

MGS Awards Banquet

62 Members and Volunteers Honored

Awards were presented to sixty-two hardworking volunteers of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and Branch societies, with one going to the “historian of River Falls, Wisconsin.”

Presented at the Minnesota History Center on April 19, 2007, the awards signal MGS’s efforts to recognize those who have given so much of themselves in time, energy and commitment to their study and research in genealogy.

Providing entertainment for the awards banquet were Private William R. Crowder, bugler; the First Minnesota Field Music: Luke Friedrich, Joe Goff, John Guthmann, Jim Moffet, Hunter Thompson, and Grant Wilson; and Amador Hill: Hannah Kalisch, fiddle; Nathan Wilson, mandolin/fiddle; Jessica Wilson, guitar/fiddle; Sam Kalisch, bass. Dinner music was provided by the Reverie Duo: Min Kim, harp, and Linda Chatterton, flute. After Dinner Speaker was Dr. Rudolph Vecoli, former director of the University of Minnesota, Immigration History Research Center. Chouinard, accordionist, played a short melody of national significance of the award winners countries as the branch awards were presented. Photographs were by Hope Thill, freelance photographer (“Photos with Hope”) and Bergetta Monroe, with staff assistance from C. Marie PanLener and Christina Thill.

MGS Awards Began Long Program

MGS Cemetery Project:

Darlene C. Joyce received a Distinguished Service Award for leading the Cemetery Project and for her many contributions to MGS throughout the years.

Marcia S. Paulson was awarded a Distinguished Service Award for the MGS Cemetery Project, who distinguished herself by doing the most counties.



Darlene Joyce and Cec McKeig

Cecelia McKeig was presented a Distinguished Service Award for the MGS Cemetery Project and for her many other services to MGS.

Winnie Fernstrom was honored with a Distinguished Service Award as MGS Historian.

Winnie Fernstrom, with Paula Stuart Warren



Hope Thill

Maureen L. Laughey received the Distinguished Service Award for volunteer services to MGS.

From the MGS Board of Directors:

Harold E. Hinds, Jr., Ph.D., was praised with the Outstanding Achievement Award as MGS Board Member, MGS journal contributor, and for instituting MGS’s Intermediate Genealogy Classes.

Tom K. Rice, Ph.D. was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award as an MGS Board Member, as well as Significant Contributions to the Irish Genealogical Society International.



Bergetta Monroe

Receiving the newly created Patrick and Dorothy Chandler Award for Outstanding Achievement in Genealogical Services and Honorary Life Member in the Minnesota Genealogical Society were:

Pat and Dorothy Chandler. This award will be given each year to a person who demonstrates their singular enthusiasm.

Awarded the second “Pat and Dorothy Chandler Award” was **Jean M. Jensen**, MGS’s librarian for many, many years. We congratulate you and thank you most heartily.



Jean Jensen, with Robin PanLener

Bergetta Monroe

Branch Societies and Interest Groups

Past President Jim Carr of the YANKEE GROUP presented the following:

Michael Clark, who passed away suddenly last June, an Outstanding Achievement Award as President of the Yankee Genealogical Society (presented to his wife, Katherine Clark).

President **Sue Kratsch** an Outstanding Achievement Award as President and Officer with the Yankee Genealogical Society.

Jim Carr an Outstanding Achievement Award for his service as President of the Yankee Genealogical Society.



Steve Potach
Paul Makousky
Gene Aksamit

Bergetta Monroe

CZECHOSLOVAK GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, with President Ginger Simek presiding, awarded the following:

Paul Makousky—Outstanding Achievement Award as Treasurer and Publications Chair, and many other services to the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International.

Gene Aksamit—Outstanding Achievement and Distinguished Services to the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International.

Steve Potach—Outstanding Achievement Award with the Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International.

The GERMANIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, under president Kent Cutkomp, gave awards to

Ed Brandt, for Outstanding Achievement as Co-author of *Germanic Genealogy*, 3rd edition, and as a journal contributor.

