



It's almost here – the Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar – is just around the corner! Each summer, the Archives of Michigan and the Michigan Genealogical Council host a seminar to promote family history awareness and teach genealogy research skills. The event is generously supported by the Abrams Foundation in loving memory of Barbara J. Brown.

For this year's event, we are pleased to offer this flagship annual gathering as a hybrid event. Participants can attend sessions either online or onsite. We are delighted to be hosting Dr. David McDonald, CG, for this year's event, whose sessions will all be via Zoom.

Featured Speaker



Dr. David McDonald has more than 45 years' research experience and has been a professional genealogist since his school days in suburban Chicago. He has lectured at various national and state genealogy conferences, and has coordinated courses on religions and their records, research in the Northwest Territory and subsequent states, and Advanced Methods. His track on religious records has been taught at both SLIG and GRIP. He has been a featured speaker at NGS, FGS and state and regional conferences across the United States and in the United Kingdom.

A native Midwesterner, Dave has done extensive research in all the states of the old Northwest Territory and adjacent areas of Ontario. He's conducted extensive research in various churches' denominational archives and on location. He was the consulting genealogist for the city of Chicago when a historic church-related cemetery had to be removed as part of a years-long public works project and transportation facilities expansion. Later, Dave spent time as a genealogist for Ancestry ProGenealogists, working projects ranging from colonial and early-federal era research projects in Virginia and North Carolina, to mid-19th-century Norwegian immigrant families to Wisconsin, to Swiss connected families in central Pennsylvania, to early 20th-century Jewish families in the Ohio River valley, among others.

As a learner, Dave has taken courses at SLIG, IGHR and Gen-Fed. He has lectured as part of IGHR's staff since 2015. He is particularly attracted to research during the federal era, prior to 1850. He has conducted extensive research in England, Germany and Switzerland. Dave's work has been included in numerous genealogical publications, including the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, and several state societies' journals. He is a past editor of the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Newsletter.

Registration Details

[Register Now for the 2022 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar!](#)

Registration Fee: \$45 Registration deadline July 6m 2022

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President's Message

Greetings,

My how time flies. It's hard to believe the year is half over. Overall it has been a good year thus far. Life's challenges continue, and so do we. The summer breeze feels great. I hope you're enjoying it. And, the year is not over. There are more good things to come.

Our Continuing Education Committee hosted a very informative session on Hybrid Meetings in June. Thank you to Doug Reith with the St. Andrews Society of Detroit and Charles Kocher with the Bay County Genealogical Society for sharing their knowledge, experience, and helpful tips on the ins and outs of the technology needed to host a hybrid meeting. Has your Society considered hosting hybrid meetings or events? If you'd like to know more and weren't able to attend, the session was recorded and is now posted on our website behind the member wall, along with Doug's slide deck and a very helpful handout with lots of resources. Take a listen, it will be time well spent. Thank you to our Vice President and Continuing Education Committee Chair Judy Nimer Muhn for putting this together. Judy and the Committee including Paul Roltsch and Melissa Kendzierski have ideas and plans for additional continuing education sessions of interest and helpful to you and your societies. So, stay tuned.

MGC continues to enjoy providing our support to the Archives of Michigan for its Barbara J. Brown Family History Festival. This year's July event offers a unique opportunity to be present at the Archives for the event, or to listen in from the comforts of your own home. Hybrid programming at its best. The keynote speaker, David McDonald, will make his presentations virtually. The Michigan based speakers will make their presentations live in Lansing. The speaker line up, as always, is great. However you choose to attend, the event will be outstanding. Please be sure to register if you haven't already.

Our MGC Fall Family History Seminar is scheduled for Saturday, November 12. The event will be held virtually, as we have done in the past 2 years. We are excited to again have an outstanding speaker, and we look forward to making an announcement during the Barbara J. Brown Festival. Again, stay tuned for details, and be sure to save the date.

We will continue to hold our delegate meetings virtually until more members are comfortable with in-person meetings. We will also again forgo having an out-of-Lansing meeting this fall. Until we can meet in-person again we look forward to 'seeing' you virtually at our delegate meetings. This month we will meet on Friday, July 8, and our speaker will be David McDonald. If there are any questions, concerns or topics you would like us to address, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Rozlyn Kelly, 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:

ACPL (Allen County Public Library): Link to our ACPL Genealogy Center:

<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

Download our Android App – ACPL Mobile
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.in.lib.acpl.Mobile_ACPL

Download our Apple App – ACPL Mobile

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/acplmobile/id579725696>

From Waterford Genealogical Society:

Currently, Waterford Genealogical Society (WGS) meetings are in person and are held at:

Waterford Public Library (Community Room)
 5168 Civic Center Dr, Waterford Twp, MI 48329

Our meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 pm at the community room as mentioned above.

