

Iron County (MI) Genealogical Society  
c/o Iron County Museum  
P. O. Box 272  
Caspian MI 49915-0272



**SOCIETY & MUSEUM HAPPENINGS**

**OCT 6, 2009**

**1:00 PM – WEST IRON DISTRICT LIBRARY  
LUELLA WILLIAMS**

**NOV 3, 2009**

**1:00 PM WEST IRON DISTRICT LIBRARY  
TBA**

**COMING SOON TO THE WEST IRON DISTRICT LIBRARY**

**ANCESTRY.COM LIBRARY EDITION**

**This will allow access for all patrons at the Library to not only the United States holdings, but the United Kingdom, which includes Canada. We will keep you informed.**

**SOCIETY WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

**Soon we hope to have our website on line ready to assist those from out-of-the-area, as well as locals, to find resources that benefit their research.  
[ironcountymigenealogicalsociety.org](http://ironcountymigenealogicalsociety.org)**

**Take an active interest in your Society so we can continue to grow!**

**NEWSLETTER OF THE  
IRON COUNTY (MI) GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2009** **VOL 6, ISSUE #2**

**A NOTE FROM JOAN**

AUGUST 4, 2009 – Meeting 21 in attendance

Dan Hinch presented a program that we called, *POW Camps in the UP*. As soon as the publicity went out folks were talking about the subject. Many had not realized that there had even been POWs imprisoned during WWII in the UP. Many of the CCC camps were put to use to house the prisoners. They worked in the woods and were provided with meals and lodging and generally were treated well. Many even returned to the UP after the war and they had been liberated. Many of the attendees were non-members that enjoyed hearing the topic. Mr. Hinch's presentation was very interesting.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 – Meeting 23 in attendance

One of our own members, Vic Johnson, gave us hints on creating our memoirs. He stressed that we don't need to sit down and write ALL of our life's history chronologically, but do it whenever we are inspired, whether it is a page or two, or several pages. We can jot down thoughts, and divide a notebook into sections once we have several events/stories completed. We put our thoughts on paper then wait a couple days, reread and we will perhaps add additional details we could add. The audience one writes for is often our grandchildren, and we should use the vocabulary that would "appeal" to the readers reading the memoirs. I feel he inspired some of the go home and start some place creating their stories.

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

If you have received a copy of this newsletter, then your dues have been paid. As much as I hate to do it, a few were dropped this month.

The Board decided that we would try using the Internet to send out the Newsletter. We have tried to ask your preference. If you were missed and wish to receive it via snail mail or vice-versa, please let us know. You will find our contact information at the end of the newsletter. This could mean a savings to the Society as postage increases each year.

We ask that you make sure that the newsletter doesn't end up in your SPAM mailbox. When a mass mailing is done, often the carrier marks it as SPAM. Usually the Newsletters are ready to distribute the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month. If there is a problem, let me know.

Now in order to print the newsletter double-sided, many printers will give you an opportunity to print all the even, or odd, pages. You have to feed the paper through twice though. It doesn't take very long this way. If you normally use the print icon on the top tool bar, it does not give you the option of using this method of printing. For best results use the Control (^) key and the letter "P" at the same time. Or you could click on the word "File" on the tool bar and then the drop down menu will show the "Print" option. A drop down menu is available from clicking on "File". If you don't see "Print" right away, click on the bottom arrows and the complete menu will show. If you have problems give me a ring and we will walk you through it. I think this will work with most computers.

The Newsletter itself will be in a .pdf format. It is usually 17 pages of information; the last (18<sup>th</sup>) page is the address page. Another advantage of receiving the newsletter by e-mail is that you should be able to click on the website addresses, which will usually show

up as blue, and it will link you to that site. If it is one that you want to keep, make note of the address; otherwise forget it. Page 18 is separate. I haven't yet figured out how to include it without the Heading!

*(HINT: I have a small file box with my website addresses and then put down my registration name and password, if that is necessary – jhm)*

#### ANCESTRY.COM LIBRARY EDITION

Through the generosity of the Friends of the Library, as well as the West Iron District Library Board, the library patrons will be having access to this program on the Library's computers. It will only allow us free access to the United States and United Kingdom, which does include Scotland, Ireland and Canada.

Once this has been established it is hoped that we can schedule sessions where we can help others as we did at the High School a couple years ago.

This is an expensive undertaking, so please make use of it when possible. And PLEASE support our library and the Friends of the Library to show our appreciation.

IRONCOUNTYMIGENEALOGICALSOCIETY.ORG – This is expected to be the name for the new website created for our Society. It is in the works now and we will most definitely keep you posted as to what is happening with it. If you have suggestions as to what you would like to see on it, let one of the committee members know. Serving on the Website Construction Site committee will be Diane Egan, Kris Graves, Margaret McCarthy, Dale Safford and myself with Marla Bradley of North Country Website Design creating the site to our specifications and needs. We are excited about this new happening.



#### **FROM OUR MAILBOX – QUARTERLIES, NEWSLETTERS & OTHER MEDIA**

*Quoted below are some of the hints, announcements, warnings, etc., found in periodicals and other media perused by the Editor, or received from other individuals. Please don't hesitate to use the material, especially if they are from an area of interest to you. The ICMGS does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of content.*

#### **ANCESTRY.COM MONTHLY UPDATE – SEPT 2009**

##### **“DISCOVER YOUR NEW YORK HERITAGE**

“Because millions of people immigrated through New York, there are millions more of us who can trace our ancestry back to this cultural, philosophical and religious melting pot.

