



# NEWSLETTER

June 2021  
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JUNE 2021

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*Family Tree Magazine and Genealogy.com (Jo Kinzinger)*  
*Alternative Resources to Fill in the Dash (Cathy Dailey)*

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*June 9, 2021*  
*7:00 PM – New Berlin Ale House*  
*16000 West Cleveland Avenue*  
*New Berlin, WI 52151*

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## MEETING BITS AND BYTES

Our May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting was very well attended – the best attendance yet since we got sidelined by the pandemic. There were either 55 (Bob Heck) or 57 (Bruce Butterfield) members depending on whose count was most accurate. Two of those attending had not been to a meeting over a year. Welcome back! There were no new members or guests at this meeting.

After a few glitches, the recordings of the May meeting have been made available for those who weren't able to attend in person. An in-person feature at the meeting was Randy Ray's display table full of the tools he packs for a Find-a-Grave mission. Some of us would need a pack mule to carry it all, but Randy showed some interesting tools and how he uses them to set up the perfect headstone picture. Tin foil and a soft brush should be at the top of your list if you want to make the words pop out on a worn marker. The rest of the list included a handheld metal detector, weed whacker, saw, mirror, whiteboard and a large knife to name just a few. Randy also has a large collection of small red flags and was willing to give a few away if you need any of those to mark family graves during your cemetery search. Whether you carry a bucket of tools or not, the idea is to only take photos and "do no harm" as Randy practices.

## WHAT'S ON THE JUNE SCHEDULE

We will have a new presenter, Jo Kinzinger, one of our newer members, who will give us some insight into a couple of genealogical resources you may not have already explored, Family Tree Magazine and Genealogy.com.

Our current treasurer, Lynn Thrasher, commented that "I'm of the opinion that Family Tree Magazine is one of the very best general genealogy magazines published, but most people don't realize they sponsor a free podcast series."

Cathy Dailey will be back in June to guide us through "Alternative Resources to Fill in the Dash." Wonder what that means? She is referring to the span between birth and death dates -- a person's life story in other words. Cathy will undoubtedly have a lot of information to share, but you'll have to buckle up for her presentation because she is one *fast* talker.

## STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

Your MPAFUG steering committee held a zoom meeting on May19, 2021. Since we can literally join in from anywhere, we've decided that the zoom meetings will continue. The following 7 members attended the May meeting:

Lynn Thrasher, Bob Heck, Louise Stack  
Bruce Butterfield, Bob Tatalovich, Randy Ray  
Jane Orne



Our first topic of discussion was whether or not to hold a Genealogy Workshop this year since the Family History Center has reopened. The steering committee was in agreement that we would wait another year. The Family History Center where the

workshop has traditionally been held is once again open, however we felt that we did not have enough time to organize, get topics and speakers confirmed and syllabuses printed, etc.

The next issue we addressed was the need for a new treasurer for our group. By the time you read this newsletter, you will have already received via email the information and requirements that the steering committee decided on. We look forward to meeting a new treasurer and steering committee member!

Because we hope to introduce a new treasurer and don't want to overwhelm that person right off with the challenge of membership dues, it was also decided that we will extend the free membership for current members for 2022. This only applies to current members; new members would still be required to pay dues.

It has been a long time, but remember the "Got Game" we played in the newsletter for a few months in 2020? Well, we promised the winners of that game free membership first for 2021 and then pushed it to 2022. We didn't forget about you! Now that we are extending free membership to all members for 2022, we felt it only fair to reward the game winners in another way. The four winners will be getting an actual physical prize which they should receive soon. Thanks Diana Murphy, Linda Marcinowski, Jean Micech and Karen Jegen for playing the game and for being so patient!

## OPENINGS IN RESEARCH VENUES

We are *slowly* getting back to a more normal life so those of you that have been itching to do some more hands-on research, need help or access to other resources, the Family History Center is once again open but with limited hours. The current hours are:

**Thursday – 8:30AM to noon (volunteers Diane Stollenwerk and Gayle Donich)**

**Thursday – Noon to 3:00PM (volunteers Richard Cardin and James Lizzietta)**

**Thursday – 6:30PM to 9:00PM (volunteers Bob Heck and Cheryl Heck)**

**Saturday – 10:00AM to 1:00PM (volunteers  
Mary and Leonard Rebarchik)**

The Milwaukee County Historical Society Research Library is also open, but reservations are required as well as masks according to their website. You can make reservations online or call **(414) 273-7487**. Their current hours are **Wed – Saturday 9:30-5:00**.

**A QUOTE TO PONDER:**

*“Where there’s a will, you’ll find a genealogist.”*  
*Unknown*

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

**The Chuck Johnson Story**

Chuck became interested in genealogy in 1960 when he was 18 years old and his Danish grandmother, Marie Ronsholdt HONE gave him one of three manually typed carbon copies of research that her sister had done in 1939. It was further updated into the 1960’s.

Once Chuck got an Apple IIe when he was about 30 years old, he started his own research and has been doing it ever since. He has been a long-time member of MPAFUG, he thinks maybe 20 years or more. Originally, he belonged to another genealogical group which folded and then those members joined in with MPAFUG.

Chuck does research on his family as well as his wife’s. “While my wife isn’t against it, she has little interest. She has enjoyed travel to various European destinations visiting our ancestor’s birth places and meeting distant relatives too.” Those trips have included England for South Wales origins, North Wales, Denmark, Norway and Germany, all of which are counties he has been researching for his family tree.

“Our Norway trip and cruise are what my wife liked the most.”

