



# HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

## Oscoda, Michigan

### HSGS SPRING PROGRAM RECAP

By Lugene Daniels

On Saturday April 25, nearly thirty-five people crammed into the conference room of the Parks Library in Oscoda with their lap-top computers to learn more about navigating genealogical websites, which was the topic of the workshop. Even though it was a full house, everyone in attendance enjoyed the day of sessions and learned more about tackling genealogical quests on the internet.

HSGS Secretary Lugene Daniels started the morning with a lesson on using Ancestry.com. She was followed by HSGS Treasurer Dan Stock who presented a program on Familysearch.org. After the lunch break HSGS V-P Lindsey Russell delivered a great presentation about seekingmichigan.org. Database manager Alonzo Sherman then gave a presentation about the USGenWeb. HSGS President Judy Sheldon ended the day of programs with a session about gathering information from the many newspaper websites. HSGS member Lauri Finerty also interjected many helpful comments throughout the workshop.

Several attendees visited the HSGS resource room in the library, while others enjoyed the close fellowship of new-found genealogical friends. Completed evaluations revealed that the event was a success. This was a free program offered by the society and was open to anyone who wanted to attend.

For some, the endless tid-bits of information seemed almost overwhelming during the informal, relaxed sessions. For others, the many



Photo courtesy of Lugene Daniels

tips and tricks used to discover family history facts were most helpful. Indeed, it was a day of “learning together” about genealogical websites.

Everyone left the workshop full of ideas and anxious to search the wonderful internet for their long-lost family members!

### HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

- June
- 25 “Write Your Life Story”  
LDS Church, West Branch  
6:30
- July
- 10/11 Abrams Family History Seminar, Michigan Historical Center, Lansing
- 16 HSGS Business meeting, Hsing’s Garden Restaurant, East Tawas, MI 5:30
- September
- 11 MGC Delegate Meeting, Lansing, MI
- 27 Memory Gardens Cemetery Walk, Tawas City, 2:00
- October
- 15 HSGS Business meeting, Hsing’s Garden Restaurant, East Tawas, MI 5:30
- November
- 7 HSGS Fall Event - Copy Right And Vital Records 10:00 am

**Join Us at our  
November 7 Workshop  
10:00 to 4:00  
“Copy Right and Vital Records”  
Featuring  
Kris Rzepczynski  
Archivist, Michigan Archives**

## ARCADIA BOOK STATUS

By Lugene Daniels

As chairperson for the Arcadia book project, I am happy to report that the final photographs and text were submitted to the publishing company about three weeks ahead of schedule.

The 127-page book entitled "Iosco County 1892-1904: The Photography of Ard G. Emery" will contain 223 photos taken by Photographer Emery during that time period. Emery owned and operated a studio and gallery in East Tawas from 1892 to 1904.

The book will contain three chapters: Ard Godfrey Emery--The Photographer; Capturing History Through the Viewfinder; and Focusing on Portraits in the Studio.

Shortly after the submission of the materials for the book, Arcadia Publishing responded favorably, and reported that the pictures were of exceptional quality and the written text did not require any editing as presented. Because of that, the book will enter the production line earlier than planned and will be available for purchase in late September 2015.

In recent weeks, the HSGS has applied for several grants including the one in the article below and has also campaigned to its supporters for donations to support special projects including the publishing of this book. Hopes are to promote the book during a county-wide traveling exhibit this fall.

## HSGS AWARDED GENEALOGY GRANT

By Lugene Daniels

In April 2015 the Huron Shores Genealogical Society was awarded a \$300 Seton Shields grant to be used for the "Legacy on Glass" traveling exhibit. This traveling exhibit will promote the Arcadia Publishing book authored by the society as discussed above.

Seton Shields is the mother to Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, a well-known genealogist, author, and speaker. By providing small grants to societies for

large projects Megan continues her "every little bit helps" approach throughout the year. Megan named this grant program after her mother to keep her memory alive through the efforts of others.

Once again, the HSGS expresses its thanks and gratitude to Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak for her kind generosity and support.

