



PIONEER RECORD

Newsletter for the Midland Genealogical Society

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Moravian's and Their Influence Upon the Colonies

By Yvonne L. Ashworth

The first missionaries to arrive in the Colonies were that from the Moravian Church and the result of the churches goal to "win souls for the Lamb." Their original intent was to minister to the needs of German immigrants, Native Americans and to the increasing number of African slaves via the use of "lay people", which was a new and untried concept in the 1740's. This goal was later amended to include education at multiple levels.

Wherever the Moravian missionary went, a school would be established. This included schools established for Mohican and other Indian tribes common to the area around any Moravian community. The first communities which became permanent Moravian settlements were Bethlehem, Nazareth, Emmaus and Lititz in the colony of Pennsylvania after an attempt to settle in Savannah had failed. After years of facing religious persecution, the Moravians found the charter of the Pennsylvanian colony providing religious freedoms to be more than welcoming.

Having previously worked with the Mohican tribe in New York, with relations between colonial authorities and Moravians becoming precarious, the convert Mohicans followed their Moravian teachers into Pennsylvania in what can only be described as "self-imposed exile."

With each exile came Christian Indians

cohabitation in common villages for the common benefit of the newly confirmed Moravian converts. The Moravian mission was financially supported by the English Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Unlike other Protestant missionaries, the Moravians lived and dressed like the Indians and it was not uncommon for European visitors to mistake the Moravians for Indians. This contributed to the successes of villages.

In 1755, the Delaware raided the Christian Indian Mission at Gnadenhutten, Pennsylvania. They burned it to the ground and killed several Moravian missionaries. The Indian converts which were Mohican and Delaware eventually escaped. It was then necessary for them to develop a new village which was then relocated to Canada. Other colonists often viewed with suspicion the close relations that Moravian missionaries had with Native American tribes which were considered to be dangerous and downright feared. The scrutiny that many missionaries encountered was troublesome but more severe was the fact that renegade colonists were beginning to massacre Christian Indians, out of hatred and ignorance. The original villages occupied by the Indians were reduced to ashes as the result of the French and Indian war.

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Midland Genealogical Society Programs for 2014 - 2015

Meetings are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Programs for the meetings are as follows.

****PLEASE NOTE LOCATIONS****

Feb 18—"Finding Your Patriots" Presented by Thora Goodnight. Meeting at St. John's Episcopal Church, Midland, activity room, lower level.

Mar 18—"Finding Family with DNA", presented by Richard Hill, Author of "Finding Family" Co-Sponsored by the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Meeting at Grace A. Dow memorial Library, Midland.

For a complete list of our meetings, check the meetings page of our website at mimgs.org.

The President's Letter

Sometimes unanticipated sadness occurs. Today many MGS members attended a memorial celebration of the life of one our members. Kathy Bohl was an active, involved member for many years. She served in many capacities including volunteering in the Genealogy Room of the Grace A Dow Memorial Library. She was also a long time member of the DAR and Daughters of the Union. She will be missed.

Earlier in January we also lost Larry Hurley who passed away at his Florida residence in early January.

On a more positive note our program committee has arranged

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From The Editor ● ● ●

We have some great lectures coming up so be sure to attend our monthly meetings. I am looking forward to the DNA talk as I am going to be getting into this soon.

We have lost two members recently, both have been friends. Kathy Bohl and Larry Hurley. Larry was Editor of the Charlotte County, Florida Genealogical Society newsletter and occasionally was interested in using some of our informative articles in his newsletter. Its great that we have had such talented people writing articles.

I also would like to see more mem-

some wonderful programs. In conjunction with the Library, Richard Hill, author and researcher, will discuss the role DNA technology played in identifying his biological father and fellow kin at the Library Auditorium on Wednesday, March 18. Richard is a resident of Grand Rapids and travels through out the state talking about the role as well as impact DNA plays in researching ancestors. Mark your calendars so you do not miss this fascinating presentation.

During the next few weeks, members of the Nominations Committee will be contacting fellow members to serve as an elected member of the Society Board for the 2015-16 year. Please give serious consideration to volunteering to serve. You will not regret

bers contributing articles. Let me know about the lives of your family as they grew up in Midland county.

