



Save the Date! - November 4, 2023

Michael Strauss at the 2023 MGC Fall Family History Event, Saturday, November 4, 2023 - Presentations in-person! Attendees may choose to attend virtually.

Michael L. Strauss, AG will be our speaker. Michael is employed as a Research Manager and Senior Genealogist for Ancestry ProGenealogists. He is a native of Pennsylvania and a veteran of the United States Coast Guard. He is a published author and national genealogical lecturer, instructor and faculty member at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), and the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research (IGHR) where he coordinates the military history courses. Michael has been involved in Civil War and Mexican-American War reenacting for more than twenty-five years.



Join Michael and MGC for these exciting topics.

1. **Introduction to Military Genealogy Research** will focus on a large number of records, strategies, and techniques to find your military ancestors from the colonial era through the Vietnam War.
2. **A House Divided: Research in the Civil War** will examine records most used by genealogists and historians including service records, draft records, pensions, and records to trace the movement of your ancestors military unit for both sides.
3. **Roosevelt's Tree Army: Researching in the Civilian Conservation Corps** will explore CCC genealogical resources between 1933-1942 including Office Personnel Files, discharge certificates, accident reports, camp and district reports, photographs, and motion pictures.
4. **All in a Day's Work: Occupational Genealogical Research** will focus on the methodology to research your ancestors work history, tapping into records of employment and discussing old occupations no longer in use.

This one-day event is one you won't want to miss. More information, including registration, will be available soon , either on the website or in the next issue of the MGC Newsletter. To see the latest MGC events, please go to mimgc.org Event Calendar.

President's Message

From Rozlyn Kelly, Outgoing President

Serving as President of Michigan Genealogical Council for the past two years has been my honor. My preceding roles as board recording secretary and vice president provided good preparation for the role of President. I have had the pleasure of collaborating with a wonderful team of Board members, member delegates, and our partners at the Archives of Michigan and the Library of Michigan. I say a warm thank you to each of you for your dedication and your support, particularly during the challenges of virtual meetings during the pandemic. Thankfully we have come full circle and are now able to meet again in person and virtually. The work we do is so important and so interesting, I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this outstanding organization.

Our incoming President, Judy Nimer Muhn, brings a wonderful energy, great skills, and genealogical passion that will inspire all with whom she comes in contact. I know she will provide great leadership to our organization. Please join me in offering Judy your support, as was provided to me as President. I look forward to continuing to be involved as past president.

Rozlyn Kelly

From Judy Muhn, Incoming President

Thank you to all of the Delegates and Board members for your support in making me your next President! I want to offer my sincerest thanks and gratefulness for the leadership of Rozlyn Kelly and the board over the last two years, and the marvelous opportunity to serve you all these last two years in the Vice President role, on the Continuing Education Committee and as a Delegate for the French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan. Rozlyn now moves into the role of Past President Advisor and, believe me, I'll have many questions for her! Thank you also for Sue Irvine, who is leaving the role of Delegate Recording Secretary but staying as a Director on the Board. Gratefulness is sent to Larry Noyes for your time on the board – best wishes.

Our partnership with the Library and Archives of Michigan is very important to me and I'm grateful to them for their support to MGC and me personally – Kris, Adam, Mark, Matt and all of the staff at these awesome research facilities. Helpful, responsive and great companions in this journey that we all call family history and genealogy. Thank you to our new board members, Vice President Shaun Thomas and Delegate Council Recording Secretary Timothy Salatin for stepping into active leadership roles – welcome!

Finally, it is a goal of my time as your President to find ways to include many more of our society members and delegates in roles on committees. While board members must be delegates of a member organization, volunteers can serve on our committees without being delegates. Wanting to raise more voices, get more volunteers involved in guiding the board and our programming, projects and outreach, please reach out to me (judymuhn@gmail.com) if there is something that you are interested in assisting with! It's my personal opinion that there should always be a "deep bench" of those that know about the work of MGC and getting information throughout the state. Since we have options for hybrid and virtual contact, please don't let geography limit you! AND your ideas matter – please share with me when ideas emerge at your society meetings or needs come up about how MGC might be able to help. Thank you again for the privilege of serving you.

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 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

Date: July 5, 2023

Time: 1 to 3 pm

Topic: Genealogy 101

Presenter: Sandy Kinter

This program will be about beginning your genealogy research. What information are you looking for, what sources are available, and where can you find family information. Are you an experienced genealogist? Come and share your invaluable research knowledge. We can all learn from past mistakes and success stories.

Date: August 2, 2023

Time: 1 to 3 pm

Topic: Finding Your Lost British Ancestors

Speaker: Derek J. Blount – Professional Genealogist

Tuesday Night Meetings with Julia:

Held at 7:00 pm are off for the summer and will return in September.

First 30 minutes is for any Germanic questions. Please register at the Waterford Public Library website. Look for Adult programs, then click on the calendar, and click on the WGS Tuesday night Meeting. This will bring up the free registration form that is easy to fill out.

Our website is:

<https://waterfordmigensoc.thatfamiliesdo.com>

From Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society:

Date: Monday, September 11, 2023

Topic: "Finding the Right German Place!"

