

ECHOES FROM OUR PAST



Volume 1, Issue 1

Macomb County Genealogy Group

Feb-Mar-Apr 2011

MCGG Calendar of Events

PRESENTATIONS

1:00 pm in Library Auditorium

Feb 07, 2011 – “Detroit Illustrated 1889,” presented by Michael Franck.

Mar 04, 2011 – “Circuit Court Records an Underutilized Genealogy Resource,” and the introduction of the new Macomb County Court Index 1847-1940, presented by Ann Faulkner

Apr -01, 2011 – “Orphan Train in Michigan and Beyond, 1854-1927,” presented by Arlene Robertson

May 06, 2011 – “Researching There While You Are Here,” presented by Karen Krugman.

Jun 08, 2011 – Annual Summer Pot Luck and Silent Auction of Genealogy Materials (Joint Meeting of the Wednesday and Friday Groups). Bidding opens at 5 p.m. and dinner begins at 6 p.m.. Bring a dish to share

Do You Have Something to Contribute?

Articles for our Quarterly may be sent to kohlmann.a@sbcglobal.net or given to Ken Kohlmann. They will be included in a timely manner in subsequent editions.



Macomb County Genealogy Group

Website: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mimcgg

Email: macombcogg@gmail.com

MCGG Calendar of Events

LET'S TALK ... GENEALOGY

7:00 p.m. in Local History & Genealogy Room

2nd Wednesday of the month

Feb 09, 2011 – “A Genealogy Genie Grants You ONE Wish. What Would it Be and Why?”

Mar 09, 2011 – “Google: Commands and Tricks to Cultivate Your Tree.” Learn how to get more out of Google.

Apr 13, 2011 – “Land Records: Sorting Out the Papers That Say They Were Here.”

May 11, 2011 – “Have You Tried...?” Have You Seen...” Share your favorite sites or new things you’ve seen that have helped with your research.



Resource Development Sessions

1:00 p.m. Friday Afternoon

In Library Auditorium

These work sessions will be held on Feb 18, Mar 18, Apr 15, May 20, Jun 24, Jul 8 & 22, and Aug 05 & 19. We use this time to index Macomb County records to create databases to help other researchers. This is your chance to give back to the genealogy community by helping to make Macomb County records more accessible for everyone.



My family tree is full of NOT holes... It's NOT him... It's NOT her.





Who's Who in MCGG:

Let me introduce myself to you as the editor of "Echoes From Our Past." I am Rev. Dr. Kenneth "Ken" Kohlmann. I was fatally bitten by the Genealogical Bug some 52 years ago in Flint, MI. I joined the FGS and became active as a researcher and speaker for that group.

After entering the ministry in 1971, I found myself appointed to Mt. Clemens UMC (1977-81) and I became affiliated with the MCGG. I served several other area churches that allowed me to continue to attend meetings through 1996. I relocated to Homer UMC, Midland with a retirement home in Beaverton. I joined the Gladwin Genealogy Society where I volunteered in the Genealogy Room, was a speaker and put together the first edition of their Newsletter before moving to New Baltimore.

And now "I'm back!"

Through the years I've been a contributing editor to "Roger and Abigail (Ufford) Terrill and Some Descendants: 1632-1993," "Ancestors and Descendants of Mary Trumbull-Millins, Malinda A. Campbell and Jerome Terrill of Hudson Michigan: 1630-1994," and "Religious Communities—Centennial History of Mount Clemens, Michigan, 1879-1979."

Utilizing my personal research I've been able to author the following family books: "The John Hawkins Family of Stratton Audley, England and Michigan (200 p.p.)," "The George Kohlmann and Jacob Hansche Families (300+ p.p.)," "The John Hoffmeyer and Catherine Bittner Family... (450+ p.p.)," "The John Martin Family of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan (600+ p.p.)," "The Johann Hinrich Koltz Family (150+ p.p.)," and, am currently collaborating with cousins on "The Josiah and Abigail Hackett Family (600+ p.p.)."

Good News: The latest editions of the above are on CDs for free distribution to contributing family members and stored on Seagate hard-drive.. Not-So-Good News: New material or lines comes in daily requiring a continuous update process.

Library of Michigan Changes

Due to significant reductions in the Library of Michigan's operation funding and staffing the following changes go into effect **03 Jan 2011**.

- 1) Materials from the Library of Michigan's collections will be available for in-library use only.
- 2) The Library of Michigan no longer will borrow materials from other libraries (interlibrary loan) for public patrons.
- 3) The Library of Michigan will not be a participating Mel.Cal Library.
- 4) The Library of Michigan will be open to the public Monday through Friday, **Closed** Saturday and Sunday.



Fort Wayne Allen County Library

The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research (DSGR) is sponsoring a bus trip to the Fort Wayne Allen County Library on 19 Feb 2011, leaving from Lawrence Tech in Southfield. The cost: \$35 for members, \$40 for non-members.

They will stop at the Golden Coral for a buffet dinner on the return trip (\$10).

If interested contact Ann Faulkner for an application form. If you plan on going on your own at another time, Ann also has information concerning the LaSalle Bed & Breakfast (located 1 blk from Library).