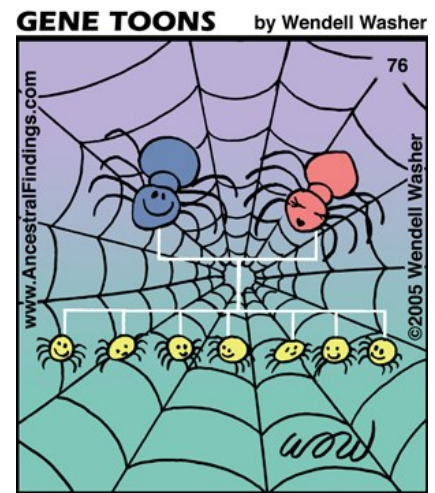
For those of you that grew up in and around Midland. There are a couple facebook groups that reminisce about Midland and show some old photos of Midland buildings as well as some class photos. These are "You know your from Midland when" and "Midland, Michigan: Then & Now". These are both closed groups so request to join. If you are not yet on the Midland Genealogical Society facebook page then now would be a good time to join. There are some interesting articles posted here as well as reminders for meetings.

Walter Bennett, Editor

becoming actively involved. Our current board is a dynamic group of creative, energetic members committed to providing the best programming and leadership for the future of our Society.

Looking forward to seeing you on February 18 when Thora Goodnight presents a program on "Finding Your Patriot".

Faye Ebach



Genealogy on the web.

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2014-2015

Collection of dues for the current year has ceased. Collection of dues for the 2015-2016 year will begin in August.

Dues are shown below and can be sent to the following address:

**Midland Genealogical Society,
P.O. Box 2421, Midland, MI
48641-2421.**

**Dues for an individual are \$20.00;
for a family they are \$25.00.**

February 18th Program

Would you like to know how to identify the patriots in your family tree? That is the subject that will be presented by Thora Goodnight at the Feb. 18th meeting of the Midland Genealogical Society. The Public is invited to attend this interesting program at St. John's Episcopal Church, 7 p.m., in the activity room, lower level.

March 18th Program

Noted author, Richard Hill will present a program detailing DNA testing at the March 18th Midland Genealogical Society meeting which is being co-sponsored with the Grace A.

Dow Memorial Library. Mr. Hill resides in Grand Rapids and is author of "Finding Family". The program will begin at 7 p.m. at the Grace A. Dow Library, and is open to the public. Copies of his book will be available for sale.

April 15th Program

Researching Quaker families will be the topic of the April 15th meeting of the Midland Genealogical Society. Ruth Curfman, will be the guest speaker. The public is invited to attend this program held at St. John's Episcopal Church at 7 p.m. in

Membership Report

The society welcomes Bruce and Laurie Hitsman of Midland who joined us at our January meeting. Introduce yourselves everyone! However, we regret to inform you of the loss of two long-time MGS members in January as well: Neva 'Kathy' Bohl of Midland and Lawrence E. Hurley of North Port, Florida. Larry recently had two of his books placed on the shelves in the Family History Room at the library. These spiral-bound books can be found with the call number 929.2 entitled Hurley Family and Hurley Biographies and Maternal Lines.

Ruth Ann Casadonte, Membership Chair
5104 Nurmi Dr., Midland, MI 48640



B O O K S F O R S A L E

The following books, published by the Midland Genealogical Society, are available for sale at any meeting, at the Midland Genealogy Room, Grace A. Dow Public Library or by mail. Price of each book is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

Midland County Obituary Index (#1) – 1872-1927. The book consists of 16,000 abstractions covering 55 years from the Midland Times (1872 -1875), The Midland Sun (1892 -1924) and the Midland Republican (1881-1927). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 ½ by 11 inches.

Midland County Obituary Index (#2) – 1928-1950. The book consists of about 8,000 abstractions covering 22 years from the Midland Republican (1928 - 1937) and the Midland Daily News (1937 - 1950). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 ½ by 11 inches. Note: Both Obituary Books (#1 & #2) are available as a package of \$35.00.

Midland County Obituary Index (#3)-1951-1982 This book consists of 30,900 entries including about 4000 maiden names covering 22 years extracted from Midland Daily News. The 387 page, 8½ by 11, soft bound book consists of two volumes A through L and M through Z. The set costs \$40 plus \$5 postage and handling.

