



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2025
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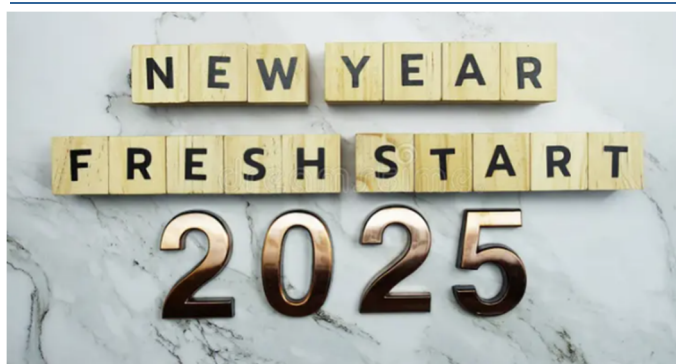
STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Next meeting Wednesday, January 8th 2025
7:00 PM – New Berlin Ale House
16000 West Cleveland Avenue
New Berlin, WI 52151

MEETING OPPORTUNITY TABLE:

- ✓ **Exciting year of upcoming items at the opportunity table**
- ✓ **Starting at the meeting in January 😊 2025**



JANUARY MEETING:

INTERNET SECURITY **by BILL HECK**

PLEASE COME ENJOY THE NEXT MEETING!



At the beginning of a new year, we get all kinds of grandiose ideas of how we can organize, streamline and make our lives easier. The problem is the scammers and criminals are ALWAYS looking for better, faster ways to dig into our data and take what they can from us.

Bob Heck's son, Bill Heck, will be sharing the latest and greatest to help keep you armed in the daily fight to keep your information, system and identity guarded and as safe as possible.

USATODAY.COM said for 2024 scam victims have lost \$1 trillion as of Nov and counting.

Bill sees these things firsthand every day and will impart some of the best ways to stay vigilant to protect both you and your loved ones information. Start off on the right foot – 2025!

Bring a buddy to the January meeting!



MEMBERSHIP DUES – 2025

Remember \$12 covers for the year of 2025

Send in your membership or bring it to the meeting. Any duplicates submitted will be considered a donation – thank you!

We would certainly love to see more of your faces here at the meetings. We have great topics each month and it is a super time to ask questions. Fantastic opportunity to be in a room of experts all at different places in their genealogical journey.

MUSINGS & MUTTERINGS:

Looking at the new year I thought we could again check some traditions from around the world to see how different heritage and cultures bring in the new year. Brought to you by Good Housekeeping Dec, 2024

SPAIN: Eat 12 grapes at midnight – one for every chime of the clock. Those who do it successfully will have a lucky year. Failure however, will be a year of misfortune.

BRAZIL – At the beach, it's believed your luck increases if you get in and jump over 7 waves. One for each divine spirit of the Umbanda religion. You get one wish for each wave. Also, millions of people gathering at the ocean new years day wear white. Peace and renewal to bring good luck. Fun!

DENMARK – In this tradition, people go around breaking plates on NYE. Breaking dishware on the doorsteps of your friends and family is a fun night. The more shards in front of your home the next day, the more well-liked you are. Lucky too?

IRELAND – Mistletoe usually reserved for Christmas and smooching, plays a different role for NYE. Putting a sprig of mistletoe under your pillow on NYE says you will dream of your future partner. Sounds like a good reason to go to bed!

GREECE – Customary to hang bundles of onions above your door to invite in good luck. They are a symbol of prosperity as they continue to grow and sprout but funniest side of this is parents also wake up their children by bopping them on the head with the aforementioned onions lol.

RUSSIA – Christmas was forbidden so New Year's became the time for gift giving. Presents not brought by Santa but rather Father Frost. Gifts for everyone!

PHILIPPINES – Round things take primary placement to represent coins for wealth and prosperity. Round foods such as black-eyed peas. Grapefruits, oranges, grapes and more. Clothes are included as polka-dots are everywhere for clothes on NYE.

GERMANY and AUSTRIA – Trading of lucky symbols. Gifting and trading between family and friends the fun signs of wealth and good fortune such as lucky pennies, horseshoes, toadstools, ladybugs, clovers, pigs and chimney sweeps. Find them in trinket shops or made from fanciful marzipan 😊

IRELAND again – Bang the bread! Bang Christmas bread on the walls on NYE to chase any bad spirits out of the house before the new year. Ha!

LATIN AMERICA – Lastly, some believe the color of underwear you don on NYE can bring good luck to you for the upcoming year. Yellow for luck, red for love, white bring peace.

No matter your traditions – keep your loved ones near. Kiss and hug your favorites at midnight. Peace to all.

The Family Search Center

9600 West Grange Avenue, Hales Corners

The Family Search Center Library has updated their hours. See below:

Tuesday hours: 8:30AM – 3:30PM

Wednesday hours: 8:30AM – 12 Noon

Thursday hours: 8:30AM – 3:30PM and

6:30PM – 9:00PM

Saturday hours: 10:00AM – 1:00PM

Enter at the main doors facing West Grange Avenue and follow the signs to the library.

On Thursday evenings, Bob Heck and Randy Ray are the volunteers on duty who will assist you in your research.

For some extra special help from May through September, Cheryl Heck is there to help you. Cheryl is LDS Mormon and is the expert in the Family Search website and LDS issues.

There are numerous portal systems available for free use at the center.

Come enjoy this resource!

About This Newsletter

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Members interested in submitting articles may email them to bobheckmpafug@gmail.com. The MPAFUG publisher will determine if an article will be used in this newsletter. Articles will be used as space permits.

NO COPYRIGHTED ARTICLES may be submitted without express permission of the author and publisher. Articles should be submitted by the 1st Wednesday to be considered for inclusion in that same month. Credit will be given for your article.



MPAFUG KEY INFORMATION

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bob Miller	Debbie Bluett
Jane Orne	John Canapa
Louise Stack	Linda Murphy
Sam Colon	Steve Gulgowski
Randy Ray	Bob Tatalovich
Bob Heck	

Steering committee meetings are held via Zoom on the third Wednesday of the month except in December. The Steering Committee is an informal group of members who get together to plan topics for future meetings.

All MPAFUG members are welcome to attend.

Questions about MPAFUG?

Write, call or email:

MPAFUG c/o Bob Heck

4910 Steeple Dr.

Greendale, WI 53129

414-421-7143

bobheckmpafug@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in MPAFUG is open to anyone interested in learning more about computer genealogy. Membership is \$12 per calendar year for an individual or family.

For 2025 NEW memberships:

Please send a check for \$12.00 made payable to MPAFUG to:

Deborah A. Bluett

MPAFUG Treasurer

PO Box 229

Delavan, WI 53115-0229

Please include with your check, your Name, Mailing Address, email Address and Phone Number.

OUR WEB PAGE: <http://mpafug.org>

We invite you to visit our web page and even print a copy of this and the previous month's newsletter. We also have a surname section where you can see who else is working on your family line. Members of MPAFUG have access to a members-only web page which contains past newsletters and handouts from our meetings.

If you would like to make a presentation or have a suggestion for a meeting topic, please contact Bob Heck at: bobheckmpafug@gmail.com.