

APRIL 1994

FOUR EARLY MIDLAND HISTORY NOTES

by Harold W. Moll. 1961

THROUGH MIDLAND BY HORSE IN JUNE

The German Lutheran missionaries have left us bits of information about early Midland. They operated the Mission at Shing-wa-kaus-king (place of the little pines), later called Bethany, then Indian Town. This was on the Pine River just north of St. Louis. The only path to civilization was the Indian trail through Midland to Saginaw.

After the 1819 treaty with the Chippewa Indian Chief Bemassikeh was forced to move his group from the south side of the confluent of the Pine and Chippewa Rivers to what is now known as the Coin and Farnham farms, just south of the Chippewa River on the Little Forks reservation.

An early name for Midland was Bamosey, probably a corruption of the German Bemessikeh. Philip Gruett's English form was Paw maw se keh. The Indians knew the river junction as Ne saw-wawko-sing or Nas-saw-o-wo-bi-de-i-gani-pan-gishe.

In 1834 to 1836 the small pox scourge killed a large number of the Indians. After the treaty of 1835 Chief Bemessikeh purchased 465 acres of land at Shing-wa-kaus-king. The remnant of his tribe settled there.

The Polish missionary Ernest Baierlein wrote of his June trip in 1848 through the Little Forks with his interpreter, James Gruet as follows.

"If one left Saginaw City, that was named after the Saginaw River, and rode in a northwesterly direction, he came to the" 'Thaw-tippe-a-waso-ach River. This meant the river with neither falls or rapids as the river is and was in those days from Saginaw to Midland.' "As one traveled up the river about 20 miles he passes a few single log houses with long distances between them, and then came to the Chippewa River, where both rivers join.

"If the river was forded, which could be done in summer, when the water was low at the rapids, he came to a single log house, the last in the region. The friendly dwellers received the travelers with a hearty welcome.

"Here all paths ceased and unbroken wilderness followed...As soon as the riders crossed the Chippewa River where the water reached up to the middle of the saddle...now they rode through a one and one-half mile swamp...The inhabitants of the swamp, thousands of mosquitoes...even the horse bled around the neck and could hardly see out of their eyes. As they left the swamp they came to an open space...The guide said, "Once upon a time Indians lived here. Small pox killed them." ...Suddenly the interpreter sprang from his horse and hastened to the bank of the river. There stood three stones about two feet high of a peculiar form. like a sculptured bust, but not carved by human hands...on them lay pieces of firmly pressed tobacco, the type that is chewed in America. The Indians had offered tobacco to their 'Manitous' spirits who they believed in these stones. The half-breed put the tobacco in his pocket and said. 'That comes in handy as my supply is low."

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SLEIGH TRIP BY RIVER THROUGH MIDLAND IN WINTER

Ferdinand Sievers, director of the Mission Commission writes,' "We spoke with the Indians and found that we could make use of the ice on (continued on Page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We have decided to continue to meet at Carpenter Street School in April and May. There is a conflict at the Grace A. Dow Library for our regular date in May, thus rather than meet there in April and return to Carpenter Street School in May, we felt there would be less confusion by continuing at Carpenter Street School through May. We will return to the Library in September.

Once again we extend our sympathy to members of our Society who have recently lost their loved ones: to Mary Lou Pease in the death of her husband Bernard, to Juanita Winterbottom in the death of her husband, Jim, to the family of Esme Gehoski, and to Marion Berry in the death of her husband Les. Both Esme and Les were active members of our Society, Les having most recently served on our Long Range Planning Committee.

The Long Range Planning Committee has presented several recommendations for consideration. The Board will take action on these recommendations and present them to the membership for their approval. The nominating committee will present a slate of officers in April; nominations from the floor will be accepted in May at our Annual meeting, and the election will be held at the May meeting.

Your president will be retiring from office at that time. I have enjoyed my tenure in office and especially the support of the other officers. I believe we have had a hard working core of officers and an active and productive Society these past two years. I will continue to work with the Society to make it even more productive and fulfilling for new members.

We continue to make plans for a research trip to Salt Lake City November 1 through 9. A block of rooms has been reserved for us at the Howard Johnson Hotel next door to the library. We are still working on flight fares to obtain the best possible rates. We also are planning a special meeting with a speaker for Sunday evening while we are there. Stay tuned for more information.

We are excited about the new Genealogy and Michigan Room at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. If you have not visited the room as yet you should do so. We have recommended a list of book purchases to the library and have donated \$800 towards their purchase. The library will match the \$800 so that we can continue to add to the genealogical collection.

See you on April 20th at Carpenter Street School.

Ralph Hillman.

COMING MEETINGS

APRIL 20 - Members will speak on the importance of belonging to other genealogy societies. 7:30 at Carpenter Street School.

MAY 18 - Nadine Messner-Loebs, State Chairman of the Civil War Soldiers System Project will speak on the Project. 7:30 at Carpenter Street School.

FOUR EARLY NOTES. (Continued from Page 1) the Pine River on the months of January and February. So the second of February we left Saginaw City on two sleighs and headed for our first night's sleep at the forks of the beautiful Titti-pi-wasse(k) River. Although it is about 20 miles from Saginaw we arrived there in a short time. With great difficulty we found a lodging place for our two horses from a merciful tenant farmer by the name of Fitzhugh, and that was only a wretched box stall where our horses almost froze from the bitter cold, but naturally we were glad to be out of danger.

"The next morning we were up early because we had miles of miles of journey on the very rapid Pine River, along which there was not a single dwelling of clearing to be found.

"For the first five or six miles our two sleds went easily, but then the snow became deeper and there were ponds of water on the ice because of the recent thaw. The steep banks of the river were 20 to 30 feet high and because of very sharp bends the river was almost never completely covered with ice, making it never very dependable and wasting much of our time. Often we were able to stay on top of the ice only by the mere swiftness of the horses. Shortly after noon we paused to rest the horses and warm ourselves by a roaring bonfire, then we continued on.

"The banks of the river showed a change. While on one side there were hardwood forest, above on the other high bank pines grew. Here the bends increased and the banks became higher and closer to the river making our progress slower and more dangerous. In one of these places my sleigh fell all the way through the ice into the water, causing an hours delay. Now the cold, the approach of night and our soaked clothing threatened to take our breaths, health and lives. Because my sleigh was broken as we tore it out of the ice and water we discarded both sleighs and went ahead on foot.

