

MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL
Delegate Meeting Minutes
14 January 2010
Library of Michigan - Forum

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. President Cynthia Grostick extended a welcome to all. The following guests introduced themselves: Bernie Balser of Fox Run Genealogical Society in Novi, Reletha Moch of Downriver Genealogical Society, and Donna Hoff-Grambau of Isabella County Genealogical Society.

Mark Harvey of the Archives stated the present hours of 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Monday and Thursday will be changing on February 1st to 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Archives was part of the DNR, which has now been abolished, and now the Archives is part of the Dept. of Natural Resources and Environment and has a new director. Mark was pleased to report that Ms. Humphreys is in charge of Michigan's Board of Reinvention and Innovation.

Within 2 weeks, the installation of the public wireless system should be completed in the Library of Michigan.

Randy Riley of the Library of Michigan stated the Dept. of Education is excited to have the Library of Michigan in that department. He said the sprinkler lines have now been replaced on the entire 2nd floor of the Michigan Historical Center building, and the sprinkler lines on the 3rd floor are being replaced now. Randy explained the Library of Michigan Foundation and the Abrams Foundation differences and similarities. The Library of Michigan Foundation is currently without an executive director, and their goal is to raise funds for Library of Michigan collections. The LMF has raised about \$7 million to date (\$3 million for genealogical collections), including raising funds for the Rare Book Room, MEL, Michigan Reads, and Michigan Notable Books and literacy programs.

The Abrams Foundation, like LMF, is non-profit and tax exempt, and has an interest in raising funds for genealogy. The Abrams Foundation is governed by a board of 5 members and is not affiliated with the Library of Michigan Foundation. The Abrams Foundation was formed to give back to the Mid-Michigan community. Its interests include higher education, genealogy and the MSU Planetarium. The Abrams Foundation must give a certain amount of funds gained annually from interest it accumulates, generally between \$5,000-\$150,000, and the distribution process is governed by more formalities than the LMF. Randy reported that when a state holiday falls on a Monday, the Library of Michigan will also be closed on the Saturday preceding the state holiday.

Corrections/November 2009 Delegate Meeting Minutes:

P. 1, 3rd sentence should read, "They were, **Lugene Daniels**, ..."

P. 1, 5th paragraph, last sentence should read, "Regimental Rosters for Michigan and **for most** ..."

P. 1, 6th paragraph. Start a new paragraph with, "To remain a viable..."

P. 3 (ATTENDANCE)

Ingham Co GS Tammy **Parsons** (D)

Mid-Mich **GS** **Grove** Sandrock (D) Joanne Harvey (D)

Guests **Lugene Daniels** - Ann Odell - Dan Stock (Huron Shores GS)

Motion by Connie Olson, supported by Tammy Parsons, to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

President Cynthia Grostick offered to attend any society's delegate meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Dues collected totaled \$40 and a \$100 donation was received for the Library of Michigan and Archives. The October 2009 MGC Seminar expenses totaled \$550.50, and the income less expenses amounted to \$369.50. The financial report shows the 63 societies who have renewed their MGC membership. The societies who have not paid are Berrien, Charlevoix, Holland, Huron Co., Kalamazoo Valley, Kalkaska, North Oakland and Redford. For those who have not paid, they will be receiving their last newsletter.

Program

Vice President Sue Irvine introduced our speaker, Roger Moffat, who originally is from New Zealand. His program was entitled, "Taking the Eek out of Geek." He talked about creating a blog. He said WordPress.com can be used free of charge, and it allows a person to install their own computer server.

Three types of information are on a blog: posts, pages about what your blog is about, and comments from others looking at your blog.

A person can have blogs that others write sent to their e-mail account by choosing Outlook (Windows), or by using the subscription default Google.

To create a post, only the blog writer can do that using their password. When comments are posted to your blog, you can read them or click to approve or delete them.

As a security measure, WordPress has a SPAM detector for blogs.

Roger demonstrated how to listen to a podcast online. First, find the website for the podcast or click on **Syndication** to subscribe to a podcast to download it. Next, click on the symbol or presentation for that podcast. Apple offers free iTunes software that can be used for listening to a podcast, which can copy the podcast to the ipod. The iTunes store has several genealogy-related podcasts, including Genealogy Gems, Family Roots Radio, Reunion, Genealogy Dictionary, Bible Genealogy, etc.

Roger spoke about creating a GEDCOM File that can be used to send genealogical data to others. He stressed that one must remember the name of where it was saved.

Roger mentioned that Facebook is a good way to keep up to date on those who are not posting a blog anymore. Barbara Curtindale warned everyone not to ever discuss details such as when you will be leaving for vacation on Facebook.

President Cynthia Grostick updated everyone on the meeting schedule for this year. The February board meeting will be in the Lake Superior Room in the Michigan Historical Center building. On March 11, the Delegate meeting will be held at the Lansing Family History Center in East Lansing. Member Mary Strouse will be speaking at the March meeting regarding Family Search's indexing project. On April 8th, the Board meeting for the committee chairs and executive board will meet at the Lansing Family History Center. The May 15th Delegate meeting will be at the Archives, as will the June board meeting. No meeting rooms/places have been scheduled yet for the July, September or November Delegate meetings. If anyone has ideas for speakers at the MGC meetings, let Cynthia or Sue Irvine know.

