



PIONEER RECORD

Newsletter for the Midland Genealogical Society

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Midland Genealogical Society Programs for 2010 - 2011

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

Programs for the meetings are as follows.

Sept 15, 2010 meeting 7:00 Library

Lounge "Hoyt Library of Saginaw holdings and resources" by John Sheridan

Oct 20, 2010 meeting 7:00 Library

Lounge "Genealogical Trip to Poland and Germany" by Robert Mass

Nov 17, 2010 meeting 7:00 Library

Lounge "Navigating Rootsweb and USGenWeb" by Robert Snyder

A Port with a Rocky History

By Gloria Kundinger

Port cities competed for the top ratings as immigrant gateways. Different immigrant groups chose certain ports over others based on job abundance within the city and package deals offered by their shipping and railroad companies. From 1820 to 1920, New York City was the premier port of entry for immigrants coming to the United States. However during the Ellis Island years, it was also the most feared because of the gauntlet of inspections each immigrant had to pass in order to gain admittance to the U.S. Philadelphia's government entry station became an alternative gateway for those rejected in New York as possible welfare risks or for having insufficient funds. In spite of its location, it was an important entry port through which thousands passed on their way to build a better life in America.

Philadelphia has had a long and fluctuating history as an immigrant port. One year after its formation, Dutch and German immigrants landed in Philadelphia and founded Germantown in 1683. They were the first non-British to settle in the colonies and paved the way for others to follow.

Around 1717, officials in Philadelphia began collecting ship passen-

ger lists from the captains. In 1749 the lists showed 7,000 German immigrants had come to Philadelphia in twenty-two ships. In the years before the Revolutionary War, over 70,000 Germans had come through the port as well as a large portion of the 150,000 Scotch-Irish who had come to the U.S. Because of poverty, many of these immigrants had to work as indentured servants to pay off the price of their voyage.

After the Napoleonic Wars in 1815, Europeans immigrated to the United States in larger numbers. New York became the main port of entry. Located 110 miles up the Delaware River from the Atlantic coast, Philadelphia is 200 miles farther from Europe than New York. Unlike New York's harbor, the bay is shallow that leads from the ocean to the Delaware River that freezes over in the winter. However 10% of the 200,000 total U.S. immigrants came to Philadelphia in the 1820s. Two shipping companies sailed between Philadelphia and Liverpool, England, on a regular basis. Liverpool was the main

(Continued on page 4)

The President's Letter

Welcome, everyone, to another new program year of the Midland Genealogical Society. This past year we became acquainted with several new Society members and this year look forward to the return of some folks who have been away for a while. The programs are all in place for the entire year so we're ready to roll.

Our first meeting this year, Wednesday the 18th of September, brings us a treat from the near neighbor to our south. John Sheridan of the Hoyt Library in Saginaw will talk about the holdings of that fine facility. If you have never visited the Hoyt Library or haven't been there for several years, you're in for a treat.

MGS Member Bob Mass will present a program in October on his research in Poland and Germany this past summer, followed in November by

MGS Member Bob Snyder who aims to help us all better understand some of the wonders of Web research with his presentation explaining the details of tree navigation on RootsWeb.com and the US GenWeb site.

In January Katherine Redwine of the Grace A Dow Library will be reporting on the holdings in the genealogical collection. Maybe you have been wondering about the carts of books with new spine labels and have noticed empty spaces on the shelves from time to time. Catherine can tell you what's being done there to make research more simple.

That's only half of the year – just wait until you hear what other things lie ahead.

I hope you're all having a successful hunt for those often elu-

sive ancestors. Remember no one ever claimed genealogical research was an easy thing to do but they probably also never told you how much fun the challenge is. See you soon.

MGS President Wilma Diesen

From The Editor...

Off to another year of great genealogy research. I have enjoyed not only editing the newsletter but also contributing to the articles. I would like to see more of the membership contribute articles that they have written. Have you had any research breakthrough's that you would like to tell about? Please send me your articles.

