



PIONEER RECORD

Newsletter for the Midland Genealogical Society

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MGS Meeting Wednesday, 18 April 2007 7:00 PM

The **Midland Genealogical Society** will hold it's next to last **General Meeting** on Wednesday, 18 April, 2007 at the **Carriage House** in the Midland County Historical Society complex starting at 7:00 PM.

The program **“Dating Photographs: Men’s and Children’s Clothing”** will be presented by MGS member **LaRessa Northrup**. She is an expert in this technology and would welcome members to bring old pictures for her to review.

Can you identify the period when this picture was taken? Come to the meeting to see what LaRessa says.

A short business meeting will also be held. Refreshments will be served following the program at which time we can discuss genealogical topics.



35th Anniversary MGS Meeting Wednesday, 16 May 2007 7:00 PM



The **Midland Genealogical Society** will be celebrating it's **35th Anniversary** at our general meeting in May. We invite all members to attend the party. Please also invite any past MGS members. The celebration will be held at the **Carriage House** in the Midland County Historical Society complex starting at 7:00 PM.

Five MGS members will review the major projects of the past 35 years. **Maxine McCullen** will discuss the **“First Families of Midland County”** project. **Marion Berry** will review the work involved in producing the **“Midland County Cemeteries”** book. **Nancy Lackie** will discuss the many years of service by the **“Genealogy Room Volunteers”**. The MGS sponsored Michigan Genealogical Council Seminar held in 1983 will be reviewed by **Ruth Ann Casadonte**. A summary of the several MGS trips to the **LDS Family History Library** in Salt Lake City, Utah and other activities will be given by **Jo Brines**.

To conclude the celebration, we will have a special anniversary cake and beverages for everyone to enjoy.

A short business meeting will also be held to elect MGS officers for the 2007-08 year and to approve the proposed budget.

Midland Genealogical Society 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.

April 18, 2007 meeting 7:00 Carriage House
“Dating Mens and Childrens Clothing”
By Laressa Northrup.

May 16, 2007 meeting 7:00 Carriage House
“35th Birthday Celebration for MGS”
Please invite past members of the MGS to join us in this celebration.

President's Letter

With the coming of spring one can look at our surroundings coming to life again. Easter will soon be here. It is not the end, but the beginning. This is a time of celebration and renewal.

The MGS has many good things to be thankful for and to look forward to. We will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary at our May Annual Meeting. Actually the 35th anniversary was last June, but the Board decided we should celebrate the event at our final meeting this year. We hope many of you will come and enjoy the party.

Here is an interesting genealogical/historical oddity. If you were born on the 8th of April, this will be the first time in the past 75 years that your birthday falls on Easter. Odd, but true. Check it out.

We will be electing our MGS officers for the year 2007-08 at our May meeting. The Nominating Committee of Wilma Diesen and Ralph Hillman have confirmed that most of our existing officers would like to return next year. The group feels they have some unfinished business. The Editor of the Pioneer Record will also be returning. We will also be voting to approve the proposed budget for the next fiscal year 2007-08. A budget which hopefully will include the

From The Editor...

For those of you that missed it, we had a presentation this year on family health history. I found this topic very informative. In a recent news article, it was announced that members of the McCoy family from the famous Hatfield and McCoy's suffer from a disease that causes hair-trigger rages, severe headaches, high-blood pressure and other symptoms. This information has been known for several generations but has not been made public until recently. A friend of mine had told me last year that he is descended from both the

purchase of an MGS computer to utilize the many CDs we have.

The small MGS group that visited the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana at the end of February had an informative and enjoyable experience. The facilities have improved immensely and are extremely user friendly. You should plan a visit soon.

We expect that the MGS group visiting the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah on April 24- May 2 will also have a memorable experience. The flowers in Temple Square should be in full bloom.

The Committee working on the "Midland County Marriage Records 1855-1927" project is moving forward. The task of entering the data into computer format lies ahead. More assistance would be appreciated. You just need a computer with Microsoft Word software – the typing can actually all be done at home. Contact Ruth Ann Casadonte if you would be able to help.

My backyard squirrels continue to be well fed and happy.

MGS President, Earl Ebach

Hatfields and the McCoy's. He has suffered from these symptoms and has had doctors trying to figure out what is wrong with him. This article has helped him greatly.

I hope you have enjoyed a great year with the Society. We will be looking forward to you renewing your membership if you have not already done so.

I greatly appreciate the articles that have been sent to me this past year and will look forward to receiving more from you in the coming year.

Walt Bennett
Editor

Membership Report

Membership activities have slowed down as we reach the end of this year. The last campaign was earlier this year when approximately 20 letters were sent out to visitors who signed the log in the genealogy room. The letter thanked them for using our resources, explained when our volunteer librarians were available to help, told them about the new computer which offers several genealogy programs, and of course, encouraged a membership in the MGS.

If you have any ideas about how to recruit new members, please let me know.

In August, you will be receiving the dues renewal letter the same as last fall. That system worked so well and we appreciate your participation. A special reminder note will go out to those of you who paid 2007-8 dues in advance so that you don't pay again.

