



NEWSLETTER

August 2022
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AUGUST 2022

*UW Milwaukee Golda Meir Library Digital Map Collection &
Microfilm Review*

(Randy Ray)

Stephen P Morse's Website for Genealogists

(Bob Miller)

August 10, 2022

7:00 PM – New Berlin Ale House

16000 West Cleveland Avenue

New Berlin, WI 52151

MEETING BITS AND BYTES

by Louise Stack and Bob Heck

For those of you who wait all year for hot summer weather – you got it! For those of you who wait for warm weather, but then complain that it is too hot, you got that too. The July 13th meeting was a hot one, but 45 members did leave one air-conditioned place to come to the air-conditioned New Berlin Ale House. We even welcomed 2 new members: Joyce Hamm and Linda Keller. Guy Porth joined us all the way from Reedsburg, WI and Bob Miller came on down from West Bend.

Bob Tatalovich started out first with his presentation on YouTube Videos for Genealogy. Bob walked us through how to use the controls on YouTube. He used the 1950 census as an example. He also touched on videos from Ancestry, FamilySearch and the WiKi Beginner's Guide. Bob emphasized that you should not ignore the WiKi's. As an example, he showed us how to begin research in Poland which he has a bit of experience in because of his heritage. Bob then went on to cover webinars from the BYU Library. He showed us webinars for Ireland, Netherlands, Germany and Poland as well as two of the well-known presenters from BYU: James Tanner and Bob Taylor. Other areas that he covered included NARA (National Archives), Ancestry Academy, Lisa Louise Cooke Research Collection, Amy Johnson Crow Military Research and Cyndi's List.

Randy Ray did the second half presentation on How to Organize Your Photos Without Spending a Dime. Before he got started though, he apologized for not having Napoleon singing "It's a Small World" after

he had promised that last month. He said he is leaving the animation tricks to Bob Heck.

Randy and his middle (favorite) daughter who lives one house down (also the location of his favorite restaurant in town) worked together to organize all of their many family photos. His daughter has an excellent scanner which made the job much easier. They were even able to get good results from his wife's family scrapbooks where the pictures were glued in with gold glitter ink notes. He showed us how to organize photos by creating folders on your computer by year and/or by family name. Randy also talked about equipment that is available through the Mukwonago and Oak Creek Public Libraries for you to use in organizing your photos. New scanning equipment Randy showed will scan and digitize a stack of photos in seconds. The Kodak Scanza, for instance, can be used for slides, negatives and film of various sizes. Finally, Randy went into a detailed demonstration of how to use Metadata associated with your images, how to add information and more.

Remember, if you miss a meeting, you can always catch up when Bob Heck posts the presentations on YouTube.

WHAT'S ON THE AUGUST SCHEDULE

The UW Milwaukee Golda Meir Library has a vast collection of maps and other research materials. It is a gold mine of information that might be just what you need to add to your ancestor's stories. Their maps are not just from Milwaukee or Wisconsin, there are maps from around the world in different eras. Randy Ray will show you what is available there and how to access it.

Another resource for genealogy research that you may not have tapped into yet is the Stephen P. Morse website also referred to as One-Step Webpages. Bob Miller will show you what they have to offer and how to navigate the website. Some things you might find are immigration, census and vital records.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Your steering committee held a Zoom meeting on July 20, 2022. The following members attended:

Bob Miller, Debbie Bluett, Bob Tatalovich, Sam Colon, Randy Ray and Bob Heck

The first topic of discussion was upcoming programs with no changes being noted. There was a discussion of the Member Show and Tell which is scheduled for the November meeting. Currently, there are 6 people signed up to give presentations. Bob Heck is getting photos from them and will be adding them to a PowerPoint presentation.

The steering committee also talked about the Open Discussion with Members which is scheduled for the September meeting. It was decided that no additional presentation dates will be scheduled until after we get feedback from our members.

A QUOTE TO PONDER:

*"If you don't know your history, then you don't know anything.
You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree."*

Michael Crichton

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Beginning in September Bob Heck will start sending out notices that MPAFUG membership dues for 2023 should be sent in to Treasurer Debbie Bluett. Please note that although Debbie has been the treasurer for a while now, this is her **first-time** collecting dues so please **BE KIND** and **PATIENT**. Dues are \$12 for the year and can be sent to Debbie at the address listed at the end of this newsletter.

If you have been enjoying the video recordings of the monthly meetings or periodic genealogical notes from Bob Heck, just be aware that if you do not renew your dues, your name would be removed from the email list.

