
**Minutes of the Michigan Genealogical Council Delegate Meeting
The Archives – State of Michigan**

8 July 2010
<http://mimgc.org>

The Delegate Meeting of the Michigan Genealogical Council was called to order by Vice-President Sue Irvine at 1:00 PM on 8 July 2010, at the Archives of Michigan.

Randy Riley presented an update on the Library of Michigan. They are still awaiting action on the budget to find out what will happen regarding the State Library. As of today, the Library is still slated to take a 23% cut in their part of the budget. Not sure yet what will happen to the collection. First, we will be sorting in the Genealogy collection of Michigan items from the Dewey collection to retain in the geneology collection. No final decision on options until the budget is finalized. The newspaper collection would stay with the collection. Good news is that agreement has been reached with Ancestry to start the State Census Project. Hopefully, by the end of the year, those records will be up on SeekingMichigan website. These are all the known State Census records for Michigan and will be digitized and free on SeekingMichigan. Wayne County will be included. Death records are being uploaded to SeekingMichigan.

Mark Harvey added that the Naturalization Indexes currently on the Archives website are being electronically adjusted so all names can be searched regardless of county. Randy further indicated the 4 million death records will be available to researchers for free. Both SeekingMichigan.org and Ancestry will have the indexes.

Mark also said they are working with all libraries in Michigan, with manuscript collections, to get an archival index so all these sources could be made available for researchers. Several archivists will be involved in the review and cataloging of materials preparatory to digitizing data for the indexing. This will be a continuing program that will make an incredible volume of historical information available to all for research.

At this point, Laurine Griffin presented checks to both Randy and Mark representing donations for the Library Foundation and the History/Archives Foundation in the amount of \$245.75 each.

Connie Olson then conducted installation of Officers for the 2010-2011 year, of the following individuals:

- President – Cynthia Grostick
- Vice-Pres – Sue Irvine
- Corresponding Secretary – Tom Koselka
- Treasurer – Laurine Griffin
- Recording Secretary – Board – Stacy Stoner
- Recording Secretary – Delegates – Sam Pardee
- Trustee – 1 Year – Barb Curtindale
- Trustee – 2 Year – Carolyn Haines
- Trustee – 3 Year – Mary Strouse

Minutes of the 13 May 2010 Delegate Meeting were reviewed and it was noted there was a typo in last paragraph of page 1. Motion was made by Mary Lou Duncan to accept minutes as corrected; seconded by Kathleen Doerr, and motion carried.

Treasurers Report for May-June was presented by Laurine Griffin, showing a balance in all accounts of \$55,738.10. Report was accepted for file. Laurine then explained the proposed General Fund Budget for 2010-2011. She clarified the entry regarding Liability Insurance and its importance. Society membership currently stands at 33. Projected income of \$9485.00 supported the several items listed under Expenses with the exception of \$1200 cost of printing the Newsletter. Tammy Parsons indicated projected cost is now roughly \$600.00 and probably less. Shirley Hodges recommended acceptance of the proposed budget, which was seconded and approved.

Mark Harvey then gave a presentation on Civil War Materials available for research to be found on the SeekingMichigan.org website. Firstly, he talked about the 46 Volume Brown Book Collection, which is a listing of the nearly 91,000 Volunteers from Michigan, who served in the Civil War. There is a master index of names by last name. The books give the volunteers name, description, unit served in, plus additional info. The books also include those soldiers from Michigan who may have served in a military unit from another state. Those units and States are included in the last volumes of the 46 Volume set. Mark continued, by indicating that since the inception of the SeekingMichigan site, there have been many donations of Civil War materials which have been added to the digital database found on SeekingMichigan.

Mark continued by mentioning that the data found thru use of the Military Sources page found on Michigan.gov/Archives will be moved to SeekingMichigan.gov. He discussed many of the categories of materials pertaining to the Civil War which are available for research. Most basic data can be found thru use of the all-name indexes included in the 46 volumes. That would include name, grade, where they enlisted, branch, and unit of assignment. Entries also include if they were injured, died, date of separation. Future plans include digitizing the 46 volumes and placing the data on SeekingMichigan. The Archives also has the Substitute List. These are people who were paid or volunteered to replace someone else. The persons who paid for a substitute were referred to as Principals. This information is also available now.

