

PIONEER RECORD



February 2002

Volume XXII, No. 3

MGS MEETING ** FEBRUARY 20

The fifth **Midland Genealogical Society meeting** of the fiscal 2001-02 year or the second of 2002 will be held Wednesday, **February 20**, in the **lounge** of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library starting at **7:00 pm**.

The normal business of the society will be conducted. Special reports will also be made.

The **program** will be a panel discussion on the subject "**Securing Research Help From Remote Locations**". **Mary Eichhorn**, a MGS member, will serve as **Panel Mediator**. **Sub-Topics** and **Panel Speakers**, all **MGS** members, will be as follows:

Floyd Andrick – Accessing Oral Histories Here & In Other Locations
Doug Applegath – Finding "Local Helpers" in Far Away Places
Jo Brines – Utilizing Funeral Home Records
Dick Skochdopole – Have You Tried the Town Clerks?

Please come and enjoy an interesting and lively discussion.

Refreshments and conversation will follow the program in the lounge.

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WHO WERE THE REARDON BROTHERS ?

Pictured below is the **Reardon Brothers** building built in 1870-80s which housed the largest general merchandising business in Midland until it burned in 1910.

The answer to the question "**Who were the Reardon Brothers ?**" is found in the article on pages 7 – 13 .



REARDON BROTHERS.

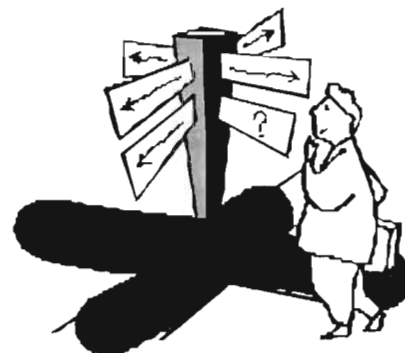
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From the President

Our **President** has "flown the coop". That is to say he is enjoying life with his wife Kate somewhere in Arizona. So there will be no words of wisdom from Bob this *Pioneer Record*.

So we remember what **Bob** looks like, we include his picture.



Bob Mass

2002 MGS TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

When the medals have been presented, and the final Olympic ceremony is history, members of our Society will we "wisking" our way to **Salt Lake City** to research and explore the **LDS Family History Center**.

The **MGS** periodical trip to visit the **LDS Family History Center** in **Salt Lake City** has been **scheduled** for this coming spring from **Tuesday, April 23 to Wednesday, May 1, 2002**.

Jo Brines, trip coordinator, has made arrangements for members to spend a wonderful week digging into our individual family histories. The group will leave on Tuesday, April 23 and fly, via Northwest Airlines, to **Salt Lake City**. Accommodations will be at the **Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel** located in downtown SLC within a short walk of Temple Square. Cost, including taxes, is **\$90.00 per night per room** (not per individual). This motel is very nice, economical and very **CONVENIENT**. Ten rooms have been reserved for twenty persons. The group will return on Wednesday, May 1.

Travel arrangements are being made as a **group** in cooperation with **Circle Travel Agency**. Some who have already made reservations obtained round-trip tickets for as low as \$270 per person. Obviously these prices cannot be guaranteed as costs change all the time – it is almost luck. Jo Brines is coordinating the trip and is hoping those interested will sign up as soon as conveniently possible.

As of press time only 8 members have made arrangements to participate in this exciting opportunity. Although time is getting short, if you would like to be a part of this wonderful opportunity to explore first-hand the records located at the LDS Research Center. If you have questions or would like further information, please contact **Jo Brines**, at **989-832-8312**.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Included with this issue is the Membership Survey being distributed by the **MGS Program Committee**. We hope **ALL members will complete the survey and return it** as soon as conveniently possible. The information can only help to make our Society stronger.

Our President, **Bob Mass**, will be appointing a **Nominations Committee** in early March. In preparation, he asked **Doug Applegath** to solicit present officers regarding their interest and willingness to serve next year. The response has been very encouraging. The following have agreed to be candidates: Membership Chairs: **Sheldon & Mary Levy**; Secretary: **Wilma Diesen**; Treasurer: **Dave Russell**; MGC Representative: **Kathy Bohl**; Historian: **Joanne Rupprecht**; Hospitality: **Marcia Brandle**; and PR Editors: **Faye & Earl Ebach**. This should make the Nominations Committee's job much easier. PLEASE show your interest by **VOLUNTEERING**.

ORAL HISTORY

By Floyd Andrick, MHS Oral History Chairman

Oral histories are a wonderful avenue for accessing **genealogical information**. This is one resource that will greatly escalate in value with the passage of time.

Many cities in our nation have **oral history archives** located primarily with their historical societies. Midland is now among those cities possessing an oral history archive with its historical society.

Our local oral history program came about with a grant for the project by the Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Foundation. A small group of interested individuals completed a training program and began recording the histories and reminiscences of Midland County natives. This work began in late 1999 and presently **57 oral histories** have been completed.

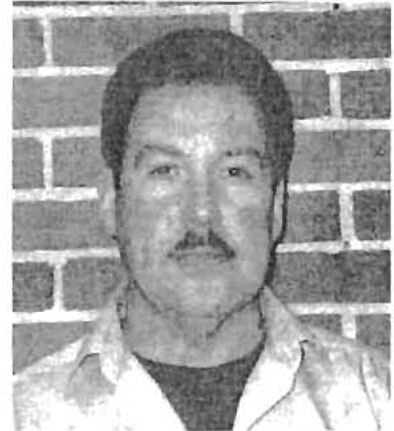
Recording an oral history entails a great deal of work. One of our volunteers must first **contact** a Midland County native. The selected individual must be physically and mentally able to relate the story of his or her life, be 75 or more years of age and have lived in Midland County all or most of his or her life. The **recording process** usually takes several hours and may be done in several sessions if necessary.

Once the recording process is completed, the tapes are **transcribed** onto a typewritten copy. The completed copy is then **stored** along with the tapes, in the **Oral History Office** located next to the Midland Historical Society in the **Center for the Arts Building**. A completed copy of the transcript is also presented to the interviewee.

Interested individuals may have access to these transcripts for research and genealogical purposes. To review a transcript or listen to a tape, one only needs to call the **Historical Society** (631-5930) and make an appointment. If there are no restrictions by any interviewee, interested individuals may have access to all transcripts. Note: Tapes and transcripts may not be removed from the archive location.

A **complete listing** of the individuals, who have been interviewed, may be found in a binder located in the **Midland Room** at the **Grace A. Dow Library**. This binder is titled "**Oral Histories of Midland County**".

For additional information or questions, please feel free to contact me at 989-837-0870.



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CANADIAN GENEALOGY RESOURCES IN THE MIDLAND ROOM

Doug Applegath

I have finally completed the listing of the **Canadian Genealogy Resources** in The Michigan Room of The Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Of course it took a long time, as I had to stop and reread many! It's a great project for persons who have a geographical focus.

There are listed over 56 'books', plus about 150 issues of quarterly journals of various Canadian genealogical society local chapters, plus six boxes 6" wide of specific research reports, cemetery and b,m,d transcriptions, historical reviews, guides to Canadian research, etc.

