



# HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

## Oscoda, Michigan

### PINECREST CEMETERY WALK

A small but very enthusiastic group of family history buffs participated in the Pinecrest Cemetery walk on August 4. It was a very pleasant day and everyone learned something new about the various families represented by those selected for discussion.

The following graves were visited:

Loud, George; B024, 1852 born in Ohio - 1925

Glennie, John; B024, 1837 born in Canada - 1880, (family from Scotland)

Duncan, James; B070, 1829 born in Scotland - 1897

Chevrier, Joseph; B+152, 1841 born in Quebec Canada, - 1895

Mason, Orange; A175, 1845 born in Michigan (6<sup>th</sup> generation from England) - 1912

McKenna, John; A194, 1850 born in Canada - 1922

Hennigar, Levi; A180, 1851 born in Canada - 1930

Affelt, William; A229, 1893 born in Iosco Co (2<sup>nd</sup> generation from Germany) - 1918

Damerau, Christian; A137, 1838 born in Germany - 1892

Millen, Thomas; A005, 1837 born in Canada - 1909

Barlow, James; C295, 1840 born in England - 1916

Trigger, John; C292, 1865 born in England - 1922

Haglund, Otto; C454, 1855 born in Finland - 1918

McCuaig, William; C440, 1838 born in Canada - 1920 (family from Scotland)

Mead, Joseph; C439, 1870 born in Michigan (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> generation) - 1958

Hyslop, John; C406, 1837 born in Scotland - 1892



Judy Sheldon  
at the Duncan Grave

### HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

#### October

17 HSGS Business meeting, China Buffet Restaurant, East Tawas, MI 5:30 pm

#### November

9 MGC Fall event featuring Diahna Southard, MI Historical Center, Lansing

#### January

16 HSGS Business Meeting, China Buffet Restaurant, East Tawas, MI, 5:30 pm

### Mark your 2020 calendars for the following programs presented by HSGS:

#### May 2, 2020

Swedish Research with Cindy Grosttick and a panel with Cindy, Linda Pletcher and our own Dale Harwood. To be held at the Robert Parks Public Library, Oscoda, MI.

#### September 26, 2020

Native Americans with Judy Muhn, Coni Dubois, the Ziibiwing Center, and Amy Alberts. Place to be announced.

MacGillivray, James Hale; D412, 1873 born in Canada – 1952, (family from Scotland and then to Canada)  
 LaVack, Oliver; D464, 1888 born in Michigan – 1961 (family from Canada)  
 Bissonette, John; D513, 1856 born in Canada – 1950 (Canada to California to Michigan)  
 Larson, Lars Severin; D514, 1854 born in Sweden - 1932  
 Colbath, Ray; E652, 1883 born in Michigan – 1956 (family left Scotland after 1685)

Historical Society/Museum: *Pinecrest Cemetery Records: Oscoda Michigan 1868-1989*



Stephanie Olson at the LaVack Grave

If you have an interest in any of the above, the information provided to us by some of the researchers for the walk is in a folder at the genealogical section of Parks Library. Stop in and we will help you find what we have on the family you are interested in.

The following book is available from the AuSable-Oscoda

### Michigan Genealogical Council Fall Event

Saturday, November 9, 2019; Michigan Historical Center, Lansing, MI

The Keynote speaker will be

**Diahan Southard**

She attended Brigham Young University and received a degree in Microbiology. She started her career at Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation. She is the founder of “Your DNA Guide” (<https://www.yourdnaguide.com/>) and offers a personalized, interactive experience to DNA interpretation. Ms. Southard is an international, as well as national, speaker on all things DNA. She has written numerous Quick Guides about genetic genealogy. Her articles have appeared in Family Tree Magazine, Genealogy Today, and others.

Ms. Southard’s Presentations will be:

- 5 Tips to Make Sense of Your DNA Testing
- Me & My 1,000+ 4th Cousins
- Organizing Your DNA Results
- Connecting Your DNA Matches

In addition, individual consultations, at an additional cost, will be available on Friday, November 8, 2019.

Go to <http://mimgc.org/> for further information.

### Pioneer Certificate Program through Michigan Genealogical Council

**Pre-Statehood:** Direct descendant of an early settler who settled in Michigan prior to Michigan’s statehood (prior to January 26, 1837)

**First Families:** Direct descendant of an early settler in a community, settlement, or county of Michigan (January 27, 1837-December 31, 1880)

<https://mimgc.org/cpage.php?pt=122>

## Orange Scott Mason, 1845-1912

Submitted by Judy Sheldon

Orange Scott Mason was born 9 December 1845 in Lenawee County, Michigan.

