

**Waterford Genealogical Society
E-Newsletter**

Kim Smith, Editor

Volume 16, Number 11 –Nov 8, 2020

The Waterford Genealogical Society meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month, 1:00 – 3:00 pm in the Community Room of the [Waterford Twp Public Library](#).

Due to Covid -19 no meetings will be held at the library until further notice.

Tip: click on the blue hyperlinks for more information

Greetings from the [Waterford Genealogical Society](#)!

All **WGS** meetings are open to the Public and take place in the library. **Non-members** are welcome to attend.

Membership in the Society is available with payment of the annual \$15 membership fee and provides voting rights. For more information contact Kelcey Evans: Kelcey100@gmail.com . A membership form may be found at the end of this newsletter.

WGS Meetings *If you are ready to reveal to the Society your 'infamous, notorious or just plain amazing, weird, troublesome relatives' and not the ones you have 'unfriended' from Facebook, (because they would be living and we don't do living) please contact Dot LaLone to schedule your presentation..* Contact [Dot LaLone](#)

Date: December 2, 2020: Zoom Meeting- Dave Decker, from Oakland Historical Center, presentation on The Mills of Oakland County. Registration is open, please visit the Waterford Library Events Calendar. (See Julia's directions below)

Anyone wishing to attend would need to register using the library calendar of events and include their email <http://waterfordmi.evanced.info/signup/calendar>

Zoom meetings with Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach: please contact Julia, directly, if you are interested in the Wednesday meetings-this link may not be through the library system, this is a repeat of her Tuesday evening meeting.

Tuesday meeting time is 7pm and Wednesday meeting time is 10am

Wednesday Nov. 18 at 10 am **Interviewing relatives using zoom**

Dec 8: 1st 15 min Germanic Genealogy, **Sharing Holiday Customs** also Dec. 16

Jan. 12: 1st 15 min Germanic Genealogy, **Websites for research** also Jan. 20

Feb 9: 1st 15 min Germanic Genealogy, **Getting ready for Roots Tech** also Feb. 17

Julia's directions:

1 Go to Waterford Public library website [Library | Waterford, MI](#)

2. On the left side of site, near the Library News, is a vertical list of choices that begins with Adults, then Children... go to the one saying Programs and Events and click on that, it will take you to the Program and Events page

3. There is another vertical list being again with Adults...Go to the 4th selection Calendar of Events, and click on it.

4. This takes you to the calendar. Make sure you are in the correct calendar. You will see the WGS meeting via zoom. Click on this to register.

You will be asked to put in an email address for a verification process. All you have to do is click on the verification email when you get it.

WGS NEWS

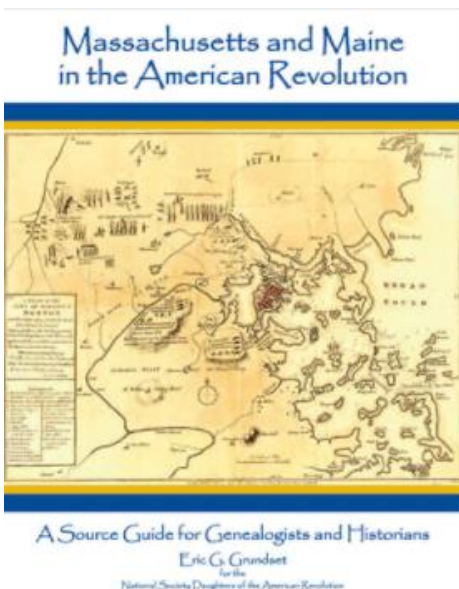
WGS has a great **Facebook** page. It is being updated regularly with interesting genealogical related items.

Visit us at: <https://www.facebook.com/WaterfordGenealogicalSociety>.

Our webpage: <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~miwatgs/index.htm>

You may now pay your 2021 dues. The form is on the last page of this newsletter. A line for donations is also included. Your continued support is appreciated.

WGS was unable to host the lock-in this year. We did continue our support of the library edition of Ancestry.com by donating toward the yearly subscription. This is one of the areas of support that your donation would be utilized.



WGS has purchased this book, in memory of Lois Hague - honoring her membership in the DAR and her long time membership in our society, to be placed in the Waterford Twp Library upon receipt.

News from the library: visit their site for more details on [Phase 4](#).

Keep in mind this may change.

Collections now open for browsing

Phase 4 of Our Reopening Plan - Capacity limit: 70

Study Rooms and Meeting Rooms remain closed. No study tables available at this time.

