



HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

Oscoda, Michigan

Tracing Your German Ancestors

By Judy Sheldon

Huron Shores Genealogical Society hosted Tracing Your German Ancestors on October 12, 2013 at the Parks Library in Oscoda, MI. A packed conference room settled in to listen to our featured speaker, **Frieda Hirschenberger**. She is an active member and officer of the Northeastern Michigan Genealogical Society of Alpena, MI. Frieda was raised in Germany and moved to the United States when she was 21 years old. Family research has been a passion of hers for over 30 years, during which time she has researched many records in the German language and guided others on tours of Germany, France, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

Frieda spoke in the morning on various aspects of German research, such as name variants, Old German Script and sites to search for information. Frieda and her husband, Bill, assisted attendees with their personal research projects after lunch. Frieda also helped several people translate papers they had from their ancestors.

A big Thanks goes out to the Hirschenbergers for their help in connecting our area German researchers with their past.



Frieda is assisting these researchers with the translation of their old family bible

Photo courtesy of Lugene Daniels



HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

January

- 17 HSGS Business meeting, A Different Blend Coffee House, East Tawas, MI

Some websites recommended by Freida can be seen on page 2

HSGS Honors Dorothy Putnam Lehman

By Lugene Daniels

For its second edition of "Who Do You Think You Are--Iosco County," the Huron Shores Genealogical Society honored Dorothy Helen (Putnam) Lehman from Whittemore.

The program was hosted by the Iosco County Historical Society and held at the museum in East Tawas on the evening of Thursday November 26. Approximately twenty relatives of Dorothy attended the event.

Lugene Daniels, also from Whittemore, researched Dorothy's family history for several months and was the presenter of the program. A power point program was created by Lindsey Russell, HSGS member from Omer.

Dorothy Putnam Lehman was born in Hale and spent her childhood years there. She was the daughter of Edward and Lottie (Webb) Putnam. Both the Putnam and Webb families were the main focus of the hour-long program, which highlighted several of Dorothy's ancestors that have served their country and community as strong leaders.

Among Dorothy's notable ancestors are William Bradford, a Mayflower passenger; Christopher Webb, one of the first Webb family members to emigrate to the New

America; Joshua Ripley Webb, who was instrumental in promoting the statehood of Vermont; and John Putnam, the first family member of that family to settle in Salem, Massachusetts.

Dorothy's grandfather, Frank O Putnam, contributed to the triangular easel monument project as a veteran of the Civil War in 1896. In turn he was presented with a lithograph to honor his contribution and service. This large framed lithograph now hangs in the military room at the museum and was admired by family members at the event. Unfortunately, due to fraudulent and unserved promises,

the monument was never constructed.

Some family members believe that there is a family connection to Isaac Putnam, friend of George Washington and hero of the Revolutionary War. While Lugene was not able to find this connection, her research has been given to the family and provide them with a basis to continue the search.

HSGS honored Kevin Allen, area radio celebrity, with the first "Who Do You Think You Are--Iosco County" in September of 2013.



Lugene with Dorothy

German research related web-sites recommended by Frieda Hirschenberger:

<http://german-immigrants.com>

A group of genealogists doing research on NW Germany

<http://ortsfamilienbuecher.de>

A line of local town family genealogies (an ongoing project)

<http://kartenmeister.com/preview/databaseuwe.asp>

Localities in former eastern Germany (names parishes)

<http://www.db-brandenburg.de>

Database for research in the state of Brandenburg

Meyers Gazetteer of the German Empire

<http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm4/documency.php?CISOROOT=/FHSS&CISOPTR=>

38136

for Vol. A-K

39572

for Vol. L-Z

DNA: life after death

Adapted from an Article by Judy G. Russell
In the The Legal Genealogist of June 30, 2013

DNA testing was something that could always be done, someday, when there was time. And then, suddenly, there is no more time. Alas, the relative you planned to ask to participate passes. Is all lost? Not necessarily, read on.

You should have a chance to preserve that last genetic connection with the older generation that would live on after your loved one's death.

And all it would take is couple of q-tips and a paper bag. No drawing of a blood sample. No surgical taking of a tissue sample. Just a couple of q-tips and a paper bag. All that is needed is to have the mortician use a q-tip and scrape inside the cheek of the deceased. Getting one sample from each side of the mouth is best; it gives the greatest chance of collecting enough DNA on the swab. There's nothing difficult about handling the swabs after the samples are taken, the swabs are then allowed to air dry and then placed in a paper baggie, not plastic, and mailed to the testing agent per the instructions

Now let's turn to the law. There seems to be no law anywhere in the United States that bars the next-of-kin from authorizing the taking of a DNA sample from their loved one except, perhaps, in the extraordinary situation where the loved one had expressly stated in writing beforehand that he or she did not want DNA testing to be done.