Betty Bellous, Membership chair



MEMBERSHIP DUES 2007-2008

The collection of MGS membership dues for 2007-2008 will conclude at the September 19th MGS meeting. The MGS treasurer and Membership chairs are now accepting membership dues, although there has been no specific request. If your dues are not paid by the end of September, you may stop receiving the Pioneer Record. 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.

Ellis Island or Locust Point?

By Gloria Kundinger

Did you ever search the Ellis Island on-line database for an immigrant ancestor only to turn up nothing? You know that your ancestor wasn't born in America, and census records show that he immigrated during the Ellis Island era. Every conceivable spelling of his surname was put into the search field, yet there still were no results. Even more puzzling, you find that your search turned up records for your ancestor's brother, son, or nephew but not him. Is there an error in the database? That could be a possibility. However, a more logical conclusion might be that your ancestor entered the United States through another port. For European immigrants, Baltimore, Maryland, was "Number Two" in ports of entry for that time period and would be worth considering.

While New York was the main gateway to the Midwest via the Erie Canal, construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad attracted many immigrants to Baltimore. The railroad first connected Baltimore to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Later Baltimore became the fastest route to the Midwest in 1853 when the railroad was linked to the Ohio River. First to come through the port of Baltimore were German and Irish immigrants. Many more arrived during the German uprising of 1848 and the Irish Potato Famine in the mid 1840s. They also made up the majority of

those immigrating during the latter part of the 1800s and early 1900s.

They left Bremen, Le Havre, or Liverpool only after passing a thorough physical exam given by the steamship company who then let them purchase a ticket. After enduring the trip as a steerage passenger with several hundred to several thousand others, the ship arrived at Fell's Point, Baltimore's harbor, during the first half of the 1800s and at Locust Point near Fort McHenry after 1868. Arriving in Chesapeake Bay, the passengers were once again physically examined by public health inspectors. They were checked for typhoid, cholera, tuberculosis, trachoma, and small pox on board the ship before it reached the pier.

After it arrived at Locust Point, the passengers left the ship at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad immigration piers 8 or 9. Baggage was inspected there and immigrants were questioned then issued their immigration papers. There was no actual federal immigration processing station at Locust Point—only two large buildings used as terminals by both the steamship line and the railroad. The two piers and terminals at Locust Point were built by the railroad so the immigrants could directly board the trains headed to the Midwest once they received their papers. Unlike Ellis Island, the only part of the immigration processing handled by the federal government was

the health inspection. The rest of it was handled by the railroad.

Located in the oldest part of Baltimore, Fell's Point was one of the oldest ports in the United States and was used as such for over one hundred years. It served the slave trade as a port as well as those emigrating from Europe. About eighteen shipyards dotted the area during 1800 – 1860. They built a large number of two-masted sailing vessels and employed many immigrants, slaves, and freedmen. After the Civil War, Baltimore's port was moved to the south side of the river and further downstream to Locust Point. The newer steam-driven ocean vessels were larger and needed longer piers and a deeper harbor.

Because Baltimore exported cotton, grain, and tobacco, it developed strong economic bonds to Bremen. The president of the B & O Railroad formed an agreement in 1868 with the North German Lloyd Steamship Line for scheduled runs to Baltimore. The steamship line began offering passengers a single ticket that would transport them across the Atlantic by ship then take them to Midwest cities by train. About two thirds of the immigrants took advantage of this arrangement. The ships brought German goods as well as passengers and carried exports from Baltimore on their return trip to Bremen. This service was provided until World War I. The ports of Liverpool and Hamburg developed similar arrangements with the port of Baltimore.

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BOOKS FOR SALE

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.

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In 1869, Mrs. Koether was contracted by several steamship companies to manage a rather sizable boarding house at the Locust Point pier. She was paid seventy-five cents for each immigrant who boarded at the house. Over forty thousand immigrants a year came through Locust Point and many of them boarded there during a fifty-year period.

Those immigrants who didn't ride the rails west stayed in Baltimore or the immediate area to look for work. Large factories and smaller shops sent someone to the docks to hire people then and there. The factories needed cheap labor for their growing industries. In New York City, jobs for immigrants were scarce. However in Baltimore, jobs were plentiful and immigrants were able to earn enough there to continue westward or to send for their relatives and friends. Others settled permanently in the Baltimore area.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded to help the Irish immigrants in Baltimore and the German Society was founded for German immigrant assistance in getting a start in town. The first savings and loan in Baltimore was begun by a German catholic church to help German immigrants buy homes. Schools in Baltimore taught students in both English and in German. They also helped immigrants better themselves. There also existed a German newspaper.

The U. S. government built their own processing center at Locust Point in 1913 because the old facilities were becoming insufficient as larger numbers of immigrants arrived. Shortly after it was finished, World War I broke out and stopped the tide of immigrants coming over. The building was used as a military hospital during the war and was not reopened for immigration afterwards.

