



# HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

## Oscoda, Michigan

### A message from our President:

The library is open and the Genealogy room is available for your research. We have a couple of volunteers who are often at the Library on Wednesday and Thursday. We are also available to schedule other times for your research. Please email the society at [huronshoresgs@yahoo.com](mailto:huronshoresgs@yahoo.com) to schedule research time. Because of COVID, we are still limiting our outreach programs. Lauri is working on the Cemetery Walk in October. This one will zero in on the Wilber cemetery. We are also going to rerun the Colletta videos in January and February. Also, as of September 7th, the Archives of Michigan is open for research and assistance by appointment – masks are required. Check the website for phone numbers and email addresses to schedule an appointment. If you haven't sent in your membership renewal, we will be happy to receive it now.

### Join us to enjoy a fall walk in the Wilber Cemetery on October 17

The Wilber Cemetery is small very attractive cemetery near the Wilber Township Hall. The walk will start at 2:00 p.m. and will feature family story readings by HSGS members and friends at selected grave sites.



### HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

#### October

- 17 Wilber Cemetery Walk, 2:00 p.m. Wilber Township off Wilber Rd.
- 21 HSGS Business meeting, Robert Parks Library, Oscoda, 4:00 pm Meet and greet to follow.

#### November

- 12 MGC Virtual Meeting, 11:00 Black Loyalists in the Revolutionary War - Cheryl Garnett Register at <https://mimgc.org/>

#### January

- 20 HSGS Business Meeting, Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, East Tawas, 5:30 pm
- TBD Repeat of the Colletta Series Grace Ev. Lutheran Church

### Got Ancestors?! 2021

#### Annual Fall Conference Western Michigan Genealogical Society

A Virtual Event 16 October 2021

Presented by Dana Palmer, genealogy instructor at Sinclair Community College.

Sessions on the use of genealogical web sites including Family Search, RootsWeb, US Gen Web, Chronicling America, Archive.org and others

Conference fee is \$25 and you can register at <http://gotancestors.com/>

## 1950 POPULATION CENSUS

The National Archives releases a census to the public only 72 years after the day the census was taken. Because census day in 1950 was 1 April, the 1950 census will be released to the public on the same date in 2022.

According to the [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org) web site, in 2012, the National Archives provided digital images of the 1940 census to FamilySearch. Those digital images were then uploaded to their web site. Those who had a free FamilySearch account were able to browse the digital images by location right away as they will not have been indexed. We expect the same thing to happen for the 1950 census.

The time it will take for FamilySearch to index the census depends on how many wonderful volunteers dedicate their time to the effort! To give you some perspective of the scope of the project, approximately 132,164,569 persons were enumerated in the 1940 census. In contrast, the estimated population of the United States in 1950 was a little over 150 million.

In 2012, FamilySearch began the project to index the 1940 United States census in hopes of indexing the entire census in 6 months. With over 163,000 volunteers and several genealogical organizations contributing over 132 million records were indexed in just 4 months except for Puerto Rico!

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 questions, listed by column:

### Population

1. Name of street, avenue or road where the household is located
2. Home or apartment number
3. Serial number of dwelling unit
4. Is this house on a farm (or ranch)?
5. If no, is this house on a place of three or more acres?
6. Corresponding agriculture questionnaire number
7. Name
8. Relationship to head
9. Race
10. Sex
11. How old was this person on his last birthday?
12. Is this person now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married? Enumerators were to enter "Mar" for married, "Wd" for widowed, "D" for divorced, "Sep" for separated, or "Nev" for never married
13. What State or country was the person born in?
14. If foreign born, is the person naturalized?

### For persons 14 years of age and over

15. What was this person doing most of last week - working, keeping house, or something else? Enumerators were to record "Wk" for working, "H" for keeping house, "U" for unable to work, or "Ot" for other
16. If the person was "keeping house" or "something else" in question 15, did the person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house? (Including work-for-pay, in his own business, working on a farm or unpaid family work)
17. If the person answered "no" to question 16, was he looking for work?
18. If the person answered "no" to question 17, even if he didn't work last week, does he have a job or business?
19. If the person was working, how many hours did he or she work in the last week?
20. a. What kind of work does the person do?  
b. What kind of business or industry is the person in?  
c. Class of worker the person is. Enumerators were to mark "P" for private employment, "G" for government employment, "O" for own business, or "NP" for working without pay.

