



HURON SHORES GENOGRAM

Oscoda, Michigan

HSGS 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

By Judy Sheldon, President

Huron Shores Genealogical Society may be small, but we are a busy bunch. Our educational programs started in March with three sessions sponsored by the Sunrise Side Life Long Learners (Judy Sheldon instructor), our June program was about the Homestead Act and Michigan Rural Properties featuring Kris Rzepczynski from the Michigan State Archives, October featured Donnie Boursaw speaking on Native Americans. Finally a two part basic genealogy program was held at the Iosco County Historical Museum by presenters Lugene Daniels, Al Sherman and Judy Sheldon. A Civil War Veterans Honor Walk at Clayton Township Cemetery in Arenac County was organized by Lugene Daniels in September. All of the programs were well attended. In addition, we held four business meetings to plan and evaluate our activities and projects.

Our outreach activities included booths at the opening day of the Alcona County Farmers Market, the Harrisville Antique Show, the Paul Bunyan Festival in Oscoda and the Oscoda Community Not for Profit Open House. Roger Miller, Dan Stock and Judy Sheldon manned the booth and Roger shared lumber information at the Paul Bunyan Festival. Roger and Judy were interviewed by the local community television station during this festival.

Our society also held a membership picnic at Lugene Daniels' home in Whittemore in August. We enjoyed great food and a tour of the **W-R-L Daniel's Dairy Farm, LLC.**



The Tawas Herald digitizing project was completed. These digitized papers have also been made available on all of the Iosco-Arenac District Library computers, although they are unsearchable at this time.

We are publishing a book: *Iosco County: the photography of Ard G Emery, 1892-1904* with Arcadia Publishing. See the related article by Lugene Daniels on page 2.



HSGS Genealogical Meetings and Events

- April
 - 16 HSGS Business Meeting, Hsing's Garden Restaurant, East Tawas
 - 25 Navigating Genealogy Web Sites Parks Library, Oscoda
 - 25 April Family History Center Seminar, Lansing
- July
 - 16 HSGS Business Meeting, Hsing's Garden Restaurant, East Tawas

Join Us at our Spring Event

Navigating Genealogy Web Sites

Presented by HSGS Members

at the Parks Library on

April 25

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

ARCADIA BOOK PROJECT UPDATE

By Lugene Daniels

As chairperson for the HSGS Arcadia historical book project entitled "Iosco County: The Photography of Ard G. Emery 1892-1904" I am proud to report that everything is progressing according to plan and before spring gets here the final draft and photos will have been submitted.

Several HSGS members have supplied us with family history information to accompany images from this wonderful glass negative collection, and therefore most have been included in the book. At this point, all of the studio photos have been selected and most of the text has been written.

Many thanks to all who have been involved with this project, and a special thanks to Neil Thornton and Roger Miller (who wrote the Foreword) for their endless amount of knowledge and guidance.

The scheduled release date for the book is November 2015. Currently, the society is planning a traveling exhibit to promote the book. Any HSGS member with ideas and/or time to volunteer with such a worthwhile endeavor would be greatly appreciated.

Lumber Camps on the Sunrise Side

By Judy Sheldon

Most logging crews operated only in the winter, taking advantage of hard, frozen ground to haul heavy loads of logs on sleighs rather than wheeled wagons. Establishing a winter logging camp involved much preparation: timber rights were acquired; timber cruisers estimated the volume of timber by species; supplies, sleds, tools, and food (for both people and animals) were purchased and hauled in to the work site; a work force was hired; dams for river log drives or railroad spur lines were constructed; and finally, bunkhouses, mess halls, and other buildings were erected.

Written histories of lumber camp life often focus on food, as it was a monumental task to keep a hundred or more hungry men who engaged in heavy physical labor in cold, wet weather for more than 12 hours a day well-fed. An extensive account on food in camps can be found in *A social History of Food in Logging Camps* by Joseph R. Conlin at <http://www.foresthistory.org/publications/JofFH/conlin.pdf>.