Midland Pioneers, edited by Ora Flaningham. This book is a compilation of the most interesting genealogical, historical and humorous reprints from newspapers published in the Pioneer Record. The book is 6 by 9 inches, soft bound, 259 pages. (Out of print, but orders being compiled at Genealogy desk.)

Midland County, Michigan Marriage Records 1855-1910 including Groom & Bride Indexes. The book is 8.5 by 11, soft bound, 320 pages. \$30.

A collection of "Some Midland Michigan County Records" have been compiled and extensively indexed by Ora L. Flaningham. It is available in PDF format on a compact disc from the Midland Genealogical Society. The collection is mainly out of print books from our society, Harold Moll, and Ora Flaningham. Included are: "Midland County Cemetery Records" 1981, "Midland County Michigan Census 1850-1894 (1983)", "Midland County Michigan Obituary Index 1872-1927 (1994)", "Midland Pioneers", vol 1 (1999) & vol 2, "Midland County Michigan Probate Index 1850-1900", "Early Saginaw Valley History", "Bethany Indian Mission 1843-1855", "Bethany Indian Mission 1851-1868", "In the Wilderness With the Red Indians", "Account Book of Charles H. Rodd", "Indian Build a Birch Bark Canoe", and Index to First Families of Midland County". The cost of this CD is \$25 shipping included in US.

To ORDER A BOOK write: Midland Genealogical Society BOOK: P.O. Box 2421, Midland, MI 48641-2421.

With respect to their educational work, Moravian missionaries wrote manuals to be utilized in the classroom. A good share of these were published and made an indelible mark in American education during the colonial period. One such example is a book prepared by David Zeisberger which contained lessons, words and phrases, the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments all in Delaware and English for use by the Delaware Indians.

In English and German speaking Moravian communities, English, French, German, Latin and Greek were taught with Math, History and Religion. At one time, fifteen schools were main-

boys and girls would be divided up by sex with girls age twelve to nineteen residing together and boys doing the same until age nineteen or until marriage. Members ate, worked and worshiped together and slept in dormitories with one another.

Those persons engaging in missionary work were not compensated monetarily but through food, shelter, education, community support and a place to worship. Each entire congregation was responsible for the fulfillment of church goals. The religion practiced by the Moravians and the subsequent worship was joyful, being focused on Christ. Meals were often shared and music played a central part of most services. Many of the religious rites, sacraments and beliefs are still practiced in present day religion having been passed down for centuries.

Sacrament of Baptism- Adults are instructed through the church as to what is expected of them before and after baptism, with each individual professing their faith and undergoing one of three accepted methods of baptism by water which include full immersion, sprinkling or pouring of water over the forehead. Babies were baptized upon the basis of the faith of their parents and of the church.

Sacrament of Holy Communion-The holy rite is practiced before the congregation with the Presbyter wearing a pure white robe which is free of adornment. Only those individuals which have been baptized are eligible to participate in communion which usually involves the distribution of a small and unleavened wafers and grape juice or wine, which represent the body and the blood of Christ.

Observance of the Lord's Supper-This observance is consecrated as is communion with all participants required to be baptized prior to participation. Observance includes a predetermined ritual by the following sequence: Salutation, Hymn with the right hand of fellowship (shaking of hands), a prayer of thanksgiving, the consecration of the bread followed by the partaking of the bread together, an allotment of time for silent prayer then the consecration of the wine or grape juice, subsequent distribution and partaking of the wine or juice with silent prayer and a hymn, with the right hand of fellowship, a second hymn and then the Benediction and scripted response.

Beliefs

*Moravians believe strongly in fellowship and duty to the church and community.

*Marriage is not a sacrament in the

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tained by the Moravians in Pennsylvania, but they came to an end with the advent of the American Revolution, with only the Bethlehem Seminary surviving.

Each community was divided up into age groups with infants living with their parents until the age of 18 months at which time the infants were transferred to nurseries to reside with one another through the age of four. Then

Moravian Religious Rites and Sacraments

Right of Confirmation-This right is for individuals to be confirmed once each person is instructed and completes the program successfully. There is a requirement for each to publicly confess their faith before the congregation. These confessions are typically held on Palm Sunday or Pentecost Sunday.



church but each couple is expected to receive premarital counseling via the church.

