

# Clarion

BAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Vol. 15 No. 2 Mar. 1993

## MARCH MEETING

We will meet next on Tuesday, March 2 at our usual meeting place, the South End Library on Lafayette. The time will be 6:30 p.m. Again we will be attending to plan development for our public workshop which is scheduled for Sunday Apr. 18 from 2:00- 5:00 p.m. at the Fremont Ave. United Methodist Church, corner of Wilson & Fremont, Bay City.

## JANUARY/FEBRUARY MEETINGS

The only topic of business except for our upcoming workshop during these past two meetings has been to discuss the possibility of modifications to our constitution. The discussions of those changes which have been previously published in the Clarion brought about no comments of great significance related to the possible changes. A motion was offered and passed at the February meeting that we table the possible changes. Anyone with an interest in this topic may surface their concerns either by letter or personally at a membership meeting.

We have recently been in discussion with Barb Fisher, Branch Librarian of the Bay County Library System, about a number of genealogical publications which our society provided the library many years ago. They are to be found in stack "D" of the Bay City Branch Library at 708 Center Avenue. They number in the hundreds, and cover a wide range of topics all of which are of interest to those of us doing genealogy.

There is a problem related to this collection, that being the fact that the publications contained therein are very seldom used. That coupled with the fact the library has very little space compounds the problem as the staff assesses how to provide the community the best service possible. The main goal of the library is to have the facility and its source information used.

You are being advised of this because many of our membership were not aware of the existence of the collection, and some of us did not know how it could be accessed. The library staff has asked us to provide you with this information, and encourage you to make use of it in your research. In order to do this it may be necessary for you to ask a staff member to assist you in finding the material. This they will be happy to do for you.

These materials have not been indexed, nor is there a listing of everything there. Included are pamphlets, newsletters, journals, quarterlies etc. They are stored in three steel stacks each 40 inches wide and five shelves high. Significant publications found in the collection are from: The Daughters of the American Revolution, Michigan Historical Society, Michigan History Division/Michigan Department of State, Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, Genealogical Helper, many Michigan societies including Flint and the counties of Genessee, Kalamazoo, Kent, Muskegon, Saginaw and Shiawassee, about 25 State societies including New York, Ohio, Indiana, Massachusetts, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1-2 May- The Southern California Genealogical Society will present its annual "Jamboree", at the Exhibition Building of the Pasadena Center, 300 Green St. in Pasadena Cal. You may contact the society at 122 S. San Fernando Blvd., P.O. Box 4377, Burbank Cal. 91503 or call (818) 843-7247 to get program information.

2 May is the date for the fourth Genealogy and History Book Fair at a new location, The Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. One of the main purposes is to try and give exposure to all the genealogy and history societies in the state, as well as make people aware of their existence, publications, etc. Additionally around 100 commercial vendors have been invited, along with several out-of-state genealogy and history societies.

8 May- The annual workshop of the French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan will be held at the parish hall of St. Simon-St. Jude in Belle River, Ontario from 9:30-2:30. A luncheon fee of \$4.00 is to be sent to FCHSM, P. O. Box 10028, Lansing, MI 48901-0028 for your reservation.

27-30 May- The annual seminar of the Ontario genealogical Society will be presented. Contact OGS Seminar '93, 260 Adelaide St. e. Toronto, Canada, M5A 1N1 for complete program and registration information.

2-5 June- The National Genealogical Society Conf. will be held in Baltimore, Maryland. For further info contact NGS, 4527 17th St., N., Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

17-19 June- "For Land's Sake", the 1993 national conference of the Palatines to America will be held at the Fawcett Center For Tomorrow Hotel and Conference Center of Ohio State Univ. with Dr. George Schweitzer as their keynote presenter. You may obtain information and registration forms from Palatines To America, Capital University Box 101 in Columbus, Ohio 43209-2394.

13-19 or 20-26 June - Elderhostel will be offering a program on history, heritage and genealogy during the two weeks named. They will take place at St. Francis College at Fort Wayne, IN. Participants will study on campus and also at the genealogy department of the Allen County Public Library. The all-inclusive fee of \$300 includes registration, six nights accommodations, all meals, all classes and a variety of extra curricular activities. Interested persons may receive registration information from Elderhostel St. Francis College, 2701 Spring St., Fort Wayne, IN 46808. Include the week you wish to attend, your address and phone number in your request.

The Society has received the following letter from Dave Tinder, 6404 Coleman, Dearborn, MI 48126-2024. Due to the type of information which he sent we felt we should include the body of his letter for your information.

During the last twenty five years, I have identified more than 8000 persons who began photographic careers in Michigan before 1920 and have accumulated data on where and when they worked as well as other biographical and anecdotal information. A team at Oakland University is beginning to transcribe my data into a computer data base as a big first step toward publication, and I would like to make it as complete as possible.


