

# PIONEER RECORD



February 2000

Volume XX, No. 3

## MGS MEETING \*\* FEBRUARY 16

The second **Midland Genealogical Society meeting** of the year 2000 will be held Wednesday, **February 16**, in the **Lounge** of the **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library** starting at **7:00 pm**.

The normal business of the society will be conducted prior to the program.

The **speaker** will be our own MGS President, **Joan Brausch**. The subject will be "**Genealogy on the Internet**". Joan is State Coordinator for MiGenWeb, the Michigan division of the USGenWeb Project, which provides genealogical information on the Internet. She formerly hosted the Midland County site for MiGenWeb.

Refreshments and conversation will follow.

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## MGS VOLUNTEERS - MIDLAND ROOM Grace A. Dow Memorial Library

The **Midland Genealogical Society** has a group of unsung **HEROES** in its midst. These are the members who volunteer their time and knowledge each weekday afternoon in the **Midland Room** of the **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library**. They assist persons desiring to know more about their families - genealogists - both neophytes and experts alike. The present **MGS** members serving in this capacity are **Maxine McCullen, Jo Brines, Nancy Lackie, Bob Mass** and **MaryLou Hayes**.



Grace A. Dow Memorial Library

The primary duty of all the volunteers is to staff the **Midland Room**, to assist newcomers to the hobby of genealogy, and to answer questions and help find resources for any genealogist. They often assist patrons in the filling out of order forms for the borrowing of census, newspapers and books from outside sources. Each of these volunteers is an experienced genealogist with knowledge about the resources available in places such as:

- a.) in the **Midland Room**;
- b.) in other local organizations, such as

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From the **President:**

There have been some changes to the Board since you all voted us in last May: **Roland Crane** was recruited as the new **Program Chairperson**. **Charles and Fran Longsdorf** resigned in late October from their position as **Membership Chairpersons**, and **Bill Kocher** offered to take their place. **Bill Worden**, who is fighting a serious illness, resigned in December and **Jerl Shangle** offered to take his place as **Treasurer**. We thank **Roland, Jerl and Bill** for their willingness to step in when needed and also thank **Charles, Fran and Bill** for their faithful service. Please do keep **Bill and Pat Worden** in your thoughts and prayers.

It has been the tradition here in the Society, to begin looking in February for people willing to serve on the Board for the next year - 2000-2001. I will be looking for two to three people to serve as the **Nominating Committee** and, hopefully, they will start contacting members over the next 4-6 weeks. Our Society is rather unique, I think, in that most of the people belonging to the Society are looking for ancestors somewhere else. Many of us have roots outside the county and have joined this Society for the help and inspiration it can give. But the Society will die if people are not willing to take responsibility for its existence. We need your help to make the **Midland Genealogical Society** the best it can be. We have many, many people in the Society who have faithfully served the Society for many years and we are so grateful for their time and talent. Now it's time for those of us who have recently joined in the past 3-5 years to consider what we can do to help. Genealogists are some of the most generous and helpful people I know - please offer your time and talent to the Society so that we can continue serving researchers long into the future!

We are very excited about the new phase of the "**First Families Project**", headed up by **MaryLou Hayes**. People who have ancestors in Midland County can apply for a Pioneer Certificate, if their immigrant ancestor settled in Midland County between 1850 and 1874, inclusive, or they can apply for a Century Certificate, if their immigrant ancestor settled in Midland County between 1875 through 1894, inclusive. This was a very successful program the first time it was done and we have on file the material submitted, which is invaluable for researchers. We hope this new phase is as great a success.

A Happy New Year to all of you and much luck in your genealogical hunting! See you at the meetings!!

Joan

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**MGS Meeting -- January 19, 2000**

Society members heard our own professional genealogist, **Ralph Hillman**, discuss the topic of "**Organizing Genealogical Materials**". Ralph shared many examples of how to create different types of filing systems and numbering systems in order to organize an expanding collection of family history data. He stressed the importance of developing and using a Research Journal for note taking when making various research trips. During his discussion he frequently referred to the book "**Organizing Your Family History Search**" written by Carmack, a copy of which he intends to donate to the Midland Room collection in the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library.

Ralph shared different strategies for filing and storage of different types of data such as letters, photographs, audio tapes, tombstone rubbings and maps. He discussed the use of computer systems for storage and retrieval of family history data. Since computer technology is changing so rapidly, storage and retrieval of data has become a problem. For example, retrieval from 5 1/4 inch floppy disks, used in the 80's, may be impossible now since the hardware may no longer be available much less exist. His underlining message was to maintain a paper back-up system for computer files so data can be retrieved. Ralph finished his talk with the recommendation that files be occasionally reviewed and purged.

