

## The Morgan Chippewa Connection

My Uncle Daniel Roy Morgan was in the US Army during WWII and was stationed in Minnesota as a camp guard for German POWs. . America had about 360,000 POWs spread across the US in rural areas.

Minnesota had 21 POW camps and prisoners were also housed outside camps to provide needed manpower for the lumber, farming and canning industries.



While he was stationed there, Roy met Mary Sweum, a Chippewa Indian who lived in the Cass Lake reservation area.

The stayed in touch after the war and in May 1955, she and her oldest child, Robert moved in with him in his small ... very small apartment ... in Corona, Queens. George, Chanetta, and James arrived in July 1955.

I know it was “small” since Roy, always generous, let me, my father, mother and sister, Joan, live there for about a year when my father couldn’t find work; a not unusual situation.

Only two people could sit or fit in the kitchen which was the slightly larger than a telephone booth. It had two small bedrooms, and a tiny bathroom. It would be small for two and now was packed with five.

We lived in Queens and Brooklyn in the mid-1950s -1960s and we stayed in contact with the family, My, mother, Margaret Morgan Fox was always close to her brothers,

Roy, John & Raymond and stayed in touch. After Uncle Roy died in 1975, we had sporadic contact with his family.

In recent years, as a Family Historian, I began to research the interesting Chippewa – Morgan connection and list some findings below.

### **Mary Sweum and Daniel Roy Morgan Family**

Using Ancestry.com, I was thrilled to find Mary, her mother, JOSEPHINE MORGAN ... **YES, MORGAN** ... and sister, IRENE in the US Indian Census. I have incorporated that data, family history and some other information into the genealogy report below and also provide the “working notes” on the Censuses.

As with every Family History it’s a “Work in Progress”.

One difficulty in arranging a genealogy of Mary’s family is that there are a number of children whose fathers and their relationship to the mothers is not very clear. To make things even more complicated, Mary used her Sweum maiden name for her son, Robert, so we don’t know the father’s name.

There is only ONE Sweum in the entire US Indian Census covering 65 years and that’s our Mary. The Sweum surname is Scandinavian ... used mostly in Norway and Sweden.

### **Descendants of Josephine Morgan b. 1902**

Note: We don’t know how many couples were actually “married” without confirmation by the family or, better yet, public records. So in this, and other genealogy reports, “married” is a polite term covering all possibilities.

Josephine and her family lived on the Chippewa Reservation in the Cass Lake area of Minnesota and are enumerated in several of the Indian Censuses of 1885-1940 of the:

#### ***“Cass & Winnibigoshish reservation of the Consolidated Chippewa”***

**JOSEPHINE MORGAN** was born about 1902. (I list the details of why “Morgan” in my research notes below)

She married (1) MARSHALL

She married (2) WASHINGTON

She married (3) SWEUM

**JOSEPHINE MORGAN and (2) WASHINGTON** had the following child:

**IRENE G. WASHINGTON** was born on 28 Jan 1923

**JOSEPHINE MORGAN and (3) SWEUM** had the following child

**MARY MORGAN SWEUM** was born on 23 Sep 1921 in Cass Lake, MN.

She died between 1974-1979 in South Lake, MN.

**MARY MORGAN SWEUM** had the following child with Unknown

**ROBERT SWEUM** was born about 1945.

He died on 10 Oct 1997 in New York, NY (Age at Death: 52).

He married **MARILYN FISH**

She was born on 30 Jan 1946.

She died on 25 Jan 2001 in New York, NY (Age at Death: 54).

They had the three children

**MARY MORGAN SWEUM** married **GEORGE E. CARPENTER**

George E. Carpenter was born abt.1919 in Minnesota

He and his family is listed in the 1940 US Census

His father worked as a Mechanics Helper in the US Indian Garage in Cass Lake Village, MN and that's probably where he met, Mary Morgan.

