



Jo Pate Receives 2007 Lucy Mary Kellogg Award

The Lucy Mary Kellogg Award has been presented annually by the Michigan Genealogical Council (MGC) since 1992. Member societies may nominate one of their super volunteers. A panel of judges then reviews the nominating and support materials and selects the winner. The recipient for 2007, nominated by Oakland County Genealogical Society, is Joan “Jo” Pate. The Award was presented at the September 13, 2007 MGC meeting at Library of Michigan, Lansing.

Jo dedicates significant time to the local genealogical and historical community. She serves the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society as first vice-president, membership chair, is coordinating the 2008 calendar project, and is a volunteer in the library. She has chaired several events, including one in October 2007. She also puts together the Pioneer Society newsletter, *Oakland Gazette*. That library is a treasure trove of genealogical material which Jo accesses, and, with permission, extracts for both that Society and OCGS. Sounds like that would keep one quite busy, but she doesn't stop there.

Jo is a charter member of OCGS, has served as vice-president and president (2-years each), and has chaired a number of committees, including Membership, Cemetery, Long Range Planning and Publication Development. She has presented programs to the Society, chaired a one-day seminar in 1982, volunteered on the 1978 state-wide MGC seminar, and was registrar and treasurer for the state seminar in 1987, both of which OCGS hosted.

Making resources available to genealogical researchers is where Jo has made a huge and long-lasting impact. From the beginning, OCGS has been active in pursuit of unpublished Oakland County-related material, which is then transcribed or extracted, indexed and made available to researchers in book form or via the Society's quarterly publication, *Acorns to Oaks*. Jo is the one who seeks out such material. In many cases, she performs all the work herself, but for larger or more complex items, she organizes and formats it into a project, solicits volunteers and creates packets for distribution, collects the completed material, prepares the draft, distributes proof copies, makes corrections, prepares the final copy, solicits bids (if the item will become an independent publication), submits the manuscript to the printer, prepares promotional flyers, and in cases where a comb binding is used, laboriously binds the books. She is a one-woman production crew! She had the largest hand in most of the 36 unique publications OCGS has produced, to date.

Whether active on the board of directors or behind the scenes in locating and publishing materials, Jo has never sought recognition for her contributions. In fact, she frequently prefers to remain anonymous, often crediting others in the final byline when she did a major portion of the work. She is humble about her accomplishments while the rest of us are amazed.

OCGS is fortunate to have such an industrious, dedicated and hard-working member and congratulates Jo on her well-deserved award.

2006 LMK Award

OCGS is two for two, having also nominated James N. Jackson, the recipient of the 2006 Lucy Mary Kellogg Award. The spirit of volunteerism is alive and well in Oakland County!

For information on the Lucy Mary Kellogg Award, criteria for nominees, and photos of the recipients visit the Michigan Genealogical Council website:

www.rootsweb.com/~mimgc/