## DO YOU KNOW THESE WORDS?

**Double Dating:** The peculiar way some pre-1752 dates are written. Until Great Britain adopted the Gregorian Calendar in 1752, New Year's Day was variously considered to be either January 1 or March 25. It was debatable what year days between January 1 and March 25 fell into, so we see dates written in a style such as "March 2, 1720/21".

**Holographic will:** A will written in the testator's own handwriting.

**Lacuna:** A gap in a written record.

**Nixie:** At the Dead Letter Office, a letter with an address written so sloppily that even the experts can't decipher it.

**Titulus:** Something written on or over another inscription.

Taken from Family Chronicle, Sept/Oct 2014, p. 36

## INFANT ROSBURY

By Lugene Daniels

When traveling on US-23, I have passed by “it” a million times; and perhaps most of you have, too—that lonely little tombstone outside the wooden fence of the Resurrection Catholic Cemetery on the outskirts of Standish. Maybe some of you have never noticed its existence. Whenever I pass by, I usually wonder why a body was buried there—outside the fence.

So, with my genealogical and historical research skills at hand, I was determined to discover the “who, what, when, where, and why” of this solitary grave marker.

Wanting to know the exact inscription on the marker, I google-searched *Arenac County Cemetery Index*. Upon doing so, the wonderful result is an index of all the Arenac County cemeteries that was produced by a group of local ladies a few years back. The index is part of the USGenWeb.

Immediately, I went to the Resurrection Cemetery listing and map, and determined in which section the marker was located. Before long, I discovered this listing in *section B outside of fence*:

***Infant of C & F Rosbury***

***Died: January 27, 1909***

I was impressed with the abundance of information inscribed on the tombstone. Because the individual was listed as “infant” I concluded that the baby was never given a first name. From this index, I now knew the first initials of the parents and the date of death of the baby.

With that information, I went directly to *seekingmichigan.org* to search for a document from its 1897-1920 death record collection. Using the website’s advanced search engine, I entered the county and the surname. Within a few seconds I had a death record for a ROSEBURY baby who died on 27 January 1909 and was parented by Casper ROSEBURY and Florida ST PETER. This is exactly what I was looking for.

As I studied the faded writing on the certificate of death, I learned that the white male baby died in Lincoln Township of Arenac County. He was a stillborn death and was buried at the Catholic cemetery.

Like any curious genealogist, I wanted to know more.

I went to *familysearch.org* to see if I could learn something about Casper and Florida, the parents of the infant.

After a search for Casper ROSEBURY, Arenac County, I

had a marriage record. That was easy! Anyhow, Casper ROSEBURG, age 30, a farmer from Montana, married Fleroda ST PIENE, age 22, from Standish. The couple was married in Standish on 7 January 1908. Parents of the bride and groom, along with the marriage officiant and witnesses, were also listed.

Well, now I knew that the couple had only been married for about one year before the stillborn birth of *probably* their first child. But, I wanted to know if my assumption was correct.

So, I searched for their 1910 census record on *ancestry.com*. Bingo! Casper and Florida RASPBERRY resided on Section Line Road in Deep River Township of Arenac County. Casper was a farmer. The report revealed that the couple had been married for two years and now had a son, Lewis, who was three months old. Therefore, my conclusion was correct—the stillborn infant was their first-born child.

I then explored the 1920 federal census for the family. When that census was enumerated, Casper and Florida ROSBURY/ROSBURG and family lived in Lincoln Township of Arenac County. At this time, their family included five children: Louis, age 10; Ambrose, age 8; Ruth, age 7; Olive, age 3; and Stella, age 2. Casper was a general laborer and the family rented their home.

