



# PIONEER RECORD

February 2004

Volume XXIV, No. 3

## FINDING YOUR ANCESTOR'S HAND PRINTS IN TOWNSHIP RECORDS

Program Committee member **Walter Bennett, Jr.** introduced **John Castle**, member of the **Ingham County Genealogical Society (ICGS)**, as speaker for the meeting. **John Castle** presented a program titled "**Finding Your Ancestor's Hand Prints in Township**



**Records**". Before beginning his presentation, John introduced three other members of the ICGS who have been significant contributors to the activities of the Society. They were **Jean Crawford, Isabelle Wells, and John's wife, Lynn Castle.**

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## MGS MEETING \*\* FEBRUARY 18, 2004

The fifth **Midland Genealogical Society meeting** of the 2003-04 fiscal year and the second of 2004 will be held **Wednesday, February 18**, in the **Lounge of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library** starting at **7:00 pm.**

**Quita Shier**, member of the MGS, will speak on the interesting subject "**MICHIGAN**

**WARRIORS FOR THE UNION**". Many people do not realize that Native Americans served from both north and south in the Civil War.

The program will be centered on personal and military information about the **Native American participants of Company K, First Regiment Michigan Sharpshooters** who served in the **Civil**



**War** from 1863-1865. **Company K** was the last company to be formed in the regiment and it consisted mainly of Native Americans from the Michigan tribes of **Chippewa, Ottawa and Pottawatomi.** Some men of other tribal groups, who were from out of state and from Canada, also served in this company.

**Quita** hopes to publish a book which will contain profiles of each and every man of **Company K** (over 140 members).

Following the presentation, the normal business of the society will be conducted. Refreshments and conversation will follow the meeting.

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## From the President

How fast the last three months have flown by since the last issue of the **PR**. We are now midway through the 2003-04 year, and it is time to begin thinking about **officers for 2004-05**.

During the board meeting on January 7, it seemed to be way too early to be thinking about next year. (I was still catching up and cleaning up from Christmas.) Consequently, none of the present officers were asked whether they would like to continue in their positions. I am hoping that most, if not all, will continue, as this year is the first term for most of them.

**Fran Longsdorf** and I need to appoint a three member **Nominating Committee** as soon as possible. A **slate of prospective officers** needs to be selected by the committee **before the April MGS**



**meeting**, at which time it will be presented to the membership. The names should also be published in the **April PR**. I wish **Fran** and I would have been thinking about this earlier so we could have asked for volunteers at the January 21 **MGS** meeting. As it is, I will ask now; we will ask again at the February meeting; and in the meantime, make phone calls. **Fran** and I would really appreciate hearing from members who would be responsible for **servicing on the Nominating Committee**.

If a **Nominating Committee** is not your "cup of tea", perhaps you will consider an office. I believe we have found during the past seven months that an office **can be shared** by more than one person. **Fran** and I have divided the work of the **President** as equally as possible. Our two secretaries (**Jan Crozier** and **Gloria Kundinger**) have worked well, and the four member Program Committee has provided us with interesting programs every month. Job descriptions are available for all positions and there are always "old-timers" around to give guidance.

I mentioned in my November letter about a **committee** producing the **PR** next year after **Earl and Faye** retire as co-editors. **Earl** thinks a committee would not function efficiently enough. However with a **strong chairman** who would do the collecting of material, typing and organizing, articles could be written by other people. Taking the finished newsletter to the printer could be a task for one person. Making address labels, preparing printed PR issues for mailing, taking issues to the post office all could be done by one or more different individuals in a minimal amount of time. **Earl and Faye** have volunteered to prepare a detailed job description that can be shared with future **PR** editors. **PLEASE** everyone consider how you can help the **MGS** in some fashion other than just paying dues and attending meetings. Call **Fran, myself or the Ebachs** about serving in any elected position or as editor of the **PR**.

A potential problem mentioned in the November issue of the **PR** is solved. A relatively new member, **Max Schneider**, has volunteered to be the new **web site master** and is in the process of revamping the **MGS web site**. We wish to extend our sincere thanks to Max, for **volunteering** so quickly after the request for help was made.

During the last four months **MGS** has lost two members due to death. The death of **Eldon Shrier** was noted in the **November PR** and **Jeri Shangle** died on December 25, 2003 in Florida. **MGS** has a policy that it will purchase a book in memory of deceased members. The memorial book for **Eldon**, "**Sanilac County Marriage Index for ??? Years**" has arrived and is being catalogued. **Nancy Lackie** is looking for something suitable for **Jeri**.

Speaking of book purchases, **Nancy** and her book committee will begin soon to select books, CD's, census rolls, etc. for the 2003-04 year additions to the genealogy collection. If you have any **suggestions** for items that are not too limiting in scope, please contact **Nancy**. Our budget is **\$600** per year, which is matched by the Library for a total of **\$1200** to be spent on new genealogy holdings.

Stay well, stay warm, try to avoid the snow, and come to the February 18 meeting to hear **Quita Shier** speak on her interesting subject "**Warriors for the Union**".



*Jo Brines*

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## REVIEW of NOVEMBER 19, 2003 MGS MEETING

The November 19, 2003 MGS meeting was held at the new **Midland County Historical (MCH) Museum**.



Co-President **Jo Brines** introduced co-speakers **Gary Skory**, Executive Director of the Midland County Historical Society (MCHS), and **Floyd Andrick**, member of MGS and MCHS. **Gary** and **Floyd** welcomed attendees to the newly dedicated MCHS building.

**Gary** talked about construction of the new building – the problems and the success. He stated that, "now the challenge is to get volunteers to help with the operation of this new building, the programs, etc.". **Gary** stated that plans are to build two (2) pedestrian bridges to cross the rail trail from the new building to the three (3) buildings on the other side of the rail trail – the Dow Museum, Bradley House, Carriage House and Hall. The construction of the building was primarily financed by Midland area foundations and the operation of the facility must be financed by the MCHS. The MCHS needs to make \$250 per day to cover the costs of operating the new building.

Following a brief introduction to the building, **Gary** conducted a tour of the entire building. He answered questions about the facilities, needs, plans for use of various areas and rooms, etc. The plan is to have the historic gallery "up and running" within two (2) months. All two (2) dimensional and three (3) dimensional archival

properties will be moved here and placed into storage rooms within the new building. He reiterated the great need for volunteer time to assist with the numerous tasks ahead.

