

2019 WMGS Writing Contest

~Aunts, Uncles, & other Collateral Relatives~

Aunts, uncles, and cousins are all part of your family's history. They are your collateral relatives. Some are saints; others may be very intriguing Black Sheep. Write about a collateral relative. Possible topics include:

How they helped you advance your research
Aspects of their lives
Why are they different or unique

We would love to hear your story. Write it up and enter the 2019 writing contest!

The Western Michigan Genealogical Society has worked for over 60 years to educate researchers in evaluating and citing sources. Your story may inspire someone else to use new research techniques or discover a unique resource. The 2019 WMGS Writing Contest will recognize unpublished excellent genealogical writing by awarding substantial prizes. Prize winning entries will be published in *Michigana*. Like all submissions to *Michigana*, entries will be thoroughly edited before publication. Information about submitting any article to *Michigana* can also be found in the latest issue of *Michigana*, or at wmgs.org.

Rules: Eligibility: All family historians and genealogists, except the *Michigana* Editor and judges, are invited to submit their favorite story for the contest. There is no entry fee and membership in WMGS is not required.

Deadline: Entries will be accepted between January 1 & March 31, 2019.

Length: Stories should be between 1,500 and 3,000 words in length. Please cite your sources by using endnotes, and attach copies of documentation when appropriate. Family group sheets and pedigree charts should be included if pertinent. Neither documentation nor charts will be included in the word count.

Formats: Email your entry in Microsoft Word.

**** IMPORTANT:** Send photographs or graphics **separately** as 300 dpi tiff or jpeg files.

Email your submission to ***michigana@wmgs.org***
with "WMGS Writing Contest 2019" written in the Subject Line.

Identification: Include the story title, your name, your mailing address, phone number, and approximate word count. This information will only be used to identify and notify the winners.

Notification: Contest winners will be announced at the June 2019 Membership Meeting and in the next available issue of *Michigana*. Winners do not have to be present to win. Prize winning articles will be published in future issues of *Michigana*. By submitting articles, authors are giving WMGS one time print and digital rights; copyright is retained by the author. Entries may not have been previously published. All prizes may not be awarded.

The prizes: 1st prize: \$100 and 1 annual WMGS membership (total value - \$120); 2nd prize: \$75 and 1 annual WMGS membership (total value - \$95); 3rd prize: \$50; 4th prize: \$25

Need help? The WMGS Writers Group meets the third Tuesday of the month and we would love to help you make your story the best that it can be. For information about location, time, and directions go to: ***wmgs.org***

For further information or any questions about the Writing Contest, please contact the *Michigana* Editor at michigana@wmgs.org

All entries due by March 31, 2019!
Email to: *michigana@wmgs.org*