



HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

Oscoda, Michigan

DEAR HSGS MEMBERS
Dale Harwood, President

HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

Another year is almost gone and the COVID pandemic still hangs over us. Unfortunately, we do not have the staff to be able to have someone available at the Genealogy room at the Parks library, so if you are interested in visiting for research or help with your genealogy, we ask that you schedule an appointment and we will make every effort to meet you there. Please email michitancemeterylady@gmail.com huronshoresgs@yahoo.com, or call the library and leave a message.

This past fall, we hosted a cemetery walk at the Wilber Cemetery. Dan Stock, Linda Glomski, Mandy Alvarez, Lauri Finerty and Dale Harwood research several of the families who are laid to rest in this bucolic cemetery. We met the Schaaf's, who were both Township treasurers at various times and their daughter who kept the family tradition alive by being the treasurer herself. We met the Cross family and noted that a son had died in the invasion at Normandy. We also met the Alda's, Lilyquist's, Davidson's, Abbott's, Syme's, among others. We found that if you were related to Edna Otis (local newspaper editor) you would be written up in the paper weekly. We also met Emma Galbraith, who's research left us with more questions than answers.

We are planning on re-running the Colletta videos beginning in January. Our annual membership meeting will be held on January 20, 2022. The time and location will be determined at a later date. We will email you with the particulars closer to the meeting date.

Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2022.



- January
- 20 HSGS Business Meeting, Time and location TBD with a showing of the first of the Colletta Series
- TBD Continuation of the showing of the Colletta CD Series
- April
- 21 HSGS Business Meeting, Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, East Tawas, MI, 5:30 pm



Obituary – Mrs. August Johnson
Tawas Herald, December 9, 1921, p 1, c. 7

After a lingering illness of three years Mrs. August Johnson passed away quietly at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Geddale, of this city on Wednesday, Dec. 7. Mrs. Johnson had been a victim of tuberculosis and was taken to Detroit a year and a half ago for treatment at the Herman Keifer hospital. Mr. Johnson was also being treated there, but came home improved some time ago. Two weeks ago Mrs. Johnson was moved to East Tawas, there being no hope of her recovery.

Hulda Johannah Geddale was born in East Tawas April 20, 1892 and was 29 years of age. On August 27, 1913, she was united in marriage to August N. Johnson in East Tawas. After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Johnson resided in East Tawas with the exception of two years at Pontiac. Two daughters and one son were born to them, one daughter, Edna, and the son, Warren, died in infancy. Helen, a daughter of six years, survives.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon from the M.E. Church, Rev. Kusisto, Finnish Lutheran pastor, who takes charge of Finnish services in this city occasionally, will officiate, assisted by Rev. Mitchell, who will deliver the English sermon. Interment will be made in greenwood cemetery.

Immediate relatives who survive are the husband, August Johnson, and daughter, Helen, the father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Geddale, of this city, and five sisters, Mrs. Ellen Gurley and Sadie Fernette of this city, Mrs. Lizzie Makinen of Kaleva, Mich., Mrs. Pauline Hagstrom of Detroit and Mrs. Anna Holtzheur of Alma.

The deceased was a young woman of fine Christian character and the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community goes out to the sorrowing relatives.

From Ancestry.com and Newspapers.com information on her daughter, Helen Marie Johnson.

Helen was born April 1, 1915 and died in San Diego, CA July 28, 1990, buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. She was married first to Edward Perko and second to Norman Brule. Her obituary is in the Star-News, Chula Vista, Ca, August 1, 1990. She was a secretary at Rohr Industries for 23 years. She had lived in Bonita, CA for 45 years. Her mother died in 1921 and her father died in 1922, raising the question of who raised her?

COUNTY AGENT COLUMN by C. P. Milham
[The Tawas Herald, 10 May 1918]

Boys are the best substitutes we have to replace men who have been drawn into the army and navy. The boys in Iosco county are responding to the call of the U. S. Boys Working Reserve in good shape. Enrolling officer Waldo Curry has enrolled half of the boys of reserve age in Tawas Township. Other enrolling officers have not reported, but it is known that they are busy.

Boys between the ages of 16 and 20, inclusive, if you have not yet enrolled do so as soon as possible. You will be given good treatment by the farmers you will work for, and you will prove your mettle, I'm sure. When the Nation is at war all of us must put up with conditions as we find them and make the best of it. The first essential is increased food production. Canada is calling for help to harvest her large acreage of grain. If men are sent to Canada the boys must replace them.

