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Jerry Bloom,  
Journal Editor

# Genealogy Journal

A quarterly publication of the  
**Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 275, Stuart, FL 34995 <http://mcgensociety.org>

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"If you're lucky enough to be a genealogist, you are lucky enough."

Ruth Padilla

[Taken from Genealogy Quotes and Poems - Ancestry.com]

## President's Comments

Tom Lewis, MCGS President

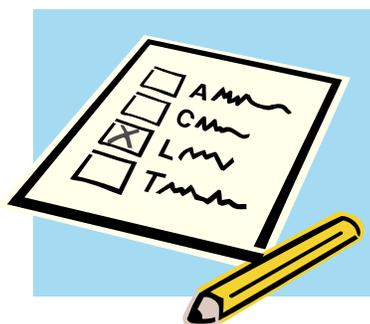
Welcome back, everyone,

I hope you all had a very enjoyable summer and that it was productive for your genealogy research. Maybe you could even volunteer to give a talk about it some time soon.

And, this brings up a very important subject. We need members to get more involved for the continued operation of the Martin County Genealogical Society! Currently, we need volunteers for the board of directors. At this time, we are short two directors. Someone needs to step up and fill these positions. After all, it is your society.

Also, we have many standing committees which need help or a chairperson. Some current board members are holding two or three positions in the organization to keep things running. This is just not fair! So, I am asking you to VOLUNTEER to help out. Please, talk to any board member to find a position YOU can fill. Our names are listed on the back of this Journal issue.

The other thing I want to mention is that we need to grow our membership. This is a critical element to keep the organization vital for all members. So, talk to your friends and neighbors about genealogy and bring one friend to the next meeting - or more if you can.



## Now is the Time

E. Lee Vought has been appointed as our Nominating Committee Chairperson. As such, she has the awesome responsibility of gathering committee members to help put together a slate of officers for the upcoming 2013 year. Now is the time. Let it be known if you are able or willing to serve as an officer. Find her contact details in your MCGS Roster, or connect with her through the MCGS website.

## Calendar of Events

### September

- **21 - FRIDAY - MCGS Monthly Members Meeting** - 1 - 3 PM at the **Cummings Library** in Palm City, **Donahue Room**. Program: "DNA and Genealogical Research" by MCGS Member Walt Bruetsch.
- **22 - SATURDAY - Workshop** - 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM **Robert Morgade Library**, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1) The workshop is "Immigration, Naturalization and Overseas Research" by MCGS member Walt Bruetsch. An opportunity to expand your knowledge of your ancestors' journey to America and how to find genealogical information overseas. Send an E-mail to [mcsfl@gmail.com](mailto:mcsfl@gmail.com) to sign up for this class. Please put IMMIGRATE in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is large. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

### October

- **4 - THURSDAY - MCGS Networking** - 5-6 PM **Blake Library Genealogy Room** - A casual gathering of anyone interested in genealogy. A member of MCGS will be available to answer questions and assist those seeking help.
- **6 - SATURDAY - MCGS and Daughters of the American Revolution - Halpatiokee Chapter** - 10 AM to 12 Noon. MCGS and the DAR-Halatiokee Chapter members will be in the Genealogy Room at the **Blake Library** to assist people researching ancestors who were American Revolutionary War patriots.
- **19 - FRIDAY - MCGS Monthly Members Meeting** - 1 - 3 PM at the **John F. Armstrong Wing** of the **Blake Library**. Program: "Thinking Outside The Box, or Using Your Genealogy Library Without the Computer" by experienced genealogist Shirley Pizziferri. Shirley will point out the multitude of sources in our library that are under-utilized and give examples of things researchers could use besides depending on the Internet. Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS' meetings, which are free, and light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program.
- **20 - SATURDAY - Workshop** - 10:15 AM to 12:15 PM - **Robert Morgade Library**, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1). Topic: "Free Genealogy on the Internet", presented by Reba Shepard. Send email to [mcsfl@gmail.com](mailto:mcsfl@gmail.com) to sign up for the class. Put INTERNET in the Subject box. Walk-ins welcome. Donation \$3-5 appreciated.
- **27 - SATURDAY - Workshop** - No workshop due to library being used for voting.