The supplemental Questions asked of a 5 percent sample of the population will be included in the next issue of the Genogram.

## 5 Things to Include in Your DNA Enquiry Letter

By Gaynel Fayles

You've hit a brick wall and you know of a person who could potentially solve it if only they shared DNA test results online. You really want that person to take a test but you don't want them to think you're a scammer, right? Here is a 5 section outline of elements to include in such a letter. Whether email or snail mail, formal letter formats are most appropriate for a stranger. Sharing DNA isn't the lark many tend to think it is; it's sharing the most private part of one's physical being. Your potential helper needs to see you respect that.

1. State how you are related.
  - a. Your full name.
  - b. The most recent common ancestor/MRCA – don't say "I'm your 3rd cousin once removed" but explain "I'm the 3<sup>rd</sup> great-grandchild of [MRCA] who I believe is your 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather/mother." A free, easy-to-understand kinship chart is offered on Irish-Genealogy-Toolkit.com.
  - c. Explain how you came up with their contact information—from a mutual relative, etc. This will help tamp down fear that you're scamming them.
  - d. Tell them you understand completely they may wish to double-check with that person so you know this isn't a scam inquiry—include that mutual relative's contact info as a nudge.
2. Explain the problem.
  - a. Briefly say you're researching [a family line, specific person] and are at the point where you can't identify the brick-wall's ancestors/information, etc.
  - b. Enclose/attach a 4 or 5 generation pedigree unless you need to go big to show the kinship in question.
  - c. If possible, enclose/attach a copy of a photo or something about the ancestor. Sharing info helps elicit info.
3. Ease into the DNA part.
  - a. Just in case they don't know exactly what DNA tests do, start the paragraph out with something like "You may know that DNA testing is a way of finding past relatives by seeing who else you are related to."
  - b. If you are looking for yDNA or mtDNA, explain how it is passed down only through the specific sex line and your family has no more direct-line whatever. This helps them understand the big picture.
  - c. Ask something like "Do you or do you know of a relative (specify male/female when y- or mt- DNA) descended from [your MRCA] who has had their DNA tested? If you do, would you be willing to discuss sharing your results with me? Or would you please share this letter/email with a direct descendant of [MRCA] and ask them to contact me about sharing their results?"
4. And now the "ask." Write something like "If you have not tested and there is no one you know who has tested, I wonder if you'd be interested in helping me by taking a test I will pay for. If you are, I can send you information about [the DNA test company]—the test company I use—to read about how your DNA and identity are handled and protected by [company name]. You can also read about [the company] online at [URL]." FYI: 23andMe, AncestryDNA, FamilyTreeDNA/FTDNA and MyHeritage currently state they DO NOT ALLOW police access to results. The 3rd-party tool GEDMatch requires opt-IN.

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**So now you have a DNA match that is a 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin, where and who are they?**

**Submitted by Judy Sheldon**

I have lots of these and most of the time I have no idea where in the family tree they belong,, because the surname isn't familiar, places don't help and if you ask them where they think we might match they have no idea either. Like many of us when we do our trees we stop at 2<sup>nd</sup> cousins, partly because before DNA it didn't seem to matter if we knew their names and partly because it gets harder and harder to identify them. 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins are often in our generation and so are probably living.

This summer when it was just hot and nasty to work in the garden, I started a spread sheet in excel, starting with my 2<sup>nd</sup> great grandparents and working all the way down to 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins. I had most of the 1<sup>st</sup> cousin lines and many of their children and spouses, but

the next generation was pretty much missing. Using other trees for hints, marriage records, birth records (Texas is a gold mine for more current births), obituaries and Find A Grave I have filled in the blanks and in the process identified surnames that pop up in the DNA match lists. A message to the match naming a closer relative to them and there we go with a confirmed match!