"As we broke our way through the forest with horses we saw the footprints of a multitude of wolves in the snow. Our boots and trousers were frozen into large chunks of ice making it nearly impossible to proceed. Never-the-less we increased our pace and struggled on overland for we could see that our lives were in danger. We finally arrived at Bethany (mission) at about 8 o'clock. Only with the help of cold water was I able to thaw out my frozen and swollen feet as we recovered in the warmth of the missionary cabin.

(ED NOTE: Bethany Mission was operated from about 1845 to 1869.)

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CHRISTMAS IN MIDLAND

The first Christmas celebrated in Midland was on December 25, 1675, by a Jesuit priest, 319 years ago.

Father Nouvel arrived at the Little Forks on December 7, 1675. He built a cabin of bark in the form of a bower. "The foundation of the chapel consisted of three logs from a great oak on which the chapel was built in the form of a bower...O, vocation to these beloved missions, Oh how right was the late father Marquette of who...died close by here...We celebrated the festival of Christmas with much devotion. We made a small cradle beside our altar, to which our christians came at midnight; and during the day they made the forest resound with their hymns on honor of the new-born Jesus. What joy it was for us, both during the midnight mass and during the morning mass, to see the child Jesus acknowledged and adored by the savages of this country, where the demon had so long reigned."

In 1848 a Christmas was celebrated by a Protestant group. Baierlein, the Lutheran missionary writes, "In the mean time Christmas approached, and even in the wilderness it was to be celebrated in a christian manner, in order to impress upon the children that Our Father in heaven had given His greatest gift, His Only Son on Christmas day to light our life. The house father tried to cheer the hearts of the children with gifts. For this the diligent hands of the missionary's wife were required to make jackets, shirts, aprons and kerchiefs, etc. This meant working far into the night. The short days were filled with her regular house work.

"A suitable Christmas song was to be sung, so the missionary translated Luther's song, 'From Heaven Above to Earth I Come' into the Chippewa language. This was not easy. The language has a unique mystery...

"When Christmas eve arrived, forty Indians came....After the sermon, there was a pause of

expectation. The missionary with his helpmate, had cut a nice cedar for the Christmas tree and had it decorated beautifully. They still had to light the candles. The little bell rang. The door opened. A low 'Ah' came from all sides, as they saw the brightly lighted tree before them, full of fruit, in the middle of the winter. "Toyah!" This was something they had never seen or expected to see. Even Chief Bamessikeh smiled and was as a child. He exclaimed that he had never found a tree like that in all his forest.

"The children were now allowed to come forward, and found on the before mentioned wilderness table on which the tree stood, nineteen tin places. Each had a cookie, an apple and some nuts besides the housewife's hand made pieces of clothing. There was great joy and after they sang their Widi gishegong ishpiming, etc., once more with happy hearts, they were allowed to pick the fruit from the tree. Such was the first Christmas in the forest."

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CHARLES H. RODD'S MIDLAND ACCOUNT BOOK FOUND

About 1960 a box of books appeared on the steps of a library in one of Michigan's major cities. Upon sorting the books, most of very little value, the librarian found a 350 page, handwritten account book made by Charles H. Rodd. Mr. Rodd is memorialized in Midland by Rodd Street.

Charles Rodd operated a trading post on the west side of the Tittabawassee River across from Dow Chemical Company's No. 2 Clockroom. This is located at the south end of Main Street. A building near the trading post served as a Methodist Mission Church.

The book lists the transactions made by Charles Rodd in his trading post with over 100 different Indians and the local white settlers. He sold over 350 different items. How many different sizes of each is not revealed. It covers the period of October 6, 1854 to December 26, 1856.

Charles H. Rodd was born about 1814 to an Indian woman by the name of Naw-oke-zhe-go-qnay. He married an Indian girl named Martha around 1842. They had two children, Jane, born 1843 and David, born 1848. Jane was married in 1858 to Midland's Erastus Wyman, born 1833 to John Wyman and his wife Sally. Erastus and Jane had three children.

Charles H. Rodd is listed in the 1850 U.S. Saginaw area Census but does not appear in the

1860 Census. He served as an official U.S. interpreter for the Indian Treaty of 1866. Martha was a widow in 1868.

Each page in the Account Book is headed by a page number followed by the words, 'Midland' and the date. Each person listed had a code number. Items are priced in English Shillings and Pence as well as Yankee Dollars and Cents. Credit or debit is indicated. Often items such as furs, cranberries, potatoes, logs, etc., were traded for items wanted.

'DOC' BALLARD PERFORMED FIRST OPERATION

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. "Probably the first appendectomy performed in these parts was done on a fellow over near Auburn by 'Old Doc' Ballard," says Mrs. Hiram Welch, now of route 1, Midland, who claims the honor of being the oldest in point of service (and still active) of any of those affiliated with Midland District Practical Nurses Association.

"Neighbors were called in to assist then, and my dad was one of them." Mrs. Welch recalls. "The fellow was strapped to the dining room table, chloroform was produced and the 'Doc' got busy. Folks considered it in the nature of a miracle when that man lived, and he lived a good many years to tell about it. Before that they just called the ailment 'inflammation of the bowels' and more than likely you died.

Mrs. Welch recalls one of the first instances of tonsils being removed to cure a repeated and un ending case of quinsy. "From then on, every one who met that man had to have a look down his throat to see what it looked like without tonsils," she laughs, "It was quite a novelty."

"Small pox and diphtheria" were the most dread diseases of old times named by Mrs. Welch. "Recoveries were few, burials took place in the dead of night, and no one dared come in to the bereaved home to offer comfort or aid," she adds, "the heart broken loneliness of survivors seemed the most pitiful of all to bear."

"Nursing nowadays is a 'snap' as to what it used to be," concludes Mrs. Welch, whose daughter, Mrs. Jack Buchanan, was Midland's first practical nurse to aid in recent hot pack polio treatment. "Why, we used to put in 24 hour a day days, day in and day out for the total wage of \$3 a week. "Time off," says Mrs. Welch was something almost unheard of," says Mrs. Welch, "you worked with whatever equipment you found in the home or made your own -- if you worked as a nurse in those days you really had to be 'practical'."

