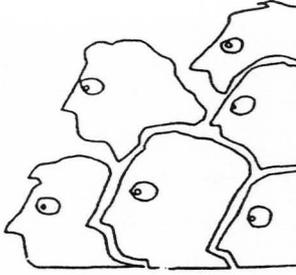




# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



## STARTING OUR 10TH YEAR

%Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4555  
Volume 10, Number 6 - February, 2000  
e-mail [pioneerbook@juno.com](mailto:pioneerbook@juno.com)

President: Sylvan Kretz	Vice President: Ginny Skander	Secretary: Shirley Kuntz
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Cemetery Project: Ginny Skander	Book Committee: Marion Hyle	Editor: Donna Booth
Program: Melinda Merriman	Subscription \$12 per year	10 issues - August - June

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How are all of you doing on your New Year's resolution? Good. I made one resolution to exercise regularly. We have a treadmill in the basement that we use for storing things. You know, everything seems to get piled on it, then you can't use it. Well, I've dug it out and have been pretty faithful, using it three times a week since January first.

I also resolved to be more active in my research. The other day I was scanning a microfilm at the library, "History of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Allegheny" by Rev. A. A. Lumbing. On the cover page was the quote, "Gather up the fragments that remain lest they be lost". I thought, what an appropriate statement for a group such as ours. The following day, my wife received a small tin box of photos from her sister. The photos had been their mother's. We spent an afternoon pouring through the photos one by one. And not surprising, only three or four (out of some three hundred) had noted the names of the people in the picture.

We easily identified the more recent photos, my wife and her siblings when they were young, her mother and father when they were first married, and he had a full head of hair, her brother in the Army Air Corps in World War II standing by the nose of his bomber. The photos that puzzled us were the ones from the first part of the twentieth century. Of course we could recognize grandma and grandpap. But who were the others in the group photo with the cow at someone's farm? And who was the little girl on the sled or the man posing with the horse and wagon? Was he grandpap's partner in the grocery business delivering to people in the neighborhood? We'll never know. Those who could tell us have long gone.

So, here's a challenge to make a belated New Year's resolution to "Gather up the fragments that remain lest they be lost."

Sylvan

**A FAMILY TREE CAN WITHER IF  
NOBODY TENDS ITS ROOTS.**

## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

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

Tues, March 21 - 7:00 pm - **REGULAR NHG Meeting** - "Sailing Into the Sunset: Tips for Finding Your Ancestors on Passenger Lists" presented by Elissa Scalise Powell

**CORRECTION** - Allegheny City Society's February meeting. A correction has been received for the date of the Allegheny City Society's February meeting. It will be **Wednesday, February 16** at 7 pm at Northland Library.

Sat., March 11 - 10:00 am - **WPGS Meeting** - Carnegie Lecture Hall - Audrey Iacone will speak on using the Internet for genealogy research. She will be on-line showing search engines, websites, etc. Audrey teaches Internet and genealogy classes at Carnegie Library.

Sat, April 15 - **WPGS Spring Seminar**, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm - Holiday Inn, Greentree. (see article on page 7)

Sun., February 27 - **The Western Reserve Historical Society Library** will hold an Irish Seminar at WRHS. Paul Gorry, Genealogist/Records Searcher from Dublin, Ireland and Richard Michael Doherty, President/Founder of the Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan will present "Researching Your Irish Ancestors - Here and There". Contact Nancy Leinweber at (440) 257-9245 or nanbwl@juno.com

Sat., April 1 - **Slippery Rock Heritage Association** - Genealogy Workshop - Ernest Thode will present an all day seminar on various German topics. For information contact Helen

Staiger, Slippery Rock Heritage Association, PO Box 511, Slippery Rock, PA 16057, or e-mail at HMSTAIGER@juno.com

May 31-June 3 - **National Genealogical Society** "Conference in the States" - Providence, RI. This year's event will feature more than 100 presentations, seminars and meetings. Details available at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.com>

Sept. 6-9 - **Federation of Genealogical Societies** - Salt Lake City, UT - "Rediscovering Old Millennial Sources with New Millennial Techniques". Contact Federation of Genealogical Societies, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0949 e-mail at fgs-office@fgs.org

## LOCAL GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

Elissa Scalise Powell, CGRS (Certified Genealogical Record Specialist) will be presenting several programs in February and March.

The Cranberry Genealogical Society will have a meeting at the Cranberry Library on Saturday, February 19 at 1 pm with a program of "**Dancing Around the Neighborhood with the Census Taker: Tips for Finding Your Ancestors**". The lecture shows what type of information is on each census and gives the tools for gaining access to the information.

On Wednesday, March 8 at 10:30 pm, "Daytime Diversions", sponsored by the Northland Public Library will have "**Your Own Detective Story: The How and Why of Genealogy**". Each person's genealogy is their own detective story which must solve the who, what, when, where and why of the family history.

