

# The Clarion

Bay County Genealogical Society of Michigan

Volume 55

Issue #3

July-September 2024

# THANK YOU!

THANK YOU, KATHLEEN, FOR ALL OF YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR LITTLE GROUP.

**Kathleen (Sister Rose) Doerr became president of the Bay County Genealogical Society in June of 2008. She has been a member since 1990.**

**The Society was evolving and she was our guide. The Society had just started meeting at the Wirt Library and had donated much of the Society's print collection to the Local History and Genealogy Room at Wirt Library. Members including Kathleen started volunteering some afternoons at the library to help people with their genealogy questions and using the library's genealogy databases. During all this time she was still researching her own Doerr, Maxwell and other families and sharing her research with her family! She was there to help us celebrate the Society's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and get us through the pandemic. Thanks, Kathleen.**

# Introducing Ruth Wilke:

I would like to tell you a little about myself. I'm married (51 years the end of July). My husband, Bill and I have four children and seven grandchildren.

As Barb (Our new VP) said she got me hooked on genealogy. Doing cemeteries every year with my Mom, Grandma's, Aunt and cousins I knew a quite a lot about my Mpm's Mom side of the family. Her Dad's side not as much.

On my Dad's side of the family, I have learned a lot. When I questioned my Dad on his family he said, "We are related to a lot of people." He wasn't kidding.

Then theres's my husband's family. He wanted to learn about his Grandfather that no one talked about or knew little about. His Grandfather died when his Grandmother was pregnant with his father. I did find out what happened and then hit a brick wall as I learned he had been adopted. Happy to say that brick wall has come down.

On his Mother's side of the family another adoption was found about his Grandmother. That brick wall has also been solved.

Most of my relatives came from Canada on both sides and with both Great Grandpa's being married twice with several children. My Mom's Grandfather has the most with ten with one wife and thirteen with the other.

I have been searching for many years and always find something new. My family names are: Dion, Founier, Loewe, LeVasseur, Morin/Morand, Pajot, Pasant, Primeau, Rioux, Vallaire. My Husband's names are: Ball, Beach, Byer, Dow, Engel, Morgan, Sumner, Wilke, to name a few.

I will try my best to fill the shoes that Katie left. If you have any questions or suggestions, call at 989.708.0242 or email me at [hx4family@gmail.com](mailto:hx4family@gmail.com).

Thank you Katie for your many years of serving on the Society.

- Ruth

# **Congratulations to the New Board**

**President: Ruth Wilke**

**Vice-President: Barb Connor**

**Secretary: Judy Berner**

**Treasurer: Mary McManman**



**Our thanks to Katie who has been our leader, organizer, mentor & friend. I remember the group trips we made to Lansing to do research. Katie contacted us as to where & when to meet. I got to know the other members of the society on these trips.**

**Thanks for the many years of your time.**

**Judy**



## **Future Meeting Dates:**

**September 11<sup>th</sup> – Derek Blount – Lumber Barons & the Shanties that  
Worked for Them**

**October 9<sup>th</sup> – Jeff Mason – Death & Taxes. 2 Things You Can Not Afford to  
Miss: A Genealogical Perspective**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> – Cynthia Grostick – Collateral Lines**

**December 10<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party and Auction Night! (This is a Tuesday!)**

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## **Have You Ever Tried These Resources?**

**By Mary McManman**

**Can't find a Bay County marriage record online? Try these transcriptions from the Bay County Clerk's copy of the marriage records, interpreted and transcribed by local members.**

**Transcriptions of the Bay County marriage records for 1905, 1908-1933**

**Found on the Bay County Genealogical Society website,**

**<https://www.baymogensoc.com/>**

**Bay County Marriages: Transcriptions for 1857-1920, 1923-1926, 1928-1932  
Local History and Genealogy Room at Wirt Library, Gen R 977.447 Marriage**

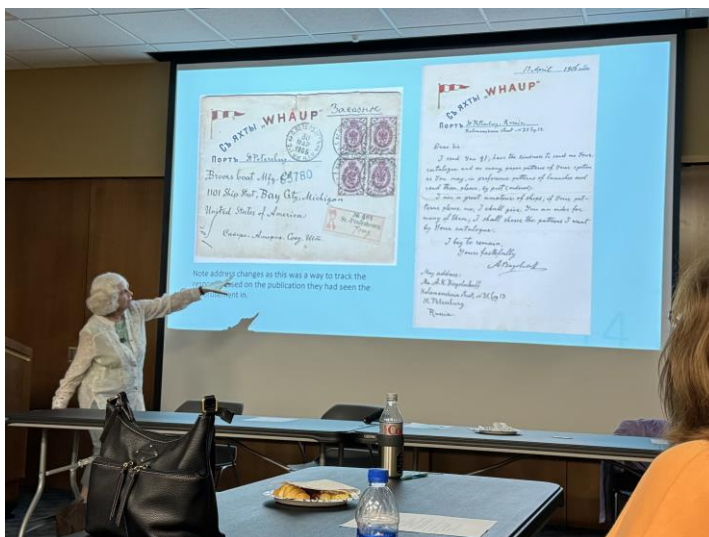
# A Look Back at Our Last Meetings:

April 10<sup>th</sup> – Megan Heyl – Operation Spring Cleaning: Organizing Your Stuff

If you missed this speaker, I highly recommend you look for other opportunities to listen to her. She gave some great advice on how to organize your research and supplied a lot of great forms to use.