Continuing, Mark also explained use of the Regimental Records which cover the activities of the Civil War units from inception, thru muster, the travels and engagements, and activities of the units. Can also view the Civil War Manuscript Collection, which includes diaries and letters by and to the individual soldiers, amongst other items. Civil War collection includes over 2000 photos, including pictures of many enlisted men, not just officers. The collection also includes records from the Soldiers Home in Grand Rapids, spanning the years after the war, up to 2000. The website maintained by Sons of Union Veterans dhas the most complete registration of Civil War Soldier Burial Locations.

Two additional sites to utilize include the National Park Service site Soldiers & Sailors, which has lists of Prisoners (North and South), Medal of Honor Winners, and Cemeteries. Has a listing for every soldier who served in the Civil War, North or South. Another great Civil War collection can be found at Cornell University by Googeling Making of America – Cornell, keyword searching. This is a 125 volume collection of material

Pension Records and Military Records are available thru National Archives (NARA.gov). These are separate files, and can only be ordered online, which includes the entire file. There is a link on Military Pages at SeekingMichigan.org. Mark then talked about SeekingMichigan.org website. On the opening page, there is a tutorial available by clicking on "Seek".

He then demonstrated methods of using a typical search and discussed Advance Search methods. Reminder, the SeekingMichigan website is not connected to or controlled by any State of Michigan agency. It is run by the Michigan History Foundation and is not on State servers. Mark also mentioned use of the Discover page when searching. They are completely revamping the K-12 Education Program found on Teach page. Incorporates many of the Museums education programs. There will be an online store on the SeekingMichigan.org site.

Sue Irvine then gave the Vice-Presidents report. Kris Rzepczynski, of the Library staff, will be the speaker at the November Delegate Meeting. His topic will be Utilizing Footnote. The September 9th Delegate Meeting will be held in Harrison, Mich, at the Mid-Michigan Community College. Additional info will be forthcoming. The November Delegate Meeting will be on WEDNESDAY, 10 November 2010 in the Forum, at the Historical Center in Lansing.. The 11th of Nov is a holiday, Veterans Day.

Connie Olson reported the recent Officer Workshop on 15 May was a success. There were over 50 attendees. The focus was duties of officers, and programs and speakers. She also asked for ideas for future workshops. They are a great opportunity for getting acquainted, exchanging ideas, and networking. We will be working on getting a speakers list.

Tom Koselka commented on the MCIR Board. He noted that the Board has completed its job, and reports has been submitted to the Governor. Part of the report concluded that a Family History Digital Center would align well with the Genealogy collection and programs of both the Archives and Library of Michigan.

Janet Romas, MGC Archivist, reminded any outgoing officer to turn all materials over to incoming officers taking their place. Materials/reports more than 1 year old should be turned over to her as the Archivist.

Sue Irvine reminded all officers and Committee Chairs that yearly reports are due and they should be sent to her. She also commented that Society Newsletters should be emailed to Tammy Parsons.

Tom Koselka indicated there is room on the MGC Website Blog to add your society events. Include all necessary information such as location, charge, etc.

Friendly Forum:-

-Mary Lou Duncan indicated that Dr John Colleta will present a program at Detroit Library – Burton Collection on 25 September 2010. Free

-Shirley Hodges said the Director of the Cemetery in Charlotte will be speaking on Veterans Benefits on 21 July at 7:00 PM at the old Court House in Charlotte.

-Byron Bailey noted there will be an “Exploring Your Roots” Cruise 5-12 June 2011 on a Carrribean Cruise, and one on Oct 22-27, 2011. There will be several genealogy seminars.