Time: 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Speaker: James Beidler

Topic: "Finding the Right German Place!" ◦

Description: Researching your ancestors deep into Germany simply doesn't happen unless you know the name of the village of origin. This presentation goes over the sources to tie your immigrant to a Heimat and then find the village and its records!

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 miggsinfo@gmail.com within 7 days of the program

From Allen County Public Library:

The Allen County Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Allen County Library groups are excited to announce the launch of a new website, SupportACPL.org. The website comes at a time when both groups are seeking to increase membership and donations to support the critical work of the Library within Allen County. This new platform makes it easier than ever for the community to support the work of the ACPL through donations of time, talent, and treasure.

Visitors are invited to easily toggle between the two groups to read through descriptions of both the Friends' and the Foundation's current projects, goals, and donation/membership. The ACPL Foundation, Friends of the ACPL and the Library itself invite our community to explore this new

website and become a donor or a Friend today.
Genealogy Center is still at:
<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

Virtual Programs:

Date: July 6, 2023

Time: 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Topic: Unlocking Your Paternal Ancestry through Y-DNA

Presenter: Jim Brewster

With all the different DNA tests out there it can be confusing which one to choose and what they can tell you. Join Jim Brewster to learn about the Y chromosome, and how it can boost your family history research! <https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

Jim Brewster has been working in the field of genetic genealogy since 2014 with FamilyTreeDNA. He creates educational material such as blogs, articles, videos, and presentations, on a variety of DNA topics. Having lectured at regional, national, and international genealogical conferences, Jim has a passion for helping others to unlock the secrets in their DNA. In his free time, he enjoys exploring museums and befriending random cats and dogs he encounters.

For more information and to register:
<https://acpl.libnet.info/event/8714741>

Date: Tue, July 11, 2023

Time: 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Topic: Hopping the Pond: Researching in Germany: What You Need to Know and Websites to Help – Part 1

Presenter: Carol Carman

Join us as we explore resources and repositories for German research. The presentation will provide an introduction to the history of Germany and the essential knowledge required to initiate research in Germany and other German-speaking regions. Additionally, it explores prominent websites that serve as valuable sources of information. While acknowledging that many of these websites are in German, the discussion also highlights convenient

methods for translating them into English.
Presented by Carol Carman.

Carol Carman has a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in classical archaeology and a master's in library science from the University of Wales (Great Britain). She spent most of her career as the head cataloger and systems administrator for the library of the Maryland General Assembly. She has taught genealogy classes for Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland and has attended many national, state, and local genealogy conferences. She is vice president of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society and past president of the Anne Arundel Genealogical Society and facilities chair for the East Coast Genetic Genealogy Conference. She is currently working part time for the Kunta Kinte-Alex Haley Foundation.

Join us for Part 2 of this presentation on Tuesday, July 18th at 2:30 pm. ET!

For more information and to register:
<https://acpl.libnet.info/event/8689678>

For these programs and more see their website at:
<https://acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy>

From the French Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan

Visit our Society website:

<https://habitantheritage.org>

FCHSM Meetings Page:

<https://habitantheritage.org/cpage.php?pt=42>

Facebook page:

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

E-mail address:

information@habitantheritage.org

French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan meetings are open to the public. For additional information, post a question on our Facebook Page or visit our website.

NOTE: At this time, we still do not have access to the meeting space at the Mt. Clemens Library while it is under renovation, and it is undetermined how long that status will remain. Instead, we will be offering digital presentations through Zoom, which will occur on our normal meeting days and times (the second Saturday of the month, at 11:00 am. EDT). To attend the Zoom Presentations, check your email for registration links sent from the French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan. If you do not have an email associated with your account, but you would like to participate in the Zoom meetings, make sure you include an email address either on your renewal membership form (in the October journal), or on your online membership form, if you renew on our website. To update your account with an email address, you can also send a message to our email address listed above.

Shown below are the presenters and their topic of discussion for each month. We hope to be able to have more in-person meetings again soon. For additional information our upcoming presentations and meetings please check our website:

www.habitantheritage.org

Date: Sunday, 23 July, 2023

Description: French and Native American Novena at Ste. Anne's. Join the French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan at The Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit, 1000 Sainte Anne Street, Detroit, MI 48216

Event Times:

Noon – French and Native-American Novena Mass
1:30 pm. - Reception

- Pig Roast – provided by Ste. Anne's, with sauces
- Light refreshments – featuring appetizers, cheeses, specialty desserts – provided by FCHSM Members

The French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan is proud to have participated in and sponsored the Novena Mass since 2000 – the longest running

continuous celebration of French-Canadian Culture in the Detroit area!

For more information: <https://www.habitantheritage.org/cpage.php?pt=42>

<https://www.habitantheritage.org/cpage.php?pt=42>

From Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County

We are heading into our 50th year with some special celebration events planned for April and May 2024.

Our 2023-2024 program and class schedule will be posted on our website in July.

GSWC meetings will resume September 24th featuring Cyndi Ingle (Cyndi's List) "Mastering Digital Filing for Genealogists" and Daniel Schwalm "Researching Civil War Veterans."

On October 22nd Judy Nimer Muhn will present "Using Ancestry.com – Tips & Tricks" and Ellen Hoffman will invite us to "Meet the Dixboro Ghost: Historical Legend and Genealogical Evidence."