The written report will be at the desk in The Michigan room this afternoon.

At home, we have our recent issues of the quarterly journal, **FAMILIES**, by Ontario Genealogical Society, as well as those from the local societies in Hamilton, Quinte, and Kawartha.

My focus has been migration patterns of Methodist ancestors 1818-1875 from Ireland, Cornwall, Chester, and Hampshire to southern Ontario. Thus we have many additional datasets and books at home. Happy to help other members of Canadian background. No promises of results, though! Cheers,

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MGS MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Mary & Sheldon Levy, Co-Chairs

The **Midland Genealogical Society (MGS)** has **104** memberships for **Fiscal Year 2001** ... 83 single members and 21 households, including twelve new members. In Fiscal Year 2000 MGS had a total of 117 memberships.

The membership spreadsheet published in the November 2001 issue of the *Pioneer Record* has been revised and will be e-mailed to any member sending an e-mail request to us at

samlevy@aol.com.

It will be sent as an attached Microsoft Excel document. Once again, please advise us of any changes to your information.

Thirty members attended the January 16, 2002 General Meeting. We had two guests: (1) Dale Hockstettler (his second visit), and ; (2) Roger Gohrband.

Your **Membership Committee** is working on several pro-active items to help bring more members into **MGS**.

First, the membership form box at the genealogy desk in the Library's Midland Room is more accessible and visible to genealogy visitors.

Second, guests attending our General Meetings are sent an invitation to join MGS.

Next, the sign-up sheet at the genealogy desk in the Library's Midland Room is being revised to allow for ready identification of potential new members. The Committee will write to these people for any interest in joining **MGS**.

Finally, the MGS membership form/informational flyer is being up-dated and otherwise revised for distribution.

We welcome the following new members who have joined MGS since the last issue of the *Pioneer Record*:

NEW MEMBER	FROM
Emmy Bork	Midland, MI
Ron Byers	Midland, MI
Cheryl Shillair-Smith	Midland, MI
Jan Tripp	Ann Arbor, MI

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TREASURER'S REPORT - Dave Russell, Treasurer

Income for the **MGS 2001-2002** fiscal year to date (**1 February 2002**) is **\$2116**, made up primarily of dues (\$1482), sale of society books (\$339), research (\$133) and interest (\$91), versus an approved annual budgeted income of **\$2,744**. **Expenses** to date are **\$871**, made up primarily of *Pioneer Record* (\$535), meeting space rental (\$175), and MGC mileage (\$40), versus an approved annual budgeted expense of **\$2,744**.

The account balances (as of **1 February 2002**) are: Operating Checking: **\$2192.95**, Money Market: **\$3707.16**, and Certificate of Deposit: **\$2500.00**. The total **MGS** assets are **\$8400.11**.

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NOTE FROM the MIDLAND ROOM

The **Midland Room** has 6 books of **Ancestor Charts** of past and present members of **MGS**. To have **your chart** (or charts) **included** in this collection, please leave your charts at the **MGS desk** to the attention of **Diane Butcher**.

MGS PROGRAM COMMITTEE 2001-2002

The Midland Genealogical Society owes many thanks to this years Program Committee for providing us with an outstanding series of meetings. Richard Smeltzer chairs the committee of four with Mary Eichhorn, Ken Schweitzer, and Bob Dostal assisting him.

The picture at the right shows Richard Smeltzer, Mary Eichhorn, and Bob Dostal at a recent meeting.

Being Program Chair is one of the more difficult jobs in the MGS. This committee approach has worked extremely well – several people share the responsibility instead of one person. As a group they discussed potential programs, requested input from members, arranged programs, and in two meetings led discussion panels.

The committee has gone beyond just presenting programs in that they have assembled a MGS member survey the results of which will assist not only next years Program Committee but the MGS Board as well.



Thanks for a job well done!

FIRST FAMILIES OF MIDLAND COUNTY – Phase 2 2001 Report

Mary Lou Hayes, Chair

FIRST FAMILIES OF MIDLAND COUNTY is a continuing **MGS** project which recognizes descendants of early residents. **"PIONEER"** certificates are issued to individuals who can prove they are **descendants** of residents living in **Midland County between 1850 and 1900**.

CONGRATULATIONS to the descendants who received certificates during the past year 2001.

Descendant

Bernard Edward Fisher Jr
Belinda J. Lyons
Linda Hess Fisher
Kathryn Suiter Boyle
Kathryn Suiter Boyle
Patricia Boyle Levy
Patricia Boyle Levy
Patricia Boyle Levy
Janet A. Rice
Grace H. Green
Emma Elizabeth Cliff
Mary Lou Hayes
Mary Lou Hayes
Descendants of John McCombs
Descendants of John McCombs
Descendants of Theresa Murphy McCombs
Descendants of Theresa Murphy McCombs
(Mary Ledbetter)

"PIONEER" Ancestor

Samuel Colburn Hess
Samuel Colburn Hess
Samuel Colburn Hess
Roger Moran
Bridget Carey Moran
Frederick W. Suiter
Roger Moran
Bridget Carey Moran
William Andrew Schlader
William Andrew Schlader
Robert Arthur Woodcock
Irene Eureka Pretzer Kahn
Mary Hanna Metcalf
Daniel McCombs
Rosanna Spiker
Francis Murphy
Mary Ann Carroll

Forms for this **PIONEER First Families of Midland County** project are available in the Midland Room at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Winter seems to be the time we receive most requests but we find that most applications are taken during the summer months. Thanks to Ron Snyder for preparing the certificates.

MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL REPORT – Kathy Bohl and Beverly Keicher

Attorney General Jennifer Granholm has issued an opinion (No. 7095) that has significant **importance to genealogists**. The final paragraph of the opinion reads "It is my opinion, therefore, that under the Freedom of Information Act, a public body may not impose a more restrictive schedule for access to its public records for certain persons than it does for the public generally, based solely upon the purpose for which the records are sought." That is, if **genealogists** ask for records for research purposes they may **not be treated any differently** than the general public requesting records for other uses. This opinion was presented to the President of the County Clerk's Association at a Jan. 23 2002 meeting in Lansing. Genealogists are reminded that it is **not a function of county clerks to assist** genealogists in their personal research. There are however many ways genealogists can be of assistance to county governments; eg., volunteer to assist office personnel in various ways; donate funds to assist in the preservation of old county records; etc.

The **1930 census** will be available to the public in **late 2002**.

The **Library of Michigan Foundation** requests local societies share membership lists with them for the purpose of improved communication. There will be no annual Council Seminar in 2002.

The **Abrams Genealogy Series** schedule for 2002 is as follows:

Feb. 9	-Genealogy Resources at the Michigan Library and Historical Center
April 13	-Using the Michigan and Michigan Documents Collections for Genealogical Research
June 22	-Genealogy and the Internet
August 10	-Military Records and Resources
October 12	-French Canadian Resources
Dec. 7	-Naturalization Records and Resources

Cost is \$10 per session or \$50 for the series. All sessions are held in the Forum at the **Library of Michigan in Lansing** and will begin at **9:30 AM**.