In conclusion Ralph posed an interesting question to the members, which was "**what happens to all this stuff when we're no longer around?**"

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**TREASURER'S REPORT -- Jerl Shangle**

**Income** for the MGS fiscal year to date (12 Jan., 2000) is **\$1644**, made up primarily of dues, interest, research and book sales, versus a budgeted (1999-2000) total of **\$2569**. **Expenses** to date, primarily meetings and "Pioneer Record", are **\$842** versus a budgeted total of **\$2777**.

Checking account balance is approximately \$3134.

## MGS VOLUNTEERS - MIDLAND ROOM

( continued from page 1 )

the **Family History Center** at the **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints** (located at Sugnet and Eastman Roads) and the **County Clerk's** office and the **Register of Deed's** office in the **Midland County Courthouse**;

c.) in nearby facilities, such as Saginaw's **Hoyt Library**, CMU's **Clarke Historical Library** in Mt. Pleasant and the **Library of Michigan** in Lansing; and

d.) in facilities throughout the country, such as the **Family History Center** (LDS Church) in **Salt lake City, UT**, the **Allen County Public Library** in **Fort Wayne, IN**, and the **Library of Congress** and the **National Archives** in **Washington, D.C.**

The **Midland Room** contains available US and Michigan census indexes, locally created Midland County indexes, records and books, as well as many Michigan and national indexes, records and books. The facilities include a copying machine, five microfilm readers and two microfilm copiers. The large microfilm file contains the US Census for Midland County from 1820 through 1920, the Midland County deeds and mortgages 1854-1888, and the Midland County naturalization records. When not assisting researchers, the volunteers shelve books, file and re-file microfilm and check in film and book orders. They report equipment problems, answer phones and pickup mail. Each of the volunteers also answers "query requests" which are received at the Midland Room either by mail or e-mail. Each January through April, the Library places TAX forms in the Midland Room. The genealogy volunteers graciously provide friendly answers concerning the forms - but they **DO NOT DO TAXES**.

The **MGS volunteers** are available every **weekday afternoon** from 1 to 4 PM. In addition to assisting others, each has **responsibilities** associated with maintaining the **Midland Room**.



Maxine McCullen

**Maxine McCullen** has been present almost every Monday afternoon since **1981** when the Library requested assistance in the genealogy section. At that time, what genealogical references were available were located in the crowded basement of the Library. There were just a few books and not too many patrons who were "into genealogy". All the volunteers do a variety of tasks - **Maxine's** main assignment is to take care of the incoming periodicals. We exchange newsletters with more than 30 Michigan Genealogical Societies and also receive several national publications. The current issues are recorded when received and placed on display along the wall. Later they are placed in alphabetical order on the shelves.

**Jo Brines**, also starting in **1981**, serves as coordinator of the group. She volunteers in the Midland Room every Tuesday afternoon with the responsibility to return to the respective library or lender all materials that patrons have requested on loan. She also monitors the statistics that are kept on all loaned materials as well as the patronage of the **Midland Room** which are given to the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library staff for inclusion in their annual report. In the Library's last fiscal year (June to June) there were:



Jo Brines

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**Books Added to Shelves of Midland Room, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library  
During 1998 & 1999**