If trees on Ancestry.com are correct Orange is 6<sup>th</sup> generation in USA, the family is from England, all of the generations were born in Massachusetts until his father came to Michigan. His parents were Thomas Luther Mason of Massachusetts, and Sarah Dobbins of New York. Dad was a Methodist minister who traveled the circuit in that area. Orange grew up in the Franklin Township, Lenawee County, Michigan area.

He had at least 9 brothers and sisters and he was the youngest. We have no idea why his parents chose Orange as his name, but it wasn't as uncommon back then as we might think.

Orange enlisted 1 Oct 1863 at Franklin, MI in Company H, Michigan 11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment on 23 Oct 1863. He was mustered out on 20 July 1865. The mustered men then joined Company B, Michigan 8<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment on the same date. He finally mustered out on 22 September 1865 in Nashville, TN. He saw action in Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Orange married Sarah Sophia Minthorn, on 12 March 1878 in Bay City, MI. Sarah was born 12 November 1852 in Canada.

Daughter, Kattie C Mason, was born in 1878 Michigan, but died two years later 2 August 1880 in Oscoda, MI.

His son, Willis George, was born in 1879 in Oscoda, MI and died 1948 in Kilgore, Texas

His second daughter, Sarah Louise, was born 1883 in Oscoda, MI and died 1951 in Detroit, MI.

Orange was listed in the census as a farmer, but by 1885 we

know he was the superintendent of Pack, Woods & Co salt block in Oscoda. This year was when he fell into a vat of hot brine and was badly scalded. Numerous newspapers covered his accident, but the best one was in Detroit and Bay City that he had died. He took delight in reading an announcement of his death. He smiled and denied he was dead. After several operations to save his feet, he eventually lost both feet.

In 1888 he attended the 4<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Grand Legion, Select Knights AOW as a guard. He was living in Oscoda, MI.

His wife, Sarah, died 30 January 1889 in Au Sable, MI.

By the 1894 Michigan State census he is in the Soldier's Home, Grand Rapids.

He attended a meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> Cavalry in Owosso in October 1898 (Owosso Times 7 Oct 1898.)

In the Grand Rapids Herald, February 1899, there was an article allowing \$25.00 for the Soldier's Home to purchase artificial feet for Orange Mason who had lost his feet after he slipped into a salt vat in Saginaw and scalded his feet. (We know this did not happen in Saginaw, but in AuSable)

Orange never stopped supporting his fellow soldiers and in 1909 he filed suit against the Soldier's Home for keeping part of his and others soldier's pensions. The case continued after his death, and was settled in 1914 in favor of the plaintiffs!

Orange died 31 January 1912 in St. Mary's Hospital and was still living in the Soldier's Home in Grand Rapids, MI. He was returned to Pinecrest to be buried with his daughter and wife.



## James Barlow, 1840 - 1916

Submitted by Gayle Barlow

An early pioneer of this area, James Barlow, had his first view of the Au Sable area in 1858 when he came at the age 18 working as a fisherman. It was in 1866, after the Civil War, that he moved here permanently. He worked for two years at that time as a fisherman according to a biography published in 1883, The History of the Huron Shore, which also states, "At the time, and for years afterward, the only inhabitants here were fishermen, and the village consisted of about a dozen shanties."

The 1916 obituary for James and a biography found at the Library of MI in Lansing, included photos and gave the following information. "Before the days of the railroad, Mr. Barlow was a prominent figure in this section, being engaged in transporting supplies to many of the lumber camps. He served as Deputy Sheriff of Iosco County and as Marshall of Au Sable Village. In 1875, he moved to the Barlow farm, Riverside, and was one of the most successful farmers of this section.

"In Oscoda and Au Sable, he established an extensive produce and milk business and for many years he went through town daily with his wagon, or sleigh, serving practically every family in this area. During the years in this business, he helped many needy families by giving milk, vegetables, fruit, and meat from his wagon. The hospitality of his home was proverbial."

Riverside Farm was located on what is now River Rd. where Aldersgate Apartments are located. The office building has a part of the original silo built by James.

An interview was done with another James Barlow, grandson of our subject who lived at Riverside for a time. His grandfather told him of the family's arrival to America in 1848 in a ship he called a square-rigged frigate stressing that the voyage was much longer than it should have been. Research has not uncovered the date the ship named "Sea" left Liverpool,



but records show it arrived in New York on August 12, 1848. Included in the list of passengers were the names of James Barlow, a machinist, age 31; Harriet, 30; James, 8; John, 6; Edwin, 4; and Alfred, 3.

