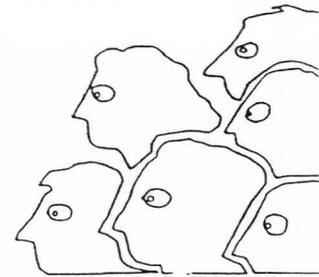




# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



## STARTING OUR 10TH YEAR

%Northland Public Library, 500 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4555

Volume 10, Number 3 - October, 1999

e-mail [pioneerbook@juno.com](mailto:pioneerbook@juno.com)

President: Sylvan Kretz	Vice President: Ginny Skander	Secretary: Shirley Kuntz
Treasurer: Patsi Lee	Membership: Steph Valentine	Liaison: Elissa Powell
Cemetery Project: Ginny Skander	Book Committee: Marion Hyle	Editor: Donna Booth
Program: Melinda Merriman	Mailings: Bill & Lois Daviess	
Subscription: \$12 per year	10 Issues - August - June	

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is firmly upon us now. The leaves are in full color and it is time to enjoy the splendor of nature. I mentioned last month that fall is the time to re-focus our attention on our genealogical activities. To that end, I dug out a copy of the by-laws to make sure that the organization is focused on and moving toward the stated objectives.

#### Article II, PURPOSE, states:

1. To hold meetings for the instruction and education of its members and the general public in the approved methods of genealogy.
2. To foster family research through encouragement of beginners and information dissemination through its newsletter.
3. To promote the preservation of genealogical records and resources of the North Hills of Pittsburgh, PA.
4. To support the genealogical department of the Northland Public Library.

Our meetings have certainly been instructional and educational. I've come away from each meeting with some new information and

enthusiasm. This month we are including a survey to assist us in planning future meetings. We ask for your participation in selecting the upcoming programs.

We've promoted family research through encouragement. Come to next month's roundtable meeting for assistance from fellow members on getting started, or for help if you're stumped on where to go next. Our newsletter is one of the best, and contains a wealth of information. You're invited to participate with articles of your experiences. Our five generation charts and surname index are here for all of you to review.

Preservation of North Hills genealogical records has been accomplished in our book, **Pioneer Cemeteries of Hampton Township**, and is currently being pursued with cemetery readings in Pine and Richland Townships with the ultimate goal of publishing another book. You're invited to come out and enjoy the fall and help in this project.

Finally, we are supporting the Northland Public Library with the contribution of genealogical

books for their stacks. At last month's meeting we had the opportunity to purchase four books to further their genealogical library holdings. You're invited to browse their holdings, and find some great sources which have been donated by our organization.

In summary, it looks like with your help and subscriptions we're moving steadily toward our objectives. We're clearly in focus, and with your help we'll continue moving in the right direction.

Sylvan

### **WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET**

**Tues, November 2 - 7:30 pm - NHG Board Meeting** - Cafeteria, Passavant Hospital. Everyone welcome to attend.

**Tues, November 16 - 7:00 pm - NHG Meeting - Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Genealogy But Were Afraid to Ask** - The meeting will concentrate on answering questions.

**Wed, Oct. 27 - 7:00 pm - Allegheny City Society General Meeting** - Allegheny Court Conference Room (corner Galveston & Western Avenue) - Christine Davies will discuss and display artifacts from the home of General William Robinson.

**Sat. Nov. 6 - 12:00 noon - POINT (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together)** - PA Department, Carnegie Library - Marilyn Holt will discuss PA Department resources and a representative from the LDS Library in Greentree will discuss resources there. RSVP to Maryann Ruperto at [mruperto@neuronet.pitt.edu](mailto:mruperto@neuronet.pitt.edu).

**Thurs. Nov. 11 - 7:30 pm - WPGS Monthly Meeting** - Carnegie Lecture Hall - Jim Costello will speak on "Oral History - A Gift From One Generation to the Next". He will discuss the process of conducting an oral history interview

and means to setting up interviews with reluctant and apprehensive interviewees. Equipment considerations, questions to ask, and problem solving will also be covered. Jim is a member of the Oral Historical Society of the United States and Mid-Atlantic Oral History Society.

