



# PIONEER RECORD

November 2003

Volume XXIV, No. 2

## RESEARCHING YOUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS

In the spring of 2002, the **MGS** program committee solicited a member profile survey. The purpose was to recognize and record members' experiences in genealogical research, as well as share experiences and skills. Included in that survey was data related to specific countries where members were doing ancestral research. Analysis of the data indicated that twenty six percent of member respondents were **researching English ancestors**.

Earl and I include ourselves in the group of members researching English ancestors. After our spring **MGS** 2002 visit to the **Family History Center in Salt Lake City**, Earl realized that he needed to do some on site research in **England** to uncover some of the family history data he was seeking. His mother's family all came from what is now the metropolitan **London** area during the mid to late 1800's. Census records, pictures, old letters, bible entries -- all provided a variety of family history information -- but no family tree or primary documentation of birth, marriage or death records.

During the fall of 2002, we discovered an **Elderhostel program** scheduled for September, 2003 entitled "**Researching Your English Ancestors**". Bingo!!!! Further investigation showed this to be an ideal opportunity to learn about record availability, do some actual research, and explore a country we had never visited before.

(continued on page 11)



## MGS MEETING \*\* NOVEMBER 19, 2003

The third **Midland Genealogical Society** meeting of the fall will be held Wednesday, **November 19**, at the new **MIDLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM** starting at **7:00 pm**.

**Gary Skory**, Director of the Midland County Historical Society, will conduct a tour of the new **Midland County Historical Museum**. At our March 19, 2002 **MGS** meeting, Gary described the progress on the building construction. At this meeting he will proudly lead us on a tour of the new facilities, which are still quite empty. The building was constructed by **Three Rivers Construction Company** and was dedicated **October 5, 2003**. **MGS** member **Floyd Andrick** (also a member of the **MCHS** Board of Managers) will assist in conducting the tour. The Museum is located at **3417 W. Main St.**

Following the tour, the normal business of the society will be conducted in a meeting room within the **Museum**. Refreshments and conversation will follow the meeting.

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## From the President

This morning, as I was listening to the news on the TV, a number of **fire victims** in California were asked what they were able to, or chose to, **retrieve** quickly when they evacuated their homes. Many of them counted as their treasures, other than family members, **old family photos, letters, memorabilia** of this type. Years ago I had told my husband that if we ever had a fire at home, all our genealogy research and old photos would be the **most important** things for us to save. These items are **priceless**, with no monetary value, frequently impossible to replace, and are sometimes our most precious possessions. There is good reason for having at least one backup copy of information somewhere else than at home.

Each **PR** issue brings the society closer to the already stated "retirement" for Earl and Faye Ebach, editors for the past five years. They have developed the **PR** into an outstanding quarterly newsletter, and they are going to be greatly missed after their final issue in April, 2004. **Five years** have involved many hundreds, maybe thousands, of hours of writing, editing, typing, including a huge commitment to the Society. Not too many people can say the same. **PLEASE**, every member, consider if you can help on a committee of perhaps 4-5 people to continue publishing the **PR** next year. Perhaps you are good at researching for information for an article, perhaps at writing articles, at typing, at proof reading, at printing out address labels and/or mailing.

The newsletter committee is **appointed**, so it is up to Fran Longsdorf and myself to find "willing workers". It would be much easier for both of us to have **YOU volunteer** rather than for us to make 90 or more phone calls to local members. She and I do not know what each member's skills/or interests are. **YOU** know what you can do. There must be 4-5 people in our Society who would be willing to work together on the **PR**. We have one of the finest looking, most informative quarterly newsletters on the shelf in the genealogy room. Please help so that our outstanding newsletter can continue.

Our first two meetings this year were both well attended. Definitely different subjects, but both interesting. I knew very little about Lewis & Clark, but now know why Wilma's subject wasn't "Pomp and Circumstance".

Earl Ebach's feature article of the **wartime letters from England** in the September issue of the **PR** certainly **brought back memories** of things that happened in the early 1940's. The **Saginaw News**, in its "Bygone Years" column, has related all through 2002 and 2003 events/happenings/daily life from 1942-1943. Among **all** the things rationed, I had forgotten about shoes. I did remember the 35 mph speed limit and the restriction on how far one could drive in order to conserve gasoline. Who remembers the **Office of Price Administration** that put the lid on many prices, including milk and fresh berries? I was amazed at the amount of money that Saginaw was asked to raise selling **war bonds**, with the goal reached many times. We children were even asked to buy 10¢ stamps to fill a book. Very difficult and scary times, but all communities pulled together and forgot about self. Times have definitely changed, but could we/would we, as a nation, be up to the task, if need be, again? Beginning with ourselves, are we each seeking **PEACE** in our community, in our nation, and in our world? I am indeed thankful that my ancestors 130 years ago had enough ambition, drive, and hope for a new and better life to leave Europe for the unknown (to them). Let us never forget to be **thankful** for our many blessings.

*Jo Brines*

**REMEMBER** - The **November 19th MGS** meeting will be held at the new **MIDLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM** starting at **7:00 PM**. **Bring a friend!**

\*\*\*\*\*



MIDLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM  
3417 W. MAIN ST., MIDLAND, MICHIGAN

## MGS MEETING

NOVEMBER 19, 2003  
7:00 PM

Tour of new Midland County Historical Museum  
by  
Gary Skory, Director MCHS

\*\*\*\*\*

**MGS October 15 Meeting**

President **Fran Longsdorf** opened the meeting and conducted the following business:

**Kathy Bohl**, MGS representative to the Michigan Genealogical council, reported that the Library of Michigan is now charging a fee for Archival Research done by staff members. Self conducted research done by individuals continues to be free.

**Linda Theaker**, MGS member and President of the Bay County Genealogical Society, announced that the BCGS is presenting a program on Saturday, October 25 on "The Orphan Train in Michigan". The speaker is Al Eicher.

President Fran announced that the **November 19 MGS meeting** will be held at the Midland County Historical society. Speakers will be **Gary Scory**, Director of the MCHS, and **Floyd Andrick**, MGS member.

**Ron Snyder**, MGS Treasurer, gave a brief treasurer's report.

**Joan Sommerfield**, Program committee member, introduced **Wilma Diesen**, MGS member and speaker, whose topic was "**The Circumstances of Pomp**". Considering the title, the question arose "who/or what is **Pomp**?"

While attending her annual Sargent Reunion several years ago, Wilma interacted with **Jim Sargent**, her second cousin once removed, from Bozeman, Montana. Jim serves as an Elderhostel **host/guide** for canoe trips covering part of the **Lewis and Clark expedition** trail in Montana. While serving as a guide, Jim encourages participants to assume various roles of members of the original expedition. But one important member was always missing - the **infant son of Sacagewea** whom Clark had named "**Pomp**". Jim was seeking a doll to represent **Pomp** and Wilma, who had experience making dolls, volunteered to create **Pomp**. Thus she became interested in the story of **Pomp** and has done a great deal of research about the subject. The doll "**Pomp**" has been taken on several expeditions in the past few years.



**Wilma & Pomp**

Wilma described the circumstances surrounding the **1803-1806** Lewis and Clark Expedition. The expedition actually began along the Ohio River in Clarksville, Indiana. The first leg of the trip took them as far as St. Louis in 1803. In 1804 the expedition traveled up the Mississippi river to the Missouri River on to North Dakota and the land of the Mandan where they built a fort and spent the winter.

In 1805, Lewis and Clark obtained the services of **Toussaint Charbonneau** to serve as a guide for the expedition. Charbonneau had two Indian wives, one of whom was a young **Shoshone** girl named **Sacagewea**. She was fluent in English as well as her native language. She also had an infant son named **Jean Baptise Charbonneau** who was born in February, 1805. Clark decided she was the best wife to accompany Charbonneau on the expedition. This proved to be a fateful decision, for the expedition was perceived as not hostile by various Indian tribes since a young Indian woman and her infant son were traveling with them.