On December 3rd Tom Koselka will share information on the "Regional Archives of Michigan." Barbara Cooley will present "Lasting Legacy: Five Fast Ways to Preserve Family History."

Our Fall meetings will be offered in hybrid format – you can attend via Zoom or in-person at Trinity Health System in Ann Arbor. Winter meetings (January – March 2024) will be on Zoom only. Details about speakers and registration can be found on our website: migsWC.org

Nancy Howard, President

president@washtenawgenealogy.org

You know you're a genealogist if you've ever tried to inspire the next generation by whispering in a newborn's ear, "Genealogy is fun."

From Library of Michigan

All 2023 Programs for the Public will take place over **Zoom**. All programs **require registration** to attend.

Date: July 6, 2023

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Topic: Using State and Local Documents for Research

Date: August 3, 2023

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Topic: Land Research and Sanborn Maps

Date: September 7, 2023

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Topic: Michigan Newspapers

Date: October 5, 2023

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm

Topic: MyHeritage Library Edition

For more information and registration:

<https://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan/public/programs-for-the-public>

From Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan

Website: <https://miigsm.org>

The IGSM is a non-denominational organization focusing on genealogical research in all thirty-two counties of the Emerald Isle and is open to everyone! Meetings are normally held at the Gaelic League in Detroit on the third or fourth Saturday of the month at 1:30 pm, from September through June, except December. Beginning at 12:00 pm and continuing until 1:15 pm, interested members may gather to use the resources in the Shirley Phillips Memorial Library.

Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Speaker: Bill and Becky O'Reilly

Topic: Irish Genealogy 101

Date: Saturday, October 21, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Speaker: Brian Gurrin, Census Specialist with Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland Project

Topic: Census records in the Virtual Record Treasury of Ireland

Date: Saturday, November 18, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Speaker: Derek Blount, Professional Genealogist

Topic: Scotch-Irish Research

Who are they, where did they come from and where the records can be found after the 1922 PRO fire erased 700 years of records.

For more information – refer to their website above.

From Western Michigan Genealogical Society

Judging has been completed for the WMGS 2023 Writing Contest. There were quite a few entries this year and the results were really close. So great job to all who entered, Congratulations to the winners!, and thank you to all the judges who read through all the entries and determined the winners.

First Place: "Captured by Indians," by Janine Guimont Cotugno, of Richland, MI.

Second Place: "Ella Stevens Lull," by Norma Clack, of Portage, MI.

Third Place: "One of My Favorite Ancestors," by Michael J. Page, of Rockford, MI.

Fourth Place: "Jemima," by Sue Merrell, of Grandville, MI.

Honorable Mentions:

"Nicolas Rivard," by Rana Willitt, of Maybee, MI

"Cornelis Melyn, Patroon of Staten Island," by Amy Russell, of Kokomo, IN.

"My Dad's Favorite Ancestor," by Mary Lane, of Dearborn, MI.

"Most Admired," by Gretchen Dorn Weaver, of Grand Rapids, MI.

"Favorite Ancestors," by Mary Lane, of Dearborn, MI. (Yes, Mary submitted two entries)

"Treasure Hunt for a Blood Secret," by Ashley Norton, of Paris, MI.

Calling all genealogists interested in a trip to Washington, DC

KVGS has endorsed a research trip September 10-16, 2023 – and we hope you will attend.

Researchers of all levels of experience from newbie to very experienced are welcome. Experienced genealogists are willing to assist newbies in their research.

This is an INDEPENDENT research trip: make your own travel arrangements (drive, fly, train). Get our group discount at the Arlington Court Suites Hotel (Group GENEALOGY 2023). The discounted rate ends August 13. Metro or Uber with other researchers to the research facility of your choice - DAR Library, NARA (National Archives in both Washington, DC and College Park, MD), Library of Congress – or other research facilities – your choice.

We'll get together for meals, discuss what we are researching, answer questions, share transportation.

More information is available here:

- The attached flier has details and links to help you register for the trip, register at the hotel and register for research days at the National Archives. Be sure to read it.
- Our website (www.mikvgs.org) under the Research tab at the left side includes details and brief videos to orient you to the three research sites.
- July 5 Zoom meeting for questions (registration link is [HERE](#)).
- Arlington Court Suites Hotel (<https://www.arlingtoncourthotel.com/>) The phone number is on the flier. Works best if you telephone the hotel so you can give the GENEALOGY 2023 group info.

- Direct flights to DC (attached to this email).
- NARA information: Schedule your visit soon – only 45 researchers each day. A link is on the flier.
- Plan Your Visit to the National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/research/start/plan-your-visit>
- Email info@mikvgs.org if you still have unanswered questions. Please put WASHINGTON DC in the subject line.

There's nothing like holding in your hands the pension papers for your Civil War ancestor. Or reading about the homestead land purchase made by an ancestor and what that ancestor had to do to continue to own the land. Or, perhaps you are after immigration or naturalization information. All this – and much more – is at the National Archives.

Perhaps you want to join the DAR based on your ancestor's Revolutionary War service. The DAR Library has lots of material to help you with lineage information.

And the Library of Congress has many resources to help genealogists as well.

Come along and discover what is available in DC for your genealogy! Hope to see you there.