“In honor of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the discovery of the Hudson River, we have added three more record collections from New York:

- New York Census Mortality Schedules, 1850-1880 (records of those who died in the 12 months preceding the census.
- New York Naturalization Record Indexes, 1906-1966
- City Directories for Albany, Buffalo, and other New York Cities”

##### **“ONTARIO, CANADA, MARRIAGE REGISTERS BY CLERGY, 1896-1948**

“After the Registration Act was passed in Canada in 1896, clergymen were required to record vital events for all the individuals in their charge. This collection contains 18

volumes of marriages recorded by clergy in Ontario, Canada. The records include the name of the bridegroom and bride, age, residency when married, place of birth, parents' names of bridegroom and bride, and place and date of the marriage. This collection was keyed by Ancestry.com World Archives Project contributors."

### **ANCESTRY MAGAZINE, SEPT/OCT, 2008**

"CREATE A VIDEO BIOGRAPHY by Maureen A. Taylor

"Did you know that items you already own—digital camera, scanner, editing software—plus a few simple instructions can help you make a video biography? Pick a family-member subject and try for yourself.

SCRIPT. Outline key points of your subject's life. Scan pictures and transfer films to digital format to enhance the story.

SOUND. Prepare a list of questions for on-camera interviews. If your subject is deceased, have people read snippets from manuscripts.

SHOOT. Film shots of family homesteads, schools, and important places in your subject's life.

EDIT. Put everything together; then screen it for the family or put the video on your family history web site.

"SOUNDS OLD

How long can a voice recording last? The oldest known one has survived 140 years. Discovered last March, the 1860 recording was captured by a phonograph, which etched the sound of 'Au Claire de la Lune' into soot-covered paper. While playback was awkward, the recording's discoverer, audio historian David Giovannoni, told the AP, 'It was magical, so ethereal.' Hear it at <[www.firstsounds.org/sounds](http://www.firstsounds.org/sounds)> ,

### **ANCESTRY MAGAZINE, JULY/AUG 2009**

LOU'S CLUES – HIDING IN THE STATES, written by Loretto (Lou) Dennis Szucs, Executive Editor. Ms. Szucs talks about the recent addition of a website that has digitized and made available online indexes to Illinois deaths (pre-1916), Illinois marriages (1763-1900), and Cook County Coroner's Inquest Records (1876-1911). The indexes led her to actual Cook County Records held within the Illinois Regional Archives Depository System.

She mentions the fact that other states are following suit and more and more records are being made available to us. When was the last time you checked for your state of interest?

"A NEW WHO FOR YOUR FAMILY TREE

"Want to see what Ancestry.com has in store for the people in your family tree? Check out <http://trees.ancestrydev.com/preview/tree/preview> for a glimpse of upcoming changes that will help you research faster, navigate more efficiently, and stay on track better than ever.

- A new Facts and Sources tab makes it easier for you to keep track of sources, facts, and evidence associated with this person.
- Most pages sport a 'Show immediate family' link so you can always put your people in context.
- Improved site navigation lets you find what you're looking for with fewer clicks and do more while remaining on the profile page.

- Per user request, photos have been moved above the timeline. A new media gallery shows the media (photos, recordings, scanned images) you've added.
- General information about the person stays at the top of the page.

#### "DNA DILEMMA

"Want to take a DNA test but concerned you won't know what to do with the results? Ancestry.com DNA is making it even easier to understand your results with its new test results tutorial. Once your results come in, you'll be greeted with a step-by-step tutorial that helps you understand your results and explains what to do next to get the most from your DNA test. Need a little more incentive to swab your cheek today? Maybe a price drop will do the trick: now you can take the Y-33 test for only \$79.00 (previously \$149)."

#### "COMPLETELY CANADIAN

"What do 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901, 1906, 1911, and 1916 have in common? They're all of the years of Canadian censuses available to researchers, and for the first time, each one is indexed, imaged, and ready for you to search through online at Ancestry.com (and Ancestry.ca) thanks to a partnership with the Library and Archives Canada. This includes the 1916 prairie census of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, which made its online debut this year, as well as other recent additions: 1861, 1871, and 1881 censuses countrywide.

"The nine historical Canadian census collections contain more than 1.3 million images of original documents listing 32 million names, and an estimated 50 percent of living Canadians will have ancestors in the collection. Some famous Canadians whose ancestors you'll find include singer Alanis Morissette, Prime Minister Stephen Harper, and actress Pamela Anderson."

#### "DEAD MEN TELL TALES by Paula Stuart-Warren, CG

"Mortality schedules, which often predate state-recorded death certificates, are just one example of special census schedules that can provide clues for further research. But with mortality schedules, like this 1880 schedule from Marshall County, Kansas, you get an added bonus; details pertaining to events that happened in the 365 days before the census was taken. What should you look for?" The rest of the article illustrates a mortality schedule and where there are clues for you to seek.

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D writes about John 'Jake' Henderson Gray. The title of the article is ONE MAN, TWO NAMES, THREE FAMILIES AND MUCH INTRIGUE. Jake died in the 1970s and this details parts of his life as well as telling about the double lives of other famous individuals. The article follows up with this tidbit – IS THERE A SPY IN YOUR FAMILY TREE?

Then Ms. Fitzpatrick has another article in this issue, ARE THOSE FAKES IN YOUR SHOEBOX? Included is the revealing information that the famous photo of the Loch Ness monster is a fake. Oh, how disappointing!

#### "FAMILY PLANNING.

"Have a reunion coming up but not sure how to find out more about a distant family hometown?" The Ancestry Sleuth tells you how local historical and genealogical societies can help. Lisa Arnold, The Ancestry Sleuth, answers a question from a reader.

"DOWN A SILENT TRAIL – More than 120 years ago, the government delved into the family lives of the deaf community. Discover why and how the information collected can help you with your research for both hearing and deaf relatives today."