To hold back because of salary is not right. We are not in the war for money, we are in it for the existence of our Liberty. The volunteers in our army are not fighting for money,

and if the boys at home hold back from doing what they can to help out for such a reason, what will the boys at the front think of it, and what will they say when they come back?

The enrolling officers are as follows:

- Chas. McLean, Whittemore
- Fred Latter, Reno
- Lewis Nunn, Hale
- John Burt, Grant
- Waldo Curry, Tawas
- John Johnson, Baldwin
- Mrs. John Alda, Wilber
- Travers Ousterhout, Alabaster
- Geo. Schroeder, Aherman
- Will McGillivray, Oscoda and AuSable
- Burt Dunnill, Burleigh
- Eugene Swem, Tawas City
- J. A. Bailey, Hale
- Miss Mary Stang, East Tawas

THE ALDA FAMILY FROM THE WILBER CEMETERY WALK

By Amanda Alvarez

John H. and Clara Alda of Wilber Township were admired members of their community. They are remembered as hard working farmers. They settled on Clara's family farm and together raised five children. They were dignified members of the Ancient Order of Gleaners. The Gleaners was founded as a fraternal insurance society for men and women over 16 years of age who showed evidence of satisfactory insurability and who believe in the existence of a Supreme Being, the creator of the universe.

John Alda was born in London, Canada on March 9, 1860. At the age of 21, he came to Michigan and shortly afterwards, took out his citizenship papers and made this his home.

On August 6, 1884 he married Clara G. Stickles. They bore 5 children, one of whom died in infancy. Their children were Pearl, Vernon, Russell, Stanley and Ernest.

Mr. Alda was a man of retiring disposition, but made many friends and was highly

esteemed by his friends and neighbors. He held several township offices including Supervisor. He also held the office of treasurer of school district #1 for about 30 years.

In 1910 Mr. Alda and his wife took over the Wilber post office. Clara took over the job as postmistress and held that

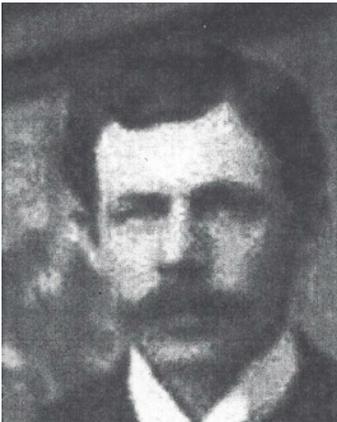
position until she passed away in 1925. The Alda's also opened a small store in connection with the post office and were known to take trade instead of funds for goods. They were well liked in the farming community.

John passed away in 1919 after a brief illness with heart trouble. Clara passed away in 1925 after doing her morning chores. She sat down to eat her breakfast and died suddenly.

The Alda family are laid to rest together at Wilber Township Cemetery.

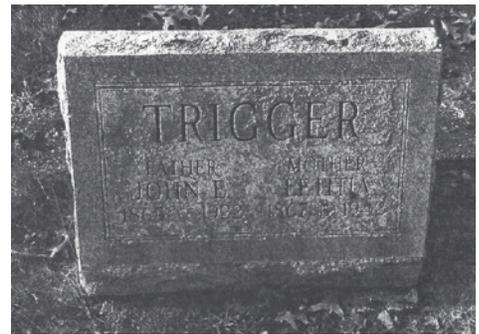


JOHN TRIGGER FROM THE PINCREST CEMETERY WALK



Born in England in 1865 to William Trigger and Mary Ann Mallet, John Elias Trigger and his family immigrated to America in 1870 when he was about 5 years old. John married Leticia McCluskey in 1894. Leticia was born in Quebec in 1967. They were the parents of three sons,

residence. John also worked for the Packs. On his death certificate his occupation was listed as mail carrier for the US Mail. According to the



Tawas Herald of 1907 and 1908, John Trigger was listed as Constable in the accounts payable section in the

Harold, Reneldo and James. In 1900, The Triggers rented a home on Michigan Ave. in Oscoda. They lived on State St in 1910. In 1900, John was working as a gardener, in 1910 as a Valet in a private home and in 1920 as a caretaker in a private

Based on information given by Bill Parsons and Nancy Barnes during the presentation at the Pinecrest Cemetery walk. Family lore says that while working for the the Packs, he saved the Pack house from burning by going to the attic and putting out the beginning of the burning roof. They say that if you go to the attic, you can see the charred timbers.

report of the Board of Supervisors of Iosco County. John Trigger died on Jan. 5, 1922 at the age of 56 of mistral stenosis. Letitia died in 1942 at the age of 75. He is buried in the Pinecrest Cemetery, Oscoda, Michigan.