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UP-COMING WORKSHOPS AND/OR SEMINARS

Sat., **March 16** – 9:30 A-5:00 P, Cemetery Restoration Workshop, Berrien Springs
Sponsored by **Berrien County Genealogical Society** 616-471-1202 \$10/person

Sat., **March 16** – "Sharpen Your Shovel": Digging Your Roots in the 21st Century, Taylor, MI
Sponsored by **Downriver Genealogical Society** \$25 / person (includes lunch)

Sat., **April 13** – Dr. George K. Schweitzer, speaking on 3 subjects, Monroe, MI
Sponsored by **Monroe Genealogical Society** \$30 / person (includes lunch)

Sat., **April 27** - 7:30 A – 3:30 P, Curt B. Witcher, Topics: Doing Effective Research, Passenger and Immigration, Church Records, & Use of the Allen County Library -
Sponsored by **Livingston County Genealogical Society**, Howell, MI., \$30 perperson (\$40 after 4/15) includes lunch. Contact 517-545-1000/517-546-7423

Sat., **May 15-18** – **National Genealogical Society Conference** in the States 2002 "An American Sampler", Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Hosted by **Wisconsin State Genealogical Society**, contact www.ngsgenealogy.org

Sat., **June 1** – Jean McRae White, presents Workshop on Problem Solving, Lawrence Avenue Methodist Church, Charlotte, MI, Sponsored by **Eaton County Genealogical Society**. Contact 517-543-8792 or www.rootsweb.com/~miecgs/index.htm

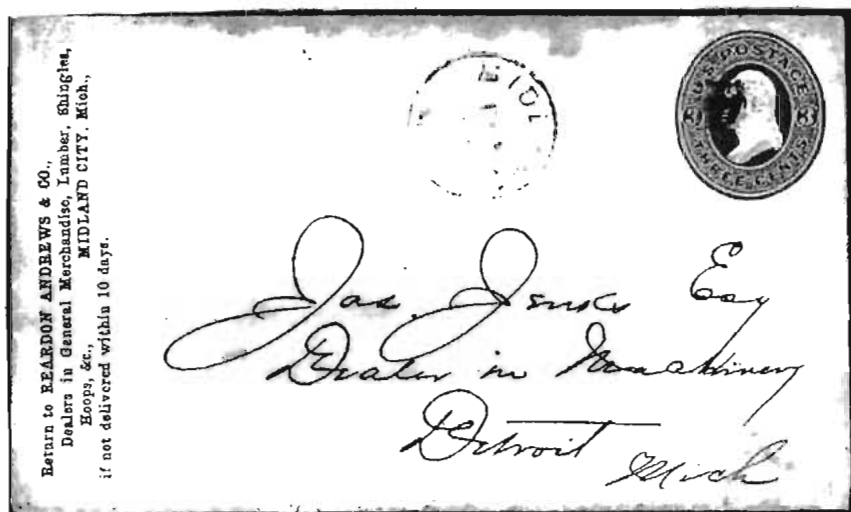
Flyers are available on the Bulletin Board in the **Midland Room**.

REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan 1869-1910

An advertisement in the Nov. 9, 1882 **MIDLAND SUN** reads "As Goes MICHIGAN - So Goes THE WORLD - Michigan Unanimously GOES TO **REARDON'S** - To see their WONDERFUL FALL STOCK".

In the November 2001 issue of the **Pioneer Record** we presented two postal history envelopes from 1883 and 1895, each sent from a very early Midland business, the **REARDON BROTHERS**. The back of the 1883 envelope summarized the glories of Midland City, Michigan – whereas the back of the 1895 envelope touted the City of Midland, Michigan.

In this issue, we will present the story of the **REARDON BROTHERS** – through Midland postal history, genealogy, business advertisements and early Midland history.



In 1869 William Reardon came to Midland and opened a general Merchandise store on Main Street in conjunction with other partners. The firm was initially named "**Reardon, Andrews and Lindsey**". The July 13, 1871 envelope shown here, mailed from Midland has the letterhead "**Reardon, Andrews & Co., Dealers in General Merchandise, Lumber, Shingles, Hoops, Etc.**" indicating a change in partners. The envelope (#U84) has a canceled 3 cent embossed George Washington stamp.

An advertisement six months later printed in the **THE MIDLAND TIMES** (No. 6 – Jan. 13, 1872) reads

"**REARDON, ANDREWS & CO.**" located on Main Street.

By April, 1872, William Reardon had gone into the business by himself as indicated by an advertisement in **THE MIDLAND TIMES** (No. 19 – April 13, 1872) which reads "**WM. REARDON – GENERAL MERCHANDISE**".

This is also verified by the letterhead on the Oct. 2, 1872 canceled envelope stating "**WILLIAM REARDON, General Merchant and Dealer in Shingles**". Most of these early envelopes, which are more than 120 years old, were mailed to "James Jenks, Dealer in Machinery, Detroit, Michigan".

The first **REARDON BROTHERS** advertisement appeared in 1874 in **THE MIDLAND TIMES** (Vol. 3 No. 26 – Whole No. 131 – June 3, 1874). A copy of the advertisement is shown on the next page. This 1874 advertisement is very simple compared to ones published later by the **REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE**. This identical advertisement appeared for 48 weeks through May 15, 1875 (Whole No. 179) before being changed. Apparently the costs to change the print were very high.



The next postal history envelope (pictured on page 10) was mailed during the 1880s – the corner cachet shows the Reardon building on Main Street facing Rodd Street and states "**REARDON BROTHERS, DEALERS IN EVERYTHING**". This probably was the **REARDON BROTHERS** second store and was built for their expanding business.

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REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan

1869-1910

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THE MIDLAND TRADER Wednesday, July 1, 1874 VOL. 2 NO. 28 THIRTY-ONE 1874

REARDON BROTHERS,

General Merchandise

Have just received a new shipment of

DRY GOODS,

NOTIONS,

BOOTS, SHOES, CROCKERY & GLASSWARE,

at

AT FARMER PRICES.

CALL AND SEE THEIR STOCK WHICH IS ALWAYS COMPLETE.

NEXT DOOR TO THE ST. STEPHEN'S HOTEL, MAIN STREET.

The advertisement on the left was probably the first printed for the business operating under the name "REARDON BROTHERS".

But **WHO** were the REARDON BROTHERS ?

Several pictorial history books on Midland have included the picture of five brothers: William, James, Thomas, Michael and John. A copy of the picture is reproduced below. The caption says "They operated an early general store and became prominent Midland residents". This is not necessarily true – records show that two brothers never resided in Midland.

The father of the Reardon brothers, **John Reardon (II)**, of Birch Run, Saginaw County, Michigan was born in Ireland on 24 July, 1814. He came to America when young – first to Canada and later to Michigan to farm. He married Catherine Mulloy in 1835. They initially resided in Asphodel, Peterborough Township, Ontario, Canada where they began to raise their family of 13 children. John (III) was first born (31 Aug. 1836) followed by Anna (1838), Michael (b.1840,d.1840), Michael (1842), James (1844), William (1846), Thomas (1848), Mary (1849), Catherine (1853), Margaret (1855, Birch Run), Elizabeth (1858), Alice (1860) and Dennis (1872, Canada).