### November

- **1 - THURSDAY - MCGS Networking** - 5-6 PM **Blake Library Genealogy Room** - A casual gathering of anyone interested in genealogy. A member of MCGS will be available to answer questions and assist those seeking help.
- **3 - SATURDAY - MCGS and Daughters of the American Revolution - Halpatiokee Chapter** - 10 AM to 12 Noon. MCGS and the DAR-Halatiokee Chapter members will be in the Genealogy Room at the **Blake Library** to assist people researching ancestors who were American Revolutionary War patriots.
- **8 - THURSDAY thru SATURDAY** - Florida State Genealogical Society's Annual Conference at **Hilton Deerfield/Boca Ra-**

**ton in Deerfield Beach, FL** The theme of the conference is "The Best of Times: Family History + Technology". Details on the place with two Keynote Speakers... Curt Witcher of the Alen County Public Library and Thomas McEntee of High-Definition Genealogy, Chicago, Illinois. Mark your calendars now for the above dates. Friday and Saturday are the usual full program days. Website: [www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org).

- **16 - FRIDAY - MCGS Monthly Members Meeting** - 1-3PM at the **Robert Morgade Library**, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1). Election of 2012's Board of Directors: We need a quorum, so members PLEASE ATTEND! The program is "Founding Mothers" by George M. Kleine, who has presented this to DAR societies.
- **17 - SATURDAY - Workshop** - 10:15 AM - 12:15 PM **Robert Morgade Library**, 5851 SE Community Dr., Stuart (off Salerno Road, west of US 1) The workshop is "Census Research and Genealogy" by MCGS member Reba Shepard. Please put CENSUS in the Subject Box. Walk-ins are most welcome, as the room is large. A donation of \$3-5 will be appreciated.

### December

- **1 - SATURDAY - MCGS and Daughters of the American Revolution - Halpatiokee Chapter** - 10 AM to 12 Noon. MCGS and the DAR-Halatiokee Chapter members will be in the Genealogy Room at the **Blake Library** to assist people researching ancestors who were American Revolutionary War patriots.
- **6 - THURSDAY - MCGS Networking** - 5-6 PM **Blake Library Genealogy Room** - A casual gathering of anyone interested in genealogy. A member of MCGS will be available to answer questions and assist those seeking help.
- **21 - FRIDAY - MCGS Monthly Members Meeting** - 1-3 PM the **John F. Armstrong Wing** of the **Blake Library**. Join us for our annual Holiday Party. Bring a sampling of your family favorite holiday treat to share with your fellow genealogy researchers and guests. As in the past, we will hold a fund-raiser raffle for donated "treasures" (~ \$5) that you or other members bring to share in the fun.

### January

- **3 - THURSDAY - MCGS Networking** - 5-6 PM **Blake Library Genealogy Room** - A casual gathering of anyone interested in genealogy. A member of MCGS will be available to answer questions and assist those seeking help. This month's assistant is Lee Vought.
- **5 - SATURDAY - MCGS and Daughters of the American Revolution - Halpatiokee Chapter** - 10 AM to 12 Noon. MCGS and the DAR-Halatiokee Chapter members will be in the Genealogy Room at the **Blake Library** to assist people researching ancestors who were American Revolutionary War patriots.
- **18 - FRIDAY - MCGS Monthly Members Meeting** - 1 - 3 PM at the **John F. Armstrong Wing** of the **Blake Library**. Program: "Stuart's Early Pioneers" by historian and MCGS Member Alice Luckhardt. Guests are most welcome to attend MCGS meetings, which are free; and, light refreshments will be available between the business meeting and the program.

## 1940 Census Indexing Update

Only 126 days were spent completing the FamilySearch.org project of indexing the 1940 Federal Census that was released April 1, 2012. That means, by August 4, 2012 all 134 million names on the census records were indexed, audited (arbitrated) and released to the public. FamilySearch 1940 census records are now fully searchable and free to all. Curiously, Ancestry.com announced on the same date that they completed their indexing, as well. Their records can also be accessed for free, without their standard subscription.

