When a vote is necessary to conduct any business of the Executive Board, a phone/email vote may be conducted in lieu of an Executive Board Meeting. The results shall be recorded in an approved manner and filed by the Recording Secretary.

Add Item #5: If an Executive Board member is not fulfilling his or her position or whose actions are deemed to be detrimental to the Society, an attempt shall be made to contact that person. If that person cannot be contacted, or after being contacted does not wish to resign, then for the well-being of the Society the Board may remove that person by a majority vote of the membership.

ARTICLE #VIII, Phone/Email Voting

Delete this article. Items #1 and #4 incorporated into Article #VI, Executive Board, as Item #4. Item #2 is to be incorporated into the duties of the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE #IX, Officers

- This Article will become Article #VIII
- Item #1: change the wording in the second sentence to read "The President may appoint committees and chairpersons as deemed necessary with the approval of the Executive Board."

Add item #6: "The duties of the officers, committees and committee chairs shall be delineated in a separate document or documents."

ARTICLE #X, Duties of Officers

Delete this article. The items are to be incorporated into the Duties of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Committees document.

ARTICLE #XI, Committees and Special Officers

Delete this article. To be included in the new Article #VIII, Officers

ARTICLE #XII, Membership Meetings

- This Article will become Article #IX
- Add a new Item #1: The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in November of each year.
- The remaining Items will be renumbered.
- The new Item #2 is reworded as follows: "Regular meetings of the Society shall be held monthly on the third Wednesday of each month between March and October. The November meeting shall be held on the second Wednesday. No meetings will be held in December, January and February.

The new Item #5 is reworded: "The budget and slate of officers shall be presented for consideration one to two months before the annual meeting in November and approved at the annual meeting."

ARTICLE #XIII, Amendments

This Article will become Article #X - No change

ARTICLE #XIV, Dissolution

- This Article will become Article #XI

In Item #1, Board of Directors is changed to Executive Board.

RESIDENT AGENT: To be changed from president to treasurer

October 18, 2017

EATON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY			
2018 PROPOSED BUDGET			
	2017	2018	
	ACTUAL TO DATE		PROPOSED
<u>REVENUE</u>			
Membership	\$ 2,790	\$ 3,000	incl Pay Pal
Donations - Undesignated	\$ 1,025	\$ 600	
Bus Trip Profit	\$ 600	\$ 600	
Frontier Days Profit	\$ 1,321	\$ 1,300	
Photocopies	\$ 106	\$ 100	
Book Sales	\$ 121	\$ 100	
Cem CD's, Certs, Flash Dr, Misc.	\$ 38	\$ 50	
Snack Fund	\$ 700	\$ 700	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 6,701	\$ 6,450	
Pay Pal Account- currently at \$1,828 less \$450 for 2017 membership dues			

Proposed Budget for 2018

EXPENDITURES			
SOCIETY			
BUSINESS EXPENSES			
Room Contents/Liability Insurance	\$ 528	\$ 600	
Postal Box Rental	\$ 88	\$ 88	
Corporations Renewal Fee	\$ 20	\$ 20	
Lease Payments	\$ 600	\$ 600	
Telephone	\$ 1,039	\$ 700	
Sales Tax	\$ 22	\$ 25	
FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT			
Printer			
Toner	\$ 286	\$ 300	
Repair	\$ -	\$ -	
Copy Machine			
Paper	\$ -	\$ 60	
Toner	\$ -	\$ -	
Maint. Agreement	\$ 342	\$ 350	
Repair	\$ -	\$ -	
Technology			
Repair	\$ -	\$ -	
New Computer Equipment	\$ -	\$ 1,000 *	
Web Page	\$ -	\$ 350 *	
Cloud	\$ -	\$ 150 *	
New Software	\$ 388	\$ 200 *	
New Equipment Purchases-scanners	\$ -	\$ 300 *	
DUES			
Chamber of Commerce	\$ -	\$ 60	
Michigan Genealogical Council	\$ 45	\$ 40	
Federation of Genealogical Societies	\$ 55	\$ 55	
PROGRAMS			
Speakers	\$ 175	\$ 300	
Postage & Cards for Meeting Notice	\$ 50	\$ 50	
TOTAL SOCIETY EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,638	\$ 5,248	