How **could** there be such a law? The next-of-kin get to decide what's done with the body: will there be a burial? A cremation? And every state in the United States - without exception - allows the next-of-kin of a decedent to consent to organ donation.

And this is pretty much the law around the world: either the next-of-kin can consent to what happens with the body parts or, in some jurisdictions, consent of the deceased is presumed.

Compared to this grant of authority, taking a tiny bit of DNA on a q-tip is small potatoes. It'd hardly be illegal to do that when you can give away eyes, organs - even the entire body.

As noted, the one exception is where the person, when living, refused to consent to DNA testing. In the organ donation scenario, no means no and if your loved one has a written directive that says no, the law won't

allow the family to override that.¹ (And conversely there are now laws in some states that prevent a family from overriding the loved one's written directive that says yes.)

And in states that do have laws about genetic testing generally, there's usually some provision for decisions by a legal representative of the tested person. For example, Oregon has one of the toughest genetic privacy laws in the nation, and it authorizes consent to be given by a person's personal representative - meaning someone appointed by the court or, in order, the person's spouse, adult children, parent, or adult siblings.

This authority of the next-of-kin to act is generally recognized by funeral directors and others involved in the death process around the United States. In Ohio, the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner accepts the consent from the decedent's legal custodian and/or next-of-kin.¹ The National Funeral Directors Association has an authorization form (online at the Virginia Funeral Directors Association web site) for the collection of DNA samples, to be signed by the spouse or next-of-kin.² Moreover, because the funeral home represents the last clear chance to obtain a DNA sample, some industry representatives are advising that funeral directors may face civil liability if they don't tell the families that they can get a sample at that time. One industry lawyer even advises funeral homes that they should get customers to "sign a form releasing the funeral home from any liability for claims that a DNA sample should have been taken."

For those of us who may face this situation in the future, a word to the wise: get testing done now. But if time runs out, present the funeral director with your own signed authorization form to take a DNA sample and a few q-tips and a paper bag.

SOURCES

1. See generally "The Donation of Human Organs," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (: accessed 29 Jun 2013) ("Even if the family want to donate, the deceased's objection will veto retrieval").
2. "Deceased Patient Custodian/Next-of-Kin Consent for DNA Testing," Cuyahoga County Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (<http://medicalexaminer.cuyahogacounty.us/>: accessed 29 Jun 2013).

DRIVING FROM OSCODA TO EAST TAWAS IN 1919

By Judy Sheldon

King's Official Route Guide: Automobile Routes of Michigan and Northern Indiana
 Published by Sidney J King in 1919, p.416
 Route 85 – Reverse Route 84
 Oscoda to East Tawas, Mich., 18.3 miles
 18.3 miles to 4 corners where trunk line tourists turn right for Prescott. 20.0 to center East Tawas, Via Wilbur.
 Stretches of macadam, clay and sand.

- .0 Leave 4 corners, center of town, go west on main traveled gravel road
- .1 Pass frame school house on right
- .2 Pass church on left, through crossroads, go down steep grade
- .4 Curve right
- .6 Cross large iron bridge over river to 5 corners
- .7 Turn right, (leaving gravel road)
- .9 Cross R.R.
- 1.0 Curve left with road
- 1.2 Pass road on left
- 1.7 Cross R.R. to 3 corners
- 2.6 Turn left
- 3.5 Cross trail
- 3.9 Cross trail, follow sand road over plains
- 4.3 Cross small bridge
- 5.4 Curve right with road
- 6.8 Cross small bridge
- 7.3 Pass road on right
- 7.4 Cross small bridge, continue to 3 corners
- 7.9 Turn left
- 8.1 Cross small bridge, immediately turn right with road
- 8.3 Cross small bridge
- 8.4 Cross small bridge
- 8.9 Turn left with road
- 9.2 Pass road on right
- 9.3 Cross small bridge, continue to end of road
- 9.7 Turn right to 4 corners, school house and Town Hall on far left
- 10.4 Turn left
- 10.9 Pass road on left
- 11.2 Pass Town Hall on right, to 4 corners
- 11.4 Turn right to 4 corners of
- 11.9 Wilbur; turn left
- 12.1 Cross bridge
- 12.4 Pass road on left
- 12.8 Cross cement culvert
- 12.9 Pass road on right
- 13.1 Cross small bridge, to end of road
- 13.8 Turn right