Cynthia reported that MGC is nominating Randy Riley for the Filby Award, and letters of recommendation have been filed in a binder. She will accept additional letters through the end of this week. FGS will have the letters in about two weeks, and an award will be presented to a recipient at the end of April.

Lucindia Wilson would like volunteers to fill 2 Trustee positions that will be open in 2010. The MGC Board approved Sam Pardee's extension as Delegate Secretary. Lucindia asked that anyone interested in any MGC position would let her know. Cynthia said the various MGC committees will begin meeting again.

New Project

President Cynthia Grostick introduced the new Digital Index to the 1976 Centennial Project, and Roger Moffat is in charge of this project. Roger had 50 packets, each containing 20 sheets, to give out, and the index is no longer available electronically. The original paper copy and microfiche copies exist. Societies can digitize a copy of the original paper copy, and the index will be placed online.

Packets are typed into a FileMakerPro program that is free to download

(<http://data.mimgc.org/Projects/CentennialIndex/>). Roger will then organize the final index.

MGC Workshop

Connie Olson reported that MGC will not hold a seminar this year.

Connie was pleased with the responses to the online MGC Officer Survey, and encouraged those who have not participated yet to take the survey, as it will be online for another week. So far, delegates and presidents are mostly interested in programs, newsletters and publications; they would like a mixture of speakers and panel sessions; and would like it to be held on a Saturday (possibly May 15th).

Public Forum

The current Internet Genealogy Magazine has a wonderful article about the Seeking Michigan website.

The Huron Shores program on May 8th will feature Edwina Morgan from the Library of Michigan presenting English Research.

Ingham County Genealogical Society has completed 2 projects. They have digitized two Mason newspapers and placed .pdf images on 4 DVDs for one newspaper and 5 DVDs for the other newspaper. They are available for purchase.

Jim Jackson reminded us that delegates need to pick a committee to work with. His suggestion was Lucy Mary Kellogg (Awards Committee) as the committee is working on giving more awards that can be given at council level for accomplishments within member societies.

Megan Smolenyak will be speaking at the WMGS Conference in Grand Rapids November 5 and 7. The Friday night banquet program talk will be on Michelle Obama's heritage dating back to slavery. Megan will have 4 sessions on Saturday.

The Polish Genealogical Society will meet March 20th at Orchard Lake. Their new website, PGSM.ORG, is worth a look.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:10 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Stacy Stoner.

ATTENDANCE
14 January 2010

Calhoun Co GS	Lucindia Wilson (D)	Jim Jackson (D)	
Cass River GS	Marie McGregor (D)	Dorothy Kuck (A)	
Cheboygan Co GS	Ann Martin (D) (PP)		
Cornish Connection	Jeanne Thomas (D)	Carolyn Haines (A)	
Dearborn GS	Laurine Griffin (D)	Tom Koselka (A)	
Downriver GS	Reletha Moch (A)	Tom Koselka (D)	
Farmington GS	Byron Bailey (D)		
Flint GS	Donald Smith (D)	Jim Thornton (D)	Barb Thornton (A)
Fox Run GS	Bernie Balser (D)	Barbara Balser (A)	
Gladwin Co GS	Barbara Curtindale (D)		
Gratiot Co GS	Barbara Curtindale (D)		
Harrison Area GS	Barbara Curtindale (D)		
Hillsdale Co GS	Eleanor Wildt (D)		
Huron Shores GS	Judy Sheldon (D)	Alonzo Sherman (D)	
Ingham Co GS	Tammy Parsons (D)	Isabelle Wells (A)	
Ionia Co GS	Lori Fox (D)		
Isabella Co GS	Donna Hoff-Grambau (D)		
Jackson Co GS	Stacy Stoner (D) (P)		
Kalamazoo Valley GS	Kenneth Baker (D)	Jim Jackson (D)	
Lansing African-Amer	Melvin J Holley (D)		
Lapeer Co GS	Al Hart (D)		
Lenawee Co GS	Virginia Tervol (D)		
Mid-Mich GS	Joanne Harvey (D) (PP)	Grove Sandrock (D)	
Midland GS	Faye A Ebach (D)	Beverly Keicher (D)	
Northeast Mich GS	Janet Romas (D)		
Oakland Co GS	Ann Martin (A) (PP)	Jim Jackson (A)	
Osceola Co GS	Theodore Rinness (D)		
Polish GS of MI	J W Gorski (A)	Valerie Koselka (D)	
Shiawassee Co GS	Don Smith (D)		
Stockbridge A. G&HS	Cynthia Grostick (D)		
Then & Now HGS	Isabelle Wells (D)		
Washtenaw Co GS	Jessie Siekmeier (D)	Barbara Giezentaner (D)	
Waterford GS	Worley Smith (D)	George Rogers (D)	
Western MI GS	Sue Irvine (D)	Roger Moffat (D)	
Council Past-President	Connie Olson		