Date: July 6, 2022

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 pm

Presenter: Sandy Kinter

Topic: Elements of a Biographical Sketch Will show what is involved in writing up a sketch for publication such as the ones she shares in this WGS newsletter.

Currently:

Our website is on a temporary hiatus but our Facebook presence is still active at:

<https://www.facebook.com/WaterfordGenealogicalSociety>

From Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society

Date: Monday, September 12, 2022

Topic: Beginning Germanic Research Time: 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Speaker: Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach

We will be exploring how to find where in “Germany” our folks came from, looking at the language and writing, and online resources to search. There will be time for questions.

Date: Monday, November 14, 2022

Topic: Exploring the Recruitment of Germans to Michigan

Time: 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Speaker: Brenda Leyndyke

Did you know that Michigan was the first state to employ Immigration agents? Once Michigan became a state it was growing as a state, but it wasn't growing with foreigners. Join MIGGS to explore the conditions which enticed Germans to migrate to Michigan; learn how the recruitment process worked, the laws that encouraged immigration, and resources available for genealogists.

For more information see:

<https://miggs.org>

All presentations at this time will be Zoom presentations. All members will be sent an invitation by email. Non-members may attend by emailing info@miggs.org

From Zeeland Study Group Stories from the Battlefield Seminar

Saturday, 27 August, 2022

8:00 am to 5:00 pm (EDT)

Howard Miller Community Center, Zeeland, MI

For more information and to register see:

<https://bit.ly/3b2ur71>

Heritage Town Hall

This section of the MGC Newsletter is content provided by our Heritage Societies and this month is provided by:

Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society

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

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Michigan-Germanic-Genealogical-Society-104842025602301>

or contact us at:

info@miggs.org

For purposes of space – we will refer to ourselves as MiGGS for the remainder of the article.

The Beginning

MIGGS was “born” on 11 April 2018 with an organizational meeting attended by 16 people who wanted to form a society that will encourage and support the practice of German family history. Initial discussions considered a Special Interest Group under the umbrella of another organization or to form a society of our own. After much discussion it was decided to create a society from scratch.

Discussions were held to investigate the following:

- meeting logistics
- startup financial considerations
- administrative requirements
- society name
- logo creation
- website creation
- governmental regulations

Ken Howe, a member, provided 30 versions of a logo for the attendees to review and a choice was made that you can still see today.

We formed a non-profit corporation and filed with the State of Michigan in July 2018.

Our first couple of years (2019 to 2021)

Our first official membership meeting was January 20, 2019, with a presentation on Beginning German Research.

In 2019, we had 5 meetings – our regular 4 meetings and our inaugural meeting in January with topics ranging from “Finding German Places of Origin” to “Germanic Migrations: Researching in German Civil and Parish Records” with speakers such as Tolksdorf to Trotter.

In 2020-2021 we saw a few cancellations due to COVID and speaker cancellations, but we still managed to hold 5 of our 8 meetings after converting to a Zoom meeting format in May 2020 which we still do today.

The Present/Future (2022)

In 2022, after missing the last meeting of 2021 and the first one of 2022, we are emerging with a new board. We have come out of that time period with a keen desire to take the next step to solidifying the Society’s future. We have established that as a statewide society, we should continue with Zoom meetings as many of our members are from around the state and the logistical issues that came out of COVID times.

We currently have two speakers/programs under contract for our September and November meetings:

- September meeting
Topic: Beginning German Research
Speaker: Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach
- November meeting
Topic: Exploring the Recruitment of Germans to Michigan
Speaker: Brenda Leyndyke

More information on these programs, can be found by looking under our calendar of events at: <https://miggs.org/test-calendar/>.

We are currently working on cleaning up our website, providing more up-to-date information, links to more resources, and more timely responses to your email questions, providing access to events that are hosted by other societies.

We are establishing partnerships with programs around the state and around the nation. We will be looking into opportunities to provide access to other societies' meetings, podcasts, articles, and programs that maximize your skill development. We want to provide you with the resources to break through the brick walls that are holding you back in discovering your family history.

Board of Directors

We recently conducted an election of officers for the 2022-23 year. The following is your new board for the upcoming years:

- President: Paul Roltsch
- Secretary: Brenda Leyndyke
- Treasurer: Ed Redmer
- Directors (3)
 - Shannon Gordon (expiring 2023)
 - Rodger Wolf (expiring 2024)
 - Julia Hanneman-Schoenbach (expiring 2025)

We are still looking for Vice President to complete our Board of Directors – so if you are interested you can contact us at:

info@miggs.org

Communications

We will be upgrading our website: miggs.org to increase performance and reduce costs. Please keep checking on the website as we will be updating and adding content.

We are also monitoring the email info@miggs.org with any questions and they will be forwarded to the appropriate person so that your question may be answered quickly.

If at any time you cannot get ahold of us – refer to the Contact Us portion of the website for an alternate method of reaching us.

