

The Clarion

Bay County Genealogical Society of Michigan

Volume 54

Issue #2

April-June 2023

HAPPY EASTER!

A new book has been added to our Private Library Collection!

GENEALOGY, BIOGRAPHIES AND HISTORIES OF THE FAMILY OF RICHARD MARTIN

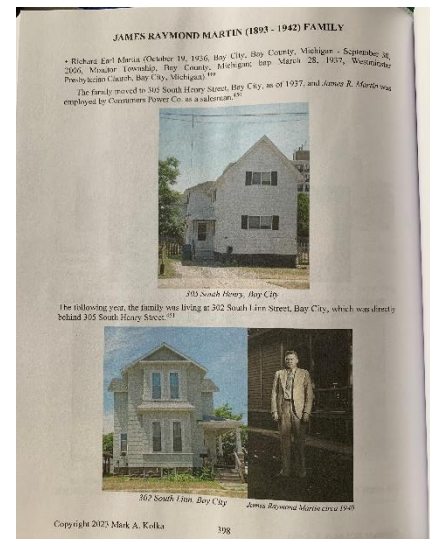
BORN CIRCA 1730
IN NEW JERSEY

(INCLUDING ABBOTT, SHERIDAN, DEMARAY,
SCOTT AND VARNUM FAMILIES)

Mark A. Kolka

Mark Kolka has finished the first of three books he is writing about his family's ancestry history, and he has donated it to our group. It is titled Genealogy, Biographies and Histories of the Family of Richard Martin. Family names include Abbott, Sheridan, Demaray, Scott, and Varnum. Locations cover New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, and Michigan (Bad Axe, Detroit, & Bay City). Residences in Lower Canada are also covered. It is a very thorough collection with documentation to back it up.

If anyone would like to look it over, please contact Heather and she will loan it out to you.



Have You Ever Tried These Resources?

By Mary McManman

Digital Collections

These digital collections are available on the Bay County Library System website, baycountylibrary.org, under the Digital Collections tab

Digitized Bay City Directories

1873-1946

(Available to anyone)

Pinconning Newspapers

Pinconning Press 1905-1924

Pinconning Journal 1925-1936

(Available to anyone)

Bay City Times 1889-current

(Available only to Bay County residents with a BCLS library card)

Local Civil War Publications

By Mary McManman

These materials were produced locally about Bay County people who served in the Civil War. They are available in the Local History and Genealogy Room at the Alice and Jack Wirt Public Library

Bay County Civil War Dead 1861-1865, compiled by Jim Petrimoulx
Call number: Gen R 977.447 Petrimoulx

Civil War Veterans, Bay County Cemeteries, compiled by Jim Petrimoulx
Call number: Gen R 977.447 Petrimoulx

Civil War Veterans, Pine Ridge Cemetery, Bay City, Michigan, compiled by Jim Petrimoulx
Call number: Gen R 977.447 Petrimoulx

Obituaries, Bay County Civil War Veterans, compiled by James Petrimoulx
Call number: MI R 977.447 Petrimoulx

Bay County Civil War Veterans, compiled by James Petrimoulx (various lists and indexes)
Call number: MI R 977.447 Petrimoulx

In Remembrance: Sally Ann Goulette

Tribute to Local Historian

by Dorothy Rigenbark

Local family history buff, Sally (Arneson) Goulette, passed away on February 6, 2023.

Since the 1970's, Sally researched and documented her family tree. She joined Bay County Genealogy Society in the mid 1970's, when Frances Cook was president. She encouraged the author of this article, her friend since the 1950's, to join as well. Sally was instrumental in assisting many other people in finding their roots.

We now honor her endeavors and shine a light on her accomplishments.



Our Matriarch was called home to be with our Lord and her Savior on Monday, February 6th, after a courageous fight with lung cancer.

Sally Ann was welcomed into this world on April 13th, 1951 to Bruce and Shirley Arneson in Bay City, MI where she lived her entire life. Sally was raised with her Grandma Selma and 3 sisters, Kathleen, Cynthia and Brenda, whom she adored throughout her lifetime.