The flier with registration and hotel info. Also on the flier are links to the NARA site to register for the days you plan to research there (limited to 45 researchers per day – register SOON).

https://mikvgs.org/upload/files/2nd_final_Washington_DC_Trip-2.pdf

Direct flights from MI to DC. Southwest has flights from GR to DC with a change in Chicago.

https://mikvgs.org/upload/files/Washington_DC_Flights-Direct.pdf

FAMILY TRAILS Extract

This is a new column which will appear in future issues, it is excerpts that come from the Family Trails series re-published by Michigan Genealogical Council in 1983, which is reprinted from the original Family Trails that were published in the 1967. Obviously, a lot has changed since the days that these were written but much of the content is still applicable today – even if no one wants to get themselves off their computer and back into books.

Our first article in this series will be of a poem with no attribution. A pencil copy of this was found in the Clinton County Pioneer Society Collection at the Michigan State Library. As to its origin, and as to whether it is a parody, it is not known. When published it was requested that if anyone knew the original author to please speak up and get your credit. From what I can see no one has stepped up yet at this point 56 years later.

A Michigan Pioneer's Lament

My Eastern friends if you'll attend,
And listen to a faithful friend.
You'll find it's a first-rate plan,
To stay away from Michigan.

Come here in summer and you'll see.
Much sickness and calamity.
Some sick in bed some shaking stand.
This is the case in Michigan.

The Doctor he will and come and tell,
The virtues of his calomel
Some quinine too you must surely take
'Twill cure your fever no mistake.

Before the man gets out of bed,
The Doctor he peeps in his head
Some Twenty dollars you must pay

I'll have it too this very day.

The lawyer too though young in years,
Delights to seize you by the ears,
He'll sputter and do all he can
To pick your bones in Michigan.

The Democrats quite rule the roost,
And of many a thing they make their boast.
To lead away five million loan,
Which makes poor Michiganers groan.

Poor Michiganers are so sad
Because their money is so bads
For all the banks save two or three
Are said to have died of the choleree.

But as for game I can not say,
For the turkeys most have run away,
And the deer that was upon the land,
Have most been killed in Michigan.

Fine girls we have I own 'tis true,
But O alas! what can we do,
For if they should want an honest man,
He's hard to find in Michigan.

EDITOR'S Note:

A look at times past it is – a vision of a former time when things were seen from different eyes but a vision of what was then and up to us to look back and understand that things change or do they? What can we take out of this and when do you think it was written – what was the time period?

Articles reprinted from Family Trails, published by the Library of Michigan, ©1967-1972. This work is licensed under [CC0 1.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/1.0/)

Pioneer Certificate Program

June 2023

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.

The brochure is available and may be printed from our website at: Note: select double sided, flip short side!

https://mimgc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/certificates-brochure_final.pdf

For application instructions with sample:

https://mimgc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Pioneer-Certificate-Appl-Instructions-with-sample_Apr-2022.pdf

For application:

https://mimgc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/MGCPioneerCertificateApplication_2022_03.pdf

For Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://mimgc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/MGC-Pioneer-Certificate-Program-FAQs.pdf>

Kim Smith
Chairperson,
Pre-Statehood and First Family Certificates

Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Society celebrated it's 65 year anniversary on June 12, 2023

from Pam Cassino at pcassino@chartermi.net

Thank you Michigan Genealogical Council for your kind recognition of The Kalamazoo Valley Genealogical Societies' 65th Anniversary at the May MGC Delegate meeting. KVGS marked its milestone Monday evening, June 12, at the Portage District Library, with approximately 50 members present, including nine presidents and honorary members..

Our celebration began with an enjoyable field trip demonstration of "Tombstone Cleaning in Central Cemetery," by Gary Swain. We ended our evening at the library with a short business meeting, cake, and a joyful celebration of a lifetime of memories.

Pictures from the event



Figure 1: Gary Swain - presenting "Tombstone Cleaning in Central Cemetery"



Figure 2: Gary Swain demonstrating the proper technique



Figure 3: KVGS member at Central Cemetery



Figure 4: And then let them eat cake!

Suggested Resource Links from our Societies

“Beginning German Research: What ‘German’ Really Means”

Article:

<https://www.legacytree.com/blog/beginning-german-research-what-german-really-means>

About Article:

The article “Beginning German Research: What ‘German’ Really Means” on the Legacy Tree Genealogists blog is a guide to understanding the different meanings of the term “German” and how it relates to genealogical research. The article covers topics such as the historical and political changes that have affected the meaning of the term “German” over time, as well as the regional and cultural diversity within Germany and the surrounding regions.

The article also discusses the importance of understanding naming conventions and the different types of records that may be available for researching German ancestors. It provides tips and strategies for using online resources and archives to locate information on German ancestors and provides a list of key resources and organizations for further research.

Provided by Michigan Germanic Genealogy Society

British Newspaper Archive

Website:

<https://britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>

The British Newspaper Archive is an online database that provides access to millions of pages of historic British newspapers. The Archive contains digitized versions of newspapers from the United Kingdom, covering the years 1700 to 1950. The newspapers come from all over the UK, including England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, and offer a wealth of information for genealogists, historians, and researchers. The Archive contains articles on a wide range of subjects, including local and national news, politics, society, and sports, and provides a unique insight into life in Britain over the last three centuries. In addition to the newspapers themselves, the Archive also provides access to indexes, articles, and other resources to help users find the information they are looking for. Whether you are tracing your family history, researching social and political history, or simply interested in learning about the past, the British Newspaper Archive is an indispensable resource for anyone interested in British history and genealogy.