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BOUNDARY CORRECTED IN 1873

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. On May 24, 1888 Midland county residents were informed by their local newspaper that all was not as it should be concerning the boundary lines of their county and townships therein.

"Mr. H.F. Olmstead," said the paper, "who is employed in the office of the secretary of state at Lansing, has been unearthing the ancient history of the counties of Michigan, and he has recently furnished us some very curious facts about Midland County which was organized by a territorial act March 2, 1831, 57 years ago.

"This act made the boundary line begin at the intersection of the line between towns 12 and 13 north, with the line between towns 2 and three east, running north from that point along the present eastern boundary of the county, then east to the bay, southward along the bay, and then west, far enough to carry it to a point, four towns west of the place of beginning, or the southwest corner of the present county -- thus including Fraser, Beaver, Garfield, Kawkawlin and a small portion of Bangor and Monitor townships, now of Bay County, and running a line along the south boundary of the present Midland County, but including none of its territory.

"The error, for such it evidently was, was the use of the word 'east' where 'west' was intended, in locating the starting point. This error was corrected in 1873, 42 years later, by an act of the Legislature.

"But in the meantime, in 1857, Bay County was organized, and absorbed about all the territory which the act of 1831 put into Midland County but, in naming the townships which should constitute Bay County, town 15 north, 4 east was not mentioned. This is Kawkawlin, which accordingly belongs to Midland County, so far as any legislation indicates.

"Whether Midland County supervisors will take any steps to regain possession of that valuable territory, remains to be seen.

"In January, 1859, the board of supervisors of Midland County set that portion of Ingersoll Township which lay north and east of the Tittabawassee (a triangular piece) off into Midland Township, in which it was assessed, until 1872 or 1873, when it was again assessed as a part of Ingersoll -- 5 --

Township again, and has been so assessed ever since, although no act of the supervisors restoring it to Ingersoll appears to be on the record.

"Larkin Township was organized in 1879, Town 16 north 2 east had up to that time been a part of Midland Township. There is no record of its having been assigned to Hope by the board of supervisors, but since 1879 it has been assessed as a part of Hope Township.

Shelfside - New genealogical books At G.A. Dow Memorial Library.

- 929.2 The Stillwagon & Durfee Families in America, by M. Stillwagon Mills.
- 970.004 How to Enroll in an Indian Tribe. by Heather Morningstar.
- 974.822 Northampton County in the American Revolution, by R.E. Myers.
- 974.827 History of Bethlehem Pennsylvania. by Levering.

929.103 Ancestry's Concise Genealogical Dictionary

- 874.841 History of York & Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania, 1834.
- 929.3771 Ross County Ohio Families. Bicentennial Edition.
- 974.822 A Frontier Village. Pre-Revolution Eaton. by A.O. Chedsey, Jr.
- 974.8 The Story of the Pennsylvania Germans. by Wm. Beidelman.
- 974.821 A History of Bucks Co. Pennsylvania.
- 929.3771 Annual Report of the Secretary of State to the Governor of Ohio. Return of the number of Deaf, Dumb, Blind, Insane & Idiotic Persons, May 1856.
- 920.0 Birchbark Belles. Women of the Michigan Frontiers.
- 973.0 The Germans in Colonial Times. by L.F. Bittinger.
- 929.2 The Joseph Kemmerer Family. by Louise R. Pells.
- 917.41 A Gazetteer of the State of Main, 2 Volumes. by G.G. Varney
- 929.3 The Palatine Immigrant Decennial Index 1975-1985. Vol. 1-10.
- 929.1 Grandmas Attic. Making Heirlooms Part of your Family History. by R.D. Earnest.
- 929.3748 Index of Wills & Estates Settlements. Montgomery Co. PA. by R. & M. Williams.
- 929.3748 Index of Wills & Administration Records. Northhampton Co, PA 1752-1850. Lehigh Co. PA 1812-1850. by Williams

- 929.3748 Will Abstracts of Northhampton Co. PA. 1752-1802. by J. Eyerman.
- 973.7 Soldiers of the American Revolution, Northhamton Co, Lehigh Co., PA. by R. & M. Williams
- 920.3748 A Research Guide to Pennsylvania Genealogy & Local History. by Southwest PA Genealogical Services.
- 929.42 Dictionary of Surnames by Basil Cottie.
- 974.7 History of Pioneer Settlement of Phelps & Gorham's Purchase & Morris Reserve, Embracing the Counties of Monroe, Ontario, Livingston, Yates, Stuben, most of Wayne & Allegany & parts of Orleans, Genesee & Wyoming. by C. Turner.
- 929.3748 Index to Westmoreland Co., PA Wills. 1773-1896. by Bob & Mary Closson.
- 929.3748 Index to Allegheny Co. PA Wills. 1789-1869. by Bob & Mary Closson.
- 929.3748 Lancaster Co. PA Cemetery Surname Index. by Bob & Mary Closson.
- 929.3748 Bucks Co. PA Tax Records. 1693-1778. by T. McNealy & F. Waite.
- 929.3 Hans Ulrich Schleppi. by R.S. Schleppi.
- 929.1094 Polish Roots. by R.A. Chorzimpa.
- 929.1 Italian Roots. by J.P. Colletta.
- 929.2028 A Family Remembers How to Create a Family Memoir using Video & Tape Recorder
- 929.37747 Index to the Gladwin Co. Record Obituaries & Death Notices 1878-1990

MIDLAND COUNTY DEEDS

The Midland Genealogical Society has been given a box of several hundred ORIGINAL legal papers, mostly deeds, but also a few wills or mortgages. The deeds are to land transactions in the county or by county residents. The time period covered is from 1857 to the 1930's. A number are completely hand written and some are original land grants. Many of the papers are of more than passing interest. Here and in future newsletters we will summarize some of them. The following are from the 1860's.

1) Quit Claim deed. Charles K. Eddy of Saginaw to William Peters of Columbiaville, Lapeer Co. For \$1, the E 1/2 of NW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 12 Twp. 17 N of Range 1 E. Containing one hundred acres. Dated 20th June 1868.

