



# WMGS Newsletter Autumn 2015



## WMGS Membership Meetings

All Membership Meetings are free to the public and are held in the Ryerson Auditorium at the Grand Rapids Public Library Main Branch at 1:30 PM.

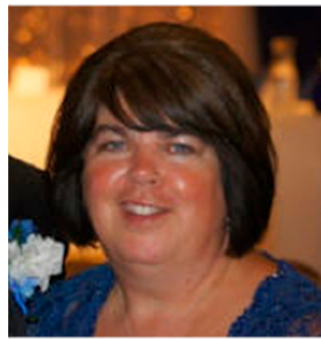
**Mini-classes** are also free and take place before the main meeting from Noon until 1 PM in the Adult Computer Training Center, lower level.

### Next Membership Meeting Is September 12th

**Topic: Going the Extra Mile — How to make the most of your hometown genealogy and historical societies**

Maureen Nelson will highlight some of the smaller local genealogical and historical societies to the north of Kent County. She will discuss ways you can use their resources in your research and how you can help your local group.

Maureen is the President of the Mecosta County Genealogical Society in Big Rapids and enjoys “digging deeper” to find some things that you might not find so easily. Many WMGS members will remember her previous presentation about Irish-Canadians who settled in the Big Rapids/Paris area of Michigan.



Maureen Nelson

### September 12th Mini-Class Noon – 1:00 PM

**Just Starting Genealogy?: Don't know where to start?** Learn basic beginning genealogical research skills to help investigate your own family tree. Check your home for documents & photos – what to look for, plus talking to relatives – what to ask. Instructor: Linda Guth

## October 3rd Membership Meeting

**Topic: Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent: Researching Ancestors in Michigan Poorhouses**

Long before the advent of modern social welfare, Michigan county governments utilized poorhouses to support an area's poor, elderly and indigent population. Explore the early history and evolution of Michigan Poor Law. Discover research strategies for tracing poorhouse inmates as well as viewing examples of relevant documents.



Adam Oster

October presenter Adam Oster is a librarian at the Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch of the Kent District Library.

Adam holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from Grand Valley State University with a minor in Political Science and Secondary Education Certification. He also has a Master of Library Science degree from Indiana University.

### October 3rd Mini-Class Noon – 1:00 PM

**Research Analysis Sheet:** This class will illustrate the hands on method that I have developed over the years to resolve issues and confirm evidence. The Research Analysis Sheet is a versatile grid used to contrast and compare information, ferret out impossible issues and confirm the validity of information. This cognitive map allows the researcher to spot a possible place to bang away at a brick wall. Instructor: Shirley DeBoer

## NOTE:

The **November 7th Membership Meeting** is in the Planning Stage. Be sure to check [www.wmgs.org](http://www.wmgs.org), the Local History Department at the Grand Rapids Public Library, or the President's Email Message at a future date for more details.

**October 9th and 10th**

**WMGS Got Ancestors?! Seminar**

with *Who Do You Think You Are?* genealogist

Joshua Taylor. For more information or to register go to:

[www.GotAncestors.com](http://www.GotAncestors.com)

## WMGS Two Hour Classes

Genealogists in Western Michigan have made these longer classes a popular choice. More time allows for more in-depth discussions and questions. This fall, two are scheduled to cover basic techniques and resources. They will be very helpful for beginners and for those of us who need a reminder to not forget research basics.

**Monday, September 21st 6:30PM – 8:30PM**

**Genealogical Forms:** Every family historian needs certain worksheets and forms for tracking relatives and research progress. Learn how to use these basic genealogical forms. Instructor: Linda Guth

Location: Grand Rapids Public Library, Adult Computer Training Center, lower level.

**Monday, October 19th 6:30PM – 8:30PM**

**Record Types:** Learn what information each type may contain and where they may be found. Record Examples: Census, Military, Immigration, Land, Death & Cemetery Records. Instructor: Linda Guth

Location: Grand Rapids Public Library, Adult Computer Training Center, lower level.

## Michigan Genealogical Council Fall Family History Event

**Saturday, November 14 9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Michigan Library and Historical Center,  
702 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, Michigan

Paul Milner, professional genealogist and lecturer has specialized in British Isles and U.S. research for over 30 years. He is an internationally recognized speaker for British Isles research and migration and is the author of *Discover English Parish Records*, *Genealogy at a Glance: English Research* and Co-author of *A Genealogists Guide to Discovering your English Ancestors* and *A Genealogists Guide to Discovering your Scottish Ancestors*. Coordinator for English and Scottish research tracks at Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research. He holds an advanced degree in Theology and is particularly knowledgeable about the church and its role in record keeping. For more information see [www.mimgc.org](http://www.mimgc.org).