### **NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO GEN SOC, VOL 41, 6, JAN 2009**

#### **CGS SURNAME DATABASE**

"As of the writing of this newsletter, the new CGS Surname Database is being finalized by our technical experts. The database includes over 1,000 surnames from our members. We anticipate that the project will be available on the society's website by January 1<sup>st</sup>!"

#### **COOK COUNTY MARRIAGES ON FAMILYSEARCH LABS**

"From: The Newberry Library news announcement, Dec 4, 2008.

"FamilySearch Labs has added an index and digital images of Cook County marriage certificates to its Record Search tool. When complete, the digitized certificates will cover the years 1871-1920. This is great news for Cook County researchers!

<http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/>

### **NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO GEN SOC, VOL 41, #7, FEB 2009**

#### **NATIONAL ARCHIVES-GREAT LAKES REGION RECORDS OFTEN OVERLOOKED**

"From: News from the National Archives-Great Lakes Region, Jan 2009

"The National Archives-Great Lakes Region has several record groups about the conscription of men into the military. Often overlooked is the fact that many people who did not serve in the military are also found in these records of the Selective Service System, which was established in 1940 to provide an orderly, just, and democratic method of obtaining men for military and naval service. This record group includes the draft cards of all men born between the years of 1897 to 1957 who registered for the draft between October 16, 1940 and the cessation of the draft in 1975. ....

..... "Selective Service records found in Record Group 147 are restricted to the registrant under the Privacy Act unless the researcher can provide proof that the person in question is deceased. Other records include Record Group 110 – Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau, covering the Civil War years of 1863 to 1865; and the cards, classification ledgers, local board docketts, and list of draftees, delinquents, and deserters kept by the Selective Service System (Record Group 163), covering the years 1917-1919."

### **NEWSLETTER OF THE CHICAGO GEN SOC, VOL 42, #2, SEPT 2009**

Mentioned in this issue is the fact that two IL Research Facilities have schedule changes. Please contact them to ascertain the correct time schedule.

IL State Archive – <http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/Saturdays.html>

Lincoln Presidential Library – <http://www.alplm.com/library/library.html>

#### **KIDDIELAND TO CLOSE**

"Chicago area's oldest amusement park, Kiddieland, is closing at the end of this 2009 season. Last day of operation will be September 27<sup>th</sup> with a closing ceremony Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. The family amusement park has operated since 1929 and has been a tradition for many Chicago families. Check out the Kiddieland website:

<http://www.kiddieland.com/default.asp>

"The website has a great history section as well as a memories and guest book section."

### **DICKINSON DIGGINGS, VOL XXVIII #3, AUG 2009**

Editor, Bill Cummings, has copied pages from R.K. POLK'S MI GAZETTEER AND BUSINESS DIRECTORY for the time period of 1879, 1881, 1885, 1887-1888, 1889, 1891-1892, 1895-1896, 1901, 1903 up to 1928. Then he took a few pages from BUNN & SIMONS' IRON MOUNTAIN CITY DIRECTORY 1892-1894.

Under NEWS FROM SAGOLA – NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA, Vol 9, #19 (sic #20) Thurs, Oct 6, 1904) Page 5, Col 3, I note this article – "Stanley Gomney, of Sagola, and Miss Viola Dishaw, of Crystal Falls, were married last week at the home of the bride's parents and will make their home in Sagola."

### **GEN NEWS (DOUGLAS CO GEN CLUB), VOL 4:8, AUGUST 2009**

"There are many abbreviations used in Military records. Bev Learn sends this along to help your research.

+	Reported died in service	Suing	Surgeon
*	Reported deserted	Adj.	Adjutant
c	Reported captured	Qrm.	Quartermaster
Gen.	General	Comm.	Commissary
Col.	Colonel	Intr.	Interpreter
Maj.	Major	Chpl	Chaplain
Capt.	Captain	Corn.	Cornet
Lt.	Lieutenant	Armr.	Armourer
Ens.	Ensign	(b)	Place of birth
Sgt.	Sergeant (sic – Sargeant)	(d)	Year(s) not given, year(s) provided taken from date of endorsement of muster roll
Corp.	Corporal		
Pvt.	Private		
Clrk.	Clerk	Cty	County
Drum.	Drummer	Trhy.	Regiment
Trum.	Trumpeter	Gun.	Gunner
		Co.	Company

### **"WEBSITE TO CHECK OUT**

"From Jackie Plunkett – [www.linkpendium.com](http://www.linkpendium.com). It has a lot of genealogy links, and it cover the world. I checked out Douglas County and was amazed what was there that I had never come across before, I'm going back and check out some other states and countries. Check it out. Have fun."

### **EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER, JULY-AUGUST 2008**

MUSINGS GLEANINGS FROM THE WORLD OF HISTORY AND GENEALOGY, by Richard L. Hooverson A regular column in the magazine.

*In January I ran out of space to finish up Mr. Hooverson's article and will conclude it with quoting this item – jhm)*

"IF SHE HAVE PRUDENCE AND GOOD SENSE

"A supplement to the 11 July 1846 issue of *The Courant* of Hartford, Connecticut, carried marital advice concerning the conduct of husbands and wives. It said, in part:

- A good husband will always regard his wife as his equal, treat her with kindness, respect and attention, and never address her with an air of authority, as if she were, as some husbands appear to regard their wives, a mere housekeeper.
- He will never allow himself to lose his temper towards her, by indifferent cookery, or irregularity in the hours of meals, or any other mismanagement of the servants, knowing the difficulty of making them do their duty.
- If she have prudence and good sense, he will consult her on all great operations involving the risk of ruin, or serious injury in case of failure. Many a man has been rescued from ruin by the wise counsel of his wife.
- A good wife will always receive her husband with smiles—leave nothing undone to render home agreeable, and gratefully reciprocate kindness and attention.
- She will never attempt to rule or appear to rule her husband. Such conduct degrades husbands—and wives partake of degradation of their husbands.
- She will in every thing reasonably comply with his wishes and as far as possible anticipate them.