Masks must be worn, bridge of nose to chin, at all times during your visit.

Hours of service:

10:00a-10:30a Monday through Thursday - Vulnerable Visitors
10:30a-9:00p Monday through Thursday & 10:00a-5:00p Saturday - General Public

Thank you for your patience during this process.

Of Waterford Interest- Waterford Township Section Biographies

Section 31

Section 31 is the southwestern corner of Waterford Township. Williams Lake Road makes up the western boundary and Cooley Lake Road is the southern boundary. It is mostly residential with businesses and shops along Cooley Lake Road. The Oakland County Tuberculosis Sanatorium was once located in Section 31. The hospital property is now the site of the Highland Lake Campus of Oakland Community College. Waterford Township's Hess-Hathaway Park occupies the old Hathaway farm on Williams Lake Road.



The 1872 plat map of Waterford Township shows a small property owned by F.W. Fifield on the northern boundary of Section 31. Francis Webster Fifield was a resident of Waterford Village and he was included in the biographies of the village. In the southeastern corner of the section, at the intersection of Hospital and Cooley Lake Roads is a small square marked O. Dewey. Orville Dewey and his wife, Ann Herrington, will be reported with their parents, John K. Dewey, and Judah Herrington, both of whom resided in Section 32.

Sylvanus Welch Elizabeth Hiller

The 1870 census entry for Sylvanus Welch says he is 33 years old, a farmer, and was born in Michigan. His wife was Elizabeth, age 30, born in Michigan; the children are Isaac, age 9, Frank, age 7 and Ed, age 2, all born in Michigan. With the family is Maria Hager, age 28, domestic servant, born in Michigan and Wallace Hiller, age 17, farm laborer, born in New York. The 1872 plat map of Waterford Township shows the 80 acre farm of S. Welch with the residence located on Cooley Lake Road. About 1927 the northern part of the property became the site of the Oakland County Tuberculosis Sanatorium. In late 1964 the Sanatorium buildings and property were sold to the Oakland Community College and became the Highland Lakes Campus. (1)

Sylvanus Welch, the son of Enos Welch and Harriet Frost, (4)(5) was born 6 March 1837, in Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan. (2)(3) On 6 September 1859, in West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Sylvanus married Elizabeth Hiller. (6) In the 1860 census, Sylvanus and Elizabeth are living in West Bloomfield Township with her parents, Jacob and Arvilla Hiller. (7) In December 1860 Jacob and Arvilla Hiller are selling to Elizabeth Welch the property located in Section 32, Waterford Township. (8) Sylvanus Welch died 8 August 1915, in Pontiac, Michigan. (2)(3) He is buried in the Commerce Village Burying Ground, Commerce Township, Oakland County, Michigan. (3)

Enos Welch was born 6 July 1809, in Saratoga County, New York, (5) the son of Asa Welch and Mary Jackson. (10) He married Harriet Frost, 6 July 1835. (5) The Welch family moved to Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan (5), where they are recorded in the 1840 census. (11) By 1850 the family is residing in Novi Township, Oakland County. (12) Enos died 3 June 1888, in Four Towns, Waterford Township, at the home of his son Sylvanus. (5)(9) Enos' grandfather, Joseph Welch, served in the Revolutionary War, from Massachusetts. (10) The Find A Grave Entry for Harriet (Frost) Welch has a clear picture of her headstone which says Harriet was born 22 March 1814 and died 17 March 1886. (9) Both Enos and Harriet Welch are buried in the Walled Lake Cemetery, Walled Lake, Oakland County, Michigan. (9)

Elizabeth Hiller was born 28 April 1840, in West Bloomfield Township, Michigan. (3)(13) She was the daughter of Jacob Hiller and Arvilla Van Tuyl. (13) Elizabeth died 5 July 1914, in Pontiac, Michigan. (3)(13) She is buried with her husband, Sylvanus Welch, in the Commerce Village Burying Ground, Commerce Township, Oakland County. (3) Elizabeth's father, Jacob Hiller, was an early settler in West Bloomfield Township, where, as Jacob Hiller of Monroe County, New York, he is receiving a land patent dated 9 October 1835. (14) Hiller Road in West Bloomfield Township is named after Jacob Hiller.