Are there any articles that you would like to see in the PR? What are your interests? We are looking for ideas.

I am in the process of writing a few articles on Scottish research. If you have anything on those lines that I can use, please send them to me. I have had some major breakthrough's on my Bennett ancestors in Scotland and would like to share the resources

that have helped me.

We have a full slate of programs lined up for the year. A partial list is on page 1 of this newsletter, but you can see the full list on the website www.rootsweb.com/~mimg.

Occasionally, additional volunteer help is needed in the Gene room at the library. If you are interested, in helping, please contact Jo Brines. Also, if you come to the Gene room to do research, please remember to sign the log book. This log helps to substantiate our existing there.

*Walt Bennett
Editor*



Cemetery of the unknown ancestor.

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2010-2011

Statements for the 2010-2011 dues will be sent out in early August 2010 and will be due by the first meeting in September 2010.

Midland Genealogical Society, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St Andrews Drive, Midland, MI 48640. Dues for an individual are \$14.00; for a family they are \$17.50.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

September 2010

Fall is here and another year of sharing information, friendship and research is about to begin. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to renew your annual MGS membership and update your contact information. To those members who have submitted payment for dues, thank you. You will find your receipt and 2010-2011-membership card in your nametag holder.

New members are always a welcome addition to MGS. Brochures outlining our purpose and goals are available in the Genealogy Room of the library and at our monthly meetings. I'd like to suggest that you pick one up and put it in the hands of someone who has expressed an interest in learning more about his or her family history, and encourage them to be-

come a member of our Society. If you know of a potential member and would like me to contact them on behalf of MGS, please leave their name and contact information in an envelope to my attention at the Genealogy desk. This month we welcome three new members, Shirley Witte, Stuart Frohm and Lori Custer and returning member Marion Berry. We are happy to have them join us in our quest for family history!

MGS Lapel Pins, perfect for wearing while on a research trip or attending genealogical events, serve as a way to show support and help get the word out about our society. Available for purchase at the sign-in table during our monthly meetings, they are \$5.00 with all proceeds helping support our group projects.

Dona McArdle, Membership Chair

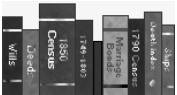
Allen County Public Library Trip

This trip is sponsored by the Delta College 50+ Just Like Gold Program. The cost is \$189.00 person/double occupancy. Included are transportation in van from Delta College, one night lodging, one dinner, one breakfast, and an optional orientation session on October 15. There is a \$20 discount if a member of the Delta College 50+ program. Enrollment is limited to 9 people so please register early.

The ACPL is located in Fort Wayne, Indiana and their genealogy department is considered to be one of the best in the United States. This includes over 350,000 printed volumes and 513,000 microfilm/microfiche. There is a repository of an extensive collection of family histories publications, city directories, passenger lists and indexes, and PERSI.

To help you prepare for the trip there is an online catalog. For additional resources go to www.acpl.lib.us/genealogy.

To register: call (989) 686-9325. Ask to talk to Sue Montesi, Dean of Learning Centers and Innovative Programs.



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.)

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: Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.

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departure point for English and Irish immigrants. The cost of a steerage ticket was five to seven times greater than the weekly English factory wage of one pound.

To quell the spread of infectious diseases, it became necessary for the state to build a quarantine hospital in 1798 called the Lazaretto. Located eight miles down river from

European countries also brought immigrants there. Over 60,000 immigrants came to Philadelphia between 1830 and 1847 which included those from the great famine.

By now, more immigrants were arriving in Philadelphia after first landing in New York City. The ice in the river was the cause of this reversal. Even though the city acquired an ice boat in 1838, the transporters didn't feel it would

Philadelphia businessmen brought about new growth with the formation of two new sailing ship lines between Philadelphia and Liverpool and another between there and Londonderry in Northern Ireland. More than 120,000 immigrant arrivals from 1847 to 1854 boosted Philadelphia to fourth place as a port of entry.