- 13.9 Pass frame school house on right, continue to end of road, (meeting electric power wires)
- 14.3 Turn left
- 14.7 Cross small bridge
- 15.3 Pass road on right
- 15.8 Pass road on right
- 15.9 Cross cement culvert
- 16.3 Cross culvert, pass road on left, running onto short stretch of macadam
- 17.1 Pass diagonal road on right
- 17.4 Through crossroads, (road on left comes from East Tawas)
- 17.8 Through crossroads
- 17.9 Cross cement culvert, continue to 4 corners
- 18.3 Turn right for Prescott; set speedometer at 0.0 (See route East Tawas to Prescott); (road straight ahead goes into Tawas City), those desiring to go into East Tawas turn left (east) at cross roads
- 18.7 Curve left with road
- 18.9 Cross small bridge, continue to end of road
- 19.2 Turn right, cross wooden bridge over river to end of road
- 19.7 Turn left to 4 corners, Post Office on left
- 20.0 East Tawas, Mich.



Genealogy Sites Just Because.....

By Judy Sheldon

These sites and in one case compilers/editors are made available to all of us for FREE. Their creators expect nothing from us but our appreciation. Donations in monetary or resource forms are accepted by some.

CyndisList.com

Cyndi Howells is the owner and creator of this site, started in 1996. Cyndi is an author of several books and a speaker at various conferences and seminars around the country.

The site is a "Card Catalog" to genealogy on the Internet – the go to site for links to sites useful to genealogists – she searches daily for new sites. It is categorized and cross-referenced.

Old Fulton NY Postcards

<http://Fultonhistory.com>

Tom Tryniski – a former IT executive -- created the site as a labor of love in 2003. He started with postcards then it grew to include to other documents and then to digitizing NY newspapers from microfilm. It now has nearly 22 million newspaper pages. Mostly NY newspapers, but he is adding some other states. Also , there are files about Fulton, NY

More on Tom:

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2013/03/tom-tryniski-digitizes-more-newspapers-than-the-better-known-web-sites.html

<http://reason.com/reasontv/2013/03/05/amateur-beats-gov-at-digitizing-newspape>

One Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse

<http://stevemorse.org/>

This free site is a one-step portal to Ellis Island, Castle Garden, passenger ship lists in other ports, US census information, enumeration district conversions for various censuses, and more and more and more. The site continues to grow with often one of a kind searching capabilities.

More on Steve: <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/Retireless-1>

<https://familysearch.org/techtips/2012/01/rootstech-2012-featured-presenter-steve-morse>

Robert L. and Donald A. Ferrett

Lovingly referred to by us as "The Ferrett Brothers"! They are the compilers and editors of the series: Birth, Marriage, Divorce, Bigamy, & Death Notices from the Alcona County Review. This is another labor of love as these books have been created, printed and made available to our library and the Alcona County Library free of charge. They are exact copies of the articles from the paper and fully indexed. At this writing they have done 1877 through 1944. Several of the volumes are in draft form. This is the only printed index to the paper at this time, although the papers have recently been digitized and will soon be available to the public to search on the library computers through the Alcona County Library system. These books a one of a kind resource for anyone with Alcona County, MI roots!

Editors note: While I have not been successful in creating hyperlinks using the newsletter software, you should be able to use copy and then paste into your browser to reach to above web pages.

THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE SYSTEM

By Alonzo Sherman

The Justice of the Peace system has existed from the beginning of Michigan. To be elected to the office a person needed no training in law, took no examination, but was expected to be able to read and understand the laws of the State and the local jurisdiction. In the Territorial days the Michigan Constitution of 1835 allowed each township to elect up to four Justices of the Peace, and cities could elect more. The Justice of the Peace handled the minor cases whereas the Circuit Court handled the major cases. A few times a case would start at the Justice of the Peace level, and then would be bound over to the Circuit Court.

Any citizen could file a complaint with the Justice of the Peace. However, most cases were filed by persons of authority such as a constable, marshal, sheriff, state police, village night watchman, truant officer, state inspector of dairy & food products, fish & game warden, or the prosecuting attorney.