John (II) died at age 79 on 3 Feb. 1893 at his farm home in Birch Run. His wife, Catherine, died 23 April 1895 in Vienna Township, Michigan.



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REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan 1869-1910
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First we will summarize what happened to the children of John (II) Reardon other than the five brothers.

Anna, John (II) and Catherine Reardon's second child, married Patrick O'Brien in 1861 in County Line, Michigan. They resided in the Birch Run area, probably farming, and had 6 children.

The 8th through 12th children of John (II) and Catherine Reardon were all girls.

Mary was 5 when the family moved to Birch Run. She married Dennis McCarty and they had 2 children: Charles (? - ?) and John (? - ?). After her husband's death she married William Wilson and had 2 more children: Ada E. (? - ?) and William Clarence (? - ?). She and her family eventually moved to California.

Catherine (b. 25 Mar. 1853) was one year old when the family left Canada. She married Frank Thompson in 1874 and they moved to Midland. They had 7 children: Augusta (? - ?), Mary Ellen (1876 - ?), Maude Agnes (1878 - ?), Myra (? - ?), Frank H. (1882 - ?), Mark Edward (? - ?) and William Clarence (1899 - ?). Catherine Reardon Thompson died in 1914 in Midland.

Margaret (24 Mar. 1855) was the first child born in Birch Run to the Reardon's. She married Garret Dexter in July 1875 and they settled in Saginaw. They had 8 children: Jennie (1877 - ?), Blanche Ellen (? - ?), Howard Frederick (1880 - ?), Elizabeth (1882 - ?), Catherine Mary (1884 - ?), Frank (1888 - ?), Edna (1891 - ?) and Eulalia (1893 - ?).

Elizabeth was born in Birch Run in 1858. She married Edward R. Carlson and they eventually moved to California. They had 3 children: Edward (1888 - ?), Minnie (1892 - ?) and Mildred (1894 - ?).

Alice was born 12 April 1860 on the farm in Birch Run. She married William Amelle Price in 1890. They lived in Virginia where their 3 children were born: Herbert William (1884 - ?), Alice Emily (1888 - ?) and John Francis (1892 - ?). The family returned to Michigan settling in the Midland area where there are many descendants.

Dennis Judge, the 13th child of John (II) and Catherine Reardon, was apparently born in Canada in June, 1872, although raised on the farm in Birch Run. He married Emma ?; they had one child: Josephine (1896 - ?).

Now back to the Reardon brothers.

JOHN REARDON

John (III), the oldest child, was 18 when the family moved to Birch Run in 1854. He married Mary Anne Laffen in Corunna, Michigan on June 3, 1862, and they began raising a family: Mary (28 Mar. 1863 - ?), Catherine (4 Sep. 1865 - ?), Adelaine (Oct. 1868 - ?) and John (30 July 1872, died same day). The family moved to Midland in 1886, much later than his younger brothers. John may have been a partner in the **REARDON BROTHERS** lumber mill but soon branched out. He became a partner with an industrious young man, John Nehil, and they built a heading and shingle mill north of the former Benson Street bridge. It was a good business but was soon destroyed by fire. They relocated the operation near the old Michigan Central Railroad office. In 1887 John Nehil married John Reardon's daughter Catherine (Kate). Later the firm was named **K. Nehil Company** for John Nehil's wife. The business was mainly a sawmill and planning mill that produced shingles and barrel tops. John Reardon was the Superintendent of the mill. As time passed the business was relocated and known as John Nehil & Son, then in 1924 the Nehil Lumber Company and in 1971 the Nehil Home Center. It was later sold and is now the Erb Lumber Company on Ashman Street.

John (III) Reardon was active in Midland public affairs, was a member of St. Brigid's Catholic Church and of the Midland Knights of Columbus. He passed away on 25 Oct. 1926 at age 90. His wife, Anne, died earlier on 12 Sep. 1917.

John (III) and Anne Reardon's oldest child, **Mary**, never married. She lived at home with her parents in Midland. She died in Midland 5 Mar. 1936.

Catherine Reardon, who married John Nehil (b. 7 Oct. 1861), was an active member of the Midland community. They had 9 children: Thomas E. (1889 - ?), Mary Anna (1889 - 1968), Leo (1892 - ?), Floyd A. (12 July 1893 - 25 Aug. 1949), Louise T. (5 Aug. 1895 - 3 Apr. 1986), Reardon J. (25 Aug. 1897 - 5 May 1987), Katherine Nehil

(continued on next page)

REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan 1869-1910*(continued from previous page)*

Short (14 June 1900 - ?), Florence Nehil Ronan (29 Sep. 1902 -), and Lawrence W. (31 Mar. 1905 – 2 Mar. 1952). John Nehil died at age 68 in Midland on 8 Nov. 1929. Catherine Reardon Nehil died 4 Dec. 1967 in Midland at age 102.

Adelaide Reardon married John H. Anderson in Midland on ?. They had ? children: ? (-), ? (-). Adelaide Reardon Anderson died in Midland on ?. John Anderson died ? in Midland.

Surnames for descendents of John Reardon include Nehil, Pickens, Dexter, Mann, McCann, Arenas, Camp, Kaweck, Ronan, MacDonald, Short, Brown, and Cornelius.

The next two sons of John (II) and Catherine Reardon, Michael and James (2nd and 3rd of the Reardon brothers) never resided in Midland although they were well known because of their frequent visits.

MICHAEL REARDON

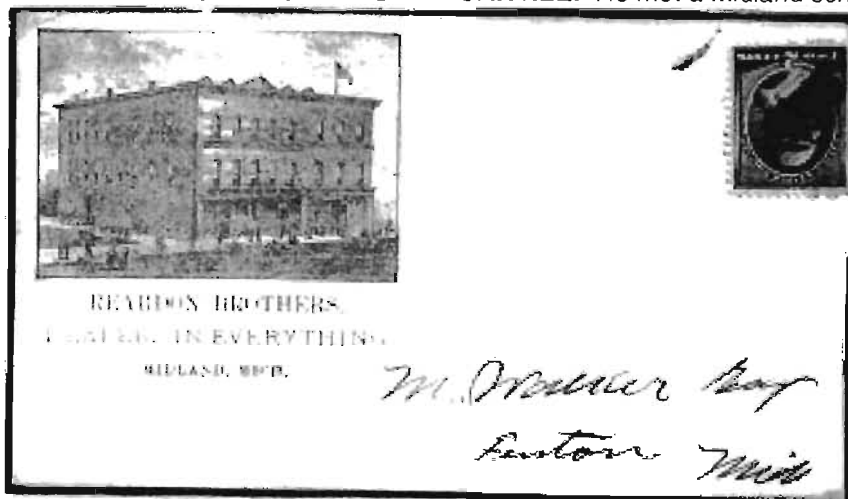
Michael Reardon married Sarah Laffen, sister of Anna, in 1867 and they lived in the Grand Rapids area. They had 5 children: Charles E. (1868-1904), John (1874- ?), Herbert James (1878-?), Unknown infant (1880) and Willard (1881-?). Michael passed away in Sep. 1924 at the Soldiers' Home in Grand Rapids at age 80.

