



HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

Oscoda, Michigan

Gerald Wykes presentation on French-Canadian Culture

October 13, 2018 at the Robert Parks Library, Oscoda, MI

HSGS gives a thank you to Mr. Wykes for his riveting presentation on the cultural aspects of the early French settlers in Canada and Michigan. Wykes is an exhibit specialist for the Monroe County Museum, curator and supervising interpreter of the Lake Erie Marshlands & Nature Center, interpreter for the Huron-Clinton Metroparks, a freelance artist and illustrator. We also thank our 24 attendees and hope they took away a few nuggets of wisdom.



Our door prize winners were: Dave Antkowiak, Linda Pletcher, Dulcy Williams, Deanna Vaughan, Linda Glomski, Al Ackerman, Carol Vaughn, Jane Fouchey, and Donna Milwrick. The winners had the choice of books and several other genealogically related items.

Gerald shared many cultural subjects about the French-Canadians, originally from Northern France. He brought lots of props like clothes, skins, snowshoes, a beaver hat and a paddle used by the voyageurs. The history of the beaver trade would have been very different had the demand for the style of hat in Europe not exploded. A few bits and pieces from Gerald's talk follow:

Habitants – This French term for resident, usually lived on farms that were established perpendicular to a river in narrow widths and long lengths, looking like a ribbon. This allowed neighbors to be close and allowed as many as possible access to the river. Louis Chevalier's claim on the Au Sable is a great example of this style.

The French-Canadian relationship with the English was anything but cordial. They both found each other irritating, from the style of towns

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HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

January

17 HSGS Business Meeting, Hsing's Garden Restaurant House, East Tawas, MI, 5:30 pm

April

TBD Spring Program - Ethnic topic

18 HSGS Business Meeting, Hsing's Garden Restaurant House, East Tawas, MI, 5:30 pm

Reminder - It is membership renewal time. This can now be done using Pay Pal through our web page using the link on page 8 but checks are also accepted.



Civil War Era Christmas Card Submitted by member Marcia Simmons

DEAR HSGS MEMBERS

As you may be aware, Alonzo Sherman recently underwent surgery and was in the Iosco County Medical Care Facility. He is now at home but is still not mobile. We know he misses the people coming into the library and we certainly miss his presence there also. We also know he would appreciate hearing from fellow HSGS members and we are certain many of you will also miss him as attested to by Myra Herron in the note included below. Please drop him a note or a Christmas card to his home at 308 W. Dwight, Oscoda, Michigan 48750.

Dear Al,

I see you are recuperating in the Care Facility. It may be hard, but you must remember that it will be over eventually, and you'll be back home, doing whatever you decide you want to do! I wish you all the strength and determination you need to get from here to there!

I will never forget meeting you for the ONLY time we met. It was about 2001, at the library in Oscoda, I believe. A friend of mine from Alpena (I'm from there, but not living there any more) wanted to check on some relatives she believed were buried in Iosco county, and she knew where the library was, and that there were usually volunteers there to help. So, we went. At that time, I was JUST starting my genealogy and knew nothing about it, and almost nothing about my family then.

When we walked into the library, you were there, and immediately offered to help us. I watched and listened while you talked to my friend. When you were done with her, you asked if I had anybody in Iosco county and I told you I didn't have a clue. So, you asked questions and found the names of my grandparents and YOU found my mother's parents' marriage information for me. And then we bought the CD your organization was selling. With that kick start, you have to know that I now have a tree on ancestry, the Harlo Elmer Herron family tree, and I have over 9000 people on it. I also have some separate Meddaugh trees. I now work on my genealogy every day, since I'm retired.

I also try to help others and any time I get the chance, I tell them that the group in Iosco county is one of the best, even though it's a small group. I've never asked for help that I haven't been given all I needed, PLUS. I was fortunate enough to be able to contribute a story to the newsletter recently. It made me proud to see it in print.

I just want you to know that all that you do is MUCH appreciated since it's really amazing how much YOU alone have accomplished over the years. If it was 2001 when you helped me, then it's been about 17 years, and your name has been linked to Iosco county genealogy all those years. You're truly awesome.

Good luck in your recovery. Make sure you are careful and do what you're supposed to, to get back on your feet. Take things easy. You're a real treasure!

