

**Ingham County Genealogical Society**  
**November 12, 2009**

The November 12, 2009, regular meeting of the Ingham County Genealogical Society was called to order by President Dave Held at 7:03 p.m. at the Vevay Township Hall. There were 28 people in attendance.

**PROGRAM:** John Fierst spoke about “Genealogical Research at the Clarke Historical Library.” The library is located in Mt. Pleasant at Central Michigan University.

**BUSINESS MEETING:** President Dave Held began the business meeting at 8:18 p.m.

**MINUTES:** Tammy Parsons asked to have her name corrected in the minutes of the October 8, 2009, meeting. Upon a motion by Norm Osborn, the corrected minutes were approved.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Total assets as of October 31, 2009, were \$11,950.80. Grove Sandrock moved to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion passed.

**OFFICER REPORTS:** President Dave Held said naturalization records for Cook County, Illinois are at [www.CookCountyClerkofCourt.org](http://www.CookCountyClerkofCourt.org). Click on the Declaration of Intentions Index.

Vice President Grove Sandrock passed out a list of 2010 ICGS programs. For the December, 2009, potluck, attendees are also asked to bring nonperishable foods for the food bank. After the meal, there will be an informal program seeking to clear up family genealogical mysteries. Members are asked to bring a family heirloom or picture that participants may help to identify. Cemetery books published by the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society will be available for sale to the general public. Several cemetery books and Stories of Lansing, Michigan Families are listed at their website: [www.MMGS.wordpress.com](http://www.MMGS.wordpress.com).

Membership Secretary Cathy Morse reported 66 paid memberships. ICGS has lost 39 memberships from last year, but have 3 new members.

Librarian Diane Bishop asked for volunteers to work at the library.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Publication Committee Chair John Castle asked for additional help in ironing pages of the 1959-1969 Ingham County News for microfilming.

Web Master Greg James said a new membership list was sent out to members on this date. Dave Held said the newsletter was just released through the website.

Historian Alice Raatz said the history book is up to date, including photos from last month.

Tammy Parsons, delegate to the Michigan Genealogical Council, said beginning in 2010 the council will meet on the second Thursday of the month, except November. The board will meet at 10 a.m. and the delegates at 1 p.m. The council will focus on delegate programs and consider new projects for vital records and indexing.

The Library of Michigan budget has been cut from \$6 million to \$4.7 million. Next year they may be cut by 20 percent more. The Abrams Foundation has stopped making donations based

on the investment market. All expenditures will now have to have a Michigan focus. The Collection Development Program must cut spending by \$40,000 (10 percent) this year. In addition to already eliminating newspaper subscriptions, they are considering cutting on-line database subscriptions. Users should let them know what they want retained. The Department of History, Arts and Libraries no longer exists. Most of the department is now under the Department of Education, but the library continues to function as it was. At this time the plan is to keep the library in its current building. All are encouraged to continue corresponding to the legislature to ensure no major changes occur.

There is funding for [www.SeekingMichigan.org](http://www.SeekingMichigan.org) for about three years. The death records project on the site are almost complete. They are considering putting state census records on the site next. Randy Riley will be nominated by the MGC for the Filby award for genealogical leadership. Genealogical societies are asked to send letters of support to Cindy Grostick by December. Frank Boles from Central Michigan University has been chosen as a candidate to sit on the Governor's Board for the Center for Innovation and Reinvention.

The Huron Shores Genealogical Society is purging its publications. Check their website at [www.usgwarchives.net/mi/iosco/3501hsgs.htm](http://www.usgwarchives.net/mi/iosco/3501hsgs.htm). Their e-mail address is [huronshoresgs@yahoo.com](mailto:huronshoresgs@yahoo.com). The Muskegon County Genealogical Society has published a book entitled History of Muskegon County, Michigan: A Proud Legacy. For more information go [www.genealogymuskegon.org](http://www.genealogymuskegon.org). The National Graves Registration Committee of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War website is [www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org). Click on the website index, select Special Projects and then click on National Graves Registration.

Social Arrangements Chair Sheri Sleep asked members to let her know how they can help others with their genealogy questions. She needs help for setting up at the December 10 meeting beginning at 5 p.m. Members are asked to bring decorations for use that evening. Norm Osborn will provide the turkey and members were asked to indicate on the sign up sheet the kind of food they will bring.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dave Held asked for a volunteer to clip obituaries from newspapers. Phyllis Whidden will continue to clip births, marriages, etc.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Dave Held remembered Pete Phelps, a former ICGS trustee, who died last month. Alice Raatz said Jerry Fellows, ICGS past president, also died recently. John Castle noted that Eldora Spooner, a long time member, was present tonight.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Submitted by Beth Hall, Recording Secretary