
** Clarion **

BAY COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

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SOCIETY BUSINESS: We need to clarify some information from our last Newsletter i.e.: Ancestry Inc. will publish and mail the National Geneological Federation Newsletter to our membership, not the Mich. Council Newsletter. Any member who wishes not to receive this newsletter should notify one of our Council Delegates or Bob Luce.

Hilda Taylor provided us with a program dealing with land records at our January meeting. It was well received. A report on her presentation follows.

Land records are important to us as they are among the earliest and best. Many times they contain extra information which is helpful, they put a person in a specific place at a certain time, and make it possible for you to visit the actual site found in the records. This information can assist us to learn more about the whole family which can help us in our search.

States held title to land in the original 13 states and Kentucky, Maine, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont and later West Virginia. The federal government held title to the western lands, which was called the public domain. Land in the first named group was claimed by being "staked out", i.e. the claimant used landmarks such as rocks, rivers or creeks, and notched trees as he paced the boundary of the land he wanted. He then took this description to the land office to register his claim, had it formally surveyed, and paid for the land. Land in these days equaled power and status, and although he could buy land without his wife's involvement, when land was sold the wife was queried privately about the sale.

The method of pacing and landmarks used in the eastern part of the country was replaced for the western lands in the Ordinance of 1785 which divided this government land into townships six miles square, which had 36 square mile sections containing 640 acres. With Range (East-West) lines, and Town (North-South) lines established from a predetermined Baseline and Meridian line it was relatively easy to find and have a parcel of land surveyed. Maps of townships may be obtained at the courthouse and some libraries.

For further info on land records Hilda recommends the following: "The Source" by Arlene Eakle, "Know Your Ancesters" by Ethel Williams, and "The Searchers Guide To American Geneology" by Val Greenwood.

Our thanks to Earlene Chanel for this report of Hilda Taylor's presentation.

The Mich. Gen. Council met at the new State Library and Museum in Lansing on January 12. The program, "Lap Computers", was very well received. This was followed by tours of both the Library and the Archives. This is a must place to visit! You will find included with this Newsletter a pamphlet with geneological info about the Archives.

QUERIES: Lady looking for descendents of Nelson and Cynthia (Carter) Tower. From Canada they settled in Sanilac Co. ca 1850. Family members moved to Saginaw, Bay City and Flint. Known surnames in this family are Charters, Allen, Doan, Ellerthorpe, Emory, English, Kerr, Stevens, Sutton, Wright and

Cline. Any info to: Mildred Tower Henderson, 501 Third St. Fenton, MI 48430.

Info re: descendents of Josiah Bull (1738-1813) Dutchess Co. N.Y. David Bull and second wife Amelia arr. Tuscola Co ca 1878. He and first wife Julia Maybee had two sons Stephen b. Jan. 1859 and John b. Mar. 1864 in Murray Twp., Ont., Can. These two sons came to Mich. with David and Amelia. Other children from the first marriage were; William, Emma and Jane. Stephen had a son George S. b. Apr. 1887 and John had at least two daughters Mildred and Gladys b. in the 1890's.

Also re: Lewis and Emma Jane Bowerman arr. in U.S. 1891 and settled in Caseville, Mich. where Lewis d. 10 Mar. 1938. Family included Wilbert b. Apr. 1883, Fred b. Nov. 1886 and Gerta A. b. Aug 1888.

Please send info on these two families to: Mrs. Marv E. Young, 2470 Plato Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95407.

MEETING: The society will meet next at 6:30 p.m. at the South End Library on Tues. Feb. 7th. The business meeting will commence at 7:00 and we will have a number of items to discuss which come to us from our Executive Board meeting of 19 January. These items include: Budget recommendations, Newsletter, handling of Queries, Society Library and Membership.

Our program will deal with using computers and presented by Jim Griffiths assisted by Duff Zube.

DUES FOR 1989: Our 1989 dues are now current. Please remit \$7.00 for a family or \$5.00 for a person to: Ms. Hilda Taylor Bay Co. Gen. Soc., P.O. Box 27 Essexville, MI 48732.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: 25 Feb. 1989: Chicago Pub. Library Workshop. Contact: Chicago Pub. Library, 425 N. Michigan Ave. Chi. Ill. 60611. They will also have a workshop on 8 Apr. 1989 w/ Dr. Geo Schwertzer.

March 7, 1989: Formal dedication of the Library of Mich. Ceremony at 12 noon. Commemorative activities from Mar. 6-9.

March 25, 1989: Det. Gen. Soc. and French-Can. Heritage Soc. Joint Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Detroit Pub. Library 5201 Woodward Ave.

May 1989: Annual Workshop of the French-Canada Heritage Soc. Contact the Fr-Can. Her. Soc. at the Library of Mich., 717 W. Allegan, Ians. MI 48909.

17-20 May 1989: Nat. Gen. Soc. Conference. St. Paul Minn. Contact NGS Conf. 4527 17th St. North Arlington, VA. 22207-2399. Reg. fee \$80.00 until 3 April or \$90.00 after that date.

28-30 Sept. 1989: Mich. Gen. Soc. Seminar. Complete details to be provided later. Will be held in Novi, MI.

WERE YOU AWARE: From an article in the Washtenaw Co. Soc. we are told that Gladbags which are Mylar plastic do a super job of protecting your valuable

documents from deterioration. One must be sure the document to be preserved contacts only the Gladbaq, and that the Gladbaq is completely sealed.

NOTICE: Anyone wishing to have an article in the Clarion may send it to B. Luce, Clarion Editor, 302 N. Johnson, Bay City, MI 48708. If it is a reprint of information from another publication, please provide us with the source.

Anyone with suggestions for additions to our library are asked to send same to: Bay Co. Gen. Soc., Box 27, Essexville, MI 48732.

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