While Al is recovering, our office at the library will be unattended most of the time the library is open. However, we have made arrangements to have one of our members there from 11:00 to 2:00 on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays to provide assistance with family studies.

In addition, arrangements can be made to meet with one of our members by calling the library at 989-739-9581 and leaving your contact information.

EVENTS BEING PLANNED FOR THIS YEAR

April - Spring Program on an ethnic topic

Summer - A walk through the Pinecrest Cemetery in Oscoda

October - Fall Program, Topic to be Determined

USING CITY DIRECTORIES

By Dan Steck

Why use city directories?

City directories were published before the modern phone book, often on an annual basis. Cities and towns published alphabetical directories of their residents. They can be used to locate a person within a given time period and place and to study the history of an area. In addition, directories can also be useful for learning an individual's occupation, place of employment, and place of residence, as well as potentially identify life events such as marriages and deaths.

What can be found in Directories?

There are usually several parts to a city directory. The section of most interest to genealogists is the alphabetical listing of names, where the following information about ancestor may be found:

- Name of head of household (often men and female widows; later single employed females)
- Name of spouse (often in parentheses following name of husband; mid to late 19th century)
- Sometimes the names of children, often only those employed outside the home or in school
- Street name and house number of residence
- Occupation or business ownership with the work address and employer (if employed outside the home)

In addition to the alphabetical portion, a city directory may also contain a business directory, street directory, government directory, and listings of town officers, schools, societies, churches, post offices, and other miscellaneous matters of general and local interest. These sections can help the researcher become more familiar with the city or county where the ancestor lived. If the ancestor owned a business, the business section should be reviewed for advertisements.

How to use

Like a phone book, names are generally listed in alphabetical order (first name and then middle initial if available). However, exacting searches often do not produce the desired result. Therefore, it is best to search for the last name only under various spellings and then browse until you find the first name or names you are looking for. It is important to note that women were often not listed

since many directories only focused on posting the head of the family. If listed, they will often appear with their husband. It is also important to refer to the page showing abbreviations used in the book. Being familiar with these abbreviations helps the research effort.

Some city directories list adult children who lived with their parents but who were working or going to school. Also, look for people with the same surname residing at the same or nearby addresses. If analyzed and interpreted properly, these annual directories can help to sort out which children belong to which household, when they married and started families of their own, and when they established themselves in business.

Make sure every available city directory for the time period the ancestors of interest may have been living in the area is checked. People overlooked in one directory may be included in the next. Names were also often misspelled or standardized, so be sure to check name variations.

Where directories are found

Original and microfilmed city directories can be found in a variety of locations, and an increasing number are being digitized and made available online. Many may be available either in original format or on microfilm in the library or historical society that covers that particular locality. Many state libraries and historical societies have large city directory collections as well.

Major research libraries and archives such as the Library of Congress, Family History Library, and American Antiquarian Society also maintain large collections of microfilmed city directories, for locations across the United States. Many Local Libraries and Historical or Genealogical Societies have city and county directories on their website or in-house — if not, they can often tell you where to find them.

- When using online sources for City Directories use search terms such as "city directory" and [the locality name] to find a useful directory.
- The Digital Public Library of America contains many free city directories.
- Internet Archive has many city directories, all free. Use the search to locate the town and year you are looking for.

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Was the Scholtz Family Indentured or Slaves?

Part II

Submitted by Judy Sheldon

In Ernest's words, after landing in the Yucatan and being sold, the Scholtz/Schultz family worked on sugar and tobacco plantations for 6 cents a day and 3 cents a day for meals per family member. Since the country was in such unrest, every person traveling the highway had to carry a pass, so escape was impossible at the time. After several months of slavery, a detachment of one of the contending armies raided the Yucatan, destroying and capturing property and seizing the slaves, who were transferred to Campeachy, where they were set to work on the fortifications. When the war ended and Maximillian executed, they were set free.

Hearing from an agent that sugar plantations were offering good wages, ten families decided to go. Again they were disappointed as the agent was just another slave hunter and they were sold for \$870.00. By now, a year and half after their arrival, Ernest had acquired a working knowledge of the language and customs of the people and he determined to escape. He stated that two children had been born during this time. He said their money wasn't enough to buy clothes and had to toil with nothing to cover their backs which became burned with masses of sores. {From the journalist's story none of the laborers wore much in the way of clothes as it was much too hot and the hemp they were working in had thorns.} The plan to escape was to have Caroline pretend to be sick and she was taken to the hospital in Campeachy with her children. After some time, Ernest got permission to visit them. He succeeded in hiring a sailor to take him and his family to a neighboring island of Lagona. The German Consul became interested at this point and gave the family a pass. They made it to Tobasco, to Vera Cruz, then to Havana and on to Baltimore, Maryland in the United States. Once in the USA they moved to Saginaw, Michigan and then to Au Sable where they had relatives.