William Inman of Philadelphia and the Richardson Brothers of Liverpool formed the first steamship line between the two cities in 1850. Immigrants aboard their first ship, the *City of Glasgow*, arrived in ten days instead of a month on a sailing ship. It cost eight pounds and eight shillings for a steerage ticket, and the line was successful. Several years later, three more ships named for a city were added to their roster—the *Cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Manchester*.

In 1854, the Liverpool and Philadelphia Steam Ship Company had a run of bad luck. On the way to Philadelphia, the *City of Glasgow* and 430 passengers vanished in March. The *City of Philadelphia* was lost in September after it ran aground near Newfoundland, but the passengers were saved. The Richardson Brothers left the business a year later after Mr. Inman leased their ships to France to use in the Crimean War effort. In 1857 the Inman line switched its route destination from Philadelphia to New York City.

Sailing ships still serviced Philadelphia and competed by dropping their prices below those companies that serviced New



Penn's Landing in Philadelphia

Philadelphia, it became a busy place in the 1820s with the rise in immigrant numbers. By the 1870s, the Lazaretto had 500 beds and was capable of steam disinfecting baggage and clothing.

There was a steady stream of immigrants coming to Philadelphia during the 1830s and 1840s. Occasionally shipping lines from Britain and other

work on ice ridges five feet thick. By the end of the 1840s, Philadelphia businessmen had not embraced "the age of steam." They still had sailing ships while others in New York began to carry the increasing numbers of German and Irish immigrants in steam ships. The number of immigrants landing in Philadelphia fell to 5% and stayed there until the Civil War.

During the 1840s, the Cope Line, which began in 1821, was the only ship company running between Philadelphia and Liverpool. Phila-



Liberty Bell with Independence Hall in the background.

York to make up for the extra travel time. However the extra two week trip to Philadelphia was always a limitation for growth.

By the 1870s, the sailing ship companies had reached the end of the line. The steam ships were driving them under and Philadelphia, as an entry port, along with them. Only 154 immigrants came through its port in 1872 out of the 400,000 who migrated that year.

In 1873, Philadelphia's rating was on the upswing with the founding of two new steamship companies—The American Line and the Red Star Line. Again Philadelphia became the nation's fourth largest gateway, and over a million immigrants arrived in the following fifty years.

The Pennsylvania Railroad helped start the American Line. The railroad's pier was home to that ship line's immigration station. The

American Line expanded to offer trips to Liverpool thrice a week. Its immigrant passengers now included Germans and other Europeans who came to the U.S. via the indirect route through England. The Red Star Line operated a route to Antwerp, Belgium. By the early 1900s, the Hamburg American Line from Germany was transporting German and Polish immigrants to Philadelphia on a regular basis. Other lines from Europe also made frequent trips. By the early 1910s, Philadelphia's port rating rose to third place in the nation.

In the mid 1880s, a quarantine station was built by the U.S. government at the Delaware River's mouth; and a decade later, another one at Reedy Island that was used mostly for disinfection. After many complaints on having to pass a state and a federal health inspection, both inspections were consolidated at Marcus Hook in 1913. It was located twenty miles from Philadelphia.

The American Line's immigration

station was expanded and updated with steam heat and electricity in 1896 with funds from the railroad. Depending on whether or not a person spoke English, one-hundred-fifty to three hundred people could be processed there in an hour.

Immigrants left their ships via the second floor for another medical exam and customs inspections then went to the first floor for money exchange, rail tickets, and travel information. Afterwards, immigrants going elsewhere boarded trains and left the city. Others found jobs in the factories, warehouses, sugar refineries, grain elevators, and freight depots of Philadelphia—joining one of the many immigrant groups living and working there.

The immigrant stations in Philadelphia permitted almost everyone entry into the U.S. Not many were denied entry for health reasons or for the criminal and pauper laws that took effect in 1882.