*Belief in the Trinity-the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

*Responsibility to civil authorities unless it conflicts with the "Government of the Savior."

*Pre Arranged marriages are no longer practiced having been discontinued 200 years ago. (Common in the 18th century)

The roots of the Moravian's congregational life are in Christ. Moravian churches are gatherings of believers who take seriously the words of the Apostle Paul to the Colossians. Their faith identity is as Christians, as followers of Christ who happen to be affiliated with the Moravian Church as a way of being Christian. They describe themselves as being the oldest Protestant religion, dating back to 1457, which predates the Lutherans by more than 60 years.

Moravians have been described as "God's happy people" due to the emphasis on joy and peace in the process of being believers. Rather than preach on hell and damnation, they prefer to share the story of God's love and sacrifice. They constantly abide by the principle that to understand God is through

the life and work of Christ. Their religion helped contribute to the colonies, to bring together peoples of all ethnic backgrounds and beliefs, to centralize all in the community for the betterment of all.

Tradition Associated with the Moravian Church

Lovefeasts

The lovefeast is primarily a song or music service, opened with prayer or thoughts. If a large group of visitors are present, the presiding Presbyter often says a few words, explaining the purpose of the service, just before the congregation partakes of whatever is served. On special occasions an address may be added, giving opportunity to remind the congregation of the history of the anniversary or purpose for the gathering and sharing of food. No rule exists as to what type of food is offered, except that it be kept simple and that it is easily distributed so as not to disturb the service. The drink may be coffee, tea, or lemonade, fully prepared in advance, so that it may be served very quietly and without interruption of the singing. The food served is not consecrated, as in the communion. Children and members of any denomination may partake. There are many services during the year at which a lovefeast is celebrated, such as the festivals during the church year, an anniversary day of the Moravian Church or the anniversary day of a particular congregation. Early believers practiced lovefeasts as a way to break bread together to signify fellowship and equality.

The Moravians continue to participate in

missionary work around the world and educate the impoverished in the Caribbean and other small countries which are economically deprived. Their contributions to the educational and religious needs of colonists and Indians alike were and remain an important part of colonial history here in the United States.

Sources:

<http://www.moravianseminary.edu/moravian-studies/about-the-moravians/brief-history-of-the-moravian-church.html>

<http://christianity.about.com/od/Moravian/a/Moravian-Beliefs.html>

<http://www.palmyramoravian.org/what-is-moravian.html>

MGS Half Price Liquidation Sale

The society has an accumulation of MGS's published books waiting for new homes.

They include:

Obit Index 1872-1927

Obit Index 1928-1950

Obit Index 1951-1982 (2 volume set)
counts as 2 books.

Marriage Records 1855-1910

All the above books are softcover and are \$10 each.

Marriage Records 1855-1910 hard cover \$27.50.

If mailed, postage would be determined on weight. Cheapest rate used.

If anyone is interested in these very expertly, compiled books, please notify me; They will be mailed or can be picked up at the Genealogy room on Tuesdays 1-4 pm.

Jo Brines

4300 Castle Dr

Midland, MI 48640

989-832-8312

Carpatho-Rusyns and Their Immigration to the United States

By Yvonne L Ashworth

Carpatho-Rusyns, also known as Ruthenians, come from an area in the center of the European continent. Their homeland, known as Carpathian Rus', is directly located at the borders where the Ukraine, Slovakia, and Poland meet. Most of the immigrants from that area identify themselves with the actual State in which they lived and not the ruling country. At this time there is no accurate record of the numbers of Carpatho-Rusyns that immigrated to the United States, due to this identifying factor when immigrants were originally enumerated.

Most of the earliest immigrants in the 1870s and 1880s were young males who hoped to reside and work in the U.S. temporarily, then return home. Some engaged in seasonal labor and probably migrated several times between their country of origin and America before 1914. Others, once economically able, brought their families and established citizenship. Since earning money was the

main goal of the immigrants, they settled in coal mining regions in eastern Pennsylvania, in Pittsburgh. Other cities and metropolitan areas that were favorable to attract Carpatho-Rusyns were New York City and northeastern New Jersey, Gary and Whiting, Indiana in the areas of Detroit and Flint, Michigan and around the greater Minneapolis, Minnesota area.