Mom was affectionately referred to as "Annie" by her loving husband and our father, Royal Goulette. The two high school sweethearts were married on March 21st, 1970 after graduating from T.L. Handy High

School in Bay City, MI. They were inseparable throughout life, married for 53 years. During their time together, they raised four loving children, Heidi, Heath, Hollie and Harth. They showed us what true love and respect for one another means. In their early years together mom and dad would enjoy summers on the rifle river camping and canoeing, and spending time with those they loved at the Goulette family home.

During her life, mom was a hard worker and retired from McLaren Bay Region Hospital after nearly 35 years of service. She loved and cared deeply for her family, always ensuring we never went without anything we wanted. She devoted her entire life to her family, putting our needs above all else, always. Mom was a lifelong member of Messiah Lutheran Church in Bay City, MI and enjoyed volunteering on the Alter Guild as us kids were baptized and confirmed throughout the years. In her retirement, she enjoyed spending time at our family cabin on the Big Creek in Luzerne, MI, watching her kids and grandchildren enjoy the life that her and dad were able to give us after their years of hard work. From neighboring on the golf cart, endless campfires, to going for wagon rides in the woods, mom was able to create priceless memories that we will cherish forever.

Mom had a passion for genealogy and was extremely proud of her extensive family tree on ancestry.com. She loved helping others find lost family connections and researching their own heritage. She was quite the sleuth and would stay up to the early hours of the morning researching family records and tracking down leads to ensure her tree was the most accurate. Early in life she was expressive through her art. Mom enjoyed producing chalk art, oil painting, writing in calligraphy and even had a poem entitled "Utopia" published.

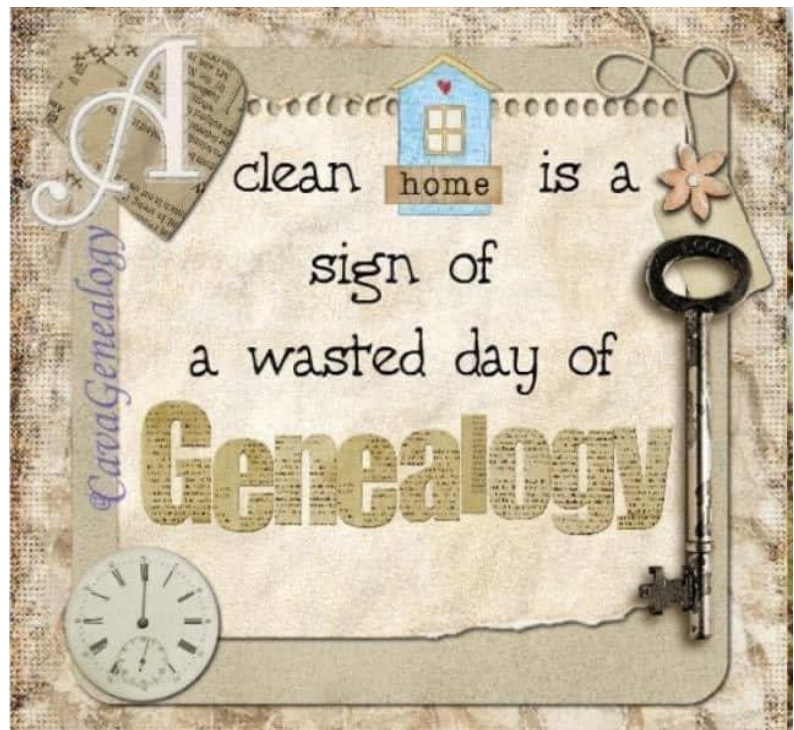
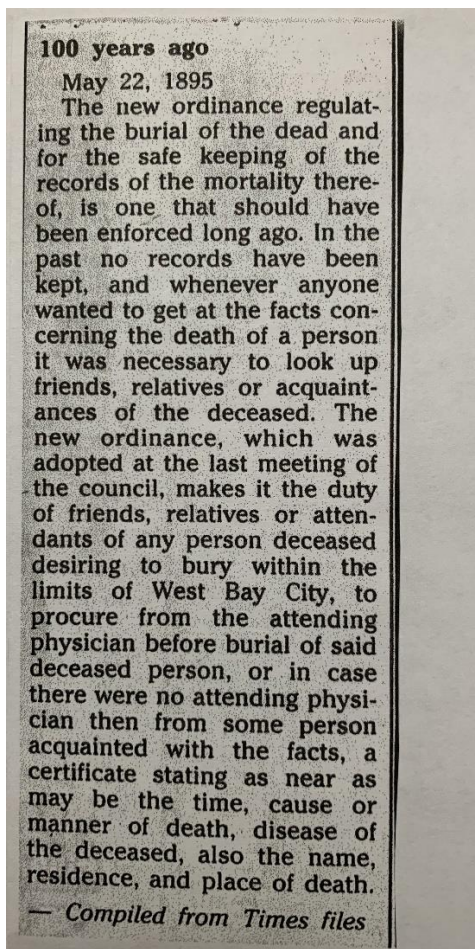
Left to cherish her memory is her loyal husband and best friend, Royal, and her "4 H's" – Heidi (Anthony) Eno of Hale, MI, Heath (Brenda) Goulette of Bay City, MI, Hollie (Matthew) LaRue of Bay City, MI and Harth (Kevin Lozo) Goulette of Traverse City, MI; her mother, Shirley Arneson; her sisters, Kathy (Chris) Elzinga, Cyndy (David) Rabidoux and Brenda Arneson; in-law's, Frank (Heidi) Goulette, Douglas (Rebecca) Goulette, Linda (Jim) Fitzgerald, Jill-Ann Marie Goulette-Wilson and several adored nieces and nephews. Our mother lived her later years with a passion for her grandchildren, Rachel, Travis, Cole, Dakota, Breona & Richard, Katarina, Isabella, Gabriella, Madison and Brady; great grandchildren, Arabella, Thor, Bjorn, Finan, Grayslyn, Iziah and Mila. She enjoyed getting text messages, phone calls and pictures from each of them.