Following a splendid tour of the new building, refreshments were served. **Jo Brines** called the business part of the meeting to order.

**Bob Maas** reported that the second phase of the Obituary project is completed. All computer entries have been completed. The third phase needs volunteers to review computer printouts for accuracy of the data. When completed, the third volume of the **Obituary Book (1951-1982)** will be printed in limited numbers.

**Jo** reported that **Max Schneider** has volunteered to assume responsibility for the **MGS Web Site**, replacing **Jeri Shangle** who recently moved to Florida.




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## JANUARY 21, 2004 MGS BUSINESS MEETING

Thirty-one (31) members braved a cold, snowy evening to attend the January MGS meeting. Co-President **Fran Longsdorf** conducted a brief business meeting following **John Castle's** enlightening program.

**Kathy Bohl**, delegate to the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC), reported on recent MGC activity. The **Flint Genealogical Society** has agreed to host the next **MGC Fall Seminar** in 2006. The **MGC** will again co-sponsor with the Library of Michigan a fall, **2004 workshop** during Family History Month. Tentative dates for the workshop are either October 16 or 23, 2004.

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

I am pleased to report that **96%** of last year's members are still with us this year. The **Midland Genealogical Society (MGS)** has 109 memberships. Of these, **78%** are **single** memberships, and **22%** are **household** memberships. This makes a total of **133 members**. Of all the memberships, **15%** are **new** this year.

For those of you who are hanging on to the membership list in the last "*Pioneer Record*", please note that Gale Hock's phone number is incorrect. It should be: 989-687-5567. Sorry for the error.

The deadline has long passed, so any "old" member who has not yet paid the dues for this year has been taken off our roster and will no longer receive the "*Pioneer Record*".

Also, please welcome to our ranks Joe and Joan Rogers, and Douglas Clason, new members since the last issue of the *PR*.

Joe and Joan Rogers  
1404 Winchester Dr.  
Midland, Mi 49642  
phone: (989) 839-1711  
e-mail: [JHR1404@aol.com](mailto:JHR1404@aol.com)

Douglas Peter Clason  
1119 Jeffrey Drive  
Northville, MI 48167-2758  
phone: (284) 349-8175  
e-mail: [dpcsc@aol.com](mailto:dpcsc@aol.com)



**Midland Genealogical Society PINS** will continue to be sold at each meeting throughout the year. **PINS** have our **MGS** logo on them, and are only **\$5.00**.

May 2004 prove to be a fruitful year for all of us researching our families.

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


**Income** for **MGS** 2003-2004 fiscal year to date (7 January, 2004) is **\$1676**, made up primarily of dues (\$1129), interest (\$18), research (\$68), book sales (\$106), Pins (\$110), NARA (\$35), and Donations (\$198), versus a budgeted income total of **\$3563**. **Expenses** to date are **\$1570**, made up primarily of meeting rental space (\$175), Pioneer Record (\$571), MGC mileage (\$70), Membership Committee (\$160), Pins (\$557), Member Memorials (\$28) and Misc. Operating Expenses (\$10), versus a budgeted expense total of **\$3506**.

The account balances (as of 7 January, 2004) are: Operating Checking: **\$1557.18**; Money Market: **\$4610.24**; and CD: **\$2500.00**. The total assets are **\$8667.42**.

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**WITH SADNESS**

It is with sadness that we report the passing of former **MGS** member **Jeri L. Shangle**. She died on December 25, 2003 in Florida. The November *PR* issue contained a notice of Jeri's recent move from Midland to Florida. Jeri was actively involved in managing the **MGS web site** for several years. We extend our sympathy to Jeri's family.



**SEARCHING FOR NANCY:  
And Other Internet Surprises  
by Bob Snyder, MGS Member**

"Oh, I know her parents... she has **Mayflower Ancestors...**" --but that's jumping the gun just a wee bit.

When a family friend introduced **Gwen** and me to the hobby of **genealogical research** some thirty years ago, it never occurred to us to think about the journeys we'd take to pursue this or that elusive ancestor. Neither did we realize how much data we would collect on any given family in our efforts to track down one person. After all this time, we have several families for which we have whole notebooks on just one surname search.

Like many novices before us, we began our research by trying to find everything at once. After all, by the time we got back to our **grandparents**, we had eight **surnames** on which to work; and by the time we got to our **great-grandparents** we were up to **sixteen sur-names...** and so it went.

At the beginning, we were lucky in two of my lines. On my **mom's side of the family**, my grandmother had created a small chart in which she named her parents and all her siblings, along with their dates and places of birth in central Illinois.

My **grandfather Snyder** had a brother in Great Falls, Montana, who, back in the fifties, had made a pilgrimage back to the Canadian community where his family started. He had put some information about the family onto a typewritten sheet of paper, with just names and relationships, but with no dates or places. His grandfather, **William Snider**, was born in Germany and married, after he came to Canada, **Nancy Covell**. His father, **Henry Humphrey Snyder**, was born in Canada and was married there to **Amanda Ellon Hunt**, the daughter of **Henry Hunt** and **Susannah Durgin**.

It is now nearly twenty-five years since we made a trip to Leeds County, Ontario, looking for information. While there, we learned that **William Snider** and **Nancy Covell** were married 14 December 1831, and both were residents of the town of Pittsburgh, Leeds County. That is where the trail ended. I've done casual research over the years, hoping to find more information, but since **William** was an immigrant and never revealed any details about his birthplace, I'd decided his line was a dead end. I kept hoping that with an English-

sounding name like **Covell**, something might come up with great-great grandma.



**Henry Humphrey Snider**

Over the years, **Gwen** and I worked on various lines of the family, with good success in some places, and none at all in others. Then came the age of the **Internet**. Shortly after I first went on-line in 1995, I posted a query in the **Leeds/Grenville** Message Board at **Rootsweb.com**. I noted **William** and **Nancy** and their date of marriage. Then I promptly forgot all about the query. Some three years later, I received an e-mail from an English professor at California State University in Long Beach, California. He knew that his great-great-grandparents were **William and Nancy Snider** from Canada. Did I think there might be a connection?