The family had resided in the city of Manchester, Lancashire County, England. It became known as "Cottonopolis" as it changed from an agricultural economy to the world's very first industrialized city with quickly developing problems of polluted air and water, inadequate sewage, and severe over-crowding. There were epidemics like cholera that may have taken the life of at least one daughter in the Barlow family.

It was said that the family came to America for religious reasons. Historical records for Flushing, Michigan report that an English settlement had started there by 1840. Many of the settlement were from Manchester, Lancashire, England, and were also Methodist. An early church met in a home next to where the township's first school was built. The Barlow's were no doubt part of this church and school for a time.

Between 1850 and 1866 the family continued living in Flushing, much more to the story was learned in recent years. The father, Edwin, wrote in letters (found in National Archives) that he worked in Bay City for 11 years as a machinist at a sawmill. This was quite a distance from his farm and family. The boys must have worked hard to keep the farm going with their father absent. Edwin reported that his marriage had ended in divorce before the Civil War.

The war did not go well for the three Barlow sons who enlisted. One lost an arm, one had a bullet permanently lodged in his lungs after it missed the heart, and one died of disease after being involved in Sherman's March to the sea.

James Barlow being the

Continued on page 7

## Lars Severin Larson (1854-1936)

Submitted by Dale Harwood



Lars Severin Larson



Anna Louisa Pehrsdotter

In 1882, Lars Severin Larson emigrated from Sweden to America settling in Oscoda. He had been working as a servant for a wealthy merchant in Falkenberg Sweden. Lars was the sixth child born to Lars Arfvidson and Maria Jansdotter on Feb. 17, 1854 in Skrea, Halland, Sweden - his father sadly committed suicide before Lars was born leaving his mother a pauper with six children.

In 1883, his future wife, Anna Louisa Pehrsdotter, immigrated to Oscoda and shortly after she arrived Lars and Louisa were married. In 1884, the first of their six children were born. Lars, Louisa and family lived on Lake St just at the current north entrance to the parking lot at the park. Lars worked as a Lumber pillar at the Lumber Yard.

They lost their home to the Oscoda/ AuSable fire in

1911. The family survived by standing in the lake up to their necks with the biggest difficulty being trying to keep the second daughter above the water as she was a severe epileptic. Before they escaped to the lake, the family filled a wooden chest with belongings and took it to the middle of their yard which was just sand. They also took out their pump organ in hopes that it would be saved. The house was destroyed but they rebuilt, and in both the 1910 and 1920 census (before and after the fire), it was stated that they owned their own home free of any mortgage.

Lars died of a stroke in 1932 at the age of 78 and Louise died in 1948 at the age of 86. Lars and Louise Larson were my great grandparents and I now own the pump organ that was saved from the fire.



**A "Donate" button is now available on the HSGS web site.**

It can be used for donations as well as for research, particularly by those in Canada so that we can avoid paying the 'foreign' transaction fee imposed by Northland Federal Credit Union.,

## Deer Camp By Lindsey Russell

I could write countless articles detailing holiday traditions on both sides of my family, particularly when it comes to Thanksgiving and Christmas; however, it is our deer season traditions from my childhood that I long for during the fall. Deer season in Michigan seemed to be a holiday all its own growing up in Arenac County. My family still celebrates our Thanksgiving and Christmas traditions even though they have evolved over the years. Sadly, when Camp Russell burned down in 2001, deer season was never the same. Fortunately, the hunting tradition in my family remains strong.

What made deer season so special? I have asked myself that question many times. First, the location itself always sparked my imagination. In the mid-sixties, my Grandpa Russell built Camp Russell with the help of his brothers-in-law and draft horses. Located amid 240 acres of cedar swamp on Tyler-Plains Rd. near Omer, the camp building featured a large picture window in the combined kitchen and living area, two bedrooms, a generator, a hand pump in the kitchen for water, as well as an outhouse. Heat involved an enormous wood stove in the main living area. As a child, I vividly remember waiting for hunters to come in at dark to start the generator. Later as a small girl, I loved to pretend that we were living in an earlier, simpler time while we were out at camp. The building itself became a gathering place for family meals during deer season, including many Thanksgiving dinners catered by my grandmother. It also is the setting for endless games of Euchre.

While Thanksgiving dinners at camp undoubtedly became the highlight of deer season, we also had several family dinners at camp. My Grandma Reid (Julia Suszko Russell Reid) inherited the camp after her husband passed away in 1967. She had six brothers



and most of whom hunted. Naturally, many would use Camp Russell as a base of operations. Several of my father's cousins also hunted or used deer season as an excuse to spend time with family. It could be during the week or weekend. It didn't matter. In fact, I remember heading out to camp with my sister and mom after school from time to time. Deer season became an excuse to gather together for a homemade family meal and fun. As a result, as a child, deer season meant one thing: family, especially cousins.