"Who Do You Think You Are?" Series back for 2nd Season on NBC beginning 04 Feb 2011, (8 E.T.).

Celebrities appearing: Gwyneth Paltrow, Tim McGraw, Rosie O'Donnell, Steve Buscemi, Kim Cattrall, Lionel Richie, Vanessa Williams, and Ashley Judd.



In the field of Genealogy or History, what is a GRIOT?

(answer on back page)

Early Photography Workshop

The January 2011 meeting of the Mount Clemens Genealogy Group was treated to a special workshop led by Bill and Glenna Jo Christen.

Bill and Glenna Jo took us through a history of photography up through the end of the 19th century. They showed us how to identify the type of photograph we were looking at, the years that it was in common usage, and how to preserve them. Glenna Jo, whose expertise is clothing and costumes, could date the photos within a year or two by the clothing the subjects were wearing. They could also date them if done in a photo studio, by the props or the style of pose. To top off the day, they spent time looking at photos brought in by members and helping us to date them. They were able in one instance to identify whether the subject was of the “Simple or Plain Folk” (Amish, Quaker, Mennonite, etc.) by clothing and style of beard. The hairstyles of both men and women were also quite helpful in dating process..



Grandma Didn't Tell the Whole Story

Did you ever ask a relative a question about the family and get an answer that sent you off in the wrong direction? In my case, when asked where her father was born, dear old grandma stated, “In Canada. The whole family is Canadian.”

Years later, I stumbled on the truth. G-Grandpa was born in Canada – True! The “whole family was Canadian” – Not True! His parents were natives of New York. His father was a cabinet maker who decided to move his family to Michigan. The shortest route was to cross the border into Canada and head for Port Huron. Along the way he made cabinets and a baby. My g-grandpa was that baby.

Always hold those family stories and traditions suspect, until you can prove them to be the truth or some variation of the truth.



Reading Old Documents with Ink Bleed Through

Have you ever tried to read a document that had been hand written on both sides of the paper, and the ink bleed through makes it impossible to read? Here's a possible solution, at least it worked for me.

Place the document in a photocopier and make a copy at the “lightest” contrast setting. Take the copy you've made and repeat the process. You will see the areas of heavy bleed through lighten with each repetition of the process.

-or-

Scan the document into your computer. Then attempt the same results by using Photo Software and play with the contrast.



Genealogical & Archaic Terms

ae, aet.	Aged
b.	Born
bur.	Buried
d,	Died
d.s.p.	Died without issue
d.s.p. legit	Died without legitimate issue
d.s.p.m .	Died without male issue
d.v.p.	Died during father's lifetime
div.	Divorced
K.B.	Knight of the Bath
K.G.	Knight of the Garter
Knt	Knight
Mich	⊙ Michigan, rather Michaelmas, the Feast of St. Michael
Mss.	Manuscript

From Page One...

A GRIOT is a West African historian. The *griot* delivers history as a poet, praise singer, or wandering musician. The *griot* is a repository of oral tradition. As such, they are sometimes also called bards.

Our local Griot is John Emerson.



1940 Census...

The official date for the 1940 Census was April 1st, but since that day will fall on a Sunday in 2012, it is unclear whether researchers will have week-end access to film at the National Archives or will instead need to wait until Monday to satisfy their genealogical curiosity.



Can't Find an Ancestor in Census

Have you done your homework? Have you listed all of the possible spelling variations of the ancestor's name? While my ancestral family was living in Stratford, Ontario, the Scotch and English clerks and enumerators had difficulty spelling German names. They didn't ask how it was spelled, they spelled it phonetically or according to the way it sounded to them. One ancestor's name was spelled 21 different ways in Censuses and on legal records.



NEHGS Moves its Website

The New England Historic Genealogical Society is leaving its current website:

www.NewEnglandAncestors.org .

The new website is:

www.AmericanAncestors.org.

New Books in Genealogy Room

Post Offices of Michigan, Sister Marciana Henig, SSJ, ed. Within the 993 pages are listed many of the villages and towns and their early postmasters.

The Michigan Central Railroad: History of the Main Line 1846-1901, Nicholas A. Marsh. Within its 317 pages, is a brief chapter of the Underground Railroad in Michigan and its conductors. They are also photos of many of the depots on the route.

Genealogy for the first Time, Laura Best. It is an easy read with charts, photos and many suggestions for displaying your research results. (111 pages)

When Your Ox Is in the Ditch: Genealogical How-to Letters, Vera McDowell. Throughout the 161 pages, Vera is writing to Bette and giving instructions on steps to finding her family.

Indian Wills, 1911-1920, Jeff Bowen. The listings in this set of books are gleaned from the Records of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Each of the 7 books is approximately 180 pages long, with indexes. (Currently book 6 is missing from the set.)



Genealogist's Wish List

I want relatives who managed to bury their ancestors in established, still-extant (and indexed) cemeteries in alphabetical order.

I want all of my immigrant ancestors to have arrived only in those years wherein passenger lists were indexed in the National Archives, and have applied for citizenship only in those jurisdictions that are indexed.