<b>Families of Western NY - 1896</b>		<b>History of Monroe Co, NY</b>	
Cutter, W.R.	929.3747	-----	929.374788
<b>The Loyalists in the American Revolution</b>		<b>History of Wyoming Co, NY</b>	
VanTyne	973.314	-----	974.793
<b>Pioneer Times in Onondaga Co, NY</b>		<b>History of Ontario Co, NY</b> (orig publ 1876)	
Smith, C.	974.765	McIntosh	929.374786
<b>Pioneer History of Orleans Co, NY</b>		<b>Register of Births - City of Coleman, MI</b>	
Thomas, A.	974.791	5/14/1912 -1 /24/1917	-----
<b>The Center</b>	Schaefer, CK		-----
	929.1	<b>The Source</b> (Revised Edition)	
<b>Gazetteer of the State of NH</b> , 3 parts		Szucs	929.1
Tagwood	917.42	<b>Virtual Roots - A Guide to Genealogy and</b>	
<b>NH Family Records</b> - v1 & v2		<b>Local History on WWW</b>	
Copeley	929.3742	Kemp, T	929.1
<b>NH 1742 Estate List</b>		<b>Index to Rev War Service Records</b> - v2 E-K	
Oesterlin	929.3742	White	973.4
<b>Genealogical Abstracts from NH Spy, 1786-1793</b>		<b>Summary Guide to Local Governmental</b>	
Scobie	929.37426	<b>Records in the Illinois Regional Archives</b>	
<b>Notices From the NH Gazette</b>		-----	929.39773
Hammond, OG	929.3742	<b>Portrait &amp; Biographical Album - Gratiot Co,</b>	
<b>Directory of Repositories of Family History</b>		<b>MI - 1884</b>	-----
in NH	Green, CC		977.44
	929.374	<b>How to Research American Indian Blood</b>	
<b>Colonial Gravestone Inscriptions in NH</b>		<b>Lines</b>	
Goss, CC	929.342	Carpenter, C	929.1
<b>NH Marriage Licenses &amp; Intentions, 1709-1961</b>		<b>A History of the Carter Family</b>	
Oesterlain, PJ	929.3741	Carter	929.2
<b>Roll of NH Soldiers at the Battle of</b>		<b>First Land Owners of Ingham Co, MI</b>	
<b>Bennington, Aug 16.1777 - NH Men at</b>		-----	929.377426
<b>Louisburg</b>	Gilmore, G		
	929.3741	<b>Sheldrake (Seneca Co), NY - 1789-1962</b>	
<b>Cemetery Inscriptions, Wolfeboro, NH</b>		-----	929.377426
Fipphen	929.3742	<b>My Ancestors Came With the Conqueror</b>	
<b>Hamilton Co, OH Burial Records</b> - v1 & v3		Camp, AJ	929.72
-----	929.3771	<b>Pioneers of New France in New England</b>	
<b>History of Orleans Co, NY</b>		Baxter, JP	929.374
-----	974.791	<b>The Legacy of the DeLacey, Lacey, Lacy</b>	
<b>History of Wayne Co, NY</b>		<b>Family 1066-1994</b>	
-----	929.374787	Lacey	929.2
<b>History of Clinton &amp; Franklin Cos, NY</b>		<b>The Genealogist's Address Book, 1998</b>	
-----	929.374754	<b>Updated Copy</b>	
		Bentley, E	929.1
		<b>Mills (Township) Centennial 1894-1994</b>	
		Brink	977.448

**Books Added to Shelves of Midland Room, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library  
During 1998 & 1999**

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- |  |                  |           |   |                           |           |
|--|------------------|-----------|---|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Land &amp; Property Research in the US</b>  | Hone             | 929.1     | <b>Genealogist's Guide to Northeastern Wisconsin</b>                          | -----                     | 929.3775  |
| <b>Andrew Ford Family</b>  | Eastwood         | 929.2     | <b>Genealogist's Guide to Northwestern Wisconsin</b>                          | -----                     | 929.3775  |
| <b>The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland &amp; Wales - 3 vols</b>                                 | Burke, B         | 929.641   | <b>Genealogist's Guide to Southeastern Wisconsin</b>                          | -----                     | 929.3775  |
| <b>The Great Migration Begins - Immigrants to New England 1620-1633 vols I, II, III</b>                      | Anderson         | 929.3974  | <b>Genealogist's Guide to Southwestern Wisconsin</b>                          | -----                     | 929.3775  |
| <b>Ulster Co, NY Probate Records</b> vols I,II   | Anjou, G         | 929.3747  | <b>Genealogist's Guide to West Central Wisconsin</b>                          | -----                     | 929.3775  |
| <b>Falaise Roll - Recording Prominent Companions of William, Duke of Normandy at the Conquest of England</b> | Crispin & Macary | 929.72    | <b>Guide to Records in the New York State Archives</b> (1993)                 | -----                     | 929.3747  |
| <b>Illinois Genealogical Research</b>  | -----            | 929.3773  | <b>Settlers of Maryland v1 1679-1700; v2 1701-1730; v3 1731-1750</b>          | Coldham                   | 929.3752  |
| <b>Indiana Genealogical Research</b>   | -----            | 929.3772  | <b>Maryland Genealogies</b>   | 2 vols<br>-----           | 929.3752  |
| <b>Genealogical Research in Maryland</b>   | -----            | 929.3752  | <b>Hudson Mohawk Valley, NY Vital Records 1808-1850</b>                       | Bowman & Lynch            | 929.37473 |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to the Capitol Region of Michigan</b>   | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>Mayflower Births and Deaths</b>  | 2 vols<br>Roser, SE       | 929.3744  |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to the Middle of Michigan</b>   | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>Massachusetts and Maine Families in the Ancestry of Walter G. Davis</b>    | 3 vols<br>Davis, WG       | 929.3741  |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to Northeastern Michigan</b>  | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada Before Confederation</b>      | Whyte                     | 929.37    |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to Northwestern Michigan</b>  | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>The New England Gazetteer</b>  | Hayward, J                | 974.04    |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to Southwestern Michigan</b>  | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>Fifty Great Migration Colonists to New England &amp; Their Origins</b>     | Threlfall, JB             | 929.374   |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to the Thumb of Michigan</b>  | -----            | 929.3774  | <b>Twentysix Great Migration Colonists to New England &amp; Their Origins</b> | Threlfall, JB             | 929.374   |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan</b>  | -----            | 929.37749 | <b>Vital Records From Maine Newspapers 1785-1820</b>                          | 2 vols<br>Young, DC       | 929.3741  |
| <b>Ohio Guide to Genealogical Sources</b>  | -----            | 929.3771  | <b>Vermont Families in 1791</b>   | vols 1 & 2<br>Bartley, SA | 929.3743  |
| <b>Genealogist's Guide to East Central Wisconsin</b>   | -----            | 929.3775  | <b>Vermont Place Names: Footprints of History</b>                             | Swift, EM                 | 929.3743  |