2) Mortgage. Collins Avery to Orlinda Rathborn, both of Lincoln Twp., Midland Co. \$300 for a part of the S 1/2 of NE 1/4 of Section 34 in Twp. 15 N and Range 1 E, commencing at a point where the Pere Marquette Railroad intersects the quarter line of said Section 34, running thence East 16 rods thence North ten rods thence West 16 rods thence South ten rods to place of beginning, containing one acre. Dated 2nd March, 1868. Witnesses: Henry Hart & Geo. F. Hemingway,

3) Warranty Deed. George W. Bell and wife Jennie to Joseph H. Robinson, both parties of Saginaw. 500 for the undivided 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 and the S 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 6 and the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of section 7 and the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of section 8 all in Town 13 N of Rang 1 W containing 200 acres of land. Dated March 2, 1869.

4) Mortgage. Nelson Green to Francis P. Pierce, both of Midland. \$700 for the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of section 26 in Township 13 N of Range 2 E. Dated July 22, 1869.

5) Warranty deed. Solomon Parker and Sarah Ann his wife to John L. Eastman. \$100 for that parcel commencing at the stake where the Reserve line crosses the north line of section 31 Township 14 N of Range 2 E and the NW 1/4 running thence E on said section line about 80 rods to the corner of land sold to Lorenzo Daws, thence S about 60 rods of the reserve line, thence North Westerly along said line about 103 rods to the place of beginning containing 25 acres. dated May 31, 1869. Witnesses: Henry Hart & Henry D. Rogers.

IN 100 YEARS MIDLAND MEN PARTICIPATED IN FIVE WARS

MIDLAND DAILY NEWS - June 8, 1950. Midland County men have fought in five wars since the first white settler came here in 1836, and the number called to arms has grown in magnitude as the scope of international friction has twice achieved global dimensions.

But the first war in which a resident of this county saw action -- the American Civil War -- still holds the record for the drain it imposed on the male population in proportion to the whole.

It took all but 21 able-bodied men in the entire county.

When the war broke out in 1861, the county had been organized since 1850 (though it included a larger territory than the present area) and the Village of Midland was not yet incorporated, a development which came in 1869. But there was a definite settlement of farmers and woodsmen here, sufficiently large to have had at least one hotel, built in 1856.

A newspaper record of a later date recalls the rigors the Civil War imposed on the new and struggling county:

"When the first enrollment of those subject to military duty was made in Midland County, 152 men were reported. Of these, 128 enlisted, and three were drafted during the continuance of the war, thus leaving only 21 able-bodied men in the county!

"Leaving their wives and little ones behind, the husbands and fathers hurried to the front, anxious to be the first to aid in the protection of their country's honor and the preservation of the Union.

"Ladies who by reason of birth and education were more fitted for the drawing room than for a life of toil, bravely took charge of the farm, and while the reality of life was thus forced upon them, they uncomplainingly put their hands to the plow, and in some instances wielded the axe, to attain a living for themselves and children.

The supervisors of the county (a body six years old at the war's beginning) appropriated \$6,550 for the relief of soldier's families. The allowance was at the board's discretion, but not to exceed \$15 a month, and in the case of a soldier's death, it continued for a year.

In 1865 the men returned home the war won, and a wave of prosperity struck the county. "Laborers, who before had been so scarce, were plentiful. Business of every character was increased, new business houses were built, saw mills and other manufacturing establishments erected.

"Ministers who had worn the blue now donned their ministerial robes, and glad tidings of peace on earth and good will toward men were heard from every pulpit in the county."

This peace endured for 33 years, terminated by the Spanish-American War of 1898, was declared in April, and the peace treaty signed in December of the same year.

In late June, the 41 men of Midland's contingent of Company A, 35th Michigan regiment left Midland by train, escorted to the station by a long procession consisting of the Midland Cornet band, Knights of Pythias, Grand Army and Dewey Guards.

"Hundreds of people flanked the marching men on either walk," the Midland Republican said. "At the train the departing scenes were touching. mothers, wives, and sweethearts hung around the lines tearfully ... Now and again one of the brave young fellows wiped away a tear...." Records are vague as to whether others went also to battle against the militant Spaniards. But fears for Company A, Midland contingent, were dissipated when the group returned within a year without having seen action.

The Spanish-American War was followed quickly by what is sometimes known as the Philippine war, an aftermath lasting from Feb. 4, 1899, to April 30, 1902. Newspaper files show no record of enlistments nor drafting, but the columns of the day contained letters from Midland County men serving in the campaign which finally reduced the Philippine insurrectionists to surrender and gave the U.S. undisputed ownerships of the Islands.

But peace this time was shorter lived. It was only 15 years later that the U.S. was drawn into the conflict between the Allies and the Central Powers by a relentless campaign of U-boat warfare by Germany in which American shipping was caught.

War was declared by this country on Good Friday, April 6, 1917, but while volunteers were in uniform before the draft program got under way, it was not until September 5, 1917 that the first contingent of draftees left Midland County.

There were eight in the group: Russell L. Mustard and Clarence E. David of Midland, Orva Winslow and Carey Raymond Vlier of Midland Township, William Charles Kelley of Hope and three from Coleman, Ellis M. Penney, Ed. A. Warren, and Andy J. McFarland.

Before the Armistice Nov. 11, 1918, there were 675 Midland County men overseas or in training, out of a total population of probably less than 13,000.

Now the peace, in this country lasted 23 years, though it was less than 22 years before men from this community were again serving in large numbers in the uniform of the Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marines. Even the girls this time were leaving for the auxiliary units which sprang up for the first time.

For this time Uncle Sam did not wait for an open break with Germany or Japan, current aggressors, before calling up a military force for home defense and in readiness for any attack which might precipitate hostilities.

Men had been drafted months before the Pearl Harbor attack of Dec. 7, 1941, by the Japanese, which catapulted this country into World War Π . By August, 1944, through selective service and enlistment, the 2,000 mark had been passed for numbers in uniform, out of a county population of around 30,000. That number was to reach 2,371 before the war's end on September 2, 1945, with a total of 84 Midland County men who gave their lives in the service of their country.

Today in the still uneasy peace of 1950, a beautiful bronze plaque placed on the corner of the Midland County Courthouse site through the auspices of Gilbert A. Currie, honors those 2,371 local veterans living and dead "who helped to carry America to victory in the battlefields throughout the world from Dec. 7, 1941, to Sept. 2, 1945.

