

Michigan Genealogical Council Newsletter

Volume 45 Issue 2 Spring 2021

And the winner is... 2020 Lucy Mary Kellogg Announcement

Each year the Michigan Genealogical Council asks our member societies to submit the names of their most active and influential members, who have dedicated their lives to genealogical research and contributed to their communities through their leadership and service in the field. We honor one of these nominees each year with a ceremony, award certificate, and \$50 in their name to the Archives of Michigan, the Library of Michigan, and the genealogical or historical organization (or library) of their choice.

We were excited to have had a strong pool of candidates in 2020 — despite Covid and everything else thrown at us this year. We were honored to have three judges — Colleen Alles (Grand Rapids Public Library, Local History Department), Alison Purgiel (Lead Librarian II at the Norton Shores Branch of Muskegon Area District Library), and Lynette Suckow (from the Reference Department of Peter White Public Library in Marquette) — to help us with this process.

This year's Lucy Mary Kellogg honoree impressed the judges with her depth of experience — particularly around creating exhibits to share with the community, speaking to how her work reaches a broader community than just genealogists. "Illustrating family history through display to make genealogy more accessible to a wider audience seems an ingenious way to build interest in along with understanding of the field." But the honoree's work on the Genealogy Storytelling and Racial Healing initiative hit a nerve — the concept of racial healing through family history is so incredibly relevant to our current social climate. To show how genealogy can play a role in trying to resolve serious social and cultural issues is incredibly timely and important. The honoree's passion for family history has served the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society well, as well as extending her knowledge regionally and statewide.

The Michigan Genealogical Council is honored to present the 2020 Lucy Mary Kellogg Award to Leslie C. Strong Williams.

Ms. Williams is the longest serving president of the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society (FHWGS) (May 2006-August 2017). Her love of history and genealogy was sparked by researching her family member, William Webb. William Webb was a well-known, Free Man of Color, Abolitionist, Anti-Slavery Advocate, major conductor and contributor to the Underground Railroad in Detroit, Michigan, and Canada. Her accomplishments include: being a member of the planning committee for annual Michigan in Perspective: Local History Conference, served as a Trustee with the Historical Society of Michigan, member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of E. Azalia Hackley, Detroit Public Library, member Board of the Directors for the Friends of African American Art, Detroit Institute of Arts where she held the office of First Vice President; and Commissioner on the Detroit Recreation Department Advisory Board.



Picture provided with permission by Victor S. Williams

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President's Message

Can you believe we have been dealing with COVID-19 issues for a year now? I want to applaud our societies for stepping up to the challenge and learning new ways of delivering genealogical programs to the community. I hope our genealogical community is safe and well.

I have had the privilege of attending quite a few of our member societies' meetings. Thank you for allowing me to see what your society is doing. When I became President, in 2019, I made a goal of visiting as many member society meetings as I could. Virtual meetings have made this easier. Plus, it saves on gas money!

Currently, we have 73 member societies. 17 societies are not holding meetings so there are 56 virtual meetings to attend. I have about 30 more to visit. I have registered for a few in the next couple of months and hope to register for more.

I have seen great things happening in your meetings and am thankful for the contribution you make to the Michigan genealogical community. I appreciate your membership in MGC as well.

The MGC team has transitioned during this time as well. The board of directors' meetings, in addition to the delegate meetings, are held virtually. After a year, I think I have a handle on Zoom. Of course, I have been known to forget to unmute myself a time or two or turn my camera off unexpectedly!

In addition, MGC has been working on a few things in the background that you may not be aware of. Some of those projects include upcoming elections, newsletter updating, pioneer certificate processing, web site discussions, Fall Family History event planning, promotion board creation, speaker's list updating, and two surveys, one on diversity and another on dues payment options. This is in addition to the day-to-day operation of MGC business. You will find more information on some of these items in this newsletter.

Diversity within our organization is something that MGC is committed to as an organization. We would like to help you and your society with this as well. I have included a lengthier update on this in the newsletter.

I have been facilitating board discussions with questions such as: What does diversity mean to MGC? Are we changing anything in how we do things? Do we need to change? Why do we want to make a sustained difference in diverse leadership? How will we know when MGC is truly diverse and inclusive? and What needs to change to get there? These discussions were the impetus for the diversity survey that was sent to MGC society Presidents. If you have any questions about this, please contact me at President@mimgc.org.

MGC is modeling diversity and inclusion and have created a "Promoting Diversity in Your Society" fact sheet, which will be shared with all member societies and placed on our website soon. I hope your society is following our example.

I am looking forward to when we can have in person meetings again. Stay safe, stay well.
Best wishes,

Brenda

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

April 25, 2021

Time: 1:45 pm

Lecture: "Finding the Inner Light: Researching our Quaker Ancestors"

Speaker: Diane Gagel

Time: 3:15 pm

Class: "A Story of Cindy Lou Who: A DNA Case Study"

Instructor: Mike Gerding

May 23, 2021

Time: 1:45 pm

Lecture: "The Importance of Preserving Your Heirlooms"

Speaker: Sheila Most

Time: 3:15 PM

Class: "Documenting Family Heirlooms"

Instructor: Sheila Most

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.

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

April 11, 2021

Time: 3:00 pm

Program: "What the Heck Does That Say? (Overcoming Difficult Handwriting)"

Speaker: Pam Vestal

May 2, 2021

Time: 3:00 pm

Program: "Researching Polish Family History"

Speaker: Patricia Yocum

June 11, 2021

Time: 3:00 pm

Program: "How to Write the Stories of Your Life"

Speaker: Laura Hedgecock

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:

April 22, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Program: Colonial New York Research

Speaker: Cynthia Grostick (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. If there is availability a link will be added to the event listing. Registration is required.

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

May 18, 2021

Time: 6:45 pm – Online

Program: Show and Tell: What Did You Do Over the Season?

How have you used the information gleaned from our speakers to help your research. Did you break through a brick wall? Did you find a new brick wall? Were you able to understand the context of your family story better? We want to share our story and we want to hear yours!

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 topic.

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

Date: Apr. 7, 2021 via Zoom

April 7, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Program: History of Waterford – A slideshow and then sharing some photographs of Waterford from the Historical Society’s collection.

