



HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

Oscoda, Michigan

HSGS Holds Immigration and Naturalization Program

On May 4, 2013 thirty-two attendees enjoyed an all-day program entitled “They Came to America and Stayed” at the Parks Library in Oscoda. The morning session was presented by Kris Rzepczynski from the Michigan Archives.

On the topic of naturalization, Kris related that naturalization is the process of becoming a citizen; it is a voluntary process in three steps:

1. Declaration of intent
2. Petition for citizenship a few years later
3. Citizenship with a certificate (of the least genealogical value)

1906 is a watershed year as that is when the federal government assumed responsibility. The post 1906 records are much more detailed including place of birth. Kris suggested that these records would be much more fruitful, if found, than the information in passenger lists. A place to start is the census records for 1900 thru 1930 as naturalization questions were included. The next step is then to identify the court where the

HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

- June
- 18 Family Pioneers Series
Thayer Family, Plainfield Township Library
- July
- 12-13 MGC Delegate meeting, and the Abrams Genealogy Seminar, Lansing, MI
- 16 Family Pioneer Series
Plainfield Twp Library
- 18 HSGS Business meeting, A Different Blend Coffee House, East Tawas, MI
- August
- 20 Family Pioneer Series
Plainfield Twp Library
- September
- 17 Family Pioneer Series
Plainfield Twp Library
- October
- 17 HSGS Business meeting, A Different Blend Coffee House, East Tawas, MI



Kris

Photo courtesy of Lugene Daniels

Ceil

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**Join Us at our
October Workshop
on “Seeking and
Finding Your
Ancestors In
Germany”**

LOCAL VETERAN ACKNOWLEDGED

By Lugene Daniels

As I push forward on my personal mission to photograph all the tombstones in Iosco County, I frequently find myself wondering about the individuals interred beneath the marker. As this recent Memorial Day holiday came and went, I thought it fitting to submit this article about a Hale area Civil War veteran.

Benjamin Frost is buried in the Esmond-Evergreen Cemetery east of Hale. His grave is in section OP-4 on the east side. He does not have a military marker, only a personal marker in the Shattuck-Bills-Frost family plot.

The following article, which also serves as his obituary, was printed in the Arenac County Independent dated May 21, 1930. The adjacent photo of Benjamin Frost accompanied the article.

Another War Veteran Gone:

Benjamin Frost, 87, Passed Away at Home of Daughter at Hale Last Wednesday Evening

Benjamin (Harrison) Frost, Civil War veteran, who until a few weeks ago, was with his son, Benjamin, Jr of this city, passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs Elmon Bills, Hale. He was 87 years old. He had been in ill health for several months.

Mr Frost was recently listed among the Independent's Civil War veterans. His life's story began in Longston, Cambridge Shire, England, December 18, 1842, the place and date of his birth. He came to America in 1852 in a sail boat, taking six weeks and three days to cross the Atlantic. On arriving in New York the boat went up the St Lawrence River to Niagara Falls and to Toledo, Ohio. Later, Mr Frost went to Ida, Michigan.

He enlisted in March 4, 1865, with the 3rd Ohio Cavalry at Toledo. In relating his experiences at the time

his story was published, he remembered being sent from Atlanta, Georgia to Macan (sic Macon) by General Sherman to preserve the city as it was noted at that time for being such a beautiful city. He recalled being on the hills on a farm and not being able to get food, especially bread, for several days at a time.

The most important battle he fought was the battle of Lookout Mountain.

Mr Frost was 87 years old last December and enjoyed fairly good health for his years until just recently. He has always worked hard on his farm where he has large patches of melons and strawberries. He was married shortly after the war and lived at Lambertville

and Samaria until about 30 years ago when he moved to Hale. He was supervisor from Plainfield Township, Iosco County, for two terms. He has always been a great hunter and has gone deer hunting until about five years ago.

Mr Frost was keenly interested in boys during the years of his activity on the farm, usually had a number of them in his employ, where with patience and kindness he taught them the rudiments of farm work.