Expressing a memorial tribute felt by all of the county's residents through all of her country's war times is the fitting inscription on this plaque which reads "To the Eternal Glory of Those Who Made the Supreme Sacrifice and in Gratitude to Our Defenders Who by Their Devotion Suffered and Endured to Assure to Us Those Dearly Earned Gains in Human Rights, Dignity, and Freedom."

LAWS OF GENEALOGY

The document containing evidence of the missing link in your research invariably will be lost due to fire, flood or war.

The keeper of the vital records you need will just have been insulted by another genealogist.

Your great, great grandfather's obituary states that he died, leaving no issue of record.

The town clerk you wrote in desperation, and finally convinced to give you the information you need, can't write legibly, and doesn't have a copying machine.

The will you need is in the safe on board the "Titanic."

The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relation to its current spelling or pronunciation.

That ancient photograph of four relatives, one of whom is your progenitor, carries the names of the other three.

Copies of old newspapers have holes which occur only on last names.

No one in your family tree ever did anything noteworthy, always rented property, was never sued, and was never named in wills. You learned that Great Aunt Matilda's executor just sold her life's collection of family genealogical materials to a flea market dealer "somewhere in New York City."

Yours is the <u>Only</u> last name not found among the 3 billion in the world-famous Mormon Archives in Salt Lake City.

Ink fades and paper deteriorates at a rate inversely proportional to the value of the data recorded.

The 37 volume, sixteen thousand page history of vour county of origin isn't indexed yet.

The critical line in your family tree is named "Smith."

THANK YOU

The Editor of the *Pioneer Record* would like to thank Nancy Humphrey, for her several years of mailings, Marge & Charles Longsdorf for this year's mailings, Nancy Lackie for all her Historical & genealogical clippings, and ALL those who have submitted material the past several years.

MIDLAND ONCE HAD ITS OWN BREWERY

MIDLAND REPUBLICAN - May 11, 1935. The program for the noon meeting of the Midland Rotary club last Thursday was in charge of Albert Reinhart who took the occasion to reminisce on some of the Midland scenes which were familiar to him as a young man.

Apropos of the expected birth of beer control, Mr. Reinhart mentioned that Midland once housed its own brewery. He remembered how the old building looked on the site across from the Ellsworth street clock room entrance of the Dow plant. He could picture just as vividly the presence of the tannery, then located on the south side of the river, and also the Indian camps scattered up and down both banks of the river.

In his childhood days, Mr. Reinhart said there were only two brick structures in the town, none on Main street, and one a residence across the river, now torn down. Main street was made up of wooden buildings, extending about three blocks but, many intervening lots were vacant. Mostly hotels and feed barns in those days, with residences extending no further north than the present Ellsworth street, as all that area beyond that street was marsh and swamp land. The old Central school building was erected on the present site, which at that time was a long way from town and located almost in the center of the swamp and woods.

Mr. Reinhart later introduced Ed. Austin as the principal speaker and he took the club members on some his interesting auto trips in the California area surrounding his new home of Beverly Hills.

A NEW CITY IN MIDLAND?

MIDLAND SUN(?) - July 14, 1881. Dr. Buell, one of the proprietors of Central City, the newly laid-out town on the Chippewa, called and showed us a beautiful plat of his pet "city" yesterday. It is as handsome a town as we ever saw--on paper. Avenues abound therein and streets and alleys all straight as gunbarrels, public squares, banking grounds, parks and prospects and a mill privilege by a damsite.

Central City, the newly laid out town on the Chippewa, is situated on the east part of section 15, 330 acres; on the west half of section 14 and the NW 1/4 NW 1/4 section 23, 360 acres, in all 690 acres, T.14 N. R.2 W., half way between Midland and Mt. Pleasant, near the center of (Greendale) township and exactly in the center of the state, and within an inch of the geographical center of the world: If any man doubts it let him make the measurement and he will be convinced.

(ED. NOTE: In 1993 this area is still undeveloped land.)

CIRCUIT COURT - UNDER OATH?

MIDLAND TIMES - April 29, 1874. During the examination of Mrs. McCormick, an octogenarian; witness in the McCormick adultery trial, her age was asked which she stated as 40 but subsequently fixed as 35. One of her sons in court was 52. The witness was then asked if August was a winter month she replied she thought it was. This encouraged the counsel and she was asked the number of winter months, to which she replied, "November is one, December is two January is three, February is four March is five April is six. There are six sir in *this country*."

