

Michigan Genealogical Council Newsletter

Volume 45 Issue 1 Winter 2021

Congratulations to one of our own!

PUBLIC LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR

JESSICA TROTTER

The Public Librarian of the Year Award recognizes outstanding library professionals that inspire people, provide innovative library service to their community, promote collaboration among libraries, and show evidence of personal and professional achievement as well as initiative and creativity. “Jessica is an amazing resource to CADL, the community it serves, and both the statewide and national landscape of Readers Advisory and collection development services,” stated Scott Duimstra, Director of Capital Area District Libraries. “She is a humble and dedicated leader, serving on the Board of Directors for Library Reads, and has chaired the MLA Fantastic Fiction group, the MCLS Overdrive Consortium Committee overseeing and spearheading collection growth from 1.4 million checkouts in 2017 to over 2 million in 2019.”



Jessica Trotter holds a Master of Science in Information, Archives and Records Management Specialization from the University of Michigan—but works in public libraries by day. Her genealogy research areas include Midwest, African American, British Isles, Canadian, and Early American research. She also maintains a genealogy research related blog called Genie Road Trip at <http://genieroadtrip.com>.

She has been in her current role, Collection Development Specialist at Capital Area District Libraries (CADL) for 4 years now prior to that she worked as a Department Head for the CADL Downtown Lansing Library where she worked on genealogy programming. She occasionally jumps out of her actual work duties by presenting or producing genealogy programming for the system. She presents widely outside of her role at CADL and serves as the Vice President of the Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society.

She joined Michigan Genealogical Council and chaired a DNA Special Interest Group Committee in 2017 and 2018. She also is one of the organizers of the Capital Area DNA SIG (co-sponsored by LAAAGS, Ingham County GS, and Mid-Michigan GS) then transitioned to her current post as the Chairperson for the Lucy Mary Kellogg Committee in 2019.

For more information about the Lucy Mary Kellogg award look on page 5 of this newsletter.

President's Message

Happy New Year!

I, for one, do not mind 2020 being over, how about you? 2020 has been a year of challenges for many genealogists, societies, libraries, and individuals. Many of you have had to change plans over and over to keep up with what the past ten months brought. I want to applaud all of you for the great job you have done in these ever-changing times.

You need to give yourself, your members, and your staff a great big thank you for keeping things going, even if they were not how you have done things in the past.

I look back on MGC's year and think of our accomplishments. MGC was able to convert in-person board and delegate meetings to virtual ones. I think if one word reminds me of the past year, virtual would be it. Zoom has become my friend and my frustration, but through the year I think I got it.

Other MGC accomplishments include creating a diversity statement, working on diversity inclusion in our board meetings; creating, with Ken Howe's help, a new Promotion board; helping Archives of Michigan with their Barbara J. Brown Family History Event; updating the speaker's list to include those willing to do virtual presentations; holding a very successful virtual Fall Family History Seminar with Sunny Morton; fulfilling Pioneer Certificate applications; issuing society anniversary awards; updating the MGC website to include Benefits of Membership and Research Tools, and keeping the business of MGC going.

Yes, there have been challenges. One is getting the mail in a timely manner and distributing it to other board members and committee chairs. Another is keeping members engaged during this time. I have been trying to attend as many virtual society meetings as I can. It is a great way to see what others are doing. I appreciate those who are working on providing programs to their members.

What will 2021 bring to our societies? I wish I knew. I do know that MGC will remain thankful for our member societies and the work they do in the genealogical community. Please remember MGC is here to help you with any needs you may have. We may not have all the answers, but I know that we will do our best to help you. I am looking forward to the Archives of Michigan and Library of Michigan being opened. Also, to in person meetings, to genealogical travel, and to being able to visit libraries and museums again.

MGC will continue to work on programs, resources, and other benefits for you to enjoy. Look for more discussion on diversity, a mentor program, a Strengthening our Societies event, and more.

I hope everyone has a healthy new year. One that is filled with family, meetings, and visits!

Best wishes,

Brenda Leyndyke, President
Michigan Genealogical Council

Society News/Events

All programs listed should be verified to make sure they are still happening – all societies having these programs have given their permission to list them here. All programs here are Zoom meetings, unless otherwise indicated.

From the **Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County** are the following scheduled Lectures and Classes: Their meetings start at 1:30 pm but their lectures start at 1:45 pm then their classes follow a 15 minute break starting at 3:15 pm.

January 24, 2021

Time: 1:45 pm

Lecture: "Researching Revolutionary America"

Speaker: Dr. John G. McCurdy

Time: 3:15 pm

Class: "Black Loyalists in the Revolutionary War"

Instructor: Cheryl Garnett

February 28, 2021

Time: 1:45 pm

Lecture: "African Americans in Michigan"

Speaker: DeWitt Dykes

Time: 3:15 PM

Class: "Local Library Resources: Clements Library"

Instructor: Clements Library Staff

March 28, 2021

Time: 1:45 pm

Lecture: "Immigration and Naturalization Records"

Speaker: Jeff Mason

Time: 3:15 pm

Class: "Using the Quantity of Shared DNA to Answer Genealogical Questions"

Instructor: Dr. James Sims

All meetings conducted online with Zoom. Members are sent a link to the meeting.

Guests may request an invitation by emailing info@washtenawgenealogy.org 3 days before the meeting, please.

From the **Northville Genealogical Society** are the following programs:

January 10, 2021

Time: 3:00 pm

Program: "Native American Research"

Speaker: Judy Nimer-Muhn

March 14, 2021

Time: 3:00 pm

Program: "Our European Ancestors' Voyage to America"

Speaker: Katherine Willson

A few days before the meeting date, you will be sent directions for downloading the Zoom App and a link to "Join the meeting".

