



NEWSLETTER

November 2018
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NOVEMBER 14, 2018

GENUKI Irish & UK Research (Bob Tatalovich)
Irish Church Records On-line (Bob Heck)

Next Meeting is November 14, 2018
Klemmer's Banquet Center
10401 West Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53227

FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

October 10, 2018 Meeting

PRELIMINARIES

Our October meeting was held at the usual time of 7:00PM at the usual meeting place of Klemmer's Banquet Hall with the usual emcee, Bob Heck, but that is where the "usualness" ended. There were 72 in attendance including 2 new members/guests prompting Bob to comment that this audience are the brave ones and everyone else must have stayed home. He did add that those that stayed home would miss out on some surprises.

Surprise # 1 was that Bob dropped his meeting opener Q & A session, for good. As you know, two surveys had been sent out to all members. For the first survey there were 209 responses and 171 responses for the second survey. Forty-five percent (45%) said that the Q & A should be dropped so it was.

The steering committee took the surveys seriously so will study them and make changes as appropriate. Bob mentioned a couple other responses as well. A whopping 90% answered in favor of keeping the opportunity table so, of course, that remains as is. And speaking of high percentages, 88% of you said NO to giving future presentations. Looking on the bright side, 6 did say they would so we look forward to some new guest speakers with different topics. Bob also discussed the question about doing one presentation per meeting versus two. The consensus for that was there will only be one topic if it needs more time otherwise we will keep with the current plan of two topics per meeting.

If you attend the meetings, Bob asks that you drink a lot of coffee and soda. Why? MPAFUG has guaranteed Klemmer's \$50 per meeting so if the

majority of attendees buy a beverage we will meet that mark.

Surprise# 2 was a Tombstone pizza give-away after the break. There had been a clue in the October newsletter to hopefully entice you to attend the meeting. There were 10 pizzas given away but not without some difficulty. Bob even said that he had never had so much trouble giving anything away before. To win a pizza you had to have a meeting handout that had a punch hole in it. There were not enough winners with the handouts already disseminated so more were passed out. Then there were winners who didn't opt for a pizza so the give-away went on longer than anticipated. For those that did get a pizza hope you enjoyed it!

Surprise#3 was after the meeting and not really a good one. If you have become accustomed to being able to refer to the recordings of the meetings, we are sorry to report that there is no recording for the October meeting due to a glitch. Must have been the gremlins of October.

IS YOUR COMPUTER DEAD? IS YOUR COMPUTER DYING? OR DOES IT HAVE A BELLYACHE?

Summarized by Louise Stack

Bruce Butterfield had the first presentation of the evening with his topic about the health of your computer. If you weren't worried about your computer before his presentation, you might have been afterwards. He started off by asking us a couple of questions. First, is your computer going to fail? Yes! The second question, which really had no answer, was, when? Hopefully, Bruce's information will help you recognize a problem and be able to avoid and/or fix it. Some things can be prevented but be prepared because sometimes things just happen.

Bruce had a very informative handout with some examples and fun stories but the best part might have been the pictures and videos he shared at the meeting. Some of the pix of dirty computers were even worthy of an EWW! Bruce first showed a pic of the inside of a computer with the hard drives and cooling fan. It is important to note that the heart of

the computer is behind the fan. He had pix of very dirty computers, complete with dust kitties. He also had a pic of computer fan covered with cigarette smoke and lint. For comparison he showed a dirty computer fan and then the clean one. Bruce also showed a couple of short videos he had made at home, one starting up his Windows 7 computer and the other of a computer where the hard drive had died.

Bob Heck later shared a story about his cousin's computer that wasn't working properly and Bob saw for himself it was very dirty. Let's just say he had cats. Anyway, he tried to vacuum it and it blew rather than sucked the debris. Needless to say, it was a mess and the cousin ended up investing in a new computer. We also learned that Bob's cousin had a coffee cup holder on his computer. Do you have one? We all do, but most of us use it for discs.

Bruce's advice is to keep your computer clean, cool and off the floor. Heat is also bad for your computer so keeping the fan clean will help it do its job of cooling. The CPU can get very hot and will use more power the hotter it gets.

For those of us who aren't too tech savvy Bruce had demos of hard drives, black rats (laptop power supply cords) and the secret cell that keeps the time and calendar current on your computer. Did you ever think about the fact that your computer keeps the correct time and date even when it's turned off? Well, it's a battery you can change on a PC. Don't try to open a laptop to do it though. As for those hard drives Bruce demoed, both had died. In case you didn't know this, if your hard drive quits the computer dies. Bruce reminded us that the really important part is not the computer itself but the data and files inside. Remember, all is not lost if you have a back-up. A good investment is an external hard drive.