"Perhaps the whole art of happiness in the married state might be compressed in two maxims "Bear and forbear" – and let the husband treat his wife, and the wife her husband, with as much respect and attention as he would a strange lady, and she would a gentleman."

Now Mr. Hooverson includes this...

"Note: The author of this 'Musings and Gleanings' column wishes to state for the record, and hopes that his wife will take careful notice, that he has no thoughts or opinions, whatsoever, concerning the merits of any of the above rules.)"

#### ONE OLD LETTER – WESLEY'S LEGACY by Alice L. Luckhardt

The author had known nothing about this branch of her mother's family until a small letter written in 1863 by a Union soldier appeared amongst some papers. She describes how she learned about this soldier and his connection to their family. Is there an elusive Civil War soldier in your family?

QUEBEC CITY CELEBRATES ITS 400<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY by Elizabeth Lapointe. We have many French-Canadians here in Iron County and this article should give you a few hints on where to look for additional information. It mentioned that Celine Dion would be singing to an audience on the Plains of Abraham. (*Remember this was written in 2008*) and other events were planned. Many of the local French-Canadians will probably be able to trace their lines back to the ancestor for which the Plains were named. Ms Lapointe has a website, [www.GenealogyCanada.com](http://www.GenealogyCanada.com) which covers Canadian genealogy, history, and heritage news.

Continued in this issue – STATEWIDE NAME LISTS OF THE CIVIL WAR ERA, 1861-1869 – PART ELEVEN, by William Dollarhide. The issue contains VA, (state of) WA, WV, WI and WY.

With all the French-Canadians in the area, this should be of interest to some of our readers – HOW TO SEARCH FOR ANCESTORS IN FRANCE by Catherine Clause.



Regarding Germanic Research, we have COMPUTER TRANSLATION OF OLD CHURCH BOOK ENTRIES: What Quality Can We Expect? By Roger P. Minert, Ph.D., A.G.

MILITARY CEMETERIES OVERSEAS by Donna Potter Phillips. This article appears in the *Beginner's Corner* but I am sure folks with all kinds of experience could make use of the information contained on these pages.

To quote a paragraph from the beginning of the article...."Presently there are 124,917 U.S. war dead interred at these cemeteries; 30,922 are from World War I; 93,245 are from World War II; and 750 are from the Mexican War."

Leland K. Meitzler's usual NEWS TO PERUSE again is full of interesting items. Some I will quote, others I will let you check them out personally.

#### "ANCESTRY.DE POSTS 500+ CITY DIRECTORIES

Ancestry has now posted a total of 540 German city directories containing about 27,000,000 names. This data is available to all those with a membership to Ancestry.de or a World Deluxe Ancestry.com from the late 1800s and early to mid-1900s. Genealogists can browse all of the German directories or search the Ancestry Card Catalog by keyword to locate directories.

"In searching for 'Meitzler' in Germany, I just typed the name, 'Meitzler' in the Search Databases—Last Name box on the left hand side of the German Directories & Member Lists screen. Clicking on the 'Search' button brought up Meitzler in a number of categories. Scrolling down the screen, I came to Directories and Member Lists. Clicking on 'View' all 25 results,' at the end of that category gave me a list of 10 German Directories with 25 Meitzler listings. Good stuff!"

*From the March 21, 2008 edition of GermanGenealogyBlog.com"*

#### MISSOURI DEATH CERTIFICATES 1910-1957 DIGITIZING PROJECT

"The State of Missouri has now posted the digitized images of the Missouri Death Certificates dating from 1910 through 1957. I've written about the project before, but now that it's complete, you might want to take another look. See:

[www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/](http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/deathcertificates/)

"An Ozarks Genealogical Society posting on the Internet stated that The Missouri Death Certificate Database contains over 2.1 million death certificates and that the project was completed a year ahead of schedule. They also announced that over 600 students and volunteers from across the U.S. and other countries spent 32,810 hours preparing certificates for scanning as well as entering data into the index.

*From the March 21, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

#### VIETNAM MEMORIAL DATA FREE AT FOOTNOTE.COM

"The Vietnam Memorial data (all wall images) are now at Footnote.com—and accessible free of charge. The cool thing is that we can add comments and pictures to the website—and I took the opportunity to add a note.

"William Hobert was the only young man from our small community of Orting, Pierce County, Washington, to be killed in Vietnam. He was several years older than I was and I did not know him well. I do remember his coming by my house with a friend not long before he was drafted—and then shipped off to 'Nam. He only survived about three weeks before he was killed. He is now buried in the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno, California.

"A few years ago, I was in Washington D.C. and looked up his name on the wall. I'm thankful that Footnote has added this to their website. We need to remember our fallen friends and neighbors—and this makes it a bit easier to do....

*From the March 23, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

Here's one I'll let you check out yourself ---

OBAMA RELATED TO BRAD PITT, WHILE RODHAM-CLINTON IS RELATED TO JOLIE. I heard it said that if you want your Family Tree done, run for a political office!

"ROOTSTELEVISION.COM WINS FOUR TELLY AWARDS IN ITS FIRST YEAR

" From Provo, UT, March 28, 2008 – RootsTelevision.com, an online channel dedicated to all aspects of genealogy and family history, has been recognized in the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Telly Awards for four of its original productions. Selected from more than 14,000 shows were 'DNA Stories: A Tale of Two Fathers' (documentary), 'Heir Jordan: Extreme Genealogy' (entertainment), 'Roots Books: Psychic Roots' (talk show), and 'Flat Stanley's Family Tree' (children's audience).