May 8<sup>th</sup> – Chris Eckerle – Patterns That Helped Build Bay City



Chris informed us all on the history of “patterned” blue prints in our city. Aladdin Home Kits, Defoe boat kits, and knock down boats are a few examples that were all created here.

## **June 5<sup>th</sup> - Annual Potluck dinner and brown bag auction.**

**The food was excellent as always and the auction was very fun, thanks in part to Charlie's funny "Dad Jokes".**



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# **Website-FaceBook-Plus**

**By Charles Kocher**

## **Facebook (Bay County Genealogical Society-Michigan)**

As of June 22, 2024, there are 356 members in our Facebook group.

Nothing special has been added, but just a reminder that if you live a distance away from Bay City, you can leave a query on the Society's Facebook page, and you'll probably get a response.

## **Website (baymigansoc.com)**

Items from the December 10, 1931, issue of the Bay City Times has been interspersed within the site's pages. In case you are wondering, the issue is selected randomly by the rolling of dice.

Between March 17, 2024, the date of the last report, and June 22, 2024, the day of this writing, there have been 177 visitors from twenty U. S. states (153), Russia (14), Philippines (3), Canada (2), United Kingdom (1), Poland (1), Australia (1), Turkey (1), Zimbabwe (1), and India (1).

Those visits from Russia came from Gatchina, Moscow, Nizhniy Novgorod, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, and Voronezh. (While preparing the marriage records to be placed on the website, I occasionally find people who were born in Russia, and, maybe, through the website, they have been discovered by descendants of family members left behind when they came to America.)

## Podcasts

While listening to my “Amazon Alexa”, I heard a commercial for a podcast that can be heard via “Alexa.” So, I looked to see if there are genealogy related podcasts that can be heard, for free, on “Alexa”, and there are.

Here are a few:

**Ancestral Findings** (Will Moneymaker)-Short podcasts that cover a specific genealogy topic.

**Genealogy Guys** (George Morgan and Drew Smith)-Report on genealogy conferences, books, news, research destinations, online resources.

**Genealogy Gems** (Lisa Louise Cooke)- Researching techniques and interviews with people from the world of genealogy.

**Genealogy Happy Hour** (Amy Crabill Lay and Penny Burke Bonawitz)- Helpful information for documenting family history.

**Generations Café** (Amy Johnson Crow)-Genealogy without the frustration.

To play podcasts on “Alexa”, say, “Alexa, play [Title] podcast.”

There is an excellent chance that these and other genealogy podcasts can be heard on other “Voice Services”, such as “Google Assistant.”



\*\*from FaceBook Twisted Twigs On Gnarled Branches Genealogy

## Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held in the Community Room  
at Wirt Library

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

September 11 <sup>th</sup>	March 12 <sup>th</sup>
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	April 9 <sup>th</sup>
November 12 <sup>th</sup> **	May 14 <sup>th</sup>
December 11 <sup>th</sup>	June 11 <sup>th</sup>
January 8 <sup>th</sup>	July No Meeting
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	August No Meeting

\*\*Tuesday Meeting

If Bay City Schools are canceled due to bad  
weather, our meetings are also cancelled.

## Library Hours

### Auburn & Pinconning

Sun-Mon	Closed
Tues-Thur	10am -8pm
Fri-Sat	9am - 5pm

### Sage

Mon-Tue	9am – 5pm
Wed-Thur	12pm – 8 pm
Fri	9am – 5pm
Sat-Sun	Closed

### Wirt

Mon-Thu	10am – 8pm
Fri-Sat	9am – 5pm
*Sun	1pm – 5pm
	*(Sep-May only)

## Contact Information

Please send all questions to one of the  
following:

Facebook: Bay County Genealogical Society MI

Website: baymigenesoc.com

Email: bcgs13@yahoo.com

Snail Mail: BCGS

P.O.Box 1366

Bay City, MI, 48706

## 2024-2025 BCGS Officers

President	Ruth Wilke
Vice President	Barb Connor
Secretary	Judy Berner
Treasurer	Mary McManman
Librarian	Heather Leser
Publishing	Heather Leser
Clarion Editor	Heather Leser

## Membership Dues

All membership renewals are due by the  
end of December. Yearly dues are \$20.00  
for a single person or \$25.00 per  
family/one household.

## The Wirt Genealogy Room

Our BCGS volunteers are available on  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and  
Saturday from 1pm-4pm.

There is access to Ancestry.com,  
Heritage Quest, Fold3, and  
Familysearch.org