Benjamin Harrison Frost

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BENJAMIN FROST Continued from page 2

Many men in Iosco and Monroe counties served their first day of work in his employ.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs Elmon Bills of Hale and Mrs Frank Fuller of Detroit, and one son, Benjamin, of Standish, and seven grandchildren. Mrs Frost preceded him in death 12 years ago.

The funeral services were held at Elmon Bills' residence at two o'clock Friday afternoon.



From Arenac County Historical Society

The Arenac County Historical Society is researching Civil War Veterans of Arenac County in preparation for a future publication. If you have information about an Arenac County Solider ancestor you are willing to share, please contact the ACHS.

Immigration and Naturalization, continued from page 1

citizenship papers were filed, which may be in two or more places if the applicant moved.

Kris also discussed the resources available at the Michigan Archives as related in the article on page 6. He also provided a list of resources which is available on request from HSGS. Accompanying Kris' vast knowledge of this subject was his great sense of humor, without a doubt everyone in attendance learned a lot.

After lunch, Ceil Wendt Jensen, a certified genealogist from the Polish-American Research Institute at the Polish Mission in Orchard Lake, delivered a program on immigration.

Ceil related that it is a myth that all records were destroyed during the world wars and that language barriers make research too difficult to pursue. For example, many records were removed from buildings during WWII and stored in caves for the duration. She went on to present practical examples and suggestions on how to use records, databases, and archives to start or advance your European genealogical research including the use of the Google Toolbar for translations, images and locations of maps. The use of Family Search for villages, history and maps. In addition Facebook can be used to look for family names and regions overseas.

She suggested we also document the extended family as families frequently moved in groups when they came to the US.

Ceil suggested that priority be given to the use of the **Steve Morse One Step Tools** web site (<http://www.stevemorse.org>) for your immigration research rather than the Ellis Island site (1892-1950) as it is much easier to find your way around and it has records indexed for Castle Gardens entry into New York (1820-1891) and passenger list information for other ports in addition to the Ellis island information.

Ceil provided an extensive list of other web sites which are useful in doing research in Europe. A complete list is available on request from HSGS.

Some attendees received some personal assistance from Ceil in finding an ancestor on their family history quest. Once again, Ceil's presentation was well-received by all in attendance.

For the first time ever, program participants were asked to bring their own lunch. HSGS provided morning snacks, desserts, coffee, and water. Several door prizes were awarded to many lucky winners.

This program was sponsored in part by a grant from the Iosco-Arenac District Library.

Mapping your ancestors or where is the family farm?

By Judy Sheldon

Maps can be found in the local, university and state libraries, state archives, county offices, books and online. They take many forms and serve various purposes. Together they can give the family home a new look!

Plat, Survey or Land maps show land ownership, are updated regularly and help locate land using the legal description. Some are indexed by landowner. Small land holdings and lots in towns usually don't show the owner's name.

Political maps show political boundaries, cities and towns, physical features like rivers and lakes, and hopefully include an index. Old maps may show places that have disappeared or been abandoned.

Sanborn Maps or other fire insurance maps are made by insurance companies of towns that they write insurance policies for. They show the buildings, their construction type, some houses. They can show how an area grew and record buildings destroyed over time.

Topographic maps are geographic maps, showing the lay of the land. All geographic features are shown, the elevation of the area, and some of the human element such as cemeteries, churches, etc. If you have stories of where the farm was by description of the hills, creeks, etc. it is possible to locate the place on one of these maps.

Atlases and road maps are useful for locating present day places. Comparing these with historical maps can help locate the home of an ancestor.

Timeline maps show the change of borders to countries, states, counties, city wards. This is very important in locating a family records in court houses, church parishes, and census records. It can often explain such

things as where a person says they were born changes from one record to the next.

Google Earth and any of the other 3 dimensional maps give a real time image of the area. Some have historical overlays. Looking at this type of map gives an often confusing, topographical maps meaning.