When the 1930 federal census was recorded, the family still lived in Lincoln Township. Their surname was entered as ROSBURY on this census. Casper, age 52, was now a farmer on his own farm. His wife, Florida M, was age 44. Once again, five children lived in the household: Louis H, age 20, a truck driver; Ambrose F, age 18, a farm laborer; Ruth D, age 17; Olive L, age 14; and Edith E, age 13. (*I wondered—was Stella (from the 1920 census) and Edith E (from the 1930 census)—the same person? That would be another research endeavor.*)

The 1940 US census showed Caspar and Florida ROSBURY living in Lincoln Township, but now on Sweet Road. Caspar was 62 and Florida was 54. He was a farmer. Residing with them was son Ambrose, age 28, who worked for a pickling company, and a grandson William LaLONDE, age 8.

When I had searched *seekingmichigan.org* for the death record of Infant ROSBURY, two certificates appeared. The other death certificate was for Lawrence Robert ROSBURY, an 11-day-old son of Casper E ROSBURY and Florida ST PETER. This baby died in Lincoln Township on 31 January 1915 from broncho-pneumonia and was also

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Infant Rosbury continued from page 3

buried in Standish.

Upon another search of *seekingmichigan.org* I discovered one more death certificate for a child born to Casper E and Florida ROSBURY. Tenous Donald ROSBURY died at 5 days of age on 25 February 1923 from complications of a congenital formation on his neck. He, too, was buried in Standish.

At this point I wondered if the family had a plot in an Arenac County cemetery. Once again, I searched the indexes of the Arenac County cemeteries. The only familiar listing that I found was for Louis H ROSEBURY (1910-1977; Infant's brother), a WWII veteran, who was interred at the Alger Cemetery in Arenac County. There were no listings for any other members of this family; not even Casper or Florida. Could it be that the rest of the family were buried without any tombstones or grave markers??

There were certainly lots of questions as I researched this family. As with most genealogical and/or historical research, usually one answer leads to at least two more questions.

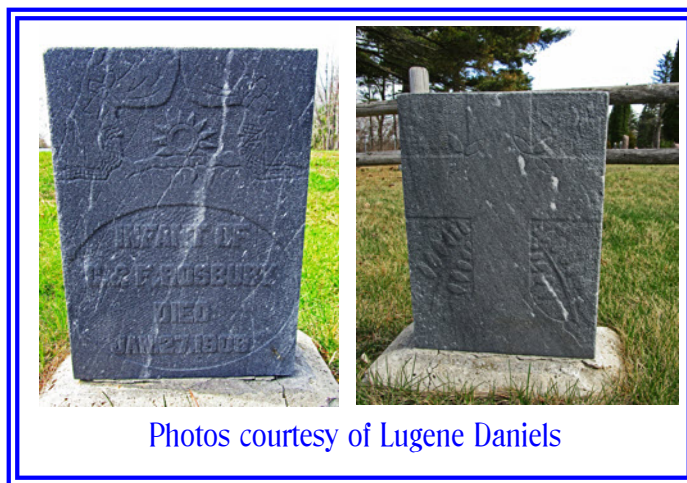
However, I still had to find the answer to the major question concerning Infant Rosbury. **Why was he buried outside the cemetery fence??** There had to be a reason.

I did a *google search* for "stillborn Catholic burial." I found a handful of articles related to the burial of children and learned that once upon a time there was a clear distinction between a child that was born, baptized, and died and one that was born dead, or stillborn, within a Catholic family. Infants born alive who died before baptism, as well as those born dead, did not receive the first of the seven sacraments (baptism) of the Catholic faith. Therefore, these unfortunate souls were considered ineligible for entrance into heaven. Consequently, the infant could not be buried in the consecrated or sacred (blessed by the church) ground of that parish.

It is comforting to say that in modern times that practice has changed. Today, the Church urges stillborn infants of Catholic parents to be interred within its cemetery.

Once again, this information has brought about more questions. Were there other stillborn children from Catholic families buried "outside the fence" at this time? Why did Infant ROSBURY have a grave marker? Why was there not an entry in the Arenac County Cemetery Index for the other members of the ROSBURY family? Where were they buried?