**Books Added to Shelves of Midland Room, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library  
During 1998 & 1999**

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|---|--|
| <b>What Did They Mean By That? A Dictionary of Historical Terms For Genealogists</b><br>Drake 929.103 | <b>Mt. Elliot Cemetery Burial Records, Detroit 1845-1861</b> Duncan 929.377433   |
| <b>Cavaliers and Pioneers 1732-1741</b> v4<br>Hudgins,DR 929.xxx                                      | <b>Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867</b> vol 2<br>Smith 929.3716  |
| <b>Cavaliers and Pioneers 1741-1749</b> v5<br>Hudgins,DR 929.xxx                                      | <b>Lineage's of Members of the National Society of the Sons &amp; Daughters of the Pilgrims</b> 2 vols ----- 929.3                               |
| <b>Torrey's New England Marriages Prior to 1700</b> (2nd supplement)<br>Sanborn,ML 929.374            | <b>Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States</b> Schaefer 929.1   |
| <b>The Book of Irish Families, Great and Small</b> O'Laughlin 927.3415                                | <b>Colonial Families of the United States of America</b> Mackenzie, GN 929.373   |
| <b>The Book of Irish Families of Kerry Co, Ireland</b> O'Laughlin 927.34196                           | <b>Collecting Vermont Ancestors</b><br>Ichholz, A 929.3743   |
| <b>The Book of Irish Families of Clare Co, Ireland</b> O'Laughlin 927.34196                           | <b>Gazetteer of Vermont Heritage</b><br>Maunsell, D 929.3743   |
| <b>The Book of Irish Families of Cork Co, Ireland</b> O'Laughlin 927.34196                            | <b>Index of the Intent and Completed Naturalization Records - Lapeer Co, MI</b><br>----- 929.37742   |
| <b>The Book of Irish Families of Limerick Co, Ireland</b> O'Laughlin 927.34196                        | <b>Lapeer County Births</b><br>----- 929.37742   |
| <b>Oakland Co, MI - Farmington Township Death Records 1867-1918</b><br>Lamc 929.377438                | <b>A Gazetteer of Illinois</b><br>Peck 929.3773  |
| <b>Oakland Co, MI - Groveland Township Hadley Cemetery</b><br>Davis 929.377438                        | <b>Mayflower Families</b><br>Vol 9 ----- 929.2<br>Vol 10 ----- 929.2<br>Vol 11 Pt 1 ----- 929.2<br>Vol 11 Pt 2 ----- 929.2<br>Vol 12 ----- 929.2 |
| <b>Oakland Co, MI - Farmington and Farmington Hills Cemeteries</b><br>Mick 929.377438                 | <b>Woodmere Cemetery - Detroit,MI</b> - Bk 1<br>----- 929.377434   |
| <b>Livingston Co, MI - Unadilla Township Cemeteries</b> Unad 929.377436                               | <b>Woodmere Cemetery - Detroit,MI The First 20 Years</b> - Bk 2 ----- 929.3  |
| <b>Detroit City Cemetery Burial Records 1854-1861</b> Duncan 929.377434                               | <b>Woodmere Cemetery - Detroit,MI</b> - Bk 3<br>----- 929.377434   |

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**FIRST FAMILIES OF MIDLAND COUNTY**

First Families of Midland County is a continuing MGS project, recognizing, with certificates, descendants with proven ancestors in Midland County between 1850 and 1900. Several inquiries have been made and one application filed, according to Chair, **MaryLou Hayes**. If interested, contact **MGS Library volunteers** in the Midland Room of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library for information.