Among the local camps was the High Rollway Camp. An account of this camp is given in the Tawas Herald, 13 Nov 1891, p.1

"Chief cook and all round provider for the wants of the inner man, J. S. Robertson, better known as

Scotty, chief of the pastry department; Chris Swindell, manager of the camp; C. D. Bennett, ass't mg'r; A. W. Lowe, Frank McRae on guard; Chas. Curry and Lou Hall, court of arms; Steve Vaughn, coaster."

Menu for Sunday, November 8, 1891:

"Soup – Prieve of tomato. Fish – boiled lake trout, a la Matrid Hotel. Oysters – blue point, raw, fried and boiled. McCrae tongue, Bennett sauce. Roast – saddle of venison with Lowe jelley, prairie chicken, cranberry sauce. Entries – Oyster parries [sic], New York style, du Swindell on toast. Vegetables – baked sweet potatoes, Hubbard squash. Relishes – Spanish olives and anchovy sauce. Pastry – strawberry tart pie, mince pie, lady fingers, orange sliced in port wine. Curry's grapes."

Just a few of the other CAMPS in the area were:

- Session Bros. Camp
- Forn & Kent Camp
- Brown's Camp
- Eddy Bros Camp
- Russel & Allman's Camp

In addition, many of the the lumber barons in the area also had camps:

- Backus and Brother, AuSable, rec'd first shipment of machinery, 1868.
- Oscoda Boom Company, AuSable River

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Interesting Facts About the Civilian Conservation Corps by Source Unknown

Enrollees were assigned to CCC companies by the Army. Transfers from one Company to another were possible when emergencies warranted it.

All persons connected with the CCC were required to be fingerprinted. This was for the protection of the personnel, the interest of justice and as an aid to the government in settling claims. It was also a means of identification in the event of an accident.

Each enrollee was assigned a serial number on joining to identify his record, property and equipment. He was also issued "dog tags". These were metal discs bearing his serial number which he wore at all times.

The age of the CCC enrollee ranged from 17 to 65 and over. The men of older ages were those of the Spanish-American War, World War I and Local Enlisted Men (LEM's). Many enrollees were actually 16 years of age when they enrolled.

Enrollees in the CCC were classified as Junior or war veterans. Juniors made up 90 percent of the total enrollment, were single and between the ages of 17 and 23. Juniors who got married after joining the Corps could complete their enrollment period but could not re-enroll. However, among the Juniors were five project assistants and five others-one Leader, one Mess Steward, and three cooks - who may have been older than 23 and married. (Later the top age limit was changed to 28.)

Enrollees were not permitted to operate their own cars, trucks or motorcycles in or outside the camp. The only exception was when one was authorized a leave away from camp. Violation of regulations subjected an enrollee to possible discharge. Regulations also prohibited the return of allotment money by a dependent to an enrollee. Enrollees who violated this rule could be discharged.

Local governments received an estimated \$205 million for the year 1982 in revenues generated from National Forest lands. Michigan's share was approximately \$808,600. In part, the monies came from trees planted and projects begun by the CCC.

The CCC's did much more than plant trees and carry out other camp projects however. Most became involved in some way with the affairs of nearby communities. Just one example: The dramatics class of the 2685th Company at Camp Kalkaska presented two plays for the benefit of the Grayling Hospital.

There are men of the 672nd Company, S-95, who remember with a certain amount of glee this incident: In the Fall of 1933 when the unit was still in tents at Camp Grayling a problem arose. In the sub-zero weather, the tents where the cooks were preparing meals caught fire. The team of cooks made their exit with wild antics and bare feet.



Enrollees who met and married "the" girl were not eligible for reenlistment unless they were war veterans or overhead personnel. To be eligible for re-enrollment, one to be physically fit, within the specified age limits, unmarried and have a satisfactory work record.

Enrollees were their own "washwoman". They did their own sewing, patching and ironing. They could forego this practice if they paid someone else to do it.

