



# HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

## Oscoda, Michigan

### A Message from the President

Well, 2020 was pretty much non-existent for our Society. The library was closed for much of the year so we didn't have access to the Genealogy Room during the closure. Due to the pandemic, we postponed both our spring program – Swedish Research and our long awaited fall program on Native Americans. We hope to reschedule these in 2022.

Our meetings were held via combination of in-person and Zoom. One project that did get finished this past year is that all of the Tawas Heralds up to 1981 have now been digitized and are available on the Branch Library computers and also on the District Library website. They are quite easy to navigate and fun to review.

Looking forward, we are planning on showing the Colletta videos again in a weekly series in April and May. Please check your emails and/or follow us on Facebook for any updates or changes that may be happening. Also, the library is now open and we will continue to have volunteers available periodically at designated times and by appointment to assist people in their genealogical adventures.

### HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

#### April

- 15 HSGS Business Meeting, at Grace Lutheran Church, Main St., East Tawas
- 10 Colletta Series Presentation -Grace
- 17 Lutheran Church. Check our
- 24 Facebook page for details.

#### May

- 1 Colletta Series Presentation -Grace
- 8 Lutheran Church. Check our
- Facebook page for details.

#### Early Summer

- TBD Thompson Cemetery Walk. Check our Facebook page for details.

#### July

- 15 HSGS Business Meeting, at Grace Lutheran Church, Main St., East Tawas

#### September

- 19 Wilber Cemetery Walk. Check our Facebook page for details.

### HSGS completes digitization of The Tawas Herald from 1884-1981

The long awaited dream to digitize The Tawas Herald from 1884 to 1981 has come true.

In the final phase of a multi-year project editions from 1953-1981, housed at the Iosco County Historical Museum have been scanned with the cooperation and blessing of Neil Thorton, the owner and editor of the papers. Funding for this phase was provided through donations from our members and friends and grants from the Iosco Arenac District Library and the Northeast Michigan Community Foundation via the Iosco County Community Foundation (ICCF). The cost of this phase was \$6,540 and the total cost of all phases was \$12,168.

The project is a culmination of the leadership efforts of our former president and continuing active member, Judy Sheldon who rightfully said "I'm very happy, very proud."

HSGS will create a training program for all the Iosco-Arenac District Library branch librarians on how to access the papers online and how to search them on their in-house computers. In order to access the digital papers users can visit

<https://www.ioscoarenaclibrary.org> and click on "Answer Desk" at the far left then scroll down to "Huron Shores Genealogical Society Newspaper Archive". They can also use the links on the Huron Shores Genealogical Society Facebook and Web pages.

## Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian

### Book Review by Gaynol Fales

Mills, Elizabeth Shown. *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1997.

Elizabeth Shown Mill's 885 page *Evidence Explained* (first published in 2007) is recommended to professional genealogists as a citation reference but many family historians aren't familiar with its diminutive 1997 precursor, *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian*. If *Evidence Explained* puts fear in your heart, you may find *Evidence!* much less intimidating.

The big book *Evidence Explained* covers minute treatment of most every type of source a genealogist will encounter. But many (if not most) family historians balk when confronted with such detail. Instead of a many-tiered elucidation of the finest facets of citation creation, *Evidence!* presents bullet lists describing just the critical points one must grasp to be able to construct useful citations.

Briefly, parts 1 and 2 of *Evidence!* explain how evidence and analysis are intertwined parts of genealogical discovery, and how this is indicated within the structure of genealogical citations. It continues being user-friendly when it explains citation creation. While the hefty *Evidence Explained* is a high dive into the minutiae of

document subtypes, this little book only dabbles its toes in those waters, outlining the major sources family historians encounter all of the time.

A simple, easy-to-follow table displays as column titles the most basic types of sources genealogists consult, i.e., manuscripts, articles, books, censuses, electronic data, local government records and microforms. Table rows list the various generic core elements that may need to be included in citations. By finding the source type in the column title, one can follow down to see which element rows have dots. Each dotted item is a core element needed in that source-type's citation.