Clark gave Sacagewea's infant son the name "**Pomp**". In the Shoshone language, "pomp" means "first born". There is a marker rock, named "Pompey's Pillar" near Billings, Montana which is dated and signed by W. Clark. It is the only remaining marker of the Lewis and Clark expedition that exists today.

Following the expedition, Capt. Clark took a fatherly interest in **Pomp** and made sure he received the benefits of an education. Although Clark never legally adopted **Pomp**, he ensured that he was taken care of.

**MGS MEMBERSHIP REPORT - Loretta Waters, Membership Chair**

As of this writing, for Fiscal Year 2003 the **Midland Genealogical Society (MGS)** has **104** memberships — compared to 93 this time last year. Of these, **17** are **new members** and 2 are complimentary members. So far, 90% of last year's members have paid their dues for this current year. The membership composition is: 83 single and 21 household. The single-to-household membership mix is about four single for every one household.

**PLEASE remember to pay your dues** soon if you haven't done so: it is **NOT TOO LATE!** Dues are payable in full by the end of the **MGS General Meeting** on Wednesday November 19, 2003. Those who have not paid by then will be **dropped** from the **MGS** membership rolls and no longer receive the **Pioneer Record (PR)** newsletter.

This issue of the **PR** includes the **membership list** on pages 5, 6 & 7. Please carefully read the line with your name for accuracy and completeness of the information. Note, we are missing several e-mail addresses — let us know if you do or do not have an e-mail address.

**Welcome** to the following new members who have joined **MGS** since the last issue of the **PR**..

<b>Dorothy &amp; Gary Allen</b>	Midland, MI
<b>Germaine Barrett</b>	Westland, MI
<b>Pat &amp; Walt Beasley</b>	Midland, MI
<b>Thomas Bowen</b>	Camby, IN
<b>Cindy Bruno</b>	Alma, MI
<b>Ruth Curfman</b>	Midland, MI
<b>Fran Hartnagle</b>	Midland, MI
<b>Mary Higgins</b>	Midland, MI
<b>Laressa Northrup</b>	Sanford, MI
<b>Katherine Redwine</b>	Coleman, MI
<b>Ann &amp; Doug Shoffner</b>	Hope, MI
<b>Gini &amp; Gene Thurston</b>	Midland, MI

**Midland Genealogical Society PINS** will continue to be sold at each meeting throughout the year. Although we are not allowed to put a sign up in the library, we do have some pins available there. Just ask the volunteer behind our genealogy desk. **PINS** have our **MGS** logo on them, and are only \$5.00.

**Editor's Comments:**

The complete **MGS membership list** is published in this November issue of the "**Pioneer Record**" on pages 5, 6 & 7. Those members who have **not yet paid** their 2003-2004 dues do not have **2003** entered in the last column of the table. Most have been members for many years. Some may just be forgetful until reminded personally. Let's all get together and help our Membership Chair, **Loretta Waters**, by contacting those we know and asking them to continue as members of the **MGS**. We, and they, have much to gain by their continued participation.

**TREASURER'S REPORT - Ron Snyder, MGS Treasurer**

**Income** for **MGS** 2003-2004 fiscal year to date (5 November, 2003) is **\$1390**, made up primarily of dues (\$1066), interest (\$15), research (\$38), book sales (\$40), Pins (\$85), NARA (\$35), and Donations (\$99), versus a budgeted income total of **\$3386**. **Expenses** to date are **\$899**, made up primarily of meeting rental space (\$0), Pioneer Record (\$279), MGC mileage (\$53), Membership Committee (\$0), Pins (\$557), and Misc. Operating Expenses (\$10), versus a budgeted expense total of **\$3506**.

The account balances (as of 5 November, 2003) are: Operating Checking: **\$1780.41**; Money Market: **\$4602.62**; and CD: **\$2500.00**. The total assets are **\$8883.03**.

**WITH SADNESS**

It is with sadness that we report the loss of two of our members during the past months. Both were long time **MGS** members and enjoyed researching their family histories.

On October 14, 2003 **Kenneth Eldon Shrier** passed away. The **MGS** extends our condolences to his wife, Anna, and his family. He was active in business and civic affairs in Midland. Ken authored two genealogical books on the Shrier and Chisholm family histories.

On April 11, 2003 **Juanita Winterbottom** passed away. Her husband Jim predeceased her in 1994. Juanita worked as a registered nurse in Midland and Saginaw. The **MGS** extends our condolences to her family.

MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
FY2003 Membership

Nº	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP-PLUS	PHONE	E-MAIL	FY
1	Allen	Gerald (Gary) & Dorothy Allen	801 Crescent Dr.	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-5116	gallen1006@aol.com	2003
2	Andrick	Floyd	4928 Artcrest	Midland	MI	48640-2128	989-837-0870	hlandrick@aol.com	2003
3	Anger	Margery S. "Marge"	960 E. Noyes Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-8617	989-839-9545	manger2007@aol.com	
4	Applegath	Doug & Anne	4010 Woodlawn St.	Midland	MI	48640-0000	989-631-6074	applestems@aol.com	2003
5	Babcock	Sid & Orene	1190 W. Stewart Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-0000	989-835-5925	SidneyBabcock@aol.com	
6	Baker	Lois	3273 Patterson Rd.	Freeland	MI	48623-0000	989-631-9549	lois_baker@juno.com	2003
7	Baker	Robert H.	5820 Highland Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-2203	989-631-1764		2003
8	Barnard	Melissa	1710 W St. Andrews Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-0000	989-837-3430		COME
9	Barrett	Thomas R. & Germaine	32260 Avondale St.	Westland	MI	48186-4904	734-728-7833	gbarrett2@comcast.net	2003
10	Beasley	Patricia S. "Pat" & Walton M. "Walt"	1098 W. Brooks Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-9519	989-832-8840	patriciabearley@earthlink.net	2003
11	Bennett	Walter G.	4608 W. Wackerly St.	Midland	MI	48640-2148	989-631-5247	wgbennett@chartermi.net	2003
12	Bennett	Walter L. & Colleen M.	1555 S. Sasse Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-8518	989-832-8644	bennett_wl@juno.com	2003
13	Blymyer	Elva	515 E. Ashman St.	Midland	MI	48642-4691	989-835-1368	none	2003
14	Bohl	Roger & Kathy	5003 Barto St.	Midland	MI	48640-6743	989-839-9016	kbohl30265@aol.com	2003
15	Bork	Paul George & Emma S. "Emmy"	5701 Sturgeon Creek Parkway	Midland	MI	48640-2228	989-832-8794	pgbork@aol.com	
16	Bowen	Thomas	13341 N. Carefree Ct.	Camby	IN	46113	317-856-4188	IndianaBowens@comcast.net	2003
17	Brandle	Marcia	4434 E. Wise Rd.	Freeland	MI	48623-9434	989-832-9430	mkrankle@chartermi.net	2003
18	Branson	Mary	5901 Sturgeon Ave.	Midland	MI	48640-3224	989-631-4737	molly688@chartermi.net	2003
19	Brines	Jo	4300 Castle Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-0000	989-832-8312	none	2003
20	Bruce	Mary J.	1734 S. Smith's Crossing Rd., Rt. 10	Midland	MI	48640-	989-631-2846	brucem@mindnet.org	2003
21	Bruno	Cindy	5801 N. Luce Rd.	Alma	MI	48801	989-463-8597	imawife@att.net	2003
22	Burow	Richard F. "Dick"	3811 Chestnut Hill Dr.	Midland	MI	48642-6208	989-835-8257	rbburow@aol.com	2003
23	Carr	Betty J.	P.O. Box 383	Au Gres	MI	48703-0000	989-876-8901		2003
24	Casadonte	Ruth Ann	5104 Nurmi Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-5115	bobruth@tm.net	2003
25	Cline	Sharon	2883 N. Orr Rd.	Hemlock	MI	48626	989-642-4770	scline0211@aol.com	
26	Collins	Daniel E. & Mary M.	606 Linwood	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-2566	rmmandan@aol.com	2003
27	Crane	Roland E. & Colleen C.	2808 Scarborough Ln.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-8327	mobydeck@aol.com	
28	Cronkright	Phyllis M.	1407 E. Sugnet Rd.	Midland	MI	48642-3713	989-832-3196	cybermom2@prodigy.net	2003
29	Crozier	Janet E.	30 Brown Ct.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-9653	jwcrozier@juno.com	2003
30	Curlman	Ruth	PO Box 2132	Midland	MI	48641	989-496-3060	rcurlman@chartermi.net	2003
31	Dennett	Robert F.	3262 Lakeside Dr.	Sanford	MI	48657-9446	989-687-5360	dennetr@aol.com	2003
32	Dickert	Yancey J. "Jack"	611 Chatham Dr.	Midland	MI	48642	989-832-8768	yanceyd@aol.com	2003
33	Diesen	Wilma	201 Seminole Ct.	Midland	MI	48642-3559	989-832-8485	diesens2@centurytel.net	2003
34	Dobson	Orville	5403 Campau Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-1538	odobson@aol.com	2003
35	Dorman	Phae H.	2452 N. Deer Valley	Midland	MI	48642-	989-631-0213	pdorman@aol.com	2003
36	Dostal	Bob	4406 Orchard Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-8986	bdostal@aol.com	2003
37	Dudewicz	Douglas M.	9226 Golf Rd., #214	Des Plaines	IL	60016-1759		dudewicz@yahoo.com	2003
38	Duke	Mary L.	5296 Reef Ln.	Temple	TX	76502-6837	254-986-2398	marylouduke@cs.com	
39	Ebach	Earl & Faye	4610 Andre	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-7518	faeae@chartermi.net	2003
40	Eichhorn	Jacob & Mary	4501 Arbor Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-7823	jama9312@prodigy.net	2003
41	Fike	Mary Ellen	1895 Mack Rd.	Saginaw	MI	48601-6873	989-755-3210		2003
42	Flanigan	Ora	10045 Pennsylvania Ave.	Bonish Springs	FL	34135	239-992-0367	orallan@aol.com	2003
43	Fogelsinger	Marie J.	301 E. Gary St.	Bay City	MI	48706-3584	989-686-1038	fogetmj@aol.com	2003
44	Fox	Barbara	4915 Tucker St. Apt. 3	Midland	MI	48640	989-839-9349	none	2003



MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
FY2003 Membership

Nº	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP-PLUS	PHONE	E-MAIL	FY
45	Geisert	Bruce "Bud" A.	3706 Applewood Rd.	Midland	MI	48640	989-832-7037	budgeisert@aol.com	2003
46	Gohrband	Roger & Virginia	1806 Norwood Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-	989-631-6119	rgohr@aol.com	
47	Goodwin	Rick E.	4714 Water Rd.	Sanford	MI	48657	989-689-4784	thrawn661@aol.com	2003
48	Grant	Judy A. Hoag	191 N. Spring St.	Gladwin	MI	48624-1362	989-426-8129	jagrant@ejourney.com	2003
49	Hahn	James R. "Jim"	2988 Martin Ct.	Midland	MI	48640-8537	989-835-9227	jhahn1021@aol.com	2003
50	Hartnagle	Fran	1515 Pheasant Ridge	Midland	MI	48640	989-832-8084	franann2@chartermi.net	2003
51	Hayes	Toni	5210 Water St.	Sanford	MI	48657	989-689-4241	tahayes@centurytel.net	2003
52	Hayes	Mary Lou	P. O. Box 312	Midland	MI	48640-0312	989-835-1220	mhayes6731@aol.com	2003
53	Helvey	Judy	3324 Fairlane	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-8678	gjhelvey@tm.net	
54	Higgins	Mary J.	1112 Airfield Ln.	Midland	MI	48642	989-832-8687		2003
55	Hillman	Ralph E.	600 Lakeside Circle	Midland	MI	48640-7252	989-839-9070	rlphedwd@aol.com	2003
56	Hochstetler	Dale	907 Eastman Ave.	Midland	MI	48640-4266	989-631-0850	dale20004@chartermi.net	2003
57	Hock	Gale	7071 Middle Rd.	Hope	MI	48628	989-689-3703	hocksters@aol.com	2003
58	Hodges	Robert M. & Rebecca S.	3211 Riggie St.	Midland	MI	48640-6438	989-631-5582	none	2003
59	Hoyle	Niki	1902 E. Ashman St.	Midland	MI	48642-	989-631-2083	nikihoyle@msn.net	2003
60	Humphrey	Nancy H.	2903 Mt. Vernon Dr.	Midland	MI	48642-6653	989-631-5123	nanphrey@journey.com	2003
61	Hunter	Joy Rae	4343 Kirkwood Dr.	Saginaw	MI	48603-	989-792-1138	joyraehunter@chartermi.net	
62	Juneau	Arleneth Sugnet	3912 Satellite Ln.	Midland	MI	48642-6062	989-496-3246		2003
63	Keicher	Beverly	4107 Swede	Midland	MI	48642-9327	989-631-9455	rkeiche@alpha.delta.edu	2003
64	Kennett	W. W. "Bill" & Bonnie H.	4209 Arbor Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-2604	989-835-9494		2003
65	Kocher	C. W. "Bill"	907 Deerfield	Midland	MI	48640-2708	989-631-4015	kchrbill@centurytel.net	2003
66	Kremer	Albert E., Jr. "Al"	4603 Cruz Dr.	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-7207	krem4603@earthlink.net	2003
67	Kundinger	Gloria J.	2201 W. North Union Rd.	Auburn	MI	48611	989-631-0969	gjkundin@yahoo.com	2003
68	Lackie	Nancy	585 Peterson	Sanford	MI	48657	989-687-5327	lacnan58@aol.com	2003
69	Lenz	MaryGrace	4512 N. Saginaw Rd., Apt. #321	Midland	MI	48640-2008	989-631-0131	whatever702001@yahoo.com	2003
70	Levy	Pat	1336 Boulevard Way, Apt #208	Walnut Creek	CA	94595	925-938-3301	palev46@aol.com	
71	Levy	Sheldon G. & Mary A.	5507 Whitehall St.	Midland	MI	48642-3156	989-631-1229	samlevy@aol.com	2003
72	Longsdorf	Charles J. & Frances E. "Fran"	1515 Sandow Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-8603	989-832-2838	pstrlongsdorf@chartermi.net	2003
73	Lund	Alice S.	4683 E. Monroe Rd.	Midland	MI	48642-8845	989-835-9586	asl1938@aol.com	2003
74	Martin	Clifford D.	4815 Swinson-Neuman Rd.	Rhodes	MI	48652-9746	989-879-5454	cliffd@centurytel.net	2003
75	Martin	Barbara	2325 Rockwell Dr. Apt 215	Midland	MI	48642-9325	989-835-5045		2003
76	Mass	Robert "Bob"	5205 Van Buren St.	Midland	MI	48642-3045	989-835-8519	massro@aol.com	2003
77	McArdle	Dona	3610 Valley Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-6606	989-835-7895	dmcardle1@chartermi.net	2003
78	McCann	Thomas E. "Tom" & Janet S.	P. O. Box 297	Sedan	KS	67361	620-725-3165	tmccann@hiit.net	2003
79	McCullen	Gerald E. & Maxine	1755 S. Smith Crossing Rd.	Midland	MI	48640-8519	989-832-8749	mccmaxjer@aol.com	
80	McKane	Terry J. & Virginia L.	412 Wanetah Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-2900	989-837-5590	mckaneva@yahoo.com	
81	Mead	Keith C. & Betty	117 Jones Ct.	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-8832	none	2003
82	Miller	Harriette	4610 Jefferson Ave.	Midland	MI	48640-3532	989-835-4866	none	2003
83	Miller	Janet Marlene	2134 Fairway Acres Dr.	Argyle	TX	76226	940-464-7468	janmit@earthlink.net	2003
84	Miller	Karen R.	17179 Stanton St.	West Olive	MI	49460-9273	616-850-9273	kfmiller@triton.net	2003
85	Nold	Helen M.	307 Cherryview Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-5913	989-832-2937	none	2003
86	Northrup	Laressa	1861 N. Nine Mile	Sanford	MI	48657	989-687-7268	laressa@voyager.net	2003
87	Oliver	Frances	1326 Bookness	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-5852		2003
88	Parsons	Virginia	508 E. Ashman St.	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-5248	none	COMP