JAMES REARDON

James Reardon married Ann Beardsley in 1874. They had 9 children: Martha Reardon Durwood (1876-?), John Reardon (1878-?), Carrie Reardon (1879-?), Louise Reardon McDonald (1880-?), William Reardon (?-?), Elizabeth Reardon Cuthbertson (1884-?), Arthur Reardon (1886-?), Edmund Reardon (?-?) and Edith Reardon Hart (1890-1966). The James Reardon family lived and farmed in Saginaw County. James died on 16 Jan. 1913 in Taymouth Township at age 67.

WILLIAM REARDON

The next son of John (II) and Catherine Reardon, **William**, married Martha Salisbury on 12 Jan. 1869 in Birch Run. Following her sudden death, he came to Midland and at age 23 began the business which eventually became **REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE**. He met a Midland school teacher, Adelaide E. Huyek (b. 7 Mar.



1855 in Clio) and on 15 Sep. 1875 they were married in Ionia, Michigan, where her parents lived. William and "Addie" had 3 children: William E. (19 May 1871 – 4 Aug. 1959), Beulah (14 Feb. 1885 – 13 Feb. 1973) and Ivah (1888 - ?). They lived in a very nice home on corner of Larkin and George.

This postal history cover (described earlier on page 8), was mailed in the 1880s and shows a corner cachet of the Reardon Building with the title "**REARDON BROTHERS**".

William and Addie were active, prominent citizens of Midland. He served as village mayor, was head of

the Knights Pythias and Knights Templars and organized Midland's first fire department. William and Thomas Reardon were the owner/operators of **REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE** which sold all kinds of supplies to both residents and lumber camps. An advertisement from **THE MIDLAND SUN** 23 June 1881 shows the numerous items offered for sale. The creator of their advertisements was quite innovative. Their general store

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REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan 1869-1910

REARDON BROS. REARDON BROS.

IMMENSE LEAD ON TEAS.

CASH IS WHAT IS WANTED
This Time at

REARDON BROTHERS
MIDLAND MICHIGAN

NEVER BEFORE
In the history of the county has there been

SO MANY GOODS GIVEN AWAY!
FOR SO LITTLE MONEY

Canton Gingham, Dress Goods,
|| MOMIE CLOTHS ||
(A New Thing) The German Plaid,
CASSIMERES IN BLACK AND COLORS!

Broadhead Alpaca,
New Lint Ribbons,
Handkerchiefs and Ladies' Hosiery,
CRETONS, CRETONS,
For Furniture Trimming

Summer Cloakings, Ready Made Clothing, Neck-
wear, Hats and Furnishing Goods.

WHO WANTS A "NEW HOME?"
Call at Reardons and see it. So handsome durable and cheap.

HARDWARE, HARDWARE.
Iron, Steel, Nails, Cutlery, and in fact anything in the
Hardware line from a tack to a full-fledged saw mill.

Our Stock of **BOOTS, SHOES & RUBBERS**
Is always full and Complete.

Least but not Least comes our Immense Stock of
FRESH GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS!
Which is never allowed to run short.

Always Best in Kind the Place,
Reardon Brother's Great Mammoth Triple Store.

was the largest in Midland at that time. William was also involved in operating an elevator, lumber mill, flour mill and other businesses in Midland. He owned many tracts of land. In 1900 he built and operated the elevator in Coleman. Later he established and built Coleman's second bank which his son William managed. On 15 Aug. 1910 one of the worst fires in Midland destroyed the 3-story brick Reardon Brothers building and neighboring buildings. Reardon then retired from the mercantile business, but backed one of his employees, August Wenzel, in establishing a business which eventually became Wenzel Hardware (which operated in Midland at several locations for more than 90 years. Addie was very active in the Midland Presbyterian Church throughout her life. She died of apoplexy at her home in Midland on 1 July 1914 and was mourned by many. On 10 Nov. 1915 in Detroit, William (age 67) married Lula E. Richardson (age 37), his bookkeeper. Around 1919 the Reardons sold their large land and business interests in Midland and left for California. They lived in Santa Monica until their deaths – Lulu on 3 July 1933 and William on 27 Jan. 1934 at age 86.

William E. Reardon, the first child of William and Addie Reardon, graduated from Midland High School in 1887. He attended college and became a lawyer in the Midland area. He also managed the Coleman Bank for his father.

As a youth he collected STAMPS. Shown on the next page is a rare postal card (Scott #U87) from William Jr. to stamp dealers in Canada postmarked "Midland Mich – Aug 9" and dated "Aug 9/84" on the message side. What kind of cards he traded for would be interesting to know; probably printed postal cards - picture postcards were not produced until much later.

On 28 Feb. 1894 William Jr. married Sarah Josephine McCann (b. 1874) and they resided in Midland. They had 3 children: Marie Reardon Matzinger (13 Mar. 1895 – 17 Feb. 1981), William Edward Reardon (10 Oct. 1896 – 11 Feb. 1987) and Josephine Elizabeth Reardon Bejcek (27 Mar. 1912 – ?). William Jr. and Sarah were later divorced. William Jr. died 4 Aug. 1959 at Campbell Nursing Home, Oklahoma City and is buried in the Midland Cemetery.

Beulah Reardon was born 14 Feb. 1885 in Saginaw and adopted by William and Addie Reardon. She married William Hall Caple in Midland on 6 Sep. 1905 and they resided in Midland. They had 4 children: William Reardon Caple (2 Jan. 1908 – Dec. 1973), Robert Andrew Caple (2 Jan. 1911 – Jan. 1982), Jean Caple Pontz (3 Sep. 1917 - ?) and Olive Barbara Caple Kapplinger (3 Nov. 1924 - ?). Beulah died 13 Feb. 1973 at age 88.

Ivah Reardon was born July 1887 and was also adopted by the Reardons. She married Edward Willett on ??? and they had one child: Jack (? - ?). There is minimal information available regarding Ivah and her family.

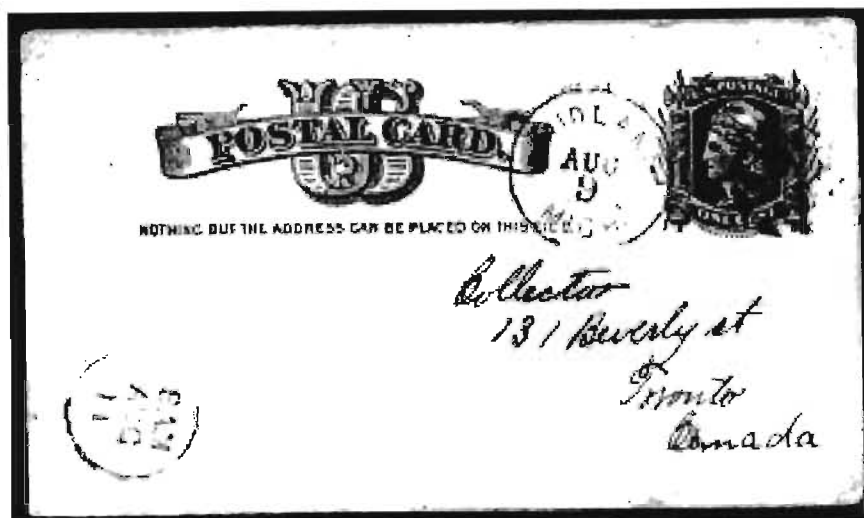
(continued on next page)

REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan

1869-1910

(continued from previous page)

Midland Mich Aug 9/84
 I received your stamps but
 might. You will know what
 I think of your stamps for
 about the time you receive
 this postal you will also re-
 ceive a package of 20 cards
 for 40 stamps
 If you want more ^{write}
 me and I will send them.
 I have some comic ones.
 Do you want them.
 Will Reardon Jr.
 Midland City
 Midland Co
 Mich
 M.R.R.