Time spent with cousins and great-aunts and uncles at Camp Russell remain some of my favorite childhood memories. While the hunters sought the biggest bucks, as children, we played, listened to music, started card games, and helped get dinner ready. We waited in earnest to hear our hunters' stories. In some cases, deer season was one of the few times of year I saw some of my great aunts and uncles, my dad's cousins, and my second cousins. Several of my dad's cousins had children roughly my age which made such gatherings so special.

In later years, grandma rented out much of her hunting land. While the hunters of the family still spent time out at Camp Russell and maintained their traditional hunting spots, many of our family gatherings moved to grandma's house in Omer. We still had the family dinners and all the fun of spending time with cousin; it just now took place at grandma's house instead of camp, including Thanksgiving. That all changed when the building burned to the ground in 2001. I am grateful for the many wonderful memories in a building my grandfather – a grandfather I never met – built. A portion of the 240 acres remains in my family to this day as my dad and brother still hunt on the property.

## Merger of the FGS with NGS Announced

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), an organization HSGS is a member of, has announced its intention to merge with the National Genealogical Society (NGS).

FGS was formed in 1976 in order to provide support to genealogical and historical societies. Key objectives during the past four decades have been to:

- promote the study of genealogy,
- stimulate the activities of state and local organizations,

- provide resources that enable genealogical organizations to succeed in pursuing their missions,
- and advocate for the preservation of records.

The intended merger with NGS will enhance the ability of FGS to support societies and offer services that will help strengthen them and help them to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing, technology-driven, volunteer-challenged environment.

### James Barlow, continued from page 4

eldest son had remained in Flushing to help support his mother and two sisters. By 1870, four family members are in Au Sable and married to local residents: his mother, Harriet to Nelson Mercier, his sister Mary to Alfred Bourbonnais, and sister Belle to Alva J Smith. James had recently married Sarah G Kenway Hollister. Sarah was the daughter of a Great Lakes ship captain, Thomas Kenway; she had been married early and had a very young daughter, Lillie. James and Sarah had four children: Helen Killmaster, Estella Holmes/Randall, Thomas, and Bert.

The sad story of Sarah and James' marriage was often repeated. Evidently Sarah had a love of music and was persuaded by a travelling salesman to make a trade

for a piano. James was furious with her when he learned that his horses were gone and the family now possessed a fine piano. The marriage was history at that point with all the children staying with their father including Lillie.

James married Josephine Cotrell Purdy of Au Sable on 14 February 1880. Together they had seven more children. "Josie" became the mother to all the 12 children. Josie's children's names were: John M Walter Edwin, Nelson James, Ida Mae Oliver,

Mary Belle Newton, Inez Vivin Newlon and Glen Alvin. James died November 23, 1916 at the age of 76.

Family reunions held for many years were widely attended by all including Lillie.

## The Michignology.com is replacing SeekingMichigan.org

The transfer of the SeekingMichigan digital collections Michiganology.org had been rescheduled for October 1. However, the new format at Michiganology can be viewed now and is very attractive. Although learning a new web site is never easy, we are being told that we will be able to search by name across all collections rather than searching separate collections when the site is fully operational. We will also be able to browse collections on Michiganology.org, a feature that is not available on SeekingMichigan.

Right now you can still find all of the search information on [SeekingMichigan.org](http://SeekingMichigan.org).

Ultimately, this move is being made to provide a better website. The Michigan History Center and its partners want to continually improve access to public records.

Also, the project for indexing the Michigan Naturalization records with *FamilySearch* is active again, see SeekingMichigan for details. When finished, the certificates will be on [Michiganology.org](http://Michiganology.org).

**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 - Judy Sheldon
- Vice President - Lindsey Russell
- Secretary - Dale Harwood
- Treasurer - Daniel Stock
- Database Manager - Judy Sheldon

**Our Regular Meetings**

Our regular business meetings are held quarterly at the China Buffet Restaurant, East Tawas at 5:30 PM on the third Thursday of the month.

Our next meetings are:

- October 17, 2019
- January 16, 2020

HSGS staff will be in our office at the Library during the following hours:

- Wednesday & Thursday 11:00 to 2:00
- Saturday 11:00 to 2:00

Please call ahead for an appointment (989.739.9581) if you would like to have the help of an experienced genealogical assistant at other times.

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.  
 Editor's note - To access the Internet links in this issue, clicking on the link should work. If not copy and paste them to your browser.

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