We are adding a Facebook Group where people can join allowing you to get feedback from other members as well as a Facebook Page that we will use to disseminate information about events that are either MIGGS based or are from other societies to make you aware of other opportunities in our area.

Membership

We are currently compiling a list of member benefits for those wishing to join our society.

If anything you are reading in this article sounds like something you are interested in – please head to our Join Us menu option where you can print off the application, fill it out, include the correct registration amount:

For \$20, you can apply for our individual membership which gives you full access to all services that are available currently or any that are added in the future

For \$30, you can apply for our household membership which allows a membership for 2 individuals in the same household for a reduced price. As with the individual membership, all members will have full access to all services that are available currently or any that are to be added in the future.

Our membership year runs from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.



Memories of the Past MGC

(Article 3 of 4)

By Barb Curtindale, Historian

MGC Delegates and members of their respective societies have supported our state library in as many ways as we could. Back in 2009 the library was in a huge financial crisis. I quote excerpts from a letter from the then President of MGC, Cynthia Grostick, as a Public Release dated July 15, 2009.

* I did change the words to represent past tense.

Gov. Granholm issued an Executive Order 2009-36 dissolving the Department of History, Arts, Libraries and splitting the various functions between the other state departments. The Library of Michigan would be transferred to the Department of Natural Resources, to take effect October 1, 2009.

In response to the Executive Order, ten, (10) Michigan Senators had introduced bills (SB 503-SB 527) transferring ALL functions of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries to the Department of State.

While the Michigan Genealogical Council understands the crises the state is in financially, we feel that breaking up the collection at the library, which has items dating back to the 1800's, is not the answer.

Once this collection is gone, there is no going back. This would be a great loss to the citizens of this state as well as those that come to our state to use the collection. This would be a blow to all public libraries as they receive part of their funding from the library and have access to MelCat, which is the system used for inter-library loan.

On August 5, 2009, the MGC did a public event at the state capitol building "Hands Around the Library" This event was very well attended and had 11 speakers addressing the attendees. They represented MGC, Michigan Library Association, Historians, Genealogists, Librarians, Donors, Library of Michigan Foundation, and Ancestry.com. Red Tee shirts were given out by Gale Cengage Publishing. They had on the back with their name and Power to the User. The front had -PROTECT MICHIGAN LIBRARIES. I still have mine and wear it at local library events. After the program of speakers on the capital steps, we all walked to the library, encircled it and a spool of wide green ribbon was passed around from person to person to encircle the building and represent our unity in purpose. When this ceremony was complete it was suggested that we cut up the ribbon and take a portion home. The ribbon can be tied throughout the state to let people know how important History, Arts and Libraries are to all of us. They tell of our struggles, hopes and dreams. Detroit Free Press had article Sunday Aug 16, 2009 with photo of event. This was written by Mardi Link a Traverse City writer. Article was captioned NO way to treat state history.

We made it through this trying time and the library collection stayed intact for our usage now. Thank you to all that helped in this difficult time. May I suggest to all of you readers that we again hang out a green ribbon to remind all of the importance of our libraries for it's many uses to the people of this state and nation. Thank you to the officers and Board of Directors of MGC for the tough work we had at that time. We trek onward and continue our support to our Historical Center in Lansing.

Pioneer Certificate Program – July 2022

This committee continues receiving applications for the Michigan Pioneer certificates and pins. Many of the submissions have been multi-generational. What better way to get your children and grandchildren involved in learning more about their Michigan roots.

Interest has come mostly from Michigan but also Texas, Georgia, Florida, Indiana, New Hampshire and Maryland.

117 First Families certificates and 74 Pre-Statehood certificates have been approved and processed.

Kim Smith, Pioneer Certificate Chair

Continued from Page 1: Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar

Program Schedule

Friday, July 8, 2022

1– 2 pm

Anatomy of Coroners Records Annakathryn Welch, Archives of Michigan One way we track our ancestors is through their deaths. However, some deaths can prove to be more interesting than others. This discussion will explore coroner's records here at the Archives of Michigan and dissect the information found in them.

2:15 – 3 pm

Welcome, Introductions and Archives of Michigan Tour
Mark Harvey, State Archivist, and Rozlyn Kelly, Michigan Genealogical Council

3:15 – 4:15 pm

Ancestors in Context: Putting History in Your Family History

Daniel Earl, Professional researcher Our ancestors had rich, full lives between census years. This lecture will show you four types of records you can use to flesh out your ancestors' lives. I'll use examples from my own family to illustrate how I used these records to add depth to my own family history and how you can do the same!