This may sound simple, but the first thing to check when you decide to fire up your computer and don't get anything at all, is to see if it is plugged in and that you have electricity. Computers can die or act strangely for a number of reasons. There are lightning strikes, viruses, and electrical issues for example. Laptops like cell phones have batteries that can die. Be suspicious of odd messages and

strange noises coming from the computer as these might be signs of trouble ahead.

Bruce's tip: Keep your computer healthy and it will do its best to keep you happy!

PRE-REVOLUTION WARS, CONFLICTS: WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT TO GENEALOGISTS?

Notes by Louise Stack

Winnie Mading was the second speaker of the evening and had a plethora of information about the early years of our United States with the coinciding conflicts/wars from the beginning through The American Revolution. Those were tumultuous times and it seems that there was no end to enemies – Native, British, French, Dutch and more. Winnie is an excellent and thorough researcher so if there is anything you need to know about the difficult settling of Colonial America between 1609 and 1784 she has the information for you. Her original handout was 12 pages long, and although it is a wonderful resource, it was too much for her 45-minute presentation. There was a 4-page handout at the meeting which was much easier for us history students to follow along with. Have you traced ancestors back to the Colonial Period? Winnie's research might just provide clues about where to look for any of their history you are missing.

Please note that since Winnie's research on this topic was so comprehensive, this reporter could not possibly do it justice by trying to summarize it. In case you missed Bob Heck's pre-meeting email with the link for Winnie's 12-page handout, here it is again: <http://mpafug.org/colonial-12pg.pdf>.

Winnie's tip: Remember that history is written by the victors. She suggested a good read in "Lies My Teacher Told Me" by James W. Loewen

SOME MONKEY BUSINESS – Tidbits from Survey Monkey

This survey, both parts, has been very helpful to the Steering Committee and we will be reviewing all the results. There were a lot of great suggestions made so we will take them into account and consider making changes.

Bob Heck mentioned a couple of the survey results at the October meeting. To elaborate on the response about having one versus two topics per meeting, Bob had mentioned that if a single topic needs more time it will be allotted the entire meeting. Since he has eliminated his Q & A at the beginning of the meeting this will add a little extra time as well. Also, for the 2019 schedule there are already 2 meetings where it will only be a single topic: the January meeting is all about Cyber Security and the July meeting will be a single presentation by an outside speaker.

Following are a few more results from the survey. Please be aware that the percentages have been rounded off from the data in the first survey.

62% of you feel that you have moderate experience in the area of Family Research
31% of you read all the newsletters (Thank You!) while 38% of you read more than half in the past 2 years
50% of you visited the MPAFUG website monthly in the past 2 years
60% said you would not be interested in the annual Madison bus trip
99% of you would recommend MPAFUG membership to family and friends (Thank You again!)

Following are a few highlights the Steering Committee has learned from the 2nd survey. Those listed had the highest percentages.

The top geographic areas you are interested in for presentations are:

#1 Western Europe Research
#2 Eastern Europe Research
#3 United States Research

The top ethnic group presentations you are interested in are German, which had the highest overall percentage, followed by the UK, Scottish and Irish.

As for Military History, the top areas you would like to see presented are:

#1 WWII

#2 Civil War

#3 WWI

The most valuable and fun part, of course, was the comments. There were a lot of comments so we'll just throw in some excerpts for now.

Breakout sessions/Have One hour a year to have questions answered one on one by a smart member/Have small groups lead by a member focusing on an ethnic group
Turn my age back 20 years. Make me younger! (FYI we'd all like that)
More genealogy-related news like upcoming conferences/seminars. The newsletter would be a good place to mention events in Wisconsin, Illinois and even Salt Lake City.
More on British Isles and Scandinavia
Hearing from various members
Allow one member to present their brick wall at the monthly meeting to all present
New topics
Faster meeting
More info for MAC users and some of the Heck luck in finding info
Have more talks from outside presenters
More advanced topics
Presentations with maps
European history and how it affected our ancestors
Adoptees/The ancestry of foundlings
Measurements in poles which went from this tree to that and so on. Have you measured anything in poles lately? It is a legal measurement and translates to 16.5'.