Lois Edwards for Outstanding Achievement as *Germanic Genealogy Journal* editor, author of *Beginner's Guide to Germanic Genealogy*, and past president.

Kermit Frye for Outstanding Achievement as Membership Database Coordinator, co-author of *Germanic Genealogy*, 3rd edition, and past-president.



Bergetta Monroe

Ed Brandt, Kermit Frye, Kent Cutkomp, Lois Edwards

Donna Turbes for Outstanding Achievement to GGS as corresponding secretary, for publication sales, and frequent journal contributor.

Kent Cutkomp for outstanding Achievement as president, and as co-author of *Germanic Genealogy*, 3rd edition.

President Bob O'Neil of the NORWEGIAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY ASSOCIATION gave three Outstanding Achievement Awards:

Lee Rokke for Member Services.

Marilyn Sorensen for Volunteer and Member Services.

Dolores A. Barron for services as Member -At-Large.

The POMMERN GROUP, the northern part of Germany and Poland, received three awards, presented by President Jerry Savage:

Paul Sternberg received an Outstanding Achievement as Pommern Group web-master and for publication of "Pomeranian Genealogy, Culture and History."

Kermit Frye received an Outstanding Achievement for the Fred Burke Pommern Map Project.

Frederick E. Sauer was also awarded an Outstanding Achievement for the Fred Burke Pommern Map Project.



Hope Thill

Kermit Frye, Frederick Sauer, Jerry Savage

The Oakdale Family History Center, a research center of the Mormon Church, recognized **Ursula Peterson** by awarding her an Outstanding Achievement in Genealogical Services as German researcher and teacher, as well as historian of River Falls, Wisconsin.

More Awards to MGS

Turning back again to MGS, the program highlighted the Publications Committee, honoring:

Erv Chorn with a Distinguished Service Award as editor of the *Minnesota Genealogist* as well as his many years of service in many areas to the Canadian Genealogical Society.

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Paula M. Goblirsch received a Distinguished Service Award as editor of the MGS newsletter, *MN Families*, and co-editor of the MGS journal, *Minnesota Genealogist*.

Kathryn Otto was presented the Distinguished Service Award as editor of the MGS Newsletter, *MN Families*, and co-editor of the MGS journal, *Minnesota Genealogist*.

MGS's technology sector has undergone tremendous changes for which awards were given to:

Jim M. LaValle, who has taken the lead in many of these changes and for his major contributions he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Creativity in Computer Services.

Diane Lovrencevic was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Computer Services for teaching classes at MGS to our many branch societies and members.

David E. Cross received the Distinguished Service Award for Computer Services for his many years of service.

Jim Robasse was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Computer Services for serving as the MGS webmaster.

MGS Programming, handled for so many years by **Wesley Waring**, will undergo a change with Wes leaving the chairman position. For his many years of service Wes was given the Distinguished Service Award for Programming.

An award, long overdue for her years as membership director, goes to MGS past president for her Membership Services. **Dixie Hansen** received a Distinguished Service Award for Membership Services.

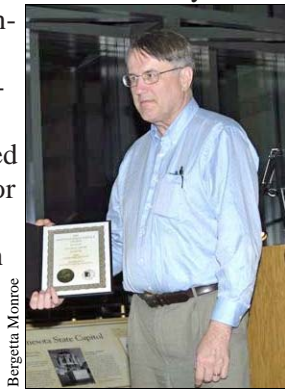
More Branch Society Awards

The CANADIAN GENEALOGICAL AND HERITAGE SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA, under its President Kathy Horan-Grampsch, presented awards to:

Alfred J. Dahlquist for Outstanding Achievement for his contributions and services as a founding member of the Canadian Genealogical Group.

John Schade for Outstanding Achievement as an Exemplary Volunteer

*John Schade,
with Kathy Horan-Grampsch*



David Cross

Bergetta Monroe

with the Canadian Genealogical Group, and as past president of the Minnesota Genealogical Society.