The spread sheet is huge as many of the past families had lots of kids that lived to adulthood (I left out the ones who died before they could have children) in all of the generations. So far I have done most of my Dad's side as they have been in the USA the longest. Lots more to do, but it is pushing me to fill in the gaps and connect with the cousins! And someday move back one more generation to the 3<sup>rd</sup> great grandparents.

**The Right to LIGHT**



Ancient Lights Signs Clerkenwell

If there has been natural light coming in my window for 20 or more years, you do not have the right to build something that will block it!

That's right if you live in England! The windows have signs that read "Ancient Lights." The language England uses today is based more closely on the Prescription Act of 1832. The "Right to Light" is a stipulation that falls under the Ancient Lights law, which gives long-standing property owners the right to receive adequate and unobstructed daylight through their building's windows. A person was historically entitled to this if natural light and air had passed freely through their windows for a certain amount of time. If a neighbor attempted to infringe upon this by building a structure or planting trees, the owner had the power to sue them for "nuisance" and walk away with a check (and, ideally, a restored view).

Sources:

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/right-to-light-law> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right\\_to\\_light](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_to_light)

**Library Of Michigan Library Card**

If you are a Michigan resident, then you can get a library card to the Library of Michigan.

[https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88854\\_90684-261681--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/0,9327,7-381-88854_90684-261681--,00.html)

With this card you can access a variety of newspapers, like the Ann Arbor News historical, the Detroit News historical, Grand Rapids Press, Newspaper Archives, Proquest Newspapers and Newspapers.com. All this is on-line and FREE to Michigan residents!

Y. M. C. A. CAMP NISSOKONE

"Nissokone is a place like no other: a spectacular natural environment in which the majestic AuSable River meets the shores of Lake Huron. Founded in 1915, Nissokone means 'Three Fires.' It is said that three Native American tribes met on the site of Camp Nissokone to make peace, with a fire of peace representing each tribe. YMCA Camp Nissokone is located on 170 acres of picturesque lakefront in Oscoda, Michigan" as stated in the 1941 season, Camp Nissokone Brochure.

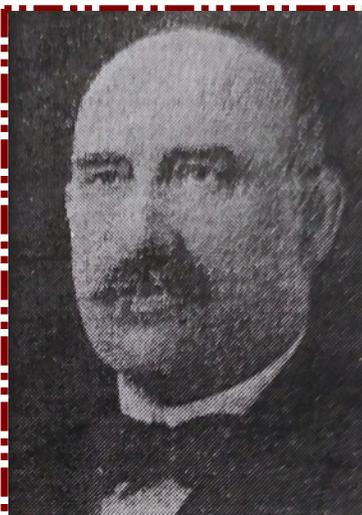


1916 Camp Nissokone Dining Hall

Nissokone, operated by the Young Men's Christian Association of Metropolitan Detroit, was an all-male camp until 1969. In the early part of the 20th century there was a need for a camp farther north for the general membership, "Where there would be the larger opportunity for a more rugged outdoor life than any that could be found near Detroit," according to "One Hundred Years With Youth; the Story of the Detroit YMCA 1852-1952."

"After years of searching, a site was secured in 1914 on the west shore of Van Etten Lake. This lake is six miles long and one mile wide and has the advantage of being in close proximity to Lake Huron and thereby benefiting from the invigorating climate of the larger lake. It was also free from severe storms and ideal for a camp, particularly where boys were involved," as stated the Detroit YMCA 1852-1952 book. Initially, the camp had only one building which had been constructed to serve as the dining room and for indoor activities. Originally, the camp was a "men's and boy's camp" that would later be changed so that it accommodated only young men and boys.

Summer camps were founded to further YMCA ideals in the great outdoors. The physical development was encouraged not only through the



Philip H. Gray, 57 years old Insurance man, capitalist, banker and "Good Samaritan," president of the Detroit Y. C. M. A. And John S. Gray's Sons died on 25 November, 1922 at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Mass. Following a long illness.