4:30 – 5:30 pm

Polly's Family: From New England to the Plains & Beyond

Dr. David McDonald, CG

We'll track the life of Polly Putnam Betts, a descendant of prominent New England Puritans, niece of a Revolutionary War-era loyalist from Massachusetts. Polly was born in Vermont in 1793 and died in Iowa in 1886. The wife of a veteran of the War of 1812, who moved along with her family to Ohio while "great with child," and finally Iowa ("an aged widow"), the records available to research the family span federal, state and private resources. We'll look at the Erie Canal's impact on peopling the upper Midwest. Polly's children pressed on across the Plains with grandchildren on the west coast in time for her centenary. The 19th Century cry of "Manifest Destiny," is viewed through the lens of the life of one woman.

Saturday, July 9, 2022

8:30 – 9:30 am

Discoveries in the 1950 U.S. Census
Kris Rzepczynski, Archives of Michigan
With the release of the 1950 U.S. Census on April 1, new ancestral discoveries await! This brief program will explore the information collected for the Census, search strategies and an update on the indexing progress to-date.

9:45 – 10:45 am

Lutherpalians & Presbygationalists: Where Did Grandma's Church Go?
Dr. David McDonald, CG

Identifying a family's church of origin can be a challenge when religious impulses within family contexts have changed over the decades. We'll take a lighthearted look at the behaviors and cultural clues which may help rule religious communities "in" or "out" as likely possibilities for our ancestors. We'll also explore strategies for identifying where pertinent records may reside, following the closure or extinction of old congregations and communities of faith in our background.

11 am - 12 pm

No Dead Ends: Finding Your Way Through Family Roadblocks

Judy Nimer Muhn, Professional researcher
No genealogist works their way through their family history without coming across the challenges of what looks like a dead end: no records, no obvious next step, unidentified parents and more. Learn about the tools, techniques, and ways of thinking of professional genealogists to find ways to get around those road blocks and continue your ancestral journey.

12:15 – 1:15 pm

Occupational Records: Finding Work-Related Paper Trails

Jessica Trotter, Researcher & blogger
What types of gems can you find in occupational records? Farmers, Teachers, Coopers and more all created records that may enhance our research.

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Research in the Old Northwest Territory
Dr. David McDonald, CG

Jefferson's proposals for the area ceded by Great Britain after the Revolutionary War provided a blueprint for the development of the system of measurement for the lands of the public domain, and for the civil government of what became all or part of six states: Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. This fast-paced lecture covers a lot of land (literally)

and a lot of records worth considering when undertaking a genealogy project.

2:45 – 3:45 pm

Bringing History to Life: Engaging with Your Community through Local History and Family Stories

Chelsea Johnson Heisler, Marshall District Library
Join Chelsea as she explores opportunities to engage with your community while sharing valuable local and family stories. Accessible for both genealogy professionals and enthusiasts, Chelsea will share her experiences organizing cemetery walks, history happy hours, local author tours, oral history projects and online local photo collections. Come get inspired and discover the many ways you can spark community interest and collaboration around local history.

4 – 5 pm

Library of Congress Digital Collections for Michigan Researchers

Matt Pacer, Library of Michigan
The Library of Congress contains a treasure trove of family history information for Michigan researchers, including a vast array of online resources. Learn how to navigate these digital collections as well as other key research strategies to effectively use our nation's library while uncovering your family's story.

Speaker Bios

Earl, Daniel

Visiting the grave of his great-grandfather as a 10-year old helped spark Daniel's lifetime of interest in family history. He has spent the last 25 years researching his own family history and helping others make history a part of their story., a Vice-President of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society and the President of the Hungarian Genealogical Society of Michigan.

Heisler, Chelsea Johnson

The local history and genealogy librarian for the Marshall District Library (Marshall, MI), Chelsea has a MILS from Wayne State University and is currently pursuing archival certification from the same institution. Chelsea also serves on the boards of the Marshall Historical Society, Calhoun County Genealogical Society and Michigan Genealogical Council. She is currently researching her Bloomfield, Cafeteria, and Klein family lines.

Muhn, Judy Nimer

Author, presenter, researcher and traveler, Judy specializes in French-Canadian, Acadian, Native American and Michigan research. Owner of Lineage Journeys, Judy is a board member and chair of the Awards Committee of the National Genealogical Society, the President for the Oakland County Genealogical Society, Vice President and Social Media co-chair for the Michigan Genealogical Council, and a founder of the English-Speaking Genealogists of Europe, NATO Chapter.

Pacer, Matt

A reference librarian at the Library of Michigan, you will find Matt on the reference desk when he is not working in the Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room, or assisting the coordination of the Library's digitization program, processing donations, or helping to curate the Michigan Collection. Matt has worked at the Library of Michigan since summer 2013.

Rzepczynski, Kris

A Senior Archivist and Head of Reference at the Archives of Michigan, where he specializes in family history and Michigan research, Kris has worked in the genealogical community for more than 20 years. He is a former Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies and a Past President of the Mid Michigan Genealogical Society.