**MARY MORGAN SWEUM** had the following children with **CARPENTER**

**GEORGE WAYNE CARPENTER** was born 27 July 1946 in Cass Lake, MN

Died 01 July 2003 in Lawrence, MA

**JAMES CARPENTER** was born about 1953.

**CHANETTA LEE CARPENTER** was born about 1950

She died on 20 Feb 2010.

4<sup>th</sup> Youngest living child of Mary Swuem is still living. He was adopted my Danieil Roy and became a Doctor and practiced in California.

Contact [igfox39@aol.com](mailto:igfox39@aol.com) for more information.

She married DAVIS. \*

**CHANETTA LEE CARPENTER and DAVIS** had a girl.

**MARY MORGAN SWEUM** married **DANIEL ROY MORGAN** about 1955

Mary and her children moved in with him May-July 1955.

He was born on 18 Dec 1906 in Fall River, MA.

He died on 04 Mar 1975 in Flushing, Queens, New York, USA (Age: 68).

Daniel Roy was the Foster Parent of Robert Sweum, George Carpenter, Chanetta Carpenter and (living).

### **Indian Censuses (Outline)**

Mary Sweum in Indian Censuses researched January 6, 2014

The Census links are dated ... and clicking on or pasting the link into your browser should get you to the actual Census page. I've only included links for some of the reports.

The Censuses are of the:

### **Cass & Winnibigoshish reservation of the Consolidated Chippewa**

The size of the total Consolidate Chippewa population in all the reservations in the 1920-1930 MN censuses was about 10-15 thousand residents.

Cass Lake had a population of about 2,000 Chippewa and others in the 1920s.

In the 1922 Census Mary's birth is given as September 23, 1921

### **1923 Census**

<http://tinyurl.com/lk4k8zp>

Her mother's name is Josephine Marshall b. 1902

Mary Katheryn Sweum b. 1921 Daughter

Irene G. Washington b. 1923 Daughter Birthdate Jan 28, 1923

### **1928 Census**

<http://tinyurl.com/kfxfnbx>

In the 1928 Mother is Josephine Marshall b. 1902

Ditto in 1929 Census Josephine Marshall

Same in the 1930 Census Josephine Marshall

## **Marshall Changes to Morgan**

### **1932 Census**

<http://tinyurl.com/le8j6xq>

### **Listed as Josephine Morgan**

I believe this is most likely her Maiden name and she reverted back to it for reasons unknown. It may have been the death of her “husband”, Marshall, or some other reason.

There are only 10 individual Marshalls listed in the 1885 to 1940 Chippewa MN census, while there are about 110 individual Morgans listed including one Chief.

In the **1932 Census** there are total of 8 Morgans listed. Most likely Josephine’s is related to them.

**Morgan**, Josephine 30,

Sweum, Mary K. age 10 Daughter

Washington, Irene age 9 Daughter

Above Mary K Sweum and Mother is listed a Morgan Family ... all Chippewa.

Their allotment numbers are in order of age: An 1170, An 1171 & An 1172

### **1937 Census lists “Degree of Blood”**

<http://tinyurl.com/mpq1cfr>

In the 1937 Census Josephine is listed as “Morgan”

Interestingly the percentage of “Indian Blood” is listed for each member under “degree of blood”

Josephine - 3/4ths

Mary is 3/8ths ... Which means her father was not an American Indian

Irene is listed also as 3/8ths ... father Washington is not an American Indian.

### **Degree of Blood**

A review of 140 individuals on 14 census pages showed that only 49% were listed as "Full Blood"

Since that "evaluation" would be based on asking the family member about their heritage and/or checking the surnames of the children, I believe it would underestimate the percentage of mixed marriages.

### **Single Mothers as Heads of Family**

.A review of 45 census pages in the 1937 Census:

Of 25 families listed with children, 16 were headed by females and 9 by males – 36% Male to 64% Female Head.

It may have been, as it is in our current Welfare system, that more government support would be provided to a family **IF** the male head was not present.

The Consolidated Chippewa culture with many families headed by a single female Head was forerunners for our current American Culture. In 2012, the average was 40% of births by unwed mothers and 66% for American Indians.