(Continued on page 8)



The Port of Philadelphia

The Kirk

My family research this year has led me to Scotland in search of my Bennett ancestors. I have decided to do a series of articles pertaining to Scottish research. The first article is about the origin of the church.

The Scottish call the Church of Scotland, 'The Kirk'. The church is a Presbyterian church. The church of Scotland really goes back to the beginning of Christianity in Scotland, but was shaped by the reformation of 1560.

The currently pledged membership is about 9% of the population or approximately 464 thousand persons. There are about 42% of the population claiming allegiance to it. There are approximately 984 active ministers, and 1,179 congregations. Roman Catholic are approximately 15.9% and 27.5% at no religion.

The Church of Scotland differs from the Church of England. The Church of Scotland is a national church but not a state church. The Kirk is completely independent from the state. The British monarch is a member of the church but not the supreme governor as in the Church of England.

The Kirk maintains a presence in every community in Scotland and serves all Scots, not just members. The Kirk played a leading role in education in Scotland because all of the people should be able to read the Bible. The role of educa-

tion was transferred to the state during the last half of the 19th century.

The Kirk has no bishops. They are governed by elders and ministers sitting in a series of courts. Each congregation is led by a Kirk Session. These courts answer to regional Presbyteries. The supreme body is the annual assembly which meets in May each year in Edinburgh. Each court is convened by the moderator which normally is the parish minister.

The Reformation

The Church of Scotland broke with Rome about 1560 by a process known as Protestant reform and was led by John Knox among others. John Knox had been living and serving in Geneva, Switzerland and had learned of the principles of John Calvin. Mary Stewart, the young queen, was driven out of the country by Knox and others. The Scottish Parliament abolished papal jurisdiction and approved Calvin's Confession of Faith, but rejected many of the principles that Knox had laid out. This was left unsettled for several years with some question as to church government. Mary had returned to Scotland in 1561 and was imprisoned and forced to abdicate her throne. She escaped and fled to England where Queen Elizabeth had her executed. The acts of 1560 were finally approved in 1572 by Mary Stewart's son James VI who was brought up as a Presbyterian. The Concordat of Leith allowed the crown to appoint bishops with the church approval. John Knox had no plans to implement bishops in the church, but to have superintendants instead. A Presbyterian party came out of this headed by Andrew Melville who authored the se-

cond book of Discipline.

When Queen Elizabeth died in 1603, James inherited the throne of England. England and Scotland were ruled by the same king, (known as James I in England) but Scotland remained as a separate state with its own parliament and government.

King James had a problem with the way that the church was progressing and believed that the church was not compatible with the monarchy. He declared "No Bishop, no king." By the time that James died in 1625, there was a full panel of bishops and archbishops. The general assembly had only met at times and places approved by the crown.

King James son Charles I began to upset the church and sought to introduce the kind of High Church practice as in England. His strategy was to introduce the Prayer Book which would be drawn up in secret and adopted sight unseen. The prayer book was introduced at St. Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh in the summer of 1637 and caused a civil war to break out. Oliver Cromwell, also known as the Lord Protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland was one of the persons who signed the death warrant for Charles I, who was executed. The Scots then welcomed Charles II as ruler.

This led to the National Covenant which was signed by large numbers of Scots who had protested the prayer book which had not been tested and approved by the general assembly. The prayer book was declared

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Coming Events

Sept. 12, 2010, "Highlights of the IAJGS 30th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy", held at the Holocaust Memorial Center, 28123 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills, MI. See www.jgsmi.org for further information.

Sept 24-26 "State History Conference" Sponsored by the Historical Society of Michigan and held in Frankenmuth. See hsmichigan.org

Sept 25, "5th Annual Family History Festival", Sponsored by and held at the Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library. See <http://detroitpubliclibrary.org/events/fhf.htm>.

Sept 25, "Extending the Roots of your family tree", held at the Lawrence Conference Center in Lawrence, Michigan. Sponsored by the Van Buren Regional Genealogical Society. The flyer and registration can be found at <http://vbrgs.org/files/SeminarBrochureandRegistration2010.pdf>.