**Interested in carpooling?** Contact Sue Irvine at [sjirv@yahoo.com](mailto:sjirv@yahoo.com) or call 616-889-0042.

## African American Museum Coming to Grand Rapids

WMGS member, George Bayard, is on a mission to help establish the **Grand Rapids African American Museum and Archives (GRAAMA)**. The name is intentional. George notes, "We purposely chose it because in many families, Grandma is the person who holds the history of the family and takes on the responsibility of passing that history on to the next generation."

The non-profit's Board of Directors has been encouraged by a grant from the Dyer - Ives Foundation of \$48,720 and a grant from the Kellogg Foundation of \$24,990, totaling \$73,710. George said, "The museum will basically cover all of West Michigan, as far as Traverse City, all the way down to Benton Harbor but primarily Grand Rapids." He added, "Throughout the state, there is an African American Museum in Big Rapids, Holland, Lansing, Kalamazoo and in Detroit, but nothing in Grand Rapids, the second largest city in Michigan. We don't have anything that is devoted to Blacks in this city." The organization wants to



George Bayard

locate a building where the stories of Black Civil Rights advocates, musicians, athletes, and average people can be preserved.

The Museum's mission is to promote, preserve, display, collect and honor the lives, culture, history and accomplishments of African, African American, and connected peoples in the Greater Grand Rapids Michigan community.

## Need Help? Have Questions?

Whether you're just beginning to investigate your family's past, or are a more seasoned genealogist who needs a "new pair of eyes" to jump start your research, it's helpful to talk to other more experienced family historians. You also have the option to participate in WMGS projects.

Any beginning, intermediate or advanced researcher who wants help with a genealogical question is encouraged to come to the Local History Department at the Grand Rapids Public Library to confer with an experienced WMGS member on **any Tuesday or Thursday evening in September October and November from 6 to 9 pm.**

## **Next Grand Rapids Public Library Genealogy Lock-in is October 30 from 6-10 PM**

The Lock-In is a free event hosted by the Grand Rapids Public Library and sponsored by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society for both new and more experienced family historians. It provides an opportunity to use the extensive resources available in the stacks, share knowledge with other genealogists and learn about new techniques and resources. Learn how to use the microfilm reader/scanner/printer, save images, and take advantage of free copying and printing during the event. Use the time to search databases—we will have plenty of computers available or bring your own laptop and use the library's WiFi network. Bring your genealogy questions or Ancestry and Heritage Quest problems—volunteers will be on hand to assist. Network with other genealogists—you never know what you might find!

**Registration is required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register) or call 988-5400.**

### **New Lock-in Guidelines**

**Registration:** You may ONLY register for yourself and one other person. There is a maximum of fifty people due to space limitations. If all spaces are filled there will be a waiting list. If you are registered and find you will be unable to attend, please notify the library as soon as possible so another genealogist can take your place.

**Food:** The Library and WMGS will provide snacks for hungry researchers. If you wish, you may also bring additional food and drinks. ALL edibles MUST be eaten in the VanderVeen Room. No food or liquids are allowed in the stacks or by computers.

**Copying:** Please copy no more than TEN pages at one time. This will reduce the time each person has to wait for their copies to be available. To avoid confusion, it is helpful if you collect your copies as soon as they have been printed.

## **WMGS Writing Contest Coming soon!**

Details on the 2016 WMGS Writing Contest will be in the next issue of *Michigana*.

## **A Genealogy Librarian's Pet Peeves**

- People who believe everything they find online is true. Or even everything in print is true. Caveat Emptor! Just like everything else in life, you have to look at genealogy information with a critical eye. Evaluate the source.

- Online genealogy without any source citation. Some of my favorite web sites have this problem. Someone posts the wrong information. It gets picked up and repeated by everyone else. Yet no one knows how it got started, because it wasn't cited.

- People who fervently believe they are related to someone famous or have Native American ancestry and resist all factual information that doesn't agree with their illusion.

- People who won't ask for help when it is obvious that they need it. Here someone needed help with our microfilm machine. Now there is a roll of microfilm with a jagged edge somewhere in the 1000s of rolls of film that the library owns.

- Misspelling G-E-N-E-A-L-O-G-Y. It is not genealogy or genealogy. It is genealogy. If you are going to do it, learn how to spell it. Or use "family history research" instead.

- Advertisements to buy your family crest or your family history. A family doesn't have a crest. An individual is granted the right to use a crest. It may or may not be inherited. The purchased family histories usually consist of a phone directory of everyone with your surname and some generic history.