**Sat. Nov. 16 - Cuyahoga County Council of Genealogical Organizations** - Rocky River, OH - "Researching Immigrant Ancestors". Rocky River Library, 1600 Hampton Rd, Rocky River, OH 44116-2699. There will be two programs in the morning - "Laying the Groundwork First" and "Ships and Passenger Lists". The afternoon sessions will be on Ellis Island and Using the LDS Family History Centers. Pre-registration - \$12.00. After October 25 and at the door - \$15. For more information contact Jeanane Workman, 440-779-9479 or e-mail at [dy477@Cleveland.Freenet.edu](mailto:dy477@Cleveland.Freenet.edu).

**Sat. Dec. 11 - NHG CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.** See article and registration form on page 9.

### **PROGRAM SURVEY**

Do you have a special program topic or speaker you would like to hear at a future NHG meeting? If so, send your suggestions along to the attention of Melinda Merriman.

A program survey has been prepared to gather ideas for future programs. Please pick up one of these surveys at the meeting and take a few minutes to complete it.

The survey results will be reviewed to help determine what types of programs you, the members of NHG, want to see.

**Help make our 10th year the best yet.**

## QUERIES

Queries are free and open to everyone. Please note that NHG does not do research. Send queries to attention: Query Editor at the address on the front.

**MATTHAEI, Albert** (d. abt. October 1864) in Pittsburgh, PA hospital from wounds received in Civil War. **MATTHAEI, Emelia** (b. abt 1840) Germany. Contact: **Dorothy L. Bowland, 615 Main Street, Genoa, OH 43430**

**FAUPEL, SAUCER, DEFIBAUGH**, Bedford Co., PA. **BRETTSCHEIDER**, Schwedlar, Slovakia. Contact: **Robert C. Bretsynder, 1918 Overland Court, Allison Park, PA 15101-3223**

**WELLER, TRESHA, BECKER, Henry**, Butler and Allegheny Co., PA. Contact: **Virginia Kryl, 236 Columbia Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15229-1623.**

**FRY**, Mercer Co., PA, **LOCKE**, Pittsburgh, PA (1895) and England (1775), **BROWN**, Crawford Co., PA and Trumble Co., OH, Scotland (1627), **RILEY**, Preston Co., WV or VA (1860's). Contact: **Phyllis Fry Locke, 825 6th Street, Patterson Heights, Beaver Falls, PA 15009-3167.**

**MORAN** ( 1732-1851), **JONES**, (1730-1810), **JONES**, (1781 - ?), vicinity Pittsburgh, PA., **McGOWAN** (1783-1832), Rock Point, Lawrence Co., PA, **BIXLER** (1831-1911) vicinity Strattenville, Clarion Co., PA, **COREY/CORY** (1839-?), Erie Co., PA, **LITWILER** (1850-?), **GEHR** (1737-?), **HOODS** (1806-?), **HUNTLEY** (1632-?), Crawford Co., PA Contact: **Billie May Bowron, 7740 Niche Road, Black Hawk, SD 57718-9105.**

**PHENICE**, Northeastern, PA, **JACKSON, Susan**, Southeastern, PA. early 1800's. Contact: **Bette Faulkerson, 9500 Park Edge Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101-2031**

## EMIGRATION FROM HAMBURG

Edited by Carol Goheman Bowen and published on the  
Mechlenburg WorldGen Web Home Page

### Part 3

#### THE STEAMSHIP TAKES OVER

In the middle 1800's, the steam engine began to take over shipping. On May 29, 1850, the first Hamburg steamship sailed over the Atlantic Ocean to America. In 1856 there were two 24,000 ton steamships put into service on the direct route from Hamburg to New York. More steamers followed, but the cost of passage was more than that of the sailing ships.

The direct voyage between Hamburg and New York which had lasted 43 to 63 days was shortened to a maximum of 12 to 14 days. In 1856 only 5% of the emigrants landing in New York came by steamship but by 1870 it was 88%. Increased competition pushed fares down so that steamship crossings finally cost less than sailing.