Speaker: Sally Strait – President of the Waterford Historical Society

May 5, 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Speaker: Kris Rzepczynski - Senior Archivist - Archives of Michigan

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.

From the **Cornish Connection of Lower Michigan**

July 16-17, 2021

Event: 19th Gathering of Cornish Cousins

The Cornish American Heritage Society is taking registrations for this virtual two-day virtual gathering. Registration deadline is July 10, 2021.

You can find out more about this event at their website: cousinjack.org!

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

April 15, 2021

Time: 10:00 PM

Lecture: “Where they lived: Using Land Records for Genealogical Research”

Speaker: David Decker, Oakland History Center

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

Continued from Page 1 - Announcement of Lucy Mary Kellogg winner

In addition to numerous presentations to FHWGS, Strong has presented her research on her ancestor William Webb at the HSM Local History Conference, and at a University of Detroit Law School event, "Detroit's Abolitionist Movement: 160 Years of Fighting for Justice," held at the Detroit Public Library in 2019. She was also a panelist for a special screening of the PBS show "Finding Your Roots" in April 2019, also at the Library. She has authored and coordinated "Our Untold Stories," a collection of family history narratives. Published by, Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society, 2001.

Ms. Strong was born in Detroit and has been a lifetime resident of the State of Michigan. She is a graduate from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Design. She has a graduate Degree in Design from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York. She retired in 2009 from the Detroit Children's Museum, where she held the positions of: Community Outreach Coordinator, Design Director, Curator responsible for exhibits, publications, family programs and special events.

Diversity and MGC

Recently, President Brenda Leyndyke, created a Diversity survey that was sent to MGC member society Presidents. Of the 73 member societies, 34 Presidents replied, a little less than half of our Presidents.

The purpose of the survey was to see what their thoughts were on diversity, how the MGC board can help societies, and what our societies are doing to support diversity. Those ideas will be used to create a "Promoting Diversity in Your Society" fact sheet. The survey did not define diversity but asked "how do you define diversity?" Responses varied but the

overwhelming theme was inclusion for all. Including differences in religion, ethnicity, genders, ages, sexuality, socioeconomic status, language, geography, and citizenship.

Another question asked, what can MGC do to improve diversity and inclusion within our organization? There were 21 responses. Responses were varied but included cultivate speakers from many ethnic and cultural backgrounds, offer diverse topics, get younger, diverse board members, assist with openness and not superiority, have a statement and live by it-each and every word, provide guidelines on how to be inclusive without being offensive, reach out to diverse societies that are not represented in our membership and ask them to join, and be mindful when having workshops and seminars to support all ethnic groups' research. One respondent reminded MGC to "treat people by the content of their character-period, trying to manipulate 'diversity' and 'inclusion' basically constitutes racism". This is a good reminder to all.

One of the questions the MGC board discussed was how we will know when MGC is truly diverse and inclusive? The consensus was when it happens naturally without any thought. I think having honest question and answer discussions will lead MGC to this point. I think performing cultural audits adds to the value of our societies. My hope is that MGC is the leader in having meaningful conversations and that we are modeling diversity and inclusion for our societies to see. The rewards of doing this will be of benefit to all.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact any board member at info@mimgc.org. Let us work together and learn from each other.

*Article written by Brenda Leyndyke
President, Michigan Genealogical Council*

Featured Society:

Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society

Congratulations to the Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society (LAAAGS) on its 20th anniversary! LAAAGS was established in 2001 by a group of mutual friends that included Wilbur Howard, Brenda Henderson, Carrie Baptiste Jackson, Jan Smith Lewis, and Mary Agnes Lipscomb. These individuals had begun extensive genealogical research on their respective family histories. The group had informally begun to consult with each other as they hit those proverbial 'brick walls.' They shared in each other's joy when one made a new discovery. As they shared their stories, they soon found others with genealogical interests, varying levels of skill and knowledge, and overwhelmingly, a desire to search. In 2001, the group formed a steering committee, chaired by Mr. Howard. This group sought to reach out to other interested individuals and to explore the establishment of a formal organization. To that end, the first formal organizational meeting was held at the State of Michigan Library in December 2001. Approximately 20 interested individuals were in attendance. Since its inception the group has grown to about 50 members over the years.

The purpose of LAAAGS is to promote the preservation of African American family history, assist members in their genealogical research by providing a forum for the sharing of information and assisting with problem solving. Another particularly important component is to conduct educational programs to acquaint members and the public with various methods and resources of genealogical and family history research. Another important element is to assist members in utilizing the methods and resources unique to African American genealogical research.

Through the years LAAAGS has fostered annual workshops and programs that promote genealogical efforts for African American family research. Programs have included local authors, workshops, and history

research trips to varied locations. One year the annual workshop sponsored a world-renowned genealogist, Tony Burroughs whose book *Black Roots: A Beginners Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree*, is virtually a must-read for anyone doing research on African American families. LAAAGS celebrated its 10th anniversary with a dinner and program at the MSU Kellogg Center. Prizes and gifts were bountiful! We managed to squeeze in the 2020 Annual Winter Program before the pandemic hit. It was a workshop held on February 22, 2020, highlighting genealogical research. The keynote speaker was Dedria Humphries Barker (LAAAGS member), local author and historian whose most recent book is *Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, A Colored Man's Widow*. COVID19 shut down the world but the Society has been meeting and continues to meet monthly by Zoom. The Annual Workshop Program for 2021 was also held by Zoom. The group had a program on African Americans in the Revolutionary War and a virtual tour of the Museum of the American Revolution located in Philadelphia, PA, on February 20, 2021.

LAAAGS meets monthly on the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. The annual dues for a LAAAGS membership are \$25.00. Current officers of the organization are Gary Wilkes, president; Jessica Trotter vice-president; Willye Bryan, secretary; and Michael Bryan, treasurer. LAAAGS has a website with many more details for the organization: www.laaags.org. Before the pandemic LAAAGS met monthly at the Library of Michigan, 702 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, Michigan. Since March 2020, the group has been meeting virtually by Zoom. Each meeting has a business meeting followed by an informative program that provides important and interesting subjects for members. LAAAGS has a variety of members with skilled research levels, even some professional genealogists. As a result, several members have provided informative and extremely interesting presentations during the program portion of our monthly meetings.