Upon obtaining these answers to my research, I felt compelled to visit Infant ROSBURY to not only study the



Photos courtesy of Lugene Daniels

tombstone, but also to pay my respects. The north side of the granite marker, which faces the road, is embossed with a cross and fern-like leaves. The cross, Christianity's most recognizable symbol, is also mankind's oldest figure denoting life, death, and spirit. Displayed on the south side of the tombstone (the side facing the cemetery) is drapery, held open curtain-style, revealing the sun. The curtains symbolize passage from one existence to another and the sun represents the divine light of God and heaven.

The maternal grandparents of Infant ROSBURY are buried within the section B of the same cemetery. Much to my dismay, their graves are not close enough to the Infant's to justify that the baby was simply misplaced by cemetery officials. The graves of Olive and Louis ST PETER embrace both individual makers and a shared marker with Lenus and Geraldine ST PIERRE. Olive ST PETER died at 41 years of age on 4 June 1904 from septicemia following a miscarriage. Louis ST PETER died in 1941 at 87 years of age. Both of their individual markers hold a cross with a crown, a Christian symbol denoting the sovereignty of the Lord.

Obviously, someone believed that Infant ROSBURY deserved passage into heaven, but exactly who that was has yet to be determined. Since the rest of the family does not have any grave markers (at least in the local area), I naturally wondered who purchased the marker for Infant ROSBURY. Most likely, I may never know the answer to that question.

Someone continues to memorialize Infant ROSBURY with flowers at his gravesite. The lifeless ROSBURY infant, or perhaps the reason that his burial was "outside the fence," continues to be revered over one hundred years later by both myself and by someone else who cares.

## Places to Go - Things to Learn

*Will your story be a history or a mystery ?*

Write Your life Story:

One Piece At A Time.

Presented by memoir author

Marylou Bugh

Thursday, June 25, 2015

6:30 p.m.

West Branch Family History Center

Of

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

315 Fairview, West Branch

Questions:

Call: 989-345-1061 or email [donniebro@hughes.net](mailto:donniebro@hughes.net)

### Two-Day Seminar at the Archives of Michigan July 10th and 11th

This year's Abrams Foundation Family History Seminar, sponsored by the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) and the Archives of Michigan will feature Michael Lacopo. It will be held on Friday and Saturday, July 10th and 11th, 2015 at the Michigan Historical Center, Lansing, MI. HSGS is an active member of MGC we encourage encourage our members to take this opportunity to attend this great educational event.

The link below will take you to the program and registration information:

<http://seekingmichigan.org/events/2015-abrams-foundation-family-history-seminar>

### MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY WALK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

On September 27 starting at 2:00 p.m., Huron Shores Genealogical Society (HSGS) and the Iosco County Historical Society (ICHS) are planning to co-host a walk through the Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Tawas City featuring stories related to

16 graves. The stories will be read by members of the sponsoring organizations.

If the weather should be really inclement on the 27th, the event will be rescheduled for the next Sunday October 4.

## Memories of The Bear Track Inn

By Lindsey Russell

As I drove along the shore of Lake Huron on US-23 heading north in the midst of a crisp winter sunrise, sunlight bouncing



off the crystalized water like spilled glitter, I could still remember family dinners at the Bear Track 25 years earlier. Once the decision had been made to head to the Bear Track, whether a special occasion such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, or a birthday – or just a random Sunday family dinner – the process began. My grandparents would get “cleaned up” while my family would get dressed up too. Evidence of my Mom dressing my sister and me in similar sailor dresses still exists in the form of my Grandma's Polaroid pictures, the picture window looking out over Lake Huron in the background. Once again looking respectable, my sister and I in curls, we would meet at my grandparents' house, where my sister and I would argue over who would get to ride with Grandma and Grandpa. My sister Erica and I loved them dearly, and riding with Grandma and Grandpa was much less boring than with Mom and Dad. For some reason, it never occurred to us that we could both ride with them. For us, it was the same as playing shotgun. We would then drive 20 minutes north on US-23, eagerly anticipating what we would order. As we sat enjoying soup, salad, and drinks, patiently waiting for our entrees, it seemed as though nothing could be more perfect. The perfect ending to a busy week: Good company, good food, and one of the most beautiful settings imaginable.