On Monday, March 27 at 7 pm Northland Library will sponsor the program "**Messages From the Grave: Listening to Your Ancestor's Tombstone**". Abandoned and "lost" cemeteries can be found through records and

Discussion includes ways to read "illegible" stones, which may be the last time a person may hear the tombstone "speak".

**Genealogy: Seeking Lost Ancestors**, is a 15-hour course in beginning genealogy to be held on Sundays from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the Community College of Allegheny County, North Campus. To register phone (412) 369-3696, Monday - Friday 9 am to 3:45 pm or mail to CCAC North Campus address, attention "Registration".

Course number YCA007-1412.. Cost is \$39 for five weeks.

Feb. 20 - Introduction: Record Keeping; Home Sources: Vital Records

Feb. 27 - Soundex and Census, Courthouse Records

March 5 - Field trip to PA Dept. of Carnegie Library, Oakland

March 12 - Church and Cemetery Records; Library Resources

March 19 - Passenger Lists; Naturalizations; Computer Usage

## **SURPRISING MICROFILM RECORDS FROM EASTERN EUROPE**

*The Family Tree*, June/July, 1998

Genealogists often think that microfilming of records in East Germany did not occur until after the reunification of Germany. This is not true. Filming started in East Germany in 1949, three years before filming started in West Germany.

During WWII, the National Socialists stored many governmental and genealogically valuable records in abandoned mines and castle ruins, which were considered unlikely military targets. Some concerned Mormons tracked down the records in salt mines in Stafffurt and in castles at Tothenburg and Rathsfeld. The records were kept out of the hands of former Nazi and Russian officials and were transported to Berlin for return to their proper place of origin or were

placed in various Berlin repositories. Many of these records were filmed before the end of the work in 1952.

While Poland was still under Communist rule in 1967, the Director General of the Polish State Archives asked the Mormon film crews to film Polish civil registration records. There were 10,675 rolls of such film made between 1967 and 1975. The Roman Catholic Church also asked to have many of their records filmed.

Ask at your local LDS Family History Center about these microfilmed records.

## **QUERIES**

Queries are free and open to everyone. They will be printed as space permits.

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor

My apologies to member Anna Marie Frketic for having misspelled her name in the November-December issue of the newsletter. - Ed. It should read:

**FRKETIC(H), HRASON, KLOBUCHAR, KROSEL, GRUBICH**, Contact: **Anna Marie Frketic, 4373 Maryville Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101**

**BAUER, DVORAK**. Contact: **Dot Richards, 108 Olde Ingomar Ct., Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

**FAIR**, (1832-1900) Butler, Lawrence, Mercer & Armstrong Cos., **WOODS** (1820-1860) Allegheny Co., **DALY** (1880-1903), **LIGHTNER** (1860's-1890) Lawrenceville. Contact: **James Fair, 1811 Duffield Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206-1055**.

**STAUGH/STOUGH**, Gaylord/Gayland/Gaylee (b. 1890) Baltimore, MD, lived/buried (d 4/10/1938 or 40) in Pittsburgh, PA. Contact: **Lucille J. Staugh, R.D. #1, Box 573C, Chicora, PA 16025**

# **RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD RECORDS**

*Ancestry Weekly Digest*, April 3, 1999

Social Security records provide a great deal of information for genealogists. The Social Security Death Index (SSDI) can help you locate people who collected Social Security benefits and who are deceased. Armed with their Social Security number, you can write to the Social Security Administration for a copy of the individual's SS-5 form, the application for a Social Security number, which can contain parents' names and addresses, birth dates and other details you may not have been able to locate elsewhere.

But what if you had a family member who worked for the railroad? Where would you find similar information about these individuals? The answer is let's look at the records at the Railroad Retirement Board.

## **What Is the Railroad Retirement Board?**

The Social Security Act of 1935 established an old age insurance system in the United States. Its intent was to provide a means for individuals to plan for some financial security for their old age. A unique identification number was to be assigned to all persons who completed an application for participation in the program. The first three digits of the Social Security number (SSN) (with a few exceptions) are an area number which, until 1972, reflected the state in which the application for a SSN was made.

At the same time, the Railroad Retirement Act made provisions to maintain a separate system for employees of the nation's railroads, and a separate block of numbers (700-728) were set aside for assignment to these employees. The Railroad Retirement Board, therefore, is the administrator of a federal retirement program covering the nation's railroad employees, those who were employed by railroads in 1937 and

later.

Some people may have worked for the railroad and for other industries. They may have two numbers - one for participation in Social Security and one for Railroad Retirement - and may have collected multiple benefits.

