



# PIONEER RECORD

Newsletter for the Midland Genealogical Society

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### Midland Genealogical Society Programs for 2006 - 2007

*Meetings are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month as usual but we will be at three locations and times.*

*Programs for the meetings are as follows.*

Sept. 20 meeting 7:00 Lounge

#### "WHAT's NEW?"

Instead of the popular "show and tell", all members will share briefly what hew genealogical discovery they found this summer. We learn from each other - maybe someone else's discovery can be used to help you. It will be nice seeing everyone since last spring.

NO USUAL MEETING on Oct. 18

INSTEAD : Sat, Oct. 28 1-3 pm Library Auditorium

Roberta Estes of Brighton – "DNA – The New Genealogical Tool"

She begins her speech with DNA 101, then moves into how testing works with genealogy and has lots of case histories. There will be time for questions.

Ms. Estes is a professional scientist in the information technology arena and has been an amateur genealogist for almost 30 years.

This meeting is co-sponsored by the library.

## Over the River to the Poorhouse

Sometimes it is hard to find information on ancestors who were quite poor. Genealogists will hit "the brick wall" searching for them in county records. If they did not own land, no property tax records exist. They probably moved often, did not vote, serve on juries, belong to a church, or leave an estate. The census takers may have missed them, and occasionally they left no death record. If these ancestors were poor or possibly elderly, a place to search for them might be in the listing of the county poor-house residents.

Not counting the American Indians, the population of the United States consisted mainly of young European immigrants who had survived a perilous sea voyage to get here. These immigrants fled persecution or left poverty behind for a better life in America. Those who were old or ill didn't risk such a voyage.

The life span during that time period was shorter with many dying in infancy or childhood and few reaching old age. This also contributed to a younger population. For those who did become elderly, owning property or having a large family was their "old age security." After reaching adulthood, most children remained in the area where they were born since the only means of transportation was by horse. Before the 1800s, about 95% of the population was rural. Families were self-sufficient and children as well as the elderly each had their chores. They grew their own food, made their own clothing, and took care of each other. A family was a means of survival.

Children were expected to care for their elderly parents. If they could not care for a dependent elderly relative, they could pay another family for that person's care by "boarding them out." The elderly who were childless and wealthy could hire help for their care. Those who were poor and abandoned by their family or were childless were aided by charity from neighbors or a local church or put on public welfare.

Public welfare in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centu-

ries consisted of small cash payments called "outdoor relief" paid to the poor by the local town or county government. An elected official, called the Overseer or Superintendent of the Poor, administered the funds. The money came from the taxpayers. Poorhouses were built to lessen the cost of "outdoor relief" which was rising. This was known as "indoor relief." Poorhouses, poor farms, county infirmaries, asylums, and county homes were built to house people who were too expensive to care for with "outdoor relief." If someone wanted relief, they had to go to the local facility. Some states owned and ran the poorhouses. In others, it was the county or city. Some states paid the person's relatives or a local farmer to take care of the indigent person. Others auctioned the indigent off to the lowest bidder for their care for a year. This person used the indigent one for labor in exchange for room and board, clothing and health care. Sometimes the poor were abused under this arrangement.

To discourage those who were looking for free room and board, the residents of poor farms could not leave the premises. They had to help on the farm with food production and be self-sufficient. Older women would help by sewing. Poorhouse applicants were screened for county residency and for possible family members who could support them before they were admitted to the poorhouse.

In the 1800s poorhouses served a variety of people—sometimes only for a little while. Destitute families who could not afford to provide for themselves for a time and those who were homeless because of a fire or flood were some who were helped. Others were victims of domestic abuse, unwed mothers, orphans, seasonally unemployed workers, those injured on the job, handicapped people, the sick, and the elderly. Sometimes they housed alcoholics and the mentally ill.

(Continued on page 3)

## The Presidents Letter

Article II of the ByLaws of the Midland Genealogical Society states: "The purpose of the MGS shall be to serve as a focal point for genealogical activities in the Midland County area. --- Further, the MGS shall stimulate interest in genealogy in the community and shall educate the membership and the general public in methods of genealogical research and give mutual assistance to the members in their research efforts."

As your President I approach these responsibilities with both optimism and enthusiasm. With your help we hope to re-invigorate the MGS to accomplish the above purpose. The MGS Board, with both experienced and enthusiastic members, will hope to provide the necessary leadership – but we will need your help.