OBITUARIES	FROM	THE	MIDLAND	SUN	1890	THROUGH	1920

Last Name	First Name	Sirth	Mon/D	Death	Mon/D	Paper	Year	Mo/Day/Pg	Comments
	Mar Arka B			1006			1896	05/22/06	200 40 450
Rose	Mrs John F Olive			1896	Dec/24	Sun	1919	01/02/01	Age 40 yrs
Rose	Richard			1920	Mar/07		1920	04/01/01	
Rosebury Rosebush	Martha Abigail			1910	Mar/05		1910	03/11/01	Dau/o William
Rosebush	Viva Ruth			1908	Sep/26		1908	10/02/01	Father: William
Rosebush	William	1864	Apr/01		Oct/25	Sun	1912	10/31/01	
Rosenthal	Samuel		-	1911		Sun	1911	07/13/01	Burned to death
Ross	Charles F	1876	Jul/19		Mar/05		1914	03/12/01	
Ross	Eliza			1918	Nov/08		1918	11/14/01	
Ross	Marium Ella			1899	Jun/04		1899	06/09/05	Dau of A T Gillick
Ross	Mrs Tom			1896 1914		Sun Sun	1896 1914	03/13/08 04/09/05	Dau Mr Rhubard D. in Toledo
Rosebach Rossman	Mrs J A Myrtle Sayre	1880	Sep/01		Oct/14		1914	10/22/01	Long obit
Rossman	Myrtle Sayre	1000	00001	1914	000/14	Sun	1914	10/15/01	D. in Adrian
Roth	Carl			1914	Oct/31		1914	11/05/01	Infant son of John
Rowe	Eva May			1910	Apr/29	Sun	1910	05/06/01	Age 20 mo d/o John
Rowe	John S			1919		Sun	1919	02/20/01	
Rowe	Mrs			1915		Sun	1915	04/15/01	Moth/o Jesse
Rowen	Elise			1919		Sun	1919	11/27/06	Timed in Theore
Rowland	СН			1907	Apr/10		1907 1920	04/19/05 06/10/08	Lived in Ithaca
Rowley	A J (infant)			1920 1914	Sep/24	Sun	1914	10/01/01	Son of Louis
Roy Roy	Ellis Frank			1914	Sep/20		1914	09/24/01	Age 9 mo s/o Louis
Royal	Olive			1898	May/18		1898	05/27/08	··· ·· ·······························
Royar	Viola			1906	Ju1/17		1906	07/27/08	Bur Bay City
Rubert	Mrs			1920		Sun	1920	10/14/05	
Ruby	Beulah			1920		Sun	1920	12/09/01	Father: Frank
Ruhnau	Joseph	1858	Mar/22		Dec/23		1910	12/30/01	
Rumler	Charles			1920		Sun	1920	11/04/01	Br/o Mrs A Price
Rumrill	Arthur			1907		Sun	1907 1907	07/26/07 05/17/04	D. at Bullock Creek
Rumrill	Homer			1907 1895		Sun Sun	1895	08/02/05	lst male b.Saginaw
Rumrill	Solon Mrs S E			1895	Jan/02		1895	01/11/05	Mot of Mrs T.Secor
Ruperts Rush	Mrs Benjamin			1917	Juli, or	Sun	1917	01/11/00	D. Newark OH
Rushlow	Mrs Frederick			1915		Sun	1915	09/02/04	
Russ	Bert			1912		Sun	1912	05/30/01	
Russ	Murl	1897	Oct/10	1919	Jan/14		1919	01/23/01	
Russell	Franklin			1919	Sep/14		1919	09/25/01	
Russell	Hattie			1907	Dec/11		1907	12/20/05	D at Companya MT
Ryal	John H	1022		1903 1907	Sep/25	Sun	1903 1907	10/02/0 4 07/19/08	D. at Commerce MI D. in Mt Haley Twp
Ryan	Daniel Sr John	1833		1902	Dec/23		1903	01/02/04	Died at Ashland WI
Ryan Ryan	John			1902	Dec/23		1903	01/09/05	Died in Wisc
Ryan	Margaret			1902		Sun	1902	12/26/01	Dau/ Phillip
Ryan	Michael W	1854	May/10	1915		Sun	1915	08/05/01	Buggy accident
Ryan	Mrs A		-	1920		Sun	1920	05/20/05	
Ryan	William			1917		Sun	1917	10/25/01	
Rye	Grandma			1908	Apr/30		1908 1901	05/08/05	Dau: Mrs J Magill Buried in Sanford
Rye	Richard			1901 1897		Sun Sun	1897	05/10/01 02/12/04	Son of Paul
Ryer Ryker	(child) Lucinda E	1865	Oct/24		Dec/18		1914	12/24/01	Son of Fadi
Ryker	Rebecca	1840	Dec/31		Oct/09		1915	10/14/01	
Sabish	August			1904		Sun	1904	05/20/01	Son: Paul
Sabish	Paul			1904		Sun	1904	05/13/08	Res: Geneva Twp
Salisbury	Dr Abiram Duane	1841	Jun/17	1909	Oct/16		1909	10/22/01	
Salisbury	Duane			1913	Nov/24		1913	12/04/01	
Saliabury	Duane	1875	Nov/28		Nov- 122	Sun	1913 1911	11/27/01 06/01/01	
Salva	Walter			1911 1901	May/28	Sun	1901	07/19/04	Died in Lyons
Samaine Sampson	Robert George	1897	Jan/05		Jan/08		1913	01/16/01	Father: Lowell
Sampson	Harriett	10,7,7	04.1.7 00	1906	outt, oo	Sun	1906	12/04/05	D. at Coleman
Sampson	Lorena			1920	Jun/03		1920	06/10/01	
Same	Mrs Monte			1920		Sun	1920	05/20/06	
Samuel	John			1919		Sun	1919	10/16/01	Burned
Samuels	William A			1918		Sun	1918	04/11/01	No. 00
Sanders	George	1053	D / 2.0	1890	Oct/??		1890 1 91 6	10/30/04 11/09/01	Age 28 yrs
Sanders Sandie	Mrs John W Mr	1853	Aug/20	1918		Sun Sun	1904	08/12/05	Dau: Ms J Dahm
Sands	Mr			1903		Sun	1903	06/12/08	Bur in Coleman
Sanford	(male)			1892	Oct/??		1892	10/13/01	Son of Charles
Sanford	Emma L			1895	Jun/??		1895	06/28/05	Wife of M.S.
Sanford	Irene			1909		Sun	1909	03/19/02	Res: Laporte
Sanford	Joe			1891	May/??		1891	05/28/01	Lv wife & 7children
Sanford	Margaret			1909	Mar/05		1909	03/12/01	Father: Ward
Sanford	Mary			1920		Sun	1920	09/23/05	
Sanford	Mrs			1914		Sun	1914	07/23/08	D. in Dayton OH
Sanford	Mrs Charles	1927	Ju1/01	1893		Sur. Sun	1893 1905	12/15/04 06/02/04	Chas died yr ago Nee: Van Curen
Sanford Sanford	Mrs S T S T	1827	001/01	1905	Dec/15		1905	12/16/08	Pioneer
Sanford	Ward	1859	Mar/10		May/05		1912	05/09/01	
Sanfors	Perkins	**		1895		Sun	1895	12/13/05	Br/in/law Mrs Vanc