Trotter, Jessica

Jessica is an archivist by education—but works in public libraries by day. She has presented regionally for the past eight years, including annually for the Archives of Michigan, the Genealogy Center at the Allen County Public Library and the 2020 NGS Virtual On Demand lectures. Jessica's research areas include Midwest, African American, British Isles and Canadian, and she maintains the genealogy research related blog [Genie Road Trip](#).

Welch, Annakathryn

Annakathryn is an Archivist at the Archives of Michigan, where she handles reference inquiries, processes reproduction and permissions requests and works on digitization projects. She is a graduate of the MILS program at Wayne State University, where she specialized in archival administration.

Free Evening Programs from GRIP (Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh)

Due to sponsor generosity, these programs are free and open to the public for each week of GRIP in Pittsburgh. We thank them for their sponsorship. Please visit each sponsoring organization's website for the Zoom program registration link which may be on their home page or an events page. While there, explore their website to see what other activities they do.

Presentations in 2022 begin at 7 PM EDT (4 PM Pacific) and will be held live via Zoom meeting and will not be recorded. If that suits your schedule, Pre-Registration is required through the sponsoring organizations' links below. Keep the confirmation email that the sign-up generates. This will be the only reminder and contains the link to join the meeting at the appropriate hour. You will need to register for each meeting separately. For more information, see:

<https://www.gripitt.org/evening-programs/>

Bookmark Me Now!

by Megan Heyl

We would like to introduce you to a variety of sources that are available on the internet for genealogical research. While it is widely known that genealogy research by using the internet is only the tip of the iceberg, that most research is done in libraries, archives and courthouses, we will try to share some sources that you may have never heard about or used. Be sure to visit each suggested link – you never know what you may discover.

Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness

Website: <http://www.raogk.org>

Description:

Our volunteers have agreed to do a free genealogy research task at least once per month in their local area as an act of kindness. While the volunteers of Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (RAOGK) have agreed to donate their time for free, you MUST PAY the volunteer for his/her expenses in fulfilling your request (copies, printing fees, postage, film or video tape, parking fees, etc.) if they ask for it.

RAOGK is a global volunteer organization. Our volunteers take time to do everything from looking up courthouse records to taking pictures of tombstones. All they ask in return is reimbursement for their expenses (never their time) and a thank you.

At one time there were thousands of volunteers in every U.S. state and many international locations, and helped thousands of researchers.

We are trying to rebuild the RAOGK site.

It will take a little more time to get it back to its former glory. So Please spread the word and volunteer to help others!

Looking for a volunteer?

Is this your first visit to the site? We want your visit to be a successful one. The staff has put together a list of Guidelines for making requests or you to view and read before making any requests. A link to the volunteers will be provided after you have read the FAQ's. **Also to help combat spammers, you have to be a registered member to contact volunteers and see their listings!** Would you like to volunteer?

Please read the Frequently Asked Questions for Volunteers before doing so. You will create a profile and can add or subtract information you are willing to do. You are in control!

[Community Questions and Answers](#) – Ask questions on genealogy information or brick wall questions. The Genealogy Community will answer them!

[Archives and Societies](#) – This is a list of National Archives, Libraries, Historical & Genealogical Societies for each State. Some have links to websites while others have a mailing address and /or phone numbers. Please contact us with any corrections or additions.

[Census Records 101](#) – For historians and genealogy experts, census records they can be valuable tools for family research and general knowledge about how people lived in different time periods. This section explains the history and use of census records for your research. Please contact us with any corrections or additions.

[Vital Records 101](#) – List details about Birth Marriage, Divorce and Records, along with

Where to Write for State Vital Records and links to applications and Vital Record Resources and Search Tips.

[Historical Facts of U.S. Counties](#) – Each state list the County Name, Date Formed, Parent County and County Seat With links to the county government sites when available. Also State County Formation Maps, list of Extinct Counties and list of burned/destroyed county courthouses.

[Printable Genealogy Forms – free downloadable forms for U.S. and U.K. Censuses](#), Ancestral Chart, Research Calendar, Research Extract, Correspondence Record, Family Group Sheets, Source Summary and Templates

Article provided by:

Megan Heyl, owner of Hunting Down History at: HuntingDownHistory.wordpress.com

On the Shelf

This is the next in a series of featured columns where we are discussing genealogical books available at state and local libraries. We currently have columns provided by the Library of Michigan and the Archives of Michigan.

Library of Michigan

On the Shelf July 2022

Hello from the Library of Michigan! Summer weather is upon us and there are many things happening at your Library of Michigan. The big change that is occurring at the end of June is the migration to a new library catalog. Please check our website for updated information about the migration. We will be unable to process new digital library cards during the last week of June. Additionally, database access will not work for several days at the end of June. Once the system

is up and running, you will need to reset your library card password. Information for changing your library card password will be provided on our website when the time arrives.

During the downtime at the end of the month, checkout the complete list of databases that your Library of Michigan library provides access to on our website:

www.michigan.gov/familyhistory

Then, scroll to the section on Family History Databases. Please also take the time to view the current programs list for the Library of Michigan and it is located at the following website: [Library of Michigan – Programs For The Public](#). Please note that some of the programs require registration. A registration link is part of the program description if registration is required.