We held our first Board meeting 19 July. At that time we distributed to all the MGS officers their "Job Descriptions" and the MGS ByLaws. We discussed each officer's responsibilities and how we must interact. We also distributed a schedule for all the MGS General meetings and our monthly Board meetings for the calendar year, 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007.

Both our Treasurer, Ron Snyder, and our Co-Secretaries, Jayne Shrier and Jan Crosier, served in that capacity last year.

Jo Brines, our Program Chair, and her committee of Fran Longsdorf and Joan Rogers, have scheduled programs which should be of interest to many members. The first General meeting in September will be a round table discussion by MGS members – each briefly describing and sharing a recent research accomplishment. The October meeting, co-sponsored with the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library and open to the public, will present the most recent technical genealogical tool – DNA. In November we will hear all about the Mayflower Society and its significant genealogy research and archives. The first meeting of 2007 in January

will be a presentation by MGS member Jacob Eichhorn on his research concerning Germans immigrating to Russia via Denmark – the path his parents took before immigrating to the USA. All these programs should be very interesting and informative.

Our Membership Chair, Betty Bellous, and her committee of Maxine McCullen and Barbara Fox, have contacted all of last year's members (plus many members from earlier years) by mail. They have enclosed a MGS membership form and an addressed, stamped envelope so that members are not only reminded to re-new, but can easily do so. We hope you all have responded. This will be only the first strategy by the committee to rejuvenate our membership. Betty is so enthusiastic that I can hardly keep up with her.

Dona McArdle and Nancy Humphrey have volunteered to serve as Hospitality Co-Chairs. They will be passing a schedule at the September meeting for members to sign up to prepare cookies for future meetings. Please sign up and help them and the MGS.

The Board held its second meeting 9 August. We have discussed several special projects for consideration during the coming year, most of which I will only mention, since you will hear more as plans progress. We discussed:

A 3 day trip to Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana – drive in cars, stay 2 nights – hopefully in late fall, 2006.

A one day FREE seminar Saturday, 30 September 2006 at the Burton Memorial Library, Detroit. George Swietzer, renowned genealogist, is the speaker

A research trip to the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah – April 2007.

A Genealogy Workshop at the Library on 3 successive Saturdays in January/February 2007.

A one day Seminar in Midland – subject not yet determined – May 2007.

Reactivation of the "Midland County Marriage Records, 1867-1900" a project begun many years ago. We need a Chair and volunteers to record data, enter data in a spreadsheet and proofread.

A MGS computer in the Library to utilize our many genealogy CDs and preserve our MGS projects and records.

You will hear more about these projects – but they will only occur if we get many members to volunteer and participate, not just as helpers but as leaders.

We look forward to an active, fulfilling year.

Earl Ebach

## GENE TOONS by Wendell Washer



In an on-line search, some subject lines are less than informative.

## From The Editor...

Greetings members and readers. I am looking forward to another great year with the society and the Pioneer Record. I hope that I am providing information that interests you. I occasionally come across something that I find interesting and I share it with you.

If you have something to contribute, please send it to either my email or snail mail address listed on the back cover of this newsletter. There were many articles con-

tributed recently. If you do not see yours in this issue, I may be using it in future issues.

I am working on an article concerning the flu epidemic of 1918 that killed many. If you have some information to share on the subject, please send this information to me as soon as possible.

Please note that we will not be meeting on October 18 as usual but we will meet instead on Saturday, October 28 for an interesting presentation on DNA.

Walt Bennett, Editor

## Membership Chair

Currently, we now have 75% paid memberships. Please complete the form as this will allow me to update your contact telephone number, snail mail and e-mail addresses. Your receipt and membership card will be placed behind your name tag in the holder. If you have lost your name tag, let me know and I will make a new one. Please remember to turn in your tag after each meeting. Thank You, Betty Bellous

“Over the hills to the poorhouse,  
I’m trudging my weary way.  
I, a woman of seventy,  
And only half as gray.”

Begins a well-known poem written in the late 1860s by Michigan poet, Will Carleton. The poem laments the plight of a widowed woman whose son marries, and turns her out to live with one of her other five children. None seem to want her so she ends up in the poorhouse. Carleton became famous when the poem appeared in Harper’s Magazine. Resident numbers at local poorhouses dropped for a time when children, feeling ashamed, began taking their elderly parents home after the poem’s publication.