The Carpatho-Rusyns and their relationship with American society has changed several times during the past century. There are basically three phases during which the attitudes of Carpatho-Rusyns toward American society have ranged from minimal adaptation to total assimilation and

acceptance of the American "norm."

From the 1880s to about 1925, or the first period, Carpatho-Rusyns felt estranged as members of a distinct Eastern Christian church that did not exist previously in the United States. Upon arrival, they were primarily Byzantine Rite Catholics, or Greek Catholics. The American Roman Catholic hierarchy, however, did not recognize Greek Catholic priests. Not finding their own church and being rejected by the American Roman Catholics, Carpatho-Rusyns built their own churches to address their religious needs. The second period in Rusyn American life lasted from about 1925 to 1975. This is when assimilation into society was important to the next generation of Carpatho-Rusyns, who no longer identified with "old world" customs.

The third phase in Rusyn-American life began about 1975 and has lasted to the present. Like many other "assimilated" Americans, the third-generation descendants want to know what their grand-

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parents knew and what their parents tried to forget. This came with the advent of movements initiated after the success of the "Roots" book and movie.

Carpatho-Rusyns are by origin Slavs. They speak dialects that are classified as East Slavic which is mostly related to Ukrainian. However, Carpatho-Rusyn speech has also been heavily influenced by neighboring West Slavic languages like Slovak and Polish, as well as by Hungarian. The early immigrants to the United States used Rusyn for both spoken and written communication. First-generation immigrants, in particular, wanted to pass on the native language to their American-born offspring. To preserve their native language, several Rusyn American grammars, readers, catechisms, and other texts were published. The language was also used on a few radio programs during the 1940s and 1950s in New York City, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and other cities with large Rusyn concentrations.

Presently there are no radio programs broadcasting in the lan-

guage however, there is language instruction at the Catholic seminary in Pittsburgh and the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Seminary in Johnstown, Pennsylvania which continues to this day.

Carpatho-Rusyn families were traditionally large, in the "Old World" due to the fact that their livelihood was primarily from farming. Children usually numbered between 8 and 10. This changed with the advent of immigration. The immigrants were initially male and lived in boarding homes where rent was cheap and economical. Those who permanently stayed either married in America or brought their families over to the United States from their country of origin. The extended family structure typical of the European village was replaced by families living in traditional American homes or apartments which included parents and three to four children. There were no social programs available to assist them financially, (Prior to World War One) so each family had to be self-sufficient and economically independent. This ethnic group was initially and primarily employed in the railroad or coal mining busi-

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Coming Events

March 28, 2015 "GSMC 38th Annual Spring Seminar", Genealogical Society of Monroe County. Held at Monroe County Community College. See <http://gsmcmi.org/upload/menu/2015GSMCSeminarFlyer.pdf>

April 19, 2015 "Antiquarian Book and paper Show", University Quality Inn, Lansing, Michigan.
www.curiousbooks.com/shows.html

Apr 25, 2015 "Indiana Genealogical Society Annual Conference", Held on campus of Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana. Featured speaker is Judy G Russell of the Legal Genealogist. For further info go to www.indgensoc.org/conference.php.

May 2015. "Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Sale" Actual Date TBA. Ballroom of the Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, Michigan. annarborbookfair.com.

May 29-31, 2015 "Tracks through Time", Ontario Genealogical Society Conference, Barrie, Ontario. For further info see [/www.ogs.on.ca/conference/](http://www.ogs.on.ca/conference/).

Sept 17-19, 2015 "New York State Family History Conference" Also a Federation of Genealogical Societies Regional conference, with a full day focused on managing societies, followed by two days of New York focused lectures and sessions in general topics. See nys-fhc.org for further info.

The genealogy room has received from a Scott Price. Several pages of direct line only of his family from Albert L. Price to Benjamin Price, Michigan back to Essex Co., N.J. and Wales and England (early 1600's) Several males stayed in Midland but most moved to Mecosta County, Michigan in the early 1900's. Anyone's family??

News from Dick Eastman

U.K. Moves Toward Making Babies from DNA of 3 People

Well son, babies happen when a Daddy and a Mommy and another Mommy and some scientists get parliamentary approval to love each other very much.

This should complicate record keeping for genealogists!

