

MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL DELEGATE MEETING

FORUM – MICHIGAN HISTORICAL CENTER

10 March 2011

President Cynthia Grostick opened the meeting at 10:04 AM and welcomed all attendees.

Cindy then gave an update on the State Library. Effective 14 March 2011 the Library will be open Monday thru Friday, from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM. During hours of operation, only 3 desks will be staffed. They are the Reference Information Desk on 2d Floor, the Law Reference Desk on the 3d Floor, and the Rare Book Room desk on the 4th Floor. The phone number for the Reference Information Desk is 517-373-1300 during the hours of operation.

Mark Harvey then presented an update on the Archives of Michigan. Mark mentioned the progress being made by Ancestry in the digitizing and indexing of the Michigan State Census and is not sure when they will be ready for uploading to SeekingMichigan. The Archives have contacted the 24 counties that had not turned in their Naturalization Records and are beginning to get replies. So far 3 counties have said they will work with the Archives to get the info up on SeekingMichigan. The State Census indexing will probably fall into the 6-12 month range for completion.

Other items in the works include working on records of Office of Land Survey by getting all their notes and original Plat Maps along with Land Patent Records uploaded to SeekingMichigan. He is also working with MGC to get plans finalized for the July 16th Abrams Genealogy Seminar set with speakers and topics. They are still working on getting the wireless system set up and installed. Mark then thanked the MGC for their donation.

Funding has been received/budgeted to continue SeekingMichigan.org for the next five years.

Tom Koselka then gave a Legislative update. The Archives have indicated that should the genealogical collections in the Library be split out, they have room for all genealogical materials not wanted by the Library, and they would need one of the trained librarians to come with the materials. The Education bill has a large cutback in monies for public libraries. We already know of some closings of local libraries.

Sue Irvine introduced the speaker for today, William Bower, who will talk about Non-Profit Organizations. Mr. Bower is an Attorney who specializes in working with and assisting groups who are, or are contemplating becoming, classified as a Non-Profit Organization. This includes meeting the legal requirements established by the IRS and State Government. He talked about many of the topics required in the Organizational Constitution and their By-Laws. In addition, Mr Bower covered the necessity for annual reporting to both State and Federal tax authorities. Annual report covers charitable solicitation, unrelated business income, and fundraising. He also talked about submission of forms 990, and the types of filing. The importance of filing tax documents yearly and with great accuracy cannot be over-emphasized. The

speaker also covered the possible income from sources unrelated to the organizations exempt status, and the need to ensure it is reported properly.

Minutes of the 13 January 2011 Delegates Meeting were reviewed and it was noted that on page 4 in the paragraph on Projects, the Marriage Records time frame should read (1820-1956). Tammy Parsons made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Ken Howe, and motion carried. It was also established that a quorum of membership was present for the meeting.

Sue Irvine reminded attendees of the Abrams Seminar on 16 July, at the Archives of Michigan.

Tom Koselka presented the Treasurers Report for the period Jan – Feb 2011, which showed a balance in all accounts of \$56,110.24. Report was accepted for file.

The Presidents Report by Cindy Grostick indicated the July Delegate meeting will be in Midland. More information will be forthcoming on both the July Delegate Meeting where we will have a National Speaker, and also the Abrams Seminar on July 16th. The Executive Board is tentatively planning a special activity on Friday evening 15 July. MGC will sponsor a Family History Seminar for Saturday, 29 October 2011. Planning is in conjunction with the Archives. A sad note, as you will remember, in November, Lyla Spellbring of Livingston County, who was honored as the recipient of the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award, has passed away. She was age 88 at the time of passing. A moment of silence ensued.

In the absence of Jim Jackson, Cindy reminded attendees that nominations for the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award for 2011 should be turned in by May 31st.

Sue Irvine, Vice-President, noted the speaker for May will be Deb Moore, who will be talking about "Writing Your Family History".

Barb Curtindale, Trustee, indicated the election of Officers for 2011-2012 will be conducted at the May Delegate Meeting. The Slate of Officers is as follows:

President – Cynthia Grostick

Vice-President – Sue Irvine

Corresponding Secretary – Tom Koselka

Treasurer – Laurine Griffin

Recording Secretary – Board – Sam Pardee

Recording Secretary – Delegate – Stacy Stoner

Trustee – 3 Year – Marilyn Saylor

Trustee – 2 Year – Mary Strouse

Trustee – 1 Year – Carolyn Haines

Projects Committee Report was presented by Roger Moffat, which indicated the Marriage Index project has 25,000 images completed out of 287,000. The committee talked last month about the possibility of starting a War of 1812 project, along the same set-up as the Centennial Project of 25 years ago. The marriage index project still has some packets to be worked on. Also, some of the packets handed out, have not been returned yet. Those include Grove Sandrock, Lori Fox, Barbara Geizentaner, and John Fulton.