Future projects are planned that will have each member share their family research efforts during monthly meetings. The organization plans broader involvement with other genealogical groups such as the Michigan State University project, Enslaved.org. Additional involvement will be with other genealogy groups such as the Capital Area DNA Interest Group and the MSU Family Links Genealogy Interest Group. We have had a very fruitful 20 years and plan for even more active involvement for the future of the organization. A very exciting project that is currently in progress is the publication of a book titled, *African American Families in Lansing before 1930*. LAAAGS expects to have a finished manuscript in 2021!



2020 LAAAGS Winter Genealogy Conference hosted at Union Missionary Baptist Church in Lansing, Michigan, Dedria Humphries Barker delivering her keynote.

Reconstructing Family with Freedman's Bank Records

by Rozlyn Kelly, Farmington Genealogical Society

After the end of the Civil War the U.S. government established the Freedman's Bureau in various locations throughout the South to assist formerly enslaved blacks as well as poor whites. The Bureau provided food, housing, medical aid, education, recorded labor contracts, dispute resolutions, and documented marriages, which were previously illegal for enslaved persons. The Bureau operated from

1865-1872. The U.S. government also established the Freedman's Bank in 1865 and it operated until 1874 when it failed, and millions of dollars in savings of formerly enslaved persons were lost. The Bank records contain substantial personal information and along with the Bureau's records are maintained in the National Archives. They have been digitized and indexed and are now accessible on Family Search, Ancestry, and other databases. This year, I explored these records more closely and made some interesting finds.

My grandfather's mother was Sophia Clendening. Sophia's mother was Malinda, and her father was Anthony Clendening. Anthony's death certificate, in 1916 in Fletcher, Arkansas, states his father's name was Frank and that he and his father were born in Mississippi. It also states he was 65 years old at the time of his death, which puts his birth year at about 1851.

I searched for Clendening in Mississippi and had no success. A couple of years ago I came across an 1871 document in the Freedman's Bank Records for a George Clandenan, age 35. He was born and brought up in Madison County, Mississippi, and currently lived in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His father was Frank, his mother was Martha (deceased) and his brothers were John, Henry, Anthony, Jack and Henry, and a sister Irene. At the time I wondered if Anthony Clendening was related to George and I stuck it in a file. Recently, I went back to the Freedman's Bank Records and tried searching for Clendening and tried different spellings of the name. Here's what I found.

A Freedman's Bank Record in 1870 for Frank Clandenan, age 63, shows that he was born in King and Queen County, Virginia, he was brought up in South Carolina, and currently resides in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His wife is Louisa Bryant, and his children are George, Henry, Henry, Anthony, and Jack. His father's name is unknown and his mother was Charlotte (deceased).

A Freedman's Bank Record in 1870 for Henry Clendenin, age 36, shows that he was born in South Carolina, brought up in Mississippi, and currently resides in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His father is Frank Clendenin, his mother is Sylvia, his brothers are George W., John, Amos, Anthony, Jack, Giles, and James, and a sister, Emily.

A Freedman's Bank Record in 1870 for Jack Clandenan, age 18, shows that he was born and brought up in Big Black, Mississippi, and currently resides in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His father is Frank, his mother is Martha, and his brothers are George, Henry, and Henry.

A Freedman's Bank Record in 1871 for Henry Clandenan, age 21, shows that he was born and brought up in Madison County, Mississippi, and currently resides in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His father is Frank, his mother was Martha (deceased), his brothers are John Franklin, George Washington, Jack, and Anthony, and a sister Irena.

I also found an 1866 marriage record in the Freedman's Bureau Records for Frank Clendenin and Louisa Clendenin in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Frank, age 52, lived with another woman for 25 years until her death and had 11 children by a previous connection. Louisa, age 38, lived with another man for 3 years until his death, and had one child by a previous connection.

The Freedman's Bank Records provided a wealth of information that helped me reconstruct a family. Here's what I've concluded thus far. Frank Clandenan, son of Charlotte, was born in Virginia in about 1807, lived in South Carolina for some period of time, and ultimately resided in Vicksburg, Madison County, Mississippi. While living in South Carolina, Frank and Sylvia had a son, Henry, born about 1834. When Frank came to Madison County, Mississippi, he, and Martha had the following children: George born about 1836, Henry born about 1850, Anthony born about 1851, and Jack born about 1855. Frank was also the father

of Giles, Amos, Emily, and Irena. Frank married Louisa Bryant in 1866 in Vicksburg, Mississippi. I have not yet found a Freedman's Bank Record specifically for Anthony, nor any Freedman's Bureau records for any spelling variation of Clandenan, other than the marriage record for Frank and Louisa.

I wanted to see if I could locate Frank's slave holder. Interestingly, when I searched for Clandenan in South Carolina, I found Richard Clendenin in the 1820 US census for York, South Carolina; he owned 7 slaves. In 1819 Richard married Mary Myers, and in 1830 he died and his will was probated. He left all of his property to his widow Mary. In the list of his personal property are the names of 7 Negroes – one of them is Frank. In the list of his property at his plantation, are the names of over 35 Negroes – including Charlotte, Martha, Silva (Sylvia?) and Henry. These names all match with names in the Freedman's Bank records for Frank Clandenan and his sons. Richard was a wealthy man, a lawyer who also held elected office. After his death, his widow Mary remarried in 1834 to William Hemingway, a physician. They moved from South Carolina to Vicksburg, Mississippi when Mary died in 1843. The 1850 Slave Schedule for Madison County, Mississippi shows that William Hemingway continued to own at least 20 slaves. This explains how Frank transitioned from South Carolina to Mississippi, and all his children except the first Henry were born there.

I believe that my Anthony Clendening may be the son of Frank Clandenan, despite the different spellings of the last name. He was born in Mississippi and his wife Malinda was born in Madison Parish, Louisiana, which is just across the river from Vicksburg, Madison Cty, Mississippi. In 1880, Anthony and Malinda were living in southern Illinois with their 7 children, all born in Illinois. I have not yet found them in the 1870 census. I want to find additional evidence to substantiate that Anthony is indeed the son of Frank, so as always, I have more research to do.