The Treasury Department used it next in the 1920s as a depot for confiscated liquor. The U. S. Navy received it in 1943 for use as a naval radio operations unit during World War II. Afterwards it was converted to a Naval Reserve center in 1947, and it is still in use today.

Like Ellis Island, immigration indexes and passenger lists for Baltimore can be found on one hundred and fifty rolls of microfilm through NARA or the LDS. Pas-

senger lists for Baltimore range from 1820 – 1948. There are a number of websites that also have some passenger lists for the port of Baltimore. One is the subscription site, **ancestry.com**. A free site is **immigrant-ships.net**, but they do not have lists for all years.

Over two million immigrants came through the port of Baltimore. It is surprising that the number wasn't higher given the availability of immediate train transportation to the Midwest, the large boarding house nearby, and job availability for those needing to earn money for further travel, passage for other family members, or money to buy property once they reached their final destination. It seems like the arrangement in Baltimore provided a safer environment from those who would take advantage of the newly arrived compared with having to cope with landing in New York City after being processed at Ellis Island.

Maybe the passage to Baltimore, with or without the train ticket, was a little more money than one to New York City. One more British pound or one more German taler probably made a big difference to the immigrant ancestor who had very little money from the start. Their goal was coming to America whether it was through Ellis Island or Locust Point, and that is what they achieved.

SOURCES

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Ellis Island

The Search for the Linde Families

by Robert O Mass

2 March 2007

One of my grandmothers was Anna Ida "Lindy" as I wrote down after talking to my dad some 30 years ago. His mother had a sister Louise and a brother Gus who my parents visited last in 1942. I was too young to ride Uncle Gus's horse but my three sisters and I posed for a nice photo. I have heard that I was bounced on Gus's knee. A baby chicken also made the 200 mile northbound trip back home to become a family pet named "Dixie".

In 1981, after my dad died from the effects of cancer, my mom pulled out a number of old family documents. There were baptism certificates for two aunts who died as infants but most import was one of my grandmother who was taken in childbirth in 1922. In addition to getting the family name spelled correctly I found the names of my great grandparents: Wilhelm Linde and Johanna Badke.

Over the next decade, several trips were made to the Mankato-Janesville area while I was visiting in Minnesota. I found extensive information on my Mass, Mohr and Linde relatives at churches, court houses, and historic societies. Three Linde brothers emigrated from Germany and their final naturalization entries were recorded on the same page. Passenger ship records showed Wilhelm Linde, wife Johanna, daughter Louise, son Gustav, and younger brother August arrived on the "Hohenstaufen" in 1883 from Bremen. Carl, wife Auguste, son Ernst, adopted daughter Mandy Pipenberg, and mother Henriette came on the "Polynesia" which departed from Stettin in 1889.

I still had no home location in Germany. From the internet, I made a list of telephone numbers of all Linde families in the Mankato area and was resolved to call every last one if needed. The sixth Linde told me to call Uncle Walter in Alabama for he was the family historian. Walter was my dad's first cousin, and son of Uncle Gus. Walter served in WWII then owned a gasoline and oil distribution company in Huntsville. He went to church with the German rocket pioneer, Werner von Braun, who built the moon rockets. Walter was a director of the Space museum in Huntsville. Several phone calls and two stops on our way

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back from winter vacations resulted in two German home towns, Neu Wedel and Fuerstenau in Arnswalde Kries, Brandenburg, Prussia and much information on the Linde families in Minnesota and South Dakota.

Carl Linde, son Ernst, and families had lived near my grandmother's family in both the Mankato and Henning, Minnesota areas. Carl went to Spokane with most of the extended family. After his death in 1924, Ernst and family moved to The Black Hills of South Dakota and got into logging and sawmilling businesses. While visiting my brother, Leo, in Minnesota in 1999 we decided to be tourists in The Black Hills and visit our Linde cousins. While visiting the Mount Rushmore Monument I spotted the names of Carl and two Linde sons cut into a stone wall at the entryway buildings. These three Linde's worked on the presidential carvings during the thirties.



Uncle Melvin and riders Judy, Rosella, Barbara, Robert

Martha Linde of Custer, SD provided extensive data on the Carl Linde line. Carl was born in Prosekel, had been in the cavalry during the Franco-Prussian War (1870), returned to the farming community of Duepe after discharge, and had son Ernst in 1879. His baptism certificate lists Shoенow near Schloppe in West Prussia. I cannot recall why I failed to look for and find Prosekel in the copy of Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs (1912-1913) when we got our reprint copy in 2002. The town name had changed to Wiesental so did not show up on the more recent maps; now it has the Polish name of Przesieki. It is halfway between Poznan (Posen) and Szczecin (Stettin) at 53 degrees 1 minute North and 16 degrees 0 minutes East