Ruth Charest for Outstanding Achievement as a Distinguished Member of the Canadian Genealogical Group.

President **Jack Porter** of the NATIONAL DANISH-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY gave awards to:

Jean M. Jensen for her Outstanding Service to Danish-American Genealogy.

Patricia A. Roby for her Outstanding Service to Danish-American Genealogy.

William C. Holmquist for his Outstanding Service to Danish-American Genealogy.

Mary Ann Kosmas for her Outstanding Service to Danish-American Genealogy.

Lynn Olmen of the FINNISH GENEALOGICAL GROUP granted awards in the most succinct manner—as befits a Finn, she said—to:

Joan Dwyer, who received the Outstanding Achievement as “The Heart and Soul of Our Finnish Genealogical Group.”

Maryann and Richard J. Newman for their Outstanding Achievement as past volunteers to the Finnish Genealogical Group.

Elaine Barton whose Outstanding Achievement Award was earned for her exceptional involvement with many special projects with the Finnish Genealogical Group.

*Elaine Barton
Lynn Olmen
Joan Dwyer*



Bergetta Monroe

The IRISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, represented by President Linda Miller, granted awards to:

Beth Mullinax, an Outstanding Achievement Award, recognizing her years of dedication, service, and contributions to the IGSI.

Kathy Lund was honored for her Outstanding Achievement as IGSI Ambassador in representing the interests of the Irish Genealogical Society International to the Minnesota Genealogical Society and for promoting mutual cooperation between the organizations.

Bergetta Monroe

Patricia Eaton was presented with the 2006 Outstanding Achievement Award for the contribution and efforts of promoting IGSI internationally with the work on the IGSI website.

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA, with President Terry Kita presiding, gave out five awards, to:

Ed Brandt as Founder and Outstanding Achievement as a pioneer of the PGSM.

Paul Kulas who received the Outstanding Achievement Award as newsletter editor of the PGSM.

Barbara Rockman for her Outstanding Achievement as treasurer of the PGSM.

Blanche Krbechek received an Outstanding Achievement as founding president of the PGSM.

Kornel Kondy was awarded an Outstanding Achievement as president of the PGSM and newsletter editor.

Stepping in to give an award to SWEDISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY President Ron Swanson was Ray Kleinow (also of the Ostfriesland Genealogical Society).

Ron Swanson accepted his award for Outstanding Achievement Award as president and newsletter editor of the Swedish Genealogical Society.

Then Ron took over at the podium and awarded:

Delores Kleinow an Outstanding Achievement for her exemplary work as Program and Publicity chair.

Francis P. Hillier received an Outstanding Achievement as corresponding secretary and for many years of support, services and dedication to SGSM. "She is the back-bone of our society and always is there to give a helping hand where needed."

Final MGS Awards

Serving MGS as treasurer for ten years, **Eugene Menzel** was unable to attend, but was awarded the Distinguished Service Award as former MGS Treasurer.

Finally, former MGS presidents were saluted and recognized, with awards going to:

John Whitty Mercer who was presented with a Distinguished Service Award as 2004-2006 President of MGS.

Lynn M. Besch who received a Distinguished Service Award as 2001-2003 President of MGS.

The Minnesota Genealogical Society extends its hearty and sincere gratitude to those whose financial and volunteer contributions helped bring about this year's activities, programs, and events. We thank each and every one of you.

The evening ended with a round of applause for current MGS President Robin PanLener, who was responsible for arranging the festive evening.



Bergetta Monroe



Hannah Kalisch, fiddle;
Nathan Wilson, mandolin/
fiddle;
Jessica Wilson, guitar/fiddle;
Sam Kalisch, bass

Amador Hill

Hope Thill



Reverie Duo
Min Kim, harp
Linda Chatterton, flute

Hope Thill



Dan Chouinard
accordionist

Bergetta Monroe



First Minnesota Field Music

Hope Thill