The story changed a bit when Mary Ann "Annie" told it later and this version is often reprinted in various Iosco County histories. When the family left the ship they were surrounded by men with guns, marched for two days inland, sold as slaves, and marched inland many more miles. Mary Ann was born 6 months into their captivity and the family was sold twice before she was four years old. Hearing that the plan was to split the families up, they and two other families (Dietrich and Scheuman) escaped. Weeks of travel and with help from friendly villagers they made their way to the coast, got a ship to Havana, Cuba and from there to Baltimore, Maryland. The families parted ways in Baltimore. [*Story in The History of Iosco County Michigan, 1981, p. 300*]

Their children were:

Ernest August, born 1863 Prussia; died 8 Aug 1916 Saginaw, MI

Mary Ann, born 1866 Mexico

Theodore, born 24 Apr 1869 East Saginaw, MI

Bertha, born 9 Oct 1872 Tawas City, MI; AKA Moffatt, Willer; died 22 Sept 1938 Detroit

Robert, born 1876 MI

Arthur, born 1879 MI

I have not found them in the 1870 census, but looking at the births of Theodore and Bertha I would guess they were either in Saginaw or Tawas City.

1880 in Tawas: Ernest with Caroline, August, Mary, Theodore, Bertha, Robert, Arthur

1894 State census in East Tawas: Caroline with Ernest A, Robert, Arthur, Herbert, Max. (I don't know where Ernest, Sr is or who Herbert or Max are.)

1900 Saginaw: Ernest with Caroline, Ernest,

Anna – daughter-in-law, Walter – grandson

1910 Saginaw: Ernest with Caroline

1913 From the Saginaw

obit index:

Continued on page 5

The Scholtz Family, Part II, continued from page 4

Ernest Schultz Sr,
25 April 1840 Germany; 25 February 1913
Saginaw; wife Caroline Dorman; Saginaw
Courier Herald 26 February 1913, p7. On
the death record it states he had been an
invalid for years.

1913 From the Saginaw Courier Herald, 1 March
1913 p5: Caroline Johanna Fredericka
Dohrmann Schultz; born 6 Mar 1843 or 1840
Canzow, Woldegk, Mecklenburg, Germany;
died 28 Feb 1913 Saginaw; Fred Dorman and
Tersa Reischoltz are her parents;

Caroline/Carolina died two hours before her
husband's funeral.

They are both buried in Oakwood Cemetery,
Saginaw.

Newspaper sources:

The New York Times, 17 August 1887

Chicago Tribune, 17 August 1887

Wisconsin State Journal, 17 August 1887

Fort Worth Daily Gazette, 19 Oct 1887

Saginaw Courier Herald, 26 February 1913, p7
and 1 March 1913 p5

Using City Directories, continued from page 3

- [Online Historical Directories Website](#): Lists links to city directories on many different sites by country, state and sometimes county. Many, but not all, links are free.
- [Ancestry.com](#) (\$) may be available at your library and it has one of the largest online collections of city directories. For best results, browse directly to the city of interest and then page through the available directories rather than relying on a search.

A number of historical city directories can also be found through online sources for digitized books, such as Internet Archive, Haithi Digital Trust and Google Books.

Unfortunately there is no guarantee that you will find your ancestor in a city directory. Some cities and towns did not have directories and some had them for only a few years. Sadly, many have been lost. Still, it is well worth the time to see if you can discover ancestors in this underused resource.

Sources

Powell, Kimberly. "City Directories for Genealogy." ThoughtCo, Mar. 3, 2017,

Mayo, Melanie, Family History Daily Editor. Originally published July 2015. Updated Nov 2017.