When my grandfather **Snyder** died, he left behind a probate notice in which he was named as an heir in the estate of his uncle, **Solomon Snider**, late of Leeds County, Ontario. Also named in that will were **James Snider** and **Alfred Snider**, of Hermosa Beach, and Long Beach, California, respectively. I wrote back to my inquirer to tell him about these two heirs of **Solomon**, and he responded by telling me that they were the sons of **Julius Charles Snider**, brother of **Solomon** and my great-grandfather, **Henry Snider**. **Henry**, by the way, changed the spelling of the name when he moved to Luther, Michigan in 1898. That pretty well confirmed the truth that my inquirer and I are third cousins, and we've had a lot of fun corresponding in the ensuing years.

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**SEARCHING FOR NANCY:  
And Other Internet Surprises  
by Bob Snyder, MGS Member**

( continued from page 5 )

About a year ago, I was browsing in **Rootsweb** message boards again, and discovered there was a board for the **COVELL** surname. "Well, why not," thought I. I posted a query for **Nancy**, and 'voila', back came a response. "*Her father and mother were **James Hurd and Mary DICKSON Covell**, and here are all the children with their dates of birth. By the way, that branch of the **Covell** family has roots back to the **Mayflower**, through the women's lines.*"

I responded quickly. "Can you provide documentation for that family?" "Well, I have it here somewhere..." While she looked for her documentation (which she never did share), I went digging through Internet sources and elsewhere, and succeeded in finding evidence in the IGI, and in the Canadian census, marriage and cemetery records for seven of the nine children of **John and Mary (Dickson) Covell**. Of the two missing, one was my **Nancy**. Now the job is to find **Nancy** in a record somewhere. My original informant did say that she knew that the data was gathered by **Col. Leonard Smith**, a professional genealogist in Florida, now deceased, and that his archives had been deposited with the public library in Largo, Florida.

In chasing the lines back from **John Hurd Covell**, I discovered him to be the son of **Simeon John Covell**, a well-known United Empire Loyalist who fought with General Burgoyne at the so-called Battle of Bennington, and who was later deported to Canada in 1780, by order of the New York Commissioners. His wife, **Susanna Mosher**, and his mother, **Sarah Hurd**, both had **Mayflower** ancestry, back to **Stephen Hopkins, Francis Cooke**, and **Richard Warren**. Those lines are documented in the various lists of **Mayflower Descendants** down to **Seth and Sarah (HURD) Covell**.

I'm still searching for **Nancy** -- but the search may soon come to a close. One of the stops on the way back from our winter trip to Florida will be the library at Largo, Florida where, hopefully, I'm going to find **Leonard**

**Smith's** documentation proving the line.

I know many researchers look rather disdainfully at Internet research, in part because very few people who post there include their sources. The thing that makes researching the net interesting is that material found there gives me **leads** and possible **contacts** for other people working on the same families. When I find a reference on-line, it gives me all sorts of places to look so I can work at finding the primary sources that will prove the connections.



**Nancy (Covell) Snyder**

I have enough evidence on **Nancy Covell** to believe quite firmly that she is indeed the daughter of **John Hurd and Mary (Dickson) Covell**. All I need now is a piece of primary evidence that will prove the link. Meantime, I've connected with a half-dozen other researchers working on this line, and we're about to link ourselves together through a **Covell** website dedicated to researching the descendants of **Simeon John Covell**, the infamous Loyalist who fought with the Queen's Royal Rangers in the Revolutionary War. It should be an entertaining and informative effort.

**Wish us luck.**

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The **Midland Genealogical Society** extends its condolences to **MGS** members:

**Virginia Parsons** and family for the loss of Virginia's son Stan in December 2003

**Gloria Kundinger** and family for the loss of Gloria's father Edgar A. Trapp in January 2004.

**Mary & Sheldon Levy** and family for the loss of Mary's mother Rita J. Moody in January 2004

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**FINDING YOUR ANCESTOR'S HAND PRINTS IN TOWNSHIP RECORDS**

( continued from page 1 )

**John** referred to **township records** as a “**goldmine**” of local history and genealogical material. What he and fellow members of the **ICGS** learned, was that **township records**, despite their irreplaceable value are, in some instances, being gradually **destroyed** due to lack of storage space and degradation of the documents. Some **ICGS** members became alarmed about the potential loss of this treasure trove of historical and genealogical records. As a **Society**, they set out to see how they could establish a program to microfilm **Ingham County township records**. **John** spearheaded an effort to seek and obtain grant money to support the **Society's** proposed project. Through his friendship with **Carol Collard**, Librarian at the Library of Michigan, the **Society** finally obtained a grant from the **Abram's Foundation** for \$6000 to support their first year of microfilming documents. They have continued to apply for and receive yearly grants to continue this project. At the end of 2004 they hope to have **completed microfilming 12** of the county's total of **16 townships**.

**Township records** are one of a kind. There are no duplicates. They are handwritten in ledgers, notebooks, etc., and stored in a variety of circumstances. Mold, moisture and mice are the biggest danger to these old records. Storage of these old records is a problem for many townships. The only township records that cannot be discarded are **township minutes** that must be kept for as long as a township continues to exist. Some townships have transferred valuable, old records to the **Michigan Archives** in Lansing, but their storage is also limited.

Michigan has 83 counties, each of which contains approximately 16 townships. A township is typically thirty six (36) square miles in size. **John** indicated, “Their records and documents have survived time and weather and may provide details of the public role your ancestors played in their communities. ***This is their hand print.***”

**John** described an amazing collection of records that townships maintained historically and to this day continue to maintain. Some of the very valuable types of records are:

- **Minute Books** – a running record of board meetings, township meetings, etc.
- **Clerk and Treasurer's Ledgers** – records of financial transactions involving individuals
- **Bonds & Oaths of Office** – records of elections, elected officials, witnesses
- **Road Commissioner Ledgers** – work records, payment records
- **School Records & Board Meetings** – history of schools, employment, library assets, etc.
- **Voter Registration** – valuable information about women since 1919, naturalization inf.
- **Cemetery Records** – local cemeteries, “**Burial Transit Permits**”
- **Tax & Assessment Rolls** – personal property as well as land ownership
- **Vital Records** – Birth & Death records reported to County Clerk from 1867-1952
- **Justice Docket Ledgers** – actions performed by Justice, including marriages by Justice of the Peace
- **Dog License Ledgers** – all dogs had to be licensed, even if owner not a land owner

**John** recommended that visits to a **Township Hall** be preceded by a call to the **Township Clerk**. Ask if you can look at the “old records”. Ask what are the available days and hours the Clerk is available. **Make an appointment**. He further noted that “Township records are not indexed nor neatly filed/or contained. Records may be musty, moldy and very fragile. They may be stored in cardboard boxes, crates, attics, basements, outdoor sheds, or old township halls”. **Whatever their condition they still contain a treasure trove of information that is irreplaceable.**

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**JANUARY 21, 2004 MGS BUSINESS MEETING**  
 ( continued from page 3 )

**Colleen Bennett**, our second delegate to the MGC, reported that the **Lucy Mary Kellogg Award**, given annually by the MGC, was awarded to **Mary Lou Duncan** of the Detroit Irish Genealogical Society. Colleen also reported that in order to encourage more **Society sponsored seminars**, the **MGC** will provide **\$2500** in seed money to a Society, which is to be paid back to the MGC after the Seminar. If a **Society** does not receive sufficient revenue to return the \$2500, the **MGC** will absorb the deficit. However, if a Society's revenue exceeds the \$2500, the profit will be split 50/50.