Surnames for descendents of William Reardon include Matzinger, Gagen, Dwight, Bejcek, Caple, Flynn, Pontz, McCleod, Kapplinger, Sena-Gomes, Mattie and Folsom.

THOMAS REARDON

The seventh child of John (II) and Catherine Reardon, **Thomas**, was born 22 Sep 1848 in Canada. He was six years old when the family emigrated to Michigan to farm in Birch Run. Farming was not his lifestyle – he attended Bryant & Stratton Business College in Detroit. He joined with D. E. Salisbury to establish a drug and grocery business in Clio. There he met Jimina Dobney a visiting English lassie – they married 2 April 1871. In 1873, in association with H. W. Beckwith of Midland, he launched a grocery and dry goods business in Ludington. A year or so later he joined his brother William as an active partner in **REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE**. The advertisement on the next page from **THE MIDLAND SUN** on July 27, 1882 again emphasizes the innovativeness and numerous products of the merchants (what do you think of the prices?). Thomas was a prominent Midland citizen and very active in the Order of the Masons (32nd Degree Mason) – both in Midland and the state. He was also a Maccabee, a Woodman, an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Pythias. Thomas and Jemina had 2 children: Minnie (1 Nov. 1872 – 11 July 1902) and Anna (Sep. 1879 - ?). Thomas died at home in Midland 3 Jan. 1906 at age 57; he was buried under the auspices of the Masonic State Grand Lodge. Jemina outlived her husband by 13 years dying 11 Dec. 1919 at age 71.

(continued on next page)

REARDON BROTHERS MERCANTILE – Midland, Michigan

1869-1910

(continued from previous page)

Minnie Reardon, Thomas and Jemina's first child, married Harry Piersol in Midland 21 Oct. 1891. They had 2 children: Ruth Piersol Beckler Tice (14 Nov. 1892 – 14 Nov. 1963) and Thomas Reardon Peirsol (1 Nov. 1894 – 24 Feb. 1959). Minnie died in Ann Arbor in 1903 so Ruth and Thomas lived with their grandparents in Midland.

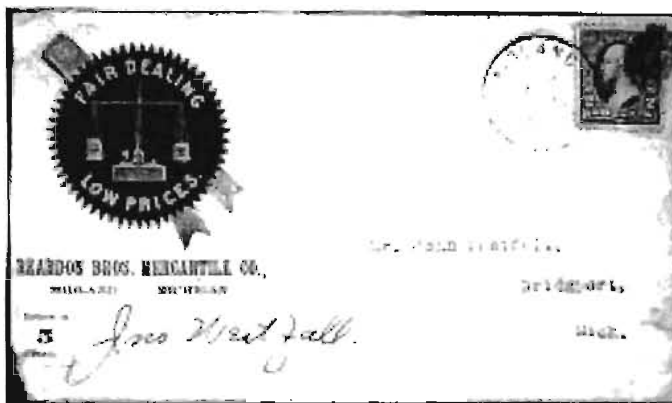
Anna Reardon, second daughter of Thomas and Jemina Reardon, married W. Lee Wood in the early 1900's. They had one child: William Wood (? - ?). After the death of her husband, she married Robert T. McClosky on 20 May 1920.

Surnames for the descendents of Thomas Reardon include Piersol, Kline, Barton, Matthews, Zurawic, Rockwell and Wood.

So WHO were the REARDON BROTHERS ?

There were 5 Reardon brothers who are referred to in the early history of Midland. However, only 3 actually lived in Midland: William, John and Thomas. If we are referring to the general merchandising store – they were **WILLIAM REARDON** and **THOMAS REARDON** – not all 5 brothers as pictured.

The business they operated was unique and aggressive. There were probably 5 or 6 similar merchandise stores in Midland during the period 1869 – 1910 but this business stood above all. The 1890's postal history envelope bears a corner cachet that tells it all - **FAIR DEALING** and **LOW PRICES**.



Much of the information for this article was taken from the "NEHIL-REARDON, First Families of Midland County" publication of 1992 by Thomas E. Nehil and Kevin Nehil. The editors also thank Jo Brines and Virginia Parsons for their assistance in researching data. Hopefully some readers will recognize surnames and perhaps be encouraged to participate in the **MGS's First Families of Midland County** project presently underway.

"MIRABILE DICTU!"

The above quotation is supposed to be tolerably good Latin. Its significance is "I marvel at Teill" and it applies well to the transcendent stock of goods now to be seen in magnificently triple store of

REARDON BROTHERS

Among the lines shown at this place at present are the following remarkably cheap:

2,000 yards Good Prints at 4 cents per yard.
4,000 yards Gingham at 7 cents per yard.
10,000 yards Cotton at 6 cents per yard.

The latter are bargains as there will anywhere at 5 cents per yard.
There is no handling about these goods. They are there, and that is best of all.

We have also

4 SHOWCASES FULL OF RIBBONS
THE LARGEST LINE OF PARASOLS

Now exhibited here from 5 cents up.
Increase that of

LACES, COLLARS, COLLARETTES,
TIES, ETC.

Tremendous Line of Hosiery
Ladies' Hosiery from 8 cents to \$1.50 per pair.

LADIES DRESS GOODS.
Endless quantities from 8 cents up.

LADIES KID THREAD, SILK AND KID GLOVES!
Large quantities in Colors, One Shilling per Yard.

Finest Line of White Goods Ever Shown Here!
Embroidery and tatting in profusion, Beaded and Plain Muslin, Paper Muslin, French Embroidery, Etc., Etc. Large line of Paris.

Ladies' Shetland Shawls.
We offer

A LADIES' FINEST MERINO FOR \$1
A - CALF - - - \$1
A - BUTTON - - - \$1.25
A - KID - - - \$1.50

Test American Kid Shawl for \$2.50 which has retailed in the market for \$3.50.
We also keep a full line of French Kid Shawls.

Gents' Shoes, Full and Elegant Line.
A GOOD GENT'S GUIDE FOR Aids.

A FULL LINE OF GENTS' GENUINE SHOES.

A FULL LINE OF BOOTS.
An excellent full stock boot for \$9.50.

READY-MADE CLOTHING!
Shirts from \$5.00 up. Ties from \$1.50 up.