OFFICE			
Membership	\$ 200	\$ 200	
Treasurer	\$ -	\$ -	
Miscellaneous Office Supplies	\$ 115	\$ 100	
Printing and Reproduction			
Printing Cemetery Books	\$ -	\$ -	
Printing Funeral Home Books	\$ -	\$ -	
Printing - Other	\$ -	\$ -	
Books and Films			
Books	\$ -	\$ 100	
Microfilms/Digitizing	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENDITURES	\$ 7,591	\$ 6,648	
MISCELLANEOUS			
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	
Volunteer Appreciation Event	\$ 220	\$ 300	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES	\$ 220	\$ 300	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,173	\$ 6,948	
*Less: Technology items to be purchased using the funds in the Pay Pal Account			
	\$ -	\$ (2,000)	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,173	\$ 4,948	
Memo: Newspaper Project: \$1,000 from undesignated donations			

Why Was the Information Removed from Online?

Published from Dick Eastman's "Eastmans Online Genealogy Newsletter"

NOTE: *This is a slightly updated version of an article I published about a year ago. A newsletter reader sent a message to me recently expressing dissatisfaction with records that once were available online but recently have disappeared. I am offering this republished article as an explanation about why we should not be surprised when that happens. I believe that every genealogist should understand why this happens so this article bears repeating every year or two. Please feel free to republish this article in newsletters, message boards, or forward it in email messages as you see fit.*

I will also offer a suggestion as to making sure you keep your own copies of online records that are valuable to you.

A newsletter reader sent an email message to me recently expressing dissatisfaction that a set of images of vital records has been removed from one of the very popular genealogy sites. Indeed, removal of any online records of genealogical value is sad, but not unusual. Changes such as these are quite common on FamilySearch, MyHeritage, Ancestry.com, Fold3, FindMyPast, and many other genealogy sites that provide digital images of old records online. Removal of datasets has occurred dozens of times in the past, and I suspect such things will continue to happen in the future. I thought I would write a brief explanation.

In almost all cases, information of genealogical value obtained from government agencies, religious groups, museums, genealogy societies, and other organizations is provided under contractual agreements. The contracts specify what information is to be provided, how it is to be made available, and what price the web site has to pay to the provider for the records. **All contracts also have a defined expiration date**, typically 2 years or 3 years or perhaps 5 years after the contract is signed.

Why Was the Information Removed from Online?

continued

When a contract nears expiration, the two parties usually attempt to renegotiate the contract. Sometimes renewal is automatic, but more often it is not. Maybe the information provider (the government agency, religious group, museum, genealogy society, and other organization) decides they want more money, or maybe they decide they no longer want to supply the data to the online genealogy service. For instance, in the time the information has been available online, the information provider may have learned just how valuable the information really is. The information provider may decide to ask for more money or may even refuse to provide the information any more since the provider may have a **NEW plan to create their own web site and offer the same information online on their own, new web site for a fee.**

Sure, that stinks for those of us who would like to have the information everywhere; but, it makes sense to most everyone else. I am sure the budget officer at most any state or local government archive thinks it makes sense.

Every contract renegotiation is different, but it is not unusual to agree to disagree. The contract ends, and the web site provider legally **MUST** remove the information from their web site. The same thing frequently happens to all the other online sites that provide old records online.

Moral of this story: If you find a record online that is valuable to you, **SAVE IT NOW!** Save it to your hard drive and make a backup copy someplace else as well. If there is no option to save, make a screen shot and save it on your hard drive or some other place where it will last for many years. Just because you can see the record online today does not mean that it will be available tomorrow.

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 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.

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 www.miegs.org/Symbols.shtml 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 _____
 Shipping & Handling _____
 Total Due _____

Send the above items to (please print)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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.