On the Shelf

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

Library of Michigan

Hello from the Library of Michigan! We are getting closer to Spring and all the fun gardening and other outdoor projects. An update about the Michigan Notable Books. The 2021 list is out. To see the complete list, please visit the website: WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/NOTABLEBOOKS.

There is a lot of information on the website such as: how to submit titles for consideration, Michigan Notable Books promotional video, and past honorees. Previously honored titles make wonderful additions to summer reading 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 spring 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. 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.

Fostering Family History Services by Rhonda Clark, 2016. A great guide for librarians, archivists, volunteers, and others who are interested in promoting family history in their communities. There is a rich treasure trove of local materials that can help researchers. This book is like a how-to guide for print and digital materials.

World War II Conscientious Objectors: Germfask, Michigan, the Alcatraz Camp by Jane Kopecky,

2020. An enlightening read about the Germfask-Seney conscientious objectors camp during World War II. The book discusses its creation, daily life, and its closure.

Sport: Ship Dog of the Great Lakes by Pamela Cameron, 2019. Every kid will enjoy the adventures of Sport, a dog who finds his calling in life to be a Ship Dog. Sport meets Lighthouse families, other Great Lakes ship sailors, and makes long lasting friendships.

Deadly Aim: The Civil War Story of Michigan's Anishinaabe Sharpshooters by Sally Walker, 2019. A firsthand account of the daily lives of the Anishinaabe sharpshooters who are left out of most Civil War history books. Maps, archival materials, and photographs help bring the reader into their participation in the Civil War. Through our website you can search our library catalog and locate the books mentioned above.

If you don't want to access the catalog through the Library of Michigan website, you can navigate there directly by typing the following address in a browser: answercat.org. It is important to make the catalog your friend as you start your research journey. The catalog will tell you what we have on our shelves and where it is located. As we explore our collections in On The Shelf, I will speak more about our catalog.

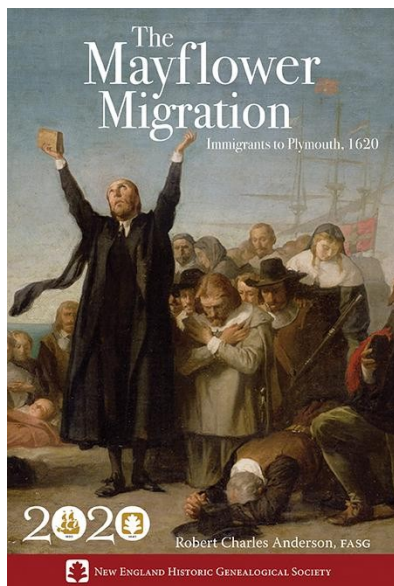
Please do not hesitate to contact us through email or phone: librarian@michigan.gov or 517-335-1477.

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

The Mayflower Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth, 1620 / Robert Charles Anderson



The Mayflower Migration: Immigrants to Plymouth, 1620, by Robert Charles Anderson, is an important addition to Mayflower literature and the Great Migration Study Project. It is now available to researchers as part of the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection at the Archives of Michigan (Call number: F 68 .A545 2020). Published in 2020 to coincide with the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower, the book attempts to identify and describe all the passengers who sailed to New England aboard the vessel in 1620. Each passenger is documented as completely as possible, which includes a life summary of the immigrant before departure, editorial comments on research discrepancies and inconsistencies, and bibliographic notes for further research.

There are several other outstanding books in the Great Migration Study Project, all available at the Archives of Michigan, including *The Great Migration*, *The Great Migration Begins*, *Puritan*

Pedigrees, *The Winthrop Fleet*, and *The Pilgrim Migration*.

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

More from our non-discrimination survey

- **Does your society have a nondiscrimination policy?** Almost 60% of the respondents said no.
- **Does MGC need to be more diverse?** 59% said yes.
- **Do you trust MGC to be fair to all members?** 100% said yes.
- **If a concern was raised about discrimination are you confident that MGC would do the right thing?**
 - 94% said yes.
 - That means that 6% said no. I (Brenda Leyndyke) would like to hear from that 6% so that MGC can make sure everyone has confidence in our doing the right thing.

Action Item for member societies: Write a nondiscrimination policy and have your membership provide input and approve the final version. MGC's policy can be found at mimgc.org, under the "About Us" section in the blue sidebar.

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.

Cyndi's List

Website: <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

Description: Cyndi's List has been a trusted genealogy research site for more than 20 years. Cyndi's List is free for everyone to use and it is meant to be your starting point when researching online.

What exactly is Cyndi's List?

- A categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet.
- A list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
- A free jumping-off point for you to use in your online research.
- A "card catalog" to the genealogical collection in the immense library that is the Internet.
- Your genealogical research portal onto the Internet.

Statistics:

Over 319,000 links

Categories: 227

New and Updated Links: 2464

Cyndi is a recognized speaker and has authored several books. If you ever get the opportunity to see her or hear her webinars, you will walk away with more knowledge. Her website is free to use, but if you feel that it is a valuable resource, you can donate on her home page.

OLD FULTON NY POST CARDS

Website:

<https://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html>

Description: A searchable repository of historic newspapers published in New York State between 1795 and 2007, frequently updated. You can search over 49,926,111 newspaper pages from the US and Canada.

This resource occasionally experiences technical issues that temporarily shut down service to the site. This site is interesting to navigate, but well worth your time in finding information. Please be patient as the website loads. You will need a modern browser to view.

This website averages 1,000,000 views a month. I highly recommend that you visit the HELP and FAQ section to gain some guidance in navigating this site. In doing so, you will be less frustrated and have more success in your searches.

Pay attention to the scroll line at the bottom of the page, it gives you access to the postcards and newspaper archives, that is easily missed by the quirkiness of this website.

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

MGC Merchandise Corner



This issue's item is the MGC Logo Water Bottle! You can order it or other merchandise from our merchandise shop at

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

Featured Society



Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society State Clubs Meetings

The Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society founded in 1979, in Detroit, is Michigan's first genealogical society dedicated to African American genealogical research. Since 1988, the Fred Hart Williams Genealogical Society has conducted variations of what are now known as State Clubs meetings. State Clubs meetings are very popular with our members. Instead of a guest speaker as is the format for our regular meetings, our meeting is dedicated to our members discussing genealogy with other members who are researching their family histories in the same states or regions.