- The myth: Our name was changed at Ellis Island. No. It wasn't. Immigrants had papers from their home country that they carried with them. Ellis Island had interpreters. Think about it. The place was full of people who spoke foreign languages, some of whom also spoke English. However, many immigrants chose to change their name later, to blend in and be more "American."

- "It has to be online!" People who believe the Internet has all the family history information they need. Even when the archive's web site says you have to visit the building or tells how to order the paper copy. I have had members argue with me on this one.

- People who want "everything on my Smith family". Really? You want everything on the Smith family? Are you willing to pay for that? A proper request identifies a specific family, time period, and place. Example: Jeremiah Smith who lived from 1840-1898 in Litchfield, Medina County, Ohio.

- People who don't understand that not everything is digitized. Digitization costs time and money, both of which are in short supply in libraries. Yes, we would love to digitize our local paper and yearbooks. But we don't have the time or money.

*Posted on the Medina County District Library Genealogy Blog by Kathy Petras on 15 August 2015. <http://mcdlgenealogy.blogspot.com/>*

# Western Michigan Genealogical Society's Bus Trip to Ft. Wayne's Allen County Public Library

--- Staying at Econo Lodge (different MOTEL) ---  
 Tuesday - Wednesday–November 17-18, 2015  
 \$126=Single, \$98=Double, \$88=Triple, \$83=Quad  
 Transportation by Great Lakes Motor Coach No smoking on coach.

### NEW PICKUP AREAS

<b>Day #1</b>	7:00	AM	Leave Alpine NW area ( <u>back behind Star Theater</u> ) (North of I-96)
Nov 17 <sup>nd</sup>	7:30	AM	Leave <u>Meijers</u> (next to I96 and 28 <sup>th</sup> St near the "K" marker)
Tuesday	8:15	AM	Leave <u>Lake Odessa and I-96 (Exit64)</u> (just ¼ mile south to Outreach Christian Church lot)
	8:45	AM	Possible pickup off I69 near Charlotte (on I69 -exit 48)
	9:30	ish	Refreshment Stop (donuts & juice at highway rest stop)
	10:30	AM	Arrive Allen County Public Library (260) 421-1200
	9:00	PM	Bus transfer to Econo Lodge (260) 489-8888
<b>Day #2</b>	7:00	AM	Wakeup Call – Walk across parking lot to restaurant for breakfast
Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>	8:30-8:40	AM	Load luggage. Transportation to library.
Wednesday	6:00	PM	Depart from Allen County Public Library.
	6:45	PM	Stop for quick meal near Auburn, Indiana
	9:30	PM	Arrive at Lake Odessa exit (church parking lot)
	10:00	PM	Arrive at Meijers I-96 drop off area
	10:30	PM	Arrive at Alpine area behind theater

Trip includes: Roundtrip motor coach transportation, lodging at Econo Lodge (better motel), 5707 Challenger Parkway, and library transfer. Light Breakfast included.

(Allen County Library also has a nice café) Many eateries are close to the library.

\* The motel does not have an elevator. Please indicate floor requirement.

\* Cancellations will receive a refund with replacement only.

\* WMGS member? Membership PERK. You will receive a coupon worth \$5 towards next year's membership or towards any purchase at the WMGS sales table.

\*\* We need **36 bus riders** to make this trip a reality. An email by first of October would be most helpful.

A \$15 deposit guarantees your place on the bus. Please send your deposit or at least an email by October 15th. Balance must be paid by November 7<sup>th</sup>. Make checks payable to WMGS.

**\*Please contact Sue Irvine with questions. 616-889-0042 or [sjirv@yahoo.com](mailto:sjirv@yahoo.com)**

**Send registration to Sue Irvine, 4215 Northgate NE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49525  
 \$126=Single, \$98=Double, \$88=Triple, 83=Quad**

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 Ft. Wayne Trip Tues – Wed November 17-18, 2015 All rooms non-smoking  
 Is 1<sup>st</sup> floor a requirement? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Pickup Point: Circle one: Star Theater Meijers Lake Odessa Charlotte Roommates: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation and other trip information will be confirmed by email.: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2015 WMGS Membership List

**WMGS is nothing without our members. Here is the most recent list of those who make us what we are. Thanks you to all of our new and renewing members!***(If your name is NOT on this list, please check the expiration date on your newsletter label and send in your renewal. Thank you!)*