Please inform your membership of my project. Ancestors of some of them probably were early Michigan photographers. A notice in your newsletter something like the following paragraph might benefit some of your members and would certainly be appreciated by me.


Did one of your ancestors work as a photographer in Michigan before 1920 ? If so, please write or call Dave Tinder, 6404 Coleman, Dearborn, MI 48126; 313-581-0005. Dave has spent 25 years compiling a directory of early Michigan photographers which will be published soon. Your information will assure that the entry about your relative will be more accurate, more complete, and more interesting.

We recieved the following announcement from the Van Every Burley Publishing Co., and felt it was worth including in this issue of our newsletter.

## Greetings to your Society!

*Genealogical and historical societies preserve and pass from generation to generation stories and traditions which embody a uniquely American spirit. Numerous valuable publications and tools are available to the seasoned genealogist. Imagine, however, a publication brimming with delightful stories, helpful tips, with a hands on approach to solving the mysteries embedded in one's especial history!*

 In June 1993, a refreshing publication will emerge!! *Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails*, an innovative magazine for and about family and historical seekers, encompasses a wealth of information derived in great part, from our readers. Genealogical success stories, practical tips, witty humor, tall tales and family, county and state legends will be shared among us all in the coming years.

 *Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails* needs you! Why? The wealth of information your society holds within its membership could provide wonderful and meaningful insight into histories and methods for exploring and preserving that history from each generation gone by. *Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails* desires stories, whether they be county histories and legends, or profiles of infamous folks who forged America's character. Additionally, practical, ingenious and helpful tips are encouraged which focus on how to obtain information in your area crucial to the family historian. *Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails* is also interested in learning more about your society as, with your permission, the magazine will profile a different society in each issue.

### *Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails* Magazine will feature

- Practical and or ingenious tips based on the experiences of our readers!
- Genealogy success stories, how our readers dealt with seemingly insurmountable obstacles.
- Profiles and information about genealogical and historical societies nationwide, as well as Canada, which focuses on the fascinating histories within their membership.
- Recurring features, such as "**Skeletons in My Closet**," based on our readers family tales!
- *Kinfolk Connection*, where readers are invited to solicit genealogical and historical information from other readers. This feature is free of charge to our subscribers, up to 5 inquires per year.
- Special features focused on interesting places to obtain information.
- Features based on our readers submittals about family stories which help breathe life into our heritage!

*Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails* invites your society's members to subscribe to this new adventure in genealogy and history. Subscriptions are \$25.50 per year for six issues. All subscriptions, stories and photographs (photos and stories that should be returned must be accompanied by a self addressed stamped envelop) can be forwarded to:

*Van Every Burley Publishing*  
*Kinfolk Tales 'n' Trails*  
1251 West Sepulveda Blvd.  
Number 170  
Torrance, CA 90502

*It is certain that each issue will be met with delight and that the wonderment within will get to their funny bone as well as make the search for their roots just a bit easier!*

Thanks very much for your support and assistance! We look forward to hearing from you soon! 

Sincerely,

*Van Every Burley Publishing*

Another genealogical organization which has earned the respect of those in the field is the Detroit Society. Each month they have interesting and informative programs to which the public is invited. Our society is a member of that group and we have their journals in our library. We also receive their meeting announcements. Their March through June meetings as well as info pertaining to attending any or all of them is found below.



THE DETROIT SOCIETY FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH  
5201 WOODWARD AVE., DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48202  
January 1993

Dear Members and Friends,

Listed below is the schedule for the remainder of the 1992-1993 season of programs. All meetings are on Saturdays at the Detroit Public Library at the address above, unless otherwise stated, beginning at 2:00 PM. Room location will be posted in the Burton Historical Collection. There is no charge for these meetings.

DSGR publications and genealogical aids will be available for purchase after each meeting. Limited parking is available next to the library.

13 Mar 1993 **SO YOU CAN'T GET THOSE U.S. VETERANS RECORDS OUT OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES?** presented by DOUGLAS CASAMER, MACOMB COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS who will tell you how to do just that.

17 Apr 1993 **ANNUAL LOCAL HISTORY CONFERENCE, "Michigan In Perspective"** at the McGregor Center, Wayne State University. **SMOKED OYSTERS AND NAPOLEON: STRATEGIES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN ENGLAND** presented by GARY SCHRODER, Editor, Lecturer and Vice President of LA SOCIETE DE L'HISTOIRE DES FAMILLES DU QUEBEC (Lecture in English).  
10:00 AM

8 May 1993 **HOW TO DATE THOSE OLD FAMILY PICTURES, BY MEANS OF CLOTHING AND BACKGROUND** presented by ELLEN PROBERT using actual pictures. Bring a few of your own if you need some help.

12 Jun 1993 **SO YOU ARE FINALLY READY TO WRITE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY!** presented by HARRIETT M. WHEELER, past Editor of the DSGR Magazine. She will point out some important things to consider when writing your family history.