Provided by Waterford Genealogical Society

East European Genealogical Society

Website:

<https://www.eegsociety.org/>

Description:

The East European Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting and preserving the genealogical and historical heritage of people with East European ancestry. The society provides resources, support, and educational opportunities to individuals who are interested in researching their family history and genealogy in East European countries, such as Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and others. Some of the resources that the society may offer include access to local and

regional records, archives, and libraries, as well as educational events, workshops, and seminars. The East European Genealogical Society also provides a platform for individuals to connect and share information about their ancestors and family history with others in the community. The overall goal of the society is to promote an appreciation for family history and genealogy and to encourage the preservation of local historical and genealogical records for future generations.

Provided by Waterford Genealogical Society

Finding German Ancestors: Tips from James Beidler

Video:

<https://youtu.be/1FfS7XS5EZI>

This video is Amy Johnson Crow interviewing James Beidler.

If you've had challenges finding your German ancestors, don't despair. It can be difficult, due to a lack of nationwide records and a language that gets garbled on this side of the pond. German genealogy expert James Beidler shares his tips for narrowing down where to look.

James Beidler is the author of *The Family Tree German Genealogy Book* and *Trace Your German Roots Online*. He is also a columnist for *German Life* magazine and is editor of *Der Kurier*, the quarterly journal of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society.

James Beidler will be presenting "Finding the Right German Place!" for the Michigan Germanic Genealogical Society on September 11, 2023. For more information go to:

<https://miggs.org/event/james-beidler-presenting-finding-the-right-german-place/>

Provided by Michigan Germanic Genealogy Society

GotAncestors Fall Conference

Save the date for our annual **GotAncestors Fall Conference**.

The date is 21 October 2023 and our speaker will be Katherine Willson.

The event will again be held at Park Church in downtown Grand Rapids. This year our lunches will be from Schnitz Deli. The presentations for the day are:

- ***Our European Ancestors' Voyage to America***— Learn about your immigrant ancestors' voyage from Europe to the United States, and how those journeys changed from the 18th century through the 20th century. How did our ancestors prepare for the journey? What immigration restrictions & quota laws did they face? How were ports of departure and arrival chosen? What was the ticket cost? How long would the journey take, and what were the expected ship
- ***Resources for Genealogical Research in Foreign Countries***— Once you've discovered your immigrant ancestor's home country, how will you go about finding documents generated while s/he was still there, and how will you research his/her parents? We'll discuss available resources for beginning your research in foreign countries, including how to locate foreign language genealogy terms and online maps providing contextual information on shifting country borders.
- ***40+ Sources for Finding Maiden Names***— 40+ possible sources to consult when searching for a female ancestor's maiden name. Discussion will include search tips for locating these sources.
- ***Adding a Genealogical Codicil to Your Will***— When you die, what will happen to the genealogical materials you've accumulated throughout your research? Do your loved ones know what to do with your collection after your death, or are you at risk of losing it all to the trash bin when your estate is cleared out? A genealogical codicil to your will can clearly state your wishes, and this presentation will discuss the many options available to you. Sample copies of codicils will be distributed.

We hope to have all the info up and registration open on <http://gotancestors.com/> soon.

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.

Daughters of the American Revolution Library

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

Description:

Are you just starting out on your journey to discover your family roots... or are you one document away from solving a mystery of one of your ancestors? Wherever you are in your genealogical process, DAR is here to help. The DAR Genealogical Research System (GRS) includes free online databases containing information on Revolutionary patriot ancestors, descendants of those patriots, as well as the vast array of genealogical resources from the DAR Library. You do not need to be a member of the DAR to use their online databases and resources. The library is open to the public. Their website is another outstanding resource for researchers.

DAR members come from a variety of backgrounds and interests, but all share a common bond of having an ancestor who helped contribute to securing the independence of the United States of America. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible to join.

The DAR Library was founded in 1896 as a collection of genealogical and historical

publications for the use of staff genealogists verifying application papers for the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. Shortly after 1900 the growing collection was opened to the public and has remained so ever since.

The Library is one of the nation's premier genealogical research centers and was recently (1998) ranked the third most important of national institutions based on the uniqueness of sources in a listing by publisher Heritage Quest. The Library's book collection numbers some 225,000 volumes, the cataloging records for which constitute this catalog. Approximately 4,000 new titles enter the Library in any given year.

Many thousands of volumes of genealogical compilations, record abstracts, and other materials are available only at the DAR Library. DAR members and the public have contributed these sources, building a collection of great research depth covering all periods of American history.

The period of the American Revolution is naturally a major focal point, but the colonial era and the nineteenth century receive detailed coverage as well. Through the efforts of local DAR members and chapters nationwide approximately 15,000 volumes of Genealogical Records Committee Reports have entered the Library and constitute a unique source for family histories, cemetery record transcriptions, and Bible records.