"We're delighted," said RootsTelevision.com co-founder, Marcy Brown. 'To receive this kind of recognition during our first year of existence is remarkable, and winning in four different categories is even more astonishing. We take this as an indication that our decision to pioneer online programming for the substantial but neglected niche of million genealogists was a risk worth taking.'

"The four winning shows include an episode of "DNA Stories," a series that focuses on the exploding hobby of genetic genealogy and shows how avid roots-seekers are using DNA testing to solve family history riddles. The award-winning "Tale of Two Fathers" episode features Bob Zins and his efforts to determine whether the man who raised him was really his father. "Heir Jordan: Extreme Genealogy" showcases the unexpected twin talents of Jordan Auslander, who's both a professional genealogist and stand-up comic. "Roots Books," a talk show hosted by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, received its award for the especially popular "Psychic Roots" episode that centers on a discussion of the role of serendipity in genealogy between Sharon and popular speaker and author, Hank Jones. And "Flat Stanley's Family Tree" follows the beloved children's character as he explores his colonial roots in Williamsburg, Virginia and his gold rush roots in California.

"Founded in 1978, The Telly is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional and cable TV programs, as well as the finest video and film productions. The Telly Awards, a highly respected international competition, annually showcases the best work of the most respected production companies in the world.

*From the Rootstelevision.com newsletter"*

"FINDMYPAST.COM COMPLETES ANCESTORSONBOARD PASSENGER LISTS

"Leading UK family history website, FindMyPast.com, has completed its project to scan and index the complete set of outbound passenger lists for long-distance voyages from all British ports between 1890 and 1960."

*From the April 3, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

If this is something that might hold a few references for you, check it out.

"COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS RECORDS TO GO ONLINE!

"According to an article in Sunday's Chicago's *Sun Times*, 26 million records can now be accessed by computer in Cook County Clerk, David Orr's office. It is planned that at least a

large portion of these records will be available online sometime this summer. According to the county, eight million of the records are considered genealogical.

"The upgrade will let people search for their relatives from their home computers and print out documents for a fee. The system will mark the clerk's first attempt at charging the \$15 vital record fee online.

*From the April 16, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

*(I tried this, found the birth record of an adoptee, ordered it and within 15 minutes was able to download a copy the actual document. Give it a try - jhm)*

#### "THE DROUIN COLLECTION OF FRENCH-CANADIAN FAMILY HISTORY RECORDS POSTED AT ANCESTRY.COM

"Ancestry.ca recently posted the Drouin Collection of French-Canadian family history records. Included are:

- Quebec Vital and Church Records
- Quebec Notarized Records
- Acadia Catholic Church Records
- Ontario Catholic Church Records
- Early U.S. French Catholic Church Records
- Miscellaneous French Records

"The following is from the website:

"Joseph Drouin founded the Drouin Genealogical Institute (Institut Généalogique Drouin) in 1899 and began publishing family books based on the vital records he gathered. Eventually his son Gabriel took over for him.

"The Drouin Collection represents the largest and most valuable French-Canadian family history resources available, including an impressive collection of Quebec vital records. The collection ranges from the beginning of European settlement to the 1940s and includes nearly 15 million records marking the history of Quebec families over three centuries, as well as virtually all church records including Catholic parish records of Quebec.

"The recent completion of the Drouin index for this section means a dramatically improved searching experience. Now search by name as well as province, parish, and time period and find online versions of the actual historical documents.

*From the April 16, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

#### "ANCESTRY TO DIGITIZE INS PASSENGER LISTS 1897-1958 & DEATH NOTICES OF CITIZENS ABROAD 1835-1975 AT NARA

This will be a joint venture between Ancestry.com and NARA. A press release is included and the story is summed up with this comment.

"For more than a decade, Ancestry.com and NARA have collaborated to make important historical records available to the public, demonstrating their dovetailing commitment to preserving America's heritage. Ancestry.com currently has the largest online collection of digitized and indexed NARA content, including the complete U.S. Federal Census Collection, 1790-1930, passenger lists from 1820-1960 and WWI and WWII draft registration cards. Through this new agreement, Ancestry.com and NARA have greatly enhanced their working relationship. More on the agreement and the long-term relationship between Ancestry.com and NARA can be found at [www.ancestry.com/nara](http://www.ancestry.com/nara)."

The full article came *From the May 21, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

CORONERS & GENEALOGISTS JOIN FORCES IN NEW SHOW FINDING 'UNCLAIMED PERSONS'.

In the event you missed the information when I wrote of this new opportunity to use your skills as a genealogist last month, you should check out this article. I am not sure if the two websites associated with this show were listed.

"Unclaimed Persons can be viewed at [www.RootsTelevision.com](http://www.RootsTelevision.com) and more information is available at [www.rootstelevision.com/unclaimed\\_persons.php](http://www.rootstelevision.com/unclaimed_persons.php).

*From the May 28, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

There is an ad for Genealogical Studies.com, which allows one to take courses on the Internet. You might want to see about these courses, they are for beginners and professionals.

Jeffrey A. Bockman contributes the contents for EVERTON'S BEST RATED GENEALOGY SITES.

Under NATIONAL DIGITAL DOCUMENT DATABASES

<http://search.labs.familysearch.org/recordsearch/start.htm> - (Free site) there are many listings for different types of databases. One that I thought might interest our readers -

"Vital Records

"Some of these vital record indexes are also available at state websites. Since many of these are still projects in progress, there may be data at the labs.familysearch.org site that are not yet included at the state websites and therefore some links to images may not yet be operational. There may also be additional data at the state websites so be sure to check both sources and recheck them in the future if known events have not been found."