Oct. 2, "Hauntings and Hunting your family tree", held at the Family History Center in Alpena, Michigan. Sponsored by the Northeast Michigan Genealogical Society. See the flyer at <http://mimgc.org/pdf/2010NEMGS.pdf>

Oct. 16, "2010 Annual Polish Research Seminar", held at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, Michigan. Sponsored by The Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan. See www.pgsm.org/2010/07/connecting-with-poland-past-and-present.html for further info.

Nov 5-6, 2010. "Got Ancestors?!" Sponsored by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society and held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. See www.gotancestors.com.

WorldVitalRecords.com

I registered this year for access to the world collection of worldvitalrecords.com. I was offered a special price of \$59 per year instead of the regular price of \$99 per year. You will find that they offer specials around holiday weekends and available for a short time.

I have had a lot of success in my research by using this site. Some of the collections that I have found useful are the Quintin Collection which has many of the French/Canadian books of marriages available. Newspaper Archive which is a collection of over 800 digitized newspapers as well as paper of record which is another newspaper archive.

Some of the collections that the search will display are from other sites such as find-a-grave and Google books. I have found some relatives graves on find-a-grave with photos of their stone. Google books is also a great site and their books continue to grow with a very large collection of genealogy and history books. Some of the books on google books are copyrighted and will not display the entire book, but will instead show a snippet. One nice feature of the google books though is that it will show you what repositories have this book in their collection based on your location starting with the closest. I was able to travel to the libraries in Saginaw and Bay City to locate some of the books that I needed. Another book that I was looking for was located in Columbus, Ohio which I found on a trip there this summer.

Other collections include Scottish Death records(1747-1868), Eneclann, which contains the Dublin 1851 census and will dating back to 1484. British Origins which contains over 378,000 names. Immigrant Ship Transcribers Guild which contains over 400 years of passenger records.

There are many immigration records including German, Italian, Russian. Also, you will find Everton's Pedigree and group sheets and Everton's Genealogical Helper.

The 1871 Canadian census which includes over 3.5 million names. There are also family histories, gazetteers, yearbooks, county and church histories, city directories, memoirs, bible records, and many more.

The excellent search facility allows users to search by country, region or US state and to cross reference the results against a number of international records.

They also publish an digital newsletter that you can sign up for. This will get you on the mailing list for the special offers. They also offer books for sale that can help you with your research.

World Vital Records was established in 2006 by several key members of the original ancestry.com site. In the short time of it's existence, the site has gained several awards of excellence.

WorldVitalRecords is an excellent site with a range of resources at your disposal. With a seven day free trial and a thirty day money back guarantee.

Check out their site and see what else they have to offer. They do not offer adding your own tree to their site as ancestry does, but I believe that their collections will rival many of those offered by Ancestry at a much cheaper price. If you are hitting a lot of brick walls, try this site out.

Walt Bennett



(Continued from page 6) (The Kirk)

unlawful in 1638 and the office of the bishop was abolished by the general assembly.

King James II took the throne in 1685. He was the last Catholic monarch to reign over the kingdoms of England, Scotland and Ireland. James II beliefs were in absolute



monarchy and he tried to create a freedom of religion for his subjects, against the British parliament. Tension grew after he produced a Catholic heir and James fled the country and abdicated the throne. Presbyterianism was then firmly established as Scotland's national church.

The highlanders had long remained loyal to the exiled Stuarts and had even attempted to restore the house of Stuart to the throne in 1715. James Stuart, also known as the Old

Pretender, was proclaimed as James III. In 1745, his son, Charles Edward, also known as Bonnie Prince Charlie has sought the throne but this ended in 1746 when his forces were defeated by the English at the battle of Culloden.

The rivalry between Scotland and England ended in 1707 when the parliaments of both nations agreed to the Act of Union, which merged the parliaments of both countries and established the Kingdom of Great Britain.