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MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
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Nº	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	STREET ADDRESS	CITY	ST	ZIP-PLUS	PHONE	E-MAIL	FY
89	Pease	Mary Lou	1410 Glendale St.	Midland	MI	48642	989-631-8536	gramlumom@aol.com	
90	Peters	Karl & Esther	3430 M-18	Coleman	MI	48618	989-465-6890	esther3430@aol.com	2003
91	Porterfield	Carol L.	2813 Dauer St.	Midland	MI	48642-5047	989-835-8222	gladys442000@yahoo.com	2003
92	Redwine	Katherine T.	3755 Shaffer Rd.	Coleman	MI	48618	989-465-1530	kredwine@midland-mi.org	2003
93	Renwick	Shirley A.	2154 N. Price Rd., Apt. #3	Midland	MI	48642-9444	989-687-2290	none	2003
94	Root	Judy A.	4475 E. Tyler Rd.	Breckenridge	MI	48615	989-875-4463	ljroot@rural-net.com	2003
95	Rupprecht	Walter & Joanne	6109 Thornberry Ct.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-8945	wrupp@concentric.net	2003
96	Russell	David "Dave" & Shirley	4415 James Dr.	Midland	MI	48642-3785	989-631-0885	sndruss@centurytel.net	2003
97	Schneider	Max	5412 Nurmi Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-832-9506	maxschneider@chartermi.net	
98	Schweitzer	Ken	515 Crescent Dr.	Midland	MI	48640	989-832-9732	ruth2ken@aol.com	2003
99	Shangle	Jeri	165 Jupiter Ct.	Midland	MI	48642	989-496-0031	fantomess@aol.com	
100	Shoffner	Douglas & Ann	4647 N. Stark Rd.	Hope	MI	48628	989-689-3169	dosams@lm.net	2003
101	Shier	Quita V.	3322 E. Hubbard Rd.	Midland	MI	48642-7209	989-835-3278	vsgavia@aol.com	2003
102	Shillair-Smith	Cheryl	P.O. Box 99	Milan	MI	48160-0099	734-439-2173	gsmith2@peoplepc.com	2003
103	Shrier	Kenneth Eldon & Jayne	722 Shorefront Cir.	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-6900	shrier72@gix.net	2003
104	Sirrine	Patricia C. (Pat Worden)	3800 Shamrock Dr.	Charlotte	NC	28215-3298	704-532-7268	sirpne@earthlink.net	2003
105	Skelton	Eugene	P. O. Box 21, 5285 N. M-123	Paradise	MI	49768	906-492-3571		2004
106	Kochdopole	Richard E. "Dick"	2525 Lambros	Midland	MI	48642-4034	989-835-6433	reskoch@aol.com	2003
107	Skory	Gary	115 Ripley St.	Midland	MI	48640-	989-839-0011	skory@mcfla.org	2003
108	Smeltzer	Richard W.	6021 Swede Ave.	Midland	MI	48642-7147	989-832-7887	richardsmeltzer@aol.com	2003
109	Snider	Robert M. "Bob" & Glenna L.	318 Mayfield Ln.	Midland	MI	48640-2958	989-631-3121	bobglenna@aol.com	
110	Snyder	Robert C. & Gwen A.	312 W. Collins St.	Midland	MI	48640-5729	989-839-9644	rcsnyder2@earthlink.net	2003
111	Snyder	Ronald "Ron"	3 Robin Ct.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-0765	resnyder1@chartermi.net	2003
112	Somerville	Joan	3217 W. Wackerly St.	Midland	MI	48640	989-631-6654	none	2003
113	Syverud	Alan	2612 Schade West Dr.	Midland	MI	48640-6942	989-631-2112	ansyver@jnsi.net	
114	Theaker	Linda S.	204 Spruce St.	Bay City	MI	48706-0366	989-684-6819	theakergen@chartermi.net	2003
115	Thurston	Sharon	P.O. Box 371, 312 W. Cedar Ave.	Gladwin	MI	48624-0371	989-426-1347	sathurston@amazonisp.com	2003
116	Thurston	Gene & Gini	127 Koerner Ct.	Midland	MI	48642	989-835-8932	ginigenet@aol.com	2003
117	Tomlinson	Ruth M.	1111 E. Chippewa River Rd.	Midland	MI	48640	989-835-1747	rtomlinson@tm.net	2003
118	Vincent	Bird J.	2775 Smith's Crossing Rd.	Freeland	MI	48623	989-695-5290	bjvincent@chartermi.net	2003
119	Ward	Gilbert J.	2325 Rockwell Dr., Apt. #214	Midland	MI	48642-9325	989-835-6292	none	2003
120	Waters	Loretta J.	4110 Washington St.	Midland	MI	48642-0000	989-832-1611	ljh2o@chartermi.net	2003
121	Zager	Jean M.	4230 Rosewood Dr.	Saginaw	MI	48603-2053	989-793-9397	zagerjm@yahoo.com	2003
122	Zorsch	Jody L.	386 Brewstertown Rd.	Sunbright	TN	37872	423-6285471	zorsch@highland.net	2003

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2003-2004

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PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES SOON - IT'S NOT TOO LATE

**MGS October 15 Meeting**

(continued from Page 3)

Wilma talked about **Pomp** – growing up, traveling to Europe with a German Duke named Wilhelm, returning to the United States, becoming a fur trapper with John Jacob Astor, joining the Army during battles with the Mexicans, and eventually ending up in California searching for gold. In 1866, while traveling through Oregon on his way to Montana, he died. He is buried in Donner, Oregon where a national monument built in his honor is located.