## MGS VOLUNTEERS - MIDLAND ROOM

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- 1603** total **patrons** signing the registration book (not everyone does so);  
**154** inter-library loans (microfilms, newspapers, books, etc.) used by patrons; and  
**850** total **volunteer hours**

The Wednesday afternoon volunteer is **Nancy Lackie**, also serving since **1981**. Her extra responsibility is the ordering of books and films for the genealogy patrons. Census, military records, vital records, court records, county and town histories are normally ordered from Heritage Quest. Newspapers from other cities and states are normally ordered from the appropriate state archives. Canadian census records are ordered from the National Archives of Canada in Ottawa, Quebec. Canadian vital, land and court records have been ordered from the Ontario and Nova Scotia Archives. A new source for ordering genealogical materials is the Heartland Library which has a large variety of books, family and county histories.



Nancy Lackie

Thursday afternoon has not always had a volunteer. In 1996, MaryLou Hayes began working Thursdays in the Midland Room; in 1999 she switched to Fridays. At that time, **Bob Mass** stepped forward and offered to assist. **Bob** is still "learning the ropes." He has special interest in German ancestry research, German script and

translations. Future activities might be the incorporation of computer recording in the **Midland Room**.

**MaryLou Hayes** has been serving as Friday afternoon volunteer since 1999, replacing Linda Petiric. The Friday volunteer's extra duties include maintaining the files for forms (Government, State and National), and for helpful genealogical sheets (census, family, record keeping, addresses of reference units, copies of handouts from previous programs, etc). The files are replenished when necessary by requesting copies from originating organizations or by copying at the library. If any materials need binding, the Friday volunteer assumes the responsibility.



Bob Mass

A sixth volunteer, **Marygrace Lenz**, has also recently joined the group and may serve as replacement for the others when they are absent.



MaryLou Hayes

The **Library Books Committee** is made up of three **MGS** members: **Nancy Lackie**, **Quita Shier** and **Lois Baker**. **Nancy** chairs the group which selects what **genealogical** books should be purchased by the **Library** for the **Midland Room**. The **MGS** contributes **\$600** each year to the **Library**; the **Library** matches the contribution, so **\$1200** worth of genealogical books are purchased each year. The committee considers recommendations of **MGS** members and genealogy patrons in determining what books to

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## MGS VOLUNTEERS - MIDLAND ROOM

( continued from page 7 )

purchase. Over the years a very good collection has been accumulated.

Another anonymous **MGS** member literally spends hour after hour researching Midland history and genealogy. I have yet to be in the Midland Room when she is not present, with her head in a microfilm reader, scanning page after page of old Midland newspapers. She desires to work in the background with no recognition. I'm sure she is responsible for most of the Midland historical articles reprinted in the "*Pioneer Record*" from 1980 through 1999 - most of which were reproduced in the book "**Midland Pioneers**" recently published by Ora Flaningam. I'm sure she was involved in the **MGS** projects such as the **Midland County Census: 1850-1894**, **Midland County Obituary Index: 1872-1927**, **Midland County Cemeteries** and **First Families of Midland County**. Presently, she is assisting in the **MGS** project, **Midland County Obituaries: 1928-1999**. She is quiet, patient, diligent, thorough, very goal oriented - she must have the eyes of an eagle. For the record, she is **MGS's** own **Virginia Parsons**. She has threatened to put a curse on me for life for mentioning her in this article - and to her I apologize - but the story would be incomplete without recognizing her efforts.

The **VOLUNTEERS** are all very proud of their efforts. They are very proud of the **Midland Room** and the collections it contains. They invite all **MGS** members to come into the genealogy collection and explore it. Likewise, the **Midland Genealogical Society** is very proud of it's **Midland Room MGS Volunteers**.

### MIDLAND NEWSPAPERS DURING PAST 142 YEARS

There have been 11 newspapers reporting the history of Midland during the last 142 years. The table below summarizes the life and death of the eleven Midland newspapers.