The Justice of Peace maintained his personal records in a journal called a docket. This docket was not considered an official record by the Michigan court system. There was no official word-by-word record of what was said during examinations and or a jury trial. When the defendant's attorney, or the prosecuting attorney needed an official word-by-word record, they would make arrangements to have it recorded.

The 1908 Constitution of the State of Michigan indicated that each organized township could elect up to four Justices of the Peace to hold the office for four years, and later changed to be held each two years at the township's biennial township election on the first Monday in each odd numbered year. In civil cases, Justice of the Peace shall have exclusive jurisdiction to the amount of 100 dollars and concurrent jurisdiction to the amount of 300 dollars, which may be increased to 500 dollars. They shall also have such criminal jurisdiction as prescribed by law.

The 1948 Compiled Laws of Michigan, as amended in 1960, indicated the payment arrangements for the Justice of the Peace. They were not paid a salary or reimbursed for their office expenses, however they were paid the fees they collected for what they did. Some examples of allowed payments were:

- Taking a complaint on oath, 60 cents.
- Taking a warrant, 60 cents.
- Entering a cause upon a docket, 60 cents.
- Entering a bond or recognizance, 60 cents.
- Approving a bond, 25 cents.

- Making and filing report in a criminal case to the prosecuting attorney, 40 cents.
- For each arraignment and receiving a plea of guilty, in case such plea is entered, \$1 .50.
- For each arraignment where not guilty is entered, plea is entered, or where examination is waived or demanded, \$1.50.
- For holding examination, including the taking of testimony and swearing of a witness, and for the trial of any cause which shall include the swearing of all witnesses, the constable and jury, if one be called, also the judgment and record of any exceptions or motions made during the trial, \$6.00 per day for each day and \$3.00 for each half day while actually engaged in such examination or trial, or while engaged in hearing any motion relative to such trial or examination, or final disposition of any cause, but such per diem shall not be allowed until such examination or trial shall have been actually begun, and no Justice of the Peace shall receive any other fee or compensation for any services rendered in any criminal case than such as hereinbefore provided.

The Justice of the Peace had to furnish his own office, and many used their own homes. They also had to furnish their own supplies, except for the statutory report forms that were furnished by the county and were serially numbered. The forms had carbon copies that were distributed to the respective county offices along with the fees and fines collected. The county board would audit the Justice of the Peace's records and issue a monthly check.

The 1961 Constitutional Convention, which was later approved by the voters, only provided that the Justice of the Peace system would be eliminated and mandated that the Legislature create a modern replacement. It specifically mandated the Justice of the Peace would no longer be paid by the fees collected, but would be paid a salary.

On January 1, 1969 the District Court began operation, and would be operated by persons trained in the law. The District Court was to hear misdemeanor criminal cases and some civil matters. A short time later the Legislature added the Small Claims Division to hear minor matters that could be processed without lawyers, formal rules of evidence, or a later appeal.

The Story of the BURLEIGH TOWNSHIP HALL: One Century Young

By Lugene Daniels

Burleigh Township of Iosco County was legally separated from Alabaster Township and organized by an Act of the Michigan Legislature on May 1, 1877. The first township meetings and elections were held at the homes of the various leaders in this sparsely-populated, rural community.

For nearly 31 years, the Burleigh Township Board continued to meet in various locations, most commonly one of the four schools within the township.

Finally, and most likely long overdue, at the April 6, 1908 township board meeting, John SLOAT moved to take \$50 from the contingent fund of the township to purchase a site to build a hall in the center of the township. This motion was supported by Joel P COLVIN, and eventually carried and approved by the board at the time. Peter J HOTTOIS was the Burleigh Township supervisor and Irving BEARDSLEE served as the township clerk.

Obviously, not much happened for the next year. At the February 4, 1909 meeting of the Burleigh Township board, the question of buying the site for the township hall was raised and discussed and laid over until the next meeting. That next meeting was held on March 23, 1909, and once again the question of the purchase site for the hall was laid over. HOTTOIS and BEARDSLEE continued in the same positions as the previous year.

The election of April 1909 produced some new township officials, and at the April 5 meeting of that year, under the direction of a new supervisor, John G LAIL, and new clerks, Court H BEARDSLEE and Mike O'FARRELL, the future of the township hall seemed more likely. At this same meeting, Sam NICHOLS moved, Ben ELLSWORTH supported,

that the township buy one acre of land for a hall. The motion passed.