Sheryl Ackerman, Grand Rapids, MI  
Susan Addleman, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA  
Sharon & Scott Adrian, Fremont, MI  
Jennifer Afton-Noppen, Kalamazoo, MI  
Sally Hutcheson Akehi, Grand Rapids, MI  
Becky Allard, Grand Rapids, MI  
Linda Allen, Stockbridge, MI  
Terri Mulliken Allen, Mesquite, Tx  
Evelyn Allarding, Freeport, MI  
Janet Alpert, Holland, MI  
Mary A Alt, Marne, MI  
Meredyth Althaus, Wyoming, MI  
Jeffrey Amundsen, Hamilton, MI  
Barbara Anderson, Sacramento, CA  
Barbara Bacon, Grand Rapids, MI  
Cynthia Bailey, Grand Rapids, MI  
Jana Baker, Grandville, MI  
Donald & Jane Barsema, Grand Rapids, MI  
Vicki Bartlett, Mesa, AZ  
Raymond D Bates, Ludington, MI  
Lynnette Bean, Shelbyville, MI  
Hattie Beenen, Grand Rapids, MI  
Eleanor Benz, Kalispell, MT  
Shirley A Bergman, West Palm Beach, FL  
Mary Bernthal, Grand Rapids, MI  
Barbara Bettes, Sparta, MI  
Jim Biener, Grand Rapids, MI  
Phyllis Bieri, Lowell, MI  
Cheryl Bignall, Grand Rapids, MI  
Melissa Bird, Peoria, AZ  
Patricia Blood, Ionia, MI  
Sue Bogard, Grand Rapids, MI  
Tammy Bond, Rockford, MI  
Fred Boogaard, Grandville, MI  
Nancy L Borst, Grand Rapids, MI  
Donald Bos, Austin, TX  
Gerald L Bowersox, Hudsonville, MI  
Marta Brechting, Comstock Park, MI  
Lori Brewer, Derby, KS  
Pat Brewer, Dorr, MI  
Jean Bringman, Traverse City, MI  
Willia Brown, Grand Rapids, MI  
Mary Bruining, Jenison, MI  
Donald and Mindy Bryant, Grand Rapids, MI  
Skip Bryant, Kewadin, MI  
Kenneth Buehler, Rio Rancho, NM  
Irene Bultman, Grand Haven, MI  
Janice Burke, Grand Haven, MI  
Richard L Burke, Comstock Park, MI  
Robert A Bush, Grand Rapids, MI  
Bruce B and Marcia Butgereit, Kentwood, MI  
Keith G Calkins, Berrien Springs, MI  
Carol Caraccia, Ypsilanti, MI  
Paula B Carbone, Collinsville, OK  
Michael Ellen Carling OP, Grand Rapids, MI  
Esther & Elden Carlson, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sherry Carney, Grandville, MI  
JoAnn Carpenter, Grand Rapids, MI  
Suzanne R Carpenter, Comstock Park, MI  
Sarabeth Carr, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patricia Cederholm, Conklin, MI  
Maurice R Chase Jr., Palo Alto, CA  
Fran Christensen, Grand Rapids, MI  
Lisa Christensen, Caledonia, MI  
Linda Chulski, Grand Rapids, MI  
Carol Church, Ravenna, MI  
Kathleen E Coffee, Grand Rapids, MI  
Fred Cole, Hudsonville, MI  
Nancy Collins, Grand Haven, MI  
Shirley Compton, Cedar Springs, MI  
Kathy Cook, Grand Rapids, MI  
John Cosgrove, Ada, MI  
David R Cosper, Downers Grove, IL  
Roger Cotner, Grand Haven, MI  
Allan Couch, Grand Rapids, MI  
Steven Crum, Grand Rapids, MI  
John Dale, Fenton, MI  
Linda Damstra, Grand Rapids, MI  
Joyce Daniels, Grand Rapids, MI  
Lorrae Danzig, Jenison, MI  
Dale & Claudette Darling, Comstock Park, MI  
Sharynne Davey, Rockford, MI  
Dona David, Muskegon, MI  
Darlene Dawood, Sand Lake, MI  
Sabrina Dawson, Santa Rosa, CA  
Claudia S Day, Grand Rapids, MI  
Shirley DeBoer, CG, Grand Rapids, MI  
Marvel M DeBois, Grand Rapids, MI  
Leona R DeBruyne, Grand Rapids, MI  
Robert DeFer, Chesterfield, MO  
Jason Deible, Middleville, MI  
Linda Kae DeJongh, Clarksville, MI  
Tina Demling, Grand Rapids, MI  
Lori Demmink, Marne, MI  
Julie DeVisser, Grand Rapids, MI  
Tom Dickenson, Ada, MI  
Beverly Dillon, Grand Rapids, MI  
Frederick Dolehanty, Rochester Hills, MI  
Sue Dombrowski, Grand Rapids, MI  
Judith L Dood, Byron Center, MI  
Kim Door, Wayland, MI  
Micky Drollinger, Alto, MI  
Zo Eckert, Rockford, MI  
Ann Ed, Grand Rapids, MI  
Andrea K Edwards, Walker, MI  
Sandra L Einig, Byron Center, MI  
David J Eisen, Mishawaka, IN  
Vicki Elzinga, Belmont, MI  
Laurel A Emerson, Richmond, MI  
Gayla J Endahl, Marne, MI  
Robert Enders, Grand Rapids, MI  
Lee Engstrom, Grand Rapids, MI  
Christine Evans, Carlsbad, CA  
Margaret M Evans, Lansing, IL  
Marlene Fabbro, Wyoming, MI  
Patti Faist, Caledonia, MI  
Constance Fales, Muskegon, MI  
Joanne Fast, Comstock Park, MI  
Denise Fedko, Rockford, MI  
Darlene Fegel, Lowell, MI  
Norma J Fick, Grand Rapids, MI  
Maria Fillmore, Nunica, MI  
Kaye L Fish, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sandra Fisher, Kentwood, MI  
Denton W Fitzgerald, Royal Oak, MI  
Shantell Ford, Lowell, MI  
Wenda Rae Fore, Jenison, MI  
Lori L Fox, Portland, MI  
Susan Frasier, Grand Rapids, MI  
Dana Freas, Wyoming, MI  
Pam Freas, Wyoming, MI  
Kenneth R Gackler, Caledonia, MI  
Judith Gager, Greenville, MI  
Patricia A Galloway, Grand Rapids, MI  
Charles E Gasper, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patricia Gemmen, Allendale, MI  
Roxanne Gildner, Belmont, MI  
Norilyn Gillette, Grand Rapids, MI  
Shirley Goodspeed, Grand Rapids, MI  
Karen Grant, Grand Rapids, MI  
Gary L/Barbara J Green, Rockford, MI  
Barbara Greene, Caledonia, MI  
Lora Greenland, Rockford, MI  
Shirley Nason Greenwood, Santa Cruz, CA  
Bill Grinstead, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sally Grove, Wyoming, MI  
JoAnne K Gulliver, Sugar Land, TX  
Sylvia Gurk, Pierson, MI  
Linda Guth, Jenison, MI  
Nancy Guzzo, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sue Haadsma-Svensson, Indianapolis, IN  
Candy Haberkorn, Holland, MI  
Joan E Hansen, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patricia Gruse Harris, Michigan City, IN  
Carolyn Hart, Jenison, MI  
Roger Haskins, Fairfax, VA  
Becky Haywood, Grand Rapids, MI  
Larry Herrington, Rockford, MI  
Jane Hesselschwerdt, Grand Rapids, MI  
Megan and Jim Heyl, Holland, MI  
Mary Hodges, Richland, MI  
Ann Hole, Comstock Park, MI  
Graham Hollis, Kalamazoo, MI  
Tarianne D Holtlander, Kentwood, MI  
Mrs Noel C Horn, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patricia Hornbeck, Jenison, MI  
Bobbe & Roger Horton, Grand Rapids, MI  
Linda Huffaker, Rockford, MI  
Janice K Hulbert, Sand Lake, MI  
David C Husted, Jenison, MI  
Connie Ingham, Grand Rapids, MI  
Shirley Ingraham, Grand Rapids, MI  
Laurel Ingram, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sue Irvine, Grand Rapids, MI  
Darrell Jackson, Grand Rapids, MI  
Kathryn Jackson, Hot Springs Village, AR  
Thomas E Jarvis III, West Olive, MI  
Merridy Jeffery, Dorr, MI  
Fran Jensen, Salt Lake City, UT  
Janet Jensen, Rockford, MI  
Johnie B Johnson, Lansing, MI  
Dixie L Johnston, Hastings, MI  
Terry Jolink, Grandville, MI  
Adele Jones, Sparta, MI  
Marilyn Jones, Bolivar, MO  
Philip Jones, Annapolis, MD