Clothing was issued appropriately for the season. Light garments for summer, heavier ones for winter. Winter issues included woolen O.D.'s, an overcoat or mackinaw, overshoes, mittens, winter hat and winter underwear. Other articles of winter clothing included heavy boots, windbreakers and

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THE SAD STORY OF LITTLE VIRGINIA RUHNKE

By Lugene Daniels

As I have spent hours and hours researching for the HSGS Arcadia upcoming publication, sometimes I find it difficult to stay focused on the topic at hand.

I ran across this sorrowful article in the Iosco County Gazette dated January 17, 1914.

CLOTHES BURNED OFF. Little One Survives Awful Shock and Torture for Seven Hours.

Catastrophies (sic) happen long distances away; we hear of them, then pass them by. Fatalities occur, we read about them, shiver for the moment, and with a sigh lay them in the archives of memory, and--mostly forget about them. Now, however, are we horrified at one which has taken place in our own neighborhood, and the darling of parents whom most of us know has met death in a way that brings tremor to our nerves and tears to our eyes as facts are made known to us.

Otto Ruhnke, his wife, and their three children live not far from the Catholic church in East Tawas. Monday morning the father, after spending Sunday at home, kissed his babies and bade them good-bye as he started for Alabaster and to his work there with the U. S. Gypsum Co. At about 10:30 o'clock, while the mother was calling upon one of her neighbors across the road, whither she had gone for a short time and had left her children alone in the home, the eldest, Virginia, less than four years old, rushed from the house out into the snow, with only her shoes intact, and the burned fragments of her clothing clinging to the charred body. The little one was screaming with pain as she tried to get to her mamma across the street, and while making the effort she was discovered by her mamma and several others who rushed to her aid. A physician was at once called, and the father telephoned for at Alabaster. Both were soon there, and everything possible was done to allay the agony of the little girl. At 5:00 in the afternoon sleep came, and from it she did not awaken; she breathed till 5:30.

Virginia was able to tell that she "got the matches," and in some manner ignited her clothing

and they burned entirely from her body. The funeral services were held from the home Thursday afternoon, and the remains were laid away in the German Lutheran cemetery. The stricken parents are sympathized with by many friends in their great grief. The age of the little girl was 3 years 7 months and 17 days. There are two younger children left.

After reading this sad story about Virginia Ruhnke, I longed to learn more about her family.

Virginia's parents, Otto Herman Morris Ruhnke and Henrietta May Roberts, were married on October 31, 1909 in Tawas City by Reverend Carl Henning of the Emanuel Lutheran Church.

When the 1910 census was enumerated on April 19, the newlyweds lived with his father, also Otto Ruhnke, and the groom's maternal grandmother, Wilhelmina Felske. The family resided on Locke Street in East Tawas. (Both grandfather Otto and grandmother Wilhelmina died in 1913 in East Tawas.)

Virginia Margarete Ruhnke was born in East Tawas on June 25, 1910.

Virginia had two siblings at the time of her unfortunate death, Lucille May (born 1911) and Theodore O (born 1912).

By 1917 the family is residing in Bay City, Bay County, Michigan. Father Otto has taken a job as a machinist helper at Bay City Foundry Machine Company. When he registered for the World War I draft on June 5, 1917, his dependents were his wife and three children.

Between that date and 1920 something awful happened. Unfortunately, I am not sure exactly what that was, but somehow I aim to find out. And, when I do, I will write a short sequel article for the next newsletter.

In 1920 Otto Herman Ruhnke is listed as a convict inmate in the Upper Peninsula's Marquette correctional facility. He and his wife, Henrietta, have divorced and she has remarried and resides in Lucas

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Virginia RUHNKE continued from page 4

County, Ohio.

Finally, I could not help but wonder if little Virginia was with relatives in her final resting place. Emanuel Lutheran Church records reveal that she was indeed buried in their cemetery in Tawas City,

and recent photographic records of this cemetery do not show a grave marker for little Virginia, who was only three years, seven months, and seventeen days of age at the time of her death. Hopefully, she was buried beside her grandparents.