1950 Census Supplemental Questions Continued from the September Genogram

The 1950 census population questionnaire asked fewer questions than its predecessor; the full population was asked only 20 questions. As in 1940, a 5 percent sample was asked an additional slate of questions. Enumerators asked the following supplemental questions (for a 5 percent sample of the population), listed by column:

For all ages

21. Was the person living in the same house a year ago?
22. If no to question 21, was the person living on a farm a year ago?
23. If no to question 21, was the person living in the same county a year ago?
24. If no to question 23...
 - a. What county (or nearest place) was he living in a year ago?
 - b. What state or foreign country was he living in a year ago?
25. What country were the person's mother and father born in?
26. What is the highest grade of school that the person has attended?
 Enumerators were to mark "0" for no school; "K" for kindergarten; "S1" through "S12" depending on the last year of elementary or secondary school attended; "C1" through "C4" depending on the last year of undergraduate college education attended; or "C5" for any graduate or professional school.
27. Did the person finish this grade?
28. Has the person attended school since February 1st?
 Enumerators could check a box for "yes" or "no" for those under thirty; for those over thirty, they were to check a box for "30 or over."

For persons 14 years and older

29. If the person is looking for work, how many weeks has he been looking for work?
30. Last year, how many weeks did this person not work at all, not counting work around the house?
31. a. Last year, how much money did the person earn working as an employee for wages or salary?
 b. Last year, how much money did the person earn working at his own business, professional occupation, or farm?
 c. Last year, how much money did the person receive from interest, dividends, veteran's allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (aside from earnings)?
32. a. If this person is the head of the household: last year, how much money did his relatives in this household earn working for wages or salary?
 b. If this person is the head of the household: last year, how much money did the person earn working at his own business, professional occupation, or farm?
 c. If this person is the head of the household: last year, how much money did the person receive from interest, dividends, veteran's allowances, pensions, rents, or other income (aside from earnings)?

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OLD TIME SCENE IN SHERMAN TOWNSHIP



A. B. Schneider of Sherman Township is responsible for this picture taken in front of the Schneider School in Sherman Township. It was taken in 1911. It typifies the way youngsters were loaded into cars at that time. The car is a Model T Ford, owned by Mr. Schneider and the first one in the township. Mr. Schneider built the schoolhouse shown in the picture.

From the Arenac Independent, date unknown

The DID YOU KNOW?

You can order a census record from 1910 to 2010 for a person if you know the exact address? There is a fee, of course. <https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/bc-600-2013.pdf>

Voter records and other information on living people. <https://voterrecords.com/>

If you haven't visited <https://stevemorse.org/> lately you really should. He has oodles of sites to search!

Federal Bureau of Prisons can be searched by name of inmate. <https://www.bop.gov/>

Besides the usual military records we send for, like service record and pension record, there is another one of interest. This is the pension payment books or cards. They are a record of any money sent to the pensioner. My Peter Sheldon would be in this set **Pension Agency Payment Books, 1805 – 1909**. It is a bound volume and seems to have an index. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/2600765>

1950 Census, continued from page 4

33. If male: did he ever serve in the U.S. Armed Forces during...
 - a. World War II
 - b. World War I
 - c. Any other time, including present service
34. To enumerator: if the person worked in the last year, is there any entry in columns 20a, 20b, or 20c?
If yes, skip to question 36; if no, make entries for questions 35a, 35b, and 35c.
35. a. What kind of work does this person do in his job?
b. What kind or business or industry does this person work in?
c. Class of worker
36. If ever married, has this person been married before?
37. If married, widowed, divorced, or separated, how many years since this event occurred?
38. If female and ever married, how many children has she ever borne, not counting still births?