In the 1800s, adult children moving to cities for jobs or migrating westward for cheap land contributed to families becoming more scattered across the country. Since children did not live close enough to care for their elders, poorhouses became more populated and conditions began to deteriorate. The government did nothing to keep costs down and discourage their use. The operators did little for what they were paid. Sometimes the alcoholics and insane injured the elderly residents sharing a room with them.

In the mid 1800s, The State Board of

Charities was founded in each state to inspect and police the local poorhouses. The separation of residents with different problems led to some improvement. Congress passed a law deeding land to each state for the purpose of building insane asylums. Some of the elderly who suffered from dementia ended up in the asylums because the difference between dementia and mental illness wasn’t understood at that time. Children were not allowed to reside in poorhouses after an 1875 law was passed. This

workers. They became a burden to their families and many ended up in poorhouses.

The Great Depression put so many young people out of work that the government had to do something to help care for their elderly since they were not able to do so. There was a large increase in poorhouse populations during the depression. In 1935, the Social Security Act began providing the elderly with cash pensions

### The First Midland County Poor Farm



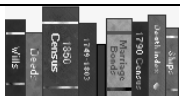
Photo courtesy of The Midland County Historical Museum

led to the establishment of state-run orphanages. Some charitable societies built old age homes for the elderly as an alternative to the poorhouse.

In the early 1900s, over 40% of the population lived in cities. City dwellers had smaller families than those who lived in the country. Very few factories had any pension system in place to care for injured or older

that allowed them to remain in their homes and relieve the burden on their children and on the taxpayers. The pension could not be used for care at a county poorhouse.

(Continued on page 4)



## B O O K S F O R S A L E

The following books, published by the Midland Genealogical Society, are available for sale at any 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 ½ by 11 inches.

Midland County Obituary Index (#2) – 1928-1950. The book consists of about 8,000 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 ½ by 11 inches. Note: Both Obituary Books (#1 & #2) are available as a package of \$35.00.

Midland County Obituary Index (#3)-1951-1982 This book consists of 30,900 entries including about 4000 maiden names covering 22 years extracted from Midland Daily News. The 387 page, 8½ by 11, soft bound book consists of two volumes A through L and M through Z. The set costs \$40 plus \$5 postage and handling.

Midland Pioneers, edited by Ora Flaningham. 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. (Out of print, 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.

With the passage of the Social Security Act, the number of poorhouse residents declined; and many closed their doors. Some became nursing homes or adult foster care facilities. The only two county infirmaries to survive in Michigan are located in Midland and Monroe Counties. The heritage left by poorhouses is their contribution to the founding of general hospitals, mental institutions, and orphanages to better help those in need of such facilities.

In 1865, the Midland County board of Supervisors purchased the Samuel P. Chapman farm for the sum of \$2,500.00. The farm was located on the bank of the Tittabawassee River in Midland Township. It consisted of 130 acres with 80 that was tillable. In 1884, the overseer was William Babcock and his wife—a position they held for many years.

A wing was built that added another nine rooms to the main house besides a kitchen, sitting room, and dining room. There was also a workshop and cellar. The rooms were heated with woodstoves. There were two barns on the farm. One housed livestock and the other contained grain. Meat and vegetables were plentiful. There was also a newly planted fruit orchard. Able-bodied residents worked on the farm. They were treated kindly and provided with warm clothing and a doctor's care when needed.

The house had six "properly furnished" cells for mentally ill residents. They were expected to do menial tasks on the farm. Children who lived there were sent to a nearby school. In 1884 there were fifteen inmates (seven females and eight males). The expense to the citizens of the county was \$3,125. The farm with animals, machinery, and buildings was valued at \$9,500.00.

The County Infirmary was renamed Pinecrest and moved to 413 Homer Rd. in the 1960s because the land on the first farm was to be the cooling pond for the Consumers Power nuclear plant. Pinecrest, located on 160 acres, is now a foster care home for fifty-four residents, age eighteen years and older, who are unable to live on their own. The land is leased to a local farmer since residents no longer are required to do farm chores. Educational and social programs are available for the residents and custodial care is provided to a few very handicapped ones.