I was helping on old German script for a Thursday afternoon patron in the genealogy room when I told her that she was lucky to find her ancestors since the records were not found in the area just

north where my Linde family lived in the 1800's. A week or two later she told me there were several Linde names in her Czarnikau area. I immediately looked at those 1840-41 church records at the LDS Family History Center, found all three of my family names, and ordered microfilm for the years that the Linde's and Badke's were born. After a long five week wait, the day prior to a holiday trip to Ireland, the films arrived. Easily found were the births in Prosekel of brothers Wilhelm (9Sept1843) and Carl (22Sept1845) with parents, Ludwig Linde and Henriette Werth. Also found was their marriage record (1May1842). After much more research: Ludwig's parents, Christian Linde and Anna Rosine Sabadke, came from Ludwig's confirmation record in 1830 with a home of Neuhochzeit. Christian's death record in 1828 lists parents Christian Linde and Susanna Klatt. Anna Rosina's death record in 1832 lists parents Christian Sabadke and Maria Mielke. Not found after 3 searches of the immediate towns was the birth record for Johanna Badke (USA death record has birth on 24Aug1844). Noteworthy was that no entries were made for Prosekel for the year 1844. An 1841 marriage record from the nearby town of Gross Drensen lists Michael Messerschmidt marrying Christine Linde the daughter of master blacksmith Linde of Prosekel.

The duplicate church records for the Czarnikau Kreis are bound in large volumes of about 200-400 pages per year and all are handwritten in Latin and German script. They were located in the Polish State Archives in Poznan when microfilmed by the LDS. The years of 1815 to 1855 are covered in Family History Film Numbers 808104 to 808125 and the years 1866 to 1874 are in Film Numbers 1201275 to 1201280. Note the unfortunate 10 year gap.

The city of Czarnikau (later Germanized to Scharnikau and always in Polish as Czarnkow) is now in Poland on the Netz River about 36 miles north of the city of Poznan. The area near Prosekel became part of Prussia in the first partition of Poland in 1772. After the Napoleonic period (1815) it was in the Czarnikau Kreis of the Prussian Province of Posen. After WWI the southern part of the Kreis became part of the restored country of Poland. The part north of the Netz River was joined in the new Netz Kreis with Schoenlanke (now Trzcianka) as its political seat (part

of Brandenburg until 1938 then Pommern). Prosekel was located in the northwest corner of Czarnikau Kreis, two miles east of the Prussian Province of Brandenburg (where cousin Walter Linde reported the home towns) and two miles south of West Prussia (where Ernst was baptized). When Kate and I visited Poland in 2001 we had coffee in Neuhohzeit which is 2 miles from Prosekel without knowing they were my ancestral homes.

Some other Badke families were of special interest. Johann Badke of Filehne had a daughter Mad_lee Amalie on June 15, 1844. Johann Badke of Gross Drensen had Auguste H. Badke Dec 27, 1844 (died 1845). Wilhelm Badke of Fissahn had Christaard? Nov 1844 (died 1846). These fathers are eliminated but illustrate that there may be brothers of these three that are of the correct age to be Johanna Badke's father.

A Werth family of special interest is Carl August Werth of Prosekel who had children in 1843 and 1845, was a sponsor for Wilhelm (1843), and had grandchildren there in 1868-71.



Wilhelm Linde Family

I assume he is Henriette's brother. Also a Peter Werth of Buckwerder had children in 1836 and 1843. I have entered in a notebooks hundreds of birth, confirmation, marriage, and death records for the family names: Linde, Badke (Badtke etc), Werth, Sabadke, and Pippenburg. I have searched the most likely third of the records to this point.

So after adding only the first name (Henriette) to my Linde line in 25 years I now have added eight ancestors in three generations and can hope to add six more to my Werth line. I fear the Linde family moved out of the area prior to the marriage of Wilhelm with Johanna Badke.

In genealogy, patience, hard work, going to the right places, and good luck sometimes pays off.

HISTORY of MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

by Joanne Rupprecht,
Jo Brines, Earl Ebach

Thirty-six years ago on **June 17, 1971**, the **Midland Genealogical Society** began as a **Unit** of the **Midland County Historical Society**. **Judith Wiley** became acting president of the small group. In early 1971 several local genealogists started talking about organizing. The study of family history back then was not a household term like it is today! There were very few organized genealogical societies in Michigan. In fact the **Michigan Genealogical Council** had not yet been formed. The **Saginaw Genealogical Society** was relatively new.



The **Midland County Historical Society** approached **Pat Worden** and **Jan Erratt** about organizing such a group and so the **Unit** of the **MCHS** was formed. The fledgling unit of

about 6-10 members started meeting in Studio 7 at The Midland Center for the Arts. **Jan Erratt** became the first elected president.

The **Society** started a small genealogical library for research. The **Saginaw Genealogical Society** provided a great deal of guidance. The Midland group purchased several boxes of books and periodicals that were duplicates on the Saginaw shelves. The monthly meetings were highlighted with speakers.

In 1972 there were twelve members: Kathryn Cummins, Jan Erratt, Bernice Freer, Bonnie Kennett, Ruth Klump, Kaye Lorton, Karen McKellar, Dorothy VanArsdale, Dorothy Virgil, Harry Walker, Dorothy Wilson and Pat Worden.