**Pomp** lived a fascinating life of adventure, exploration, and challenge. As an infant, he participated in a significant part of American history. Through the Sargent Reunion and family, the doll, "**Pomp**", created by Wilma, has almost become a celebrity and a legend in it's own right.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MGS September 17 Meeting**

**Nancy Lackie**, Program Committee Chair, introduced **MGS** member **Walt Bennett, Jr.**, who presented the program on the use of special computer software to assist in genealogical research. Five programs that he highlighted were:

**GenSmarts**

This is a database program into which you can import your Family Tree database and the program will then analyze your information and recommend future research and resources for missing data. The program includes internet links. The program can be purchased for \$29.95 from:

<http://www.gensmarts.com>

**Clooz**

Clooz is a database program into which you can input any form of genealogical data, attach a reference number and file it for future reference. It is a computer filing system for data. The program can be purchased for \$39.95 from:

<http://www.ancestordetective.com>

**Chronos 2000**

This program creates a chronological timeline for events and people to assist in genealogical research. The program can be purchased from:

<http://www.cascoly.com>

**Blazons! 2000**

This program will attempt to create a "coat of arms" (also known as a blazon) based on descriptions that you provide of your heraldry. The program can be purchased from:

<http://www.blazons.com>

**RJT Data Calculator**

A free date calculator program that is very useful to genealogists. This program may be downloaded from:

<http://www.taubman.org.uk/datecalc/>

The primary business of the meeting was the **passage** of the amendment to the **MGS Bylaws, Article IV: Officers** as proposed by **Ralph Hillman**. The first paragraph now reads:

"The officers of the Society shall be President, Program Chair, Membership Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and two delegates to the Michigan Genealogical council. **One or more persons may be elected to the office of President, Program Chair, Membership Chair, Secretary, and/or Historian provided that the specific duties of each of the co-officers as defined in ARTICLE V, are agreed upon and placed in the minutes of the first board meeting following their election.**"

**IMPORTANT WEB ADDRESSES**

<b>MGS WEB SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgs/">http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgs/</a>
<b>MIDLAND COUNTY GenWeb SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.mifamilyhistory.org/midland/">http://www.mifamilyhistory.org/midland/</a>
<b>MICHIGAN GenWeb SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.rootsweb.com/~migenweb/">http://www.rootsweb.com/~migenweb/</a>
<b>LDS Church Family History WEB SITE</b>	<a href="http://www.familysearch.org">http://www.familysearch.org</a>
<b>National Genealogical Society</b>	<a href="http://www.ngsgenealogy.org">http://www.ngsgenealogy.org</a>
<b>Social Security Death Index</b>	<a href="http://www.ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com">http://www.ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com</a>



### Genealogy Search Tips

Source Unknown - Submitted by Mary & Sheldon Levy

If you have a male ancestor that you just can't find in the census index, try hunting for his in-law's surname. Sometimes families lived with the wife's parents.

Look up your ancestors in city directories to get an idea of what address they might have been living at. If you are going to be searching in the 1900 census, be sure to check the directory for 1901 since the family might have moved before the census was taken. This is also useful in trying to establish family groups. If a couple of families lived nearby each other on the same street, it's very possible that they are related.

Remember to check the neighbors, they just might be your male ancestor. It happened to me and for months I keep looking for him until I really checked the image and there he was with the other male ancestor, his father-in-law, for whom I was hunting high and low.

Be creative with spelling, the enumerators were.

Look for him in the next county "just across the river."

"They always" means they **usually** lived at A or B or C but every now and again they'd take their chances in town M or N or O.

"We arrived in 1895" can mean, any year but 1895.

Be flexible and save anything even close, it might be him/them.

If you "KNOW" (and few of us do) that your family was at a given place in the 1930 census and you can't find them, do a first name search in as narrow an area as you can manage. I found my Lords as Reds (the spelling, not early communists \*VBG\*) using first names. The Buchanan sister didn't show at all but there she was large as life with her sister. Be creative; the first name idea works in most years and works around misspelled last names. Now if they misspelled the first name you are cooked

Here's my census story: I spent a lot of time searching for my gggrandfather, Antoine FOURNIER, in CA in 1900. I spelled Fournier every way I could think of. I finally started going page by page and I found him listed under FRONIER. I tried spelling that name every way I could think of but for some reason I never thought to change the position of the consonant! Not only did I find my gggrandpa - but living with him was my great grandma AND my grandpa at 2 years of age! I hadn't been able to find them in the 1900 census and had given up on that! **SO DON'T EVER GIVE UP!**

.....

### Solution for Illegible Writing on a Photograph

Source Unknown - Submitted by Mary & Sheldon Levy

This method may make illegible pencil markings on the cardboard back of an old photo readable.

Scan the back of the picture and open it in Photoshop.

The technique will vary, but basically it consists of playing with various parameters, to contrast the illegible markings. Tweak brightness and contrast when scanning and displaying. Try different scan settings and save them.

One adjustment that often gives good legibility results is the gamma correction when displaying the picture. It alters the values sent to the monitor or printer by making grays either dimmer or blacker. It also can help to distinguish traces with a color value very close to the background's color value, which makes them difficult to read.

Gamma correct to a certain value and gamma correct the resulting picture. Experiment for best results.

Always work on a copy of the file and not the original to avoid saving the modifications and permanently altering the original. In that case the original may have to be rescanned.

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### DNA Testing - I Am Confused As to Its Value

Source: Gary Mokotoff, Editor of Nu? What's New? - Vol. 4, No. 14 - August 10, 2003

Submitted by Mary & Sheldon Levy

The recently concluded annual conference of the **Federation of Genealogical Societies** held in Orlando, Florida, was a great success to those who attended. I usually come away from such conferences which all sorts of new information to write about in "Nu? What's New?"

Some valuable information I gained was from a lengthy conversation with Bennett Greenspan of the company, Family Tree DNA, about the value of **DNA** testing in confirming kinship. His organization is allied with JewishGen, and information about the program can be found at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/DNA>

Based on my conversation, I am still confused about the value of **DNA** testing to **prove kinship**.

I think the excitement about DNA testing is the result of its use by law enforcement agencies to prove (or disprove) participation in a criminal act. It is done by finding an exact match between the alleged perpetrator and crime scene evidence.

DNA testing for kinship does not do exact matching; it matches, at most, 25 DNA markers. According to Greenspan, an exact match on all 25 markers (according to currently accepted scientific claims) means there is "**a 50% probability of kinship in the last 8.3 generations.**" This table of probabilities is described at Family Tree DNA's site at: <http://www.familytreedna.com/techfaq.html>.

The problem I have is with the "50% probability" statement. Genealogical research, when applied correctly, demands **100% probability**. If a birth record shows that the parents are Abraham and Sarah, a genealogist does not say there is a 50% probability that Abraham and Sarah are the researcher's great grandparents. Conclusive evidence is required.

Greenspan told me that the probability increases when non-DNA evidence can be added. The implication is that **DNA** testing should not be used to prove kinship, but to **support** the belief that there is kinship. For example, I have never been able to prove by genealogical standards of evidence that the Mokotowskis and Mokotows have a common recent ancestor. There is a slender thread of vital records that lend weight to the theory. If I had a Mokotow and a Mokotowski tested and there was an exact match, it would add weight to my theory, but not prove it.

Interestingly, if there was only a near match, it would still lend weight to the kinship between the Mokotows and the Mokotowskis because it could be argued that since there may have been a common ancestor only 8.3 generations ago, there may have been a mutation. But there is the problem with using DNA testing for proving kinship. A near match merely theorizes that a mutation occurred. It cannot be proven unless there are living father/sons where the father has one set of DNA and the son has a near match.

It appears that **DNA testing** for proving kinship is not a panacea but merely another piece of evidence that **suggests kinship**. If it has any value, it can prove with certainty no kinship in recent generations if the DNA markers between two persons are substantially different.

\*\*\*\*\*

### The Genealogists Psalm

Source Unknown - Submitted by Mary & Sheldon Levy

**Genealogy** is my pastime, I shall not stray.  
It maketh me to lie down and examine half-  
buried tombstones.  
It leadeth me into still courthouses;  
It restoreth my ancestral knowledge.  
It leadeth me in paths of census records and  
ship's passenger lists for my surname's  
sake.

Yea, though I walk through the shadows of  
research libraries and microfilm readers,  
I shall fear no discouragement.

For a strong urge is within me;

The curiosity and motivation they comforteth  
me.

It demandeth preparation of storage space for  
the acquisition of countless documents.  
It annointeth my head with burning mid-night oil;  
My family group sheets runneth over.