Several attempts were made to locate the early records for the Midland County Poor Farm without much success. If anyone knows where to find this information, please contact the P.R. editor so it can be included in the next P.R. The Midland County U.S. census would be a place to search for those residing at the poor farm for that census year. Also there is a reel of microfilm that lists the inmates of the Midland County Infirmary from 1914 to 1984. It can be found in the Midland Room at the library.

#### Sources

Photos provided by the Midland County Historical Museum Library.

Crannell, Linda (a.k.a.: The Poor House Lady), *The Poorhouse Story*, 2005,

<http://www.poorhousestory.com>.

"Michigan Poet Will Carleton," *Freeland Globe and Auburn Record*, Nov. 8, 1989, p. 6.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Portrait and Biographical Album of Midland County, Michigan*, Chicago, Ill., Chapman Bros., 1884, p. 426.

### The Second Poor Farm



Photo courtesy of The Midland County Historical Museum

Stevenson, Karen, "History of Long Term Care," *Elder Web*, 1994-2006  
<http://elderweb.com>

Yates, Dorothy Langdon, *Salt of the Earth*, Midland, MI., The Midland County Historical Society, 1987, p. 20-21.

By Gloria Kunding

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#### Letters of Interest

On Monday, July 24, Nancy Lackie (Without the help of Jo Brines) led a two hour beginning genealogy class for 15 seniors at the Trailside Center. She had plenty of handouts, charts, some easy web sites to share with her "students". All were very receptive and very interested. The next Monday the group was invited to the library for a demonstration by staff members on using Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com on the public computers. Following that, Nancy introduced the participants to our Genealogy room and collection. In spite of the intense heat on the 31<sup>st</sup>, 12 people came. We've heard that some of these people have returned to the library for individual help.

Thanks Nancy for carrying the ball all by yourself because I was incapacitated.

Jo Brines

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Library administration has made an urgent plea for more volunteers (either permanent or substitute) in the genealogy room. They feel not having volunteers in the room at the stated times really leaves them "in a bind" when visitors are seeking assistance. Presently, we are short one permanent volunteer, and come winter vacation time, we will be short 2 people. PLEASE if you can spare 3 hours on Thursday or Friday afternoon, weekly, twice a month, whatever, let Maxine, Jo, Nancy, or Bob Snyder know. If you are a genealogist, you already know the basics. We can help train|inform you on our own collection. You are constantly learning something new, even after 25 years of helping others.

## Looking Back in Midland County

Taken from *The Midland Sun* March 31,  
1881 p. 4

### Who Are Legal Voters?

The following pertinent remarks we clip from the *Saginaw Morning Herald*. They are applicable not only to Saginaw but to our own little burg and the country at large: —

“At every election inquiry is frequently made as to what constitutes a voter in Michigan. In order to answer the inquiry properly for the benefit of our readers, so that they will not have to trouble their neighbors on election day, we copy from the constitution of Michigan, Article 7, Sec. 1, which provides that,

In all elections, every male residing in the state on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1835, every male inhabitant residing in the state on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 1850, who has declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, pursuant to the laws thereof, six months preceding an election; or who has resided in this state two years and six months, and declared his intention as aforesaid; and every civilized male inhabitant of Indian descent, a native of the United States and not a member of any tribe, shall be an elector and entitled to vote; but no citizen or inhabitant shall be an elector or entitled to vote at any election, unless he shall be above the age of twenty-one years, and has resided in the state three months, and in the township or ward in which he resides, ten days next preceding such an election.

The above embraces the exact language of our state constitution, as at present in force. We call attention to this matter at this time because in this city and county it has become a custom to entirely disregard the text and spirit of our constitution, and to violate the laws made to secure obedience to it. It is an undisputed fact that the furnishing of illegal votes by perjury and subordination of perjury, is a trade in which not only some candi-

dates, but many others, assist. We throw out this tickler early, with the hope that the proper committees and officers may make proper preparation for protecting our coming registration and the polls at the election from raids which are annually made by men who are not citizens of the United States, and who have no legal right to vote among us.”