Below are a few interesting new to us books 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.

Heritage of Provemont by Vonda Belanger, 1970s. A history of what is now known as Lake Leelanau. The author gathered personal stories and local histories to craft an early settler and first family's account.

Still our Lions: A Fan's History of the Detroit Lions and the city they Represent by Gary Evans, 2021. Lion's fans will relate to the yearly struggles the team faces and will remember the good times. A thoroughly researched book, but from the perspective of the fans.

Paradise Valley: Detroit by Rueben Ray II, 2017. Family stories give newer generations connections to their past and a glimpse of what life was like for their ancestors. This story is the written account that came from an oral history of one man's experiences in Black Bottom.

Elk Rapids the First Hundred Years: 1850-1950 by Glenn Ruggles and Glenn Neumann, 2007. Photo histories are great reads since they help transport the reader into the past. For those library users wanting to see growth and development of a typical city in Michigan as told through pictures, then this book is for you.

The Founding Mothers of Mackinac Island: The Agatha Biddle Band of 1870 by Theresa Weller, 2021. A thoroughly researched descendants' history of the original women on Mackinac Island. Theresa Weller started this writing journey from the Durant Roll and this story is about the descendants, but it also shows the challenge of family history research.

Through our website you can search our library catalog (www.answercat.org) 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: www.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. Please do not hesitate to contact us through email or phone: librarian@michigan.gov or 517-335-1477.

All the best,
Library of Michigan staff

Archives of Michigan

German Immigrants in American Church Records / edited by Roger P. Minert

by Kris Rzepczynski



German Immigrants in American Church Records, edited by Roger P. Minert, is a massive collection (37 volumes to date) of extractions from Americans' German vital records from U.S. church vital records. Many volumes from the set are available to researchers as part of the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection at the Archives of Michigan (Call number: E 184 .G3 G37 2005).

Each extraction – compiled in order directly from the church book – includes the critical genealogical information from the records, including birth information, burial date and location, and particularly of note, often the German village of origin in the Old Country. Indeed, Dr. Minert estimates that nearly 75% of all entries in the German church record books include an immigrant's German village of origin.

Each individual volume contains a name index, plus a 4-volume master index covering the first fourteen volumes of the set is also available. Geographic coverage

currently available at the Archives includes the volumes for Illinois (v.10-v.13), Indiana (v.1), and Ohio (v.26-v.33).

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.

Free Genealogy Websites

There are 65 in this collection provided by Barbara Curtindale – first published in “News and Notes Of Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc. & Family Search Center Affiliate Library” in the May 2021 issue. We will be listing items 31-49 in this issue and proceeding to the subsequent columns coming in the remaining issues. Most people should know some of the listed websites but others are true gems.

Some of these websites have been mentioned in more detail in our new Bookmark Me Now column contributed by Megan Heyl but they are worth repeating here.

31. WieWasWie:

Website:

<https://www.wiewaswie.nl/en>

For researching ancestors from the Netherlands

32. UK National Archives

Website:

<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Official National Archive of the UK

33. The National Archives of Ireland

Website:

<https://www.nationalarchives.ie/>

Official National Archives of Ireland

34. GENUKI:

Website:

<https://www.genuki.org.uk/>

Reference library of genealogical resources for the UK and Ireland

35. German Genealogy Server:

Website:

https://www.genealoger.com/german/general_sites.htm

German ancestry research (many sections in German)

36. Preserve the Pension 1812:

Website (now at FamilySearch):

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/Preserve_the_Pensions_-_War_of_1812

37. Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System:

Website:

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

Civil War records from the National Park Service

38. LitvakSIG:

Website: <https://www.litvaksig.org/>

Lithuanian-Jewish genealogy databases and resources

39. Italian Genealogical Group

Website: <https://www.italiangen.org/>

Italian American genealogy resources and databases

40. Internet Archive

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

A large amount of information useful to genealogists, but you'll need to do some digging

41. Billion Graves

Website: <https://billiongraves.com/>

Headstone records, they also use a GPS code to locate if provided.

42. Open Library

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

A good place to find family history books, search for surnames or locations

43. GenDisasters

Website: https://web.archive.org/web/*/gendisasters

This site is going thru some problems but as is always the case you can use the wayback machine – click this link and then click on the gendisasters.com link

44. Romany and Traveler Family History Society

Website: <http://rtfhs.org.uk/>

A newer site that can replace the original RomanyGenes site for Romanichal ancestry research

45. New Patriot and Grave Index

Website: <https://stpetesar.org/patriot-search/>

Patriot and Grave Index: revolutionary war graves registry and patriot index from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

46. Illinois Digital Newspaper Collection

Website: <https://idnc.library.illinois.edu/>

Vast number of archived US newspapers+

47. Seventh Day Adventist Obituary Database

Website: <https://libguides.andrews.edu/SDAPI/>

Hundreds of thousands of obituary entries

48. Släktdata

Website: <https://www.slaktdata.org/>

Genealogy records for Sweden (in Swedish)

49. Hispanic Genealogy

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

A site containing information about Hispanic Genealogy

This is not meant to be a comprehensive list by any means – if you have websites that you find useful please feel free to send them to us at newsletter@mimgc.org and put “FAVWebsites” on the subject line.