DAR-Constitution Hall

1776 D Street NW
Washington DC, 20006

DAR Library Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:30am – 4:00pm

Saturday: 9:00am – 5:00pm

Sunday: Closed

Closed on Federal Holidays.

Phone: 202-879-3229

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

Hello from the Library of Michigan! Please visit our 2023 programming calendar here:

WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/LMPUBLICPROGRAMS.

Each event lists the date, time, description, and how to register. There are many interesting virtual programs to attend. We are halfway down with this year's virtual programs and soon we will start creating next year's virtual programs. If you have suggestions, please contact us.

To learn more about the 2023 Michigan Notable Books, please visit the following website:

WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/NOTABLEBOOKS. Soon

library staff will record several Author Conversation videos with Michigan Notable Books authors and place them on the library's

YouTube channel. The previous records can be found here: Michigan Notable Books – YouTube

Below are a few interesting new and 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 inter-library loan service called MeLCat. Your local public library will be able to help you request one of the books.

- The Chippewas of Lake Superior, 1979. By Edmund Danziger, Jr. A story about the tribes around Lake Superior and the fabled land of Kitchigami. Now we have a second copy of this book for those who want to check it out.

- 75 TH Anniversary of S.S. Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Church, 1982. Church anniversary books are difficult to find, but they are a great resource for family history at a specific period of time.
- Elk River: A Novel, 2011. By Gregory Randall. A story that takes place in Northern Michigan in 1956. The threat of a new war occupies everyone's mind even as WWII becomes a distant memory. But life carries on in Northern Michigan and the cherry harvest must continue.

Staff continue to process more high school yearbooks. We have added several from Dansville High School as well as Highland Park Community High School. If you are looking to get rid of your Michigan high school yearbook, please contact us. We may need them for our collection.

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. Lastly, please sign up for our Special Collections Update eBulletin to learn more about library events and programs. You can sign up for the eBulletin here: Library of Michigan – Sign-up for the Special Collections Update (govdelivery.com) 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

A great party is when everyone joins in the gene pool.

Genealogy with Artificial Intelligence

This is the start of a new article series detailing using Artificial Intelligence (AI) as an aid to our genealogical research.

We are not saying that AI will be the answer to all of our brick walls or that it will give us all the answers to our genealogical questions. In fact, we will probably cause more work for ourselves as we try to validate AI's answers to our questions. Even more as we go thru letting AI walk the paths thru our ancestors – we will have to apply more logic to validate that AI has not created an arbitrary solutions to our research.

We will look at the different versions of AI that we can use as tools to solve our many questions. For us to answer those questions we need to know what you want us to find out.

As we start examining our options we will start with the elephant in the AI room. Which AI do I use? Which will give me the best result

We first need to research the available tools – and if you thought trying to determine whether to use Ancestry vs. MyHeritage or the Family Tree Maker vs RootsMagic or even 23andMe vs Ancestry DNA were complex choices at least they are somewhat mature tools. AI seems to change daily if not hourly. These 'tools' can write stories, evaluate data, some can read images or evaluate photographs. We need to determine what we want to do, how much do we want to spend, is it worth the headaches of learning a new tools? After all didn't we start our research – actually reading documents/books for research? Was there a time when we used to listen to the stories of our elders trying to figure what was the truth – and what truths did we believe? There are as many answers to these questions as we have ancestors.

Let's start from the basics – Oxford Languages defines artificial intelligence as:

"the theory and development of computer systems able to perform tasks that normally require human intelligence, such as visual

perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and translation between languages"

TechTarget makes the definition simpler:

"Artificial intelligence is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines."

So we are asking a machine to think or at least to simulate thinking. How many of us have tried to figure out a link to a non-relative that someone has put in their tree, and we assume that those humans had to think to put that relative in their tree. So what human's intelligence are we trying to replicate/simulate?

So even with the best AI tools we have to establish the validation criteria. If AI picks a match that was born in 1755 and dies in 1873 because the name is the same and they are from the same state – is that enough of a validation?

In the next issue, where do we start?

- Analyze what we want AI to do
 - Translations
 - Record Linkage
 - Facial recognition
 - DNA Analysis
 - Predictive Analysis
 - Other
- Determine criteria for validation
 - Establish a test with known solutions to validate execution
- Look at the ever growing list of AI tools available
 - Determine ease of use
 - Determine which tools provide the analysis needed

Over the next several issues we will attempt to provide answers to your questions – don't be afraid to ask your questions! Email with your questions to newsletter@mimqc.org.

If you have written an article on this topic and would like to have us publish it - feel free to forward to our email as well.

**Reprint from the MGC Newsletter – Summer 1997
Vol. 25, Issue 3**

**French Letters Mis-Read
by author unknown**

The following capital letters are sometimes similar and may have been mis-read when they begin a name of a person or a place:

- A and R
- H and M, N, or St
- L and Z
- Sand I, J, or L
- T and C

The following lower case letters may also have been mis-read:

- a and o
- c and e
- n and u

Because there are different pronunciations in French and German, Alsatian scribes may have written the same name V or W and other possibilities.

Ch in French become Sch in German as Veneche=Venesch.

Source: *The Society Page Newsletter*, Western Wayne (MI) Genealogical Society. Fall 1996, Volume 10, Number 3, Page 25.