Following adjournment, members enjoyed coffee, cookies and conversation.

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## MOM'S LITTLE CLAY MUG

By Robert O. Mass

**Mom** promised her dad to never look up her **mothers's Brocket** family. **But her heart ached to know more about her mom and mom's family.** She had a few stories about the **Brocket's**, a few postcards, and a **MINIATURE CLAY MUG**. The inch and a half tall **mug** was made from clay in a split mold (Red Wing?) and is a souvenir of a trip (1915) my grandparents took to her home in **Durand, Wisconsin**.

My **grandmother** died in childbirth and my **mother** was raised mostly by her **paternal grandparents** in **Brainerd, Minnesota**. The paternal grandparents were aided by her father, uncle, three aunts and many **Adair** cousins. The death was followed by anger, suggestions, and harsh words, which caused a vast falling out between my **grandfather** and **great grandma Brocket** who had acted as midwife.

On one of the trips back from Michigan to see my mother and other Minnesota relatives we went around Chicago and stopped in **Durand, Wisconsin** where I searched the records at the Courthouse of **Pipin County**. I found absolutely nothing. My mother and I were very disappointed.

Soon after, I took a genealogy class that our society offered in the early eighties. The first search was the Wisconsin Soundex for the 1900 Federal Census.

Jackpot. There was the **Brocket** family with my teenage **grandmother** and three siblings. **Buffalo County** not Pipin County. My mistake was not studying a map and not realizing that a postal district does not need to fit a political district. The farm location was just a few miles from Durand but over the county line in Maxville Township in Buffalo County.

Another trip back home with my son was routed through **Alma**, not our Michigan Alma nor the ones in Georgia, Kansas, or Nebraska but the one overlooking the Mississippi River on the **Minnesota-Wisconsin** border. At the **Buffalo County** Courthouse we looked for information to supplement the vital data gotten by correspondence.

Deed information and a plat map with **Charles Brocket** assigned to a rectangle was the key. We traveled up the wide and flat Chippewa River valley to the crossroads called Maxville where a large cemetery was located. My son Andy was the first to find the typical military gravestone for great grandfather **Charles** who had served in the Civil War. The stone gave new information: **C. A. Brocket of Co. H of the 13 Iowa Infantry Regiment**.

A few miles eastward we hit the limestone upland that was cut with many sharp valleys. Halfway down one valley was the **homestead location**. We crawled through the cattle fence to explore. The only visible evidence was a mostly filled basement made with cemented together limestone slabs. It's "T" shape corresponded with the farmstead photo but the yard and hill were completely overgrown. I took a small limestone slab for my mother. In pioneer days all the land was farmed but now only the fertile bottomlands and the plateaus are under cultivation.



Down the road we found a working farm and talked to the **Worley** family. **Reuben Worley** had lived there all his life and had many

firsthand stories about my mother's aunt **Hattie** and grandmother **Flora**. My mother had known that her uncle **Charles** had died by drowning in a pond. I found out that uncle **Harold** had served in the army





**MOM'S LITTLE CLAY MUG**

By Robert O. Mass

( continued from page 8 )

and never married. **Hattie** had only two stillborn children. Two towering pine trees still stood on the homestead where they were planted as a memorial.

My **mother** was happy with all the information about her mother and family. Unfortunately, added to never knowing her mother and being an only child, I had to tell her she also never had any cousins. **Grandma Brocket** died without knowing she had me and three other great grandchildren.

The next year I took my **Mom** on the 200 mile trip to see her **mother's home area** and visit the **Worley** family who had given me so much information. They surprised us with documents that proved that **Evelyn Worley** was a descendent of **Cornelia (Brocket) Golden** who was a **sister** of my **Mom's grandfather**. We met three of my third cousins that day and on a tour they pointed out a whole valley full of **Brocket – Golden** relatives. My **Mom** corresponded with **cousin Evelyn** the rest of her life.

Besides farming the **Brockets** quarried limestone and roasted it into quick lime as a local business. It was used to cement the slabs of limestone together for building foundations including the **Worley's** current barn and probably the **Brocket's** house foundation.

Research over a decade long, several trips to ancestral areas, and many films and documents have taken me back to colonial times. The Civil War records were a start in tracing the **Brockets** back from Wisconsin to Marshall Co., Iowa, then Marshall Co., Indiana, then Cattaraugus and Wyoming Counties in western New York. Fuzzy links go back to Greene Co. New York then to New Haven, Connecticut where **John Brockett** arrived on the sailing ship Hector in 1637 and surveyed the downtown quadrangles where Yale University is located. **Benager Brocket** married **Anne Hollenbeck** who probably descended from **Casper Jacobse** and **Elisabeth Hallenbek** who were living in Beverwyck, New Netherlands (upper Hudson River valley) in 1654.

The **little clay mug** lives in the display case with my **great grandfather Adair's gold watch** and seeing it reminds me of my work to uncover the **Brocket family history**.

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**ACCESSING ANCESTRY PLUS for FREE**

On October 17, 2003, **Christee Brandou**, State Librarian for the Library of Michigan, announced that **Ancestry.com**, owner of the genealogical database **Ancestry Plus**, has terminated remote access (from your home or anywhere outside a library building) to the database through the "**Michigan e Library**" (**MeL**) effective October 19, 2003. This **termination** of a contractual arrangement came abruptly and without warning. When contacted, **Ancestry.com** cited an increase in usage and **customer abuse** as reasons for **discontinuing** the contracted provision.