Always our mother, forever in our hearts. Mom was preceded in death by her father, Bruce Arneson; mother and father in-law, Shirley and Robert Goulette and grandson, Brett Royal.

A memorial service will take place on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. at the Gephart Funeral Home. The family will be present to receive visitors on Sunday from 12:00 p.m. until the time of the service. Memorial contributions may be made to the Wishes of the Family.

Judy Bruner supplied the copy of the news article. If anyone would like to read the full article, it is located on page 3 of the Bay City Tribune.

The other picture was found on Facebook in the group "Genealogy Tips and Links".



Website-FaceBook-Plus

By Charles Kocher

Facebook (Bay County Genealogical Society-Michigan)

The first sentence of the Society's Facebook Group profile says, "We strive to promote and educate persons interested in genealogy with a focus on Bay County, Michigan." Members of this group have been doing exactly that since it was created eight years ago by five Society members, and as of March 1, 2023, has grown to 315.

Anybody on Facebook can read and post comments; criteria need to be fulfilled before the post becomes public. Members can read and leave comments immediately, and there have been plenty. Very seldom has a question been asked, that an answer hasn't been supplied. People looking for information on ancestors who lived in Bay County inquire about local cemeteries, about obtaining obituaries, about newspaper articles, about pictures they have and need help identifying, etc. Answers come from the membership, who are familiar with County history or know where to look, who are genealogists and enjoy the hunt for information, and general researchers who know where the answers should be located. There are also people who just happen to be familiar with the person or item being queried. Visitors also post notices that are of a genealogical nature, such as meetings, etc.

Membership is easy. First, you have to have a Facebook account. Second, you need to join the group by clicking the "Join Group" button on the home screen and meet certain criteria.

Website (baymigenoc.com)

The current incarnation of the Society's website was created September 8, 2021. The Society needed to have a better presence on the internet, so a new web developing company was found. One that had much more advanced tools than the previous company, while still being affordable.