Philip Hayward Gray was born on October 7, 1865 in Detroit, the son of John Simpson Gray (1841-1906) and Anna Elizabeth Hayward (1840-1919). He married Mary Almena Studley (1863-1939) on 6 May, 1890 in Ann Arbor. She was a daughter of Rev. William D. S. Studley, formerly pastor of Central Methodist Episcopal church. The couple had two sons, Harold Simpson Gray and Philip Hayward Gray Jr. and two daughters, Evelyn Gray and Alemana Gray. He was also survived by his brothers, Paul R. Gray and David Gray, Detroit bankers and his sister, Mrs. William R. Kales.

well-appointed buildings, but through programs of physical education and the formation of leagues. The YMCA is committed to improving the spiritual, mental, social, and physical aspects of young men through its programs. While many of these programs changed over time, the spiritual development of members remained a central feature at the core of the religious department of the YMCA.

In connection with numerous welfare organizations to which he contributed his time and money, Mr.

Philip H. Gray, who for eight years was president of the Y. M. C. A. in Detroit, helped with the creation Camp Nossokone. He provided approximately \$350,000 for buildings, equipment and grounds, making it one of the finest equipped camps in

America in recognition of the great benefit received by his own sons from boys camps. In 1916, he also purchased a large area adjoining the camp to build a summer home.

His father, John Simpson Gray, known to Detroit pioneers as a banker and a manufacturer and as the first president of the Ford Motor company, Mr. Gray inherited a large fortune and in a few years as a "Good Samaritan," giving generously to institutions and charities needing assistance and to individuals in distress.

Soon after he received a payment of several million dollars from the Ford Motor company in liquidation of his father's stock in the company, he remarked to friends that he felt that he was given his

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TIDBITS FROM THE SEPTEMBER 1921 TAWAS HERALD

September 2, 1921

Obituary for Martha Rachel Boomer (Mrs. Charles Fowler)

Obituary for Peter Shafer Bower

Miss Elsie Muoslf (sic) left Tuesday for Ludington, where she has been engaged to teach in the city schools and fill the position of county normal critic for the ensuing year.

Laidlawville: School started Monday in Dist. No. 4 with Mrs. Edwin Anschuetz as teacher.

For Sale: Sixty good breeding ewes and their lambs; two good farm mares; large two year old gelding; some cows; also some farms. Nelson Johnson, Baldwin Township, PO address East Tawas.

September 9, 1921

Prescott Herd Again Wins. At the state fair held in Detroit this week the Prescott herd of Shorthorn cattle again won a large number of the prizes in their classes, in competition with noted herds from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Chevrolet 4-90 at M. Haglund & Sons, East Tawas is \$570.00

Stray Calf – There came to my enclosure about Sept 15 a steer calf. Owner can have same by paying charges. Thos. Mason, Reno Township.

September 16, 1921

Obituary for Isabelle McDonald (Mrs. Louis Van Wyck)

Martin Cornell who has been in charge of the services at the Swedish Lutheran church this summer returned to his studies at the Augustana College, Rock Island, ILL., last Monday morning.

At H. N. Butler's Store, East Tawas: blue chambray work shirts – 67c; Men's heavy fleeced 2 piece underwear per garment – 73c

September 23, 1921

Report on the Iosco County Fair to open next week.

Duck hunting opened last Friday.

Mrs. Charles Long of Romney, West Virginia gave birth to a nine pound baby boy on Sept 18. She was Miss Florence Stickney of Tawas City.

Meadow Roar: James Hews has sold his farm.

Alabaster Dust: Miss Mary Mielock, who is teaching at Mclvor, and Miss Clara Mielock, who is teaching at Point Lookout, spent the week end at their homes here.

**WHY?**

In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from?

**BECAUSE**

When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf.' He had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her.

Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word Cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into caddie.

