



NEWSLETTER



JULY 2025
VOLUME 2025 ISSUE 07

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**Next meeting:
WEDNESDAY
JULY 9TH 2025**

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



**Come see the next meeting and bring someone with
you to celebrate the wonderful U.S. of YAY!** 

JULY PRESENTATIONS

- **MURDER!! IN YOUR FAMILY TREE**
By Randy Ray
 - Randy knows firsthand what it looks like to run across a murder in the family. Not 1, not 2, but **13** at this point.
 - He will cover what to do when you find a murder in your tree, and how to figure out if it actually was a murder. It is not always clear cut.
 - Suggestions for various records that may help you with your discoveries and the importance of newspapers in research such as this.
 - Various methods, which records to follow and how to document them will be discussed including using some special tools in Family Tree Maker 2024.

- **MORE MURDER!! IN THE FAMILY TREE**
By Debbie Bluett
 - Debbie takes you on a journey highlighting a double murder that took place in 1879 in Minnesota, along with the aftermath.
 - Henry Kolway and Frank Steinhuber were murdered, and their bodies were hidden.
 - She will cover the research needed over four decades of changing techniques that uncovered the details and family connections in the small community almost 150 years ago.

JUNE MEETING RECAP:

• **RESEARCHING CLERGY IN YOUR FAMILY TREE** *By Linda Murphy*

- Linda shared some of the sources to try and connect when you may know of a clergy person in your family tree
- She knew there were definitely two members of Clergy in her tree but it proved to bear several more.
- Fully utilizing obituary information is different in people of calling
 - Standard survivor information
 - Service timeline
 - Retirement bliss
- She shared how it is more than just factual confirmations – it often lends itself to filling in the story of who they were and the impact they made.
- Places to check:
 - Diocesan Offices
 - Parish records and directories
 - Obituaries – very thorough including family and schooling right next to places served and retired often.
- Utilize your standard tools such as Find-A-Grave and Family Search
 - Can find dates of ordination or profession
 - Some cemetery pics have family plot information and can help verify additional family members.
- Historical Societies and some libraries also have good resources
- Officiant records may also lead to additional connection. Many times, a registry or document may not name the Church location, but it will name the Officiant that conducted the ceremony.
- She shared cherished memories from her childhood of Great Aunt visits as Sister Baptiste. Sharing Sister Baptiste's Jubilee celebration and the joy Sister lived her life to share.

• **DEMO EDITING VIDEOS-ADD SOUND-SPLIT-JOIN** *By Bob Heck*

- Bob taught us dozens of tips, tricks and resources available to enhance and save your videos from days-gone-by.
- These tips in the demonstration will also show ways to preserve the best parts of videos for easiest storage
 - Adding sound to videos
 - How to split videos
 - How to join videos
- Knowing how these work can allow you to digitally capture and preserve the best parts of your video collections
- Please see his handout notes for all the options he covered. Here are some of the additional items that came up in questions and helpful rabbit holes at the meeting:
- Analog VS Digital differences
- Best ways to store pics and vids:
 - Flash drive – great option
 - SSD hard drives (external)
 - Cloud – be cautious on your choices for this one.3
- Have your video files in MP4 format
- Various methods to digitize old movies
- Products that are helpful such as Wolverine and VLC Media Player and places you can borrow for free.
- MP4 tools: joiner and splitter
- Tips on compressing file using Handbrake program
- Tool called Video Pad by NCH:
 - You must verify it is not being used for commercial use – this keeps it free.
 - They have 35 short video tutorials available. Very helpful
- Fascinating information and tools to create cherished pieces to help preserve or bring to life those older pics and videos. Beautiful job Bob!

MUSINGS & MUTTERINGS:

July brings us to the celebration of our country. The melting pot we all came from and the diversity that makes us each so individual.

Germans brought over their fine bier making skills and turned it into... red, white and brew.

Other celebrations in July:

- July 1: Canada Day, International Joke Day, National Postal Worker Day
- July 5: Independence Day for Algeria, Cape Verde, Venezuela
- July 6: Independence Day for Comoros
- July 7: World Chocolate Day
- July 11: World Population Day
- July 14: Bastille Day in France, International Town Criers Day, International Nude Day, Shark Awareness Day (not recommended to combine the last 2 items)
- July 15: World Youth Skills Day
- July 18: Nelson Mandela Day
- July 20: World Chess Day
- July 25: System Administrator Appreciation Day, National Wine and Cheese Day, National Hot Fudge Sundae Day
- July 30: International Day of Friendship
- July 31: World Ranger Day

What is your favorite 4th of July memory?
Are you going to the local parade?
Best fireworks display and where to watch?
Potato salad or coleslaw, hot dogs or bratwurst, pasta salad or watermelon?



JUNE meeting attendance **31**

*Weather is getting hot – come to the air conditioned, cooler-than-cool meeting in July - and bring someone along!
We'd love to see you.*



OCTOBER MEETING IS RESERVED: Member show & tell.

- We still need at least 2 people to bring something treasured to show & tell for the group
- You need to share a 10-15 minute presentation
- Bob can put together your PowerPoint presentation of your topic – thanks Bob!
- Do you have a special picture? Document? Clothing? Toy?
- Take this great opportunity to inspire others in their journey with your treasures you may have come across.
- Contact Bob to sign up for a slot
 - All are welcome!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

201 – the number of families currently enrolled memberships.

\$12 – the cost per calendar year membership that covers individual and family

Please send a check for \$12.00 made payable to MPAFUG to or bring to the next meeting:

**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.

Membership in MPAFUG is open to anyone interested in learning more about computer genealogy.

RESOURCES

The Family Search Center

9600 West Grange Avenue, Hales Corners
The Family Search Center Library hours:
Tuesday: 8:30AM – 3:30PM
Wednesday: 8:30AM – 12 Noon
Thursday: 8:30AM – 3:30PM and
6:30PM – 9:00PM
Saturday: 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!

MPAFUG KEY INFORMATION

About This Newsletter

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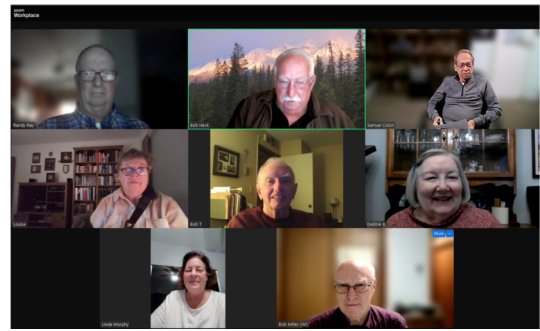
NO COPYRIGHTED ARTICLES may be submitted without express permission of the author and publisher. Articles should be submitted by the 1st Wednesday to be considered for inclusion in that same month. Credit will be given for your article.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

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?

If you would like to make a presentation or have a suggestion for a meeting topic

Write, call or email:

MPAFUG c/o Bob Heck

4910 Steeple Dr.

Greendale, WI 53129

414-421-7143

bobheckmpafug@gmail.com

OUR WEB PAGE

<http://mpafug.org>

We invite you to visit our page, print a copy of this or last month's newsletter. You'll find 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.