Surely birth, marriage, and death dates shall  
follow me all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of a family history  
seeker forever.

Author Unknown

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## RESEARCHING YOUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS

(continued from Page 1)

Fellow **MGS** member **Bev Keicher** joined us on this **Elderhostel** adventure. Our EH group totaled 16 relatively experienced genealogists from all over the US. We spent five days in **Canterbury** studying and researching at the **Institute for Heraldic and Genealogical Studies (IHGS)**. Then we traveled to **London** where we spent six days studying, researching and sight seeing. The program in both areas included lectures, research periods and excursions. The **EH group leader** was tremendous making the programs interesting, informative and enjoyable.



The **IHGS** provided highly qualified lecturers and excursion leaders while in **Canterbury**. We learned a lot about English history as well as genealogy. **Cecil Humphery-Smith**, **IHGS** director, was very knowledgeable and interesting especially regarding heraldry. The tour of the **Canterbury Cathedral**, lead by Cecil, was outstanding. The **IHGS** is housed in a very old building in **Canterbury** making storage and access to their records difficult. They had heraldry documents, county maps, city registers, **BMD** indexes on microfiche and many other genealogical books.

In **London** the lectures were held at the hotel and trips were made to the various offices to research records. **Michael Gandy**, director of the **Society of Genealogists**, provided several interesting, informative lectures concerning data

availability. He recommended three areas to seek data: the **Family Records Centre**, the **National Archives** and the **Society of Genealogists**.

The **Family Records Centre** is the outstanding source for "**Hatch, Match, and Dispatch**" records. In 1837 a national registration act was instituted and all counties were required to maintain vital records for all their residents. Counties were divided into districts comprised of 5-15 parishes. Records were made each quarter in duplicate, one to be kept by the county, and a second to be maintained by the national records office. Prior to 1837, vital records and other family history information were kept by local parish churches. However, these **parish records** are not necessarily complete, not indexed and difficult to read.

The **Family Records Centre** in **London** has indexes (both original and microfiche) by quarters for birth, marriage and death records dating back to 1837 and are available for visitors use at no charge. However, if and when you locate a possible/probable ancestor's index record, you need to file a request form, pay seven pounds and wait 4+ working days to receive a certified copy of the complete document. The request form needs verifying information concerning the individual and if the **FHC** determines you have the wrong individual you receive no document. For example, the Birth indexes list only the surname, first name, quarter, year, district and reference number. Verifying information would be the father's surname and first name and the mother's maiden name and first name, plus other known data. If the information does not match exactly - no document will be provided.

The **Family Records Centre** also houses census records, parish records, visitations, civil proceedings, wills, and estate records. The facility was huge and very crowded, even during weekdays. The original indexes (in large books 20" high, 14" wide and 3" thick) were stored on open shelves, easy to review on desks provided that require standing. There were very few places to sit and access research data except at the microfiche/microfilm readers. Census records were all on computers. Census records began in 1841 and are indexed. The 1841 census is the first useful census for genealogical research. The 1891 census is the last available.



FAMILY RECORDS CENTER

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## RESEARCHING YOUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS

(continued from Page 11)

The former Public Records Office in Kew is now called the **National Archives**. Government records, military records, ship passenger records, state papers, civil court records, some BMD records, plus document searches can be done at the National Archives. It's catalogue is available on the web site: <[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)>. An entry fee of five pounds is charged and you receive a scanable admission card, similar to a credit card, which is valid for three years. There is a fee for copies of records and/or documents. Fragile documents can be photographed with a digital camera, rather than be photocopied.

Another valuable resource center in London is the **Society of Genealogists** located within walking distance of the Family Records Centre. There is a fee to do research at the Society. The Society has a vast library of family histories, city directories, visitations, parish records, etc.

Parish records contain valuable family history data particularly prior to 1837. Parishes came into existence during the 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Family surnames started during the 13<sup>th</sup> century. There are over 12,000 parishes in England and Wales, so it is almost mandatory to have names and addresses to locate information. County records offices currently house parish records for parishes within the borders of their county and most have been indexed. In addition to BMD records, parish records contain information about people who were destitute. For example, local parishes often assisted poor families to emigrate to Canada, USA, and Australia. In addition, parishes were responsible to assist poor families registered in their parishes.

After 1754, all couples were mandated by law to be married in an Anglican church (except for Jews and Quakers who maintained very complete church records and were exempt from this law). For genealogists researching ancestors married after 1754, knowledge of the specific parish can be very helpful in locating the appropriate marriage record.

A frequently forgotten source of valuable family history information is the funeral certificate. These certificates contain lists of all attendees at a funeral. Many have been published. They provide proof of ancestry. Burial record CD's now exist for many parishes. Unfortunately they are far from complete.

English history provides a great deal of information helpful to genealogical research. As an example, in 1641, parliament enacted a law that required every male to sign a "protestation" document that declared his support to the King. These "Protestation" signatures were collected by overseers, dated, sealed with the House of Lords seal, and maintained in the House of Lords records office. Thus they provide a type of "census" data for male residents.

One interesting piece of information we learned about doing genealogical research in a country as old as England, was that if ancestors were well-to-do, landed, **armigerous\***, related to royalty, or very destitute, records probably exist and may date back 1000 years or more. For those who have ancestors who do not fit into any of those categories, it will be very difficult to locate records earlier than the sixteenth century.

Researching English ancestors is an interesting challenge. Numerous records are available. Resources are varied and in many instances widespread. This

article only touches on some of the major resources for genealogical study. Members of our Elderhostel group also did research at the British Library, the Guildhall, Scotland Yard, local neighborhoods, and specific cemeteries. Key information that genealogists need to research English ancestors is name, parish and county of residence at time of BMD, and occupation if available. For emigration research the approximate date of emigration is



Elderhostel Group - front row: Kris McGlothlin (leader), Earl, Faye & Bev

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## RESEARCHING YOUR ENGLISH ANCESTORS

(continued from Page 12)

a necessity. It also takes time to determine which research sites provide the records and/or documents that will best meet your goals.

Was Earl successful during our EH program in his **research of English ancestors**? The answer is yes, no and maybe. He had **three goals**: 1) to go back one generation with his ancestors, 2) to locate a living English relative, and 3) to obtain BMD records for those relatives that he only had names. The research is complicated in that most relatives were female creating unknown married surnames. He **did not** achieve his **first goal** primarily because it involved researching the very difficult, time consuming parish records. He **advanced 2 generations** in his search for a living relative, however that person born in 1944 is female. Of the 41 BMD certificates he requested, only **14 have been received**, 1 has not been answered and 26 have been rejected. He also now has many leads and contacts so his research can continue. **So what else is new? Genealogy is a never ending puzzle.** In addition this will justify **another trip to beautiful England.**

Faye Ebach

\***Armigerous** means those who bear a coat of arms.

\*\*\*\*\*

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS

It hardly seems possible that the year **2003** is nearing the end. This also means that the **MGS fiscal year** will be half gone. Our **membership** numbers are holding firm, with possibly a slight increase. We have 16 new members. Our **finances** continue to be strong. The **MGS PIN** project is moving along with 17 having been purchased. By November 19 we will have had 3 **meetings**. So what else is new? **Very little.** The **MGS ship** appears to be just **drifting** along as normal. **Why?** Complacency? Very few want to assume **responsibility**. Until someone steps forward to direct the **MGS ship** we will continue to drift. The **future** of the **MGS** depends on you. The **MGS** needs your help. **Please** consider becoming a **volunteer**. We would like to encourage you to **become involved**. You may be surprised to find that **"Once you try it, you may find you like it"**.