Future Speakers:

May 10th: Jessica Trotter will be our speaker. She is from the Lansing Library.

June 14th: Summer Potluck and Auction Party! Please come join us for a fun time. Election of Officers will take place.

July: No Meeting

August: No Meeting

A Look Back at Our Last Four Meetings:

January 11th: Ginger Ogilvie – Steps to Take After DNA Testing

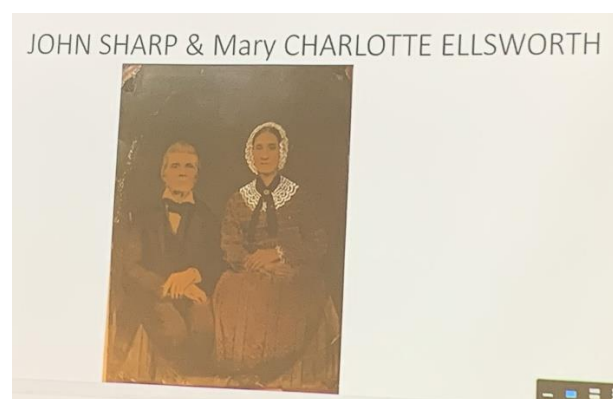
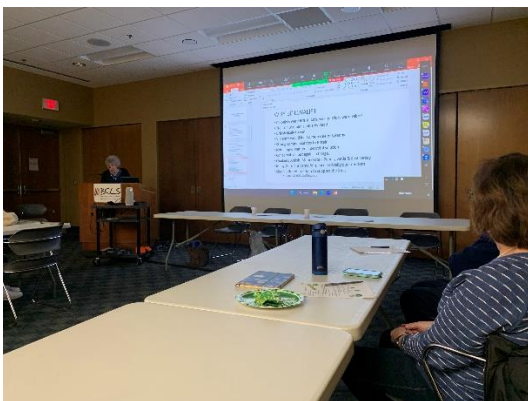
This was a great discussion of how to manage your DNA results and family tree. She recommended creating a tree strictly for DNA matches and having an email dedicated to DNA searches.

February 8th: Occupations of our Ancestors from 1850-1950.

Members shared their stories about the old-time occupations of their ancestors. Some of the occupations discussed included an ancestor who worked as a shoemaker (who was blind!), one as a hatmaker, and another as a building mover (in the days of horse and wagon). There were ancestors who farmed and raised sheep and one had a business selling chickens. Another had a horse barn for boarding horses in town. We also heard about a neighborhood grocery store that another member remembered using as a child!

March 8th: Jean White – The French Loyalists in Canada

Jean gave us a wonderful history lesson about who the loyalists were and what they did during the war. She used her own family members as examples during the lesson. One way to identify if a family member was a loyalist is if you find a UE (United Empire) after their names on documents.



April 12th:

I will report on this meeting in the next edition since it happens on the date of this publication.

Out of the Box Ideas

By Heather Leser

I was looking through genealogy Facebook pages and I came across this interesting idea for adding a more “personal touch” to your tree. I contacted the original poster, Sandra Koehler Lee, and she gave me permission to copy her post here. It was originally posted under The Genealogy Squad.

Sandra Koehler Lee is 😊 feeling accomplished.

August 4, 2022 ·

This is a project I've been working on for a while - a family tree chart (starting with my kids) with original signatures. I couldn't always get maiden name signatures but at least I had something. I still have a few to hopefully find someday but happy with what I have so far!

How I did it:

1. I took a blank family tree chart and opened it in Word (or pages for those on Macs) for an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet. I am considering finding another chart that gives more space to the earliest generation so the signatures can be bigger (but that might make my page bigger and so far haven't found anything I like and can easily work with)
2. When I had a document with a signature, I opened it in Photoshop and cropped it as close to the signature as possible.
3. Then in Photoshop made the image black and white (so documents with colored backgrounds would match others).
4. Then in Photoshop I used the eraser tool to erase around the signature. (my husband helped with some of the harder ones)
5. Then I'd copy the image of the signature and paste it on top of the chart in my document and shrink the image box to the right size and place. (Text wrap for images was turned OFF).
6. Then I took a screenshot to share the image, but you can export as a PDF or print. Photoshop can be expensive but Photoshop Elements is pretty affordable. I'm sure there are other programs that can do something similar.