- **Michigan Births 1867-1902.** Search by name to view the county birth registers. Between 1867 and 1879 only about 15 to 20 percent of all births were recorded. That increased to 60 to 70 percent between 1880 and 1902.
- **Michigan Deaths 1867-1897.** Search by the name of the deceased. These are the County Death registries that were usually completed by interview during the following year. Accuracy of the information really depended upon the informant and their memory. They include the name, age, death date and place, birth place, occupation, and the parent's name.
- **Michigan Marriages 1868-1925.** Searches include the names of the bride and groom, plus their parents. Images of the county marriage registry also include their age, birthplace, occupation, and parent's names along with the witnesses. It also has both the certificate and marriage dates."

Under the section, *NET FAMILY HISTORY* we have the article by Jeffrey A. Bockman, *YOUR FAMILY - ONLINE & LINKED?* This article deals with both sides of the family issue - finding a posted Family line, or posting your own Family line. Mr. Bockman has subject headings of: Posting Information?; Quality of Information; Where to Post?; Discovery; Ease of Use; Other Places, (where he talks about DNA); Build and Maintain Online; Collaboration; Ownership; Social Networking; Lost in the Woods; Family Tree Websites (with a description of the Top 50 sites and information if they are paid sites, or free); and then he finishes up with Your Family Online?

Each issue of Everton's contains *BUREAU OF MISSING ANCESTORS* and it is easy to check if one of your ancestors is listed because each issue contains an excellent index for each issue as well as a list of advertisers. The submitted listings are also displayed on Everton's website ([www.everton.com](http://www.everton.com)) which should give one a huge exposure, over 100,000, in fact. Create a list of surnames where you need some help and then each issue compare your list with the index.

*ON THE HORIZON* lists upcoming genealogy related seminars, workshops, conferences and institutes by locations and date. Will you be traveling to a particular area this winter – maybe you will be able to take advantage of these programs that can prove very enlightening. There's even a listing of cruises with genealogy related lessons, workshops, etc.

### **EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER, SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2008**

#### **"FINDMYPAST.COM LAUNCHES ONLINE PARISH RECORDS COLLECTION**

"Online access to millions of nationwide parish baptism, marriage and burial records pre-dating the civil registration of birth, marriage, and deaths.

"UK family history website [findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com) today announced it is adding the parish records from over 1,000 parishes across Britain to its existing collection of online family history records, offering online access to baptism, marriage, and burial records dating as far back as 1538.

"From today, over 15 million parish burial records and memorial inscriptions will be available to view at [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com), with a total of seven million baptism, marriage, and probate records being made available online later this year. The parish records collection brings together in one easy-to-search central place the disparate records from local parishes, which have been collated by local family history societies since 1911, coordinated by the Federation of Family History Societies.

"The registers are particularly valuable sources of information for people seeking to research their family tree back further than the civil records of birth, marriage, and death, which began in 1837, and the 19<sup>th</sup> century censuses.

"Complementing the records from the National Burial Index and the complete registration of death indexes (1837-2006), which are also available to view at [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com), the parish burial registers are a valuable source of information for family historians and genealogists looking to discover details about their ancestors, such as key dates, relatives of the deceased and the place of abode.

"Thanks to the cross-database search facility at [findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com), you will be able to search for your ancestor by surname across the parish records on the site without needing to know where in the country they came from, helping people to delve even deeper into their ancestors' pasts.

"Elaine Collins, Commercial Director at [findmypast.com](http://findmypast.com) said: 'The parish registers are a key resource for people looking to trace their family tree as far back as the early 16th century and will help open up new avenues of research for family historians across the country from the comfort of their own home.

"With another series of Who Do You Think You Are? due to air this year, family history is more popular than ever and the extension of historical records being made available to view online will help even more people find out more about their ancestors and family tree."

*From the July 10, 2008 edition of GenealogyBlog.com"*

**EVERTON'S GENEALOGICAL HELPER, JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009**

An advertisement appearing in this issue for European Focus tells that they have more than 200,000 images taken since 1989 in 15 countries in Europe and are now available for purchase. Check their website [www.europeanfocus.com](http://www.europeanfocus.com) and click on "Archive".

**ILLINOIS STATE GEN SOC QUARTERLY, VOL 41, #1, SPRING 2009**

THE ROBERT R. McCORMICK RESEARCH CENTER: MILITARY RECORDS AND MORE by Mary J. Manning. Ms. Manning is the Reference Librarian of this Research Center located at Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL. This was the country estate and mansion of Colonel McCormick, who was the "guiding light and editor of the Chicago Tribune from 1911 to 1955." The Center has emphasis on the First Division from WWI and is named after the Battle of Cantigny, France. Col. McCormick was commander of the 1st Battalion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery.

I have visited this location when one of our first family reunions was held there. Lovely site, and interesting to the older children. Boys are always fascinated with cannons and tanks and genealogists always enjoy records, in this case, military.

MILITARY SEPARATION PAPERS AS A RECORD SOURCE, by Jeanne Larzalere Bloom.

"On 12 July 1973 a fire at the National Personnel Record Center (NPRC) destroyed between 16 to 18 million Official Military Personnel Files. The files destroyed included almost 80 percent of the Army files for personnel discharged between 1 November 1912 and 1 January 1960 and 25 percent of the Air Force files for 25 September 1947 to 1 January 1964. There were no duplicate copies of these files nor had microfilm copies been made of the files.