One of the most noticeable features of the “new” Bear Track (the original was destroyed by fire in 1965), in addition to the dance floor, the bar, and the salad bar, was the picture window that ran nearly the entire length of the back of the building, looking out on Lake Huron and the Charity Islands. As I grew older and heard my Dad's fishing stories that took place near the Charities, it was this childhood vision of the Charity Islands from the Bear Track, safely ashore, that I pictured. This view of Lake Huron also served as backdrop for one of my favorite

pictures of my parents: The smiling, tanned couple toasting their impending marriage on the occasion of their

rehearsal dinner, my Mom beautiful in a white summer dress and flower in her hair. This picture made itself at home in a tortoiseshell picture frame in my parents' bedroom for most of my childhood.

After dinner, as we waited for either Dad or Grandma to pay the bill, another argument, Erica and I would sneak pillow shaped mints in pastel shades of green and pink. We were all much too full for dessert. As we waited for the inevitable someone who had to use the restroom, we'd go out to the parking lot and enjoy the fresh lake air, maybe even venturing to throw pebbles into waves. Bellies full and reassured of the permanence of family, Erica and I would often fall asleep on the way home.

Today, there are sterile, half-empty condos that sit on the site of the former Bear Track. The building no longer exists. Countless family dinners in other restaurants in the 20-odd years since the Bear Track closed are still measured against those childhood dinners long ago. They were some of the first and remain some of the best. When Grandpa passed away in 2000, a dinner at the Bear Track in his honor would've been perfect. It simply wasn't meant to be, even though I do think of him every time I order catfish.

Every time I drive north on US-23 on the way to Tawas or Oscoda, I look for the Charities just before I pass the condos. I remember. I think of how uncomplicated life used to be, and I'm reminded of how powerful childhood memories can be. As wonderful as those memories are, new ones just as memorable are made throughout our lives. I simply don't want to forget the vivid childhood memories that stay with me. Instead, I just continue driving, knowing that I won't forget. On any given day, sun, rain, or snow, a drive along Lake Huron on US-23, passing the site of the Bear Track, will bring them all back.

**Top causes of death**

**Notice how many of the older causes were from infectious diseases!**

Submitted by Judy Sheldon

Present	2010	1900	1850
Heart disease	Heart disease	Pneumonia or influenza	Tuberculosis
Cancer	Cancer	Tuberculosis	Dysentery/diarrhea
Lower respiratory infections	Noninfectious airways disease	Gastrointestinal infection	Cholera
Accidents	Cerebrovascular disease, ie stroke	Heart disease	Malaria
Cerebrovascular disease, ie stroke	Accidents	Cerebrovascular disease, ie stroke	Typhoid Fever
Alzheimer's	Alzheimer's	Nephropathies (kidney disease)	Pneumonia
Diabetes	Diabetes	Accidents	Diphtheria
Pneumonia or influenza	Nephropathies (kidney disease)	Cancer	Scarlet Fever
Nephropathies (kidney disease)	Pneumonia or influenza	Senility	Meningitis
Suicide	Suicide	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough

Information from the CDC and

<http://nonprofitupdate.info/2010/10/21/10-leading-causes-of-death-in-1850-and-2000-2/>

**Birth Reporting Requirement Enacted**

Tawas Herald, June 30, 1905 pg 2, column 2

A bill providing for the immediate registrations of births and requiring certificates of births was passed by the recent legislature. Under the provisions of this bill physicians and midwives are required to file with the local registrar a certificate of birth, and local registrars are required to make a monthly report to the department of state and a quarterly report to the county clerk. The law goes into effect January 1, next.

**Web sites of interest:**

Catholic cemeteries of Brooklyn, NY, [www.ccbklyn.org](http://www.ccbklyn.org)

Rochester, NY digitized records, <http://crpc.nyrgs.org>

City of Rochester marriages, <http://rcip.info>

Lesson plans for history or social studies: <http://ancestryk12.com/resources/> and

<http://seekingmichigan.org/learn/teaching-materials>