REMINDERS



The Wisconsin State Fair is August 4-14. Enjoy a cream puff but remember to stay hydrated – it's hot out there!

The Family History Center is open Thursdays and Saturdays.

Thursday hours: 8:30AM – 3:30PM and
6:30PM – 9:00PM

Saturday hours: 10:00AM – 1:00PM

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

There are numerous Portal systems available for free use at the center, some of which you may not have tried from home because they come with a cost but could be of use for your research. Ancestry, Fold3, Newspapers.com among others that charge, are available free at the center. If you need help with your research, this is the place to go.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Annette Eliason Story

Annette has been doing genealogy from a young age.

“My grandmother used to help me make picture pedigree charts when I was a child. My mother also thought it was a good Sunday activity to copy pedigree charts. This is where I learned the names of my ancestors and began to care about them.”

When she lived in Oconomowoc between 1992-2000 Annette joined MPAFUG. Although she has lived in many other places since then, she does keep up her membership and enjoys the online information MPAFUG offers.

Annette hasn't counted, but believes her family tree numbers in the thousands.

“I work on different ancestors from time to time. Sometimes I work with other relatives and that can be very helpful.”

As for special photos, Annette has a group of them on a wall in her home. She has small pedigree pictures of her ancestors that go back 4 generations and she likes to post them on FamilySearch “Memories.” And as for memorabilia, Annette has furniture that has been handed down from her great-grandparents. Not many of us can claim that.

We've all had surprises and misadventures, but one of Annette's cemetery searches turned out a little different than she expected.

“I once went to a graveyard in Indiana and found the grave of my ancestor, Erasma Guillam. Unfortunately, I also found a bed of stinging insects.”

While in college Annette took courses with an emphasis on family history, graduating at the age of 60. Since then, many more things have become available online so Annette realized that much of what she learned was now outdated. It did help her organize her research and know where to look for information.

Annette has worked on many of her ancestral lines, but the one that keeps her searching is the one for Erasma Guillam. Erasma was born in Pennsylvania but is supposedly of Irish descent. She found a marriage for her in 1807, but it calls her Therasia Billam. Because she can't see the original handwriting, that name difference has her baffled. Someone recently mentioned to Annette that the location was wrong so perhaps it was not her ancestor Erasma. Of course, now Annette is hoping to find an original marriage record for her ancestor to verify the name, but her real hope is to find Erasma's parents. Annette found a relative's

comment that “after the mother died, Erasma and two sisters went to live with an aunt.”
“This is my brick wall that I just can’t seem to abandon.”

Because most of Annette’s ancestors came to America early, the bulk of her original research has been here. Annette has lines that go back to the 1400’s, but says she can’t claim to have done the research herself. She has also done some research on her husband’s family in Wales.

Annette’s hope is to find Erasma’s parents.

Good luck with your search to find Erasma and her parents Annette! Thanks for sharing your story.

If you would like to submit your story, please email Louise Stack at: kilostack@att.net and put Member Spotlight in the subject line.

There are the 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.

The Member Spotlight questions have recently been updated:

1. Who or what got you interested in genealogy?
2. How long have you been doing your genealogy research? How long have you been a member of MPAFUG?
3. How big is your family tree?
4. How many ancestors are you researching? Are you working with or sharing with another relative?
5. Do you have any special photographs or memorabilia?
6. Have you gone on any road trips for your research? Where? Did you find what you were looking for?
7. Have you had any surprises?

8. What is your best find?
9. Have you hit any brick walls?
10. What countries have you been researching?
11. How far back have you gone?
12. What are you hoping to find?

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 14, 2022

Open Discussion with members: What would you like us to present at MPAFUG meetings?
Simple Computer Tricks for Genealogy:
How to Keep Your Computer Clean of Junk Files.
Google, Google Translate, Zoom and Computer Tricks and Hacks (Randy Ray)

October 12, 2022

World War II Genealogy (Russell Horton)
Facebook Groups for Family History (Bob Heck)

November 9, 2022

Member Show and Tell:
Debbie Bluett
Rose Boggs
Bob Heck
Joan Hepp
Randy Ray
Susie Staats

January 11, 2023

Computer Security
(Bill Heck) (Sam Colon)

February 2023

RootsTech 2023 (TBD)

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

About This Newsletter

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Members interested in submitting articles may e-mail 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

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Bob Miller
Randy Ray

Questions about MPAFUG?
Write, call or email:
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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 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.

For 2023 new membership or renewal:

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.