Below are Internet links to some great map resources:

From **Tracing Descendants** web site

Here are a few great sites to map your ancestors, track their migration and learn about boundary changes.

Migration and the rising population expansion changed boundary lines, a township or town did not always reside in the same state or county. Townships may have changed their names and boundaries too.

<http://www.tracingdescendants.com/Mapping-Your-Ancestors.html>

From **US Geologic Survey** web site

Using Maps in Genealogy

<http://egsc.usgs.gov/isb/pubs/factsheets/fs09902.html>

Historical maps on line from the **University of Illinois**

<http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/maps/>

Made in America map from the New York Times

Immigration explorer

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2009/03/10/us/20090310-immigration-explorer.html?hp&_r=0

Genealogy Inc

Excellent article on all types of maps and has animated maps of US boundaries.

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

CAN ANYONE PROVIDE MORE ON THE FOLLOWING?

Have you ever heard of Shawtimiog Pt? It appears on several maps where Tawas Pt is now. This point was earlier called Ottawa Pt.

The Shawtimiog name is on 1856 McNally's Improved System of Geography map of MI and WI; 1854 Colton Pocket

Map of OH and MI; 1862 Johnson Map of MI and WI, 1864 Johnson Map of MI and WI maps.

The light house was built in 1852 and called Ottawa and later (1902) Tawas Point, but the maps don't seem to have caught up with the building of the light house and its name for a while.

John Autterson *and son*

1819 – 2 November 1897

By Lugene Daniels

Not much is known about the man with the impressive family tombstone that hugs the woods near the western boundary at the Reno Township Cemetery. Records reveal that he and his family lived many years in Ontario before relocating to Reno Township.

According to his death record, which is at the Iosco County Clerk's office in Tawas City, John AUTTERSON was 78 years of age when he died. He was born in County Armagh, Ireland and his father had the given name David. He was a widower and a stone mason by trade. His cause of death was bilious fever, which is an ailment of the liver.

His son, John A. AUTTERSON, and wife Lena C, are buried in the same plot.

Iosco County land records show that John E. AUTTERSON purchased forty acres in section 24 of Reno Township in September of 1887 from Edward E. WILLIAMS. In May of 1889, son John A. AUTTERSON probably took over the mortgage from Mr WILLIAMS. Both transactions were for the same NW4SE4 parcel.

In August of 1891, John A. AUTTERSON bought the adjoining 40 acres from E. A. HITCHCOCK in section 24 of Reno Township. Its land description was the NE4SE4. Consequently, the AUTTERSON's now had an 80-acre piece of land in Reno Township.

The death date on the handsome footstone of John (E.) AUTTERSON differs from the death date on the official death record. Not knowing for certain, but probably the official death record is the correct date. The inscription reads: "Died Oct 15, 1899 Aged 78 years"

Son John A. AUTTERSON was born in Ontario, according to his death record. A farmer, he died on February 4, 1926 from sistitis (as spelled on his death



certificate) of the liver. He was 72 years 9 months and 16 days of age.

His obituary was printed in the February 12, 1926 issue of the Tawas Herald.

John A. AUTTERSON: John Albert Autterson was born April 18, 1854 at Clinton, Ontario, and departed this life February 4, 1926 at the age of 72 years, eight months, and 17 days, after an illness of 19 months.

He was united in marriage to Miss Agnes DEMPSEY of Clinton, Ontario. To this union four children were born, two daughters and one son dying in infancy.

Mrs Autterson passed away in the year 1881. Mr Autterson was again married to Miss Lena WILLIAMS in 1885 at Buffalo, New York. He was employed as a sailor at this time. To this union one son was born, Wesley A Autterson. He was killed in British Columbia June 2, 1912.

Mr and Mrs Autterson moved to Reno Township, Iosco County in 1885 and lived there on a farm until seven years ago they moved to Whittemore.

Mr Autterson was a member of the Reno M E church until October 1925 when he was transferred to the Whittemore M E church. He was a noble citizen and held

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several township offices while in Reno. He was a highly respected neighbor and was esteemed by all who knew him. He bore his sickness without complaint, always looking on the bright side until the last.