Some places to find signatures:

- marriage record (good for maiden name signature)
- baptism record (parent for their child); some birth records have parents' signatures
- military papers (enlistment, other papers)
- legal document - including wills, administrator bonds, court papers, property sales
- passports
- naturalization papers (usually the declaration has a signature)
- Social Security application (good for maiden name signature)
- letters or postcards (if you're lucky to have them)
- informant signature (although sometimes it's just printed) for death certificate.

		Clarence Arlington LEE	John Robertson LEE
	Joseph Jessiop LEE	<i>Clarence A. Lee</i>	<i>John R. Lee</i> Allie M. JESSUP
	<i>Joseph J. Lee</i>	Angela Maria SUOZZO	Antonio SUOZZO
Joseph Jessiop LEE Jr.		<i>Mrs. Angela M. Lee</i>	<i>Antonio Suozzo</i> Filomena VOLPE
<i>Jo J L Jr</i>	Margaret Jean FENTON	Alexander FENTON	Filomena Volpe Robert Wright FENTON
	<i>Margaret Jean Fenton</i>	<i>Alex Fenton</i>	<i>Robert W Fenton</i> Margaret Smith SCOTT
Danica Fenton LEE		Ethel Lucy COMANDO	Joseph Sylvester COMANDO
<i>Danica</i>		<i>Ethel Lucy Comando</i>	<i>Joseph S Comando</i> Grace E. DRAYER
Harrison Colborn LEE		Millard Henry KOEHLER	Henry KOEHLER
<i>Harrison Lee</i>	Stephen Alan KOEHLER	<i>Millard H. Koehler</i>	<i>Henry Koehler</i> Jennie May MELVILLE
	<i>Stephen A. Koehler</i>	Janice Marion COLBORN	<i>Jennie May Koehler</i> Melvin Russell COLBORN
Sandra Lynn KOEHLER		<i>Janice Marion Colborn</i>	Mabel Francis WILCOX
<i>Sandra J Koehler</i>	Margaret Ann WEST	William Thomas WEST	<i>Mabel F. Colborn</i> William Jeen WEST
	<i>Margaret West</i>	<i>William T. West</i>	<i>William Jeen West.</i> Margaret Josephine ZEHREN
		Catherine Jean CUMMINGS	<i>Margaret J. Johnson.</i> Joseph KAMINCHAITIS
		<i>Catherine Cumminge</i>	<i>Joseph Kamanchaitis</i> Katrina Vaitkunas (Pukas)
			<i>Katrina Pukas</i>

Michigan Genealogical Council:

2023 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar

June 23 at 1:00 pm – June 24 at 4:00 pm EDT

Each summer, the Archives of Michigan and the Michigan Genealogical Council host a seminar to promote family history awareness and teach genealogy research skills. The Abrams Foundation generously supports the event in loving memory of Barbara J. Brown.

For this year's event, we are pleased to offer this flagship annual gathering as a hybrid event. Participants can attend sessions either online or onsite. We are delighted to host Drew Smith, who will join us on-site here in Lansing and through Zoom to our virtual attendees.

"SPELLING DUSN'T COWNT"

1 Back in the day folks couldn't spell and many could barely write, so how a name sounds is more



important than how it's spelled. Use wild card or Soundex searches to help find variant spellings of names.

ASSUME NOTHING

2 Check all your facts, don't assume that any particular document is right or wrong, and always try to find other independent sources to corroborate your facts as much as possible. Verify, verify, verify. For instance, don't assume:

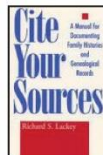
- your ancestors were married
- census information is accurate
- vital (or other) records were correct
- your ancestor's life events were recorded
- ancestors had the same name as their enslaver

USE DISCRETION

Never lie in your genealogy reports, but use discretion when reporting family information, especially when it involves living relatives.