Note: If you are not a member and would like to join a meeting, contact nvgen1@gmail.com for the link.

2:30 – The meeting will open to allow time for the members to gather.

2:45 – Announcements and short meeting

3:00 – The speaker will begin.

From the **Dearborn Genealogical Society** is the following program:

January 28, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Program: "Ancestors in Context: Putting History in Your Family History"

Speaker: Dan Earl (Dearborn Genealogical Society)

With this webinar, attendees are in listen and view mode—no need for a camera or microphone.

Non-members are invited to attend if the webinars do not fill up with members - please check back 3-7 days before the program at the society website on the calendar of events at: dgsmi.org. In the event that there is availability a link will be added to the event listing. Registration is required.

From the **Clarkston Area Genealogical Society** is the following program:

January 06, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM

Lecture: "Thru Lines"

Speakers: Jennifer Harris and Vesta DeRiso

Please register for this event by emailing Joette Kunes at jkhorses@comcast.net and a ZOOM link will be sent to you!

From the **Farmington Genealogical Society** are the following programs:

January 19, 2021

Time: 6:45 pm – Online

Program: "Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent: Researching Ancestors in Michigan Poorhouses"

Speaker: Adam Oster (Library of Michigan)

February 16, 2021

Time: 6:45 pm - Online

Program: "Underground Railroad - Michigan and Farmington"

Speaker: Rochelle Danquah

The role of the Farmington area and Michigan in the Underground Railroad.

March 16, 2021

Time: 6:45 pm – Online

Program: "MyHeritage"

Speaker: Dan Horowitz (MyHeritage) presenting how to use the MyHeritage tools for researching your family history

Members are automatically registered. Guests can register on our website: <http://www.mifarmgs.org/> A link for registration will be posted on the website a week before the program. Meetings start at 6:30 (they are brief, usually 15-20 minutes), followed by the speaker

From the **Waterford Genealogical Society** are the following programs (these programs are all online):

Jan. 6, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Program: "Telling Family Tales Using Today's Technology" & "John Canaan: The Cop"

Speaker:

Tom Smith (Waterford Genealogical Society)

Feb. 3, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Program: "Researching In German Civil and Parish Records"

Speaker:

Alex Tolksdorf, President of the Ford Genealogy Club

Mar. 3, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm – Online

Program: "Getting To Know The Genealogy Center"

Speaker:

Allison DePrey Singleton MA, MLS

Senior Librarian

Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center -

To register for an event:

You must go to the Waterford Library Calendar at:

<http://waterfordmi.evanced.info/signup/Calendar>

Click on the event and register for the events, a reminder will be sent out the day before the event with the zoom meeting information.



Oberlin Student Looking for Volunteer or Internship Opportunities

MGC was contacted by a recent Oberlin University graduate with a degree in history who is looking for a job and internship possibilities. Eli is interested in African American genealogy research, Jewish genealogy research, getting more young people into the genealogy community, and in how genealogy connects to social justice.

He had the privilege to get incredibly involved with the Oberlin African American Genealogy and History Group (OAAGHG), as well as to get connected with Dr. Debbie Abbott, Mark Lowe, Sunny Morton, Tim Pinnick, and others.

If you know of any genealogical volunteer opportunities and/or internships in Michigan related to these themes of African American, Jewish, and social justice, please email President@mimgc.org and I will let Eli know.

Seeking Mentors for Societies

MGC created a new promotion board. Now, we are working on dividing the state into regions with about ten societies per region. There will be six or seven regions, each member society will be placed within one of these regions. Non-location (Polish, Cornish, etc.) societies will be in one group.

We are looking for people to be a mentor for each region. Training will be provided for those interested. The main thing would be for each region to have a person or two to contact if help is needed.

If this is something you think you would be interested in, please email Brenda Leyndyke at: President@mimgc.org.

Look for more information in the coming months.

2021 Lucy Mary Kellogg Award Nominees Sought



The Michigan Genealogical Council is once again seeking nominations for the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award, given annually to a member of an MGC member society. The award's namesake was the founding member of the council and the first woman and first Midwesterner to be inducted into the National Genealogical Society's Hall of Fame. First awarded in 1992, the award is given annually to an individual whose hard work and dedication has greatly benefited our genealogical community.

Recent awardees include Judy Sheldon (2019), Shirley DeBoer (2018), and Ralph Hillman (2017). The 2020 Award winner will be announced at the January 14th, 2021 MGC Virtual Delegate Meeting.

The nomination form and list of requirements for qualification can be found at mimgc.org. Forms and supporting materials – or updates for those previously nominated – can be submitted to info@mimgc.org. We hope to get the Award back on our previous schedule with submissions due May 31, 2021.

Jessica Trotter, Chairperson
Lucy Mary Kellogg Award

Welcoming our newest member society!

We welcome the **Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society** (ocphs.org) to the Michigan Genealogical Council as a member in good standing.

How to Contact

They run, and are located at:

Oakland History Center

405 Cesar E. Chavez Avenue

Pontiac, MI 48342

Phone: (248) 338-6732

Email: office@ocphs.org

Facebook: facebook.com/oaklandhistorycenter/

Instagram: instagram.com/oaklandhistorycenter/

Twitter: twitter.com/oaklandhistory

About the Society

Our purpose is to save and celebrate our county's phenomenal local history. Established in 1874, the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society is the oldest continuously operating non-profit county historical society in Michigan.