"The NPRC must use alternate sources to reconstruct basic service information. It has a pending workload of 45,000 requests and receives approximately 4,000 requests per day. To reconstruct a file, may take 6 months or more to complete. The average time is about 4.5 weeks to complete.

"There is an alternative approach. 'Each county in the United States was required to record the honorable discharge of soldiers and sailors who served in World War I and World War II. Some discharges for the Civil War and Philippine Insurrection are also on record, as well as some dishonorable and medical discharges.' "Issued since 1 January 1950, the Defense Department Form 214 (DD form 214) is a document of the United States armed forces, issued by the Department of Defense, upon a military service member's separation or discharge from active military duty. Before 1 January 1950 similar forms were used by the military services.

"The primary purpose of the Report of Separation is to verify military service for benefits, retirement, employment, membership in veterans' organizations. The 'DD form 214 is widely regarded as one of the most important documents in the military as it is a complete record of a service member's time in the military, awards and medals, and other pertinent service information such as promotions, combat service or overseas service, and Military Occupational Specialty identifiers.

"The information contained in the DD form 214 can be very valuable for family historians. The form could include: home address at time of entry, birth date and place, occupation and employment before enlistment, marital status, and education.

"In the state of Illinois before January 2004, DD form 214s were public records. This is no longer true. The Illinois General Assembly amended the Act. The new regulations

provided that military discharge forms (DD form 214) were no longer a public record, were not subject to public inspection, and were now deemed confidential.

If you should need to use these records as a resource, I suggest you check out this issue and pay attention to the instructions. The documentation for this article is listed at the end also.

**AURORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY: AN OVERVIEW OF ITS GENEALOGICAL RESOURCE HOLDINGS** contributed by Oriene Morrow Springstroh.

This is one article that I have to copy for my research files. My French-Canadian grandparents arrived in Aurora in about 1882. I feel from the godparents shown on baptismal records, there are also kinfolk are they were from the same village in Canada. So I will try to convince Charlie we need to travel to Aurora one day.

One resource listed that is at the Museum are Sanborn Maps. This description of the Sanborn maps is helpful as the maps were created for urbanized areas.

#### "SANBORN MAPS

"Originally created for assessing fire insurance, Sanborn maps were created to estimate liability in urbanized areas in the United States. The maps include detailed information regarding town and building information in approximately 12,000 U.S. towns and cities from 1867 to 1970. They are a highly useful resource for genealogical research.

"The Sanborn Company began making fire insurance maps in 1867 when founded by Daniel Alfred Sanborn, a surveyor from Somerville, Massachusetts. The Sanborn Company sent out legions of surveyors to record the building footprints and relevant details about these buildings in all major urbanized areas regarding their fire liability. It was because of these details and the accuracy of the Sanborn maps, coupled with the Sanborn Company's standardized symbolization and aesthetic appeal that made the Sanborn Company so successful and their maps so widely utilized.

"The Sanborn maps themselves are large-scale lithographed street plans at a scale of 50 feet to one inch (1:6000) on 21 inch by 25 inch sheets of paper. The maps were created in volumes, bound and then updated until the subsequent volume was produced. Larger cities would have multiple volumes. The volumes contain an enormous amount of information. They are organized as follows: a decorative title page, an index of streets and addresses, a 'specials' index with the names of churches, schools, businesses etc., and a master index indicating the entirety of the mapped area and the sheet numbers for each large-scale map (usually depicting four to six blocks) and general information such as population, economy and prevailing wind direction. The maps include outlines of each building and outbuilding, the location of windows and doors, street names, street and sidewalk widths, property boundaries, fire walls, natural features (rivers, canals, etc.), railroad corridors, building use (sometimes even particular room uses), house and block number, as well as the composition of building materials including the framing, flooring, and roofing materials, the strength of the local fire department, indications of sprinkler systems, locations of fire hydrants, location of water and gas mains and even the names of most public buildings, churches and companies.

"The very decision as to how much, if any, insurance was to be offered to a customer was often determined solely through the use of a Sanborn map. Used in conjunction with city directories for determining your ancestor's address in a large city, Sanborn maps help to offer much local color to your family's history by providing a bird's eye view of the house they lived in."

#### "ILLINOIS NEWSPAPERS AVAILABLE ON INTERLIBRARY LOAN

"Still looking for obituaries and gossip about your early Illinois ancestors? Did you know that the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's collection includes 4,900 Illinois newspaper titles, which are preserved on nearly 73,000 microfilm reels? As the mandated newspaper repository in Illinois, the Library holds titles from all 102 counties. Many of the newspapers date from the early and mid-nineteenth century, and more than 300 newspapers are currently received through subscription.

"The collection may be searched online at the Illinois Newspaper Project site at <http://www.illinoishistory.gov/lib/newspaper.htm>. Researchers may borrow newspapers on microfilm through interlibrary loan or search at the library during its regular hours. The site offers the opportunity to view the newspapers held by the library by Illinois city or county, with a description of the publication dates and other details appearing in Word format for easy printing. The Library's newspaper collection has been cataloged through the nationwide program funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Further information about this valuable resource is available at the website:

<http://www.illinoishistory.gov/lib/newspaper.htm>

#### **LAKE SUPERIOR ROOTS, (MARQUETTE MI), VOL 22 #1, FEB 2009**

The continued listing of CHASE INTERVIEWS, in this issue goes from O'Dell to Rickman.

A newspaper clipping from the *Daily Mining Journal*, Jan 19, 1907, pg 10, possibly explains why a birth record does not exist for a person. The heading, CHARGED WITH FAILURE TO FILE BIRTH RECORDS, Marquette Physicians will watch outcome of test cases, which may be brought this year.