		C	BITUARIE	S FROM						
Las	st Name	First Name	Birth	Mon/D					Mo/Day/Pg	Comments
						 Jan/??		1996	01/17/05	Child Louis age 2yr
Sa	anger	(child)	1000	Dec/02	1896	Sep/09		1908	09/11/01	B. in Germany
	anko	John	1829	Dec/02	1908	255102		1908	09/25/08	Son: John
	anko	Mr Mrs			1896	Aug/??		1896	09/04/05	Age 54 yrs
	anko anzone	Anthony			1920			1920	02/12/05	
	asse	George				Nov/28			12/05/01	
	aull	Clinton			1910	Aug/06		1910 1918	08/12/01 12/19/04	
Sa	aull	05/??			1918 1890	Oct/??			11/06/04	Sis of Mrs D Clark
	aunders	George			1902	Apr/26			05/02/08	Son: A L
	aunders	George Mrs A L			1911	Mar/12		1911	03/17/01	Bur Akron MI
	aunders aunders	Mrs George			1902			1902	03/28/05	D. Bay City-bur Mid
	auvel	(infant)			1902	Dec/24		1903	01/02/08	Dau of Charles Mot of J.J. Savage
	avage	Mrs D.M.			1894	Dec/??		1894	12/07/05 11/13/04	Dau Alvin Sawtell
S	awtell				1890 1919	Nov/?? Jan/13		1919	01/16/05	Age 9 mos d/o Willis
	axton	Ellen			1912	0411/15		1912	05/30/01	Bur: Ithaca
	ayles	Mrs N L Mrs N M			1912		Sun	1912	05/23/01	Dau: Mrs W Thayer
	ayles ayre	Mrs John E	1842	Nov/04		May/14		1920	05/20/01	Nee: Offut
	chad	George			1917		Sun	1917 1917	07/26/01 07/19/06	
	chad	George			$\begin{array}{c}1917\\1914\end{array}$			1914	09/10/05	Fath/o Mrs Barstow
	chade	AE			1914	Oct/06		1919	10/09/04	
	chaefer chaefer	Helen B Selmuth	1903	Dec/04		Feb/17		1904	02/26/04	Father: Carl
-	chaefer	Яцдо	1903	Dec/04	1904	Feb/16		1904	02/26/04	Father: Carl
	chaefer	Mrs Carl	1857	Feb/04		Dec/14		1903	12/18/02 12/04/01	Nee:Minnie Renke
	chaeffer	Gust			1919 1920	Sep/04	Sun	1919 1920	09/09/01	
	chaeffer	John			1920	Jan/02		1920	01/08/05	
	chaeffer	Mrs Carl Mrs William			1920	00, 02	Sun	1920	04/01/01	
	chaeffer chafer	Grant			1904			1904	04/22/04	Step/fr: N Munger
	chaffer	William			1914			1914	04/16/08	D. in Coleman
s	charf	Henry			1919			1919	06/26/02 07/19/08	Died at Rope
	chearer	Christian	1004	Bur / 21	1901			1901 1911	04/21/01	Obit fr St Joe MI
	chearer	Frederick F Jacob	1884	Aug/31	1896			1896	12/11/08	Lvs wife 6 childre
	chearer chearer	Laura			1897	Mar/??			03/12/05	D. in Hope
-	chearer	Mrs W C			1905			1905	07/14/05	Age 26 yrs
	chemerhorn	Ruth Marie			1917	Sep/27		1917	10/04/04	Infant dau/o Oscar
	chermerhorn	Harold	1015	N / 1 4	1918	Sep/22 Aug/29		1918 1915	09/26/05 09/02/01	Infant son of Carl
	cheve	Walter Katherine	1915	May/14	1915	Aug/23	Sun	1916	07/20/01	
	chewe chleidt	Katherine	1833		1910	Mar/23			03/25/01	
	chlestrom	Andrew			1898		Sun	1898	12/23/05	
	chloneger	Matilda	1888	Ju1/21		Oct/14		1912	10/20/04	
	chmidt	Christian	1847	Jul/29		Aug/20 May/03		1914 1913	09/03/01 05/08/01	Father: Joseph
	chmucker chnaffner	(infant) Osmar			1913 1916	May/03		1916	06/15/08	racher: ooseph
	chneider	Emma Mary			1911	Ju1/01		1911	07/06/01	Infant dau/o John
	chock	Elias			1920	Jun/05	Sun	1920	06/10/01	
S	chock	Elias			1920	Jun/05			06/10/02	Age 77 yrs
	chofield	Jerry	1854	Jul/14		8-6/00		1914 1909	07/30/01 02/12/05	Nee: Stella Warner
	chonover	Frank Sr	1889	Apr/29	1909	Feb/09		1918	04/18/21	wee. Sterra warmer
	choomaker chraeder	Charles			1901			1901	02/22/05	Died in Beaverton
	chram	(infant)			1905		Sun	1905	09/01/05	Bur Kawkawlin
S	chrer	John	1843	Jun/11		Nov/12			11/20/01	Res: Hope
	chrieber	Ada Belle	1888 1848	Sep/21 Dec/02		Aug/11		1920	03/11/01 08/20/01	Nee: Anger Age 61
_	chroeder chultz	Gustav	1848	Dec/02	1909	Aug/11	Sun	1902	05/23/08	Age of
	chultz	Amos Amos				May/03	Sun	1902	05/09/01	
	chultz	Fred	1871	Aug/16				1914	09/24/01	
	chultz	Hrs Christian			1915		Sun	1915	09/09/01	
	chwab	Freda				Aug/23		1905 1910	08/25/05 04/22/04	Father: Gottlieb
	chwab chwartz	Peter Catherine	1837	Jun/13		Apr/14 Apr/28		1918	05/02/01	
	chwartz	Henry D	100,	00	1894			1894	10/05/05	Long obit
	coles	Chester A			1918			1918	12/19/01	
S	coles	Melvin Foyle			1917			1917	12/13/01	Age 10 mo s/o Cheste
	coles	Mrs Chester	1891	Oct/15				1919	01/09/01	Dau/o Edwin D
	cott	(child) (female)			1915 1892	Jun/26 Nov/??		1915 1892	07/01/01 11/24/01	Dau/o Edwin D Died in Detroit
	cott cott	Elilza			1916			1916	02/03/03	
	cott	Grace			1917		Sun	1917	03/22/01	
	cott	Gregor			1899			1899	02/10/08	D. in Freeland
	cott	Mary			1910			1910	04/08/01	Vothor, Ed (T-L-
	cott	Mrs			1915 1904			1915 1904	10/21/08 02/19/08	Mother: Ed & John Day: Ms J Drummond
	cram cram	Sara Sarah			1904	Feb/09			02/15/05	Age 80 years
	cramlin	Mildred			1919	Sep/04		1919	09/11/01	
	czepanski	Leo			1919	Sep/24	Sun	1919	10/02/01	
S	czepenski	Robert			1920		Sun	1920	09/23/01	