We trace our past and educate the community of its heritage through programming, history tours, research services, publications, community outreach, and through caring for the Governor Moses Wisner Pine Grove homestead.

We maintain a collection of significant and unique Oakland County historical artifacts and records for public availability. We believe preservation of the past leads to enrichment of the future.

We are a non-profit, member-based, 501(c)3 organization not affiliated with any governmental unit. Our work is supported by modest annual membership dues, program fees, corporate and grant support, and tax-deductible donations.

Amenities

The Oakland History Center – Our five-acre campus is our base of operations and features the following amenities:

Governor Moses Wisner Homestead – The 12th Governor of Michigan from 1859 to 1861, Moses Wisner's Pine Grove estate is on the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to his home, which is beautifully preserved and available for tours, the summer kitchen, root cellar, smokehouse, outhouse, and grounds are fascinating glimpses back in time.

Drayton Plains 1865 Schoolhouse – This One Room school was built in 1865, moved to our campus in the 1960s to spare it from demolition, and restored to reflect the pioneer schooling environment.

Research Library – We have a large number of publications, city directories, scrapbooks, yearbooks, maps, and other resources that assist us and members of the public in conducting research. The Oakland County Genealogical Society's library is also housed at our Research Library.

Archive Collections – We have an extensive collection of records, photographs, clothing, uniforms, furniture, memorabilia, and other artifacts in our archives. Over the past 145 years, community members have given us with these unique local history items.

Rotating Historic Exhibits – Throughout our facilities, and featured at civic buildings in the community, we have exhibits on local history that draw on our collection's artifacts. Recent exhibits include ice harvesting, early 1900s medical implements, local military history, and more.

Historic Oak Hill Cemetery – Our Society is proactively engaged in the preservation of this oldest cemetery of Pontiac, nearby our campus. We conduct tours and make infrastructure upgrades there annually.

Society Leadership

Our full-time Executive Director is **Mike McGuinness**, who has been with us since July 2019.

Our Board of Directors represent a cross-section of our many society members. Officers are selected by the Board and serve for one year terms.

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In Memoriam - John Castle

The genealogy community has lost a dear friend. John Edward Castle, 93 passed away on Sept. 30, 2020. Many will remember John. He was one of the movers and shakers in the Ingham Co. Gen. Society. He and his wife Lynn were avid supporters of genealogy events in the Lansing area.

.In 2015 John E. Castle became the first recipient of the The Edward E. Parker Distinguished Ingham County Genealogical Society Member Award. John served the Society in many capacities including President. He provided leadership in locating historical records of the townships within the County, some records dating back as far as 1838.

He was also instrumental in preserving copies of historical newspapers including the Ingham County Democrat, The Ingham County News, The Williamston Enterprise, and the Stockbridge Town Crier. John spent many hours along with others ironing the papers to make them ready for filming. He will be missed.

In Memoriam – Irene Church

A bit of IRENE (nee' Purdy) CHURCH.
September 24, 1936 to September 21, 2020
She was an MGC Delegate from the Downriver Genealogical Society. She was elected a Trustee of MGC Board for a 3 yr term in 2000. She served well and was active in the organization. She and her husband Miles both attended many Seminars put on by MGC and also National Seminars. Miles took on the job of manning the MGC booth in the Vendor Area at large Seminars while Irene attended the sessions. It was a nice way for a couple to have a trip together, sharing some interest, seeing friends and enjoying the camaraderie of others with the same interest and sometimes finding a lost relative.

She was a very active member of many genealogical

societies that took up a lot of her time, including Downriver Genealogical Society, Dearborn Genealogical Society, Detroit Society for Genealogical Research, and the Monroe Genealogical Society. She traveled to Salt Lake City for a week every year for the past 20 or so years. She was also am a member of the Daughter of the War of 1812, plus the French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan.

Irene was well thought of by all that knew her. She was fun to be around. She hasn't been able to be at events in the last couple years and will be missed by everyone. May she rest in peace.

Pioneer Certificate Program

This committee was featured during one of the break sessions of the 2020 MGC Virtual Fall Family History Seminar that took place on November 14, 2020. Our Michigan Pioneers Power Point Presentation was shared, followed by a Q & A with committee members Chelsea Johnson and Kim Smith. Just a reminder, that presentation is available for member societies (and anyone else interested) to share with their groups as a promotional tool. You will find a link on the MGC main web page.

The council has updated the Resources page with links that you may find useful in your Pioneer Certificate application process. Other pertinent links are available as a committee sub-page.

To date, 68 applications have been approved. 32 First Families and 36 Pre-Statehood certificates were customized by committee member Barbara Curtindale.

Kim Smith
Pioneer Certificate Program Chair



On the Shelf

This is the second issue featured column where we are discussing genealogical books available at state and local libraries. This issue we have contributions from the Library of Michigan and the Archives of Michigan.

Library of Michigan

Hello from the Library of Michigan!

December is the time when the Library of Michigan wraps up the selection of the next set of Michigan Notable Books honorees. A committee of Library of Michigan staff as well as librarians from around the state, and Michigan authors review many books to develop a list of 20 titles. The 2021 list will be unveiled in January of 2021, please stay tuned to our website for more information.

You can learn more about the Michigan Notable Books program at the following website: WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/NOTABLEBOOKS. At the site you will find information on how to submit titles for consideration and past honorees. The past titles make great reading lists for your book clubs. There is always something interesting to read from the list such as poetry, nonfiction, or children's books.