Members of Parliament voted Tuesday to allow the creation of human embryos from the DNA of three people to try to eradicate a type of genetic disease that has caused the deaths of thousands of babies. If the measure also passes Britain's upper chamber, the House of Lords, England would become the first country to legalize the procedure. If the House of Lords approves the bill, the first three-person baby could be born as soon as next year.

The technique could help women in England who have lost babies to mitochondrial disease.

You can read more in USA Today at <http://goo.gl/UdJU3D>.

Announcement: New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer

The following announcement was written by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society:

NEW YORK, NY, February 2, 2015 — The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society announced the publication of the New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer, a comprehensive, first-ever, 856-page reference book.

"The book is absolutely unprecedented in its breadth and depth, covering records in the State of New York for all the major ethnic and religious groups that have lived here. As a reference for family his-

torians, it is simply indispensable," said Jeanne Sloane, the Society's chairman.

This ambitious volume has been three years in the making. The review committee comprised top experts on New York research, including four former editors of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, the flagship journal for New York genealogy: Laura DeGrazia, CG, FGBS; Karen Mauer Jones, CG, FGBS; Henry B. Hoff, CG, FASG, FGBS, current editor of the New England Historic Genealogical Register; and Harry Macy Jr., FASG, FGBS, the unofficial dean of New York genealogists, who served as the book's consulting editor.

Early praise for the book has come from David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States; Ann Thornton, Andrew W. Mellon Director, The New York Public Library; and David Rencher, Chief Genealogical Officer, FamilySearch.

D. Joshua Taylor, Director of Family History at Findmypast, wrote, "This book is an absolute masterpiece. The words 'essential' and 'comprehensive' are simply not enough to describe it."

Henry Louis Gates Jr. wrote, "This volume is certain to become the standard for the nation and an indispensable resource for anyone hoping to trace ancestral journeys in—and beyond—the Empire State."

More than 100 historians, archivists, librarians, and genealogists across the state reviewed and contributed content about local and regional resources and key topics in New York family history. The result is a book of more than 856 pages with:

Chapters on major record groups and research resources, including the most up-to-date and comprehensive review of New York State's extremely complicated vital records system

Information on research resources for sixteen major ethnic and twelve major

religious groups that have lived in New York

Gazetteers, maps, and research guides to each of New York's 62 counties, including the five boroughs of New York City

An index of over 11,000 place names and place-name variants past and present—the first published gazetteer of its kind since 1872

More than 100 separate, categorized, special-topic bibliographies vetted by genealogists

Timelines of key events in New York history from 1609 to 1945 that impact genealogical research

The book's annotated table of contents is accessible on the Society's website NewYorkFamilyHistory.org.

The New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer may be purchased either in the online store at NewYorkFamilyHistory.org, by calling (212) 755-8532, or by mailing a completed order form (from the website) with a check to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 36 West 44th Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10036-8105. The book retails for \$85 and is available to NYG&B members for \$65 and to libraries and societies for \$75.

New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer Prepared by the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society 2015. Softcover, 8.5 x 11, 856 pages, including place-name index. Retail \$85 ISBN 978-0-692-31998-7

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society has been a primary resource for research on New York families since 1869. By offering educational programs, scholarly and informational publications, and online resources, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society helps people of all backgrounds build connections with their families and their communities, especially those linked to New York City, State, and region, and to appreciate their families' experience in the broader context of American history. The NYG&B maintains an eLibrary of unique digital material, including the entire run of its quarterly scholarly journal *The NYG&B Record*, for its members at newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

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nesses and the up and coming steel industry. Later, additional occupations included oil and timber related jobs, and every retail and common business known in their geographical region, as new business owners.

Some of the traditions of the “Old Country” also disappeared with immigration. Arranged marriages became a thing of the past, with courtships taking the place of a parentally arranged marriage. Women were rarely encouraged to undertake any type of continuing education, as it was believed that marriage made the investment of an education basically useless. Women were

accepted at social events and became leaders of various guilds and social clubs, but as late as the 1950’s, the belief that being a homemaker was the first and foremost duty of women, was still prevalent in the Carpatho-Rusyn society.

Religion as traditionally instilled, was important to the Carpatho-Rusyns and therefore once able, they tried to recreate that which was familiar from the past.

From this came conflict as Byzantine Catholic church officials and American Catholic Bishops did not recognize many of the traditions and the calendar of this religion.