Besides those destinations Chuck has taken some local genealogy road trips and also gone to Oswego, NY.

On Ancestry DNA Chuck says he has close relatives as “editors.” He does work with a 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin that he met through genealogy and is a member of the Sons of Norway Lodge. Chuck has shared everything with his son and family, including his sister who is his “back-up.” “We must not forget we are mortal!!”

Not many of us can say we haven’t had any surprises in our research, but Chuck can. He has, however, hit a brick wall. He knows his German great-grandfather HONE was born in 1817 and was from Wittenberg Saxony, Germany. He thinks the spelling of the family name must have changed because he hasn’t been able to go back any farther. Chuck’s bucket list includes identifying and visiting where his distant relatives live.

His best find? “Possibly Norway info. I used a researcher (ca \$300) in Oslo to research and absolutely identify my Norwegian ancestral info. Johnson is a very common name.”

Because of his grandmother and her sister’s research with Danish records, Chuck has been able to trace his family back to 1625. He hopes to find more on his German HONE family. And, he would also like to find more on his wife’s Irish Moran and Walsh families.

Good luck with your HONE family Chuck! Thanks for sharing your story.

If you would like to submit your story, please email Louise Stack at: [kilostack@att.net](mailto:kilostack@att.net) for the member spotlight questions. Put Member Spotlight in the subject line.

There are 12 basic questions to answer about your genealogy story, but beyond that you are free to tell your story any way you wish. All the stories are unique and interesting, but also give other members research hints and hope that they too will find their ancestors.

## FLAG DAY

Did you ever stop to consider how many flags your ancestors must have had to swear allegiance to in their lifetime? Changing borders in Europe and emigration to America are just one thought. Some also belong to groups that celebrate their heritage so still honor that flag as well.

In the United States we commemorate the adoption of the red, white and blue stars and stripes flag on June 14, 1777. The second Continental Congress “Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation.”

We’ve added a number of stars since then, but have not changed the meaning or design of the original flag. Although you can display an American flag anytime, June 14<sup>th</sup> has particular significance.

June 14<sup>th</sup> is also the birthday of the United States Army which was established on that date in 1775.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### July 14, 2021

Catholic Cemeteries, Milwaukee  
Archdiocese, and Billion Graves  
(Sam Colon)  
Immigration and Departure Records  
Research (Randy Ray)

### August 11, 2021

From Start to Finish (Cathy Dailey)  
Understanding Street View in Google Maps  
and Smart Phone Maps (Randy Ray)

### September 8, 2021

Member Object Show & Tell Night  
Sam Colon: Civil War Field Promotion  
Bob Heck: Civil War Discharge Papers  
Carl Micech: Note from Grandfather  
Carol Poutain: Stuff Found in an Obituary  
David Komassa: Polish Lancers Book  
Karen Pauli: Her Mother’s Doll  
Ken Artlip: Buried State Pauper  
Randy Ray: Tin Type Photos  
Wayne Ray: Note from His Father

### October 13, 2021

On-line Vital Records of Birth, Marriage &  
Death (Bob Tatalovich)  
Why Join the DAR, DAC, Mayflower  
Society or DAR? (Randy Ray)

### November 10, 2021

Primary & Secondary Documentation and  
How to Source Them (Jane Orne)  
Property Records in Genealogy (Cathy  
Dailey)

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

## About This Newsletter

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Members interested in submitting articles may e-mail them to [bobheckmpafug@gmail.com](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday to be considered for inclusion in that same month. Credit will be given for your article.

## MPAFUG KEY INFORMATION

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bruce Butterfield:  
414-462-6097  
[Babtrfld-mke@wi.rr.com](mailto:Babtrfld-mke@wi.rr.com)

Sam Colon:  
414-327-2133  
[genschr@gmail.com](mailto:genschr@gmail.com)

Bob Heck:  
414-421-7143  
[bobheckmpafug@gmail.com](mailto:bobheckmpafug@gmail.com)

Jane Orne:  
262-938-9371  
[orne@Rworld.net](mailto:orne@Rworld.net)

Guy Porth:  
414-510-0563  
[guyporth9@yahoo.com](mailto:guyporth9@yahoo.com)

Louise Stack:  
414-581-3978  
[kilostack@att.net](mailto:kilostack@att.net)

Bob Tatalovich:  
414-897-8280  
[Bobt3725@gmail.com](mailto:Bobt3725@gmail.com)

Lynn Thrasher  
John Canapa  
Steve Gulgowski  
Randy Ray

Questions about MPAFUG?  
Write, call or email:  
MPAFUG c/o Bob Heck  
4910 Steeple Dr.  
Greendale, WI 53129  
414-421-7143  
[bobheckmpafug@gmail.com](mailto:bobheckmpafug@gmail.com)

Steering committee meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month except in December. The meetings have historically been held at the Family History Center located at 9600 W. Grange Ave, Hales Corners, WI; however, due to the COVID-19 19

pandemic the meetings are currently being held via Zoom.

The Steering Committee is an informal group of members who get together to plan the general agendas for future meetings. All MPAFUG members are welcome to attend.

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership in MPAFUG is open to anyone interested in learning more about computer genealogy. Membership is usually \$12 per calendar year for an individual or family. Dues are \$6 for the balance of a year if you join after June 30<sup>th</sup>. The year 2020 changed things for us all so in July the steering committee made a decision to give free membership to all current member for 2021. New members would still be asked to pay dues. Please send a check made payable to MPAFUG to:

Lynn Thrasher – MPAFUG Treasurer  
PO Box 14222  
West Allis, WI 53214-0222

### 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.