Below are a few fun books to read during the winter months that are in the Michigan Collection at the Library of Michigan. There are many more wonderful books available at the Library of Michigan covering Michigan History, People, and Places and I will highlight more in our On the Shelf articles in the future. If these books are not available at your local library, try using the interlibrary loan service called MeLCat. Your local public library will be able to help you request one of the books.

We Hope for Better Things by Erin Bartels, 2019. Three stories about the Balsam family over three time periods: Civil War, 1960s, and the present day.

Mysterious items, locked doors, war, protests, and hidden graves await three remarkable women over time.

The Journey of Little Charlie by Christopher Paul Curtis, 2018. Charlie's dad dies in an accident and leaves the family indebted to a fearsome plantation overseer Cap'n Buck. Charlie agrees to accompany the Cap'n to Detroit to pursue the people who stole from him. This seems like a good deal to Charlie until he comes face-to-face with the people he is chasing.

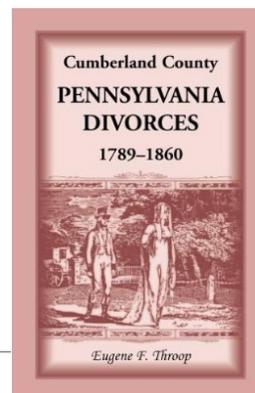
Summer Dreams: The Story of Bob-Lo Island by Patrick Livingston, 2008. Memories and images are what the reader will find in these pages. Cool river breezes. Food, games, and amusements await you. Enjoy this lighthearted read during the cold winter months.

Through our website you can search our library catalog. This is the best way to learn about what materials we have in our collections. As we explore our collections in On The Shelf, we will speak more about our catalog and how to navigate it. Please do not hesitate to contact us through email or phone: librarian@michigan.gov or 517-335-1477. Library staff are working from home, but we will gladly help as best we can with your questions.

All the best,
Library of Michigan staff

Archives of Michigan

Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Divorces, 1789-1860 / Eugene F. Throop



Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, Divorces, 1789-1860, by Eugene Throop, first published in 1994 and reprinted in 2013 by Heritage Books, is an important resource for any researcher with ancestors in that south-central Pennsylvania county. It is now available to researchers as part of the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection at the Archives of Michigan (Call number: F 157 .C8 T48 2013).

Containing genealogical abstracts of Cumberland County divorce cases for more than seventy years, the geographic breadth of this book extends out to such far-reaching locales as California, Canada, other counties across Pennsylvania, and even Wayne County, Michigan. Whether your ancestor was involved in an unfortunate case of adultery, desertion, or cruelty, researchers can read all the explosive details.

There are several other books by Eugene Throop in the Abrams Collection, including Forest County, Pennsylvania Cemetery Inscriptions, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, Divorces, 1786-1832, and Pennsylvania Divorces: Dauphin County, 1788-1867 and York County, 1790-1860.

The Abrams Foundation Historical Collection, one of the larger genealogical collections in the United States, contains published family histories, immigration resources, cemetery transcriptions, directories, county and local histories, military records and getting-started handbooks. The resources emphasize states with strong historic and migratory ties to Michigan, including the New England region, New York, Pennsylvania, the Midwest states of Ohio and Indiana and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

This article provided by Kris W. Rzepczynski, Senior Archivist, Archives of Michigan

2020 Virtual Fall Family History Seminar with Sunny Morton Recap

The November seminar was a big success. 192 people registered with a few from the West Coast and one from the Middle East. The chat room was lively and the presentations top notched. 99% of survey respondents said they would attend again; 1% said maybe.

Sunny Morton provided the attendees with fun presentations. Survey results about Sunny were fantastic. They loved her energy, how fun and interesting she made the day, and her wealth of knowledge.

Break sessions were provided to keep from having down time, but many attendees said they did not want to miss a minute. Next year we will have to provide a little down time.

MGC is working on the 2021 seminar and more information will be announced at the January Delegate meeting.

Easy Net Sites Going Out of Business

Recently, many societies learned that Easy Net Sites would be ceasing operation at the end of June 2021. Easy Net Sites is the provider for the MGC website as well as many others within Michigan.

The MGC board will be working in collaboration with other Michigan societies to find a new website provider. Work has begun on the back end of the website to ensure no data is lost during the transition.

Brenda Leyndyke will keep you updated throughout the transition period either by email or at our delegate meetings. If you have any questions or concerns, or need help with your website, please let the board know at info@mimgc.org

Bookmark Me Now

We would like to introduce you to a variety of internet sources available for genealogical research. While many have said that using the internet for genealogy research is like looking at the tip of the iceberg and that more in-depth research must still be done in libraries, archives and courthouses, this series offers some useful sources that you may have never heard about or used. Be sure to visit each suggested link, you never know what you may discover.

Soldiers and Sailors Database – The Civil War National Park Service

Website:

<http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

Description:

The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System is a publicly available website providing record lookup capability on individuals who served during the United States Civil War. Every soldier who participated, from either the Union or the Confederacy, should have a record on this website. The initial focus of the CWSS was to record basic information on each soldier, including full name, North/South, unit, and company. The source for this data was the General Index Cards into the Compiled Military Service Records, at the National Archives. This information about the soldiers came from records that are indexed to many other documents about Union and Confederate Civil War soldiers, maintained by the National Archives and Records Administration.

Other information includes: unit histories for both the Union and Confederate Armies, descriptions of 384 significant battles, sailors records, prisoner of war records, burial records, medal of honor recipients, and other historical information. Additional info in each of these areas will be incorporated into the

website over time as its capabilities are expanded and improved.

The Civil War was the first war in American History in which a substantial proportion of the adult male population participated. Please note that the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors system contains just an index of the men who served in the Civil War with only rudimentary information from the service records. You can obtain copies of these records, using the film number listed in the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System record.