Over the years our State Clubs meetings have evolved from a single state discussion to a panel of facilitators who lead a panel discussion followed by leading individual regional group discussions. Various general genealogy topics are discussed by the panel of facilitators followed by breakout discussions in their individual regional groups. Facilitators for each group were selected in advance from volunteers who have experience researching those states or regions. The session concludes with the group reconvening and each group reporting out.

During State Clubs meetings, members would sit together at designated tables based on the states where their genealogical research is concentrated. This was a welcome break from the regular auditorium style seating set up. By sitting together, the members re-searching common states were able to share resources and tips. This year, due to COVID-19 we will have to adapt our State Clubs meetings to the virtual environment we are all experiencing.

In the virtual environment there is the possibility of using "breakout rooms" in place of the designated state/regional tables. However, there are technology challenges. For the breakout rooms to function in a manner that would replicate the experience of our in-person meetings, you would need a genealogy facilitator and a technology facilitator for each group. While those are both important skill sets, they may not always be possessed by the same individual. Once these factors are overcome, along with internet connectivity, State Clubs meetings should be able to occur in the virtual environment.

This portion of the article was provided by Shaun Thomas, President FHWGS



HISTORY OF THE FHWGS STATE CLUBS PROGRAM

As told by Doris McLeod-Williams

When I (Doris McLeod-Williams) was approached in 2003 by FHWGS President Peggy Sawyer Williams asking me to join her in conducting the State Clubs Meetings, I had no idea she was setting me up to facilitate the program organized in 1988. The Club was then known as the Buddy System / State Clubs. During that time period, I was not a member. The Club was inactive for a few years. When President Peggy Sawyer Williams wanted to resume the State Clubs program, I did not have an interest in taking on that kind of leadership role. Peggy (now deceased) was my Genealogy Mentor, and when she approached me a second time to climb on board, I had been giving it some thought and joyfully consented. I said if it means helping the serious minded, hungry, thirsty, researchers continue their family history research interest, let's give the State Clubs a try. We can all learn from each other. I have been an active facilitator since 2003 to the present day.

The first meeting Peggy and I held was at Plymouth United Church of Christ, in Detroit, on November 15, 2003. Meetings were held the third Saturday of each month from 10:00 am. - 12:00 noon. The sessions were open to Society members and non-members. The meetings of various States were selected according to the highest number of members responding to State Clubs interest. Alternating State Clubs meetings were scheduled later. As time passed, the FHWGS State Clubs meetings were held at the Main Detroit Public Library in the Old Fine Arts Room on the third floor. During this time (2006) Leslie Strong Williams, Peggy Sawyer Williams' successor as President of FHWGS, felt we should form a panel of lead facilitators to discuss research tips, breakthroughs and discoveries, case studies, etc., and direct a Question and Answer for Society members and guests researching in specific states.

Regional State Clubs Panel Facilitators were as follows:

- Cynthia Reed, Committee Chair
- Peggy Sawyer Williams
- Doris McLeod-Williams
- Omer Jean Winborn
- Dr. Dennis Woods
- Maurice Sanders
- Tonja Stallings
- Carmen Leslie Stevens.

Between 1988 and 2001, when the Club was referred to as "The Buddy System" / State Clubs, a few Chairpersons that conducted the Club Program were as follows:

- Rosemary Clemmons
- Antonia Fuller
- Cascile McGhee
- Mary Hendricks
- Debra Carter Bridges

The new format to facilitate the State Clubs Program

States are merged by regional breakdowns as follows:

- New England
- Middle Atlantic
- East North Central
- West North Central
- South Atlantic
- East South Central
- West South Central
- Mountain
- Pacific
- Caribbean
- International

This ends my reflections on the History of the FHWGS "State Clubs" program.

Doris McLeod-Williams



MGC Nominations for May 13, 2021 Annual Meeting Faye Ebach, Nominating Committee Chair

Despite social distancing, the work of the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) continues. During the past two months the Nominating Committee has been actively seeking candidates for the biennial election to be held during the May 13, 2021 Annual Meeting for delegates.

To be eligible for an elected office, a candidate must be a delegate representing a genealogical society that is a current member of the MGC. Any past president of MGC can also be considered for nomination to an elected position.

The current slate of nominees for the May 13, 2021 election is as follows:

President:

Vice President: Rozlyn Kelly

Treasurer: Jill O'Sullivan

Board Secretary: Chelsea Johnson

Corresponding Secretary: Judy N Muhn

Director: Melissa Kendzierski

As of this writing the Nominating Committee continues to seek a candidate for the office of President. Any recommendations for a possible candidate for this office can be sent to the Nominating Committee Chair at faeae@charter.net

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 a written 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!

Pioneer Certificate Program

Take advantage of the early spring weather-not quite warm enough to do a lot of yard work, to complete your Pioneer Certificate application. Honor your Michigan ancestors and help future researchers with up-to-date information.

Societies - encourage your membership to participate and use your experienced members to help in the process. The application and complete instructions may be found on the MGC web page at <https://mimgc.org/index.php> on the left blue sidebar under Pioneer Certificates.

Kim Smith

Pioneer Certificate Program Chair

The County Corner

Articles from some of our County based societies.

St. Joseph County Genealogical Society

Members of the St. Joseph County Genealogical Society (SJCGS) meet at the Michigan Room of Constantine Township Library at 10:00 am. on the second Saturday of the month. The club has approximately 20 members and received a certificate of recognition for 25 years from the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) at the June 2019 meeting. Since Covid, regular meetings have been temporarily put on hold, and members correspond with President Boyd Bowman, getting genealogical news through emails. SJCGS plans a yearly itinerary which includes speakers and tours. They agreed to tackle a major project- digitizing genealogical information in old scrapbooks on White Pigeon, provided by Martha Starmann, president of the St. Joseph County Historical Society. The SJCGS holds a "Brick Walls" workshops for the public to show people how to research their family tree. Five volumes of "Cemeteries of Saint Joseph County" have been completed as well as an 1894 Michigan Census for St. Joseph County. All are for sale on their website: <https://www.famgen.net/sjcgs/>

The Michigan Room, where the club meets, offers a wealth of genealogical information. Copies of the "Constantine Advertiser Record" newspaper (1928-1977) was donated to the library in 1990. The newspaper was published for 41 years by Joseph A. Cox. The library also has 1861 to 1889 village records and 1886-1936 First Evangelical Lutheran Church records. All items are on microfilm. SJCGS donates regularly to the Underground Railroad Society (UGRR) of Cass county for the restoration of the Bonine House. It was built by James and Sarah Bonine in the mid 1840's and purchased by the UGRR in 2010 with the intention of restoring it for use as a community center and to tell the story of the underground railroad in Cass County.