Pages of concise three-column tables follow illustrating the proper arrangement of those core elements for each type of source. Mills shows how to write the three citation categories: (1) bibliography/reference list, (2) first time the source is cited and (3) subsequent reference to that same source.

The only major criticism of this little book is that it doesn't include DNA citations.

Bottom line: *Evidence! Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian* does NOT replace "Evidence Explained" but I think it's a friendlier book for the basic fundamentals of genealogical citation for non-professional family historians.

### FREE PROGRAMS

An online FREE PDF editor and form filler - <https://www.pdfescape.com/windows/>

FotoSketcher is a 100% free program which converts your digital photos into art automatically and in just a few mouse clicks - <http://fotosketcher.com/download-fotosketcher/>

Audacity is a free, easy to use, multi-track audio editor and recorder - <https://sourceforge.net/projects/audacity>

Do wish you had an old programs back that you thought was gone forever? Go to <http://www.oldversion.com/> to find a list of program to download for free. They may even still work.

## A Coast Guard Family for Life! By Judy Sheldon

The Tawas Point Coast Guard Station along with its sister stations had the responsibility since the 1880s to safe guard the vessels and the men on them from storms, fires and any other catastrophe that might befall the ships. In more current times their duties include assisting pleasure crafts when they find themselves in distress. The early light house in Tawas dates back to 1853. The men in the early days risked their very lives to rescue the crew and passengers from ships and barges that the storms of Lake Huron unleashed their fury upon. One such brave seaman was Captain Robert Martin Small who dedicated his life to serving with the US Coast Guard and his community. His children followed in his footsteps and his wife, Rebecca, was a community minded person.

Robert Martin Small (9 Dec 1862 - 29 Jul 1936), born in Kincardine, Bruce, Ontario, Canada 9 Dec 1862 to David Small and Agnes Sopher (Wilson) (his mother's surname varies with records as does her birth place.) He was employed by a Life Saving Station in the United States Coast Guard from 1881 serving with distinction until he retired in 1915.

He is in the Canadian census for Kincardine, Bruce, Ontario, Canada in:

1871– with parents and 10 siblings

1881– with parents and 12 siblings. His father was a tailor

1891 - with parents and two siblings. Robert is employed at a Life Saving Station. Thoughts are he was visiting and was counted with the family.

He is in the United States in:



Emory picture ordered by Capt. R M Small. These are possibly Frank, David and William

1900 census says his father was from Northern Ireland and his mother was from Pennsylvania.

1900 He was naturalized and at that time he had been in the USA 21 years making his immigration about 1879.

His time with the United States Coast Guard and family events are as follows:

1881 surfman at Tawas Life Saving Station (aka Ottawa Point) for 3 years

1884 Point Aux Barques, serving for 6 years

1885 Married Rebecca Bennett (1866-1948) in Kincardine, Bruce, Ontario

1889 Frank Bennett Small was born in Pointe Aux Barques

1890 promoted to Captain of Crisp Station, Lake Superior, serving for 7 years

1893 David Martin Small was born in Sault St Marie, Chippewa County

1896 William Small was born in Crisp Point, Lake Superior

1897 Robert returned to Tawas Station, serving for 18 years and 6 months

1904 Carl Russell Small was born in East Tawas, Iosco County

Altogether Robert served 21+ of his years as the keeper at Tawas Point Coast Guard Station. Curious of what he was paid? Between 1891 and 1905 his pay

ranged from \$700 to \$900 per year.

Robert was a life time Mason, a thirty-second degree Mason at the time of his death, and past master and the president of Kiwanis.

Rebecca Bennett (1866 in Ontario, Canada-1948 in East Tawas, Iosco County) immigrated in 1887. She was active in the Episcopal Church; Women's Guild, American Legion Auxiliary, Order of the Eastern Star and charter member of the Ladies Literary Club. She was also on the government

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**A Coast Guard Family for Life!, continued from page 3**

payroll in 1905 with the weather bureau as a displayman. This was a position to watch the weather and warn others of coming storms.