Use this link:

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records>

The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) is a cooperative effort by the National Park Service (NPS) and several other public and private partners, to make information about the Civil War publicly available. The primary goal of the CWSS is to provide an interpretive tool on the Civil War for the National Park Service Civil War Battlefield Parks and other Civil War-related Park units. An additional objective is to increase the American people's understanding of this decisive era in American history by making the information about it widely accessible. The CWSS enables the public to make a personal link between themselves and history.

The CWSS database currently contains over 6.3 million soldier records from 44 states and territories.

This article was written by Megan Heyl of the Zeeland Genealogical Study Group.



MGC Updates Its Research Tools Section of the Website

We all know that Michigan is a great place to research our ancestors because we have many wonderful repositories and resources. It is time to let the world know about them.

The “[Research Tools](#)” portion of mimgc.org has been updated to include many websites of interest to genealogists. No longer do you see a list of resources, but you see sixteen categories loaded with information. A wide range of Michigan sources have been included.

- Cemetery
- City-Level
- Court
- Death
- Ethnic
- Immigration
- Maps
- Maritime
- Military
- Newspaper
- and Religious Record sources are included.

Additional categories include

- Libraries and Archives
- Living History
- Northwest Territory
- and Other Finding Aids.

Please feel free to share these tools with your local society, family, and friends. If you know of a website specific to Michigan research, let us know at info@mimgc.org and it will be added to our growing list of research tools.

This information provided by Brenda Leyndyke, President of Michigan Genealogical Council.



Continued from page 6: Welcome

President: Charlotte Cooper, Clarkston. 1st Vice President: Sara Cote, Highland. 2nd Vice President: Bill Grandstaff, Romeo. Secretary: Barbara Frye, Pontiac. Treasurer: Joy Dockham, Clarkston

Membership and Benefits

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in promoting and preserving the county's history. For more information on membership levels (Student to Corporate Sponsor), see their membership page at: <https://www.ocphs.org/membership-and-benefits/>

Links to the Past from the Past

As we were reviewing past issues we found the following links that still are worth a look today:

From Volume 36 Issue 2 (Spring 2012):

www.randymajors.com

This website changed December 20, 2020 to randymajors.org and they have added many new functionality and features. When we first reported on this website it was **Volume 36 Issue 2** and in short we said:

- Why would you want to see historical Google Maps? County boundaries change over time and this tool built on Google Maps will help you make sure you're searching in the correct county for the place and historical years you're researching.
- If you ever wanted to know where an area code, a zip code, or a time zone mapped out – go check them out.

This is the definitive site to map out locations old and new!

Featured Society:**Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc.**

The Society was formed in 1972, incorporating in 2012. We are constantly growing.

The incoming officers for 2021 and those still in position are:

- President: Barbara Curtindale (since 2012)
- Vice President: Joann Ausema (2021)
- Treasurer: Jerry Smith
- Secretary: Janice Cartmill
- Trustee (3 yr): Terry Perkins (2021)
- Trustee (2 yr): Laura Havens
- Trustee (1 yr): Teresa Ziegler appointed to fill term of Joann Ausema
- Newsletter Editor/Facebook Webmaster: Janice Cartmill
- Projects: Jerry Smith
- Publicist: Bill Boyd and volunteers.

We have a membership chairperson that keeps a list of members and writes letters when dues are due. Each new member gets a membership packet containing the Bylaws, blank charts, & informational materials like good websites for research etc. Normally new members join on site and who ever is on duty gives them their packet, receipt and a pre-signed membership card.

Email: gladwincountygenealogy@gmail.com

Facebook: GladwinCountyMichiganGenealogy

Facility

Our address is 402 James Robertson Dr. Gladwin, MI 48625 Phone: 426-8221. We are housed in 2 adjoining rooms on the 2nd floor of the Gladwin County District Library/Community Arena Building. The Society is fortunate to have been given space in the Gladwin County District Library.

We started in a single room, but our collection grew from purchased and donated items so that an adjoining room was properly remodeled to give space to move all the books into it.

Our Collection

The collection list is on our main computer and all additions are added and inventoried as they come in. The book room now includes over 500 lineal feet of research materials. For ease in using the collection the items begin with Michigan counties in an alphabetical sequence with exception of Gladwin.

This collection is in the 2nd aisle which solely contains material on the county:

- Vital records: Birth Index, Marriages, Deaths
- family histories
- home records
- obituaries
- Cemetery readings along with the maps showing graves owners or 'occupant'
- school year books
- County Naturalization records
- History of schools in the County
- Churches
- Ancestor records of Civil War
- Pioneer, Settler and Resident records from our Certificate applications
- as well as many other items a researcher may need.

To continue in the collection, we have all other states in alpha order and countries randomly shelved in groups regionally/world-wide:

- 6 ft. of shelving on Native Americans
- vital and other records for Canada
- Military books are shelved chronologically by skirmish/wars
- A sizable map/atlas collection
- Biographical books
- Mayflower series
- Reference materials are shelved by what kind it is i.e. Computer, "How to books", etc.

We have 2 lateral file drawers of files of late families of the County from correspondence, research and

other information to whet the appetite of the patrons using them.

On our “in room” computers (six all new public computers with Windows 10) are the digitized copies of the Gladwin County RECORD & CLARION from mid-late 1800’s to present.