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### The Board of Supervisors

Taken from *The Midland Sun* April 7, 1881  
p. 3

The results reached in the county Monday last, so far as the political complexion of the board of supervisors is concerned, is most decidedly a mixed one. As we figure it, the board will be composed of five greenbackers, three democrats, five republican, and one member of doubtful politics, as follows:

Midland—Geo. Patrick, Greenback.  
Ingersoll—A. R. McMillan “  
Larkin—Wm. Dougherty “  
Warren—L. Howard “  
Lincoln—Chas. Inman “  
Edenville—Thos. Moore, Democrat  
Homer—Wm. Kelly “  
Mt. Haley—Ed. McGowans “  
Hope—A. J. Raymond, Republican  
Jasper—A. J. Martin “  
Jerome—Wm. Magee “  
Geneva—L. F. Babcock “  
Porter—Rob’t Potter “  
Lee—A. J. Davis, Doubtful

This is a most curious result. Of course we do not anticipate that the question of political affiliation will ever arise upon the board, or will have any consequence attached if it does. But we cannot forbear the remark that as between the greenback members and the republican, the democrats hold

the balance of power; and as between the greenbackers and the democrats, the republicans hold the balance of power, and as between the democrats and the republicans, the greenbackers hold the balance.

The member from Lee is an unknown factor—the fourth “partee” on the board.

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Taken from *The Midland Sun* April 21, 1881  
page 1

Mr. James Anderson and family have pulled up stakes at Edenville and removed to the state of Minnesota where Mrs. A. has a brother. The people of E. regret to lose so good neighbors and citizens as the Andersons were, but join cordially in wishing them all the good fortune they deserve in their new home.

By misunderstanding the facts in the case, we last week mention that Joe Blackmar had been appointed Village Marshal, and that the appointment was a good one. So it would have been had it been made, yet we now learn that Jerry C. Hinckly received the same at the hands of the board, and our comments hold good as in Mr. Blackmar’s case. ‘Nuff ced.

They have been having high water at Sanford. The state road has been submerged near the station.

The Daily Sun is a new democratic journal at Bay City. Not having seen it, we can’t say much about it.

Thomas Moore of Moore’s Hotel, Edenville has a new and knobby stage wagon which he purchased of J. J. Ryan. It was sent up Saturday last.

Charles Wright of this place who is employed in the wholesale grocery house of Wells, Stone & Co. of Saginaw has been at home on a brief visit during the week.

Our attention is called to the dilapidated conditions of the sidewalks in numerous parts of town, and especially on George Street. There are many places on the walks of this street that are actually dangerous to travel upon in the night, and are very unsafe in the daytime. When as we have heretofore intimated, the village has to pay for a broken neck or tow, then perhaps they will go to the extra expense of repairing the aforesaid mantraps.

## WHO WAS LUCY MARY KELLOGG?

Faye Ebach, MGC Delegate

Every year the Michigan Genealogical Council honors an outstanding member of a member society of the MGC who has made a significant contribution to the genealogical community. This award is known as the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award and will be presented during a fall MGC meeting at the Library of Michigan in Lansing.

You may have wondered who was Lucy Mary Kellogg and why is an award given in her honor?

Lucy Mary Kellogg was born in Rock County, Wisconsin on 17 May 1899. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1932, and was employed by the General Motors Corporation in Janesville, Wisconsin. Her position eventually resulted in a transfer to Detroit in 1937. She lived in Brighton, Livingston County until she passed away in December 1973.

What she did between 1937 and the time of her death in 1973 is memorable. As a self-taught genealogist, her interest in genealogy extended to active memberships in a variety of genealogy societies. As a member of the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, she served as editor of the society magazine from 1957-1962. As a result of her leadership, the society received numerous awards for merit, and commendations for their various publications.

As a descendant of William Bradford she was an active member of the Michigan Mayflower Descendants organization. She served as State Historian and Assistant General. She was instrumental in publishing the results of the Five Generations Project – a major research project on Pilgrims and their descendants through their great-great grandchildren.

Lucy Mary conceived the idea of organizing a state genealogical society. She believed there were numerous genealogists throughout the state who would benefit from the formation of a statewide organization. The Council was officially organized on April 6, 1972 in Lansing under her leadership. Delegates from ten genealogical societies and representatives from the Library of Michigan were present. Today the MGC has approximately 7000 members within the state.

In addition to the above organizations, Lucy Mary was also a member of eleven additional state, national and international genealogical and historical societies, including the Daughters of the American Revolution and the London Society of Genealogists.

Lucy Mary became a Certified Genealogist and served as a trustee on the National Board for Certification of Genealogists in Washington, D.C. In 1972 she was elected as a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists.