In 1858, Nathan T. Carr established the first newspaper, the weekly *Midland Sentinel*. During the rest of the nineteenth century 10 newspapers would begin and either be renamed or fail, as proprietors were many. Only two passed into the twentieth century, the *Midland Republican* and the *Midland Sun*. The *Midland Sun* was purchased by the *Midland Republican* in 1927. The *Midland Republican* became the *Midland Daily News* in 1937.

Newspaper	Born-Died	Proprietors
<i>Midland Sentinel</i>	1858-1865	N.T. Carr T.J. Carpenter & I. D. Bailey G. Sias F.F. Hopkins & I.D. Bailey
<i>Midland Journal</i>	1865-1866	G.H. Gies
<i>The Independent</i>	1866-1881	G.H. Hughes W.H.H. Bartram F.F. Hopkins F.F. Hopkins, J. Porter & J. Haines F.F. Hopkins, M.W. Ellsworth & F.S. Burton F.F. Hopkins, E.N. Burton & F.S. Burton F.F. Hopkins & F.S. Burton
<i>Midland Republican</i>	1881-1937	T.W. Crissey R. Crissey R Crissey & P.T. Rich P.T. Rich
<i>Midland Daily News</i>	1937-present	Many
<i>City Times, Bartram's Cheek</i>	1868-1868	W.H.H. Bartram
<i>The Midland Times</i>	1872-1875	W.H.H. Bartram G.W. Hughes
<i>Midland Courier</i>	1878-1879	G. McConnel J.J. Savage
<i>The Review</i>	1879-1880	
<i>The Midland Democrat</i>	1880-188?	E. Cornelius
<i>The Midland Sun</i>	1892-1927	F.S. Burton



## MGS WORKSHOP REVIEW

On Saturday, January 15, **35 genealogists** attended the first of three two-hour workshops, sponsored by the **Midland Genealogical Society**, designed to cover various aspects of family history research. The workshop was held in the Grace A. Dow Memorial library Lounge from 10am to 12 noon.

The 35 attendees were greeted by two enthusiastic, knowledgeable hosts - **Maxine McCullen** and **Joan Summerville**. The topic for this first workshop was utilizing "**Home and Family Resources**". Joan began with a brief discussion about the use of several family resources including the family bible.

A video film, produced by the **LDS Family History Center**, was shown. This film provided 60 minutes of information about how to use various home, family and community resources. In addition demonstrations were presented on how to use the **IGI (International Genealogy Index)** and **Ancestral File** located in the Family History Center in Salt Lake city. These files are also accessible at the local LDS Church via an intra-library loan service .

Both Maxine and Joan discussed how valuable the **Midland Room** is as a resource to local genealogists. They shared several of their favorite library resources with participants such as: The Handbook for Genealogists; The Source - revised edition; City Directories; the Map Guide to Federal Censuses; the Township Atlas to Townships in the U.S.; and Searching for Your Ancestors.

Each participant was given a copy of a Pedigree Chart, Family Group Sheet and Research Log. The video tape demonstrated how to use each of these valuable tools to facilitate record keeping. Maxine concluded the session with various tidbits about accessing family history information.

The second workshop, scheduled for Saturday, January 29, will cover the topic "**Researching Court and Probate Records**". The third workshop, "**Land, Military & Vital Records**", is scheduled for Saturday, February 12. The workshops have been organized and coordinated by MGS member, **Jo Brines**.

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## MGS MEMBERSHIP -- Bill Kocher, Chair

MGS membership reached a new high with **136 members** (includes 26 spouses) having joined as of 20 January, 2000. This total resulted after contacts were made with many unpaid members listed in the membership list published in the November, 1999 "**Pioneer Record**". Totals in the 97-98 list were 102 members and in the 98-99 list were 120 members. Still, 18 members listed in 98-99 did not rejoin, indicating that retention should be emphasized in the future.

We **WELCOME** new members since the last "**Pioneer Record**"; they are: **Judy Helvey, Martha McGee, Mary Lou Pease, Mary Branson** (all of Midland), **Marle Fogelsinger** (Bay City) and **Cinda EastIn** (Springfield, OR). We hope you will benefit from your joining the **MGS** and that the Society will benefit from your membership. Good luck in your family history research.

We sadly announce the death , on Nov. 21, 1999, of our only Lifetime member, **Helen E. Lee**.

## Michigan Genealogical Council Report

information provided by **Beverly Kelcher**,  
MGS Council delegate

At the November 19, 1999 Council meeting it was reported that the Michigan County Clerk's Directory has been updated and will be on the State Archives, Michigan Historical Center website.