Services

The society provides the following services to its members and the surrounding community:

- We are digitizing thousands of aerial photos of the county.
- We have many other sources of records waiting in line to be done.
- We provide free use of Ancestry.com in our library and we have friendly volunteers that will assist in any way they can to get you searching where you need to.
- We have Wi-Fi so you may choose to bring your own laptop.
- We, of course, always appreciate donations. Copies are 20 cents each for printouts.
- We do look ups of obituaries and articles for patrons via e-mail for a fee of 4 for \$5 including postage.

Membership

Our membership dues are:

- Student under 18- \$5 (membership runs to coincide with school year)
- Individual \$10
- Couple \$15
- Life under 65 is \$100, 65 & over is \$50.

Standard membership is for calendar year Jan – Dec.

At the present time we have 71 members, 39 of them are LIFE members, and approximately 6 of the members are original charter members.

Meetings/Hours

Our hours are normally 9-5 but due to COVID-19 we are open on Tuesday, Wed., Thursday 10-4 pm, also

open by appointment. Masks are required as well as hand sanitizer use. All areas are cleaned after usage.

Our Society normally meets on the first Saturday of each month except July and August. Our meetings, begin at 10 am and finish around noon, then we open the research room until about 4 or 5 pm depending on the need. The meetings are held in the Bruce Guy Veteran’s Memorial meeting room on the 2nd floor of the library.

At this time **no** meetings are being held due to COVID restrictions

Projects

Projects that we have done and continue to work on:

- Indexing books from the collection that have none, selecting those that will get the most use if indexed.
- Digitizing thousands of aerial photos of the county.
- Continuing to digitize the local paper *The Gladwin County Record and Clarion*. We have this name/event searchable and available only in the genealogy room. The paper records starts with 1877 and continues to the present.
- We have a few members who weekly submit genealogy interest articles to the paper at the request of the Editor.
- We have scanned years of records from the local funeral homes completed through 1992. We have also done the same with records of the Standish funeral home now owned by Ramsey Group which owns one of the Gladwin Funeral homes. Knowing the owner personally, we have worked with him to get these records copied. When all is complete, each business will get a thumb drive copy to put in a safe place.
- We have taught Junior High kids how to do genealogy for 3 years. We have held 2 courses of genealogy and had to cancel the next due

to COVID-19. These were at the request of Mid-Michigan Community College. We hope we can resume these sometime next year although we may be losing one of our instructors who is relocating.

- We have read and transcribed all county cemeteries including the plat maps to go with them.
- We gather Bible records which started when donated books for a book sale at the library contained some bibles with information in them. They were passed along to us - we started copying the records and, wrapping the Bible up for storage in case someone claims it. We have quite a few records and have publicized it in the local paper that if a person wants to have the pages photocopied they can bring the Bible in and we will make copies and return the Bible to them. We then put each sheet in protective sleeves and into a binder which are then separated with colored sheets while adding names to an index. Binders are shelved so patrons can go through them. If they find records of their families we ask if they want the Bible, and get it out of storage giving it to them. We have also researched the names and then this information is added as a resource.

In Conclusion

Please feel free to contact us if we can help you, or for information. We have a quarterly newsletter which is 10 pages each. It can be mailed if you don't have computer as it is normally sent via electronic means.

Thank you for your time in learning about who and what we are about.

Article written by Barb Curtindale, Society President, and Delegate to MGC, MGC Awards Chairperson, and member Pioneer Certificate Committee and has been a continual delegate to MGC since 1977 from 4 different societies.

Do you want to have your society featured?

You ask – what do I need to do?

All you need to do is contact the MGC Newsletter Editor at:
newsletter@mimgc.org.

Email us and ask to be placed on the schedule for Featured Society articles and then when your issue comes up you will send write an article that contains the following:

- Society founding year
- Society officers
- Facility location – address and location within facility
- Description of collections
- Descriptions of current and former service projects
- Member benefits
- Membership costs
- Meeting frequency and times
- Pictures of members
- Society Logo (if one exists)

We also need the permission to use your article in our Michigan Genealogical Society Newsletter!

MGC Merchandise Corner



This issues item is this Contrasting Coffee Cup! You can order it or other merchandise from our merchandise shop at:

<https://mimgc.org/cpage.php?pt=73!>

Editor's Page

Welcome to the Editor's Page – a place where I get to discuss upcoming topics, new columns in the works and let you know what I need from you!

New Columns

In the April 2021 Issue we will begin a few new columns with your help. These columns are an attempt to support the entire spectrum of our societies with this newsletter! The columns will focus on topics about under-represented segment of our membership!

"From a Counties Perspective"

Our first new column will be called "From A Counties Perspective" – what we will attempt to do is discuss topics either requested by the county societies or articles provided by county societies. These topics will hopefully help by providing solutions to societies from other societies who have tried and been successful at solving problems they face. We know that all solutions are not one size fits all but sometimes it is nice to know we are not alone?

If you have been facing an issue in your community and you don't know the best solution hopefully we have another community that can provide focus or a solution. We are not judging anyone we all have problems that we need to address. As editor, I would like to provide a resource – if we find we need other avenues to help each other those can be investigated.

This can and will also be a place that you can give accolades/kudos to members of your societies that are going the extra mile and providing services that we would all like to provide but weren't sure how to start. Let's use our collective brain power, experience and knowledge to lift our state up. We are all in this together and hopefully we can all benefit from each other's support!

If you want to help – contact newsletter@mimgc.org!

"Heritage Town Hall"

From the same perspective as the last new column, the heritage genealogical societies have unique problems or solutions than other groups – they also have a unique perspective to our heritage in a more focused way! It is hoped that we showcase the people across this great state who have brought diversity for societies that may not be regional in focus, but who have the ability to provide assistance to many of our fellow genealogists. Many of us fall into different areas and have problems based on where our relatives came from. We also may not know that there is a society available – so this column may help direct people to a society that they originally would not have known about or considered.