SILVER VALLEY WINTER SPORTS CARNIVAL

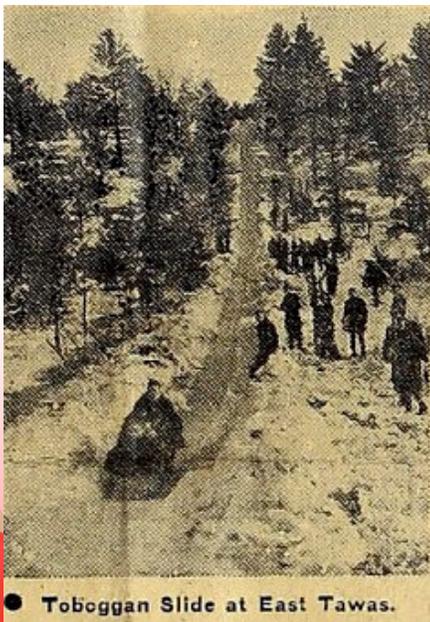
By Dan Steck

The Silver Valley Winter Carnival brought thousands of visitors to the Tawas area in late January and early February by bus, train and automobile to ski, sled, toboggan ride, skate and have fun during its 27 year reign. Numerous celebrities also participated over the years.

“Camp Silver Creek was a desolate, windblown area¹” when the 665th company of the CCC arrived in May 1933 to make it bloom. In addition to firefighting, road building, fire lane construction and tree planting, the Corps built the first toboggan slide and ice skating rink under the direction of the U. S. Forest Service and the local Winter Sports Club with the help of local volunteers.

The Winter Sports Club was formed in 1937 and Fred J. Adams served as the first chairman. He held that title for five years. Through the combined efforts of the Club and Forest Service Ranger John Franson, the Silver Creek area was transformed into one of the first winter sports park venues in the southern peninsula of Michigan.

The first Carnival was held in 1938 while the sports park area was still referred to as Silver Creek. One bus and a special train came up from Bay City. Visitors were advised to bring their own skis, skates, snowshoes and toboggans. Used toboggans were also acquired from Carl



● Toboggan Slide at East Tawas.

Tawas Herald January 6, 1939

E. Schmidt's winter sports park at Greenbush to be used on the snow banked run. “A tin pan slide, later christened “Belly Flopper Hill” proved to be one of the most popular coasting runs²” Attendance was reported to be 500.

Senia Loffman won the honor of serving as Snow

Queen through her efforts to sell memberships to the Winter Sports Club. Jimmie Stevenson, star reporter of WJR, Detroit crowned the queen with the assistance of Charlie Gehringer and Barney Mccosky, representing the Detroit Tigers.

By the 1940 Carnival, two improved wooden troughs were available for toboggan runs along with a warming house having been completed at the renamed Silver Valley Winter Sports Park. The ice skating rink had also been improved and a pumping system for icing the runs had been installed. Jimmie Stevenson made his regular Saturday evening radio broadcast from the Holland Hotel. The CCC operated the Sports Park during the first years and members of the Sports Club along with volunteers operated the Park after that.

In addition to Jimmie Stevenson, Charlie Gehringer and Harvey Mccosky, a number of other notable celebrities participated in the Carnival over the years including:

- Gordon Castle, WJR, 1938
- Rambling Bill Hurley and Gang Orchestra, 1938
- Tony Weitzel, WJR, 1947
- Mark Belltaire, Detroit Free press Columnist, 1948
- Van Patrick, WJR Sports Director, 1949-1952
- Vic Wertz, Detroit Tigers First baseman, 1949-1952, 1955, 1959
- Governor G. Mennon Williams, 1950
- Brigadier General Harry Johnson, USAF, 1950
- Bob Reynolds, WJR Sports Director, 1953-1965
- Dizzy Trout, Detroit Tigers Pitcher, 1953
- Ted Malone, Radio and TV Personality, 1958
- Bill Veeck, Former owner of the Cleveland Indians and St. Louis Browns, 1959

Attendance jumped to over 20,000 in 1940 and in 1941 in what was intended as a publicity stunt, Whitney Alberts, better known as Chief Blue Cloud, in full regalia rescued the Carnival by means of a ceremonial fire, beating on his tom-tom and taking a few puffs on his ceremonial pipe which brought a foot of snow to the area just days before the Carnival start.

Activities were curtailed during the war years involving mostly only participation by local residents with no Carnival or Queen from 1943-1945.