Over the years, there were groups that had seceded from the Church of Scotland for various reasons such as the civil courts interfering with church decisions. A large portion of the church broke away to form the Free Church of Scotland in 1843.

The British Parliament passed the church of Scotland Act in 1921 which recognized the full independence of the church in spiritual matters. In 1925, the Church of Scotland (Property and Endowments) act enabled the Free Church of Scotland to merge with the Church of Scotland.

Sources

Wikipedia.com– Church of Scotland, History of Scotland, Concordat of Leith.

<http://www.heritage-of-scotland.com/hist.htm>.

Walt Bennett

(Continued from page 5) (Rocky Port)

Somehow most passed inspection here that may not have elsewhere.

There were several other immigrant stations operating on other piers within the city in the early 1910s. By the 1920s, immigrant quotas brought an end to the large number of people coming from Europe. Less than 800 immigrants arrived in 1925—down from the 9,555 of the preceding year. After WWI it received only 1% of the U.S. total.

Philadelphia's location was a handicap that it overcame to become a major port of entry to the United States. Even with a shipping season lasting from April to October, its diverse immigrant population and plentiful job opportunities attracted many to its piers. Some stayed there while others moved on. It seems a greater number of ships docked there during those months to make up for the winter months when the river was iced over. With that disadvantage and its "up-and-down-step" ship line history, its "businessmen did what businessmen had to do" to attract immigrant traffic and make it third or fourth as an immigrant gateway to the United States.

Sources

Krasner-Khait, Barbara. "If Not Through New York, Then Where?" *Family Chronicle*. May-June 1999. <http://www.familychronicle.com/NotThroughNY.html>.

Miller, Fredric M. "Philadelphia: Immigrant City." Balch Online Resources. http://www.balchinstitute.org/resources/phila_ellis_island.html.

Hope Cemetery Renovations.

Hope Township recently became the recipient of a gift of \$217,464 that was given by the Lawrence and Eleanor Wilson Matthews family trust. Half of the money is designated for the Hope Township Fire Department, and the other half is for the Hope Township Cemetery and Chapel. The cemetery and Woodside park were purchased from Eleanor Wilson Matthews and her two sisters. Eleanor died in September at the age of 92. Eleanor had grown up at the farm at the corner of Shearer and Middle Roads. Lawrence died in April 2005.

The Hope cemetery has monuments that are sinking into the ground. Others have moss which is slowly eating away the surface. Trees and Shrubs which were planted long ago have grown over some of the stones.

MGS member Floyd Andrick and the Hope Township Cemetery Committee compiled a list of more than 100 monuments in need of repair. 80 percent of these needed foundation work. Floyd stated "Headstones authenticate that a person really existed." The earliest burials in the cemetery date to the 1840's.

Many of these monuments will be cleaned with a water and bleach

mixture to remove the moss. Many of the early monuments were made of sandstone because it was easy to engrave, but is very fragile and could break while making the repairs. Broken stone are being glued and coated with urethane.

The repair work is being handled by the cemetery sextons Ron and Brett Witte. The overgrown trees and shrubs have been cleared. The monument repair work began at the end of July.

Anyone with questions or concerns about their relative's monument or the repairs can contact Andrick at (989) 837-0870.

How to Number a Family Tree

By Robin Hewitt 13 January 2010

Ancestry Archives

Overview

Once you've begun your family tree, you'll quickly realize that you need a method to keep track of the individual names as you expand your ancestor base. If you assign a number system, you'll be able to differentiate family members who bear the same name, and will be less likely to enter the wrong data on the wrong family worksheet. A basic numbering system called "ahnentafel," which is followed in genealogy, designates ancestors by odd and even numbers. Within minutes you can have your family tree numbers assigned and will be able to navigate the generations with ease.

Step 1

Start with yourself at the left of the page and branch out your

family tree with your parents and grandparents, with the paternal side of each generation at the top of the list and the male partners first.