**Jo Brines** in her President's Letter emphasizes our pending **"retirement"** as Editors of the **Pioneer Record**. We have only 2 more issues to publish. For the past 5 years we have tried to make the **PR** informative, interesting, readable and enjoyable. We have had few, if any, criticisms. We have received many compliments. We are proud of the end product. Most of the articles have been original with very few reprints from other newsletters, magazines or newspapers. The **President, Membership Chair(s), Treasurer** and **MGC Delegates** have contributed reports for every issue. We have appreciated the help of other **MGS** members who have contributed articles, especially **Bob Mass, Jo Brines** and **Mary & Sheldon Levy**. Obviously we have enjoyed producing the **PR**, but it has been very time consuming, and has affected other activities that we enjoy.

Perhaps we have inadvertently created a **problem**. **Jo Brines** says that it will be difficult to find a **MGS member** to serve as **PR Editor** because of the high standard that we have created. She recommends a **Committee** as a solution. **We disagree.** The negatives of a committee outweigh the positives. Coordination of all the tasks would be very difficult. Someone has to assume **responsibility** to create a good newsletter. We would like to believe that someone will step forward. Will it be **YOU**?

Another potential problem has arisen. **Kathy Bohl**, our **MGC Delegate**, has confirmed that **MGS member Jeri Shangle** has recently moved from Midland to Florida. Jeri does not plan to continue her **MGS** membership. For the past several years Jeri has done an outstanding job designing and maintaining the **MGS web site**. This job requires a high interest in computers and special knowledge about web site operation. We may also need to find a replacement for Jeri.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**TRACING YOUR ACESTRY** -- The following conversation was overheard at a party attended by high society people: "My ancestry goes all the way back to Alexander the Great", said one lady. She then turned to a second lady and asked, "And how far does your family go back?"

"I don't know," was the reply. "All our records were lost in The Flood."

\*\*\*\*\*

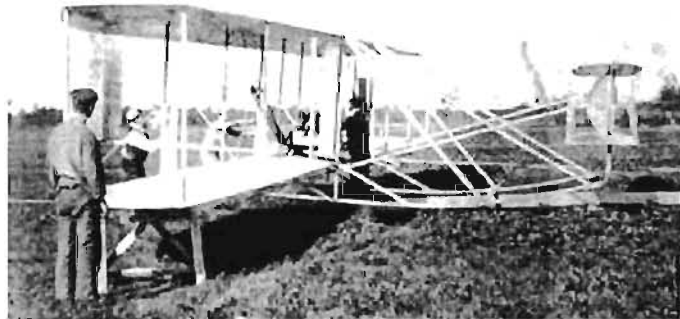
Always go to other people's funerals, otherwise they won't come to yours - Yogi Berra, baseball coach



## DEVIL'S FOOTPRINT?

The **Bennett** family, **Walter Bennett Jr.** and his mother and father, **Colleen** and **Walter**, have been researching Colleen's paternal grandmother's side of the family, surname **Zahm** (or Saum, Zahn, or Zam) for many years. Colleen's grandmother's brother, **Albert Zahm**, was an inventor of many things, most notably the wind tunnel (about twenty years before the Wright brothers first flight).

The **100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the first powered flight of **Orville and Wilbur Wright** at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, will be celebrated on **December 17, 2003**. Others preceded them in aeronautical research – one of them was **Albert Zahm**, a professor at Notre Dame. What the Wright brothers did was make airplane flight a reality. Darrell Collins, Director of the Kitty Hawk National Historical Park is quoted as saying – "Before the Wright Brothers, no one in aviation did anything fundamentally right. Since the Wright Brothers, no one has done anything fundamentally different."



**Now for the other side of the story.** The **Bennetts** submitted the following article from the Huntington, Indiana newspaper, published in December, 1993.

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## DEVIL'S FOOTPRINT?

On Dec. 17, 1903 the **Wright Brothers** ushered in the age of aviation with the first manned flight. In anticipation of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event the **South Bend Tribune** on Aug. 15 carried a feature article on the important role in early aviation experimentation by the famed Notre Dame **Professor Albert Francis Zahm**, a brother of Fr. John Zahm, himself a well known scientist at Notre Dame and once provincial of the Holy Cross fathers' American Province.

Among **Albert Zahm's** early experiments (one included an airplane body that wiggled like a fish – it didn't work) was a craft with flapping wings, which didn't work either. "Zahm suspended the flapping wing machine by a rope from the ceiling of ND's **Old Science Hall** (today's LaFortune Student Center). His assistant, George Archambeault, pedaled the mechanism and the craft moved but out of control. Archambeault put his feet out to prevent a collision with the wall and left several **footprints far above the floor**".

The next morning the janitor, Brother Benedict, arrived to sweep the room and saw the **footprints**. Quickly concluding these could only have been **made by the devil**, he blessed himself and ran for holy water, which he liberally doused over the area to ward off his evil adversary.

According to the legend, for many years, until the total renovation of the building, those more keenly attuned than most to such ghostly goings on could, on certain windy, wintry nights, hear the flapping of wings and could discern the faint outline of **footprints** on the lofty walls of Old Science.

The article goes on to recount **Zahm's** later experiments, which included successful flights of his contraption inside and from the roof of the hall. (He and Archambeault even made nighttime launches of a man-carrying glider from a hill on the campus (where Columbia Hall now sits?) and from the roof of Old Science Hall.

In these early exciting years, **Zahm** was a cooperator, often a leader, in various meetings of other pioneers, notably at the first **International Conference on Aerial Navigation**, a highlight of the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago. He **died in 1954** and is buried in the community cemetery at Notre Dame.

The following story of **Dr. Albert Zahm's** life provides insight into the age of aviation. Obviously it was a challenge to those who sought to provide man with the ability to soar in the sky as the birds do.

**Dr. Zahm**, who wrote a book on the progress of aviation, is a brother of Louis V. Zahm of **Huntington** and spent his boyhood days here. As a boy and young man he was always interested in aviation and his work on this subject began when he was quite a young man. **Dr. Zahm** left Huntington as a young man, though he visited his family here frequently. After graduating from college he was himself an educator serving on the faculty of Notre Dame. **Dr. Zahm** also lived in Washington about four years, devoting himself exclusively to his research work and investigations.

( continued on Page 16)

## DEVIL'S FOOTPRINT?

( continued from page 15)

Louis V. Zahm, his brother, remembers well **Dr. Zahm's** early inclination to the study of aviation. He recalls vividly one instance when his brother asked him to catch a **buzzard** for him. Dr. Zahm had chanced to see one of these large birds in a tree. He noticed that the bird, flying away as he approached, simply flapped its wings several times to get into the air; then, spreading its broad wings without another movement, sailed slowly higher and higher, turning in great circles, and after gaining a great altitude, drift away in a straight line upon its course, without a movement of its wings. Dr. Zahm pondered the buzzard's ability to do this. In asking his brother to catch one for him he said that he wanted to weigh it, to measure its wings, and to study the features which made its easy flight possible.

An earlier article reads:

"The many friends and admirers of **Dr. Albert F. Zahm** in Huntington will be pleased to learn that he has just brought out a new book, published by D. Appleton & Co. of New York and London. It is entitled "Aerial Navigation. A Popular Treatise on The Growth of Air Craft and on Aeronautical Meteorology." In the estimation of those most competent to pronounce on its merits, it is far and away the best work that has yet appeared on the subject and will no doubt, receive a most cordial welcome from all who are interested in the fascinating topics which the author discusses in so masterly a manner.

The book is from the pen of one who has made a life study of the subject, which he so ably treats – of one who, by his investigations has contributed more to the science of aviation, not to speak of the art, than any one person, except possibly the late Professor Langley. His laboratory at the Catholic University, where for many years he conducted his now famous research, was the first institution of the kind in the world, and some of its leading features have recently been incorporated in a number of the leading aeronautical laboratories of Europe.