Questions? Call Joan A. Dancy, at (313) 791-0662 or Mary L. Freer at (313) 791-0662.

## QUERIES

Info re: the Keeney family birth and death records. Nelson B. Keeney aged 47, died 11 Aug. 1890 West Bay City. Nelson J. Keeney was born in 1879 at Deep River. Marvin D. Keeney age 82 or 83 died 9 Feb. 1844/45 at Deep River. Zilpha Amelia Keeney born 27 Feb. 1881 at Deep River and marr. William S. Hillis 20 Aug. 1902 or '03 at Bay City. Society member Maria Anne Hill at P. O. Box 223 in Union Lake, MI 48387-0223 would appreciate anything you might have on the Keeney family. A SASE was included.

Info re: Blanche (Boisvert) Drew and her family. She was born at Bay City 3 July 1893, and marr. Kenneth Drew on 14 June between 1910 and 1918. Her death occurred on 28 May 1980 in Lynn, Mass. They had daughters Margaret, Flora, Agnes and Helen. Agnes Shepard, the third listed, of 1305 Lyn Way in Hastings, MN 55033 needs the names of Blanche's parents, their dates and places of birth and any other family info which you might be able to provide. She sent a SASE and check to cover expenses incidental to her query.

Info re: Valade/Valead family, descendants of Gilbert Vilead of the Bay City area. Peter Brevoort of P. O. Box 1181, Southgate, MI 48195 is doing extensive research on the Navarre family and allied lines, which includes the Vilades, and would appreciate any help which we might provide. The information is being computerized and could be available when it is completed.

The following list of private genealogical researchers, and accompanying information has been provided by the staff of the Archives of Michigan. Our Society, as the Archives, can assume no responsibility for the work of these folks. We provide this only for your consideration.

## **LIST OF RESEARCHERS**

**The following individuals have expressed a willingness to do research in the Archives for people or organizations who cannot visit Lansing themselves. These individuals conduct research for a fee as their schedules permit, and thus cannot automatically accept every request for assistance that they receive. The amount to be charged is a matter negotiated between the person or organization needing help and the researcher. When communicating with the individuals cited below, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope. The Archives assumes no responsibility for the work of these people, but simply offer their names as a public service.**

Julie Carr  
1228 Berten Street  
Lansing, MI 48910  
(517) 487-1173

James P. LaLone  
P.O. Box 18144  
Lansing, MI 48901  
(517) 485-5576

Geneva Wiskemann  
5580 W. State Road  
Lansing, MI 48906  
(517) 321-1746

Barbara Madison  
3261 Essex NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505  
(616) 361-1722

Joanne H. Harvey  
2420 Newport Drive  
Lansing, MI 48906  
(517) 321-0945

Ruth Z. Lewis  
3800 Glasgow Drive  
Lansing, MI 48911  
(517) 394-0717

Sharon L. Miller  
7610 Heights Ravenna Road  
Ravenna, MI 49451  
(616) 788-3095

Yvonne L. Koos  
302 W. Main Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
(517) 627-6646

The information below was from Issue 38 of Heritage Quest.

## Symbols in German Genealogy

### By Horst Reschke

To use printed sources in Germanic genealogical research it will help effectively, to be informed about its system of genealogical symbols. They are a kind of "shorthand" in expressing what one would otherwise be obliged to write as words. When, space is at a premium, especially in bulky manuscripts which are costly to print, these symbols are very useful.

They are easy to learn. Here are the most commonly used ones:

- \* = born (German = geboren)
- = christened or baptized (G. = Getauft)
- ∞ = married (G. = verheiratet)
- + = died (G. = gestorben)

= begraben (G. = buried)

Less frequently used, but nevertheless sometimes occurring in German-language genealogical texts are these symbols:

- (\*) = born out of wedlock (G. = außerehelich geboren)
- \* = stillborn (G. = togeboren)
- o = engaged (G. = verlobt)
- olo = divorced (G. = geschieden)
- o-o = relationship w/o marriage (G. = aussereheliche Verbindung)
- x = killed in action (G. = gefallen)
- x = died of war injuries (G. = an Wunden gestorben)
- u = cremated (G. = eingeäschert)

= Banns posted (G. = aufgeboten)

Armed with this information you should be able to chart a course through the printed source material in German genealogical literature without knowing the language. These symbols have been widely used in the German-language areas since 1910. As in everything, someone had to make exceptions or vary from the symbols shown here. If you encounter symbols you cannot identify, send me a photocopy and I'll try to decipher them for you. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, plus an additional 29-cent stamp. ■

- \* = geboren
- (\*) = außerehelich geboren
- †\* = totgeboren
- ~ = getauft
- o = verlobt
- ∞ = verheiratet
- o-o = außereheliche Verbindung

- † = gestorben
- x = gefallen
- †x = an Wunden gestorben
- = begraben
- U = eingeäschert
- ⊖ = aufgeboten
- ∞ = geschieden