Step 2

Assign yourself the number one. The subject of the chart is always designated as ""one"" whether male or female; this is the only time the even-odd rule does not apply.

Step 3

Locate your parents on the chart. Assign your father number two and your mother number three.

Step 4

Move to your grandparents' generation; your paternal grandfather will be number four and his wife number five. Your maternal grandfather will be six, and your mother's mother will be seven.

Step 5

Continue through any other gen-

erations you have information on, always assigning the paternal side first, giving the males even numbers and the females odd numbers.

Step 6

Notice that if you have assigned the family tree numbers correctly, every person's number will be one half of their father's, or one half of their mother's minus one.

Tips

Your spouse is not assigned a number. Siblings are not assigned numbers; they will be noted on a family sheet of their own.

Editors Note: This is a great system that I have used for several years. I keep a numbered copy of the ancestor chart in a book with all the family group sheets numbered the same. Index pages are placed at generations.

Facts about Scottish Immigration to the U.S.

By Kitten Arbuckle 13 January 2010
Ancestry Archives



Overview

Scottish immigration to the United States began in the 1600s. The immigrants came from all over Scotland for a variety of reasons. Though not as large as other immigrant groups, they altered the course of history for the United States. As of the 2000 U.S. Census, 4.9 million people claimed themselves as having Scots ancestors- the 11th largest group. Another 4.3 million claimed Scots-Irish ancestors.

Time Frame

The earliest official count, the 1790 census, shows approximately 260,000 Scots living in the United States. Mass migrations occurred in the mid-19th century. Between 1825 and 1838, 60,000 emigrated from

Scotland to settle in the United States and Canada. In the 1840s and up until 1853, 30,000 Scottish immigrants came. Another 38,000 emigrated in 1881 with the United States as their destination. The total Scottish immigrants to enter the country from 1852 to 1910 was 478,224.

Features

Some of the earliest Scottish immigrants to the United States were banished from England. Other early groups came via Ulster in Northern Ireland where they had settled. This group, the Scots-Irish, was primarily Scottish Protestants. Immigrants from Scotland sometimes traded passage for labor, becoming indentured servants. Many, however, were well-educated and skilled workers, merchants and professionals. Over 1 1/2 million Scottish people have immigrated to the United States.

Geography

While not isolated to settling in one area of the United States, the Scottish immigrants did tend to stay in groups. Pennsylvania hosted a large amount of the Ulster Scots. Though they settled in almost all areas, Pennsylvania, Virginia and North Carolina had the largest amount of people from Scotland by 1790. The Scots migrated west, becoming some of the earliest settlers in the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys.

Causes

As with many immigrants to the United States, Scottish people came for several reasons. Poor economic conditions motivated

many and as poverty increased, they fled seeking opportunities. Civil conflicts amongst clans and wars with England caused many Scots to leave their homeland. England banished those who fought or would not swear loyalty to the crown. The Highland Clearances, the practice of removing people to put in sheep farms, brought eviction and emigration. Famine plagued Scotland as well, so many immigrants left to escape it.

Effects

The Scottish immigrants often kept their own customs and language. They sent for family to join them once settled, creating Scottish communities similar to what they had in their homeland. They brought lively music and introduced golf. Scottish immigrant ideas on medicine and health influenced early doctors. Early settlers formed societies to help new Scottish immigrants, such as the St. Andrews Society of Philadelphia, started in 1747, which still performs charitable and educational services. Members of the Society, like Alexander Hamilton and James Wilson, were instrumental in the founding of the United States.



Looking Back in Midland County

Edward McGowan

(Taken from: *Portrait and Biographical Album of Midland County, Michigan 1884* p. 320-21)

Edward McGowan, farmer, section 26, Mt. Haley Township, was born May 6, 1841, in Lanark Co., Ont. His parents, Patrick and Mary (Drummond) McGowan, were natives of Ireland and belonged to the race known as Scotch-Irish. They emigrated to the New World with their parents in early life, and married later in the Dominion, where they spent their lives, both dying about 1843. Their family consisted of five sons and two daughters.