In 1991, Lucy Mary was elected posthumously to the National Genealogy Society Hall of Fame – the first woman and first person from the mid-west to achieve this honor.

In 1992, the MGC established the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award to honor their founding member. "To be nominated for this award a candidate must be a member in good standing of a member society of the Michigan Genealogical Council and must have met five or more of the following criteria:

resided in the state of Michigan for a minimum of seven years.  
furthered the aims and the accomplishments of MGC.  
served in a position of leadership in a Michigan genealogical or historical organization.  
been involved in a major research project.  
authored or contributed to a notable publication.  
made a significant contribution to the genealogical or historical benefit of his/

## MEMBERSHIP DUES 2006-2007

The collection of MGS membership dues for 2006-2007 will conclude at the September 20th MGS meeting. The MGS treasurer and Membership chairs have been collecting dues since last May 2006, although there has been no specific request. If your dues are not paid by the end of September, this may be the last Pioneer Record you will receive. Dues may also 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.

her community.  
made a significant contribution to the Michigan community.  
furthered the knowledge of genealogy through educational practices."I

### References:

Lucy Mary Kellogg Award Nomination Form.  
Michigan Genealogical Council Founder's Day Program, November 12, 1998.  
"Michigan Genealogical Council A Mini-History", MGC Newsletter, Summer, 1995, Vol. 23, Issue 3, pg 52



Photo Courtesy NGS

Lucy Mary Kellogg

# MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL REPORT

Faye Ebach, Council Delegate

The Council met on Thursday, July 13 at the Library of Michigan. Randy Riley gave an update on the Library of Michigan. He reported the Abrams Foundation has granted \$75,000 for next year to be used for additions to the genealogy collection. Staff is seeking ability to use grant funds to digitalize some of the genealogy collection. They are also seeking funds to replace the outdated computers now in use in the genealogy section.

Mark Harvey reported that the new hours for the Archives of Michigan are M & Th – 9 AM – 1 PM; and Tue, Wed, Fri. – 1 PM - 5 PM.

New Council officers were installed during the meeting. President is Marilyn Hebner, St. Clair County; Treasurer Laurine Griffin, Dearborn; Corresponding Secretary Cynthia Grostick, Lansing; Recording Secretary Sam Pardee, Lansing; and Trustee Lynne Gregory, St. Johns.

The MGC and Library of Michigan are co-sponsoring a Genealogy Seminar during Family History Month, on Saturday, October 14 at the Library of Michigan and Historical Center in Lansing. The seminar starts at 9 AM to 4:45 PM. Parking will be free. Registration fee is \$15.00 – which includes a \$5 donation to the Library of Michigan and a \$5 donation to the Michigan Genealogical Council. A box lunch will be available for an additional \$7.25.

Pre-registration is required by October 1, 2006. For additional information, see MGC website [www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc)

One of our own MGS members, LaRessa Northrup, is presenting an afternoon session titled "Dating Photographs: Men's & Children's Clothing".

## Genealogy Room Statistics

July, 2005 - June 2006

Volunteer hours: 643

Room count by volunteers (2pm & 4pm): 908

Sign-in sheet count: at least 1450 people, not counting those working with genealogy programs on the public computers.

People visited from 15 cities in the Tn-City area.

People from other Michigan cities:

Alma	McBain
Birch Run	Mt. Pleasant
Breckenridge	Mancelona
Clare	Onsted
Detroit	Shepherd
Flint	Swartz Creek
Gratiot Co.	Sears
Horton	Traverse City
Ionina	West Branch
Lansing	Waterford
Lake	Wyandotte
Lincoln Park	Westland
Linwood	

People from other States:

Arkansas	New Jersey
Arizona	North Carolina
California	Ohio
Toronto	Pennsylvania
Illinois	Texas
Indiana	Wisconsin

Films via ILL: 32 plus those ordered directly by Lori. We no longer order census films from Utah.

Jo Brines  
July 8, 2006

## Upcoming Events

The 132nd Annual Meeting and State History Conference will be held in Bay City, Michigan on September 22-24, 2006 by the Historical Society of Michigan.