Use this column as a recruiting column, a resource to sites and people who can help answer our questions, and just a way to locate people with the same issues and hopefully the same solutions.

As I count today we have 8 or more societies who might be in this category but there may be many more societies out there that we can help. If you know of other societies who are currently not members but could benefit from these resources, please contact us at membership@mimgc.org and we will get the information to the appropriate individual.

If you have any thing you would like to write about or share send your articles to: newsletter@mimgc.org

Format for article submissions:

Send your article to newsletter@mimgc.org and provide the following information:

- Your Name
- Your best email if we need to contact you for more information/clarification
- Your Society
- Your Topic or Ideas
- The Article / Tips / Your Event
- Where you want your the article to be
- Permission to print your article

**Library of Michigan**

Matt Pacer
Reference Librarian
Library of Michigan

Library of Michigan Updates

Library of Michigan Update January 2021

Hello Everyone!

Just a reminder that the Library of Michigan is still closed to the public, but you can contact us through email and phone. Staff continue to work from home and are doing our best to answer researcher questions. We encourage you to submit your reference questions to us at the contact email listed at the bottom of this update.

Please remember that Michigan residents are eligible for a Library of Michigan library card. With a valid Library of Michigan library card, you can access several family history databases remotely such as Fold3, ancestry.com, the Detroit Free Press, African American Biographical database, etc. Please visit WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/LIBRARYCARD for the application form and information about the card.

Stay tuned to the Library of Michigan website in January to read about the 2021 Michigan Notable Books honorees. Once announced, you will find more information about the selected books and authors.

To learn more about the 2020 honorees and previous years, please visit the following site: WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/NOTABLEBOOKS

Have questions for us? Please email or call. librarian@michigan.gov or 517-335-1477.

Stay safe and healthy!



Archives of Michigan and Abrams Foundation Historical Collection

Kris W. Rzepczynski,
Senior Archivist
Archives of Michigan

Archives of Michigan News and Notes January 2021

It is hard to believe, but the end of 2020 is already upon us! It has certainly been an historic and unprecedented year, what will 2021 bring? My colleagues and I at the Archives of Michigan wish you and your families a very Happy Holiday season and look forward to seeing you again in person next year.

A friendly reminder that the Archives of Michigan continues to assist the genealogical community during the pandemic. Reference services are available via email (archives@michigan.gov) and phone (517.335.2576).

The Michiganology online store for submitting research requests (probate records, circuit court case files, corrections records, naturalizations, and more) is up and running again, too!

Reference staff are also pleased to offer virtual reference sessions with the research community; signup information for a live consultation with a Reference Archivist can be found here:

<https://form.jotform.com/201495506848059>

Remember to mark your calendars for the 2021 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar. We look forward to hosting Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, "The Legal Genealogist" next year on July 9-10, 2021!

Despite being closed to the public, the Archives of Michigan continues to add new source material to our

holdings, particularly local government records. New archival collections this year include:

- Charlevoix County Probate Court Records, 1882-1970 / RG 2020-31
- Wayne County Probate Court Records, 1970 / RG 2020-48

In addition to the original source material above, the Archives continues to add new published material to the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection, even during the pandemic. New additions to the Collection include:

- Early Records of Easton Reformed Church, Easton, New York, Washington County, 1803-1899 / Arthur C. M. Kelly / 2019 / Call number: F 129 .E21 K44 2019
- Clarke Co. (Athens), GA, Newspaper Abstracts [2 vols.] / Faye Stone Poss / 1998 / Call number: F 292 .C5 P68 1998

The Archives thanks our generous donors, supporters and friends, including, of course, the Abrams Foundation and the Michigan Genealogical Council.

The Archives of Michigan regrettably continues to remain closed to the public until further notice. Department administration and Michigan History Center management continue to discuss and plan for reopening, but no official date has been set. The latest updates can be found at the DNR COVID-19 information page: <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr>.

- As always, please contact us at:
archives@michigan.gov

with any questions about the Archives and our collections, services or digitization projects. Reference staff will be happy to assist you! Stay safe out there, Happy Holidays, and we look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Thank you, Kris W. Rzepczynski

Both Delegate/Board Meetings are being held virtually until further notice.

Delegate Meetings

Delegate Meetings are held on the second Thursday in September, November, January, March, May and July at 11 am in the Forum of the Michigan Historical Center at: 702 West Kalamazoo Street Lansing, MI 48915

Boards Meetings

Board Meetings meet in the Commission Room of the Michigan Historical Center 5th Floor, Archives on the second Thursday of every month at 9 am on Delegate meeting months and at 10 am on non-Delegate meeting months.

Any change in date and time will be posted at mimgc.org.

Michigan Library and Historical Center

Due to the COVID-19 situation, the Michigan History Museum remains closed to the public until at least March 1, 2021. The museum will re-open once we can ensure the safety of visitors and staff. Scheduled state days off thru April 1 are:

- January 1 and January 18
- February 15

We will provide more information as we know.