In 1879 the last emigrant sailing vessel left Hamburg and the steamship became the sole method of transportation. During the era of the sailing ship (1836 until 1880), Hamburg statistics recorded a total of 1,072,404 emigrants leaving its port. 88 percent of all of those emigrants chose the United States or Canada as their destination, with 5-1/4% going to Brazil and Argentina. and 4.8% to Australia.

Beginning in the 1870's, German national's emigration to the United States through Hamburg began to decline and the emigration by southern and southeastern Europeans began to increase. In the five years from 1881 to 1885, German emigration through Hamburg was 60.9%. By 1890 it had fallen to only 25%.

(this is the final installment)

## NHG MEMBER'S STORY

Donna Booth

### Letter to a Son - 1897

I recently received a copy of the following letter written by the youngest daughter of my gggg-grandfather, Rev. John Stough, to one of her sons. Rachel Stough Howenstein died in 1899 at the age of 80. All grammar, spelling and punctuation is as appeared in the original.

February 9, 1897

My Dear Son

Your letter recd Sunday. Margaret calling at the P.O. on her way here. We had a laugh a rather unusual thing for me at your humorous allusions to our church going. You can spare us in that as I have not been to church or any where else for several weeks. Walking is out of the question for me unless the weather is mild and I must get stronger to be able to attend the rather lengthy services in short winter days.

You ask if my Father was American born. He was born in York Co., PA. I remember many incidents in his early life as he used to relate them. He was apprenticed to learn the wagon making and I well remember his making a wagon for family use shortly before we moved to this Co. which did duty in our travels over two weeks the distance being 127 miles. He commenced his ministry when quite young, always working during the week and preaching Sundays, giving more than 50 years of his life to the work until the infirmities of age compelled him to retire from work. Fathers first wife was Mary Hagamire. She was the Mother of Charlotte, afterwards Mrs. Judge Bowman, Mary (Mrs. Hester), Samuel and Susan (now Gearhart). But about his crossing the Alleghenies that you will better understand from the enclosed biography of

your Uncle Samuel which I happen to have kept all these years. As stated therein he with his children went to Fayette Co. PA. He settled in a place called the Glades and I often heard him speak of his being in the wilds alone with his little ones doing all for them until my Mother went to them as a wife and mother. The dates show that they staid (sic) till Samuel was 16 or 17 years old when he was sent out to Columbiana Co. He seems to be credited as being the head of the family in that transaction when really he was but a tall stout lad. Father often alluded to him as being stout and resolute in going ahead. He insisted he take with him his brother Jonas and Father and Mother allowed him to and he only 6 years of age. Imaging me allowing a child of that age. I think the family followed the same spring probably with the party spoken of coming by flat boat and they had some kind of wagon which they carried their small belongings to the spot they occupied from that date till 1829 when I was in my 10th year. Then my Father became so homesick to be with your Uncle John who had settled in what was then the wilds of Sandusky that he sold the farm which by that time became of some value situated 4 miles west of New Lisbon [Columbiana Co., OH] and we that were left, two brothers and myself who they called the baby of the family, took up the march to the west buying and living on the farm adjoining your Uncle John's. There Father, Mother and my youngest brother ended their lifes journey and I am now the last of the numerous family. Time slips away rapidly now and I will soon cross the river. Will I meet and recognize. Oh the mysteries of the great silent future. I have been kinder and mercifully dealt with and trust only to him who doeth all things well and whose mercy undureth forever.

Your loving,

Mother

## THE STORY BEHIND THE NAMES OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

Reprinted from John M. Roberts' & Sons advertising in the  
*Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph* - late 1940's - early 1950's.

### BEAVER COUNTY

Beaver was one of eight counties erected by an Act of March 12, 1800, and was named for the Big Beaver Creek, flowing through it. It was in the track of the earliest French explorers toward the Mississippi Valley, and at a later period, scene of the historic labors of Jesuit and Moravian missionaries.

The county seat, *Beaver*, was the site of Ft. McIntosh, built in 1778 by General Lachlan McIntosh, and named in his honor. It was also the former site of Ft. Beaver, built in 1754, and of Shingastown, named for the king of the Delaware tribe.