The Council has established an arrangement with the Library of Michigan Genealogy Department to sell books for the Library. The first opportunity for the Council to assist with the sale of books was at the October, 1999 Seminar in Traverse City. The Council will receive \$5.00 for each book sold. Proceeds will fund various MGC projects.

An update on the Library of Michigan was provided. The Library has increased the Genealogy Department holdings through the recent additions of:

- microfilm of remaining federal census for all the western states and territories
  - 1500 microfilms of records of Antebellum Southern Plantations from the Revolutionary War through the Civil War
  - replacements of all old Michigan census and soundex films
  - replacement of two microfilm reader/printers
- The report also noted that the new edition of the Everton Handbook does not contain the Library of Michigan.

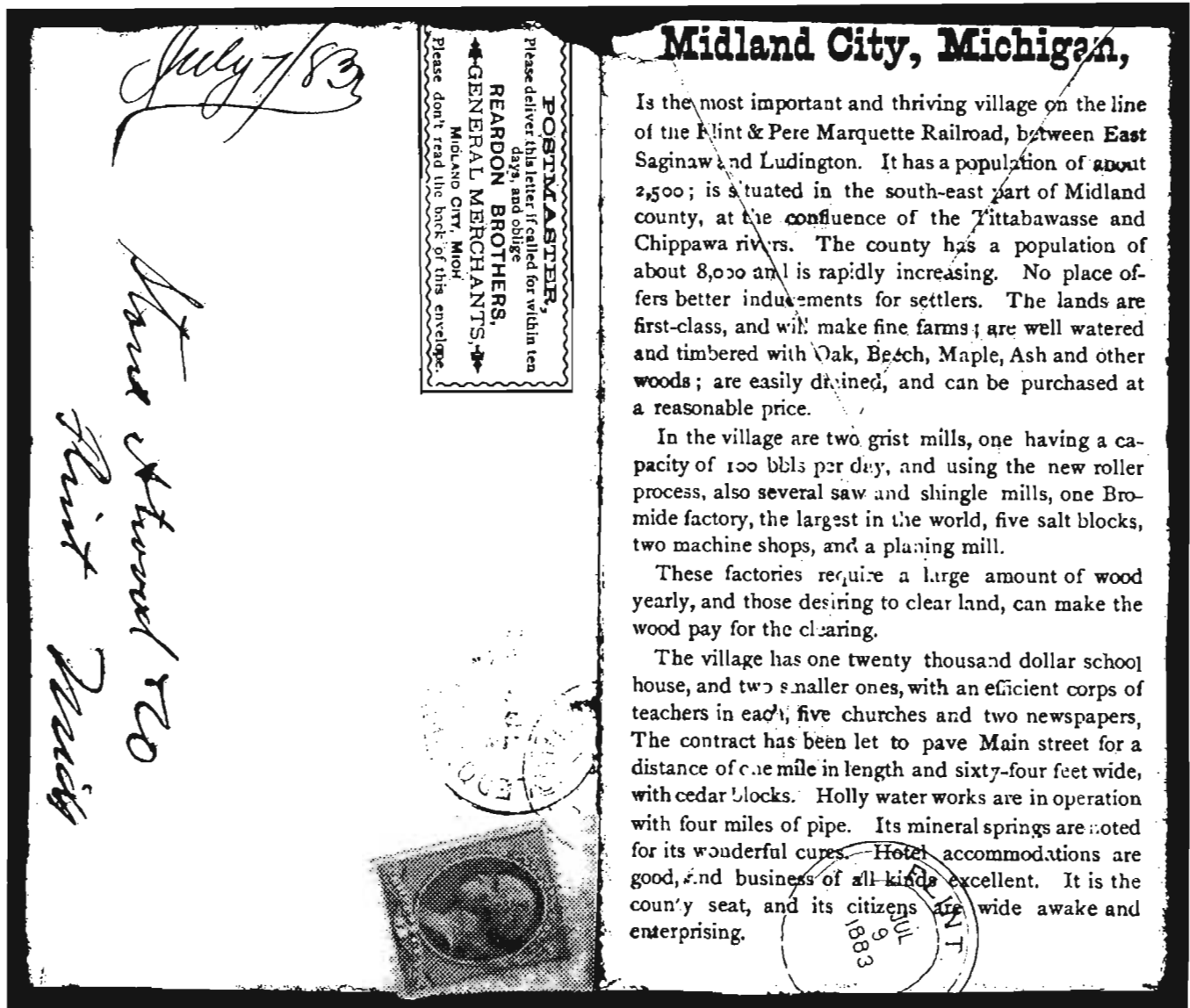
The Library of Michigan also reported that it has received an additional \$25,000 grant from the Abrams Foundation to develop a genealogical video this year. The Library is in the process of obtaining passenger lists, not just indexes. There is a Library Genealogical Tour on the Internet at [libofmich.lib.mi.us](http://libofmich.lib.mi.us)

Diane O'Brian, Chair of the Records Review Committee reported that packets of Death Records for the years 1885-1886 have been given to each society to check, correct, recheck and then return the completed packets.

