



NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2021

Member Item Show and Tell)

*Sam Colon, Bob Heck, Carl Micech, Carol Pountain,
Dave Komassa, Karen Pauli, Ken Artlip,
Randy Ray, Wayne Ray*

September 8, 2021

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

MEETING BITS AND BYTES

Despite cracks of thunder, bursts of lightning, strong winds and sheets of rain or at least threats of such weather, 20 members and 1 guest managed to make it to the August 11th meeting at the New Berlin Ale House. Being inside wasn't without adventure either as the Ale House lost internet, phones and TV service so there were 6 or 7 minutes that disrupted our meeting. That was until Randy Ray and Sam Colon jumped in and got the meeting back on track using portable hotspots.

Randy Ray began the meeting with his presentation on using Google and Smart Phone maps. Bob Heck later posted Randy's recorded version on YouTube, but if you watched that you will notice that the synchronization was off due to the loss of internet for those 6 or 7 minutes. If you could keep up (or reversed a time or 2) you would have seen the fun bits like the disappearing phone booth in Rudimov, Czech Republic, or the shopping mall shaped like a ship in China which was under "Weird Things to do on Google." And how about being able to go back in time when using street view on Google – amazing! Randy did confirm that Google and any other GPS navigation systems, do track you so someone knows when you've been stopping for donuts.

Cathy Dailey's presentation on Death Notices, Obituaries and Funeral Homes was back in sync and also had quite a few research tidbits you may not have thought of. Did you know there is a difference between a death notice and an obit? And, there is a meaning to terminology such as *inst* or *ult*, that is used in those? Or that Cathy has a Packer connection from the past which led her to information on her 3X great-grandmother? She had

found a picture of that ancestor on Find-a-Grave which she had never seen and went on to learn so much more because she recognized the name of the contributor.

Cathy even shared a tip on saving money when joining Ancestry.com; contact them and ask to be notified of any upcoming promotions instead of joining at the regular price.

Cathy promised that her handout has lots of websites for you to explore so you'll probably want to get your hands on that too.

WHAT'S ON THE SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

Member Item Show and Tell Night!

Nine members will be showing an item from their family history and telling you what it added to their genealogy story. Quite an interesting collection of items so prepare to be inspired. The presenters and their topics are:

- Sam Colon – Civil War Field Promotion
- Bob Heck – Civil War Discharge Papers
- Carl Micech – Note from Grandfather
- Carol Pountain – Stuff Found in an Obituary
- Dave Komassa – Polish Lancer's Book
- Karen Pauli – Her Mother's Doll
- Ken Artlip – Buried State Pauper
- Randy Ray – Tintype Photos
- Wayne Ray – Note from His Father

STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

Your steering committee held their monthly zoom meeting on August 18, 2021. The following 8 members attended:

Jane Orne, Bob Heck, John Canapa
Louise Stack, Randy Ray, Bruce Butterfield
Debbie Bluett, Bob Tatalovich (using his coal mine pic although we could hear him)
Bob Heck chose the Uhersky Brod Archives in the Czech Republic as his background for this meeting.



We began the meeting with a discussion on the events of the August 11th meeting. There was severe weather on that day so the attendance was down as well as the internet service. On a brighter note, there was a thumbs up for the new microphones MPAFUG had purchased.

John Canapa discussed the re-opening of the Family History Center.

Bob Heck did a follow-up on an email request to membership on August 3rd.

Louise Stack brought up the Member Spotlight column in the monthly newsletter and requested that Bob send out an email requesting more member stories.

Most of the rest of the meeting was used to discuss upcoming programs or possible future presentations. Ok, maybe we talk about lots of other things unrelated to our meetings, but usually about genealogy in some form.

UPDATES

Family History Center

John Canapa, Director of the Family History Center in Hales Corners advised that he has received instructions on installation of the new portal at the center. The Family History Center is now scheduled to open on Thursday, September 9th from 8:30AM-3:30PM and 6:30PM-9:00PM. It will also be open on Saturday, September 11th 10:00AM-1:00PM. So, Thursdays and Saturdays are scheduled for now with more openings hopefully coming in the future.

On August 3rd Bob Heck had sent an email to all members regarding longtime members Joyce and Bob Stutzreim and requested that we send cards or notes as they were going through a rough time. Bob recently saw Joyce and Bob when they were celebrating their 61st wedding anniversary and learned that they were very appreciative of all the cards and letters. They told Bob that they received mail from all over the US (we do have members everywhere) and that their letter carrier didn't know where to put it all when the mailbox filled up. So, Joyce and Bob want to send you all a huge THANK YOU for thinking of them. What a great, caring group we have!

A QUOTE TO PONDER:

“He who has no fools, knaves or beggars in his family was begot by a flash of lightning.”

Old English proverb

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The June Rinka Story

June began her genealogy research right from the day she was born because her parents took her to visit the gravesites of her grand and great grandparents every summer. June says she started asking questions 60 or more years ago. Those trips got her interested in knowing more about family she had never met “buried way out in the windswept country of Minnesota far from Ireland.” June’s

mother-in-law also piqued her interest in that side of the family by telling her the names of her large family.

She isn’t sure, but June believes she attended one of the first MPAFUG meetings and joined soon after. She has been a member ever since.

June is researching both her and husband’s family and she will share her work with anyone who is interested. Her research has taken her on many road trips.

“Doing genealogy took my husband Eldon and me to many interesting and sometimes distant places. We loved all of it!”

According to June she has had some surprises, but she didn’t share so that leaves us wondering. She said she has had many good finds as well with the best one being a connection in Norway with an unknown distant cousin through the help of railroad yardman. The cousin was looking in Norway for her great-grandfather’s long-lost brothers who had come to America. Meanwhile, June was looking here, through many LDS records, for where her long-gone great-grandfather had come from. He was one of those brothers.

A brick wall that June has encountered is in her search for ancestor John Hammond. She says she has been “looking, looking, looking from the first to the last in County Tyrone, Ireland. The info she has shows that John was born 20 Mar 1841 in County Tyrone, Ireland and died 22 Mar 1929 in Glenwood, MN. She also has info on Eliza McKenna showing that she was born in 1839 in County Tyrone, Ireland and died 28 May 1911 in Glenwood, MN, but she has had no luck in doing research in Ireland.

Overall, June’s research has included Ireland, Scotland, Canada, Norway, Sweden, Germany as well as the United States. She has been able to trace her roots as far back as 1612 in Norway.

“I think I’ve looked very hard and it has been great fun but, it is too late for me to hope to find anything more. So, I’m happy to collect info on descendants whenever I get anything.”

Thanks for sharing June!

February 9, 2022

European Police Records (Randy Ray)
Permission to Leave Europe (Bob Heck)

March 9, 2022

1950 U.S. Census Records (Bob Tatalovich)
Determining Enumeration Districts (TBD)

April 13, 2022

May 11, 2022

June 8, 2022

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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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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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. Dues are \$6 for the balance of a year if you join after June 30th. 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:

Debbie Bluett– MPAFUG Treasurer
P.O. Box 229
Delavan, WI 53115-0229

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.