Jacob married Arvilla Jane Van Tuyl, 25 May 1834, in Oakland County. (15) The Find A Grave entry for Jacob Hiller reports that he was born 12 October 1810, and died 15 March 1897. (3) There is a clear picture of his headstone in the Commerce Village Burying Ground, Commerce Township, Oakland County. (3) Arvilla Van Tuyl was the daughter of Isaac Van Tuyl and Elizabeth Seeley, born 6 September 1817, in New York. (16) Arvilla died 1 June 1901, in West Bay City, Bay County, Michigan. (16) She is buried with her husband in the Commerce Village Burying Ground. (3) Arvilla's father, Isaac Van Tuyl, was an early settler of Waterford Township. (14) He has land patents in his name for parts of Section 27 (1831), Section 22 (1835), and Section 28 (1839). (14) The 1831 patent says he is Isaac Van Tuyl of Seneca County, New York. (14) Isaac is very probably the Isaac Vantile found in the 1850 census, page 230, Vienna Township, Genesee County, Michigan.

Sources:

1. Oakland University Libraries, Oakland County Tuberculosis Sanatorium Records, <http://library.oakland.edu>
2. Death Certificate, Sylvanus Welch, Michigan, Death Records, 1867-1952; Midland-Oakland, 1915, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com
3. Commerce Village Burying Ground, Commerce Township, Oakland County, Michigan, Find A Grave, www.findagrave.com
4. Michigan, Wills and Probate Records, 1784-1980; Oakland County, Probate Records, Volumes 63-64, 1886-1904, Volume 64, 1886-1888, page 581, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com
5. Obituary, Enos Welch, Pontiac Bill Poster, Pontiac, Michigan, Wednesday, 6 June 1888, page 5, Digital Michigan Newspaper Portal, Central Michigan University, www.emich.edu/library/clarke/Pages/Michigan-Digital-Newspaper-Portal.aspx
6. Oakland County, Michigan, Record of Marriages, Volumes D-G, 1849-1876; Volume F, page 45, Image 538, FHL#0973980, FamilySearch, www.familysearch.org
7. 1860 Census, page 909, West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan
8. Oakland County, Michigan, Deed Records, Volumes 69-70, 1860-1862; Volume 69, 1860-1861, page 580, Image 299, FHL #0975439, FamilySearch, www.familysearch.org
9. Walled Lake Cemetery, Walled Lake, Michigan, Find A Grave, www.findagrave.com
10. *Lineage Book*, Volume XI, 1895, National Society of the Daughter of the American Revolution, Press of Harrisburg Publishing Co., Harrisburg, PA, 1900, pages 368-369, Mrs. Lodisa Welch Ambrose #10980, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com
11. 1840 Census, page 316, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan
12. 1850 Census, page 213, Novi Township, Oakland County, Michigan
13. Death Certificate, Elizabeth Welch, Michigan, Death Records, 1867-1952; Monroe-Osceola, 1914, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com
14. Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records, Jacob Hiller and Isaac Van Tuyl, www.glorerecords.blm.gov
15. Michigan, County Marriage Records, 1822-1940, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com
16. Death Certificate, Arvilla Jane Hiller, Michigan, Death Records, 1867-1952; Wayne (Detroit), Alcona-Berrien, 1900-1901, Ancestry, www.ancestry.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS, CONFERENCES IN OUR AREA

Visit these sites- each one has lots of great information and links

Until the Stay At Home Order is lifted, most Programs are on Hold, check with the societies you might be interested in for updates.

[Oakland Co. Genealogical Society](#) ALL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM 7:00 p.m.

- **December 1, 2020: The Saginaw Trail:** An online presentation via Zoom, check back a week prior for a registration link.
Ms Leslie Pielack tells the story of the ancient path that transformed early Michigan and of the people whose lives intertwined with the iconic road, Woodward Avenue.
- **December 5, 2020: Oakland County Genealogy Society DNA Special Interest Group** 10:00 am
An online presentation via Zoom, check back a week prior for a registration link
These are held cooperatively with the [Highland Township Library](#), and currently use the Library's Zoom virtual platform for the presentation. [Registration is required](#) for the events, watch Facebook for the event registration link or check our website two weeks in advance to find the link in our program schedule.
- **January 5, 2021: Michigan Roots: African-American Migration in Michigan** 7:00 pm
Presenter: Rozlyn Kelly
An online presentation via Zoom, check back a week prior for a registration link.
This presentation will discuss the migration of blacks to Michigan in the mid-1880s, prior to the Great Migration from the south. It will share examples of individuals who migrated from Canada and Kentucky and settled in Detroit, Midland and Marquette.

[Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society \(OCPHS\)](#) 405 Cesar Chavez Ave. Pontiac, MI

Their hours may vary due to the schedules of their volunteers. To ensure that a volunteer will be here to assist you, please call ahead (248-338-6732) before visiting.

- The grounds are open, the Wisner Mansion is closed, Drayton Plains Schoolhouse is open by appointment only and the
- **The Carriage House (Office, Research Library and Pioneer Museum) are currently open by appointment only** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 AM to 4 PM.



Research Library

If you can, please call ahead when planning a visit, especially if you have a specific research topic. Or submit a research request ahead of time and we'll go over what we find when you get here.

There is a \$5 per day fee for non-members to use the library, and a \$5.00 fee to take reference photos (of book pages, etc). All of which can be avoided simply by joining the society for \$20.00.

The Library is currently operating by appointment only, and there are social distancing and capacity limits being enforced. Please call ahead.

- Check out their website, they have updated it and have undergone a rebranding.
- Visit their calendar for updates and information on the Pontiac Ghost Tour and other planned events.

✚ [Detroit Society for Genealogical Research](#): Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave, Detroit, MI. Detroit Public Library Explorer's Room. Note: Free fenced-in parking is available for all Saturday Library events on the south (Putnam Street) side of the Library.

- See Oakland County Genealogical Society news

SAVE THE DATES

✚ RootsTech is a Free and Virtual Conference this year, 25-27 February 2021. For the first time ever, the world's largest family celebration event will be entirely virtual and completely free. Get ready to celebrate shared connections with people from around the world. Connect with friends, your family, your past, and your heritage and homelands - all from the comfort of your home and in your browser [Sign up now!](#)

SHARING NOTES FROM THE NET

Below are submissions, from the internet, our members thought might be of interest to other genealogists

✚ Archive of Michigan offer Virtual Reference Video Conference Services

Although the Archives of Michigan closed to the public on March 13, 2020, because of the COVID-19 situation, archives staff has continued to offer reference services via telephone and email. Now, there is a third way to access these valuable Archives of Michigan reference services - video conferencing.

[Sign up for a one-on-one appointment with an archivist](#) to ask research questions or to request records.

Reference services are also still available by calling 517-335-2576 or by sending email to archives@michigan.gov.

✚ The Library of Michigan also offers remote services:

Access Library of Michigan [digital resources](#) with your Library of Michigan Library Card. **IT'S FREE**

Need a card? Apply online at <https://www.Michigan.gov/LibraryCard>.

FAMILY HISTORY RESOURCES

- [American Ancestors of Michigan Governors](#)
View family pedigrees compiled for Michigan governors.
- [Michigan Genealogical Council: Local Societies](#)
A listing of Michigan genealogical and historical societies, contact information, and links to their sites.
- [Michiganology](#)

A freely available website founded by the Library of Michigan and the Archives of Michigan. Digital collections, including nearly 1 million Michigan death certificates (1897-1943) from the Library of Michigan's collection, state census records (1827- 1894), Civil War service records, and much more.

- [Michiganology - Naturalization Indexes](#)
- [Michigan Association of County Clerks - County Clerks Directory](#)
- [ANSWER Library Catalog](#)
- [Michigan Newspapers](#)
- [Michigan Vital Records Research at the Library of Michigan](#)
- [Michigan Genealogy Research Network](#)

Michigan genealogical societies and professional genealogists will provide genealogical research services for a fee.

FAMILY HISTORY DATABASES

- Databases through the Library of Michigan
The Library of Michigan offers a wide range of digital resources for family history researchers. Listed below are databases available for patrons with library cards from the Library of Michigan.
- [African American Biographical Database \(Chadwyck-Healy\)](#)
The largest Electronic Collection of Biographical Information on African Americans, spanning 1790-1950. Includes photographs and illustrations, and covers the famous to the everyday person. Information ranges from biographical profiles to full-text sketches.
- [Ancestry Library Edition](#)
Includes billions of records in census data, vital records, directories, photos, and more.
- [Black Thought and Culture \(Alexander Street\)](#)
Black Thought and Culture A landmark digital library of approximately 100,000 pages of non-fiction writings by major American black leaders and public figures covering 250 years of history. In addition standard works, it also includes previously inaccessible material, including letters, speeches, political leaflets, interviews, trial transcripts, and the like.
- [Fold3 by Ancestry](#)
Access military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents, of the men and women who served.
- [Michigan History Magazine](#)
A popular history magazine with content useful to historians and genealogy researchers. Provided through the [Michigan eLibrary](#).
- [MyHeritage Library Edition](#)
Family history/genealogy resource including more than 6 billion historical records from the United States, Europe, Latin America, and other regions. Provided through the [Michigan eLibrary](#).
- [NewspaperArchive](#)
Newspapers dating from 1759 to 1977, including communities around the country.
- [Newspapers.com by Ancestry World Edition](#)
The largest online newspaper archive, covering 16,200+ newspapers from the 1700s–2000s, with millions of additional pages added every month
- [ProQuest Ethnic NewsWatch](#)
Full-text access to newspapers, magazines, and journals of the ethnic and minority press, providing researchers access to essential, often overlooked perspectives. The database now also contains Ethnic NewsWatch: A History, which provides historical coverage of Native American, African American, and Hispanic American periodicals from 1959-1989.
- [ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Detroit Free Press, 1831-1999](#)