A TRUE RESEARCHER

A genealogist must have the patience of Job; the stubbornness of a mule; the eyesight of an eagle; be blessed with the luck of the Irish and have the ability and stamina of a camel to go long hours without food or drink!

Source: *The Keystone Newsletter*, Gaylord Fact Finders Genealogical Society. Volume 11, Number 1, July 1997, page 2.

**Reprint from the MGC Newsletter – Winter 1996,
Vol. 24, Issue 1**

Routes of the Pioneers

Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG. in her genealogy column on Prodigy gives tips on how to trace where our families migrated from within this country. She reminds us that most people in the early days traveled by waterways to new regions.

“Study old maps and follow the rivers” is good advice offered by many professional genealogists.

Prior to 1730 settlements were limited primarily to the Atlantic coastal regions. Travel between settlements was along waterways or existing land trails. While there were some crude roads constructed within colonies, water routes were easier.

About 1726 the so-called “Western Expansion” began with the migration of Pennsylvanians and other northern colonists into the Great Valley of Virginia. In New England and New York our ancestors used the Connecticut, Delaware, Hudson, and Mohawk rivers and later the Erie Canal and Great Lakes Waterways. Pennsylvania families followed the Schuylkill, Susquehanna, Delaware, Allegheny and Ohio rivers. Down in Virginia and the Carolinas they went along the Potomac, Monogahela, Roanoke, Kanawa, and Yadkin rivers.

Of course, not all of our families floated down rivers to make new homes --- many used trails that later became roadways. Indian paths or animal trails grew to become important thoroughfares that the colonists used in their western expansion.

In fact, many of our interstate highways follow closely some of the original trails.

In 1803 when Ohio became a state, the enabling act included a provision that a portion of sales of public lands would be set aside for the constructing of roads in the public lands. Two roads resulted from this legislation. They were the National Road, running from Maryland to Illinois and the Federal Road traversing Georgia to Louisiana,

In later migrations of our ancestors-- to the Far West – the pioneers journeyed over the Santa Fe, Mormon, Oregon, California, Lewis and Clark, Fremont and Platte River trails and routes. And from points in the Midwest and Texas and Southwest, they often followed the cattle trails.

It is along these various waterways and trails – because of their economic and historic importance – that we must look for clues that will help us backtrack the migrations of our families.
Source: (Northville Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume IX, Number 3, January/February 1995 Editor, Ardie McLeod.)

**Another MGC Newsletter Reprint Spring 1996,
Vol. 24, Issue 3**

Genealogist's Prayer
Author unknown

Oh lord, since your memory is so much greater than mine, help me to successfully locate all the names and dates that would fill up all these empty spaces.

Never let me be disgraced by what I find, good or ill, until I have grown to understand how fully human these ancestors of mine, how one they are with me.

Let me celebrate their faults, as well as exalt in their achievements, pride myself in their efforts of courage and adventure.

Place my hands on the right volumes with which to do my research; let me work with care and diligence, aware that what I do is a labor of love, to be shared and passed on to future generation. Help me to do what I can now and never worry about what I can't find; let me sleep nights from searching in my dreams for so-and-so, knowing that someday after death, I'll be able to question them all personally; I'll know it all first hand.

Let what I compile be my gift to you, my talents multiplied – may it bring smiles and compassion to my family (now and yet to come), and to all, here, writing at my side.

Source: (Michigan Genealogical Society Newsletter, Volume 24, Issue 2, Spring 1996)

Genealogy Quotes

“To forget one’s ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without roots.” — Chinese proverb

“Why waste your money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponent will do it for you.” — Mark Twain

“Walking. I am listening to a deeper way. Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. Be still, they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands.” — Linda Hogan

“In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven

generations.” — Great Law of the Iroquois Confederacy

Source:

<https://www.genealogyexplained.com/ancestry-quotes/>, Ancestry Quotes, January 31, 2022

Editor's notes

In this section the Newsletter editor will introduce new features or articles and solicit article ideas. It will appear when needed to promote or explain topics.

Easter Egg Contest

All done – not enough participation to track anymore.

New columns

We are constantly trying to add new content to the newsletter. For this article we have added:

- **Family Trails** – excerpts from Family Trails and MGC publication which features content reprints from 1983 editions which were reprinted from the Library of Michigan of 1967-1972.
- **MGC Newsletter reprints** from years gone by.

Newsletter redesign scheduled for January 2024 issue

We are currently working on a new look for the newsletter. We need:

- Topic ideas
- A new front page header to replace the current MGC Newsletter header
- Graphics for current columns
 - “On the Shelf”
 - Bookmark Me Now!
 - Heritage Town Hall
 - County Corner
 - Family Trails
 - MGC Newsletter reprints
 - Editor Notes
 - Society News/Events

- President's Message
- Suggested Resource Links
- Society Publications

Do not shy away from color – as our newsletter is predominantly read online – we can add color to the new format newsletter. As you are looking for additional content you want us to add look at other newsletters for ideas – we welcome new ideas!