**Library of Michigan Updates Matt
Pacer**

Reference Librarian
Library of Michigan

July 2022

Library of Michigan Update July 2022

Hello Everyone!

There are just a few updates to mention. On June 30th, the Library of Michigan will migrate to a new library catalog. This should occur in the evening hours. We will not be able to process new library cards the week before. Additionally, once the migration is complete, library card holders will need to change their password associated with their library card. We will put more information on our website as we get closer to the migration date about completing that process.

Library staff are permitted to travel and speak at local societies, libraries, and historical organizations. If your group is looking for speakers, please contact us. Some examples are Matt Pacer will be speaking at East Lansing Public Library at the end of June and the Barbara J. Brown Seminar in July. Adam Oster is presenting at Allendale Township Library and HSM state History Conference.

The Michigan Notable Book list is out. To learn more about the 2022 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 July
2022**

The 2022 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar is coming up in a few short weeks, July 8-9, 2022! For this year's event, we are pleased to offer this flagship annual gathering as a hybrid event.

Participants can attend sessions either online or onsite. We are delighted to be hosting Dr. David McDonald, CG for this year's event, whose sessions will all be via Zoom. David's programs will be:

- Polly's Family: From New England to the Plains & Beyond
- Lutherpalians & Presbygationalists: Where Did Grandma's Church Go?
- Research in the Old Northwest Territory

Hosted by the Archives of Michigan and Michigan Genealogical Council, the Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar is generously supported by the Abrams Foundation. Registration information and the full program schedule can be found online at: <https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives/family-history-seminar>

We look forward to seeing everyone – virtually and/or onsite – next month!

The Archives of Michigan continues to add new source material to our holdings, particularly local government records. New archival collections this year include:

- Clinton County Probate Records, 1840-2010 / RG 2022-31
- St. Clair County Probate Records, 1828-1986/ RG 2022-25

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:

- Early Vermont Settlers to 1771 [v.2] / Scott Andrew Bartley / 2020 / Call number: F 48 .B364 2017
- Maine Families in 1790 [v.12] / Maine Genealogical Society / 2021 / Call number: F 18 .G7 1988
- German Immigrants in American Church Records [v.31: Southern Ohio Protestant; v.32: Cincinnati Ohio Protestant I; v.33: Cincinnati Ohio Protestant II] / Roger Minert / 2020 / Call number: E 184 .G3 G37 2005

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 again soon!

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 at:
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.

Michigan Library and Historical Center

Archives of Michigan

We are back open!

Monday thru Friday from 1 to 5 pm
Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm

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

Visit our web site at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives>
<https://michiganology.org/>



Delegate meeting on Friday July 8, 2022

10:00 am to 11:30 am

Zoom Webinar – registration required

Dr. David McDonald will present *Michigan and Wisconsin, Sister Daughters of the Empire State* Exploring the impact of outbound migrants from New York to the Upper Midwest, Michigan, Wisconsin and Northern Illinois were all heavily impacted by such emigres. How did New York's offspring states benefit from these roots, and how did they manifest through the post-Civil War era.

Please note this meeting is on a Friday and will begin at 10:00 am (EDT) to kickoff the 2022 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar

Library of Michigan

10 am to 5 pm Monday thru Friday
10 am to 4 pm Saturday

By email or phone

Email librarian@michigan.gov

Phone: (517) 335-1477

Visit our website at:

www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan

Michigan History Museum

Museum will be open
Mon-Thu for school field trips and tours of 10 or more

Fri/Sat from 10 am to 4 pm
Sunday from 1 pm to 5 pm

Visit our Web site at:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/museums>

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 MGC, PO. Box 80953, Lansing, MI, 48908-0953, Website: <https://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 <https://www.mimgc.org/cpage.php?pt=16>