For more information on the Michigan Genealogical Council please contact our delegates - **Kathy Bohl** and **Beverly Kelcher**.

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*Midland City, Michigan - July 7, 1883 - Postal History Cover*



Pictured above is a **July 7, 1883** postal history cover mailed from **Midland City, Michigan** to **Flint, Michigan** via the **Ludington & Toledo Railroad Post Office**. The cover has been opened to display the back side containing a splendidly eloquent summary of the glories of Midland. In the early history, mail was sent directly via the railways as shown by the cancel of the Ludington & Toledo Railroad Post Office on the front. The cover was backstamped as received in Flint on July 9, 1883.

The envelope contains a corner card advertising the Reardon Brothers, General Merchants. The Reardon brothers: Thomas, John and William had a large mercantile business on the south side of Main Street facing Rodd Street. Children played in the Reardon Meadows, later the site of the first Midland Community Center on George Street. Their sister, Kate, married John Nehil, founder of the Nehil Lumber Company.

Note the reverse psychology in the corner card: "**Please don't read the back of this envelope**".

## EASTMAN'S BEST GENEALOGY SITES ON THE WEB

<http://users.rootsweb.com/~deuhes/Hessen/index.htm>

Hessen web site -- best for those with German ancestors

<http://www.rootsweb.com>

RootsWeb.com -- hundreds of gigabytes of free genealogy data

<http://www.genexchange.com>

Genealogy Exchange & Surname Registry - one of largest non-commercial genealogy projects

<http://www.familysearch.org>

Huge database offered by the Church of Latter-day Saints

<http://www.cyndislist.com>

Cyndi's List -- terrific resource -- huge directory of genealogy related sites

### MGS PROGRAMS FOR 1999-2000

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 winter and spring will be as follows:

**February 16**

**Joan Brausch** will speak on "Genealogy on the Internet"

**March 15**

**Deb Ballard** will speak on "Preserving Cloth Items: Quilts, Clothes, Rugs, Stitching"

**April 19**

Program to be announced later.  
- Presentation of MGS Officer Candidates for 2000-2001 by the Nominating Committee

**May 17**

#### ANNUAL MEETING

- Election of Officers for 2000-2001
- Adoption of 2000-2001 Budget

#### MGS WEB SITE ADDRESS

<http://members.mdn.net/billword/mgs.htm>

#### MIGenWeb SITE ADDRESS

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimidlar/Midgnweb.htm>

### UPCOMING SEMINARS

#### WORKSHOP 2000

**May 6, 2000**

Hosted by **Eaton County Genealogical Society**

Speakers: Dr. George K. Schweitzer  
Shirley J. Hodges

Contact: ECGS; PO Box 337

Charlotte, MI 48813-0337

Phone: 517-543-8792 E-Mail: [ecgsoc@juno.com](mailto:ecgsoc@juno.com)

#### CELEBRATE THE CENTURY -

**The Millennium Conference**

**July 20-22, 2000**

Hosted by **Allen County Public Library**

More than 90 lectures Scores of vendors  
Publishers, Printers & Software Distributors  
Networking & camaraderie at its best!

Location: Grand Wayne Center

in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana

Contact: **The Millennium Conference**

Allen County Public Library  
Historical Genealogy Department  
P.O. Box 2270

Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

Phone: (219) 421-1265

E-mail: [Cwitcher@acpl.lib.in.us](mailto:Cwitcher@acpl.lib.in.us)

### BOOKS FOR SALE

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

**MIDLAND COUNTY OBITUARY INDEX -- 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.

**MIDLAND COUNTY CENSUSES - 1850-1894.** 450 pages, soft bound. (Only 20 Copies Left).

**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.

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  
 1710 W. St. Andrews Drive  
 Midland, MI 48640



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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..

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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 \$10.00 for single and \$12.50 for a couple and can be paid after July 1, but must be paid by Sep. 30, to continue receiving the **Pioneer Record**. Dues may be paid at any **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.