Eventually the Orthodox and Byzantine church members would in-

termarry and increase the population of Carpatho-Rusyns to between 80,00 to 100,000 with additional peoples being members of various related sects. As of 1994, per historian Paul Robert Magocsi, there were approximately 690,000 Carpatho-Rusyns in the United States with 320,000 Byzantine Rite Catholics, 270,000 of Orthodox affiliations and 100,000 persons affiliated with various Protestant and other denominational church groups or religions.

With their onion-domed churches and cultural contributions, the Carpatho-Rusyns have left an indelible mark in Pennsylvania, New York and other areas as the result of those who dared to defy the odds, through hard work, determination and an adherence to their roots.

Sources:

<http://>

www.carpathorusynsociety.org/

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rusyns>

<http://www.rusyn.com/>



More News From Dick Eastman:

Proposed Elimination of the Genealogy Department at Indiana State Library

This could be a huge loss to genealogists: the new Indiana state budget bill proposes a 24% cut in funding to the Indiana State Library. This proposal would eliminate the Genealogy Department, as well as reduce the staff at ISL by 10%.

The Indiana Genealogical Society has posted information about this on their blog, and includes links to an analysis by the State Librarian, the contact info for the House Ways and Means Committee, and committee chair Rep. Timothy Brown. You can read more about the proposal at: <http://indgensoc.blogspot.com/2015/01/proposed-elimination-of-genealogy-at.html>.

More than 80,000 Digitized Genealogy and Family History Publications are Now Available Online

One of the greatest genealogy resources available today is the huge collection of digitized genealogy and family history publications from the archives of some of the most important family history libraries in the world. When I travel to various genealogy conferences and societies, I am often amazed at how many genealogists

are unaware of these free resources. Not only are the books and other publications available free of charge, you don't even have to pay for gas to visit these libraries!

These digital books are available at:

Google Books

Archive.org

Allen County Public Library

Brigham Young University Harold B. Lee Library

Brigham Young University Hawaii Joseph F. Smith Library

Church History Library

Family History Library

Houston Public Library – Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research

Mid-Continent Public Library – Midwest Genealogy Center

Pennsylvania State University Libraries' Digitized Collections

The menus and the search methods will obviously vary from one site to another. However, a few minutes spent exploring each site's holdings could pay big dividends.

I will say that most newcomers search only for names. In fact, I'll admit that I do the same on my first search on a new web site and I suspect a lot of other experienced genealogists do the same. However, after exhausting the search for names, most experienced genealogists start looking for other search

terms. I always look for locations. Many times, I have been successful at finding some tidbit about an ancestor by searching for the county or the town in which he or she lived, even after a search for the person's name produced no results at all.

One of my more successful searches came as a result of searching for the name of the small town in which my great-great-grandparents lived. I knew he was a farmer so I searched for his name plus the name of the small town in which he lived. I was rewarded with a scanned digital booklet of only 42 pages, printed in 1842, that listed all the farmers in his county, along with a detailed description of the farm and even the assessed value of the property. It listed the total acreage of his property, the number of acres under cultivation, the number of acres of woodlands, the number of barns and outbuildings, how many head of cattle, sheep, and swine that he owned, and even the number of chickens. It also listed the crops he sold. I learned a lot more about him and my great-great-grandmother in that small booklet than I ever found in census records!

When searching old books and other printed information, you have to be creative. You should search not only for locations, but also for fraternal organizations, religious affiliations, veterans' organizations, and anything else you can think of.

Looking Back in Midland County

From Portraits and Biographical Sketches, Prominent and Representative Citizens of Midland County, Michigan

Nelson Hitsman Farmer and lumberman, section 21, Lee Township, was born in Russell Township, Ottawa Co., Ont., March 17, 1845. When ten years old he went to St. Lawrence Co., N. Y. with his parents, and two years later he left home and was employed in various occupations. He bought 40 acres of land, and when 21 years of age he sold it, left that county and came to Lapeer Co., Mich., afterward moving to Tuscola County, where he bought a farm of 120 acres, worked it for seven years, then managed a farm in Lapeer County again for 2 years; then, in 1876, he went to Clay County, Kan., and about three years later he returned to this state and purchased 80 acres of timbered land on section 21, Lee Township, where he has since improved 30 acres. In politics, Mr. Hitsman is a Democrat, and he has held the minor offices of his district.