Henrietta Jordan, Columbus, WI  
Barbara Kalinski, Los Angeles, CA  
Theresa Kalinski, Los Angeles, CA  
Dorothy Kane, Grandville, MI  
Dawn Westcomb Kelley, Muskegon, MI  
Julaine B Kern, Barryton, MI  
Kay Kiel, Wyoming, MI  
Beth Kleersnyder, Grand Rapids, MI  
Doris Knight, Grand Rapids, MI  
Mary Kay Knudstrup, Lowell, MI  
Roger Konyndyk, Grand Rapids, MI  
Mindy Koole, Greenville, MI  
Tom Koselka, Westland, MI  
Carol Kroll, Grand Rapids, MI  
Jay Kruizenga, Allendale, MI  
Gail Kukawski, Grand Rapids, MI  
Alan & Jeri Landheer, Jenison, MI  
Mary M Lane, Dearborn, MI  
Rick & Kim Lanting, Byron Center, MI  
Kathie LaRoy, Baldwin, MI  
Louann Larsen, Grand Rapids, MI  
Margaret Laskowski, Comstock Park, MI  
Marlene Leistico, Comstock Park, MI  
Frederick W Leonard, Alto, MI  
Martha "Marti" Lind, Clarksville, MI  
Julia Liu, Danville, CA  
Jae Loucks, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patsy Lucas, Byron Center, MI  
John Kevin MacAulay, Grand Rapids, MI  
Margaret K Maksymowski, Grand Rapids, MI  
Kathy Malkewitz, Grand Rapids, MI  
Laurel Manning, Portland, MI  
Jerilyn Marshall, Cedar Falls, IA  
Olga Matteson, St Johns, MI  
Harriet McCarthy, Lansing, MI  
Janet McFarland-Idema, Jenison, MI  
Lynne McHoskey, Holland, MI  
Ronald & Joyce McMichael, Lakeview, MI  
Zane Mead, Nashville, MI  
Elaine P Medich, Flushing, MI  
Gloria Meert, Grand Rapids, MI  
Susan Merizon, Walker, MI  
Dolores Merryman, Comstock Park, MI  
Linda Meyer, Grand Rapids, MI  
William Meyer, Wyoming, MI  
John J Miller, Rockford, MI  
Pat Minnema, Grand Rapids, MI  
Gordon Mitchell, Hickory Corners, MI  
Mary Julia Mitchell, Lansing, MI  
Shirley Mitchell-Jones, Three Rivers, MI  
Rita M Modderman, Grand Rapids, MI  
Roger Moffat, Caledonia, MI  
Betty Lee Mollo, Richland, MI  
Deb Moore, Grand Rapids, MI  
Helen C Morey, Belmont, MI  
James R Moses, Lansing, MI  
Michael L Muilenberg, Amherst, MA  
Paula Naujalis, Grand Rapids, MI  
Phyllis A Neitzel, Wyoming, MI  
Maureen Nelson, Cedar Springs, MI  
Joan Nielsen, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patrick Nugent, Ada, MI  
Judy Nyman, Grand Rapids, MI  
Laura O'Brock, Grand Rapids, MI  
Kathleen Ogden, Alexandria, VA  
Pam Olsen, Ada, MI  
Evelyn Olson, Marysville, WA  
Paul Osborn, Niantic, CT  
Sue Osgood, Grand Rapids, MI