At a meeting over a year ago, Lindsay Oswald, county clerk and register of deeds, and Jill Ross, the deputy clerk, for St. Joseph County spoke on doing genealogical research at the courthouse. Oswald said that she recommends anyone who wishes information that is over 30 years old to call prior to a visit.

"We have over 1,800 books in the register of deed's office. Records after 1968 are digitized," she said. She distributed a copy of, "The Great St. Joseph Kidnapping" written by Dick McGee, describing an 1872 break-in at the Register of Deeds office. Documents that go back to the days Michigan was a territory were stolen. A photo of the worn and water-damaged books was included. "They were hidden, buried as a means of disposal. They had bugs and dirt on them, so we don't have them, but we have duplicates in the Register of Deeds office," she said.

Oswald said the preferred method to dispose of materials, which is required by the state, is to shred or burn them. Ross said birth records are public if they are over 100 years old. "Our marriage records go back to 1832. Birth and death records go back to 1867," Ross said. "Wills go back to 1836-1837. We should have it indexed or can at least look back this far." It is prohibited to take photographs of records. The office does provide research services; there is a charge to do so.

Oswald said that information on the Register of Deeds office can be obtained at:
<https://www.stjosephcountymi.org/>

The club listened to Pam Pender, librarian in the Toni I. Benson Room of Local History and Genealogy, Webster Memorial Library in Decatur describe genealogical services available at the library. Pender brought numerous reference materials to show members. "Materials housed in the Benson room are extensive. The most frequently requested are the 1820-1940 federal and state censuses for Allegan, Berrien, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties, and

the 1850-1870 census for all of Michigan. The collection houses newspapers from 20 different communities in southwestern Michigan including Bangor, Bloomington, Covert, Decatur, Gobles, Lawrence, Paw Paw and Marcellus. The Benson room houses immigration books from ships. All along the eastern coast were places where people came in on ships, so when you do research, look up cities with harbors," she said. "Family crests which you see sold everywhere may not be genuine. They were bestowed on individuals by the government. To earn one, you had to do something for the king," she said.

Pender said that Michigan made a substantial contribution to the Union during the Civil War. "While the state itself was far removed from the combat theaters of the war, Michigan supplied many troops and several generals, including George Armstrong Custer. At the beginning of the Civil War, Michigan was asked to supply no more than four regiments, Governor Austin Blair sent seven. The first volunteers from Michigan were mustered into the Army as the 1st Michigan Infantry on May 1, 1861. On May 16, the regiment arrived in Washington; Lincoln was said to have exclaimed 'Thank God for Michigan!' upon the troops' arrival. The Western Sharpshooters were famous. You had to prove you could shoot, and a lot of Michigan men were good at it. You received a free repeating rifle to enlist again. These men were put on the front lines, and the Confederates hated to see them. In the military Quakers used their guns for food; they refused to use them against people. They moved a lot because of persecution. If you research a Quaker, be aware they are spread all across the U.S.," she said.

Pender said if you run into a brick wall doing genealogical research, do a search: "Type in the last name; next to it type in the words 'family genealogy' and a lot of things will pop up."

Submitted by: (By Angie Birdsall, journalist, and the secretary for the SJC GS)
SJC GS website: <https://www.famgen.net/sjcgs/>

Clinton County Historical Society

While the last year has meant Zoom board meetings and closure to the public of our museum and archive, the society has continued to actively work on several projects.

The Clinton County Historical Museum has used this closure to do some much-needed re-plastering of the Paine-Gillam-Scott house. We hope to be able to reopen to the public later this year.

The archive has continued to answer emailed research questions and maintain databases, along with conducting two major projects:

The first is a photo scanning project. Most of the photos in the archive have been scanned and indexed using the CatalogIt app. CatalogIt is an inexpensive web-based museum collection software which we highly recommend to others wanting to place their collections online. Scans of over 3,000 photos which are searchable by keyword have been placed online at <https://hub.catalogit.app/3003/> in a site shared and hosted by the DeWitt District Library. We hope to add additional photos from the museum later this year.

The second project is a Chronology of an Address. This project currently has over 18,000 items concerning addresses in St. Johns. We expect to place this project online later this year along with expanding it to include other parts of the county.

Our oral history committee completed only two socially distanced interviews during the last year but hopes to be able to resume a more regular schedule soon. Audio and transcriptions of all interviews are available on our website.

In addition, we created a jigsaw puzzle of an early courthouse photo which was extremely well-received and quickly sold out several printings adding much needed income during a time when other options were unavailable.

Article Submitted by Wayne Summers, CCHS Board Secretary



Genealogy at the Oakland History Center
405 Cesar E. Chavez, Pontiac, Michigan 48342
<https://www.oaklandhistorycenter.org/>
(248) 338-6732

Complete history of Servicemen to be Compiled: Frank Jacobs appointed chairman of Oakland County Patriotic League

Another position has been added to the list maintained by Secretary Jacobs of the Oakland County Patriotic League. He has been informed in an official letter from Lansing that he is chairman of the soldier record bureau for Oakland County.

The state is desirous of gaining as complete a record as possible of every soldier, sailor or marine who entered the service of his country either through the draft or by voluntary enlistment.

To secure this information it will be necessary that a house-to-house canvas be made in the city and in the townships. In this work the Women Council of National Defense will be undoubtedly given charge and also given free run as to the best methods to pursue in conducting the canvas.

Sample blanks, each of which is for an individual has been forwarded. They provide for information concerning service history of the man from when he was sworn in until he was discharged."