The Bay County Historical Society and Museum will be our local society host as we explore the history of the Bay City area and topics of interest to all students of Michigan history. Sessions, keynotes, tours and workshops will focus on Bay City's maritime heritage, Michigan lumbering, historical preservation and active reuse of industrial sites, the Ready Cut Home Industry, restoration of the State Capitol, a panel on Michigan digital media and more. Workshops will focus on basic archives, how local historical societies and museums can make their unique local heritage stick out and have regional/national significance, and other hands-on content still being developed.

Tours being planned include a river boat tour and a trolley tour of Bay City historic sites.

Keynote speakers will focus on abolitionist Presidential candidate James D. Bernie from Michigan, the River of Time "timeline" historical reenactment festival and a local historian and celebrity delving into Bay City's unique past.

The River of Time historical reenactment festival will be occurring during the same weekend on the banks of the Saginaw River, allowing conference attendees to enjoy one of the country's only timeline reenactment festivals, including a wide variety of historical period reenactors. The festival will be held in the park directly across the river from the conference hotel.

The river front Bay City Doubletree, a Hilton family property, will be our conference hotel for the weekend. Rooms are available for \$89.95 and can be reserved by calling the hotel at (989) 891-6000. Be sure to ask for the State History Conference rate.

A detailed schedule and conference flier is available on the HSM website at [www.hsmichigan.org](http://www.hsmichigan.org). For more information contact HSM at [hsm@hsmichigan.org](mailto:hsm@hsmichigan.org) or call (517) 324-1828.

## MGSTRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

Faye Ebach

Several members have indicated an interest in participating in another MGS trip to Salt Lake City during the spring of 2007. It will be two years since our last trip when fifteen members journeyed to SLC and spent a great week conducting research at the LDS Family History Library. If there is sufficient interest, we would like to schedule another trip during the spring of 2007. To avoid conflict with Easter week, and the April MGS meeting, we are proposing the week of April 24 to May 2.

We have investigated hotel accommodations for that time period at the Best Western Plaza Hotel in SLC. It is located next door to the FHL and both are across the street from Mormon Square. It is a short walk from the hotel to the Library, Mormon Square, and local shopping and/or eating establishments. Hotel costs are \$82.00 per person for single/double occupancy. Breakfast is not included

in this price. Meals are on your own. Members sometimes have breakfast together as well as dinner. We would plan a group dinner for Monday, April 30 when the FHL closes at 5:00 PM.

Today's flight cost is approximately \$375/person including fees, which is less than quoted prices in 2004. If we have a minimum of 10 participants or more, we will qualify for group rate airfare, which could be considerably less. These current prices are from MBS to Salt Lake City via Detroit.

For those who have traveled to SLC before, it is a very valuable experience. Microfilms, census records, textbook references, microfiche, etc. are all readily available. Professional genealogists along with able volunteers are available to answer questions as well as provide assistance with research. Library hours are designed to allow for research from dawn to dusk with a day of R & R on Sunday.

During the past few years, the FHL has made numerous improvements, both technological and logistical, that have made the Library more user friendly.

They have an extensive number of computers available for public use; reference books have been consolidated on the third floor; magnified readers are readily available; and a large number of photocopy equipment is conveniently located – all of which makes the research experience more satisfying. One of the most significant factors is the ability to immediately access microfilm, microfiche, reference books, maps, etc. simply by walking to the storage cabinets, picking up the item and looking at the information. There is no waiting, no cost involved, except whatever minor copying charges you wish to incur.

It is a wonderful week to spend with genealogy friends – to share successes, failures, dead-ends, as well as gain new ideas on how to approach a problem. So check your calendar and set aside the last week in April, 2007 for an exciting trip to SLC.

If you have any questions, would like further information, and/or would like to reserve a place for such a trip, please see the enclosed form or contact me, Faye Ebach, at 989-835-7518 or via e-mail at faeae@chartermi.net

### FIRST FAMILIES OF MIDLAND COUNTY

This important MGS project, "**First Families of Midland County**", was recently discussed at a Board meeting. The original project, referred to as **Phase I**, began in **1991**. Its purpose was to recognize those individuals with a "Certificate" who could prove lineage to an ancestor who lived in Midland County **prior to December 31, 1894**. This was an extremely successful project in that it collected and recorded a large amount of data for Midland County residents and their descendants. The records are available (microfilmed copies) in the Midland Room of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library.