As the number of members and the genealogy library continued to grow, there was a need for more space as well as making the library available to members and the public for longer time periods. In early 1977, a new **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library** director, **Edward Szynaka**, was appointed. The **Society's** book committee approached him about removing the small collection from the Historical Society and placing it in the Library along with genealogy books already owned by the Library. In **May 1978**, the **MGS** unit separated from the **MCHS** after six and one half years and became the **Midland Genealogi-**

cal Society. Their library was added to genealogical materials already available at the **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library**. Since that date the entire genealogical collection became the property of the Library.



The **MGS** began to hold monthly meetings at the Library. The first meeting of the Society in the **Library Lounge** was in February

1978. Mr. Szynaka spoke at the March meeting, explaining future plans regarding available library space for the genealogy collection. He cautioned that this probably was many years away. The genealogical collection was initially placed in a small area in the lower level of the Library adjacent to the magazine and newspaper shelves. This area eventually became greatly overcrowded and congested with the addition of new books and microfilm/fiche readers and greater patron usage. It became evident that a larger, dedicated space was needed.

A three-phase Library master plan for renovation and expansion was adopted in October, 1979. The third phase included the establishment of a larger area for the Michigan and Midland history and genealogical collections. Several times committees of the **MGS** made suggestions concerning equipment and layout for the proposed new quarters. The third phase of the construction was begun in 1991 – the Library was in a mess. During the **MGS** year 1993-94 the Society's monthly meetings were held in the Carpenter School Library. A temporary room, which was a part of the recent expansion, was designated to house the genealogy book collection, the Midland newspapers on microfilm, the Midland County census films and the Michigan history reference books as well as all the magazines, periodicals and actual newspapers subscribed to by the Library. The floor was bare, unfinished concrete. It was a disaster area. Finally, in March 1994, the expansive **Midland Room** was officially opened. It was a happy day moving from the cramped location downstairs. In 2003, the Library moved the Genealogy Section to the current area in the northwest corner of the Library to make room for the "Cup & Chaucer Coffee Bar" and the Audio-Video Collection.

The **MGS** has been and is an active, innovative organization of enthusiastic and dedicated members. The programs at each meeting cover a wide variety of genealogical topics presented by members and outside speakers. Many genealogy workshops have been sponsored, beginning as early as 1972. In 1980 the **MGS** joined the **Michigan Genealogical Council**. Shortly thereafter, in September, 1983, the **MGS** hosted the annual **MGC Seminar** entitled "**Canadian Research**". Throughout the years the **MGS** has held many workshops, seminars and book exchange days, all geared to help fellow genealogists in genealogical research.

The **MGS** has from the beginning donated books to the **Grace A. Dow Memorial Library** genealogy section. Since 1979 a book committee has selected and advised the Library on which books to purchase for the genealogy collection. Initially the Society contributed all its money, \$400, to purchase books. Over the years the amount of money contributed to the Library has been \$600-\$800 annually. The Library has matched this amount. The total **MGS** contribution exceeds \$16,000. In addition, over the years, a few Society members have donated sizable amounts of money for both book or equipment purchases.



In 1980 the "**Pioneer Record**" was started as the **MGS** newsletter. **Pat Worden** was the first editor – she produced the PR for 5 years. There have only been 6 other editors including Norma Furlo, Nancy Humphrey and Marilyn McGinnis. **Ora Flaningam** served as editor for **ten years** from 1989-1998. **Faye and Earl Ebach** published the "**Pioneer Record**" for five years from 1999-2004. The present editor, starting in 2004, is **Walter Bennett**.

The officers of the **Unit** of the **MCHS** and subsequently the **MGS** are summarized in the attached table. In the 36 years, **MGS** has had more than **90 individual** members serve as officers. **Seventeen** individuals have served in more than **5 offices** and 6 of those have served in more than 9 offices. All these officers have been the backbone of the Society.

The **MGS** has published seven books: "**Midland County Cemetery**" in 1981, "**Midland County Census**" in 1983, "**Midland County Naturalizations**" in 1983; "**Midland County Obituary Index (#1): 1872-1927**" in 1994, "**Midland Pioneers**" in 1999; "**Midland County Obituary Index (#2): 1928-1950**" in 2000; and "**Midland County Obituary Index (#3): 1951-1982**" in 2004. Each of these publications have involved thousands of hours of work by many society members. The completed results offer invaluable data to Midland County researchers. Publication of these books was intended to provide genealogical data and not to make money for the Society, although they have been a source of income.

The first book, "**Midland County Cemetery**" involved a lot of members reading each tombstone in all the Midland area cemeteries. Several photos of these fun outings appeared in the Midland Daily News. Sometimes it was a painful experience when an all-baby section was found or when there was an all-

veterans group. The "Midland County Census" book took many hours of reading the census films, abstracting the data, typing and proofreading the finished copy. These projects took more than 5 years each to complete (and were done without a computer). For both these publications, McCandless Book Store offered an "autograph party" at which time the books were offered to the public for sale.