Archives of Michigan

Reference Desk Hours By Email or Phone
8 am to 5 pm Monday through Friday
Phone: (517) 335-2576

Email archives@michigan.gov

Virtual Consultation:

<https://www.jotform.com/201495506848059>

Visit our web site at:

www.michigan.gov/archives and
www.michiganology.org

Topic for the January 14, 2021 Delegate Meeting

My Survival Journey During the Darkest Chapter of Human History – Speaker: Irene Miller

Irene Miller, a Holocaust survivor, author, speaker, and educator, will take you on a survival journey little written and known about. You will sleep in the winter under an open sky on the no man's land; you will freeze in a Siberian labor camp where the bears come to your door front. In Uzbekistan, you will live on boiled grass or broiled onions and shiver with malaria. You will spend years in orphanages. When this is over, you will wonder how a child with this background grows up to become a positive, creative, accomplished woman with a joy of living and love to share.

It is a story of courage, determination, perseverance, and the power of the human spirit.

Irene Miller's book "Into No Man's Land; A Historical Memoir," published by the University of Michigan, is available on <http://www.irenemillerspeaker.com/>.

Library of Michigan

10 am to 5 pm Monday thru Friday

By email or phone

Email librarian@michigan.gov

Phone: (517) 335-1477

Visit our website at:

www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan

Michigan History Museum

The Michigan History Museum remains closed to the public until at least March 1, 2021.

The Museum will re-open once we can ensure the safety of visitors and staff.

Visit our Web site at:

www.michigan.gov/museum

For more information call:

(517) 335-2573



Michigan Genealogical Council

Founded in 1972, the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) is an organization composed of delegates from each member society. It's objectives are to locate, preserve, publish and deposit in suitable repositories records of value to genealogists and to initiate activities which encourage and assist those who are involved in genealogical research. Meetings are held in the Forum of the Library of Michigan and Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48909 on the second Thursday in September, November, January, March, May and July. Board meetings are held at the Archives of Michigan, on the second Thursday of each month. Membership is open to any Michigan genealogical or family history society, amateur or professional, with a primary interest in genealogy. Dues are no longer calculated on a "per person" basis, but rather a flat rate based on general society membership at the close of their fiscal year. Checks should be made payable to the Michigan Genealogical Council and mailed to MGC, PO. Box 80953, Lansing, MI, 48908-0953, Website: www.mimgc.org

The Newsletter is published quarterly by the Michigan Genealogical Council. Member society delegates and presidents are notified by e-mail when a new issue is available online. Content for Winter issue due December 15, Spring March 15, Summer June 15, Fall September 15. Email newsletter items to MGC Editor: newsletter@mimgc.org. Or send to PO. Box 80953, Lansing, MI, 48908-0953. Permission to reprint a signed article should be obtained directly from the author. Unsigned material may be reprinted without permission provided the newsletter is given credit. See website for additional details at mimgc.org/cpage.php?pt=16.

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Vice President	Rozlyn Kelly PO Box 3157 Farmington Hills, MI 48333	Corresponding Secretary	Patsy Miller 640-2 Lemon Creek Rd. Berrien Springs, MI 49103	Director 2022	Daniel Earl 13935 Ducharme Dr. DeWitt, MI 48820
Recording Secretary Delegate Meetings	Sue Irvine 4215 Northgate Street NE Grand Rapids, MI 49525	Treasurer	Jill O'Sullivan 21290 Laser Lane South Lyon, MI 48178	Director 2023	Larry Noyes PO Box 102 Shepherd, MI 48883

Committee Chairpersons and Appointments

Archivist	Connie Olson 3327 Yellowstone Ann Arbor, MI 48105-1522	Library of Michigan Liaison	Tim Gleisner 702 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48915	Public Records Access and Records Preservation	Derek Blount 905 N. Alexander Ave. Royal Oak, MI 48067
Awards	Barb Curtindale 251 E. N-61 Harrison, MI 48625	Archive of Michigan Liaison	Kris Rzepczynski 702 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48915	Distribution and Marketing	Sam Pardee 2518 Gary St. Lansing, MI 48906
Central Mail	Sam Pardee 2518 Gary Ave. Lansing, MI 48906	Membership	John Pierce 2215 Marquette Rd. Ionia, MI 48846	Nominating	Elected Directors
Historian	Barb Curtindale 251 E. N-61 Harrison, MI 48625	Newsletter	Paul Roltsch 3560 Karen Parkway, #303 Waterford, MI 48328	Media Communications	Judy Sheldon 5029 Timberlakes Blvd. S. Greenbush, MI 48738
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Lucy Mary Kellogg Chair	Jessica Trotter 1943 Wood St. #1 Lansing, MI 489122	Pre-Statehood and First Family Certificates	Kim Smith 1270 Porter Rd. White Lake, MI 48383		

Thanks from the Editor!

I want to thank all of the Societies in the state who have opened their virtual doors to allow non-members to fill their zoom meetings when space was available. I for one find it a wonderful networking experience and have enjoyed the groups I have been able to meet virtually.

I said at my first MGC meeting that I wanted to attend as many meetings across the state as possible. Thanks to ZOOM meetings I have been able to attend. So for me it is 7 societies down and 67 more to go.

Please feel free to email me at newsletter@mimgc.org and send me article ideas, society news and events and even zoom meeting invitations.

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Events

Please check with events in advance in case there is a change in plans and is canceled due to the corona virus.

Roots Tech Connect 2021

February 25-27, 2021

Virtual

Free

For more information or to register

<http://rootstech.org/>

National Genealogical Society Conference Virginia - Deep Roots of a Nation

May 19-22, 2021

Richmond, Virginia

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

GRIP 2021

Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh

June 20-25, 2021 and July 11-16, 2021

For Detailed Session Descriptions

<https://www.gripitt.org/future-courses/>

IGHR 2021

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research

July 24- July 30, 2021

Registration opens March 6, 2021

<https://ighr.gagensociety.org/ighr-2020/>