All of their children were born in Michigan as mentioned above.

Frank Bennett Small born 1889 in Pointe Aux Barques, Huron County – died 1953 Delaware: keeper at Tawas Point Coast Guard Station; Retired after 30 years with the Coast Guard; Served in WWI.

David Martin Small born 1893 Sault St Marie, Chippewa – died 1963 Michigan: keeper at Tawas Point Coast Guard Station for 13 years, Gold lifesaving medal for rescue work while at the Portage Station during a three day storm 1913 steamer Waldo went aground just off Keweenaw Point, Lake Superior. Served as Noble Grand of the Tawas IOOF Lodge, during this time the hall on East State St was built. Married first in 1918 Christena Oles (1893-1934) and they had Robert, Owen and Alice, married second in 1936 Violet Bielby and had David William Small born 1896 Crisp Point, Lake Superior – died 1955 Wisconsin: served 30 years with United States Light House Service.

Carl Russell Small born 1904 East Tawas, Iosco – died 1959 Michigan: registered land surveyor, was Iosco County Surveyor 1940-1959.

The local papers relate numerous stories of rescues performed by the crew of Robert M Small. In October of 1898 his crew of nine saved the yacht Commanche from breaking up in a fierce storm.

There were other attempts by others earlier in the day, but they failed. (Tawas Herald 21 Oct 1898) In December 1906, coated in ice, his crew salvaged the boat and the nets of the fishing boat of Robert Mathison. (Tawas Herald 7 December 1906) No matter what the size of the ship or boat, this lifesaving crew did whatever they could to bring it to safety, much to the gratitude of the owners and their crew.

The stations along Lake Huron held competitions to see who had the best crew. Captain David Small and his crew were judged to be the best crew on Lake Huron.

At age 73 Robert Martin Small passed away in



Children of Robert M. Small. From left to right - Frank, William, David and Carl  
<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/112033605/robert-m-small>

East Tawas, Michigan from a cerebral (brain) hemorrhage. His funeral was held at his home under the auspices of the Masons and he is buried in the Greenwood (aka East Tawas) Cemetery with his wife and two of his sons.

Sources:  
 Around the Bay by Neil Thornton;  
 Hale and Up the Tracks #1

by Jean Bell;  
 The History of Iosco County, Michigan, 1981, by Iosco County Historical Society;  
 various articles from the Tawas Herald;  
 Reports from U.S., Register of Civil, Military, and Naval Service, 1863-1959  
 and family history from William Bennett of Canada.

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the Archives of Michigan remains closed to the public until at least May 1, 2021. The archives will re-open once the safety of visitors and staff can be ensured. The Staff will continue to provide reference services by phone and email.

**Climbing Up**  
Submitted by LeAnn Peterson

My family loved to visit our Uncle Mart and Aunt Duchess at their farm up north near Prescott, MI. My great-grandfather, Karl Siegrist, a German immigrant, (see the following article) bought and began working this farmland over 100 years ago. His wife, Martha, (our Gramma-Great) named it Pleasant View Farm because there was a pretty view of the fields from the second story bedroom windows of the farmhouse.



The Siegrist Centennial Farmhouse

Our trips to Prescott always started out early in the day so we could have breakfast at the Starlite Diner on our way out of town. After a pancake breakfast, Tim, my younger brother, and I would situate ourselves in the back seat of the car. It wasn't long though, before we would start to pester and squabble with each other. My mother would offer to give each of us a nickel if we could both get along for the rest of the ride to the farm. My recollections are that neither one of us collected that nickel very often!

