

MGC DELEGATE MEETING
14 July 2011
Midland Family History Center
Midland, Michigan
The meeting began at 1:10 p.m.

President Cynthia Grostick thanked Mary Strouse for contacting the Midland Family History Center representatives to schedule today's meeting, and she thanked Midland Family History staff for allowing today's meetings in the church building.

Installation of Officers

Barbara Curtindale read the MGC objectives in Article III of the MGC bylaws, then Connie Olson asked Cynthia Grostick – President, Sue Irvine – Vice President, Laurine Griffin – Treasurer, Sam Pardee – Board Secretary, Stacy Stoner – Delegate Secretary, Tom Koselka – Corresponding Secretary, Mary Strouse – Trustee, and Marilyn Saylor – Trustee, to come forward for the Installation of Officers oath and photograph. Trustee Carolyn Haines could not attend today's meeting.

President Cynthia Grostick thanked delegates assembled for electing her for one more year.

President's Report

President Cynthia Grostick reported three disturbing trends. First, budget cuts to the Library of Michigan and The Archives of Michigan will force those in charge to determine the legally-mandated services and then make cuts accordingly. Cynthia believes The Archives would preserve the "non-genealogy" collection now in the Library of Michigan and accept donations for that purpose. Tom Koselka has agreed to meet with legislators to promote the collection's move to The Archives and additional funding for it.

Second, MGC has been criticized for not being supportive of local libraries, but Cynthia said MGC advocates funding for local libraries, and she encouraged delegates to be supportive, too.

Third, Cynthia is concerned about Family History Centers offering less or consolidating. Cynthia spoke with an official from Family History Center headquarters in Salt Lake City, and the official said they want to be informed if we hear that a move or closing will occur. MGC delegates may also contact Cynthia or Tom in these matters, and one of them will pass the word along to Salt Lake City, along with any praises for Family History Centers that they hear. Cynthia encouraged societies to build relationships with their local Family History Centers.

Abrams Seminar

Cynthia said MGC has been working with The Archives on the Abrams Seminar. There are currently 105 registrants. Cynthia said Mark Harvey and The Archives are making the Abrams Seminar happen this year. The Archives staff has also volunteered time to be open that day, on Saturday, July 16, from 1-5 p.m., for researchers.

Cynthia thanked Sue Irvine and Pam Epple for lining up speakers for the seminar, and she thanked Tom Koselka and Sue Irvine for coordinating the seminar.

War of 1812 Project

Roger Moffat, who agreed to work as Projects Chair, is working on the War of 1812 project.

Corresponding Secretary

Tom Koselka said the Michigan newspaper collection in the Library of Michigan is being added to Ancestry.com. Also, the Library of Michigan Foundation has renewed Footnote for one more year. The Archives is trying to get the process moving for the new wireless system in the Michigan Historical Center.

Vice President

Sue Irvine introduced speaker Katherine Redwine, Reference Librarian at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library.

History of Grace A. Dow Memorial Library

Katherine Redwine brought maps of Midland for meeting participants, and mentioned the Voices Exhibit at the Midland Historical Society Museum. The history of the Dow Library is preceded by a pre-1899 trading post in Midland that offered books to rent. When Herbert Dow moved to Midland, he collaborated with area businesses to form a public library for area businessmen. Mary Dow, Herbert's sister, was the first librarian. (Mary graduated in 1888 from a college in Cleveland, Ohio, with a Library Science degree, and was already a professional librarian when she moved to Midland. She became Director of the East Saginaw Library in 1919, which merged into the Saginaw Library. Mary Dow replaced the CMU Librarian in the mid-1920s, and managed the crisis that arose from a fire there.)

The grand opening took place 20 March 1900 in the Unitarian Church, and 100 books were ordered for the opening. A free reading room was soon opened, with a subscription library open on Saturdays. After 15 years, it became a public library, and the Carnegie Foundation was contacted for donations. The library was not a traditionally-ornate Carnegie library. In 1918, the Grace A. Dow Library was built on the same street where the Chemical Bank is today. The newer building it now occupies was opened in 1955. A 100th anniversary history of the Midland Library was written in 1999.

The Dow family wanted the library to be a city-operated public library, and the city of Midland agreed to pay its operating costs. The Grace Dow Foundation has donated money for expansions. Today, the library includes computer services. Midland newspapers have been digitized for the years 1870-1922. The library offers Ancestry -- Library Edition, and subscribes to Genealogy Bank. The Midland Co. Genealogical Society has been donating funds to the library for several years, and the library has local birth, marriage and cemetery records as well as yearbooks for Midland High School and for Dow High School.

