



# NEWSLETTER

July 2022  
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JULY 2022

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*How to Organize Your Photos*

*(Randy Ray)*

*YouTube Videos for Genealogy Research*

*(Bob Tatalovich)*

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*July 13, 2022*

*7:00 PM – New Berlin Ale House*

*16000 West Cleveland Avenue*

*New Berlin, WI 52151*

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## MEETING BITS AND BYTES

June 8<sup>th</sup> was a cool and rainy day but those who ventured out to our meeting at the New Berlin Ale House had the option of wearing sunglasses even while it was raining. A bit of rain and soggy sand didn't stop the volleyball players there either. There were 34 members, but no new members or guests, who attended this meeting. Guy Porth, a former steering committee member, was present after not having been able to attend for 2 ½ years.

Upon opening the meeting, Bob Heck commented that he and Randy Ray have a competition going with genealogy videos. So, of course, Bob had to share his latest which was a drone video of St. Francis Xavier Cemetery in Kenosha. Bob's son Bill had bought a new drone and wanted to try it so Bob suggested this location where his ancestor's graves are located. It was amazing footage which even included Bob and his son at one of the graves. It made us all want one.

Sam Colon was the first presenter of the evening with *MyHeritage.com DNA options*. In Sam's opinion, MyHeritage is the best site because it has an extremely large DNA database that covers the whole world while others do not. Sam explained how to join MyHeritage and then went on to show us how to download your DNA data from other sites such as Family Tree, 23 & Me and Ancestry. Then he showed us how to create one of those animated videos that Bob and Randy have been demonstrating recently. After Sam finished his part, Bob shared a bonus animation of his ancestor Johann Heck telling his personal story, titled Johann Heck's Deep Story. The original picture of Johann was with his wife, but Bob was able to crop it so just Johann was visible. Since Johann had

emigrated from Germany, but the voice used for him was definitely English, an audience member asked if a German accent was available.

Unfortunately, no, but it gave Bob the idea to look into it further.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation, Bob Heck gave an update on what the Family History Center has to offer. He first started out though by giving a history of FamilySearch.org. The Family History Center in Hales Corners is the largest in SE Wisconsin and is an extension of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Bob, Randy Ray and Cheryl Heck volunteer at the Family History Center every Thursday evening. Let's just say they have a ton of experience in genealogy research so if you need help, they will be the team to see.

## WHAT'S ON THE JULY SCHEDULE

Do you have oodles of photos that you aren't sure how to organize? Randy Ray is going to help with that at this meeting. At previous meetings he has had samples of one way that he does that by having them made into a book. Surely, he will inspire you to get those photos in order.

The 2nd presentation will be *YouTube Videos for Genealogy Research* by Bob Tatalovich. If you have never thought of this as a research tool, you might be in for a surprise.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Your steering committee held a zoom meeting on June 15, 2022. In attendance were:

Bob Heck, Debbie Bluett, Bob Miller.  
Randy Ray, Louise Stack and Bob Tatalovich

Our meeting was on the short side although we always have a lot to say. As usual the meeting began with a review of upcoming programs. Russell Horton from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum has been confirmed for the October 12th meeting so there was a discussion on the

honorarium he would receive on behalf of the museum with \$250 being proposed and accepted.

After a 2-year hiatus, it was decided that membership dues will once again resume for 2023. We did discuss if the dues should remain at \$12 or be increased, but the consensus was to leave it at \$12.

Bob Miller proposed having a pre-meeting get together for all members interested in getting to know each other, sharing information or asking questions. Debbie commented that the opportunity is already there as the doors open at 6:00PM. Bob Heck said that he is normally quite busy setting up, but Randy Ray said that he would be available to answer questions or give suggestions.

Since our current schedule would be finished in November, Bob Heck asked if the January meeting should again be on computer security as it has been for the last several years. All agreed as there are always updates which the members appreciate learning about. On a related topic Bob Miller mentioned that he had heard Internet Explorer was going away. Bob Heck verified this and a discussion followed on what we all use for internet searches. Bob Heck commented that he has found Microsoft Edge to be very fast.

We all signed off before the next round of storms came screeching into town.

## A QUOTE TO PONDER:

*"It (4<sup>th</sup> of July) will be celebrated with pomp and parade, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other."*

*John Adams*

## 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. Make your check payable to “MPAFUG”.

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



Celebrate Independence Day by flying the stars and stripes!

**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 Bob Heck, Cheryl 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 Janet Geronime Story

Janet has her father, Neil Gordon Kachur, to thank for getting her interested in genealogy. “We spent many happy hours discussing family history before he passed away in 2011. At his death I inherited boxes of materials.”

“I don’t remember when I joined MPAFUG, but I took my first genealogy class with the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society in 1975 or 1976. One of the things I did as part of the class was to write to my grandfather’s executor (a neighbor, not a relative) and ask if there were any papers relating to family history. To my disappointment, the executor’s response was that any papers had been destroyed. Hello brick wall!”

So far, Janet has 7,920 people in her family tree. The farthest she has been able to go back is to a German ancestor born in 1600 and a Norwegian ancestor born in 1616. She is still working on adding relatives to that family tree.

“Admittedly, my researching is haphazard. I follow a line until I get sidetracked (lots of rabbit holes) and then I will switch to another line. Yes, I try to share with anyone who is interested. Some of my new contacts have come through DNA research. One such DNA contact is a 5<sup>th</sup> cousin who responded to an email I sent him. He had the email address for the author of an \*Ortissippenbuch for my maternal grandfather’s hometown in Germany. Within a few days, I received the entire Ortssippenbuch as a PDF.”

Janet has a couple of family heirlooms that her father had given her, both of which came from a general store owned by his grandfather. One is a 1910 calendar that she has hanging on the wall

above her desk. The other is a still-working wall clock.

“My research has taken me to several courthouses in Wisconsin, several trips to Salt Lake City – one by train with Mae Sazama – a beautiful train ride by the way, and two trips to Norway where I spent time meeting people rather than doing research.”

No genealogy research would be complete without surprises and brick walls to hurtle so Janet has had her share too. One surprise came when she learned that the son of a long-time friend of hers married her 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin. Another came while she was active in the Land O’ Lakes Historical Society. She had a 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin once removed who had lived there and found them on the 1930 census. “Small World!”

As for brick walls, she is missing her Schultz family.

“I have found 14 of my 16, 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandparents. Have you ever tried researching “Schultz” in Chicago? Me neither.”

\*Ortssippenbuch for those that don’t know, means local kin book.

Here’s hoping you find that elusive Schultz family Janet. Thanks for sharing!

If you would like to submit your story, please email Louise Stack at: [kilostack@att.net](mailto: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

### August 10, 2022

UW Milwaukee Golda Meir Library Digital Map Collection, Microfilm and Archives (Randy Ray)

Stephen P. Morse Website (Bob Miller)

### 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 (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

### January 11, 2023

Computer Security

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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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

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Debbie Bluett  
John Canapa  
Steve Gulgowski  
Bob Miller  
Randy Ray

Questions about MPAFUG?  
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[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 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 \$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.