Pat Worden (Chair), Maxine McCullen (Registrar), Nancy Lackie, Ruth Ann Casadonte, Gayle Hanna, Arlene Hecht, Barbara Fox, Judy Anderson, and Jo Brines were the prime movers for this four year project. Additional help was given by Lois Baker, Mary Lou Hayes,

Alice Lund, Virginia Parsons and Diane Butcher. There were two classifications of descendants: "Pioneer" and "Settler". The collection, reviewing and certification of an enormous amount of data was almost overwhelming. A total of **1310 certificates** were issued to approximately 614 different persons with 405 ancestors identified. Individuals paid to the MGS \$5.00 per certificate. This Phase I project was **closed** 31 December **1994**.

Primary records are considered proof: dated copies of birth, marriage, death, census, land, tax, court, military, cemetery, church, and mortuary records. Secondary records are encouraged and include: dated copies of Bible records, obituaries, directories, letters, newspaper clippings, family histories and photographs.

In **January 2000 Phase II** of the "**First Families of Midland County**" was initiated with certificates being issued to descendants for ancestors identified

through **1900**, with no classifications. This was to be a **continuing** MGS project with no closing date. A **committee** of the MGS was to determine eligibility and award certificates. For the past six years the committee has been **Mary Lou Hayes**. Ron Snyder has prepared the certificates with more than a hundred having been awarded. Mary Lou has carried this project alone – she needs assistance. We need several volunteers to step forward to continue this very worthwhile MGS project. Will you be one of those volunteers?

### WEB SITES OF INTEREST

[www.scottishhandwriting.com](http://www.scottishhandwriting.com)—great site for understanding early scottish handwriting.

[www.scotroots.com/occupations.htm](http://www.scotroots.com/occupations.htm)—here is a list of old occupations in Scotland.



## MGS TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY

Join us for a week of research and camaraderie in the "haven" for genealogical records from around the world.

**WHEN:** April 24 – May 2, 2007

**WHERE:** Best Western Plaza Hotel, Salt Lake City

**TRANSPORTATION:** Via air from MBS or airport of choice to SLC International Airport  
Airfare – to be arranged by individual/or group

**HOTEL:** Best Western Plaza Hotel @ \$82/ person single/double occupancy

Please indicate below if you are interested in participating. Mail to Faye Ebach, 4610 Andre, Midland, MI 48642-6160.

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in the MGS trip to SLC

\_\_\_\_\_ I plan to participate in the MGS trip to SLC

### FREE FAMILY HISTORY FESTIVAL

The MGS will be co-ordinating a trip to attend the **free** genealogy seminar presented by the *Burton Historical Collection* on **Saturday, September 30** at the Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Featured speaker will be **Dr. George Schweitzer**, renowned Genealogist and Historical presenter. In addition to three separate presentations by Dr. Schweitzer, the four session seminar will include programs covering strategies to get family members to tell their stories, Michigan Families with Ontario Roots, Cemetery Research, technology training, tours of the Burton Historical Collection, Intro to Digital Cameras, etc. Parking will also be free in the Putnam St. parking lot. The seminar begins at 10:30 am and will be completed by 5:00 pm.

Plans are to carpool to Detroit on the morning of Sept. 30, leaving from the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library parking lot at 8:00 am. Please contact Earl Ebach at 989-835-7518 or via e-mail [faeae@chartermi.net](mailto:faeae@chartermi.net) if you are interested in attending this free seminar.

#### 2006/07 BUDGET

<u>INCOME</u>	\$	<u>EXPENSES</u>	\$
Dues	1500.00	Membership	
		Rent	200.00
Interest	120.00	Program	400.00
		Hospitality	25.00
Projects		Committees	25.00
Research	200.00	Officers Expenses	25.00
First Family	20.00	Books For the Library	600.00
Obituary Books	120.00	Member Memorials	25.00
Mail & Handling	10.00	Miscellaneous	20.00
NARA	50.00	State Fees	20.00
Misc Donations	75.00	MGC Dues	25.00
Pins	10.00	MGC meeting mileage	265.00
PR Subscriptions	14.00	Projects	100.00
PR Stamp Donations	250.00	Pioneer Record	
Trans from MM	111.00	Printing	450.00
		Postage	250.00
		Other	50.00
Total	2,480.00	Total	2,480.00

*Pioneer Record*

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, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. 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 August, October, January and March.

### Information about Midland Genealogical Society

The MGS meets on the 3rd Wednesday of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr. & May at 7:00 PM 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 Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.