Thanks to MCGS members Jane Lewis, Jerry Bloom, Doris Alexander, Karen Peterson and Eva Waylett. Although we seemed to be a minute part of the big picture, each and every entry brought it closer to completion.

Jane was a most prolific worker with indexing, while Jerry exceeded her by doing both indexing and arbitrating. And, now that it is done... what to do with all the spare time they now have? There are constantly more projects added to the list for volunteers to choose from. Some are simple, while others can be quite challenging with advanced skills needed and, of course, patience.

Want to join them? Contact Jerry Bloom at [jerrybloom@fales.org](mailto:jerrybloom@fales.org) for details.

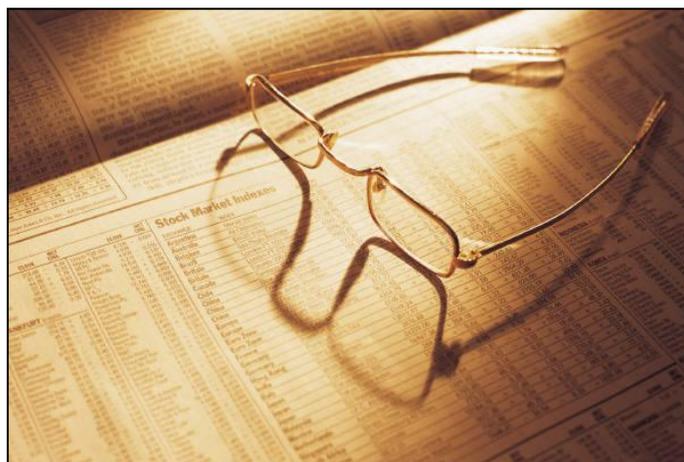
## Census Tips

Looking for answers in census records? Try the following tips, 10 of our favorites, straight from Ancestry.com members.

- 1. Look on the Page Before and the Page After** - A favorite census tip, particularly when you're having trouble finding a family member's parent, is to look at the actual census images, then use the arrow keys to scroll a few pages before and after the person's record.
- 2. Focus on Unusual Names** - If you're having a hard time finding someone with a common name, look at their children to see if any of them have unusual names. If so, search for that

name instead and see if the person you're following is in the same household, too.

- 3. First Names Only** - This is good for finding families with Americanized names where the spelling varied from document to document. Include in your search other details you know to be accurate, such as birth date or location.
- 4. Wildcards** - Use this census trick when looking for Surname that may have been misspelled on index - i.e. Car\* for "Carter" may bring up "Carlen" which is the proper family grouping with incorrect indexed name.
- 5. Record the Details** - Go back to old census records you've found and jot down all of the information for each person in family tree. Take all the little details — reading, writing, own, rent, amount of rent or home value, address, etc. — and keep them as a log for each person in your



direct lineage. Writing down all of these details familiarizes you with all of the information and helps keep everything in one place so you can refer back to it again.

- 6. Reverse Surname and First Name** - Sometimes errors in indexing come up this way.
- 7. Look for a Neighboring Homeowner** - If you find your ancestor on a census but then can't locate him/her on a later census, find the nearest homeowner from the census (not renter) who lived on the same street. Homeowners are much less likely to move away so you can look for that person again in a later census and then check to see if your ancestor is still living nearby.

8. **Compare Handwriting** - One of the biggest problems with censuses is deciphering the census taker's handwriting, which can be a problem for an indexer, too. Solve this by looking at census records for the area to see how the census taker wrote his or her letters. Then search for the name based on what you learned. For example, replace N with R or try a different vowel, like an A where there should be an O.

9. **Just Browse** - When not getting results searching for relatives in a known area, nothing beats going right to the census year.

10. **Think Differently** - Think outside the box - what might you have done in a particular set of circumstances? i.e. Your ancestor's parents died when he was young and he was raised by relatives with a different last name. Check that other last name in the search, and you may find your elusive relative.

## Members, we invite you !

We need members to share their experiences in genealogy to come forward. We always are looking for speakers for meetings, and workshop leaders. If you need preparation help, it will be provided.