Lumber Camps

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- Henry M Loud, Oscoda/AuSable
- George A Loud, AuSable
- William F Loud, AuSable
- Edward F Loud, AuSable
- Henry Nelson Loud, AuSable
- AuSable River Boom Company
- George P Smith, AuSable
- Selig Solomon, AuSable
- Greene Pack, AuSable
- T F Thompson, AuSable
- J E Potts, AuSable
- Edward H Hull, AuSable
- Gideon O Whittemore,
Tawas City
- James Whittemore, Tawas Bay
- Ebenezer Laidlaw, Tawas Bay
- James Laidlaw, Tawas Bay
- Walter M Gardner, Tawas Bay
- Emery Brothers, East Tawas:
Temple Emery
- McKay, East Tawas
- Mitchell and Boutell,
East Tawas
- Asa Rodman
- J C Cameron
- J Bearinger
- G A Prescott Sr
- C H Prescott
- William M Locke
- Charles D Hale
- Marvin Wilber
- Wedworth C Penoyar
- Thomas T Allen
- William Richards
- W V Emery
- W H English

Civilian Conservation Corps

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sometimes snowshoes. These were issued to men whose work indicated a need for such articles.

Work and dress uniforms were Army types until 1939 when President Roosevelt suggested a distinctive dress uniform be designed for the CCC. This was to be “spruce green” color.

The first CCC camp in Michigan to boast of having a “real” mess hall was Camp Luzerne. It was built by enrollees of logs cut in the surrounding forest. It is not generally known, but in many instances actual construction of camp sites and buildings was the job of CCC enrollees themselves under expert supervision.

Dr. Ralph A. Perkins was the first physician to be attached to a camp as Contract Surgeon. He served the 1618th Company, S-13, at Camp Huron-Hayes in Lenawee County in 1933.

Five tree nurseries were established by the Forest service in Michigan in the 1930’s to supply seedlings for state and national forests. They were located at Wellston, Manistique, Watersmeet, Raco and East Tawas.

Rosters of Michigan CCC camps were not always composed entirely of Michigan boys or men. Many came from other states.

It is generally supposed that Army officers were the administrators of the camps, but Navy and Marine Corps officers were also assigned to them as commanders and junior officers. War veterans-veterans of any war in which the United States participated-comprised about 10 percent of the CCC. They could be of any age, married or single.

Cooperate with the Census Enumerator

Gazette, March 4, 1850 pg 1, column 2

If the new census law is rigidly enforced, it will not pay to refuse to answer such proper questions as may be put by the enumerator. The penalties are severe. The law says : “All persons above the age of 21 years who shall refuse to furnish information required by the supervisor or enumerator shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding \$100 to be recovered in an action of debt. Presidents, directors, or other officials of private corporations who refuse to furnish information required of them are made liable to a penalty not to exceed \$10,000.

STATUS OF HSGS INDEXES	1/2014	1/2015
Total number of files (Indexes, Catalogs, Admin)	1,671	1,990
HSGS index files Searchable with Boolean search engine	1,470	1,501
Files to be edited before placement on web site	116	15
Older newspaper files needing event code updates	390	0
Files in need of other minor corrections	348	35
Catalogs completed (Michigan, Iosco Co., Canadian, Photos, Family Histories)	1,911	20,606
Catalogs Planned (newspapers, other counties)	25,166	25,166
Event codes & keywords (searchable)	---	1,509,694

Traveling North by Stage

Prior to the railroad coming to Iosco County the method of transporting mail, supplies and passengers was by boat, dog sled or stagecoach. The mail stage came most of the time twice a week from Bay City in the 1860s and by the 1870s it was making daily runs and carrying passengers. Mr. Whittemore, the postmaster of Tawas City, complained in 1866 that mail needed to be daily and not weekly, but it was not until 1871 that this was to be.

J F Wiley established a line between Standish and AuSable in 1871 and sold his line in 1882 to Nelson Green. Mr. Green expanded the route to increase the runs to Alpena on a daily basis. The route from Standish to Alpena was 155 miles along the shore line and inland from Tawas City north to take advantage of the higher ground. The stage line owned 70 horses and vehicles. It was noted in 1883 that the stage had not missed a trip, even under the worst conditions. Runners were used on the vehicles when wheels wouldn't work. The stage office was located in East Tawas near the Miner Hotel and the Strong House on State St, making it very convenient for passengers to find accommodations.