LINEN DUSTERS, AND ULSTERS.
HATS! HATS! HATS!
A large line—all the latest Novelties. Our Stock line we never kept.

Our Grocery and Provision Department
is full to overflowing. We have particularly a

GREAT DRIVE IN TEAS
Running from 12 o'clock up. We keep about one cent under the market continually sold.
We are fully stocked up in all lines of Staple Provisions and Family Groceries, Flour,
Feed, Oats, Corn Meal, Etc., Etc. A better line affords than any competitor.

HARDWARE, HARDWARE.
Full descriptions. Saws, Planing Implements, Nails, Carpenter Tools, Hardware, Etc., Etc.
Thousands Etc. Etc.

Everything Cheap for Cash!
Give Us a Call at Once.
REARDON BROTHERS

Ralph Hillman

Ralph Hillman is one of the **MGS's outstanding members**. A member since 1972, he has served as **President** (2 terms), **Treasurer**, **Program Chair** (5 terms), **speaker** (10 times), **coordinated** research trips to FHC in Salt Lake City (2 times), **chaired** seminars and assisted with many projects. In addition he has done extensive research on both his family and his wife's family resulting in publication in *The American Geologist*. He is a member of at least 10 other genealogical and historical societies. He has published more than a dozen articles/books. He has been a certified **Genealogical Research Specialist** since 1986.

We asked Ralph to write a biography for the *Pioneer Record* stressing his genealogical interests. What follows is his story.

#####

I was born and raised in Detroit. My father had come from Maine to Detroit with his brother following WW I to work in the automobile industry. He returned to Maine to marry my mother, brought her back to Detroit, and they spent the remainder of their years there until my father died in 1957. My mother moved to Midland in 1965 and died here in 1971. Ten of my sixteen great-great-grandparents were born in Maine, and two were born in Massachusetts and moved to Maine in the 1820s. The other four great-greats were born in England and Newfoundland and their posterity eventually gravitated to Maine through New Brunswick.



Many of these New England lines have been traced back to the early colonial days. There are Mayflower passengers, French and Indian War fighters, Revolutionary soldiers, War of 1812 veterans, but I am ashamed to say that none of my ancestors fought in the Civil War. They all managed to escape the drafts by paying for substitutes or being too young or too old. The first Hillman to arrive on colonial soil was John, who at the age of 16 was "shanghaied" from the Thames River and brought to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1667. He later settled on Martha's Vineyard where Hillmans resided for four generations until Thomas, my 4th great-grandfather, moved to Maine. There were several removals from the Vineyard in the 1790s, because all the trees had been cut down and there was little firewood.

My wife Jeanie has some interesting lines as well - much more diversified than my strictly English lines. Although she has several very early New England ancestors, others came from Netherlands, from Sweden, and from Wales. We have enjoyed trips to England and the Netherlands to visit some original stamping grounds of both hers and my ancestors.

I first came to Midland in 1953 to work for Dow Chemical after earning my B.S. and M.S. degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Michigan. I met Jeanie here that same year. She had also come in 1953 to teach having earned her degree from Oberlin College. We were very active in the Young Business Peoples Group at the Community Center and the Young Adult Group at Memorial Presbyterian Church. We married in 1954 and have four children, two of whom still live in Midland. Both Jeanie and I are elders at Memorial Presbyterian Church. I have been active in committees of the presbytery and served one year as moderator of the Presbytery of Lake Huron.

My work at Dow was primarily in research and engineering, and I suppose that is why I enjoy researching my ancestors in a very disciplined way. I became certified as a Genealogical Records Specialist in 1986, and have been recertified every five years after meeting the exacting standards of the Board for Certification in Washington.

I have been a member of the Midland Genealogical Society since 1972. I have some records from 1974 -75 when I served as treasurer and total assets then were \$89.53 including dues of \$4.00 per year from 17 members. We have had some excellent programs over the years and many fine and active members. I have enjoyed being a member and serving the Society in many ways. I'm sure that the Society will continue to flourish for many years to come.

#####

MGS November 28, 2001 Meeting

Program Chair **Richard Smeltzer** introduced speaker, **Susan Clark**, Director of the **Midland LDS Family History Center**. Ms. Clark discussed the current History Center hours: Wed. & Thur. – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM and 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM; and Sat. 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. LDS members volunteer their services to assist local genealogists in their research.

There are 3400 Family History Centers in 75 countries. Research outlines are available for every state plus many foreign countries for a cost of \$1.00. Film or fiche rentals are available for a period of 40 days. The Midland LDS center has vital statistics on site for all Michigan counties except Wayne County.

The following Databases are available:

- Ancestral file with 35.6 million lineage linked names
- IGI (International Genealogical Index) - contains 600 million individual names plus a 2001 addendum with an additional 125 million names.
- Pedigree Resource File – submission made via Internet
- Family History Library Catalogue – lists all Salt Lake City Library holdings
- S.S. Death Index
- Scottish Index
- Korean and Vietnam service men death index
- 1880 census and national index
- 1881 British census and national index (inc. England, Scotland and Wales)
- www.familysearch.org allows free Internet access



Past LDS efforts were focused on microfilming records. New effort focused on putting information into a digital format for computer use. The Ellis Island Immigration Index is now available via the Internet. The Mormon Migration Index is also available for researchers with Mormon ancestors. This is a valuable database for many Mormons kept journals and/or wrote autobiographies.

Meeting concluded with two reports from members. Floyd Andrick reported on a research project he is involved in conjunction with the Midland County Historical Society. The project involves interviewing Midland county elders older than 75. The group has completed 54 interviews with 180 individuals still to be interviewed. All interviews have been transcribed, taped, and are available through the Midland county Historical Society. Following his report Floyd introduced a German-born friend, Tom Reinecke, who has lived in the U.S. for 5 years. Tom volunteered to assist members who are researching their German ancestors.

Kathy Bohl, MGC representative, reported on Senate Bill 974. This bill will enable birth records to be opened after 100 years rather than the current 110 years. The Michigan Genealogical Council is supporting passage of this bill. As of this writing (Jan. 16, 02) the Senate has passed this bill and it is now in the House awaiting action.

IMPORTANT WEB ADDRESSES

MGS WEB SITE <http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimsg/>

MIDLAND COUNTY
GenWeb SITE <http://www.usgennet.org/usa/mi/county/midland/>

MICHIGAN GenWeb SITE <http://www.rootsweb.com/~migenweb/>

LDS Church Family History WEB SITE <http://www.familysearch.org>

MGS January 16, 2002 Meeting

Richard Smeltzer, Program Chair, opened the meeting with comments regarding the membership survey developed by the Program committee. The **Survey** will be mailed to all members in the next issue of the **Pioneer Record**. He requested that members please respond to the survey. Survey data will be analyzed and used to assist with future direction and program planning for the MGS.