-Judy Sheldon of Huron Sores said they have an upcoming program on Sep 11th which will be on Basic Geneological Research. On Oct 9th from 10 – 3, there will be 2 separate workshops. Lunch provided.

-Valerie Koselka mentioned the annual Seminar on 16 October at American-Polish Cultural Center in Troy, MI. Speaker is from Poland. Fee is \$65.00, which includes dinner.

-Joanne Harvey commented on a newspaper article talking about a black-market operation happening in Puerto Rico, which sells US Citizenship documents.

-Tom Koselka indicated Cornish Connection & Monroe Co Societies have pledged funds to support the possible move of genealogical materials from the Library to the Archives should it become necessary. Detroit and Irish have also pledged. REMINDER: As of now, the new State of Mich Budget will determine if relocation of materials should become necessary.

-Laurine Griffin reminded attendees that action is being taken to ensure that veterans remains are not just “stored” at Funeral facilities. Action is going on to get the remains to Military Cemeteries.

-Sue Irvine said that on the 1st Friday evening in November, Megan Smolnyak-Smolnyak will be speaking at Western Michigan in Grand Rapids, then on Saturday, she will have an all-day seminar, same location.

-Ann Martin mentioned the head of the new Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan has indicated they will go to nearly any place in Michigan to give a talk about the new Federal Cemetery, its rules, and how they operate.

Motion was made to adjourn the Delegate Meeting by Barb Curtindale, and meeting was adjourned.

ATTENDANCE

Bay County	Kathleen Doerr (D)	Ann Mattheus (A)
Calhoun Co	Jim Jackson (D)	
Cass River	Marie McGregor (D)	Dorothy Kuck (A)
Cheboygan Co	Ann Martin (D) (PP)	
Cornish Connection	Carolyn Haines (D)	
Dearborn GS	Laurine Griffin (D)	
Detroit Soc for GR	Richard Doherty (D)	Mary Lou Duncan (D)(PP)
Downriver GS	Reletha Moch (D)	Tom Koselka (D)
Eaton Co GS	Jim Collins (D)	Sher Brown (D)
Farmington GS	Byron Bailey (D)	
Flint GS	Jim Thornton	
Gladwin Co GS	Barb Curtindale (D)	
Gratiot Co HGS	Barb Curtindale (D)	
Hillsdale Co GS	Eleanor Wildt (D)	Virginia Tervol (A)
Hodges Family	Shirley Hodges (D)	
Huron Shores GS	Judy Sheldon (D)	Ann Odell (A)
Ingham Co GS	Tammy Parsons (D)	Sam Pardee (D) Isabelle Wells (A)
Irish GS of MI	Richard Doherty (D)	Mary Lou Duncan (D)
Isabella Co GS	Donna Hoff-Grambau (D)	
Jackson Co GS	Stacy Stoner (D)	Jim Jackson (D)
Kalamazoo Valley	Ken Baker (D)	
Lansing African-American	Melvin Holley (D)	
Mich Gen-Web	Patricia Hamp (D)	
Lenawee Co GS	Marilyn J Saylor (D)	
Mid-Mich GS	Earl Watt (P)	Joanne Harvey (PP)
Midland GS	Faye Ebach (D)	
Monroe Co GS	Laurie Schultzs (D)	Florence Wilson (D)
Muskegon Co GS	Dawn Kelley (D)	
Northeast MI GS	Janet Romas (D)	
Oakland Co GS	Pam Epple (D)	Richard Doherty (D) Grace Bonfiglio (A)
Osceola Co GS	Ted Rinness (D)	
Polish GS of MI	Valerie Koselka (D)	
St Joseph Co GS	Judy Spencer (D)	Roberta Shingledecker (D)
Then & Now HGS	Isabelle Wells (D)	
Washtenaw Co GS	Jessie Siekmeier (D)	Ed Redmen (D)
Western MI GS	Sue Irvine (D)	Graham Hollis (D)
Council Past Presidents	– Connie Olson, Mary Lou Duncan, Ann Martin, Joanne Harvey	