The **Midland County Obituary Index Books** have all been long term projects. Each involved the reading of the old Midland newspapers on microfilm and abstracting any information that might even remotely be considered an obituary. **Virginia Parsons** devoted many hours to this phase of the project. Each project took about 10 years to publication time. These projects involved thousands of hours of work by many **Society** members. Those who participated had a lot of fun and established bonds of friendship still strong today.

As early as March 1972 the **Society** sponsored a five-hour workshop on genealogy. Similar workshops have followed throughout the years. In September 1983, the **MGS**, after much deliberation and questioning, hosted the annual **Michigan Genealogical Council** two-day seminar entitled "Canadian Research". Under the chairmanship of **Ruth Ann Casadonte** and the assistance of many **MGS** members, the project was a huge success. More than 250 genealogists from all over the state attended. This project was also a huge success financially.

In 1988 **Pat Worden** organized the first **MGS** group trip to the **Family History Library** in Salt Lake City, Utah. She had traveled once with a group from Ohio and found the experience both worthwhile and enjoyable. Since then, eleven more groups have followed. Groups have ranged from 6 to 20



members. This April the 12th **MGS** group will travel to Salt Lake City to do research in the **FHL**. It is a great time to have easy access to all the LDS records instantly and have

the companionship of fellow **MGS** members.



One of the more successful **MGS** projects was the "First Families of Midland County" which lasted four years, with completion in 1994. The project gathered specific information on early Midland families and awarded certificates to applicants who chose to honor their ancestors. Again, it

was a fun and rewarding project but very time consuming for committee members. **Maxine McCullen**, the **MGS** registrar, spent thousands of hours with applicants and their papers. More than 614 applicants from every corner of the United States were awarded Certificates. The reward for the **MGS** members was that we had become intimately acquainted with many early Midland pioneers, and hundreds of their ancestors became excited about their family history for the first time. The project was a much bigger success than members ever dreamed it would be. Many wonderful human interest stories were collected, and members marveled at how their ancestors ever survived the harsh days of long ago. The files resulting from this project have been microfilmed and indexed according to families and are available for research in the genealogy room of the Library. This project was revived in 1999 by **Mary Lou Hayes** as a continuing program with many "First Families of Midland County" being recognized annually.



At the request of the Library staff, in June 1980 two **MGS** members began volunteering and helping with the genealogy collection. A year later a third **MGS** member volunteered. These three, **Maxine McCullen, Jo Brines and Nancy Lackie**, are still at the genealogy desk weekly after more than 26 years (26,000 volunteer hours). Five or more **MGS** volunteers spend each weekday afternoon helping novice and experienced genealogists locate information in the library. These volunteers also answer inquiries and do genealogical research for others for a small fee.

In 2001 the **Midland Room** finally became computerized with the addition of a computer, printer, scanner and many CDs. **Ken Schweitzer** donated funds for this equipment in memory of his deceased wife, Shirley Schweitzer. Both were long time, active members in **MGS**.

It took several years from the time of the donation for the **Library** to purchase the equipment and eventually install the equipment. The long awaited installation occurred primarily due to the persistence of then **MGS President, Bob Mass**. Problems existed in trying to make the genealogy computer (Gateway PC) part of the Library system and under Library control. There were no internet capabilities. Patrons could 1) use the Library's computerized card catalog, 2) use the many CD discs available, and 3) use the "Family Tree Maker" software to create a family tree. The CDs were produced by Family Tree Maker, Broderbund, FamilyQuest and HeritageQuest. Eventually over 300 discs were accumulated either by purchase or through donations. Search index discs directed the user to specific discs which were then loaded into the computer for data. Due to mis-use by patrons, maintenance has always been a problem. Eventually, in late 2005, the computer became permanently non-functional.

In December 2006 the Library installed in the Genealogy Room a new HP computer with internet capabilities only to the most important genealogical sites. Genealogical research on the internet is a powerful tool for persons tracing their family history. The new computer has no other software, so it can only be used for genealogical research on the internet. It has no capability to utilize the 300 discs accumulated by the Society.

From little acorns great oaks grow. From the 12 original members in 1972 the **MGS** has grown to as many as 150 members. In 2006-07 we presently have 128 members. More importantly, the **MGS** has provided for its members and **Midland County** an atmosphere rich in genealogical interest and history.



Recent Additions to Gene Room

Directory of State Court Clerks & County Courthouses 2006

Saginaw Co. Cemeteries
 Westside(Freeland)
 St. Johannis(Frankentrost)
 Bethlehem Lutheran (Richland Twp)

Headstone Readings Bay County, Mich, Beaver Township, Zion Lutheran

Smiths Canadian Gazetteer 1846

Ancestors of Margery Ruth Howe 1630-2002

New York State Censuses and Substitutes by Dollarhide

3rd Edition German—American Names

Volume 23 Part one Mayflower families John Howland

Christian names in local and family history

New England Court Records

Family Tree Family History 101

Courthouse Research

Palaeography for family and local historians

Howell goes to war 1861-1865 Livingston Co., Mich.

Fowlerville goes to war 1861-1865 Livingston Co., Mich.