President	Rozlyn Kelly Farmington Genealogy Society	Society	
Vice President	Judy Nimer Muhn Oakland County Genealogical Society	Membership	Melissa Kendzierski Charlevoix County Genealogical Society
Recording Secretary Board Meetings	Chelsea Johnson-Heisler Calhoun County Genealogical Society	Nominations	Elected Directors
Recording Secretary Delegate Meetings	Sue Irvine Western Michigan Genealogical Society	Historian	Barb Curtindale Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc.
Corresponding Secretary	Tom Koselka MGC Past President	Newsletter	Paul Roltsch Waterford Genealogical Society
Treasurer	Jill O'Sullivan Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan	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
Director 2024	Melissa Kendzierski Charlevoix County Genealogical Society	Webmaster	Tom Koselka, MGC Past President
Committee Chairpersons and Appointments		NGS Delegate	Tom Koselka, MGC Past President
Archivist	Connie Olson MGC Past President	Projects	Roger Moffat Western Michigan Genealogical Society
Library of Michigan Liaison	Tim Gleisner 702 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48915	Past President Advisor	Brenda Leyndyke, MGC Past Resident
Archives of Michigan Liaison	Kris Rzepczynski 702 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48915	Lucy Mary Kellogg Chair	Jessica Trotter Lansing Area African American Genealogical Society
Public Records Access and Records Preservation Awards	Derek Blount Detroit Society of Genealogical Research	Pre-Statehood and First Family Certificates	Kim Smith Waterford Genealogical Society
Awards	Barb Curtindale Gladwin County Genealogical Society, Inc.		
Central Mail	Jessica Trotter Lansing Area African American Genealogical		

Links from this issue

This is not meant to be a list of all links in this issue due to space requirements on this page we try not to repeat links or include links that are clearly marked on their page.

Page 1

- Register for the 2022 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar
<https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives/family-history-seminar>

Page 3

- ACPL Genealogy Center
<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>
- Download our Android App – ACPL Mobile
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.in.lib.acpl.Mobile_ACPL
- Download our Apple App – ACPL Mobile
<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/acplmobile/id579725696>
- Waterford Genealogical Society
 - <https://www.facebook.com/WaterfordGenealogicalSociety>
- Stories From the Battlefield
<https://bit.ly/3b2ur71>

Page 4

- MIGGS website
miggs.org
- MIGGS Facebook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/Michigan-Germanic-Genealogical-Society-104842025602301>
- MIGGS Info mail
info@miggs.org

Page 5

- MIGGS Calendar
<https://miggs.org/test-calendar>

Page 9

- Genie Road Trip
 - <https://genieroadtrip.com/>
- GRIP Evening Programs
 - <https://www.gripitt.org/evening-programs/>

Page 10

- **Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness**
 - <http://www.raogk.org>
- Community Questions and Answers
<http://www.raogk.org/answers>
- Archives and Societies
 - <http://www.raogk.org/society-archives/>
- Census Records 101
 - <http://www.raogk.org/census-records/>
- Vital Records 101
 - <http://www.raogk.org/vital-records/>

Page 11

- Historical Facts of U.S. Counties
 - <http://www.raogk.org/counties-facts/>
- Free Genealogical Forms
 - <http://www.raogk.org/forms/>

Thanks from the Editor

Thank you for providing articles to the MGC newsletter. Every quarter I get excellent articles for all of our member societies to see. In addition to regular contributors we get information about your programs/events.

We also thank you for the support you give our new columns. We are looking forward to more publications that we can list for you in our Society Publications section. It is our intention to show everyone the work that each and every one of you puts into creating publications that showcase your society's works.

Still looking for more articles – feel free to send your articles detailing what you do every month to provide services for your members.

Thanks to all the delegates that show up at every delegate meeting allowing us to provide the best programs for you at every delegate meeting.

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My Memories of The Past MGC	6
Pioneer Certificate	7
GRIP Free Summer Programs	8
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Free Genealogy Sites (31-49)	13-14
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Events Calendar

**Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh
Virtual Conference
July 10-15, 2022**

<https://gripitt.org/courses/>
Look here to find out about Free Summer Presentations during July presentations
<https://www.gripitt.org/evening-programs/>

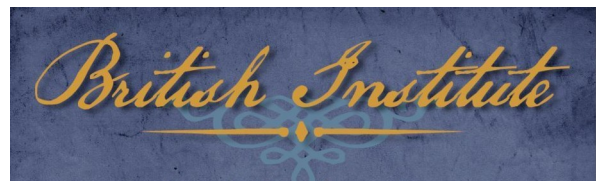
**Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar
Friday, July 8 – Saturday, July 9, 2022
Featuring Dr. David McDonald, CG
For complete information:**

See page 1 and continued on page 6-8 of this newsletter or see the Archives website at:
<https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives>



IGHR 2022 Virtual Institute
Institute of Genealogy and Historic Research
July 24 – 29, 2022
<https://ighr.gagensociety.org/>

Stories from the Battlefield Seminar
Saturday, 27 August, 2022
8:00 am to 5:00 pm (EDT)
Howard Miller Community Center, Zeeland, MI
For more information and to register see:
<https://bit.ly/3b2ur71>



Sunday, 09 October - Friday, 14 October 2022
Sunday, 16 October - Friday, 21 October 2022
All Classes run from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
For more info, see their website at:
<https://www.isbgfh.com/BRITISH-INSTITUTE>