The By-Law Committee Report was presented by Ann Martin. When the revised version is ready for review, it will be furnished each Delegate, either thru internet, or hard-copy if we have no email address for that Delegate. The By-Laws we are currently operating under require review prior to voting on the revised edition. Make sure your society has 2 delegates appointed, and their names are on file at MGC so each society has 2 votes.

Most of changes are required to meet legal requirements. Cindy added there will be a cover letter indicating where the new changes are. If you don't currently have a copy of the 2005 version of the by-laws, the person you replaced as a Delegate did not pass on the materials they were supposed to when they left office.

Cindy Grostick reported on the upcoming Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in September, which will be held in Springfield, Illinois during the period 7 – 10 September 2011. MGC will have a Booth there. If your society has brochures, and you would like them to be available to attendees, get them to Sue Irvine. This would be a good opportunity to advertise your society, and any items you may have to sell that would be of interest to researchers. We cannot sell items at this conference, but people can order if there are order forms. Cindy will be attending, representing MGC. There are some great speakers and learning opportunities.

FRIENDLY FORUM:

Sue Irvine mentioned the Tour of the Tri-River Museums on 30 April and 1 May 2011. This is a tour of many of the small museums in Western Michigan. Flyers are available at back of the room.

Mary Lou Duncan indicated Macomb County Society had put an index to Circuit Court Records for Macomb County on their web-site. This index covers 182 volumes and gives the case numbers. Mary Lou further said former MGC member Diana Hebner will be starting an experimental treatment for her cancer. Cards can be sent to her at her home.

Laurie Schultz of the Monroe County Society said they will have their annual Seminar on Saturday, March 26. Flyers available in back.

Ceil Jensen introduced the Delegate from the Polish Mission, Dana Barrett.

Joanne Harvey said that Michigan House Bill 4305 has a great many restrictions being placed on immigrants, such as carrying identification if they do not look like

they may be American. There is a lot of opposition to it, and it is currently in a Senate committee. The bill can be read on the web. Please keep yourself informed.

Lorene Wilson of Flint mentioned they had a Scottish-Irish speaker in February, and they had nearly 60 visitors that attended. It was great.

Tom Koselka indicated Downriver is having a bus-trip to Fort Wayne on April 6th, and the Dearborn Society is having a bus-trip to Fort Wayne on 10 May.

Sue Irvine said Western Michigan GS is having a bus-trip on 27-28 April (over-nite) to Fort Wayne.

There being no further business before the Delegates, President Cindy Grostick closed the meeting.

ATTENDANCE

Calhoun Co GS Lucindia Wilson (D)

Cheboygan Co GS Ann Martin (D)

Cornish Connection Jeanne Thomas (D)(P) Carolyn Haines (D)

Dearborn GS Tom Koselka (D)

Flint GS Lorene Wilson (D)

Gladwin Co GS Barb Curtindale (D)

Gratiot Co HGS Barb Curtindale (D)

Harrison Area GS Barb Curtindale (D)

Hillsdale Co GS Sharen Mayers (D)

Huron Shores GS Judy Sheldon (D)

Ingham Co GS Tammy Parsons (D) Sam Pardee (D) Isabelle Wells (A)

Irish GS of MI Mary Lou Duncan (D) (PP)

Isabella Co GS Donna Hoff-Grambau (D)

Lansing African-American Melvin Holley (D)

Lapeer Co GS Al Hart (D) Betty Ann Ivory (D)

Lenawee Co GS Marilyn Sayler (D)

Mich Gen Web Pat Hamp (D)

Mid-Mich GS Earl Watt (P) Ken Howe (D) Joanne Harvey

Midland GS Beverly Keicher (D)

Monroe Co GS Laurie Schultz (D)

Oakland Co GS Pam Epple (D) Grace Bonfiglio (A)

Polish GS of MI Valerie Koselka (D) Bill Gorski (D) Jill O'Sullivan (Guest)

Polonioca Ceil Jensen (D) Dana Barrett (D)

Shiawassee Co GS Marilyn Baumgras (D)

Stockbridge Area Cynthia Grostick (D)(P)

Then & Now GHS Isabelle Wells (D)

Washtenaw Co GHS Ed Redmer

Western MI GS Roger Moffat (D) Sue Irvine (D)

Council Past President Ann Martin

Mary Lou Duncan

Joanne Harvey