OBITUARIES FROM THE MIDLAND SUN 1890 TEROUGH 1920

OBITUARIES FROM THE MIDLAND SUN 1890 THROUGH 1920	
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Last Name	First Name	Birth	Mon/D	Death	Mon/D	Pape	r Year	Mo/Day/Pg	Comments
Searight	Mrs George			1914		Sun	1914	07/16/08	D. in Merrill
Sebastian	Mr			1911		Sun	1911	09/14/04	Dau Mrs Engle
Secor	Charles			1917	Apr/07		1917	04/12/01	bad meb angre
Secor	Eva			1919	Nov/15		1919	11/20/01	Nee: McCrary
Secor	Ēva	1888	Ju1/01		Nov/15		1919	11/20/06	heer heerery
See	Alonzo M			1907		Sun	1907	11/15/05	
See	Edna V			1911	Nov/12		1911	11/16/01	Pather: Alfred
See	Jane	1842	May/12		May/07	_	1911	05/11/01	Nee:: Goodrich
See	Margaret D	1836	1	1910	Apr/03		1910	04/08/01	Second Coold for
Seeburger	Edward	1905	Feb/06			Sun	1915	05/27/01	
Seeburger	Mrs			1912		Sun	1912	06/20/05	Sons: Fred/Jacob
Seeburger	William Fred	1873	Nov/09		Mar/28		1915	04/01/01	Long obit
Seeburger	Yvone			1920		Sun	1920	01/22/01	Father: Jacob
Seed	Mrs William P			1900		Sun	1900	11/02/07	Father T. Fillmore
Seele	August	1883	Aug/02	1904	Aug/??	Sun	1904	09/02/01	Born Brooklyn NY
Seeley	(2 ້ອວດຣ)			1913	j .	Sun	1913	12/25/01	Father: Omer
Seeley	Edward			1910		Sun	1910	10/28/01	
Seeley	Electa Courtney			1903	Mar/09	Sun	1903	03/13/05	Died in Homer Twp
Seeley	Malin J			1915	Nov/07	Sun	1915	11/11/01	Father: Albert T
Seeley	Mrs Eddy			1903		Sun	1903	03/20/08	
Seever	(infant)			1907		Sun	1907	09/20/08	Ch/o Louisa Hetzel
Seibt	Joseph			1912		Sun	1912	11/21/01	
Sentz	Minnie			1919		Sun	1919	01/16/06	
Sessions	Luke			1917		Sun	1917	10/25/01	
Seymour	(child)			1909		Sun	1909	03/26/08	
Seymour	John	1810	Oct/01		Jun/06		1909	06/11/05	D. in Bay City
Seymour	John Sr			1909		Sun	1909	06/11/08	Almost 100
Seymour	Lewis			1909	Mar/17		1909	03/26/01	D. in Palestine TX
Seymour	Louis			1909		Sun	1909	03/19/01	Pather: John
Shadduck	Hazel Zoe			1891	Mar/24		1891	03/26/04	Dau of Jacob
Shaeffer	GL			1915		Sun	1915	09/30/05	
Shafer	George			1914		Sun	1914	02/12/08	
Shaffner	Russell	1908		1909	Jan/21		1909	02/05/08	- 1 .
Shangles Shannon	Rachael			1898	Feb/19		1898	03/04/08	G/dau Mrs Morris
Shannon	Andy Sarah A			1906		Sun	1906	05/11/01	
Sharlowe	Mrs			1892	Aug/??		1892	08/11/07	Wife of Andrew
Sharon	Mrs Joseph			1910 1905		Sun Sun	1910 1905	04/22/08	Marca 441334144
Sharp	Alexander			1905	Dec/15		1905	11/24/08	Nee: Millikin
Shauger	(infant)			1913	May/06		1913	12/23/01 05/08/01	Father: Alex
Shauger	Harry			1919	Ju1/22		1919	07/24/04	Father: Alex
Shauger	Labolt	1820		1906	Ju1/27		1906	08/03/01	racher: Alex
Shauger	Lyman Thomas	1020		1918	Jul/31		1918	08/29/01	Killed in action
Shauger	Russell Alfred			1910	Apr/05		1910	04/08/01	Age 4 yrs B/O Alex
Shaughnessy	Paul			1918		Sun	1918	02/14/01	Train accident
Shaver	Mary	1857	Mar/25			Sun	1920	01/05/08	Nee: Radle
Shaw	(child)			1918		Sun	1918	01/31/03	Age 2 yrs fr: Orb
Shaw	Clifford			1910		Sun	1910	06/03/05	Son/o John
Shaw	George R			1918	Dec/12	Sun	1918	12/19/01	
Shaw	John Robert			1919	Jun/30	Sun	1919	07/03/01	Father: Orbin
Shaw	Thomas J	1836	May/24	1909	Nov/27	Sun	1909	12/03/01	
Shaw	William		-	1907		Sun	1907	07/26/01	
Shaw	Willie	1909		1909	Ju1/25		1909	07/30/01	Father: Frederick
Sheetz	Belen	1919		1919		Sun	1919	11/13/01	Father: Joe
Sheffers	James			1897		Sun	1897	10/29/01	Bro of Mrs Powles
Sheldon	Ава А			1894	Jul/??		1894	07/13/07	D. in Detroit
Sheldon	Mrs			1901	Oct/03	Sun	1901	10/11/08	

FOR SALE

MIDLAND COUNTY OBITUARY INDEX - The book consists of abstractions from the *Midland Times* (1872-1875), the *Midland Sun* (1892-1924 and the *Midland Republican* (1881-1927). From the 55 years covered, we have about 16,000 records of deaths from those publications. The book is 8 1/2 by 11 inches, softbound, and is 238 pages in length.

The Price is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 postage & handling. To ORDER YOUR COPY write:

Midland Genealogical Society INDEX

G.A. Dow Memorial Library 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr. Midland, MI 48640

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INFORMATION about MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Our society meets on the 3rd Wed. of Sept.,Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May at 7:30 in the library of the Carpenter Street School, 1407 W. Carpenter St., Midland, MI 48640. Visitors are always welcome. Watch the Midland Daily News for upcoming speakers, dates, and times.

Membership dues are \$10.00 for single and \$12.50 for a couple and can be paid after July 1, but must be paid by Sep. 30 to continue receiving the Pioneer Record. Dues may be paid at any meeting or may be sent to the Membership Chairman, Midland Genealogical Soc. at G.A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr. Midland, MI 48640.

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MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Grace A. Dow Memorial Library 1710 W. St. Andrews Drive Midland, Michigan 48640