Ralph Hillman presented an informative program on **"Preparing for a Genealogical Research Trip"**. He separated his talk into 3 distinct areas which were:

1. Organize
 - a. review your data – bring up to date
 - b. write a narrative/or chronological outline (to identify missing links)
 - c. prepare list of questions – re what data you need to gather
2. Identify
 - a. list records needed
 - b. study history and geography
 - c. search nearby sources/facilities
 - d. identify/list institutions and/or locations where data can be researched
 - e. take practice trips to new facilities in your area
3. Record source(s) of information
 - Date
 - Name of facility
 - Title
 - Author
 - Page number
 - Call number
 - Data

Ralph cautioned that it is important to transcribe data "word for word" and if possible photocopy for accuracy. Always look for original information, i.e., primary data – not just what is contained in an index. He cautioned that census data was not always done accurately and therefore is not a source of **primary information**. LDS census data is a transcription – not the original record and errors may exist. Extraction information on the IGA is from an original source; however a submission is not primary data and needs to be verified for accuracy.

When planning a trip to do genealogical research, Ralph had the following suggestions:

1. Pre-planning and Travel
 - a. make an agenda with a back-up plan
 - b. plan carefully what to take
 - c. conduct yourself in a business like manner
 - d. **Document, Document, Document**
 - e. check the appropriate sources
 - f. keep focused, but do some browsing
2. Questions to ask (before and after):
 - a. What did I set out to do on the trip?
 - b. How much did I accomplish?
 - c. What else did I do on the trip?
 - d. What have I learned from the trip?
3. Follow-up:
 - a. how does this research trip change my list of things to do
 - b. what are my research goals now for the future
 - c. what ideas do I now have for my next research trip

*******From the Levy's*******

The Smith's were proud of their family tradition. Their ancestors had come to America on the Mayflower and later had included Senators and Wall Street wizards.

They decided to compile a family history, a legacy for their children and grandchildren. They hired a fine author. Only one problem arose-how to handle the story of great-uncle George, who was executed in the electric chair.

The author said he could handle the story tactfully.

The book appeared. It said "Great-uncle George who occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution, was attached to his position by the strongest of ties, and his death came as a great shock."

MGS PROGRAMS FOR 2001-2002

Meetings will be scheduled at 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of the month in the lounge of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Programs for the fall will be as follows:

February 20, 2002

Panel of MGS members, will discuss "Securing Research Help From Remote Locations" Panel members are: Floyd Andrick, Doug Applegath, Jo Brines & Dick Skochdopole.

March 20, 2002

Jack Dickert, MGS member, will speak on "How to Get Your Genealogy Research Results Printed and Why"

April 17, 2002 - NOTE: Meeting at Carriage House Meeting Room at Bradley Home, 3200 Cook Road

Carol Callard, specialist from the Library of Michigan, will speak on "Immigration Records & Ship Passenger Lists". She will explain how to research the details of your ancestor's arrival in the U.S.

April 23 - May 1, 2002 - MGS FHC/Salt Lake City Trip

May 15, 2002 - MGS Annual Meeting

Wilma Diesen and Ruth Ann Casadonte, MGS members, will speak on "Family Reunions - Our Experiences and Suggestions"

Election of MGS Officers for Fiscal Year 2002-2003

Refreshments & conversation will follow the program at all meetings

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Michigan Genealogical Council
2002 ABRAMS Genealogical Series

The MGC has sponsored a series of 6 Saturday workshops, each with a special subject, that focus on genealogical resources available at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. The first meeting has been held and five remain.

February 9	Genealogy Resources
April 13	Using the Michigan Documents Collection for Research
June 22	Genealogy & the Internet
August 10	Military Records & Resources
October 12	French Canadian Records
December 7	Naturalization Records & Resources

Cost is \$10 per workshop. The 90-minute sessions begin at 9:15 am. For more details go to www.rootsweb.org/~mimgc

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Conferences, Workshops & Seminars

March 16, 2002	Downriver Gen. Soc. Conference
March 16, 2002	Berrien County Gen. Soc. Workshop
April 13, 2002	25 th Annual Spring Genealogy Sem Monroe Co. Gen. Soc.
April 27, 2002	Livingston Cnty Gen. Soc.
May 15-18, 2002	National Genealogical Society Conference, Wisc. State Gen. Soc.
June 1, 2002	Eaton Cnty Gen. Soc.
July 14-19, 2002	International Assn. Of Jewish Genealogical Societies - Dearborn, MI
August 7-10, 2002	FGS Conference - Ontario, CA
October 26, 2002	Washtenaw Co. Gen. Soc. Conf.

BOOKS FOR SALE

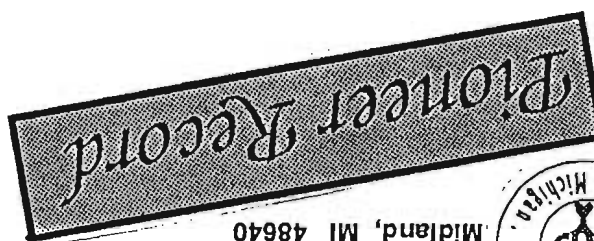
The following books, published by the Midland Genealogical Society, are available for sale at any MGS meeting, at the Genealogy Room, Grace A. Dow Public Library or by mail. Price of each book is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

MIDLAND COUNTY OBITUARY INDEX (#1) -- 1872-1927. The book consists of 16,000 abstractions covering 55 years from the Midland Times (1872-1875), the Midland Sun (1892-1924) and the Midland Republican (1881-1927). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 1/2 by 11 inches. (75 copies remaining)

MIDLAND COUNTY OBITUARY INDEX (#2) -- 1928-1950. The book consists of 16,000 abstractions covering 22 years from the Midland Republican (1928-1937) and the Midland Daily News (1937-1950). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 1/2 by 11 inches. Note: Both Obituary Books (#1 & #2) are available in a package deal for \$35.00. (120 copies remaining)

MIDLAND PIONEERS, edited by Ora Flaningam. This book is a compilation of the most interesting genealogical, historical and humorous reprints from newspapers published in the Pioneer Record. The book is 6 by 9 inches, soft bound, 259 pages. (0 copies remaining, but orders being compiled at Genealogy desk)

To ORDER A BOOK write: Midland Genealogical Society BOOK; Grace A. Dow Memorial Library;
1710 W. St. Andrews Dr.; Midland, MI 48640



MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
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Pioneer Record is published quarterly (Sep., Nov., Feb. & Apr.) by the **Midland Genealogical Society**. Queries are free to members and should be sent to: **PIONEER RECORD**; Midland Genealogical Society; G.A. Dow Memorial Library; 1710 St. Andrews Dr.; Midland, MI 48640. We welcome genealogical material which would be of interest to the general membership. Articles to be included in **PR** should be submitted to the above address by the 15th of Aug., Oct., Jan. & Mar..

INFORMATION ABOUT MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The **MGS** meets on the **3rd Wednesday** of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr. & May at **7:00 P.M.** in the lounge of the **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library**, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640. Visitors are always welcome. Watch the **Midland Daily News** or local **Midland MCTV, Channel 5** for upcoming speakers, dates and times.

Membership dues are \$14.00 for single and \$17.50 for a couple and can be paid after July 1, but must be paid by Nov. 25, to continue receiving the **Pioneer Record**. Dues may be paid at any **MGS** meeting or may be sent to the Membership Chair, Midland Genealogical Society at the **MGS Room, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library**, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.