168 years of news coverage from the Detroit Free Press.

- [ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Michigan Chronicle, 1936 - 2010](#)

Primary source material essential to the study of American history and African American culture, history, politics, and the arts.

✚ [How to Evaluate an AncestryDNA ThruLines Hypothesis](#)

This article was posted by Nicole Dyer of [Family Locket](#). “Are you wondering how to tell if an AncestryDNA ThruLines estimate is reliable, or even possible? The ThruLines algorithm works by comparing your DNA matches, their trees, and all the searchable trees in the Ancestry public member tree database. If the algorithm can make your tree and your DNA match’s tree connect somewhere, the hypothesis shows up in ThruLines. One problem with this is the many errors in the public member trees database. Also, ThruLines is a computer algorithm, not a genealogist. Sometimes it merges identities that should not be merged”. Visit this informative site to read the rest of the article. Search the site for other well written articles.

- ✚ Another great blog to subscribe to is “[Are You My Cousin](#)” The latest article offers practical tips on [Photographing Cemeteries: Telling the Story of Your Ancestors](#) . Cemeteries tell stories of your ancestors you may be missing. Learn how to photograph a cemetery to capture and preserve your family’s history. Diane Evans of PhotoFluent is the Guest Poster! Diane is a photographer extraordinaire sharing the best way to capture photographs in the cemetery where you ancestors are buried.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Waterford Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 300162
Waterford, MI 48330

This newsletter has been sent to people who asked to receive it. To unsubscribe from this mailing list, or to change your e-mail address contact the editor: Kim Smith at mi2megen@gmail.com

Waterford Genealogical Society 2020/2022– Officers and Committee Chairs:

President – [Dot LaLone](#)

Vice President – [Barbara Hofmann](#)

Treasurer – [Kelcey Evans](#)

Recording Secretary – Pam Schmaltz/Corresponding Secretary- Linda Matola

Evening Meeting – [Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach](#)

Lookups – [Dot LaLone](#)

Publicity – [Dot LaLone](#)

E -Newsletter – [Kim Smith](#)

Lock-In – Dot LaLone/Kelcey Evans

German Study Group- [Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach](#)

Programs –Sandy Kinter

Webmaster-Chuck Dewey

Michigan Genealogical Council Delegates: Kim Smith, Sandy Kinter

WGS Website: <https://sites.rootsweb.com/~miwatgs/index.htm>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/WaterfordGenealogicalSociety>

Meetings are the first and third Wednesday of the month @ 1:00-3:00 pm in the
Community Room of the Waterford Twp. Public Library

Evening meetings are once a month, on the second Tuesday 7:00-8:30 pm (except for July and August)
in the library's Conference Room. With the first half hour dedicated to the Germanic Interest Group

Waterford e-newsletter is published once a month by the Waterford Genealogical Society
Your news and views are valued. Please send them to the [editor](#).



Welcome to the Waterford Genealogical Society Est.2007

*The society will promote and encourage an interest in genealogy among its members and the general public.
Working closely with the Waterford Township Public Library, the society aims to educate and enhance
research opportunities.*

2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Based on calendar year

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Check if you give permission to share your contact information with other members of the society.

This information will not be shared with any other organization or entity.

Check if you would like to be an officer or help on a committee.

Check if you would like to receive a membership card.

Surnames, and their locations, that you are researching:

Send **\$15** check or money order payable to:

_____ Donations Accepted

_____ Total

Waterford Genealogical Society

c/o Treasurer: Kelcey Evans

P.O. Box 300162

Waterford, MI 48330