ALWAYS DOCUMENT YOUR SOURCES, NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY CONTRADICT ONE ANOTHER

4 Over time, you will compile more data and those seemingly contradictory pieces of evidence may prove to be just the pieces of the puzzle you need to prove or disprove your theory. Be consistent as you cite your sources. There are standard citation formats, but even if you just make up your own format for listing your sources, be consistent with it. You want your descendants to be able to retrace your steps, so **always** cite your sources.

**MOST DATES ARE APPROXIMATE**

5 It's okay to state that someone was born "btw 1901-1903," "abt. 1845," or died "May 1915" if you don't have an exact date or where various

documents have different dates. Which date is "correct?" They all are.

IF UNSURE, SAY SO

6 Future researchers will thank you for being honest if you simply say that you cannot prove a specific fact, yet you "suspect" such and such is true. Don't fudge the facts. **Ever.**

**YOU CANNOT DO IT ALL ONLINE**

7 Yes, we love doing research online and there's nothing better than using the computer to find new sources, view digital images of original documents and even connect with relatives. For family historians, the Internet will never replace the wonderful work of libraries, county courthouses, archives, and historical societies. Do as much as you can online, then turn off your computer and hit the bricks!

**JUST BECAUSE IT'S ONLINE DOESN'T MEAN IT'S TRUE**

8 The Internet is a wonderful thing but it's filled with oodles of bad information. Don't make the mistake of believing anything you find online at face value. Verify against other sources, even if you paid for the information you found online. Consult the original source whenever possible.

PASS ALONG YOUR RESEARCH

9 No matter how many decades you spend researching your family, your research will never be done. Plan on passing along your research to the next generation's researchers. Leave excellent notes, cite all your sources, explain your shorthand ... in essence, leave your research the way you'd have liked to have found it.

**SPREAD THE WORD**

You have our permission to use/publish these *Golden Rules* as much as you like. Just give us credit for them, okay?

DON'T DIE WITH YOUR STORIES STILL IN YOU

10 Giving credit to Dr. Wayne Dyer for his "Don't die with your music still in you," we want to remind you to tell the stories as completely and as accurately as possible. Genealogy isn't about just doing research. Genealogy is about telling the stories and ensuring that your ancestor's legacies live on for generations to come. Without the stories, the research won't do anyone much good. The legacy of your ancestors rests in your capable hands. Doing the research is fine, but always remember that you have been chosen to **tell their stories.**

**DNA IS NOT A TRUMP CARD**

11 DNA is just one of **many** possible sources of information you can use to verify or deny a relationship. Human error occurs when the results are transcribed, thereby providing false information. DNA results should **always** be used in concert with other sources.

ANYTHING YOU POST ONLINE WILL BE "BORROWED"

12 You need to accept the fact that any family information you post online will be "borrowed" or outright stolen, and you will probably not get credit for all your hard work. This is the nature of the beast... the Internet. Get over it.

**THE INTERNET IS CONSTANTLY CHANGING**

13 Web sites change all the time, and to find the information you need, you may need to look in new places to find old information. Take a second look at old sites you haven't visited in a while, and don't be afraid to walk away from your favorite sites if/when you find new ones that provides better information. Seek and you may find.

GotGenealogy.com
PO Box 10805 • Oakland, CA 94610-0805
(510) 333-6933

Dec 14

Meeting Schedule

Meetings are held in the Community Room
at Wirt Library

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

September 14 th	March 8 th
October 12 th	April 12 th
November 9 th	May 10 th
December 14 th	June 14 th
January 11 th	July No Meeting
February 8 th	August No 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-Thur	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: baymigenoc.com

Email: bcgs13@yahoo.com

Snail Mail: BCGS

P.O.Box 1366

Bay City, MI, 48706

2022-2023 BCGS Officers

President	Kathleen Doerr
Vice President	Charles Kocher
Secretary	Judy Berner
Treasurer	Mary McManman
Librarian	Heather Leser
Publishing	Terry Maul
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.