Our organization is only as good as we make it.  
WE WANT YOU!

Reba E Shepard, Director of Education



## Genealogy Blogs

You are probably aware of the Dick Eastman blog (Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter - [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com)) that we refer to once in a while, when a topic he touched on appeared relevant enough to share.

There are many others who write and share their passion with genealogy. One person who we think you should be aware of is Barry J. Ewell, who authors "Barry's Genealogy Newsletter". Although many of his submissions are filled with promotions of MyGenShare.com and publications he wants you to order, they are also filled with good tips and techniques he has learned over the years and shares with you.

These video clips and slide presentations are free.

## Learn to Power Search Google

Topic suggested by Bonnie Kohler, Palm Beach Genealogy Society member.

Most of us have used Google to look for genealogical information, sometimes in search of websites and sometimes looking for that elusive individual who can't be found in the usual records. Success, when we have it, depends upon luck to some extent. But there is skill involved, too. The better we are at using search engines, the "luckier" we get.

Google now has a series of online classes -- free -- which will show you the finer points of searching. Called "Power Searching with Google," the course includes six fifty-minute courses which may be taken as videos, in text form, or slide shows. The classes are, in order, Introduction, Interpreting results, Advanced techniques, Find facts faster, Checking your facts, and Putting it all together. The classes can be accessed at any time, to fit into any schedule. Find them at: <http://www.power-searchingwithgoogle.com/course>

## GenerousGenealogists.com

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter dated 17 September 2012 and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

Several new websites have been launched recently that hoped to replace the popular RAOGK (Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness) site that went off line last year, following the death of its founder, Bridgett Schneider. So far, none of these new sites have managed to attract a large crowd of enthusiastic volunteers. Still another site has recently been launched and this one possibly could become the replacement for RAOGK.

The new group is led by Mark Rabideau who did the organizing and programming.

[GenerousGenealogists.com](http://GenerousGenealogists.com) is brand-new and only has a handful of volunteers so far. However, the new site is inviting others to look at the site and, if interested, to join in. As you would expect, [GenerousGenealogists.com](http://GenerousGenealogists.com) provides services completely free of charge. Voluntary donations are appreciated, however. Donations may be made by PayPal.

I took a look at [GenerousGenealogists.com](http://GenerousGenealogists.com) and am impressed. To be sure, it is almost a "skeleton" at this moment as it is brand new. I didn't expect to find many volunteers listed and I was right. However, the site is well designed and looks like it could succeed. The site has discussion forums with separate sections for many different countries. Most of the sections are empty at this time. The web site also has a section for "Free Genealogy Coaching" that provides "how to" information about a number of topics.

I suspect there are a few bugs or "rough spots" in the [GenerousGenealogists.com](http://GenerousGenealogists.com) web site. After all, it is brand new. You cannot reasonably expect it to be perfectly smooth and polished just yet. However, any such rough spots undoubtedly will get smoothed out as experience is gained.

For both accuracy and privacy reasons, the original RAOGK's volunteer database was not used. Even if you were listed on the old site, you will need to sign up on the new site as a volunteer.

I'd suggest you check out the new [GenerousGenealogists.com](http://GenerousGenealogists.com) and, if interested, add your name to those who have volunteered to help fellow genealogists. You can find the site at <http://www.generousgenealogists.com>.

### Dating your Soldier

The following was submitted by MCGS Member Edith Bradley for your help dating your ancestors in the early American wars.



If born between	was involved in	Dates of War
1626-1656	Bacon's Rebellion	1676
1639-1743	Inter colonial Wars	1689-1765
1713-1743	Pontiac's Rebellion	1763-1765
1720-1763	American Revolution	1775-1783
1740-1791	Indian Wars	1790-1822
1762-1794	War of 1812	1812-1815
1762-1812	Black Hawk War	1832
1796-1828	Mexican War	1846-1848
1806-1845	Civil War	1861-1865
1848-1880	Spanish American War	1898

For membership in Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), your ancestor must have been of the right age to fight from 1775-1783, or been born from about 1720-1763. However, your ancestor did not have to fight for you to join DAR. He could have been what was called a Patriot, one who gave aid to the American Cause during the Revolution. A Patriot could have been older, as he could have "hired and paid someone to fight for him." A Patriot could have been a judge, or a civil servant, so a Patriot could have been born as early as 1700, or even 1695. Signers of the Declaration of Independence were considered Patriots. We refer you to "Is That Lineage Right?" and "Is that Service Right?" for the full story, but enclose some of the data here.