Even though this announcement is very disappointing to genealogists, **Ancestry Plus** is still available for individuals to use **free** in local **libraries**. It can be accessed at any Michigan Library providing public Internet access through **Michigan e Library** (**MeL**).

1. Go to MeL [www.mel.org](http://www.mel.org)
2. Scroll down to "Magazine e-books and more"
3. Choose "Log on in your library or school"
4. Choose "Galegroup Intotrac Databases"
5. Click on "Proceed" (gray button in the middle of the screen)
6. Choose **Ancestry Plus**

**Ancestry Plus** provides the following information:

Census records,	Biography and history records	Directories and memberships
Birth records	Court, land and probate records	Periodicals and newspapers
Military records	Immigration records	Community records

**Federal census records** are available dating back to the 1700's.

Searches can be done by first and last names, location, state, keyword or record type.

Source: Michigan Department of History, Arts and Libraries online at [Michigan.gov/hal](http://Michigan.gov/hal)

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## SOCIAL SECURITY DATA YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!

Proposed federal legislation presents a serious threat to genealogists. Senate Bill 228 and House of Representatives Bill 637, currently wending their respective ways through the system are designed to enhance individual privacy and restrict the use of Social Security numbers. Referred to as the Social Security Misuse Prevention Act, the current wording of each bill could spell the end of the Social Security Death Indexes.

The Utah Genealogical Society has worked closely with the bills sponsors in an attempt to amend the bills and protect the continued availability of the death indexes – all to no avail. These indexes provide a tremendous source of valuable family and historical data for genealogists. They have requested the following amendments:

1. Under Sec. 3(a)(1)(a) DEFINITIONS, add the following definition: "SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER – the term 'social security number' refers to the social security number of a living individual."
2. Under Sec. 4(a)(1)(e)(2) LIST OF PAPER AND OTHER NON-ELECTRONIC RECORDS, delete "(D) death certificates."

PLEASE contact any or all of the following bill sponsors and express your concern regarding the potential loss of these valuable Social Security Death Indexes:

S228: -----

Senator Dianne Feinstein  
331 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Fax 202-228-3954

<http://feinstein.senate.gov/email.html>

Senator Patrick J. Leahy  
433 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4242  
[senator\\_leahy@leahy.senate.gov](mailto:senator_leahy@leahy.senate.gov)

Senator Judd Gregg  
393 Hart Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-3324  
[mailbox@gregg.senate.gov](mailto:mailbox@gregg.senate.gov)

HR637: -----  
Representative John e. Sweeney  
416 Cannon Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-5614  
Fax 202-225-6234

\*\*\*\*\*

### Major Improvement to Online Family History Library Catalog

There have been two major improvements to the online version of the **LDS Family History Library Catalog**:

- (1) you can now search the database by keyword and
  - (2) up-dates to the catalog will occur more frequently.
- This report also indicated that plans call for updating the online catalog "daily".

The catalog identifies the complete holdings of the library which contains more than 2.5 million rolls of microfilm, 250,000 books and 700,000 microfiche. It is located at:

<http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset fhlc.asp>

The **regular cataloging** scheme is a bit cumbersome and the keyword feature will permit users to locate rapidly what information is available about a town, surname or subject. The online catalog now includes eight methods of searching the database: surname, place name, keyword, title, film/fiche number, author, subject and call number.

Source: News About Jewish Genealogy  
Vol. 4, No. 14, Aug. 10, 2003

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### ONE AT A TIME

The children were lined up in the cafeteria of a parochial elementary school for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples. The teacher made a note, and posted it on the apple tray:

**"Take only ONE. God is watching."**

Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies. A child had written a note:

**"Take all you want. God is watching the apples."**

\*\*\*\*\*

The following is a **REPRINT** of an article appearing in the **Midland Republican**  
**31 March 1881**

### HOMER

This township has been left, by the setting off of Lee, considerably smaller than the regulation six miles square. In the laying out of townships, the lines which farther south at the correction line were started six miles apart, have by the curvature of the earth come so much nearer each other that towns in "range one east" are pretty badly pinched. Homer, for instance, is only about four miles wide. It makes up however we believe, not in length indeed, but in other ways, for the lack of breadth. In this as in other towns, new settlements are being made, lands cleared, buildings erected. Mr. Fred Wesson has his new house completed, and his barn about as good as done. Keep watch, girls.

\*\*\*\*\*

**TOWNSHIP RECORDS IN MIDLAND COUNTY ?**

**John Castle's** presentation titled "**Finding Your Ancestor's Hand Prints in Township Records**" was not only interesting but very challenging. He enthusiastically called **township records** a **goldmine** of local history and genealogy. It raises the **questions** "Do the townships in Midland County have records which would be valuable to both genealogists and historians ? Have the township records been preserved or destroyed ? If they exist where are the Midland County township records ?"

**MGS** member **Nancy Lackie** relates that the **Jerome Township records** were **recovered** from a dumpster in Saginaw County via a SVSU professor and now **reside** in the collections of the **Sanford Museum**. What valuable information do they contain?

A **quick** review of immediately available information concerning the **16 townships of Midland County** is contained in the following table. It summarizes the **township name, location, date established** and the location of the **township hall** (according to Dorothy L. Yates' book "Salt of the Earth"). Only **8 (eight)** of the 16 townships have **phone** numbers listed in the Midland telephone directory. The **Township Supervisor** and **Township Clerk** are also listed (according to the 2000 Midland County General Elections). Each township is approximately 6 miles wide by 6 miles deep except for the townships of Hope, Lincoln, Homer and Mt. Haley which are only 4 miles wide.