Referencing call no. 940.3 O, "Record of Oakland County Soldiers and Sailors in Service in the Great War; Vol 1 – 6", Oakland County Patriot League, ca. 1920. Located on shelf 4, row B, cabinet 3 of our research library. Transcription.

You may not have heard of the Oakland History Center, operated by the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society. Our society was founded in 1874 and is the oldest continuously operating local historical society in Michigan, aside from the Historical Society of Michigan. Operating originally from a small room in the Oakland County Courthouse, the society moved to its permanent home at Pine Grove National Historic Site, a 5-acre campus and former Michigan Governor Moses Wisner's home, in 1945. At that time, an organized archive was established and has been used ever since to answer questions about, and share, Oakland County history. That archive is in active use, and has been continually added to since the very beginning.

The origins of the society, and Pontiac's role as Oakland County's seat, gave the society a very early focus for its archival and manuscript collections. We celebrate Oakland County's history, celebrations and events, significant moments in the evolution of Pontiac from an agricultural center to an industrial powerhouse, and the decades of industrial decline.

A large element of our collections and library is genealogical information, everything from early Michigan county and state census records to DAR publications like cemetery records. We have a full set of the Michigan Pioneer Collections books, a whole pile of plat maps, and local township histories. We have cemetery books, some land records, a whole raft of information on Pontiac and its surroundings, and a card catalog filled with birth, marriage, death information, and obituaries. We have early Oakland County Probate records and early landowner books.

We also have a large, boxed collection of business, family, and other information, a large photograph and scrap-book collection, farm diaries, even invoices from early Pontiac dry goods merchants.

And now, we want you to know about what we can offer for genealogical research. Short answer: We have a lot. We have even more than you might think.

The introduction to this article is just one example - a transcription of a handwritten document, it announces a canvas to be conducted of Oakland County's World War I sailors, soldiers and marines, and their service in the war. They completed that canvas, and we have it today as six leather bound volumes. As far as we know it is a unique insight into the lives of these men as they served, and we're honored to be the caretaker of these books. We are very likely the only place where this set exists as a public research tool.

Searching our Collection

By far, the simplest way to see if something is in our collection is to ask us. Use [the contact form](#) on our website, or simply send an email to office@ocphs.org, and we'll see what we have than can answer your question. You can also call (248) 338-6732 and we'll be happy to help.

If you choose, you can also use the search function on our website at www.oaklandhistorycenter.org to search our collection – just look for the magnifying glass on the front page and type in a name or place to see what comes up. Our collection itself is not digital – but a great many of the indexes and finding aids to it are available there. A major effort has been underway for several years to create digital equivalents to indexes created by our predecessors. We are publishing new indexes to the site regularly. So, start there.

We are also in partnership with the Oakland County Genealogical Society. Their collections are located at our Oakland History Center. They have an outstanding collection of genealogical information covering Oakland County with a well-organized, very functional library space for research. They also have a large amount of genealogical information in the member section of their website at <https://ocgsmi.org/>. If you wish to schedule an appointment to use their library, please visit <https://ocgsmi.org/cpage.php?pt=26> to learn more. Please be advised that their materials at the Oakland History Center are located on a lower level, and you'll need to use stairs to access it.

Pandemic Restrictions

As with all things in the current environment, the Oakland History Center is operating under some restrictions. Access to our collection for in-person research is by appointment only, masks must be worn, and social distancing respected. Though we do have staff on site most days, our public operating hours are from 11 am. to 4 pm. Tuesday through Thursday. If you do choose to visit in person, our research spaces have been arranged to provide the best possible social distancing environment we can and will work with you to make sure you have the best access to materials as possible.

Article Provided by Dave Decker, Collections Chair

**Library of Michigan**

Matt Pacer
Reference Librarian
Library of Michigan

Library of Michigan Updates

Library of Michigan Update April 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. You can view updated news on the Library of Michigan status on our website: <https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/>

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,
- Detroit Free Press,
- African American Biographical database

Please visit WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/LIBRARYCARD for the application form and information about the card.

The Library of Michigan 2021 Michigan Notable Books list is out. You will find more information about the selected books and authors at 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

Spring is here! As we move further past 2020 and now that the weather is finally warming up, we can look forward to hopefully seeing everyone again in-person this year. We have a lot going on this year here at the Archives of Michigan, here are a few highlights: The death certificate images from 1945 have been fully loaded and are now freely available at Michiganology (<https://michiganology.org>). These newly available images supplement the existing collection of Michigan death records from 1897-1944 already online; certificates from 1946-1952 remain as index-only entries until they hit the 75-year mark.

Remember to mark your calendars for the 2021 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar. We are finalizing the program details and will have registration information available online in the spring. We look forward to hosting Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, "The Legal Genealogist,"; this summer on July 9-10, 2021!

Even during the pandemic, Archives staff are still out and about (virtually, at least!), presenting to local libraries and genealogical societies. Upcoming programs include events with the Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan, Loutit District Library (Grand Haven), Waterford Genealogical Society, Fox Run Genealogical Society, South Bend (IN) Area Genealogical Society, Lyon Township Public Library, Downriver Genealogical Society, Canton Public Library, and more later this year.

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:

- Macomb County Tax Rolls, 1950 / RG 2021-6

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

- The Mayflower 500: Five Hundred Notable Descendants of the Founding Fathers on the Mayflower / Gary Boyd Roberts / 2020 / Call number: F 63 .R81 2020
- Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York [v.14] / Frank J. Doherty / 2019 / Call number: F 127 .D8 D53 1990 v.14
- Early Church Records of Delaware County, Pennsylvania [3 vols.] / John Pitts Launey and F. Edward Wright / 2007 / Call number: F 157 .D3 L28 2007
- Family Maps of White County, Indiana / Gregory A. Boyd / 2010 / Call number: F 532.W58 B69 2010
- How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records: A Genealogist's Guide / Sunny Morton / 2019 / Call number: CS 66 .C56 M67 2019

The Archives thanks our generous donors, supporters, and friends, including, of course, the Abrams Foundation and the Michigan Genealogical Council. 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, we look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Thank you, Kris W. Rzepczynski

Heritage Town Hall

The French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan

P.O. Box 1900, Royal Oak, MI 48068-1900

Website: <https://habitantheritage.org/>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/109717099063919/>

Email: information@habitantheritage.org

The French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan is a nonprofit genealogical organization whose intent is to explore the history and culture of the families living in the Great Lakes region, with an emphasis on the communities of St. Joseph, Monroe (Frenchtown), Michilimackinac and the Detroit River Region, including the present-day Windsor area. Our annual membership is \$30 for US members, and \$35 for mailing addresses outside the US, which allows us to provide you with four issues of our journal, *Michigan's Habitant Heritage*, sent out on a quarterly basis in January, April, July and October. Due to COVID, instead of having in person meetings, we have been holding online Zoom meetings on our normal meeting days, the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 am. We have a Facebook page with over 4800 members and a very extensive website with a wealth of information.