*Beaver Falls* was formerly Brighton, in 1800, and changed to its present name in 1866 because of the falls in the river at this point.

*Aliquippa* was named for the celebrated Indian queen who ruled over a large tribe near the present McKeesport.

*Ambridge*, as its name indicates, was named after American Bridge Company in 1903, and comprises the old village of *Economy*, where the Harmony Society under Rev. George Rapp, settled in 1825.

The present area of Beaver County is 429 square miles and contains 27 boroughs and 27 townships, in addition to the county seat.

(Note: the number of boroughs and townships may have changed since this was originally written.)

## RECORD SOURCES IN BEAVER COUNTY

Information supplied by Gary Link

**Clerk of Courts** - Beaver County Courthouse, 810  
3rd Street, Beaver, PA 15009 (724) 728-5700,  
ext. 331

Criminal Case Files - ca 1800's - Present

**Prothonotary** - Beaver County Courthouse, (724)  
728-5700, ext. 278

Civil Cases - ca 1800's - Present

Coroner's Case File - ca 1800 - 1984

Divorces - included in Civil Case files

Naturalizations - 1804-1906

**Recorder of Deeds** - Beaver County Courthouse  
(724) 728-5700, ext. 447

Deeds - 1800 - Present

**Register of Wills** - Beaver County Courthouse,  
(724) 728-5700, ext. 271

Birth & Death Records - 1893-1906

Marriage Records - 1886 - Present

Wills - 1800 - Present

**Tax Assessment** - Beaver County Courthouse,  
(724) 728-5700, ext. 340

Assessment Books

1982 - Present - On Computer at court-  
house

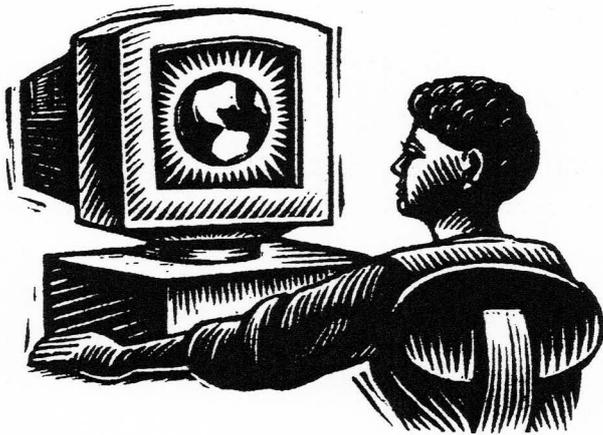
1803-1840 - Carnegie Library, Beaver  
Falls

1842-1894 - State Archives in  
Harrisburg

1895-1926 - State Archives

**Veterans Affairs Office** - Beaver County  
Courthouse, (724) 728-5700, ext. 294

Veterans Burial Records - Revolutionary  
War to Present



## WEB WANDERINGS

(Note: all start with <http://> unless noted)

"War of the Rebellion", a compilation of the official records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Over 60 volumes. Includes scanned images of reports, correspondence, seizures of Southern property, etc. sent to the War Department during the Civil War. Presented in chronological order.

[moa.cit.cornell.edu/MOA/MOA-JOURNALS2/WARO.html](http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/MOA/MOA-JOURNALS2/WARO.html)

Civil War Data - Regimental Histories  
[www.tarleton.edu/~kjones/unions.html](http://www.tarleton.edu/~kjones/unions.html)

Many links to genealogy sites, books, newsletters, etc.

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

Ship List Transcriptions - search by surname, ship, century, captain

[istg.rootsweb.com/index2.html](http://istg.rootsweb.com/index2.html)

Western Reserve Historical Library

Now available on-line

[www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org)

## FREE PUBLISHING

From *The Highpoint*, Summit County Chapter, OGS, July, 1999

The Blanding Genealogical Publications, Inc. is a philanthropic venture that was forged for the purpose of collecting unpublished genealogies to put them to a file for posterity and to publish and distribute them to genealogy libraries.