Township	Location	Year Established	Hall Address	Hall Phone	Township Supervisor/Clerk
Edenville	T16N R1W	1874	xxxx Water Rd, Edenville S of Curtis Rd	689-3655	Alice Sharon Such Suzanne G. Johnson
Geneva	T15N R2W	1873	xxxx Barden Rd, N. Bradley SW off Saginaw Rd		Margaret J. Sullivan Sally P. Ward
Greendale	T14N R2W	1882	xxxx Geneva Rd N of Salt River		R. James LeViere Ruth L. Knapp
Homer	T14N R1E	1862	522 N. Homer Rd near Olsen Rd	832-8617	Barbara Radosa Joe W. Dufort
Hope	T16N R1E	1871	xxxx Hope Rd corner w Hull Rd		Theodore M. Wendt JoAnn Wilkie
Ingersoll	T13N R2E	1855	xxxx Freeland Rd SW corner w Sasse Rd		Curtis R. Shaffner Mary Ellen Keel
Jasper	T13N R2W	1861	xxxx Kent Rd near corner w Coleman Rd		Daniel N. Sagle Jean M. Shauger
Jerome	T15N R1W	1855	3243 N. West River Rd N of US10	687-2219	Stuart D. Bloomfield Connie Bennett
Larkin	T15N R2E	1879	3027 N. Jrfferson Rd	835-6399	Leonard Servinski Lisa Atton Johnson
Lee	T14N R1W	1880	1485 W. Olsen Rd near 9 Mile Rd	832-2274	Wm. David Yost Doris French
Lincoln	T15N R1E	1878	xxxx Hope Rd, Averill off old US10		Gerald T. Nightlinger Delmar Tomlinson
Midland	T14N R2E	1853	1030 S. Poseyville Rd near Miller Rd	835-8866	Brian J. Ahearn Mary Beth Flemming
Mills	T16N R2E	1894	3480 Shearer Rd near Jefferson Rd	689-4558	Daniel R. Bloom Maxine M. Brink
Mt. Haley	T13N R1E	1871	3020 S. Homer Rd near Freeland Rd	835-5911	Richard A. Dougherty Harry R. Calkins
Porter	T13N R1W	1868	xxxx LaPorte Rd near 9 Mile Rd		Robert M. Fleming Marianne Corbat
Warren	T16N R2W	1871	xxxx Baker Rd corner w Geneva Rd		J. Michael Acker Jerry Todd

This could become a **MGS project** that would be very educational, interesting and very worthwhile

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## DO WE STILL NEED SOCIETIES?

Donna Potter

Reprinted from the **Family Chronicle**, November/December 2003, Volume ;8, Number 2

In this exciting **Internet Age**, will the **local genealogical society** go the way of rotary dial telephones, number two pencils and CPM computers? **Will the need disappear** for those living in a given area, and who want to do genealogy, to come together, work together and learn together? Can aspiring family historians learn on their own everything they need to know – every skill necessary – to further, enhance and complete their research?

My answer, gleaned from reading and interviews, is a resounding **“No way!”** I asked several friends if we still **needed genealogy societies** and all were passionate with their **affirmative** answers.

In the words of former president of the New York Italian Genealogical Society **Bernard Montanari**, “It’s like being educated... there are those who are self-educated and get the information eventually or those who go to school and get the information directed at them.” Or, in the words of **Amy Johnson**, CG, **“Genealogical societies** often have the most intimate knowledge of the records in an area, and they know what gaps exist in the records due to courthouse fires, floods, etc. Societies also know about accessibility to the records – which ones are held locally, which have been moved to archives, and which are closed to the public. If you are seeking obscure sources, check with the local society.”

As **Juanita McBride**, the librarian for my local genealogical society, pointed out to me, **“genealogical societies are locality based...they know of more people, more resources and have more knowledge of that area than anybody else and any other resource.”**

Can you really think that sitting in your pajamas, using your little gray mouse and **surfing the Internet** until the wee hours of the night will bring you all the answers you seek in your genealogy? Will the **Internet** teach you what to do with what you learn? And will trying to fill all your genealogical needs on the **Internet** take the place of meeting with, working with, learning from and sharing with other like-minded folks? Will **all** the books and resources that you need to compile your family history be available to you via the **Internet**? **“No way!”** is my answer to all of those questions.

I haven’t even mentioned the wonderful homemade cookies and brownies that come to meetings. Food for the tummy and food for the mind are available at monthly meetings of the Eastern Washington Genealogical society as members bring treats for the “coffee, cookies and sharing time” before the meeting. Who can guess how many come for the goodies and stay to be taught?

Goodies aside, the **reasons** to have and support **genealogical societies** can be listed in categories: opportunities to **learn**, opportunities to **serve**, opportunities to **preserve** and opportunities to have **fun**.

### Opportunities To Learn

**Genealogical societies** provide fellowship, sharing, classes, learning, networking, seminars, workshops, opportunities and knowledge. They provide for the beginner and the seasoned genealogist; in genealogical societies there is something for everyone of every level.

Since **societies** are locality based, they know what records exist for that area, for what time periods, where those records are housed and if they are available. They know about special collections unique to that area, including local resources that will **never** be found via the Internet. Members know of small, private museums and collections. They know who keeps some specific group of old records at their home because that person is just not ready to give up these things yet. They know about ethnic resources and events. They know which churches will allow walk-in access to their records, but would never allow extracting or filming of their records. They know that while the society library does not have such-and-such a record, the local Family History Center has a big in-house collection of those records.

**Societies** are geared to learning. They have regular meetings with speakers and programs planned to increase genealogical knowledge. They compile, print and distribute publications that carry local records, information and how-tos for the membership. They hold regular classes (including beginners, advanced, computer, special field and ethnic research classes), workshops and seminars. They volunteer at and staff such places as the local genealogical library, local archives and local museums. They are non-profit organizations, dedicated to group benefits and learning.

## DO WE STILL NEED SOCIETIES?

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In addition to this, the **societies** themselves maintain records, and keep a library in most cases. The library holdings of a local genealogical society will include both local-emphasis materials and general genealogical materials. Librarians for genealogical societies are always gathering materials...ask them if they would like "these old books that you found in the dumpster" and they will squeal with delight.

**Societies** also keep members up-to-date on the newest happenings in the field of genealogy, and the newest resources to become available. Society members are not just told about new resources, but they are taught about new resources.

### Opportunities To Serve

Service to others, anytime, and place and anywhere, is divinely appointed. To be a helper to mankind, in any capacity, is to enrich yourself. **Genealogical societies** offer unlimited opportunities for all kinds of service. In the guise of conducting meetings, classes and workshops, societies offer leadership and teacher training. Board members and society teachers are often leaders in their community.

**Societies** offer even the least among their membership the opportunity to grow through service. Those who prepare the coffee and cookies at a meeting, those who sign-up to help with the local public television pledge drive, those who help the librarian catalog and shelve the incoming books, pamphlets and periodicals, those who man the society booth at the local county fair... all serve and are enriched by the service. Outreach services for group projects are always available, as are members who will go to the public schools to help the teacher with a special, genealogy-oriented project. Members will go to retirement homes to assist with oral history projects, or to clean up a damaged cemetery.