Patriotic Service, Civil Service, Privateers, Signers of oaths, Patriots of the Revolution are considered to be those men and women who by an act or series of actions demonstrated loyalty to the cause of American independence from England. We depend upon recorded actions to give us an indication of patriotism. What was the purpose of the action? What were its risks? Its consequences? Answers to these questions can determine whether the action actually applied to an attempt to further the cause of independence or demonstrated loyalty to that cause. Evidence of Patriotic activity may be found in town, county and state records. Many records kept by the states have been indexed and often a letter to state archives will be sufficient to determine if evidence exists to show that a person contributed supplies or made some other con-

tribution to the war effort. Molly "Pitcher" Ludwig Hays carried water, Betsy Ross designed the flag. Town and county records have usually not been indexed and a personal search is required. Minutes of Continental Congress, old letters, diaries, and other family papers can often be used as evidence.

### **Battle of Antietam, 1862**

Jessie Urcheck, MCGS member who spends her summers in Maine, recently sent this message to Jerry Bloom. She thought it might be of interest to compliment the series of lectures presented to Martin County residents this past year.

To find the articles: "Google" bangordailynews, Antietam, 1862. You will see two separate weeks of articles in the Living Section of that paper from August, 2012. Worth checking out!

### **From NEHGS Weekly journal:**

Newly added to Connecticut Vital Records to 1870 (The Barbour Collection): birth, marriage, and death records for the towns of Branford (1644–1850), Danbury (1685–1847), Preston (1687–1850), and Waterbury (1686–1853).

Compiled from an original Lucius Barnes Barbour typescript in the NEHGS Special Collections, the Connecticut Vital Records to 1870 database currently contains records for Branford, Danbury, Derby, Fairfield, Farmington, Greenwich, Guilford, Haddam, Hartford, Killingworth, Lyme, Middletown, Milford, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Preston, Saybrook, Simsbury, Stamford, Stonington, Stratford, Suffield, Wallingford, Waterbury, Wethersfield, Windsor, and Woodbury.

The complete Barbour Collection contains records of marriages, births, and deaths in 137 Connecticut towns from the 1640s to about 1850 (some towns include records up to 1870). These records were collected, transcribed, and abstracted by Lucius Barnes Barbour (Con-

necticut Examiner of Public Records, 1911–1934) and his team of researchers between 1918 and 1928. Mr. Barbour was an NEHGS member from 1907 until his death in 1934. This set of typescripts was donated to NEHGS by Mr. Barbour's wife and children in 1938. Remaining towns will be added to the database over the next year. [Thanks to Shirley Pizziferri for bring this to our attention.]

### **Ponder This...**

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter dated 12 September 2012 and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

#### **Who Will Control Your "Digital Estate" After You Are Gone?**

You probably enjoy posting information on Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus, LinkedIn, and other social networking sites. You may have posted your genealogy online or even have created your own web site. You possibly have posted photos on Flickr, Snapfish, Shutterfly, Photobucket, or other photo sharing web sites. Here's a question for you to consider: what happens to your information on those sites after your death?

Will your information disappear from the online world shortly after you also disappear? Or will your last pictures and text remain online forever, leaving a haunting message behind? You might not want to leave a Facebook page online for-



ever that says, "Having a great time here in Cancun. I wish I could stay here forever!"

Five states - Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Oklahoma, and Rhode Island - have passed laws that grant a designated personal representative control over the deceased person's "digital assets." Other states are considering similar legislation. There's one hitch: either the deceased must have designated the personal representative in writing prior to death or else the courts will designate one many months or perhaps even years after the death. Courts also typically will only designate the "digital assets executor" if requested to do so. Your family members might not recognize the importance of a final update to your web pages.