Upcoming Programs

November 14, 2018

GENUKI Irish & UK Research (Bob Tatalovich)

Irish Church Records On-line (Bob Heck)

NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

January 9, 2019

Cyber Security (Bill Heck)

Security Programs that You Should Use (Sam Colon)

February 13, 2019

Photo Magic: An Update (Bob Heck)

7 Deadly Sins of digitizing photos (Bob Tatalovich)

March 13, 2019

New Toys for the Genealogist (Gary Haas)

DNA an Update (Pat Mundstock)

April 10, 2019

A Full Night of Member Show and Tell

Contact Bob Heck if you would like to give a 5-10 minute presentation.

May 8, 2019

Finding the Trail to Europe (Bob Heck)

Tracing Military Deaths (Louise Stack)

June 12, 2019

Research Strategies (Jane Orne)

July 10, 2019

World War I Genealogy Research (Debra Dudek) Full evening presentation.

August 14, 2019

TBA

TBA

If you would like to make a presentation or have a suggestion for a topic for a meeting, please contact Bob Heck

About This Newsletter

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Members interested in submitting articles may e-mail them to bheck@voyager.net. 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.

Dues Are Due for 2019

This is a reminder that MPAFUG dues are due by January 1, 2019. Membership dues cover the period from January 1st through December 31st of each year. All members have their membership status expire on December 31st. We start collecting dues for each year starting in September. This makes it easier on our Treasurer. You can help us a lot by sending in your dues early. With 500 members you can imagine how hectic collecting dues can be for our Treasurer.

The MPAFUG membership dues for 2019 will be \$12.00 per year. In other words there is no change in dues from 2018 to 2019. There is one significant change however. We will only accept dues for one year. In the past you could send in dues for up to three years. Unfortunately, too many members failed to check their dues status and sent in an additional check every time I sent a dues reminder

to all of our members. Some members were thus paid up for five or more years. This causes a nightmare for our Treasurer and it really messes up our records.

If you send in a multiple year dues check, we will not accept it. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Remember that your 2019 dues cover you and your entire family under the same roof.

You can get to the membership renewal form at the following address:

<http://mpafug.org/membership2019.pdf>

Please print the form, fill it out and send it along with your check to:

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

Please make your check payable to MPAFUG.

You can also drop it in a box provided at the November MPAFUG meeting.

We sincerely hope that all of you will be renewing your membership as we have a really great set of programs scheduled for you for 2019.

P-L-E-A-S-E Check your dues status before sending in your check.

To check your current dues status just log into the MPAFUG member-Only web site using your e-mail address and your password which is your last name. The address for the web page is <http://mpafug.org>

You will notice that the left side of the screen will be blue. After you enter your e-mail address and password the left side will turn red and you will be greeted by name. Right below your name you will find your current dues status.

NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL Address
Bruce Butterfield	414-462-6097	Babtrfld-mke@wi.rr.com
Sam Colon	414-327-2133	genschr@gmail.com
Bob Heck	414-421-7143	bheck@voyager.net
Bob Tatalovich	414-897-8280	bobt3725@gmail.com
Jane Orne	262-938-9371	orne@Rworld.net
Guy Porth	414-510-0563	guyporth9@yahoo.com
Earl Capps	414-327-4327	elcapps@yahoo.com

Help with PAF

Call us if you need assistance in using PAF, or if you have question about MPAFUG
We're here to help!

MPAFUG Key Information

The Steering Committee

Steering committee meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month except December. The meetings start at 7:00 pm at the Family History Center 9600.W. Grange Avenue, Hales Corners, WI. 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 and participate in the meetings.

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 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.

Resources Available:

In addition to our monthly meetings and website, we offer 3 CD's that are available to members for purchase. CD's are \$5 each if picked up at a meeting, or an additional \$2.50 for shipping/handling. Contact Lynn Thrasher - MPAFUG Treasurer, PO Box 14222, West Allis, WI 53214-0222.

- ◆ MPAFUG Newsletters – December 1991 thru December 2013
- ◆ MPAFUG Handouts – 1999 thru 2013
- ◆ MPAFUG Utilities CD – contains 16 useful programs including PAF, Picasa, GenViewer, Open Office, Adobe Reader, PDA to Palm OS, FastStone, IRFAN Viewer/Plugins, FamilySearcher and more

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. Dues are \$6 for the balance of a year if you join after June 30th. To join, send a check made payable to "MPAFUG" to: Lynn Thrasher – MPAFUG Treasurer, PO Box 14222, West Allis, WI 53214-0222.

Questions about MPAFUG?

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