From ALEXANDRIA, Charles to KING, Elvin we find the Index for the 1870 Birth Records.

#### **LAKELAND AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, VOL 21, #4, JULY 2009**

Originally appearing in Ancestry.com

"FIND YOUR PARENTS IN THE 1940 CENSUS SUBSTITUTE by Jana Lloyd, 12 March 2009.

"We've recently released the 1940 Census Substitute with more than 2,000 city directories ranging from 1935 to 1945. This collection will help you research your parents, grandparents, and other relatives from the 1940s-era, until the 1940 U.S. Census is released in 2012.

"Although city directories do not have quite as much detail about individuals as censuses—you'll likely find heads of households listed, along with their address and occupations—they offer something more: a vivid portrayal of your family member's neighborhood and community. Plus, if you have multiple directories for one city, you can use them to trace the migration of your family through the years.

#### "City Directories—What are They?

"City directories are precursors to modern-day phonebooks. Depending on who created the directory and when it was created, it will contain different information.

"However, most directories contain the name of all of the adult residents in the town, along with their street addresses and occupations. (Adult children living with their parents are often listed, though not always. Wives' first names are generally listed in parenthesis beside their husband's name.)



"They also contain listings for all the streets in town, along with boundary descriptions. There are usually sections listing government offices, churches, civic and fraternal organizations, and businesses.

"Often there is a description of the town—population, geography, major industries, etc. And, as with modern-day phonebooks, there are generally lots of advertisements.

"Occasionally you will find photographs of major businesses, churches, schools, or other institutions."

*"City Directories—The Portrait of a Town*

"If you take the time to peruse all the portions of a city directory, instead of just looking for names, you can get a great idea of the time and place your ancestor was living in.

"LOCATING AND SEARCHING CITY DIRECTORIES ON ANCESTRY.COM" by Juliana Smith, 5 June 2009

Ms Smith tells how we should go about looking for City Directories for our particular areas of interest. Are you already aware that the 1913 City Directory for Iron County is on-line? Go to <http://www.iron.migenweb.net>.

She has also offered *Advanced Tips*.

Now the article goes into detail of what a City Directory contains and how to use it.

"JOHN OR JANOS: TIPS FOR TRANSLATING NAMES, also contributed by Juliana Smith, 11 June 2009

The information shown in the article is excellent and one part that caught my eye – the fact that often our ancestors didn't use the names that we have known them by – by using the website, "BehindtheName.com we can type in our ancestor's name in the search box and then from the box on the right, select "Related Names" and you'll be rewarded with a list of related names from various ethnic backgrounds. The site list well over a hundred variations of Elizabeth alone from countries around the world."

If you do check out this newsletter, look at the last page and check out the humor that the editor, Ken Wierschem, included in this issue.

### **LUCE-MACKINAC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, SEP 08-DEC 08**

This Society has new publications for sale:

NEWTON TOWNSHIP CEMETERY; POLLEY CEMETERY; MISCELLANEOUS BURIALS. "The death records listing from 1915-1952; that are also attached to this newsletter are included in the cemetery book."

BOIS BLANC ISLAND WOODLAND GLADE CEMETERY; MCRAE-KEER CEMETERY AND OTHER BURIALS.

Then this notation sounds encouraging for researchers.....

MICHIGAN DEATH CERTIFICATES ONLINE: COMING SOON!

(From the Western MI Genealogical Society newsletter, Winter 2008/2009

"The State of Michigan Archives, in conjunction with the Library of Michigan, are in the process of scanning the microfilmed Michigan death records currently housed at the Library of Michigan. When the project is complete you will be able to search for death records from 1867 to 1920 by searching for the deceased's names as well as their death date, location of

death and their father's name. A small number of death records have already been placed online. The website also contains photographs of past governors, Michigan Civil War records and photographs, photos of Michigan lighthouses, old photographs, Michigan sheet music, WPS property inventories, maps and more. Go to [www.seekingmichigan.org](http://www.seekingmichigan.org) to look at what's already available."

MICHIGAN VITAL RECORDS AT FAMILYSEARCH (From the Western Michigan Gen Soc Newsletter, Winter 2008/2009)

"You can search and view Michigan birth records (1867-1902); death records (1867-1897); and marriages (1868-1925) as well as records from other states and countries at: <http://pilot.familysearch.org>. You no longer need to have a login ID to use this site."

There is also a reminder that tells you what you should do if you find an error. This site is in a "stage testing". Please contact them.

"If you have not already done so and would like to join in the indexing effort, go to: <http://familysearchindexing.org> to read about the possibilities, download the software, take the tutorial lessons, and volunteer. It is rewarding work because you know you are helping others to find their families."

Again from the MICHIGAN GENEALOGIST NEWSLETTER, (Western MI Gen Soc, Fall 2008) we find...

"The Library of Michigan publishes a useful newsletter four times each year. The newsletter lists new resources and upcoming events for researchers living in MI. The current newsletter can be viewed by going to:

[www.michigan.gov/documents/hal/GeneWebNewsletterSummer2008\\_242677\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/hal/GeneWebNewsletterSummer2008_242677_7.pdf)

"Old newsletters can be viewed by going to [www.michigan.gov/hal](http://www.michigan.gov/hal), clicking on the Family History button (near the bottom of the menu on the left side of the page), then clicking on the Michigan Genealogist Newsletter button from the Genealogy menu on the left side."

Included in this issue is a listing of folks buried in Gould City Cemetery in unknown areas. Time period - Aug 21, 1915 through Mar 15, 1952.

*(Note: What appears to be a blank space in this URL address are actually underscores. By leaving the underscore in the address, it appears to be blanks so an underscore is needed - "\_ " - jhm)*

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