Dad barely had time to park the car between the barn and the farmhouse when we arrived at the farm. That's because Tim and I fairly exploded with excitement to get out of it as the car slowed down. For us city kids from Flint, a trip to Pleasant View Farm was an eagerly anticipated visit to a rural playground. Instead of having slides and swings to play on, we climbed up piles of field corn. Pumping well-water to drink from the red pump between the farmhouse and the barn made our arms sore. It was funny to "moo" at the cows in the field. After searching for and finding the farm dog, Dusty, we liked to pet him and rub his ears. Our Aunt Eva and Uncle Sparky lived in the farmhouse next door so we took walks over there to visit with them a bit. Sometimes Uncle Mart let



Pleasant Hill Farm

us climb up on the tractor with him while he drove it around the fields. We had to make sure to hang on tight or else we might fall into a cow patty like our cousin, Kim, did one time!

But my most vivid memory of visiting Pleasant View Farm was in 1967 on a cold spring day. My brother (at six years old) decided to climb up to the top of the barn silo. A

rusty ladder was attached to the silo. Its bottom rungs began about twenty feet from the ground. Uncle Mart had deliberately placed the ladder that high to keep kids from climbing it. But Tim figured out how to reach that ladder. He managed to scale the encircling metal wire bands on the silo under the ladder, pulled himself up on the bottom rungs of it and then headed to the top!

On that day, I was tired of playing outside and decided to go inside the farmhouse for a bit. Tim wanted to stay outside to play longer. When my dad went outside to smoke a cigarette, a tiny voice called out and floated in the air above him, "Hey, Dad! Look at me!" Dad looked up and there was Tim sitting on top of the barn silo waving at him!

"LeAnn," my dad said to me, "Go get your mother and tell her to come outside." (I had just stepped out of the farmhouse and saw Tim up in the air on the silo). I ran wordlessly back into the house to get her.

"Glenda," my dad breathed out when my mom came out and stood next to him. "Look up at your son." Mom put one hand above her eyes to shield them from looking into the sun. When she saw Tim, her other hand clutched against her throat and she said, "Oh. My. God." "Go get Mart", my dad instructed her without taking his eyes away from Tim.

Climbing Up, continued from page 5

"I'm not sure if that's a live wire running beside the silo. If it's hot, Mart will have to turn off the electricity to the barn. Otherwise, Tim could step or fall on it as he's coming down from the silo." The fear of Tim being hurt or electrocuted showed in the panic of their faces.

Uncle Mart came out with the rest of the family. I don't remember if he had to turn off the electricity or not. My guess is that the electricity was off because I don't remember any continued conversations about it. What I do remember was my dad edging slowly to stand at the silo under Tim. "It's time for you to get down from

there," he called up to him. Tim eased his way back down to the ground.

My dad grabbed him and hugged him hard. My mom kept crying out, "Don't you EVER climb up that silo again!" For the rest of the day, Tim was under the watchful eye of my mom and dad. He didn't fuss about it, though. He was excited to tell everyone about his adventure. To him, it had been a marvelous experience to have had his own birds-eye view of Pleasant View Farm!

**Carl/Karl Martin Siegrist, Pleasant View Farm**

Carl was born 11 November 1884 in Klein Villors, Germany. He immigrated to the United States in 1906, followed by his brother, Paul, in 1908. According to his Declaration of Intent, 1910, he was born in Wurtenburg, Germany, and was living in Jackson County, MI. He became a citizen in 1916. Carl purchased property in the southwest corner of Burleigh Township, Iosco County, MI about 1906. Paul and his family lived to the north of Carl's farm.

Carl married Martha Barbara Frey in 1908 and together they had Harold (1909-1992), Martin John (1911-2003), Violet Louise (1913-2001), and Helen Mae (1916-1994). It was Martha who named the farm "Pleasant View Farm" as she looked at the trees in the fall near the creek and remarked "My! Isn't that a pleasant view?" She is also credited with teaching Carl English.



Carl and Martha Siegrist with their children circa 1917.

The farm prospered, if on a small scale, growing beans and grain, raising sheep and dairy cattle. Carl and Martha divorced in 1939. Carl left the farm to Martha and the children. This family continues to operate the farm and plan to pass it down to their descendants. Carl remarried in 1939 in Indiana to Aleatha May Stoner Colvin. They lived in Montmorency and Bay Counties. Carl died in the Standish Hospital, Standish, Michigan in March of 1966. He is buried in the Richland Cemetery, Prescott, Michigan. The above information

has been taken from: LeAnn Peterson's family tree on Ancestry.com, Centennial Farms Spotlight in the Chronicle Winter 2016, and Whittemore Michigan 1907-2007 by Lugene Daniels.