Mr. H. was married in St. Lawrence Co., N.Y., Sept. 6, 1863, to Miss Eliza A. Lanway, who was born in that county, June 1, 1848. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Hitsman are: George L., born Aug. 24, 1864; Mary E. E., March 26, 1869; Dora R., June 17, 1880; and William N., who was born July 1, 1873 and died Feb. 3, 1875.

Edwin C. Berryman Photographer at Midland, was born June 27, 1859. In Cayuga Co., N.Y. His parents, William and Catherine (Spears) Berryman, removed to Leslie, Ingham Co., Mich., in 1862. His father is a farmer and both parents now reside in Fentonville, Genesee Co., Mich.

Mr. Berryman spent 17 years in Leslie,

engaged in securing a fair common-school education and passing a short period in clerking. In April, 1879, he came to Midland, where he passed three years as a salesman in the mercantile establishment of the Reardon Bros. In 1882 he became proprietor of a photographers outfit and traveled some time. In Oct. 1882, he located at Midland, where he is engaged at a prosperous business. His artistic work enlarging and portrait-painting crayon, water colors, etc. He owns his residence, place of business, a village lot and 40 acres of land in Homer Township.

He was married in Plymouth, Wayne Co., Mich., Sept. 21, 1881, to Miss Della Glympse. She is a native of Plymouth, Wayne Co., Mich. Mr. Berryman is a member of the Knights of Maccabees.

William M. Wallace, Farmer and lumberman on section 11, Homer Township, was born in the State of New York, Feb. 29, 1840, and when a child his parents moved to Ontario, Can. He lived in that province with his parents until 18 years old, and was then apprenticed to the blacksmith's trade. He served his time, and then worked as a journeyman. In 1872 he came to Michigan, and the ensuing two years he worked in Newaygo County, on the Muskegon River. In the spring of 1874 he came to Midland County, and one year later he purchased ten acres of land on section 11, Homer Township. Here he has since farmed in the summer season, and followed lumbering in the winters. He is a Republican, and has held various school offices.

He was united in marriage Dec. 25, 1862, in Oxford Co., Ont. To Miss Mary J. Martin, who was born in that county April 12, 1842. Of this marriage there have been born three sons and one daughter; one of the former, and the daughter are dead.

Peter Skym Farmer, section 33, Homer Township, was born June 27, 1836, in Albany, N.Y. His parents, John and Susan (Thoroughgood) Skym, were natives of London, Eng., and of mixed Welsh and English extraction. The father was employed as an assistant in a silk factory in London, and emigrated to America some years ago. He settled with his family in 1840 in Ashtabula Co., Ohio, where he followed farming until his death, which occurred Jan. 4, 1878. The mother died Nov. 3, 1874, in the same county.

Mr. Skym was a small child when his parents settled in Ohio, and he remained under the direction of his father until he was 22 years old, when he engaged as a farm assistant in the vicinity where he had grown to manhood. He was married Feb. 23, 1865, to Celia Miller. She was born in Ashtabula Co., Ohio, Oct 30, 1839, and is the daughter of Justus and Laura (Holbrooks) Miller. Her parents were born in Ohio, and her father died there about the year 1870. Her mother is yet living in the Buckeye State, and is aged 78 years. Frank E., Stella E., Clinton J. and Arthur are the names of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Skym. The latter is deceased.

After their marriage they remained in Ashtabula County until the fall of 1879 and were engaged in farming. In the year named they removed to the county and township in which they have since resided. Mr. Skym bought 80 acres in a wholly un-improved condition, which he has cleared and greatly increased in value. He is a Republican in his political views.

Pioneer Record

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Information about Midland Genealogical Society

The MGS meets on the 3rd Wednesday of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr. & May at 7:00 PM in the lounge of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640 or at the St. John's Episcopal Church on the corner of Saginaw and St. Andrews Streets in Midland. Visitors are always welcome. Watch the Midland Daily News or local Midland MCTV channel 189 for upcoming speakers, dates and times as well as location.

Membership dues are \$20.00 for single and \$25.00 for a couple and can be paid after July 1, but must be paid by Nov. 25, to continue receiving the Pioneer Record. Dues may be paid at any MGS meeting or may be sent to the Membership Chair,