Yet another problem is posed by the fact that contracts with service providers most often are automatically terminated (by the terms of service) as soon as the customer ceases to exist. That means there is no right for the heirs to access the deceased person's data.

Some experts suggest creating a digital estate plan, similar to plans you might make for your financial estate. At the minimum, you need to provide a list of user accounts and passwords to family members, somewhat like having an executor of your estate. If nothing else, family members can post a notice of your demise to your online friends. They also can continue to pay hosting fees, if any, to keep your data online.

One company, SecureSafe, provides a service that will transfer your files and passwords to your associates, friends and relatives that you designate, should something happen to you. You can determine exactly who should receive your data. I find it interesting that SecureSafe is based in Switzerland, a country that knows something about security, secrecy, and financial affairs. Operation is conducted in accordance with Swiss laws.

For each file and password stored in your

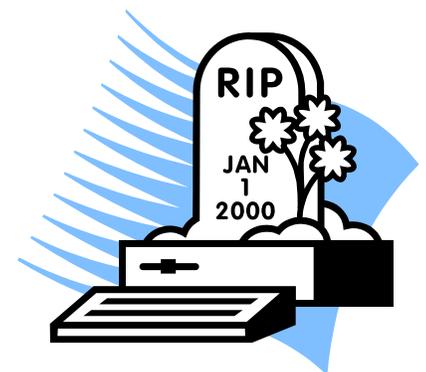
SecureSafe account, you can assign a beneficiary who will have access to this data in an emergency situation or upon your death. You do not need a lawyer, and the data inheritance is simple and easy to setup. You do, however, have to designate one or more "Authorized Activators" in advance. These are persons you trust, who are authorized to activate the process; they are those persons to whom you have handed an activation code. These Authorized Activators will then activate the data inheritance on your SecureSafe account according to your wishes. In most cases, you will instruct them to activate the data inheritance only in case of your death or total disability.

SecureSafe will store passwords and any files that you wish to pass on. You could even save a "digital last will and testament" on the site as well as an electronic copy of your standard will and any other documents you want to make sure become available to your associates, friends, and relatives after your demise. Not everyone will receive everything. Each file and each password will be given only to the individuals you designate. If you store multiple passwords or multiple files, you could designate to have different files and passwords given to different people. Prices range from free to \$12.90 (U.S.) per month, depending upon the number of passwords and the amount of file space you use.

Details are available at

<http://www.securesafe.com/en/features/inheritance.html>.

As sad as it sounds, your final posting on your web sites probably should be your obituary. Who will post that online for you?



Martin County Genealogical Society, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 275  
 Stuart, FL 34995

**WEB ADDRESS:**

<http://mcgensociety.org>

### **MCGS Board of Directors - 2012**

President	Tom Lewis
Vice-President/Programs	Reba Shepard
Treasurer	Walt Bruetsch
Membership	Jerry Bloom
Secretary	E. Lee Vought (acting)
Library Acquisitions	Shirley Pizziferri
Members-at-Large	Virginia Streader
Committees:	
Sunshine Chair	Jane Lewis
Education	Reba Shepard
Public Relations	Shirley Pizziferri
Volunteer Coordinator	Donna Markowitz
Co-Library Chair	Shirley Pizziferri and Donna Markowitz
Calling Tree	Pearl Dougherty
Hospitality	Donna Markowitz
Journal Editor	Jerry Bloom
Website Administrator	Walt Bruetsch

**Martin County Genealogical Society membership meetings are held the third Friday of each month at 1 p.m. Guests are welcome. There is a short business meeting preceding a program.**

**We're on the Web!**

*See us at:*

<http://mcgensociety.org>

### **Welcome New MCGS Members:**

We hope you take the time to seek out our newest MCGS members the next time you are at a monthly GMM or see them in the Genealogy Room.

Warm welcome to:

Betty Lou Cipra

Gale Cipra

Kathy Scheuerman

Annual Membership Dues are \$20 for individuals and \$25 for a family or organization.

The Genealogy Journal is usually printed four times a year and distributed at the March, June, September and December MCGS meetings. Suggestions and contributions are always welcomed.