Continued on page 7

Silver Valley, continued from page 6

Following the war, an extensive rebuild using hired returning veterans and volunteers was undertaken to bring the Sports Park back to suitable condition for the 1946 Carnival, which attracted over 30,000 during the season. The Carnival flourished from then through the 1950s bringing many visitors including organized groups to the area. Starting in 1947 and continuing through 1963, the Detroit Area Lutheran Caravan, consisting at times of up to 400 or more people, came to the area

Queen Betty and Her Court



Misses Marion Klinger, Faye Webb, Betty Cooper, Phyllis Jacinth and Marilyn O'Farrell
Tawas Herald January 30, 1948

during Carnival time to enjoy the winter sports activities as well as to hold retreats. At times, they even selected their own queen.

Other groups participating in the Carnival included the Walther League of Saginaw, Bay City and Flint, and Explorer Scouts of Detroit who camped out in January and February. All came to the Sports Park while in the area.

One of the highlights of the Carnival was the selection and crowning of the Silver Valley Queen. Initially the queen was the candidate who recruited the most new members to the Sports Club or who sold the most Winter Carnival buttons. Then the queen was selected by a group of local prominent citizens serving as judges. In the mid-fifties, facing problems with recruiting candidates, the queen was selected by means of a popularity contest along with the offer of an expense paid trip to an exotic destination. This effort was successful and a large number of candidates from all over the NE and E Michigan then participated, however, the effort was very expensive and its use was discontinued after a few years. Selection of the Silver Valley Winter Sports Queen was returned to the judges. Over the years, most of the candidates were local high school girls although a number of married women also became candidates.

The demise of the Silver Valley Carnival came because of a series of years during which there was a lack of adequate snow, the need to upgrade the facilities and operations to meet new federal regulations, decreasing attendance and increasing competition from other lower-peninsula winter sports areas, many of which could afford costly snow making equipment. The final Carnival was held in 1965 with only a comparable handful of attendees amid rainy conditions and the absence of the advertised celebrities in attendance. Tannis Benedict, daughter of Major W. V. Benedict from Wurtsmith AFB was the last of 23 queens of the event during the 27 years it was held.

A summary of the Silver Valley Queens and their courts will be included in the next issue of the Genogram.

Sources

- 1 – *We Can Do It!, A History of the CCC in Michigan*, by Charles A. Symon
 - 2- *Welcome to Silver Valley, from In My Day, The Nifty Fifties* by Neil Thornton.
- Numerous articles from the Tawas Herald, 1937-1967

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Huron Shores Genealogical Society
 6010 Skeel Ave
 Oscoda, MI 48750

Our Regular Meetings

Our regular business meetings are held quarterly at the Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, East Tawas at 5:30 PM on the third Thursday of the month.

Our next meetings are:

January 20, 2022 - In Person and Virtual meeting

April 21, 2022

An HSGS staff member may be in our office at the library during the following hours:

Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 to 2:00

Saturday 11:00 to 2:00

HSGS staff can also meet with clients by appointment. Please call the library (989.739.9581) or email to

huronshoresgs@yahoo.com to arrange for an appointment with an experienced genealogical assistant.

As a society we have set as goals:

- To preserve and perpetuate the records of our ancestors.
- To encourage the study of family histories and genealogies.
- To aid individuals in the compilation of their genealogies.
- To cooperate with other societies and share information.

- President - Dale Harwood
- Vice President - Lauri Finerty
- Secretary - Linda Glomski
- Treasurer - Daniel Stock
- Database Manager - Judy Sheldon
- Directors - Gaynol Fales and Amanda Alvarez

Please visit our web site at: <http://www.huronshoresgs.org>
 And our Facebook page at : <http://www.facebook.com/HuronShoresGS>
 to learn more about us and to link to our many indexes and our archived newsletters.

If you, as a new or renewing member, would be willing and able to hold an office, work on a committee, or help with indexing materials, HSGS would appreciate your help very much. You may indicate your area of expertise and/or interest on the following form. We will be happy to contact you about your interest in helping. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

\$10 per year \$15 per year with mailed newsletter

Make checks payable to: Huron Shores Genealogical Society

DATE: _____ PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP+4: _____

What is your level of genealogical experience? (circle one): Beginner Intermediate Advanced

Do you use computer software to manage your genealogy? No

If yes, list the software you use: _____

Send this completed form and and your check if appropriate to:

Huron Shores Genealogical Society
 % Robert J. Parks Library
 6010 Skeel Ave, Oscoda, MI 48750-1577