### Opportunity to Preserve

**Genealogical society** members often gather weekly at courthouses, libraries or archives to extract local records. These records are then published for all to use... and they are not always published online. Members work with local libraries to add specialty items to their holding and collections, and work with other preservation groups in the area to take oral histories, find the hidden tombstones in neglected cemeteries and lobby for record preservation at the local, state or provincial and national level.

Believing in the idea that groups have a responsibility to preserve records and records' access for future generations, **society** members work with local churches, fraternal organizations, veterans' organizations and other groups to preserve and make available their records within the framework of stipulations that the donating organization imposes. They know that records useful to genealogists can show up any-where, and when an organization is about to dump their records, members rush to the rescue. Finally, members often participate in reenactments and living history demonstrations, there by preserving the "old ways". These events help make the connection between cultural history and family history.

### Opportunity to Have Fun

Last but not least, **genealogical societies** provide wonderful opportunities to have fun. When you research on the Internet in your jammies in the middle of the night and talk to your cat, he doesn't really care. When you come to a genealogical gathering, on the other hand, everybody wants to share and listen to stories. You can only have such fun networking in person – talking with others and immediately finding out about a new record or making a cousin-connection. Happy person-to-person interaction is vitally needed for the mental health of every individual.

Doing off-line research generally provides more opportunities for exercise, and **society** activities are no exception. We can park blocks away from meetings (instead of the indoor parking garage), we can tromp cemeteries for a variety of reasons, we can join the group manning the highway rest stop and it is certainly exercise lugging books back and forth to the library.

Former FGS president **Curt Witcher**, FUGS, summed it up well when he said: "**Genealogical societies** are the first line of defense in the battle to preserve our historical documents in a format that will ensure accessibility for generations of researchers. Their members are the daily users of the

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**DO WE STILL NEED SOCIETIES?**

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records and will feel the first effects of restricted access. It is a tremendous responsibility to keep a watchful eye on what is happening at the local, state and national levels."

A zillion kinds of genealogical information may be available on the **Internet**, but it is the humble working members of local genealogical societies who **provide the information** to the Internet. Your little gray mouse won't find it if it's not there, and it won't be there without a person putting it there and that person usually is a **genealogical society** member. And even if you find "good stuff" on the Internet, will you know how to apply that knowledge to your family history, and build upon that knowledge to find more? A **genealogical society** will **provide the opportunity to learn** how to "do" every aspect of family history with face-to-face and hands-on teaching. You won't get that from the Internet.

I have long taught that yes, you can do genealogy in a closet (meaning all by yourself, alone, at home). And some folks must do it this way as they are confined to their homes for any number of reasons. **But for most of us, doing genealogy with the help and fellowship of other like-minded folks is way more productive, way more satisfying and way more fun. There will forever be a need for the humble genealogy society.**

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Reprinted from the **Family Chronicle**, November/December 2003, Volume ;8, Number 2

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**EDITORIAL COMMENTS**

**Br r r r** it's cold outside. It's been several years since we have had this amount of snow and cold weather – and all in January. It's amazing that those of us who choose to spend winter in Michigan haven't changed their plans and headed south. However, there is one positive, we burn a lot of calories clearing driveways and walkways.

Producing this next to last issue of the **Pioneer Record** has kept us inside in our cozy, warm environment for several days. As always, officers and members have been very helpful in providing information, as well as interesting articles to be included. Special thanks go to **Bob Snyder, Bob Mass** and **Jo Brines** for their articles in this issue.

**Walt Bennett, Jr.** has indicated that with the help of a **dedicated committee** he might serve as **Editor** of the **PR**. The **MGS** needs to encourage this approach by having members step forward and volunteer to assist. The **PR** can be published in this manner but will require **dedication** and **coordination**.

The January **MGS** meeting was an excellent program and highlighted an off times forgotten resource for both genealogical and historical information. It was wonderful to learn how one genealogical society has pursued a project that preserves such a wealth of historical information for generations yet to come.

During discussions following the January **MGS** program, we talked about the things **MGS** does to preserve important genealogical and historical information in the **Midland** community. Through the efforts of many members, especially **Virginia Parsons, Midland County Obituary** records are available in several published volumes. Through the dedicated work of **Mary Lou Hayes** and several other members, **descendents of Midland County** pioneers have been identified and certified through the **First Families** program. The book "**Midland Pioneers**", written by **Ora Flaningam**, was published and sold by the **MGS**. **Floyd Andrick**, **MGS** member, chairs the Midland County Historical Society's on-going program to obtain "**Oral Histories**" from native Midlanders.

All of these **MGS** projects have promoted the preservation of information for **Midland County**. **John Castle's** presentation concerning **township records** suggests another potential **MGS** project, to provide for future generations and to promote retention of irreplaceable historical and genealogical data.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES 2003-2004**

If your dues have not been paid you will no longer receive the **Pioneer Record**. Dues may be paid by mail to: Membership Chair, **Midland Genealogical Society**, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640. Dues for an **individual** are **\$14.00** ; for a **family** they are **\$17.50**.

## SACAJAWEA – INDIAN GUIDE FOR LEWIS & CLARK EXPEDITION

In the *Pioneer Record* review of the October, 2003 MGS meeting about the “**Circumstances of Pomp**”, it was stated that **Sacajawea** was fluent in English and therefore an ideal selection to become a member of the **Lewis and Clark Expedition**. **Wilma Diesen**, program presenter, sent the following correction.

“**Sacajawea was not fluent in English** as reported. She spoke the languages of the **Hidatsa** and **Shoshone** tribes and was particularly valuable to the Expedition because of her ability to converse with the people of her birth tribe when the need for horses and other assistance became apparent. **Sacajawea** was selected for the trip by her husband **Toussaint Charbonneau** when the Captains told him that he could take only one of his wives along. **Charbonneau** did not speak English either. As you can imagine, communication was often difficult – **Sacajawea** spoke to **Charbonneau** in **Hidatsa**, he relayed messages to **Drouillard** or **Labiche** in **French**, and they were finally delivered in **English** to the **Captains**. Have you ever played that old childhood game that involves passing a secret by whispering it from one person to the next? **Amazingly**, most of the time the messages apparently got through. At one point on the Expedition, the Corps encountered a young boy who had been freed from captivity of another tribe by the **Tushepaws**. **Sacajawea** conversed with him in **Shoshone** and he spoke to the **Tushepaws** in **Salish!**”