Eleanor J Palmer, Rockford, MI  
Barbara Parker, Greenville, MI  
Vickey Parker, Coopersville, MI  
Curtis & Jennette Parkhurst, Otsego, MI  
Sherrie Parr, Colon, MI  
Mary Ann Patrick, Grand Rapids, MI  
Kayleen Pawloski, Topinabee, MI  
Jonmarie Pearson, Dumfries, VA  
Jean Pendell, Trenton, MI  
Loraine Peterson, Grand Rapids, MI  
Carol Phelps, Grand Rapids, MI  
Dianne Phelps, Reed City, MI  
Linda Phillips, Grand Rapids, MI  
Mary Jane Phillips, Wyoming, MI  
Sandra Phillips, Battle Creek, MI  
Dorotha Simmons Piechocki, Wyoming, MI  
John W Pierce, Ionia, MI  
Kathryn J Post, Grand Rapids, MI  
Carl and Lucinda Puite, Cedar Springs, MI  
Mary Quarandillo, Grand Rapids, MI  
Susan J Rabick, Sparta, MI  
Jim Rademaker, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patrick Rademaker, West Olive, MI  
Betsy Randall, Reed City, MI  
Allan Rau, Rockford, MI  
Lucille A Read, Grand Rapids, MI  
Janis Reamsma, Grandville, MI  
Connie Reik, Melrose, MA  
Therese Rich, Hudsonville, MI  
Joyce Richards, Montague, MI  
Diane M Rider, Grand Rapids, MI  
Jessica Riley, Grand Rapids, MI  
Patricia Riley, Grand Rapids, MI  
Francina Roberts, Grand Rapids, MI  
Mary Jo Robertson, Thousand Oaks, CA  
Bruce Robey, Wyoming, MI  
Donna J Rogers, Rockford, MI  
Susan Rydell, Lapeer, MI  
Erica Schaidt, Wyoming, MI  
Kathleen Scheid, Grand Rapids, MI  
Nan Schichtel, Grand Rapids, MI  
Bobbi Schirado, Sparta, MI  
Cathy Schmitt, Comstock Park, MI  
Eileen & David Schmuker, Belmont, MI  
Wanda Schottler, Grand Rapids, MI  
Marcia L Schulz, Cedar Springs, MI  
Suzan Schumacher, Wyoming, MI  
Donna Schwarzwaelder, Grand Rapids, MI  
Jenny Shangraw, Rockford, MI  
Caroline J Shearer, Ada, MI  
Marcia L Shears, Grand Rapids, MI  
Brian Shumway, Hastings, MI  
Caroline Sias, Grand Rapids, MI  
Dawn Sikkema, Chevy Chase, MD  
Rick Simkins, Lowell, MI  
William J Simmons, Grand Rapids, MI  
Phyllis Slater, Whitehall, MI  
David Lee and Liz Smith, Grandville, MI  
Janet S Smith, Allegan, MI  
Rebecca Smith, Howard City, MI  
Betty VanEyck Snow, Hudsonville, MI  
Gail M Snow, Ada, MI  
Steve Snow, Hudsonville, MI  
Darlene J Snyder, Comstock Park, MI  
Arthur G Souter, Cooks, MI  
Virginia L Staal, Grandville, MI  
Terrence M Start, Grandville, MI  
Julie A Steere, Jenison, MI  
Eleanor Stegehuis, Grand Rapids, MI