MGC Report
Faye Ebach, MGC Delegate

The **Michigan Genealogical Council** held their by-monthly meeting on March 9, 2007 at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. **Mark Harvey**, from the **Archives of Michigan** reported on current and future events for both the **Archives and Library of Michigan**. The annual Abrams Genealogy Seminar is scheduled for July 20 & 21 at the Library of Michigan.

Mark further announced that **Genessee** and **Berrian** County indexes are now available online. The Library now has over 60 county records online at their website. Mark also announced that survey notebooks for the years 1816 to 1918 are scheduled to be online this fall, 2007. Included will be maps along with the survey information. Access will be free to the public. An Oral History project has begun, under the title MyStory. The department is working with the Michigan Oral History Society.

Ruth Dukelow, from the **Michigan Library Consortium**, presented a detailed program on **“Copyright and Genealogy”**. The **Copyright Revision Act of 1979** provides that an original work with a tangible form of expression is protected by copyright, whether formerly registered or not. This protection is in effect for 70 years beyond the death of the author. A formal copyright can be obtained by registering with the

Library of Congress and paying a fee of \$45.

What protection does a copyright provide the holder? She stated that the holder has exclusive rights to: reproduction, in any format; adaptation, eg., a book to a screen play; distribution; public performance; and public display.

The **“Fair Use”** doctrine related to use of copyrighted material provides some specific exceptions. What purpose will be served by use of a document, e.g., personal; what is the nature of the work, i.e., factual or creative; how much is actually used; and what impact will the use have on the original material. If there is any question regarding whether use of a copyrighted item fits the **“Fair Use”** doctrine, she recommended asking for permission from the holder, preferably in writing.

Related to the Internet, she stated, **“little on the Internet is in the public domain”**. However, **Federal documents are in the public domain**. The only exceptions are money and stamps.

An interesting note to genealogists: most Obituaries are protected by copyright, while most Death Notices contain factual information and therefore not copyrighted. One caveat to that is different news media may define the terms Obituary and Death Notice differently, so the researcher needs to properly identify which one is copyrighted and which one is factual.

Proposed 2007-2008 Budget			
Income		Expenses	
	Dues	\$ 1,500.00	Membership
			Rent
			\$ 200.00
	Interest	\$ 121.00	Program
			\$ 400.00
			Hospitality
			\$ 25.00
	Projects		Committees
			\$ 175.00
	Research	\$ 200.00	Officer Expenses
			\$ 25.00
	First Family	\$ 10.00	Books for the Lib
			\$ 600.00
	Obit Books	\$ 75.00	Memorials
			\$ 50.00
	Mail & Handling	\$ 10.00	Misc
			\$ 20.00
	NARA	\$ 50.00	State Fees
			\$ 20.00
	Misc Donations	\$ 50.00	MGC Dues
			\$ 25.00
	Pins	\$ 10.00	MGC meeting mileage
			\$ 265.00
	PR Subscriptions	\$ 15.00	Projects
			\$ 1,780.00
	Stamp Donations	\$ 365.00	Pioneer Record
	Transfer from MM	\$ 2,019.00	Printing
			\$ 540.00
			Postage
			\$ 250.00
			Other
			\$ 50.00
	Totals	\$ 4,425.00	\$ 4,425.00