### Books Added to Shelves of Midland Room, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library During Period: August, 2003 -- January, 2004

<i>A Cramer-King History</i> Ora L. Flaningam	929.2	<i>Headstone Readings, Beaver Township &amp; Zion Lutheran</i> Bay Cnty Gen.Soc.	929.5
<i>Connections: A Life, A Family &amp; Good Friends</i> A.W. Hart	929.2	<i>Headstone Readings, Garfield Township</i> Bay Cnty Gen.Soc.	929.5
<i>Materials for a History of the Sessions Family in America</i> F.C. Session	929.2	<i>Headstone Readings, Apostolic Christian, Kawkawlin Township</i> Bay Cnty Gen.Soc.	929.5
<i>Monroe County MI Birth Records –Vol 2</i> (Memorial for Juanita Winterbottom)	929.377432	<i>Headstone Readings, St. John's Lutheran, Pinconning Township</i> Bay Cnty Gen.Soc.	929.5
<i>Headstone Readings, Pinconning Township</i> Bay Cnty Gen.Soc.	929.5		

### IMPORTANT WEB ADDRESSES

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

### 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:

**Wednesday & Thursday** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
**Saturday** 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.

**MGS WEB SITE**

The **Midland Genealogical Society** does have a “**WEB SITE**” on the internet. It was initially created by **Bill Worden**, modified by **Joan Brausch** and maintained for the past five years by **Jeri Shangle**. The site has gone through many changes and improvements during its existence. The web site is presently accessed by entering

<<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgs/>>

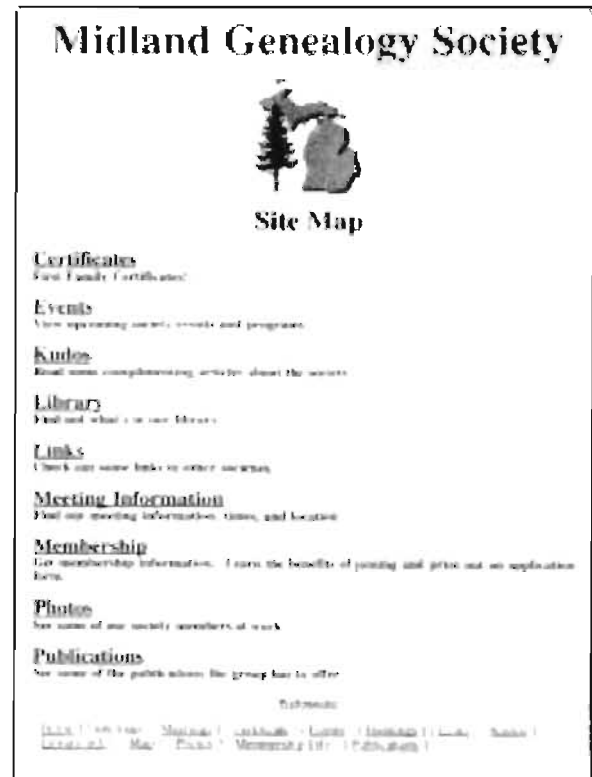
Jeri passed away this past December and the Society was looking for someone with computer skills to maintain the site. **MGS** member, **Max Schneider**, who works in a computer department at Dow, stepped forward and volunteered to maintain the web site. **Max** plans on improving the site, but is requesting input from Society members on what they want the web site to do.



The **MGS** web site is served via **RootsWeb** which has provided a system free of charge for societies to establish such sites. Thus the site address contains “rootsweb.com”.

Pictured below are reproductions of the present web site’s home page and map. When you first enter the site you see the **Home** page (pictured on the left). If you click on “**ENTER HERE!!!!**” you get the **Site Map** page (pictured on the right). The **Site Map** lists connections to the other parts of the web site. At the bottom of all pages is a tool bar that also allows you to enter **other parts** of the web site. These parts are: Home, Site Map, Meetings, Certificates, Events, Holdings, Links, Kudos, Library Info, Map, Photos, Membership Info, and Publications.

If on the **Home** page you click on “**Webmaster**” you get an e-mail form to communicate with the Web site manager (we assume via RootsWeb).



**Max** is questioning “What is the **purpose** of the **MGS web site**?”

Should it just provide information about the **MGS**? Who submits information to the web site manager? The present site reproduces one of the Obituary books published by the **MGS**; is this desirable? What photos, if any, do we want? Should the site be doing more or less than it is presently doing? **Max** does plan on changing the logo to the present **MGS logo**.

Contact **Max** at: <[maxschneider@chartermi.net](mailto:maxschneider@chartermi.net)>

This appears to be an excellent opportunity for **MGS members** and the **MGS Board** to become **more involved** in our web site. Will **YOU** take the time and effort to **tell Max** what changes and/or improvements can be made to our web site?????

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## MGS PROGRAMS FOR 2003-2004

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 spring 2004 will be as follows:

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 28, 2004

Terry McKane, MGS member, will speak on "Mayflower Descendants".

May 19, 2004

Annual Meeting, Program: TBA

Refreshments & conversation

will follow the program at all meetings

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)

April 17, 2004 Eaton County GS Workshop

Fawne Stratford-Deval - primary speaker

More information at [www.rootsweb.com/mieccgs/](http://www.rootsweb.com/mieccgs/)

April 17, 2004 Kalamazoo Valley GS Workshop

Amy Johnson Crow - primary speaker

Contact: [sanders@net-link.net](mailto:sanders@net-link.net)

May 19-22, 2004 NGS Annual Conference

"A Golden Prospect" Sacramento, CA

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

## UPCOMING SEMINARS

### Michigan Genealogical Council 2004 ABRAMS Genealogical Series

The MGC & Library of Michigan will again sponsor 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 six scheduled meetings are:

February 28 Great Lakes States Genealogy Resources

April 3 Researching Your Civil War Ancestors

June 5 Genealogical Resources at the Michigan Library & Historical Center

August 7 Dutch Genealogy

October 2 Ships' Passenger Lists

December 4 Finding Your 20<sup>th</sup> Century Ancestors

Cost is \$15 per workshop or \$75 for the entire series. The 90-minute sessions begin at 9:30 am. For more details go to

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc/>

or <http://www.michigan.goc/hal>

or phone: (517) 373-1300

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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 as a package for \$35.00 plus \$5.00 for postage and handling. ( 80 copies remaining )

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

To ORDER A BOOK write:

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



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



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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.