**TIPS**

The Archives of Ontario has digitized and put online some 4,00 patent plans for the province. These are basically Crown land records. You can start your search by typing in the name of a township or town. Access is free.

GenealogyInTime

<http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/about/patent-plans.aspx>

**STATUS OF HSGS INDEXES 1/2020 1/2021**

Total number of files		
(Indexes, Catalogs, Admin)	1,795	1,816
Index files on the GenWeb Archives	1,345	1,360
Files to be edited		
for placement on web	173 est	182 est

**AROLSEN ARCHIVES**

“In the winter of 1945/46, the four occupying powers issued orders to German local authorities, companies, the police, and other institutions requiring them to draw up lists of the foreign nationals, German Jews and stateless persons who were registered with them. Details of burial sites were to be included. A large collection of the documents created in this way as well as other lists from the American Zone of Occupation can now be viewed in the online archive of the Arolsen Archives. They contain information pertaining to around ten million names.” <https://tinyurl.com/ug4zf3w>

**TIDBITS**

**Ship State Rooms**

Traveling by steamboat was considered the height of comfort. Passenger cabins on the boats were not numbered, instead they were named after states. To this day, cabins on ships are called staterooms.

**Over A Barrel**

In the days before CPR, a drowning victim would be placed down over a barrel and the barrel would be rolled back and forth in an effort to empty the victim’s lungs of water. It was rarely effective. If you are over a barrel you are in deep trouble.

**In the Limelight**

Invented in 1825, limelight was used in lighthouses and theatres by burning a cylinder of lime which produced a brilliant light. In the theatre, a performer ‘in the limelight’ was the center of attention.

From “The Family Researcher,” German Genealogy Groups, Inc.

**Huron Shores Genealogical Society 2020 Annual Financial Report**

Balance January 1, 2020 - **\$6,376.82**

**Income**

Research	164.00
Book and CD sales	116.82
Membership dues	295.00
Donations - General	610.00
Grant - IADL	2,000.00
Grant - Comm Found	1,000.00
MGC Kellogg	50.00
Dividend interest	5.63
<b>Total income -</b>	<b><u>\$4,241.45</u></b>

**Expenses**

**Program**

Collection Management	38.20
Postage, copies, supplies	85.75
Computers	
Hardware and software	0.00
Supplies	136.99
Newspaper Scans	6,540.00
Workshops	0.00
Honorariums	0.00
Books, Cds, etc	0.00

**Administration**

Supplies, postage, printing	97.49
Advertising	93.75
Dues and Donations	195.00
Mich Inc	20.00
Rent	100.00
Fees	3.97

**Total Expenses - 7,311.15**

**Balance December 31, 2020 - \$3,307.12**

**Huron Shores Genealogical Society**

**6010 Skeel Ave  
Oscoda, MI 48750**

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
- Director - Gaynol Fales
- Director - Rachel McReady

**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:

**April 15, 2021 - In Person and Virtual meeting**  
July 15, 2021

HSGS staff can meet with clients by appointment.

Please call the library (989.739.9581) or email to [huronshoresgs@yahoo.com](mailto:huronshoresgs@yahoo.com) to arrange an appointment to have the help of an experienced genealogical assistant.

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.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW \_\_\_\_

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 per year

\$15 per year with mailed newsletter

Make checks payable to: Huron Shores Genealogical Society or pay via our web page using Pay Pal

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?    Yes \_\_\_    No \_\_\_

If yes, list the software you use: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you, as a new or renewing member, be willing and able to hold an office, work on a committee, or help with indexing materials?    Yes \_\_\_\_    If yes, we will contact you about your interest in helping.

HSGS would appreciate your help very much. Thank you!

Send this completed form and your check if appropriate to:

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