Here is how it works: Any genealogist may submit a returnable copy of a genealogy that adheres to the stated criterion. The foundation microfilms the manuscript and converts it to 16 mm microfiche. A copy of the fiche is filed with the Ryerson Library in Grand Rapids, MI. The Foundation makes copies of the microfiche available at no charge to other libraries. The original manuscript is returned to the author/compiler along with a microfiche copy and the original microfilm is stored by the Foundation. The copyright is maintained by the author.

For further information, contact Blanding Genealogical Publications, 6812 28th Street, SE, Suite J, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

## HERITAGE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

NHG member Maxine Douthett has notified us that she is a member of the Kuskushkee Chapter of the DAR. Her ggg-grandfather, Henry Weaver was a Captain in the American Revolution. Maxine is also a Charter Member of First Families of Western Pennsylvania.

Congratulations Maxine.

Are you a member of a heritage society? If so, please share your information with the other NHB members.

## **DONATIONS TO NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY**

At the recent Heritage Quest Roadshow at NHG, we were able to purchase four new books for the genealogy section of Northland Public Library.

**Cyndi's List: A Comprehensive List of 40,000 Genealogy Sites on the Internet**, by Cyndi Howells

**The Census Book: A Genealogists Guide to Federal Census Facts, Schedules and Indexes**, by Heritage Quest

**Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources** by Alice Eicholz

**The Genealogist's Address Book 4th Edition** by Elizabeth P. Bentley

In addition, Northland Public Library will receive a free subscription to *Heritage Quest Magazine*.

## **GIRTY REUNION PLANNED**

From the *Butler County Historian*, September, 1999

Most people in Western Pennsylvania are familiar with the name Simon Girty. Girty figured prominently in the early history of the area.

Since 1990 there have been occasional Girty Reunions. The family is now planning a huge event for June 24, 2000. It will include an author who has written extensively about Simon Girty, an actor who portrays Girty and a re-enactor who adopts the Girty persona.

The reunion will be held at the Lodge in North Park. For additional information please contact Kenneth E. Girty, 607 Oak Lane, Renfrew, PA 16053 or call 724-789-7505.

## **UNUSUAL CONFEDERATE SOURCES**

From *The Highpoint*, September, 1999 via the *Clark House News*, May, 1999

North and South Carolina had post-Civil War programs to purchase artificial limbs for Confederate veterans who lost arms or legs during the war. Surprisingly these records are available.

In the North Carolina Archives in Raleigh, the records are held under call number CWC41. These records list the county of residence, the soldier's military unit, and description of the lost limb and the date when the claim was honored.

The South Carolina records are not as well described, however, the South Carolina archives publishes a book *Artificial Limbs for Confederate Soldiers* by Patrick J. McCawley which describes what went on to get them. The cost is under \$5.

## **CENSUS TIDBITS**

From *The Highpoint*, September 1999

1860 - Census schedule for the present state of Oklahoma was included in Arkansas and known as "Indian Lands".

1840 - Minnesota census was included with Clayton Co., Iowa

1860 Colorado census, except for the northeast part, is with the Kansas census.

1860 Montana and northeast Colorado census is with the Nebraska census recorded as "Unorganized Territory".

1860 Nevada Census is with the Utah Census

1820 & 1830 Wisconsin census is listed with the Michigan Census.

## RUSSELL INDEX SYSTEM

The Russell Index System is used in courthouses throughout the United States for indexing names in various court documents. The system uses a chart to cross-reference the first initial of a person's first name with the first occurrence of a key letter in the last name. Where the two letters intersect in a table, the section of a book is given where the records can be found.

Steps to find the volume:

1. Locate the volume containing the first letter of the last name.
2. Drop the first letter of the last name.
3. Locate the first occurrence of one of the key letters in the Russell Index System.
4. This gives you the vertical column to use.
5. If no key letter in the name is found on the chart, use the column labeled "Misc. "
6. Locate the first letter of the first name in the left hand column (A-Z and Others)
7. Locate where this letter intersects with the key letter in the last name. This gives you the section in the book where the records may be found.

