



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2024
VOLUME 2024 ISSUE 11



*PLEASE COME
ENJOY THE
MEETING!*

*HEAR MEMBER SHOW AND TELL
INFORMATION*

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MUSINGS

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



Bring a buddy to a meeting!

Next meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2024
7:00 PM – New Berlin Ale House
16000 West Cleveland Avenue
New Berlin, WI 52151

NOVEMBER PRESENTATIONS SHOW & TELL 2024

- **Sandie's Story**
Sam Colon
- **My Grandfather's Story**
Carl Micech
- **A Civil War Diary**
Randy Ray
- **Willich Baptismal Gown**
Debbie Bluett
- **Single PDF for searchability**
Bob Heck
- **Great Uncle's Autobiography**
Linda Murphy

MEETING OPPORTUNITY TABLE:

- ✓ **HP laptop:** 15.5" touchscreen, Windows 11, 8GB RAM, 2TB SSD drive, Roots Magic software, WiFi, CD/DVD, SD Card slot
- ✓ **Canon 10 MP Digital Camera with 20X Zoom:** Includes carry case, batteries and a 16 GB SD Card
- ✓ **Research Package: Family Memory Book:** Paperback book to organize family history, 3" magnifying glass with light, pack of 20 archival sheet protectors, 32GB flash drive

OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

106 – That's how many renewals we had at the time of the Steering Committee Meeting on October 16th. PLEASE SEND IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS TO KEEP THESE MEETINGS GOING STRONG 😊

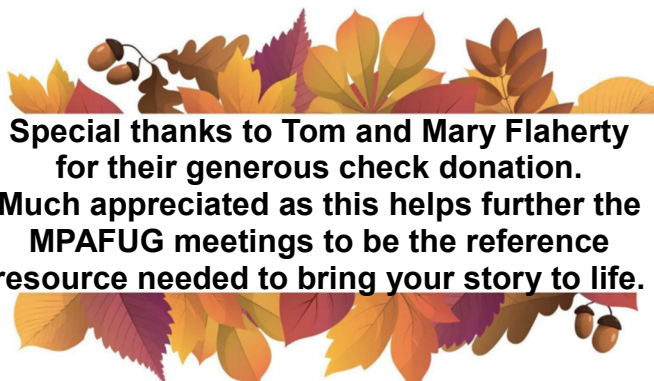
216 – That's how many dollars in donations have been sent in as duplicate membership payments 😊

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.

Thank You...



Special thanks to Tom and Mary Flaherty for their generous check donation. Much appreciated as this helps further the MPAFUG meetings to be the reference resource needed to bring your story to life.

POLISH GENEALOGY– Bob Tatalovich

Bob updated us on search resources and several items to keep in mind when focusing on Polish heritage.

Resources to utilize:

- FamilySearch Wiki – large collection of records which are digitized and online
 - FamilySearch Search>catalog>place
- The Family History Guide
- Geneteka
 - Currently has 56MM records
 - Use interactive map to drill down to province
- Pomeranian
 - Online Databases Pomeranian Genealogical Association
- Facebook
 - Polish Genealogy Group
- Google
 - <https://sites.google.com/view/polishgenealogygroup/home>

Things to remember that may help:

- Some immigrants chose to change their Polish name and Americanize it.
 - Identify what name your Ancestor went by
- Many were Roman Catholic with the general DOB, Christening, Marriage, and DOD information available
- Poland did not exist until after WWI when partitioned by Prussia, Austria, Russia.
- Start with Village and town of origin then locate that place
 - Gazetteers can help here (see Bob's handout or presentation for www addresses)

Terri Cieslak, a Polish specialist, volunteers at the Family History Center in Hales Corners on Tuesdays from 8:30 to 3:30. She can help with one-on-one help with your research. What a great resource! THANK YOU 😊

- Thanks Bob - one of the trickier ones with changing names but good resources. Nicely done!

UPDATES TO ANCESTRY, FAMILY TREE MAKER – Randy Ray

Randy walked us through some neat updates that Ancestry and Family Tree Maker have recently gone through. Also did a Find-A-Grave demo – helps to see it happening.

Here are some highlights:

ANCESTRY – the homepage is VERY new

- You can have Daily Picks which are suggested files from the tree you have open. These vary from day to day.
- Traits
- Upcoming birthdays, anniversaries
- In remembrance
- DNA Origins (requires two step login)
- What to watch
- Review stories
- This week in history
- DNA Ethnicity
- Year Books
- Many new collections - worth exploring
- Tool bar headings has sections:
 - Trees
 - Memories
 - Stories
- Ancestry Pro Tools (addtl \$10/mth)
 - Tree checker
 - Insights and Reports
 - Sophisticated Filters
 - Advanced DNA Tools
- IF you have a Newspapers.com subscription PUBLISHER LEVEL, you can now go to ANCESTRY.COM/NEWSPAPERS
 - This lets you search with Newspapers, but it ties your family tree into the search and AI allows for a better search.
- Ancestry US Edition
 - \$24.99/mth (\$299.88/yr)
- World Explore
 - \$39.99/mth (\$479.88/yr)
- All Access
 - \$59.99/mth (\$719.88/yr)

FAMILY TREE MAKER – The 2019 version has a more stable database that does not lock up. It syncs faster with fewer problems said Randy.

- Color coding now available – helps in tree coding and sorting.
- In PERSON page click the blue add button and you can create your won fields
- Merging records from Ancestry and Family Search – it keeps your source information!!
- You can also create your own source
- More reports and charts that are customizable
- Create genealogy reports and family group sheets in just a few seconds

Randy also did a Find-A-Grave demo and walked through some favorite features.

Thanks Randy! Fantastic updates and walking us through really helps.

MUSINGS & MUTTERINGS:

Ran across some cheeky observations that I thought I'd share – credit to original authors but was posted anonymous.

- I can't find my ancestors, so they must have been in a witness protection program!
- Motivated genealogists scan once—and then share across the Internet!
- A genealogist's bad heir day is when you can't find what you are looking for.
- A genealogist's filing system usually incorporates the floor.

Reminder that our November meeting with Show & Tell is the final meeting of the year.

Please come and enjoy and grab that holiday feeling before it runs down the hill with you.





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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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.