In March of 1872, a record number of passengers were reported in a single trip; 35 from AuSable to Standish and 26 from East Tawas to Standish. The real record was 3,000,000 passengers from Alpena to Northville. These were Whitefish eggs bound for the hatchery in Northville, January 1885 according to the Alpena Weekly Argus, 21 January 1885.

Stagecoach travel wasn't comfortable or glamorous as the roads were rough, dusty and in the winter cold! Many passengers switched to the train when the railroad companies began to offer passenger service, but it wasn't until the appearance of the automobile that the stagecoach faded away into history.

**Huron Shores Genealogical Society
2014 Annual Financial Report**

Balance January 1, 2014 -		\$2,935.69
Income		
Research		1,048.65
Book and CD sales		175.00
Membership dues		517.00
Donations - General		652.69
- Digitization		696.98
Grants		0.00
Dividend interest		3.33
Total income		\$3,093.65
Expenses		
Program		
Collection management		159.94
Postage, copies, supplies		193.24
Computers		
Hardware and software		673.82
Supplies		350.97
Workshops		
Prizes, handouts		135.57
Honorariums		50.00
Digitization		1,456.52
Administration		
Supplies, postage, printing		318.69
Advertising		277.90
Dues and donations		124.5
Rent, facility improvements		160.00
Total Expenses		\$3,901.15
Balance December 31, 2014 -		\$2,128.19

Surnames and Interests of members

When each of you send in your membership dues we ask for surnames and/or interests you are researching. This information has in the past just been filed. We thought by publishing these interests in our newsletter others with similar interests could correspond with each other.

We have also posted a place on our Face Book Group to list surnames you are looking for.

Here is a current listing of member surnames and interests:

Member	Surnames
Greta Anschuetz:	Anschuetz, Ulman, Rempert, Proper, Klinger/Karziski, Slingerland, Goike, Fiedler, Cholger
Janet Arntz:	Benson, McDonnell, Slingerland
Ethel Blust:	Dorcey, Earhart, Horner, Fenton, Wisiner, Blust, Youngs, Pfifer, Hurford, Merchant, Whitford, Fortune Interests: Whittemore, Burleigh Twp., Plainfield Twp.
Linda Brott:	Duchene, Kenlon, Dumont, Beaubien, Yanovic, Rumph, Hughson, Sanburn, Cook, Klingensmith
Diane Brown:	Hempel, Bischoff; Interests: D&M Railway
Lawrence Daley:	Daley, Carroll, Reinke, Fernette, Lanski
Joan Doerr:	Leslie, Harwood
Eileen Gervais:	Desgroseliers, Chartier, Shorkey
Elizabeth Granz:	Granz, Grenc, Loveless, Lovelace
Clark Forrest:	Interests: Brakenridge lumber family
Gladys and Bruce Hall:	Hall, Carigan, Young, Smith
Christine Huebner:	Gaul
Joyce Hurford:	Hurford, kapanke
Janis Jones:	Pringle, Mclvor
Sharon Karow:	VanRiper, Synder/Schnieder/Snyder
Lila Kay:	McDonald, Sills, McLeod
James MacMurray:	Murray, McMurray, Shortt
Rachel McCready:	McCready, Mosher, Brintnell
Marcia Simmons:	Interests: Civil War, early pioneers
Darlene St. Martin:	St. Martin, Wey, Jolly Interests: East Tawas, St. Josephs Cemetery, Saint James Catholic Cemetery and Mount Olivet Cemetery
Doug Washburn:	Washburn, Campbell, Jarman
Robert Zemke:	Nowicki, Ujewski, Zemke

If you would like to contact any of the above members, please send a message to our society and we will forward it on to the member so they can contact you.

CENOTAPH

From the Free Merriam-Webster Dictionary

: a special structure or statue that is built to remind people of a dead person who is buried somewhere else;
especially : a structure built to honor the people who were killed in a war