First Letter of <b>FIRST</b> Name	Key letter in <b>LAST</b> name and section within each book.					
	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>Misc</b>
<b>A</b>	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>B</b>	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>C</b>	31	32	33	34	35	36
<b>D</b>	41	42	43	44	44	45
<b>E</b>	51	52	53	54	55	56
<b>F</b>	61	62	63	64	65	66
<b>G</b>	71	72	73	74	75	76
<b>H, I</b>	81	82	83	84	85	86
<b>J</b>	91	92	93	94	95	96
<b>K, L</b>	101	102	103	104	105	106
<b>M</b>	111	112	113	114	115	116
<b>N, O</b>	121	122	123	124	125	126
<b>P, Q</b>	131	132	133	134	135	136
<b>R</b>	141	142	143	144	145	146
<b>S</b>	151	152	153	154	155	156
<b>TUV</b>	161	162	163	164	165	166
<b>WXYZ</b>	171	172	173	174	175	176
<b>Others</b>	181	182	183	184	185	186

Sometimes the key letter appears vertically down the left hand side of the chart and letters for first names appear horizontally across the top.

Frequently the chart will show combinations of TWO key letters, not one. You will need to determine which section to use: L LR M MN R RL RN T TI Misc

**NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS  
CHRISTMAS SOCIAL  
Saturday, December 11, 1999**

Mark this date on your calendar and plan on joining us for this year's Christmas Social.

This year we will be going to Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Oakland for a tour of the displays covering the Civil War through the Persian Gulf War. We will see the bronze plaques for each Pennsylvania Regiment in the Civil War. We will also have an opportunity to see what resources are available in the library. If you heard Diane Ragan's talk at the August NHG meeting you will remember all the great resources she told us about.

The charge for the Hall is \$3.00. If you are a member of Friends of Soldiers and Sailors, the fee is waived. There is underground parking available for \$3.00. Handicapped parking is available behind the building. The tour will begin at 10:30 am.

Following the tour we will have lunch at the Penn Brewery, 800 Vinal Street on the North Side. Lunch will be at 1:00 pm. The following are the menu selections. All prices include tax and gratuity. All reservations with menu selection **must** be received no later than November 30. Please note, if we get a reservation but no menu selection by November 30, we will order the Chicken Salad for you.

**Pork BBQ Sandwich, Hot German Potato Salad, Apple Strudel, glass of beer or soft drink as well as coffee or tea \$12.00**

**Braumeister Steak Sandwich, Hot German Potato Salad, Apple Strudel, glass of beer or soft drink as well as coffee or tea \$12.00**

**Pittsburgh Chicken Salad, with fries, Apple Strudel, glass of beer or soft drink as well as coffee or tea \$13.00**

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**RESERVATION FOR CHRISTMAS SOCIAL**

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

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MENU SELECTION:**

**RETURN FORM TO:**

**Virginia C. Skander  
2549 Lah Road  
Gibsonia, PA 15044-8329  
(724) 443-1460**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Pork BBQ**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Braumeister Steak Sandwich**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Pittsburgh Chicken Salad**

Please complete separate form for each person attending.

# **NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS**

**C/O Northland Public Library  
300 Cumberland Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4555**

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

### **DATED MATERIAL**

<p><b>EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT GENEALOGY BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK November 16, 1999</b></p>
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#### **PROTECT IT, DON'T POST IT!!**

*From the Clark House News, April, 1998*

When consulting resource materials, do not use the self-adhesive, removable notes commonly known as "Post-Its". They have an adhesive that may remove the print from anything to which they are adhered. Do not use them on library books or any other books, and be careful how you use them on your own records. Also, the adhesive on tapes such as Scotch Tape and Magic Mend contain acid that literally eats the paper and causes irreversible damage. It can also leave acid stains on paper.

Two brands of removable self-stick notes (3M Post-It and ABM Attention) were examined by the Document Conversion Branch of the National

Archives and Records Administration. They recommend that no removable self-stick notes be used on any paper records that have permanent value because the adhesive stays behind when the note is removed and the colors tend to run when wet.

#### **GENEALOGY**

*From the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania Library and Archives Division*

Genealogy is a component of the social sciences that studies the origins and descent of families. It attempts to place a family within its historical setting and to fill in the biographical details of the lives of individual members