Little need be said of the contents of **Dr. Zahm's** excellent book except that it contains just the information most likely to interest not only the specialist but the general reader as well. The author writes in a clear and elegant style, and his descriptions of passive and power balloons, rigid and non-rigid dirigibles: biplanes and monoplanes, celebrated flights in balloons and in aeroplanes together with the valuable chapters on aeronautical meteorology and the early history of the art of aerial navigation have all the charm of a romance and at the same time, all the precision of exact science. To those who are interested in aeronautics and aviation – and who is not? – we can most cordially recommend this charming work from every point of view. It is a masterly work by a master and will be a standard of the topics discussed for many decades to come.

**Dr. Zahm** has long been recognized both in this country and in Europe as a n investigator whose researches have given him an enviable position in the scientific world. It was he who organized the Aeronautical Congress at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893 – the first congress of the kind ever held – on which occasion he read a paper, illustrated by diagrams in which he stated clearly all the fundamental ideas that were subsequently made the basis of the Wright patents about which there has since been so much controversy.

**Dr. Zahm's** friends have often expressed regret that he did not patent his invention, for his discovery was made fully ten years before the Wright brothers took out their patent covering the identical devices described in the very remarkable paper contributed by the author to the congress of the Columbia Exposition. Dr. Zahm, however, was then engaged in those celebrated experiments on atmospheric resistance, which were published in the Journal of the Royal Society of Great Britain, and he seemed to be so absorbed in his work that he did not think of the practical value of his researches."

**Midland Family History Center**  
of **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**

The **Family History Center** is located in the **LDS Church**, located at the corner of Sugnet and Eastman Roads. **Open hours** are as follows:

<b>Wednesday &amp; Thursday</b>	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	

The **Midland FHC** has vital statistics on all **Michigan counties** except Wayne County. They have many worthwhile **data bases** available with a **volunteer** staff willing to assist researchers. We should all make more use of this wonderful research facility.

## FIRST FAMILIES OF MIDLAND COUNTY – Phase 2 2002 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 2002.

### Descendant

Rollin Yeakle  
Thelma Shauger Yeakle  
Gloria Jean Sequin  
Diana Jean Oslund  
Niki Hoyle  
Edna Elaine Tippin Clark  
John E. Preston  
Mary Sue Farber  
Laurin Matthew Preston

### "PIONEER" Ancestor

Labolt Shauger  
Alexander Shauger  
James Orland Roberson  
James Orland Roberson  
William James Tippin  
William James Tippin  
Mathew Preston & Edwin H. Simons  
Mathew Preston & Edwin H. Simons  
Mathew Preston & Edwin H. Simons

Forms for the **PIONEER First Families of Midland County** project are available in the **MGS Genealogy Room** at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. Thanks to **Ron Snyder** for preparing the certificates.

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## RECIPE for BISCOTTI

Bill Kocher

Adapted from the book by Nick Malgieri, "Chocolate", page 193

1 3/4 cup all purpose flour	3/4 cup granulated sugar
1 tsp. baking powder	1/4 tsp salt (see note re: butter)
8 Tbs unsalted butter, cut into 1 Tbs size pieces at room temperature (I use salted butter & like it just fine; eliminate salt)	
3/4 cup dried cherries (Meijer's produce section; in the cherry season I buy 4-pound boxes of dried cherries; they freeze well and are much cheaper)	
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate bits – 6 ounces	
1 cup unsalted pistachios, about 4 ounces; can also use slivered blanched almonds. I wash the salt off salted pistachios if unable to buy unsalted pistachios	
2 large eggs	2 tsp vanilla extract

Mix dry ingredients – flour, sugar, baking powder and salt.

I put the somewhat sticky cherries in this dry mixture to coat them. I then roughly (in my hands) sift the cherries out of the dry ingredients and save them for use later.

Add the butter to the dry ingredients and mix well. I jump right in with both hands and pinch the butter into the dry ingredients, like making good biscuits.

Stir in the cherries, nuts, and chocolate bits.

Stir the eggs with the vanilla, add to the dry ingredients/ cherries/chocolate/nuts and mix in well – this time I use a fork because the mixture is quite sticky. Mix well.

Turn everything out onto a floured board. With floured hands divide the dough into two or three parts, shape each into a log about 12-15 inches long, and place these on parchment paper on a baking sheet. I flatten the logs somewhat – maybe 2 1/2 inches wide, it doesn't matter too much because the dough will spread during the baking no matter what you do.

Bake at 350 F. for 20-25 minutes until firm. Well, sort of – the day I made those biscotti I had a contractor drop in and I probably let them bake closer to 45 minutes and they browned nicely and didn't burn. Just keep an eye on them after 25 minutes and use your judgment.

Cool the logs on a rack until you can handle them – could be a few minutes or could be an hour, won't make much difference.

Slice the logs into cookies. I cut at an angle, about 1/2" to 3/4" thick. Makes a lot of crumbs which the cook is allowed to eat, standing up, so the calories drain out the feet.

Set the cookies on the parchment again, separating them so both cut sides are exposed, and bake at 325F. or so for 10-20 minutes or so, until they are rather dried out. Cool the cookies on racks and store in a jar as long as you can or wish to.

The cookies should be nicely crisp – they stay that way fairly well – and it's best to dip them in good home brewed coffee for eating. Or eat them straight. Or with a nice red wine on a sunny Aegean Beach. Your choice.

Many folks use hazelnuts in biscotti. I have; and I once used macadamia nuts. Haven't tried pecans or walnuts yet. Fruit could be raisins, or Muscat raisins if you can find them (please let me know if you do find them, I haven't found any in years and they are the very best raisins for raisin pie and they go well in other cookies too) or cut-up dried apricots – you get the idea.

**Better than fruitcake!**

## MGS PROGRAMS FOR 2002-2003

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 2003 and spring 2004 will be as follows:

Nov. 19, 2003 –

Gary Skory, MCHS Director, will lead a tour of the "New Midland County Historical Museum".  
NOTE: the meeting will be held in the Museum at 3417 W. Main St.

No MGS Meeting in December

Jan. 21, 2004 –

John Castle, Lansing, will speak on "Finding Your Ancestor's Hand Prints in Township Records"

Feb. 18, 2004

Quita Shier, MGS member will speak on "Warriors for the Union".

March 17, 2004

Floyd Andrick, MGS member, will speak on "How to Conduct Oral Family Histories".

April 21, 2004

"American Indian Genealogical Research" by TBA.

May 21, 2003

"TBA" by TBA.

Refreshments & conversation  
will follow the program at all meetings

## UPCOMING SEMINARS

### Michigan Genealogical Council 2003 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 five meetings have been held and one remains.

#### December 6 Polish Genealogy

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

#### Conferences, Workshops & Seminars

January 22-24, 2004 NGS GENTECH 2004  
National Genealogical Society Annual Show

"Preserving the Past – Exploring the Future"

Dick Eastman - primary speaker

St. Louis, MO

More information at [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org)

Effective 1 June 2003, the **State Archives of Michigan** will charge for research services. The **fee schedule** takes into consideration both the time of researching a given request, the cost of photocopying materials, and postage & handling. Fees have been deemed necessary due to budget restraints and staff reduction. For more details refer to: <http://www.michigan.gov/hal>

or e-mail: [archives@michigan.gov](mailto:archives@michigan.gov)

## BOOKS FOR SALE

The following **books**, published by the **Midland Genealogical Society**, are available for sale at any MGS meeting, at the Midland 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. ( 40 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 as a package for \$35.00. ( 8 0 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



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2002-2003**

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**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.