Mr. McGowan is the youngest child of his parents, and was between two and three years of age when they were removed by death. He was taken in charge by a paternal uncle, who cared for him until he was 15 years old. He spent his time at school and as assistant on his uncle's farm. At that age he began life for himself, and set out in his single-handed struggle with the world as a log-driver on the river Tay in Ontario. Later he went to St. Paul, Minn., and thence to Minneapolis. His next destination was Henderson, in the same state, and he spent the ensuing three years at different points in the Minnesota Valley. He proceeded thence to Arkansas, where he suffered severe illness from fever. In 1860 he went to Ohio, and in the fall of the same year he returned to the place of his nativity, where two years afterward, he was married. The event occurred Aug. 18, 1862, when Catherine Carey became his wife. She was born June 29, 1840, in Ontario. To Mr. and Mrs. McGowan, 14 children have been born, five of whom are deceased. Their names are Mary E., Ann E., Edward J., Thomas J., James P., and John J. (twins), Patrick

H., William F., and Leo. Peter (1st), James and John (twins), Peter (2nd) and Florence A. are deceased.

Two years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. McGowan came to East Saginaw, where he worked as a fireman in a saw-mill. In the fall of 1868 he came to Midland County and entered a homestead claim of 160 acres of wild land on section 26 of this township. He was the first permanent settler in the south half of Mt. Haley. The nearest neighbors were four miles distant, and the "staple product" of the county seemed to be water, a fact owing to its flat surface. He has cleared and improved 35 acres of his farm.

The family are Roman Catholics in religious belief. Mr. McGowan is a pronounced Republican in his political views; he has been Township Clerk several years, and in 1879 was elected Supervisor, which office he has held ever since, and to which he was once previously elected.

Taken from: *The Midland Sun* February 17, 1886 p. 5

A Fine New Farm

The caption refers to the farm of Mr. Sydney Tucker in Geneva Township. Mr. T. owns some 1900 acres of land in the township in question and adjoining territory, some of which is excellent quality for agriculture purposes.

The farm is located about two miles west of North Bradley station near the Salt. Here he has about 125 acres of land cleared, a first class farm barn; a farm dwelling, which the owner designs replacing with a large frame structure the ensuing spring.

The land is exceedingly fertile, and the crops raised have been remarkable even for this section.

Mr. Tucker takes no inconsiderable pride in fine farm animals; accordingly we find him stocking his place with a better grade than is generally found on farms so new as his. He has fine Berkshire pigs and Merino sheep. He has also good cattle and horses. We deem that Midland county will largely owe her future prosperity to men of Mr. Tucker's faith and enterprise.

Taken from: *The Midland Sun* February 17, 1899 p. 8

Edenville

A slight fall of snow Tuesday night.

Mike Wall to Beaverton and return Tuesday.

Ed Francis of Sanford was in town Tuesday.

Thos. Moore to Saginaw and return Tuesday.

Mrs. Len McKeever of Temple is visiting relatives in town.

Nearly everyone in Edenville received a valentine Tuesday.

Archie McGriff was up to the west branch the last of the week.

R. T. Lombard of Midland was in town the fore part of the week.

Lafayette Swanton, M. D. of Reed City was in town the last of the week.

Andy Bowman is home from Highwood, where he has been working this winter.

Homer

Mary Eddy is home again.

Mrs. Geo. Loyer is able to be around again.

E. C. Conkling visited in this vicinity Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Nelson of Midland township visited Mrs. Nelson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Loyer, the fore part of the week.

The Gleaner dance given Tuesday night was a success. It was well attended and all report a good time. Fifty numbers were sold and \$15 was made clear of all expenses.

Pioneer Record

Midland Genealogical Society
Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
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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. Visitors are always welcome. Watch the Midland Daily News or local Midland MCTV channel 5 for upcoming speakers, dates and times.

Membership dues are \$14.00 for single and \$17.50 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, Midland Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.