There is left to mourn his loss his loving wife, one son, Howard, by his former marriage, several nieces and nephews and a host of friends in the county. He will be greatly missed in the home and by all who knew him.

The funeral was held Sunday from the M E church with interment in the Reno cemetery, Rev Shagg officiating.



Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes denied the remains found during the US 23 project

Story and photo by Judy Sheldon

In the spring of 2012 when US-23 was being reconstructed in Oscoda and AuSable, the remains of nine Native Americans were discovered on the bank of the AuSable River when a storm sewer trench was being dug. The bones were sent to Michigan State University and were confirmed that they were Native American. 207 artifacts were also found and of those 202 were confirmed to be funeral artifacts dating from 1820 to 1850. This same area has been identified as a burial site in the 1970s and 1980s, and others as early as 1960s. The site has now been ruled a Native burial ground.

The Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes requested that the remains be returned to them for burial in the

Chippewa Indian Cemetery in Iosco County. Their claim was denied by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in May 2013, stating that according to the Native American Graves Protection Act (NAGPRA) the local tribe is not federally recognized and therefore cannot claim the remains. They have been given to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and buried in Mt. Pleasant, MI Isabella reservation. Ironically the Saginaw tribe's defined region does not cover the Iosco County area nor have they recognized the Native people from this area in the past.

Chippewa Nation of the Great Lakes has been pursuing tribal recognition for several years. Their territory and jurisdiction cover the coast line of Lake Huron from the Thunder Bay in Alpena to Ohio, including some of Lake Erie. The last recognized chief of this tribe is buried in the Esmond Cemetery in Hale, MI. Chief Sodney was a resident of Hale and participated in many tribal matters as well as parades and civic activities. Amy F. Alberts, Grand Council Chief, and Joellis Washington-Ireland, Tribal Spiritual Advisor, as members of the Grand Council, which is actively pursuing the recognition process and researching any options to appeal the burial decision.

Contact information can be found on their web page at <http://www.chippewanationofthegreatlakes.org>.



Researching Your Family's Heritage at the Archives of Michigan

Abrams Foundation Historical Collection:

All of the microfilm and most of the books are in open stacks in the Archives reading room Including:

- Published family histories from across the United States, including Michigan
- Emphasis on New England, Mid-Atlantic, Great lakes, Ontario & Quebec
- Michigan specific histories and indexes from the Archives of Michigan's collection
- Sanborn maps, city directories, cemetery transcriptions, county histories, and vital records from areas outside Michigan
- Genealogy guidebooks and how-to guides
- Subscription to Ancestry

Archives of Michigan Primary Sources:

Please contact the Archives or search ANSWER (Library of Michigan and Archives catalog) for more information about specific records and dates available. Records can be requested and viewed in the Archives reading room. In some cases, Archives staff can search and copy specific records for a research fee. Holdings include:

- Naturalization records from most of Michigan's 83 counties
- State prison records from Jackson, Marquette, and Ionia, ca. 1860-1985
- County circuit and probate court records
- Land records
- Early Michigan vital records
- Military records
- Maps, photographs, private manuscript collections

Online Records, Guides, and Indexes:

- ANSWER online catalog (www.answercat.org). Search for books and microfilm in the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection as well as many Archives of Michigan primary sources. ANSWER is particularly helpful when searching for county government records.
- Seeking Michigan (www.seekingmichigan.org). When searching for a specific record, use the "Advanced Search" link at the top of any page. You can then select what collections and fields you want to search from the menu that drops down.
 - Michigan death records, 1897-1920
 - Civil War service records
 - Michigan state census records
 - Indexes to Archives of Michigan naturalization records, portraits, and some military records (<http://seekingmichigan.org/about/indexes>)
 - Archives of Michigan collection guides (<http://seekingmichigan.org/about/guides>)
- Family Search (www.familysearch.org). Many of the Michigan vital records available at the Archives can also be found here. Browse United States records and filter for Michigan.

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