German Genealogy Group Newsletter, October, 2020

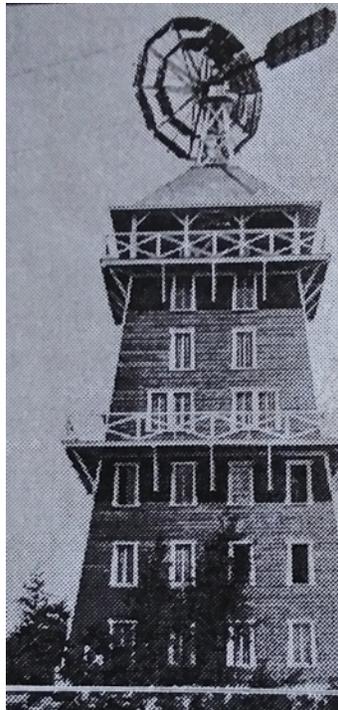
Y. M. C. A. CAMP NISSOKONE, continued from page 5

great fortune for the specific purpose of aiding others and that he dispense in wisely and generously.

In 1927, his family gave the property to the YMCA, adding 40 acres and the summer home, with other buildings. Later the camp purchased additional property which covered nearly a mile of the Van Etten Lake shoreline. By that time, the total number of acres was 685. Most of this property, along with Loud Island which had been gifted to the YMCA by Hugh and Barbara Loud has been sold off over the years.

The camp was remodeled in 1940-41, dividing it into sections for younger and older boys and eliminating the men's sections to accommodate 150 individuals. At the far northerly end of the camp, a group of buildings were built, consisting of 12 lodges, wash rooms and others, available for annual visitation of fathers of campers.

As stated in the 2014 Tawas Herald Camp Nissokone Centennial article, Ryan Mertz, camp



1921 picture of the water tower, demolished in 1978

executive director said "Our purpose has not changed, which is teaching core values of honesty, caring, respect and responsibility." Mertz also said the idea of getting youth out in nature to make friends and be part of a community has not changed, but some of the activities have. At this time the camp has added a high ropes course, fencing activities and a water slide. Horseback riding and sailing, popular 100 years ago, have endured to the present.

Sources:

"One Hundred Years With Youth; the Story of the Detroit YMCA 1852-1952."

The Tawas Herald, June 4, 2014 "YMCA Camp Nissokone Celebrates Centennial" by Karen Rouse

Detroit Free Press, 26 November, 1922

"Philip H Gray Obituary"

1921 season Camp Nissokone Brochure

1941 season, Camp Nissokone Brochure

DNA Letter, Continued from page 3

- Write "the sell" paragraph similar to the following: ""If you'd like to help me by having your DNA tested, I will pay for the kit and co-ordinate its processing but you will own the rights to the resulting DNA information. Once the test is completed, I only ask that you give me permission to view the results and raw data so I can use them for my ancestor search. You will then have full private access to and complete ownership of this information to keep or destroy. Please take time to consider this and let me know if you are interested by [writing me at the above address/email]. If you are interested, I'd love to discuss this more, even over the phone if you'd like. If you don't wish to, I understand and may still be interested if you later change your mind."

Send your letter off with a wish for luck. Think positive but expect they will either not reply or tell you to go jump in the lake. If no response arrives, send a follow-up next month in case it slipped their mind but say you won't keep bugging them.

If they do want to test, make sure you write a follow-up letter explaining exactly how you will get this done, clarify whether they want you to administer their account or they want full, absolute control, and explain what you are going to do with their RAW data. Make very clear they understand you must have at least temporary access to the RAW data. Have them sign and return the letter/ keep their email reply as proof of understanding and agreement.

**I lost the URL to a great site, darn!**

Thanks to our VP, Lauri Finerty and her husband for this suggestion on how to keep a URL handy on your PHONE.

Go to your contacts,

Add the name of the site as a contact,

Enter the URL in the website line,

Save the contact.

Now you never have to look up the URL

again!

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:

**October 21, - Special Meeting In Person at Parks Libray, 4:00, meet and greet to follow**

January 20, 2022

An HSGS staff member will usually 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](mailto:huronshoresgs@yahoo.com) to arrange an appointment with 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,  
 or pay via our web page using Pay Pal

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?    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 \_\_\_\_\_    HSGS would appreciate your help very much. Thank you!

If yes, we will contact you about your interest in helping.

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