OFFICERS of MIDLAND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

1971 - 2007

Year	President	VP Program	VP Membership	Secretary	Treasurer	MGC Reps	Historian	PR Editor
1971	Judith Wiley	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
1972	Jan Erratt	Dorothy Virgil		Dorothy Wilson	Pat Worden	-----		-----
1973	Jan Erratt	Fran Charters Bernice Freer		Ruth D. Owen	Pat Worden	-----	Dorothy Van Arsdale	-----
1974	Pat Worden	Karen M cKeller Richard M cKeller		Helen D. Lee	Ralph Hillman	-----	Dorothy Virgil	-----
1975	Pat Worden	Karen M cKeller Richard M cKeller		Helen D. Lee	Ralph Hillman	-----	Dorothy Virgil	-----
1976	Karen D. M cKellar	Ralph Hillman				-----		-----
1977	John D. Moyer	Ralph Hillman	Diane Hebert	Diana D. Butcher	Shirley D. Schweitzer	-----	Marjory Davis	-----
1978	John D. Moyer	Ralph Hillman		Audrey D. Pomranky	Shirley D. Schweitzer	-----	Marjory Davis	-----
1979	Ken D. Schweitzer			Ruth Ann Casadonte	Audrey Nuechterlein	-----	Helen Lee	-----
1980	Ruth Ann Casadonte	Maxine M cCullen	Cheryl Hoffman	Harriette Miller	Audrey Nuechterlein	Wilma Diesen Pat Worden	Do Johnson	Pat Worden
1981	Ruth Ann Casadonte	Ed Birkhimer	Audrey Pomranky	Harriette Miller	Audrey Nuechterlein	Wilma Diesen Pat Worden	Do Johnson	Pat Worden
1982	Ed Birkheimer	Les Berry	Nancy Lackie	Sandra Cassidy	Jo Brines	Marian Berry Wilma Diesen	Nancy Humphrey	Pat Worden
1983	Les Berry	Nancy Humphrey	Nancy Lackie	Dolores Rouse	Jo Brines	Norma Furlo	Rose Marie Anderson	Pat Worden
1984	Les Berry	Quita Shier	Nancy Lackie	Nancy Humphrey	Jo Brines	Esme Gehoske		Norma Furlo
1985	Wilma Diesen	Audrey Pomranky	Esme Gehoski	Evelyn Fagley	Jo Brines	Carolyn Bacon Nancy Lackie	Lucille King	Norma Furlo
1986	Wilma Diesen	Ralph Hillman	Esme Gehoski	Evelyn Fagley	Jo Brines	Carolyn Bacon Nancy Lackie	Lucille King	Pat Worden
1987	Marian Berry	Quita Shier	Ruth Ann Casadonte	Evelyn Fagley	Jo Brines	Carolyn Bacon Nancy Lackie	Nancy Burd	Nancy Humphrey
1988	Beverly Keicher	Mary Card Norma Schneider	Maxine M cCullen	Esme Gehoski	Jo Brines	Carolyn Bacon Nancy Lackie	Nancy Humphrey	Merilyn M cGinnis
1989	Florence Wise	Wilma Diesen	Maxine M cCullen	Barbara Fox	Jo Brines	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Judy Anderson	Ora Flaningam
1990	Bill Worden	Norma Schneider	Maxine M cCullen	Barbara Fox	Jo Brines	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Harriette Miller	Ora Flaningam
1991	Bill Worden	Gayle Hanna	Rose Mary Laur	Barbara Fox	Jo Brines	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Harriette Miller	Ora Flaningam
1992	Ralph Hillman	Beverly Keicher	Rose Mary Laur	Betty Bellous	Jo Brines	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Harriette Miller	Ora Flaningam
1993	Ralph Hillman	Jo Brines	Bill & Pat Worden	Marcia Brandle	Gale Hoch	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Virginia Florey	Ora Flaningam
1994	Jack Dickert	Jo Brines	Bill & Pat Worden	Marcia Brandle	Gale Hoch	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Virginia Florey	Ora Flaningam
1995	Jo Brines	Joann Rupprecht Walt Rupprecht	Bill & Pat Worden	Marcia Brandle	Gale Hoch	Quita Shier Nancy Lackie	Maxine M cCullen	Ora Flaningam
1996	Jo Brines	MaryLou Hayes Bill Kocher	Marge Anger Marie Bebeau	Marcia Brandle	Bill Worden	Joan Somerville Nancy Lackie	Beverly Keicher	Ora Flaningam
1997	Jo Brines	Doug Applegath Ron Snyder	Marie Bebeau	Marcia Brandle	Bill Worden	Kathy Bohl Joan Somerville	Kay Bredeweg	Ora Flaningam
1998	Bill Kocher	Joanne Brausch	MaryLou Hayes Alice Lund	Beverly Keicher	Bill Worden	Kathy Bohl Shirley Renwick	Joanne Rupprecht	Ora Flaningam
1999	Joanne Brausch	Roland Crane	Bill Kocher		Bill Worden Jeri Shangle	Kathy Bohl Beverly Keicher	Joanne Rupprecht	Faye Ebach Earl Ebach
2000	Bob Mass	Shirley Renwick Mary Lou Pease	Bill Kocher	Gloria Kundinger	Jeri Shangle	Kathy Bohl Beverly Keicher	Joanne Rupprecht	Faye Ebach Earl Ebach
2001	Bob Mass	Richard Smeltzer	Mary Levy Sheldon Levy	Wilma Diesen	Dave Russell	Kathy Bohl Beverly Keicher	Joanne Rupprecht	Faye Ebach Earl Ebach
2002	Bob Mass	Mary Branson	Mary Levy Sheldon Levy	Wilma Diesen	Dave Russell	Kathy Bohl Colleen Bennett	Joanne Rupprecht	Faye Ebach Earl Ebach
2003	Jo Brines Fran Longsdorf	Floyd Andrick	Loretta Waters	Jan Crozier Gloria Kundinger	Ron Snyder	Kathy Bohl Colleen Bennett	Gale Hock	Faye Ebach Earl Ebach
2004	Robert Snyder	Nancy Lackie	Beverly Keicher	Jan Crozier Jayne Shreir	Ron Snyder	Kathy Bohl Colleen Bennett	Gale Hock	Walt Bennett
2005	Robert Snyder	Bob Mass	Beverly Keicher	Jan Crozier Jayne Shreir	Ron Snyder	Faye Ebach Jean Zager	Fran Longsdorf	Walt Bennett
2006	Earl Ebach	Jo Brines	Betty Bellous	Jan Crozier Jayne Shreir	Ron Snyder	Faye Ebach Beverly Keicher	Kathy Bohl	Walt Bennett

Pioneer Record

Midland Genealogical Society
Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
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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 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.