Patricia Steinport, Grand Rapids, MI  
Randall Stenholm, West Olive, MI  
Lois M Stephens, Grand Rapids, MI  
Betsy Stevens, Greenville, MI  
Linda Stewart, Grand Rapids, MI  
Meredith Stoehr, Centerville, OH  
Linda Stoepker, Dorr, MI  
Ronald B Strauss, Wyoming, MI  
John G Strickland, Battle Creek, MI  
Linda S Struman, Cedar Springs, MI  
Susan E Studabaker, Three Rivers, MI  
Jeanette Studley, Washington, DC  
Pamela K Swiler, Lake Odessa, MI  
Cindy Swix, Portland, MI  
Barbara Termeer, Grand Rapids, MI  
Coral E Thomas, Clarksville, TN  
Dian Thomas, Ada, MI  
Richard Thomas, Kentwood, MI  
Russell & Laurie Tilden, Norton Shores, MI  
Mark & Michelle Timmer, Zeeland, MI  
Sheryl Tisdell, Rockford, MI  
Denise J Toogood, Coopersville, MI  
Jessica Trotter, Lansing, MI  
Dorann Truax, Lowell, MI  
Theresa Tuttle, Grand Rapids, MI  
Daniel Van Meurs, Grand Rapids, MI  
Ann VanDenMeerendonk, Wyoming, MI  
Trenna VanderWoude, Lowell, MI  
Kristin Ann VanDeVusse, Grand Rapids, MI  
Ann VanDusen, Rockford, MI  
Esther L VanHammen, Honor, MI  
Janet C VanWyck, Alto, MI  
Kathryn Verploegh, Rockford, MI  
Judy Vezzetti, Wayland, MI  
Sara Vrugink, Walker, MI  
Phylinda Walker, Grand Rapids, MI  
Robert B Walsh, Bothell, WA  
Ruth Waybrant, Grand Rapids, MI  
Gretchen Weaver, Grand Rapids, MI  
Maryrita Weiss, Grand Rapids, MI  
Lynn Wells, Grand Rapids, MI  
Susan Welton, Byron Center, MI  
Barbara Wenger, Belding, MI  
Patricia Wenzel, Champaign, IL  
Dawn Westfall, Great Valley, NY  
Sandra Westgate, Newaygo, MI  
Dorris White, Coral, MI  
Linda Wieck, Rockford, MI  
Judith A Wiers, Hudsonville, MI  
Jan Williams, Fountain, MI  
Judith Wilson, Walker, MI  
Lloyd Winer, Grand Rapids, MI  
Sonja Wingard, Grand Haven, MI  
JoAnn Wisner, Jenison, MI  
Vivian Wittkowski, Wyoming, MI  
Bernard Wojdylski, Grand Rapids, MI  
Jean Woltjer, Holland, MI  
Sue & Ron Wortley, Wyoming, MI  
Kathleen Wortman, Jenison, MI  
Pat Wright, Spring Lake, MI  
Marilyn Young, Yuma, AZ  
Marjorie Young, Byron Center, MI  
Dana Zamiara, Raleigh, NC  
Julie Ann Zenk, Fremont, MI  
Cindy Ziegler-Smith, Mt Pleasant, MI  
Mary Zimmer, Wayland, MI  
Charlene Zoet, Spring Lake, MI  
Mitch Zoet, South Lyon, MI  
Margie Zylstra, Hudsonville, MI