Minutes

Motion by Sue Irvine, supported by Lucindia Wilson, to approve the 12 May 2011 Delegate Meeting Minutes with corrections. A majority was in favor. Motion carried. Corrections are as follows:

P. 3 FRIENDLY FORUM•

Paragraph 3, 1st sentence should read, "Jim Collins noted that Eaton County is scheduling a bus trip to Fort Wayne on July 23rd.

P. 3 paragraph 7, 1st sentence should begin, “Ann Martin then mentioned...”•
2nd sentence should end, “...in the tri-county area near Cheboygan.”

P. 4 ATTENDANCE should include, “Huron Shores GS ... Judy Sheldon (D).”•

Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Laurine Griffin reported that societies in Jackson, Harrison and Oakland counties have paid their dues since the July 9 report.

Laurine said funds from savings will be used as part of the budget for The Archives contribution, liability insurance, possible workshops, and a possible move of the “non-Michigan” collection to The Archives.

Motion by Janet Romas, supported by Mary Strouse, to accept the proposed budget as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Laurine announced she has dues forms available for societies here today that have not paid their dues.

Friendly Forum

President Cynthia Grostick welcomed visitor Judy Berner of the Bay County Genealogical Society, new delegate Larry Noyes of the Isabella County Genealogical Society, new delegate Carl Colby of the Jackson County Genealogical Society, and new delegate Frieda Hirschenberger of the Northeast Michigan Genealogical Society. Frieda is skilled at translating the German and Dutch languages. Lucindia Wilson will give membership information to new delegates following today’s meeting.

Joanne Harvey expressed gratitude that The Archives continues to be willing to accept the “non-Michigan” collection from the Library of Michigan. Tom Koselka said legislation would need to be passed for a transfer to be possible, and then Cynthia Grostick said a new proposal would have to be drawn up stating the holdings the Library of Michigan and The Archives will be responsible for.

Barbara Curtindale passed around a list of like-new books for sale by her friend.

Tony Burrows will speak August 4 and 5 for the Western Michigan Genealogical Society.

Joanne Harvey asked that attendees let their U.S. Congressman know about their support for Senate Concurrent Resolution #4 (proposed by Charles Schumer) and Resolution #12 (originally proposed by Anthony Weiner). They have worked to get markers for the graves of Jewish chaplains who fought and died in the service and are buried at Arlington National Cemetery. The markers will cost taxpayers nothing.

Jim Collins from the Eaton County Genealogical Society said there will be a trip to the Allen County Public Library, with pickups at the old Charlotte Courthouse and at Marshall. The trip will be a week from this Saturday (July 23), and cost \$30 per person.

Cynthia thanked the Eaton Co. Genealogical Society for changing the day of their October bus trip so the MGC October Seminar would not conflict with the date.

Valerie Koselka, of the Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, mentioned a seminar on October 15 at the American Polish Cultural Center in Troy, which will feature a speaker from Salt Lake City on German-Prussian records and where to find them.

Cynthia Grostick said the Stockbridge Cemetery Tour is October 9.

MGC Meeting Dates

August 11 10:00 a.m. Board Meeting Lake Superior Room♣

Sept. 15 10:00 a.m. Exec. Board Mtg Lake Huron Room♣
1:00 p.m. Delegate Mtg Archives Education Room
(FGS Conference attendees will speak and answer questions.)

October date uncertain♣

November 10:00 a.m. Exec. Board Mtg 1st floor – The Archives side♣
1:00 Delegate Mtg 1st floor – The Archives side
(Ken Howe will speak on the Sanborn Maps.)

Kris Rzepczynski will periodically be the Library of Michigan Liaison.

All meetings from November 2011 forward (except the once-yearly north-of-Lansing Board/Delegate Meetings) will be held in a new conference room in construction on the 1st floor of The Archives side of the Michigan Historical Center.

Committee Chair Positions

President Cynthia Grostick announced the following Committee Chair positions:

Janet Romas – Archivist•

Jim Jackson – Awards (Barb Curtindale – assistant)•

Sam Pardee – Central Mail•

Connie Olson – FGS Delegate•

Barbara Curtindale – Historian•

Committee meeting dates will be on the MGC website. Cynthia asked delegates to volunteer to serve on committees, as is suggested in the MGC bylaws.

Cynthia welcomed Marilyn Saylor, MGC's new Trustee.