The website for the French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan has two main sections – the first is the paid-only members section, which gives you complete access to all the back issues of our journal, *Michigan's Habitant Heritage*, from 2007 until the present. The free access section of our website has much more information available. Here is some of the information contained on our website:

- Michigan's Habitant Heritage Index from 2005 to 2019

- Monthly meetings dates and times, along with presenters and their topics.
- FCHSM Store, which includes the ability to purchase the Kulisek prize-winning, 2-volume series, *Le Détroit du Lac Érié – 1701-1710*, Volume 1, by Gail Moreau-DesHarnais and Diane Wolford Sheppard, and Volume 2, by Suzanne Boivin Somerville. Although the title is French, which reflects the original name for *Détroit*, the books themselves are written in English.
- An extensive list of French-Canadian resources, with access to census information, ancestral family charts, lists of members of the Carignan Regiment, Filles du Roi, and Filles à Marier, information on how to access parish records, notarial and court records, land records, specific pages for each of the main locations listed above (St. Joseph, Monroe, Michilimackinac and the Detroit River Region) containing family information and articles, plus a section on the French-Canadian presence in the Mississippi Valley region as well.
- There is historical information on the fur trade and New France, and there is even a page for traditional French-Canadian recipes.
- There is a list of Native American/Métis Resources, within the Detroit and Michigan regions as well as a section involving Canadian Métis.

We hope you will come explore our website and our Facebook page. Feel free to ask us questions, and we hope you like us well enough to join our society!

Provided by Loraine DiCerbo, Editor

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

Delegate Meetings (Currently Virtual)

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, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48915

Boards Meetings (Currently Virtual)

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.

Another Request from the Editor!

Over the past three issues the Newsletter staff has introduced several new columns that we would like to add new logos in each newsletter to introduce them instead of boring bolded text headings.

The new columns that we would like to create logos for are the following columns:

- On The Shelf
- Bookmark Me Now
- The County Corner
- Heritage Town Hall
- And while we are at it "Featured Society"

The only criteria we ask is that they be no longer than a half page column wide (3.5 inches) and that they be less than an inch high. They should only be black and white or shades of grey – no colors please. Any submissions will be reviewed by the newsletter staff and once chosen the winning designers will be thanked in the next issue. Submit designs to newsletter@mimgc.org

Michigan Library and Historical Center

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

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. Its 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 Michigan Genealogical Council, 21290 Laser Lane, South Lyon, MI 48178-9259. MGC 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.

The MGC Team and their local society:

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| President | Brenda Leyndyke Calhoun County Genealogical Society | Distribution and Marketing | Sam Pardee Ingham County Genealogical Society |
| Vice President | Rozlyn Kelly Farmington Genealogical Society | Central Mail | Sam Pardee Ingham County Genealogical Society |
| Recording Secretary Board Meetings | Chelsea Johnson Calhoun County Genealogical Society | Membership | John Pierce Ionia County Genealogical Society |
| Recording Secretary Delegate Meetings | Sue Irvine Western Michigan Genealogical Society | Nominations | Elected Directors |
| Corresponding Secretary | Patsy Miller Berrien County Genealogical Society | Historian | Barb Curtindale Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc. |
| Treasurer | Jill O'Sullivan Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan | Newsletter | Paul Roltsch Waterford Genealogical Society |
| Director 2021 | Faye Ebach Midland Genealogical Society | Media Communications | Judy Sheldon Huron Shores Genealogical Society |
| Director 2022 | Daniel Earl French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan | Finance/Budget | Jill O'Sullivan Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan |
| Director 2023 | Larry Noyes Genealogical Society of Isabella County | Continuing Education | Daniel Earl French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan |
| Committee Chairpersons and Appointments | | Webmaster | Tom Koselka, MGC Past President |
| Archivist | Connie Olson, MGC Past President | NGS Delegate | Tom Koselka, MGC Past President |
| Library of Michigan Liaison | Tim Gleisner 702 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48915 | Projects | Roger Moffat Western Michigan Genealogical Society |
| Archives of Michigan Liaison | Kris Rzepczynski 702 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48915 | Past President Advisor | Katherine Wilson, MGC Past Resident |
| Public Records Access and Records Preservation | Derek Blount Detroit Society of Genealogical Research | Lucy Mary Kellogg Chair | Jessica Trotter Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society |
| Awards | Barb Curtindale Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc. | Pre-Statehood and First Family Certificates | Kim Smith Waterford Genealogical Society |

Thanks from the Editor!

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

Thank you to all the societies who sent me articles from themselves or their societies. I appreciate the quantity and quality of articles received and I hope that the articles do not stop coming.

As you see we were able to add 6 pages with the provided articles.

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Events

Please check with events in advance in case there is a change in plans and is canceled due to COVID

National Genealogical Society Conference Virginia - Deep Roots of a Nation

May 19-22, 2021 -- Virtual

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

Genetic Genealogy 2021

Southern California Genealogical Society
June 4-5, 2021

<https://genealogyjamboree.com>

Genealogy Jamboree 2021

Southern California Genealogical Society
June 11-12, 2021

<https://genealogyjamboree.com>

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/>

2021 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar

Sponsored by Archives of Michigan
July 9-10, 2021

Featuring Judy G. Russell, JD,
CG, CGL, "The Legal Genealogist"

More Details to Follow

IGHR 2021

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research
July 24- July 30, 2021

Registration opens March 6, 2021

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