## **WMGS DNA Interest Group (DIG)**

DIG meets at 7:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of every month at the Grand Rapids Public Library. The first few months will be in the Vander Veen Center for the Book on the 4th floor. After that it will be in a different room so check for additional information at [wmgs.org](http://wmgs.org). The group discusses the use of Y-DNA (male) and mtDNA (mitochondrial - female), and autosomal DNA (atDNA) tests and their relationship to family history research.

The workshops are held at the Dominican Center on the corner of East Fulton and Lakeside Drive. Please call Sister Michael Ellen Carling at 616-514-3231 (home) or 616-514-3340 (office) if you are attending for the first time. Park in the Dominican Center parking lot on Lakeside Drive. Use the lower entrance on the east side of the large portico. Go down the steps or down the cement ramp to enter the building. The receptionist will direct you to the room.

## **WMGS Writers Group**

Meeting on the third Tuesday of the month the Writers Group is designed to help and support the desire to write about family history with a kind eye and lots of humor. Everyone is welcome and all workshops are free.

Each meeting has a suggested topic, but writers are free to bring any work in progress to the meeting.

September 15: Who was your favorite author when you were a child? Why?

October 20: Memories of Autumn.

November 17: The best Thanksgiving ever.

## **10th Annual Family History Festival**

**Saturday, September 26 10:00 am to 5:00 pm**  
**Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Ave,**  
**Detroit**

Judy G. Russell, "The Legal Genealogist", will make two presentations entitled "No Vitals! No Problem! Building a Family through Circumstantial Evidence" and "Don't Forget the Ladies – A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law." Dr. Deborah A. Abbott who will make two presentations entitled "Analyzing the U.S. Federal Census" and "You Only Have a Death Announcement - Now What?".

The festival will be held in the Friends Auditorium and is free and no pre-registration is required.

The Burton Historical Collection will be open for research from 10am-6pm. For further information please visit [www.detroitpubliclibrary.org](http://www.detroitpubliclibrary.org).

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NEW \_\_\_\_\_ RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_

\$20 in the US

\$25 Outside the USA

Make checks payable to: Western Michigan Genealogical Society or WMGS

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your level of genealogy experience? (circle one):    Beginner            Intermediate            Advanced

Would you like someone to contact you about volunteer opportunities with WMGS?    Yes            No

Do you use computer software to manage your genealogy?    No    Yes    Please list the software you use \_\_\_\_\_

Send checks and completed form to:  
 WMGS Membership, Western Michigan Genealogical Society



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Grand Rapids MI 49503-3268

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## About WMGS

The Western Michigan Genealogical Society is dedicated to gaining knowledge, preserving records and teaching others about genealogy and family history.

**Membership:** An annual membership to WMGS is \$20 and begins on January 1st of each year. Membership benefits include: 10% discount on all items at the Sales Table, four issues of *Michigana* per year, free queries in *Michigana*, free online brick wall help and leadership opportunities. Your membership in the Western Michigan Genealogical Society will also include use of the private files of the Society and publication of your genealogy online at [trees.wmgs.org](http://trees.wmgs.org).

**Change of Address:** (Temporary or Permanent) If you will be permanently moving to a new address or going on an extended vacation, please notify WMGS before your address change occurs. Be sure to include the date your address will change or the dates when you will leave and plan to return. Email your address change information to the Society at [membership@wmgs.org](mailto:membership@wmgs.org) or write to: WMGS – Membership, Western Michigan Genealogical Society, 111 Library St NE, Grand Rapids MI 49503-3268.

### 2015-2016 WMGS Officers

**President** - Mindy Koole  
[president@wmgs.org](mailto:president@wmgs.org)  
Phone: (616) 691-7986

**Vice President** - Marcia Shears  
[U08554@hotmail.com](mailto:U08554@hotmail.com)

**Secretary** - Eileen Schmuker  
[divamom3849@gmail.com](mailto:divamom3849@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** - Mark Timmer  
[mark.timmer@centurytel.net](mailto:mark.timmer@centurytel.net)

**Immediate Past President** - Don Bryant  
[webmaster@wmgs.org](mailto:webmaster@wmgs.org)

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