Abrams Seminar

Online registrations now total 105. Delegates are invited to the (free) Friday night reception for David Rencher. There will be a get-together after the reception for FGS attendees.

Cynthia read the times scheduled for various volunteers to arrive at their stations for the seminar.

Door prizes will include a full-year subscription and a 6-month subscription to Ancestry – World edition, and an Irish research book.

A petition from 2 years ago to keep the Library of Michigan intact will be displayed.

October 29 MGC Seminar

Connie Olson is in need of help with organizing/planning for the seminar.

Pam Cooper, a member of the Oakland Co. Genealogical Society, will be the keynote speaker. Her topics will include: The Homestead Act, Poor Houses and Acts That Gave Money to the Poor, and Emigration Back to England. There will also be a speaker on the Burton Collection, a speaker from Okemos on Upstate New York, and speaker Shirley Hodges from the Eaton Co. Genealogical Society.

Corresponding Secretary

Tom Koselka said carpet is being installed in the microfilm room at the Library of Michigan.

Website

Tom Koselka said he will be contacting societies when the email bounces so that he can determine the reason.

Projects

Roger Moffat has 3 packets remaining for the Michigan Centennial Project.

Roger asks that anyone with information on their War of 1812 ancestor submit the information by GEDCOM.

Byron Bailey said the Family History project is completed and online. Those involved in the Michigan Marriage Project can go online to MyAccuracy to view what the arbitrator changed after the submission. That will give an indication of the accuracy of the submission.

Awards

Jim Jackson is deciding on criteria for various awards.

The judges for the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award will meet August 8. The award will be presented September 15.

Newsletter

Tammy needs submissions for the next newsletter ASAP.

Archivist

Janet Romas is accepting records from last year's officers.

MGC Logo

Kenneth Howe took a survey, and most attendees think the logo needs to be updated or re-designed. Ken asked attendees to send their ideas to him on the MGC website.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Submitted by Stacy Stoner, Delegate Meeting Secretary.

MGC July 2011 Delegate Meeting Attendance

Bay County Genealogical Society Kathleen Doerr (D)

Sally McCollum (VP)

Calhoun Co. Genealogical Society Jim Jackson (D)

Lucindia Wilson (D)

Cass River Genealogical Society Marie McGregor (D)

Dorothy Kuck (D)

Cheboygan Co. Genealogical Society Ann Martin (D)

Dearborn Genealogical Society Laurine Griffin (D)

Tom Koselka (A)

Downriver Genealogical Society Tom Koselka (D)

Eaton Co. Genealogical Society Joan Glasgow (D)

Jim Collins (D)

Farmington Genealogical Society Byron Bailey (D)

Flint Genealogical Society Lorene Wilson (D)

Gladwin Co. Genealogical Society Barb Curtindale (D)

Gratiot Co. Hist. Gen. Society Barb Curtindale (D)

Mary E. Strouse (D)

Harrison Area Gen. Society Barb Curtindale (D)

Hillsdale Co. Genealogical Society Sharen S. Mayers (D)

Huron Shores Genealogical Society Judy Sheldon (D)

Ingham Co. Genealogical Society Sam Pardee (D)
Isabella Co. Genealogical Society Larry G. Noyes (D) Donna Hoff-Grambau (D)
Jackson Co. Genealogical Society Stacy Stoner (D), (P)
Carl Colby (D)
Kalamazoo Valley Gen. Society Jim Jackson (D)
Lapeer Co. Genealogical Society Al Hart (D)
MGC July 2011 Delegate Meeting Attendance
Lenawee Co. Genealogical Society Marilyn Sayler (D)
Michigan Family History Donna Hoff-Grambau (D)
Patricia Hamp (D)
Michigan Gen Web Patricia Hamp (D)
Mid-Michigan Gen. Society Ken Howe (D)
Joanne Harvey (D)
Midland Genealogical Society Faye Ebuch (D)
Northeast Michigan Gen. Society Janet Romas (D)
Frieda Hirschenberger (D)
Oakland Co. Gen. Society Pam Epple (D)
Osceola Co. Gen. Society Ted Rinness (D)
Polish Gen. Society of MI Valerie S. Koselka (D)
Stockbridge Area Gen. & Hist. Society Cynthia Grostick (D)
Washtenaw Co. Gen. Society Ed Redmer (D)
Western MI Gen. Society Sue Irvine (D)
Council Past President Ann Martin
Connie Olson
Joanne Harvey
GUEST Judy Berner
(Bay Co. Gen.)