Ancestry.com

THUMB DRIVE APPLICATIONS

From the German Genealogical Group German, December, 2018 Newsletter

At the site link below, you will find 40 of the best free thumb drive applications for 2018. "Thumb drives are one of the most important and useful computer accessories you'll ever find. These small devices are not just used to carry your data, you can use them for a lot of other functions and that includes running portable apps, and even an entire operating system. These apps range from portable web browsers, computer games, cybersecurity, and data back up and sync solutions apart from many others." ~ ResearchBuzz <https://www.hongkiat.com/blog/45-free-useful-thumb-drive-applications/>

A School Photo of Mary Parker Submitted by Myra Herron



Back row: Harvey Ward, Will McGilvry, Jossie Hulvason, Ollie Nickleson, MARY PARKER, Victor Cane? (Lane?),
Nellie Trask, Henry Hulvason, Youra Abun, Adam Fulton,
Middle row: Cora Bro?, Jonnie Willis, Hurbal Willis, Miss Tucker (teacher) Arthur Fisher, Lanta Loud, Mary Fulton,
Emmlay Loud,
Front row: Justin Rogers, Laura McQuay, Paulean Glifton, Jane Cane, John Goodall

Gerald Wykes Presentation, Continued from page 1

(English towns were built around a square vs the French ribbon farms along a river) to the better French-Canadian relationships with the Native Americans in both Canada and the United States. They had assimilated the living styles and many intermarried.

Fur trade and beavers – Gerald pointed out that the fur traders are not to be confused with the voyageurs or the habitants. Each had their special roles to play. While the habitants often also trapped beaver to supplement their farm income, most of the trapping was done by Indians. The traders used price lists based on the quality of the pelts, including those of other animals, and negotiated the deals with the trappers. Fall and winter trapped beaver fur was more valuable than furs from beaver trapped in spring and summer.

Voyageurs – They were the heavy haul truckers who transported trade supplies up the rivers and the furs down back down. The working life of a voyageur was relatively short, two or three years before they retired to become farmers, as it required great upper body strength to paddle the freight canoes and to carry the cargo on portages. On a portage, each voyageur carried two 90 pound packs (carrying only one was for wimps) in a harness wrapped across the forehead and back to his back. The purpose of the often colorful sashes they wore was to provide support for their stomach muscles (to prevent them from busting a gut).

After lunch, Gerald answered questions and told more stories about French Canadians in camps and within their families.

Horses with Wooden Shoes

Contributed by Judy Sheldon

Horseshoes, we all know what they are: shoes for horses, good luck symbols and a yard game. Our horse people will know there are various types of shoes depending on the need of the horse and its rider. There are regular shoes, the ones most commonly thought of; rim shoes look like regular ones but with a large groove in the center for better traction; and several types of bar shoes, these have a bar across the back of the shoe for more support and the treatment of problems like laminitis. Then there are shoes with studs for ice, mud and other slick conditions.

But have your horses ever worn wooden shoes? Probably not! This was a question that recently appeared on the Ostfriesen List, someone had visited the Netherlands and seen horses with wooden shoes and wondered if the horses in northern Germany might also have worn them. What wooden shoes for horses? Got to check this one out! In the first searches the results were for wooden pad like shoes to treat laminitis in modern time, but further research discovered the following information.

These shoes are called by various names: Bog shoes or Marsh shoes. They are wooden discs with iron toe straps and adjustable heel irons. In the

agricultural industry before tractors, horses were needed everywhere, in the fields, the marshes, the bogs and just getting down the muddy, rutty roads. Horses sink, for obvious reasons, quicker than we do, so finding a way to keep them “afloat” in these watery places was needed. Horses were used in the cranberry bogs, celery fields, peat bogs and in places where marsh grass hay was grown in Europe as well



as in the United States. The photo below is courtesy of Gerald Wykes.

‘Hestetruger’ or snowshoes for horses have been documented as early as the 1500s in areas of the

world with deep snow and where horses were used to transport goods and people. They are usually round with the center crisscrossed with straps. Some were like the above wooden shoes, a solid wood shoe strapped on to the horses hoof.

See the sites below for pictures.

<https://www.snowshoemag.com/2015/10/03/snowshoes-for-more-weighty-creatures/>
<https://digitalmuseum.no/011013394534/hestetruger>

DNA Tests

From the German Genealogical Group,
December, 2018 Newsletter

DNA TESTS - If you would like to learn about DNA tests and see a comparison of the top five as well as an explanation of the three types of tests, go to: <https://www.genealogyexplained.com/dna-testing/best-dna-test/>