Article Submission

If you have an article that you want published in the MGC Newsletter:

- Include your name to be used in the byline
- Include your society name
- Include the article as either an attachment or in the body of the email itself
- Include this statement (nothing will be published without permission):
 - I give you permission to publish this in the next edition of the MGC Newsletter
- #MGCArticle in subject line

We are a publication dedicated to helping our society members so if at anytime you find that there is something you need us to provide, please send us an email to newsletter@mimgc.org and let us know what you need from us.

Deadlines for MGC Newsletter submission are: September 15, 2023 (Fall 2023 Issue) December 15, 2023 (Winter 2024 Issue), March 15, 2024 (Spring 2024 Issue), June 15, 2024 (Summer 2024 Issue).

Genealogical Vocabulary

- bounty land
Land promised as an inducement for enlistment or payment for military services
 - declaration of intention
A document filed in a court by an alien who intended to become a United States citizen. It could also be a declaration filed by a couple in a local court, indicating their intention to marry. Also called "declaration of intent."
-

**Library of Michigan Updates****Matt Pacer**Reference Librarian
Library of Michigan

Library of Michigan Update June 2023

Hello Everyone!

Library of Michigan staff encourage researchers to subscribe to our Special Collections Update eBulletin to learn more about events and other news at the Library of Michigan. Please visit the following website to subscribe: Library of Michigan – Sign-up for the Special Collections Update (govdelivery.com).

Staff are currently scheduling presentations at libraries and genealogy societies. A few examples are Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar on June 24th, Howard Miller Public Library on July 25th, and our monthly virtual programs on the first Thursday of the month. The next virtual program is: Using state and local documents for research.

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



**Archives of Michigan
and Abrams Foundation**

Kris Rzepczynski

Senior Archivist

With summer now upon us, there are many things going on here at the Archives of Michigan!

By the time this article is published, the 2023 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar (Friday, June 23 – Saturday, June 24) will have been held. Look for a more complete write-up of the Seminar in the next issue of the MGC Newsletter.

The Michigan probate records digitization project with FamilySearch continues to move forward. When we cross the 1940 threshold in the Wayne County records, the project will expand out into other counties; Washtenaw County is the next county up in the queue. Archives staff will have an active next few months offering programs to genealogical societies and local public libraries, including: Lenawee County Family Researchers, Canton Public Library, Big Rapids Community Library, Fox Run Genealogical Society, Muskegon County Genealogical Society, and the Kentucky Genealogical Society. Many of these sessions will be held onsite, it is wonderful to connect again in-person with so many groups around the state and in the community.

The Archives' online catalog is now available off of our home page: <https://www.michigan.gov/mhc/archives> or via this direct URL: <https://archivesofmichigan.on.worldcat.org/discovery>.

After running a search, users can easily filter to Archival Material or Print Books. This feature makes navigating our collections much easier and more efficient, giving researchers the opportunity to identify collections and print resources in advance of a visit.

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

- Crawford County Tax Records, 1876-1980 / RG 2022-104
- Montmorency County Tax Records, 1883-1999 / RG 2021-105

The Archives of Michigan continues to add new published material to the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection. New additions include:

- DNA for Native American Genealogy / Roberta Estes / 2021 / Call number: CS 21.3.E78 2021
- Masonic Records, Poughkeepsie, New York, Dutchess County: 1842-1915 / Arthur C.M. Kelly / 2020 / Call number: F 129.P88 K34 2020
- Waugh-Halley-Wood Funeral Home, Gallipolis, Ohio, Records 1946-1960 / Gallia County Genealogical Society / 2010 / Call number: F 499.G17 S24 201

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.

Delegate/Board Meetings

Delegate Meetings

Delegate Meetings are being held in person and virtually (hybrid) 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

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/>



June 23, 2023 Delegate Meeting review

Due to the 2023 Barbara J. Brown Family History Seminar being held from June 23-24, 2023, the delegate meeting was held on June 23, 2023 so that delegates who were in town for the in person seminar could attend the delegate meeting in the morning and then the Friday session of the seminar. This does mean that the July Delegate meeting would not take place in it's normal July time slot.

Drew Smith did a wonderful presentation for the delegates describing the Trello product (<https://trello.com/>) and how he used it for his Zion Cemetery project. Everyone learned and we suggest you go and try it out as it is free!

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://mimgc.org/newsletter/>.

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		Pre-Statehood and First Family Certificates	Kim Smith Waterford Genealogical Society

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 provide more publications that we can list for you in our Society Publications section. It is our intention to showcase your society's works.

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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Events***Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research***

IGHR 2023 Virtual Institute

July 23 – 28, 2023

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

Washington DC Trip with KVGs

September 10-16, 2023

For more information see Page 7

or for more information see:

<https://mikvgs.org/>

45th Annual Genealogy Seminar

Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan

Saturday, October 14, 2023 (Webinar)

Eryk Jan Grzeszkowiak and David Obee presenting

Saturday, October 21, 2023 (Webinar or In Person)

Daniel Bućko and Dr. Karen Majewska presenting

For more information see:

<https://pgsm.org/>

GotAncestors Fall Conference

Western Michigan Genealogical Society

21 October 2023

for more information see page 11 or

<https://gotancestors.com/>

Save the Date:

MGC Family History Event

with Michael Strauss

November 4, 2023

For more information – see Page 1 of this MGC Newsletter issue