At that same meeting, Ben ELLSWORTH moved that the township buy a site for the hall from Adam DOERR on the southwest corner of Section 15; supported by James E BARLOW. The motion passed. In keeping the momentum, Byron LOMASON moved and Charles FENTON supported that the township raise \$1,000 for the purpose of a hall; which was amended by Ed WILSON, supported by Alex HURFORD, to raise \$500. The amendment lost: ayes 19, nays 30. Then, that same motion was moved and supported with an amendment to raise \$200 for a hall. Likewise, that amendment lost: ayes 21, nays 25. Eventually the original motion was voted on and not passed: ayes 5, nays 50.



For another two years, Burleigh Township struggled to find the funds and site for a hall. It was not until the meeting of April 3, 1911 that the building of a township hall was once again discussed. While Irving BEARDSLEE served as township supervisor and Ernest BELLEN was the township clerk, BELLEN moved to raise \$1200 for building the township hall. George HUNT moved, Fred MILLS supported, to lay this motion on the table. The motion lost.

Then, finally, under a motion made by Ed WILSON, and supported by Angus DUNHAM, the previous motion was amended to raise \$800 for the building of a township hall. With triumph, this motion passed, and Burleigh Township was finally on the way to securing a building site and erecting a hall for township business and activities. At this same meeting, John SLOAT moved to appoint a building committee of five members. Those appointed were: Fred MILLS, John SLOAT, Joel P COLVIN, N P ST JAMES, and Angus DUNHAM.

Continued on page 8

Burleigh Township Hall, continued from page 7

At the meeting of the following month (May 5, 1911), a motion was approved that the township clerk (Richard FUERST) be instructed to draw \$750 at the Iosco County Bank in Whittemore for the town hall fund.

Assuredly, Burleigh Township finally had its hall. The first meeting at the Burleigh Township Hall was held after the annual election on April 1, 1912. The meeting was held at 1:00 pm.

The first general election to be held at the Burleigh Township Hall was on November 5, 1912. George H WERELEY and Irving BEARDSLEE served as polling clerks and William STAPLETON and Joseph CAVERLY were the gatekeepers. The polls were open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and closed during the one-hour lunch break at noon.

Unfortunately, the saga of the Burleigh Township Hall continued. Printed in the Tawas Herald dated April 4, 1913 was this statement: "The Burleigh town hall was destroyed by the big wind of the 21st of last month."

At the next meeting of the township board, on April 7, 1913, it was moved and supported that \$1,000 be raised to repair the township hall. This motion lost. Instead, a motion was passed to raise \$500 to repair the hall. At this time Peter J HOTTOIS was the supervisor and Richard FUERST was the township clerk.

Obviously, the damage to the hall was beyond repair, because at a meeting held on April 28, 1913, a motion was entertained to draw up plans for a new hall. That motion passed. And, under new leadership, Burleigh Township was on its way to building another new hall.

With Irving BEARDSLEE as supervisor and Theo BELLVILLE as clerk, several motions relative to the hall were approved. The old cement blocks from the wind-struck hall would be sold for six cents each to anyone who wanted to buy them. A motion was approved to accept the bid of \$15.25 from Eli BARNUM for tearing

down the old hall building, cleaning up the site for the new building, and pulling all nails. A new building committee was appointed: John SLOAT, Joel P COLVIN, and Fred MILLS. These men had all served on the building committee of the first hall. However, these three men submitted a written resignation from the committee on this very day. It was also moved, supported, and carried that the town clerk post notice of building a new hall and that the same clerk collect all money from sale of blocks and turn that money over to the township treasurer for the hall fund.

The minutes of the next meeting, held on May 9, 1913, disclosed why the three-man building committee had resigned. The two bids for the new town hall were opened. Fred MILLS had the winning bid of \$195.00. Alex MILLS had also submitted a bid, that being for \$190.00. The board moved, supported, and approved the bid of Fred MILLS. An additional stipulation was made on the building of the new hall--the hall project had to be completed by July 1.

On June 4, 1913, the board awarded Fred MILLS \$150 for the hall construction completed thus far at this point.

The first meeting that was held at the rebuilt Burleigh Township Hall was held there on July 2, 1913. At that same meeting, the board moved, supported, and paid the balance to Fred MILLS for building the township hall.

Located at the south end of Putnam Road, that rebuilt Burleigh Township Hall is the same building where township officials continue to meet. Township meetings, elections, and township business is conducted from this hall. The building is also a popular hall for graduation parties, showers, family reunions, and other social activities. Hopefully, it will withstand the tests of time and serve the Burleigh Township community for another one hundred years.