## **What Records Are Available?**

The Railroad Retirement Board will release information for a deceased person for genealogical research. However, it will not release any information for living individuals without that person's written consent. If you are interested in information about railroaders among your ancestors, files for railroad employees are found only at the headquarters office of the Railroad Retirement Board. Among the records that may be included for an employee are:

- Application for participation in Railroad Retirement
- Statement(s) of railroad service
- Application for employee annuity
- Description and certification of eligibility
- Record of service for which no records are available
- Certificate of termination of service
- Death certificate of employees
- Notice of Death and Statement of Compensation

In the late 1960's the Railroad Retirement Board approved a policy allowing for the destruction of records thirty (30) years after the last payment was made to the claimant or to the last beneficiary. This policy was made in accordance with the federal government's federal records retention schedule policy and was not a decision made arbitrarily by the Board. Genealogists, however, objected strenuously, and the policy was put on hold. Some records were destroyed, however, and no microfilming was ever undertaken prior to destruction.

## How Do I Obtain Copies of These Records

The Railroad Retirement Board will perform searches for employee records for genealogical purposes. Remember, that the employee must be deceased. There is a \$16 non-refundable fee to search for records, payable in advance. A check or money order should be made payable to the Railroad Retirement Board and mailed to:

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board  
Office of Public Affairs  
844 N. Rush Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092

Since records are kept by the employee's unique number, this is the best way to request information. You may find the Social Security or Railroad Retirement number on the person's death certificate. In order for the Board to perform its search, provide the Railroad Retirement number (the one beginning with 700-728) and the person's full name. In some cases, it may be possible to locate records using only the full name, address and birth and death dates of the person. However, it is usually not possible to locate records for people with relatively common surnames unless a number is included.

You may learn more about your ancestor and his/her employment history through this route than you might otherwise have been able to ferret out on your own. Remember, that the various railroads' records are scattered throughout various archives and repositories and that many have been lost or destroyed. In these cases, the Railroad Retirement Board's records may be the only viable place to gather more information about your railroader.

**ALL ABOARD!**

## CENSUS RESEARCH

### The Census Date - An Important Part of your Census Research

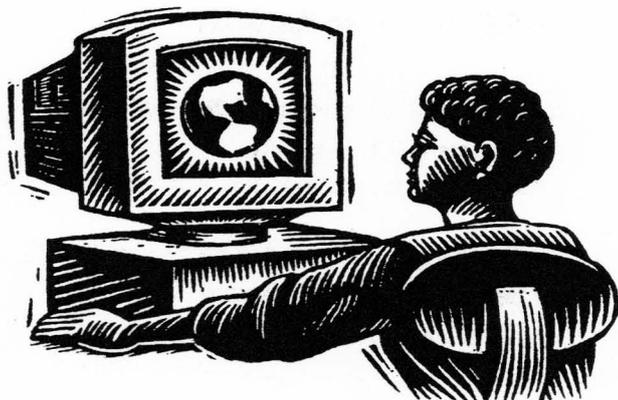
Lloyd Hosman in *AntiqueWeek*, Jan. 3, 2000

From the first census in 1790 there has existed what may be called the census date. All questions were to have been answered as of this date. To begin with, it was the first Monday in August. Then it was moved to June 1, then April 15 and finally to January 1. Notice the following chart.

<u>Census</u>	<u>Official Date</u>
1790	2 August
1800	4 August
1810	6 August
1820	7 August
1830-1900	1 June
1910	15 April
1920	1 January

To illustrate the importance of this, let's assume that in 1850 the enumerator (census taker) came to a house in mid-August. In the home was a mother caring for a month old baby. The baby could not be counted in the census because it had not yet been born on the first of June. On the other hand, suppose that in the household an individual had died a month before the visit. That person would be listed in the census as though still living because on June the first he was.

It is especially important to keep this in mind in looking at censuses 1850 and later. In these, there is a place at the top of each page for the enumerator to enter the date of the visit. Many assume that the questions were answered as of that visit date, but such was not the case. Observing the census date can be helpful in resolving an otherwise puzzling record.



## WEB WANDERINGS

(Note: All start with <http://www> unless otherwise noted

Railroad Retirement Board

[rrb.gov](http://rrb.gov)

Western States Marriage Record Index  
Pre-1930 Idaho, Arizona, Nevada, California,  
Eastern Oregon, Eastern Washington, South  
Western Wyoming & Northern Utah  
<http://abish.ricks.edu/fhc/gbsearch.asp>

Old Maps

<http://members.aol.com/oldmapsetc/>

Library of Congress Historical Documents  
Collection

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amhome.html>

Social Security Death Index  
updated monthly

<http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>

Somebodys Links Newsletter

brand-new Internet newsletter that will list found  
treasures with the hope of reuniting them with  
their families. Subscribe as you do to other  
on-line mailing lists

[Somebodys-Links-Newsletter-L-request@roots  
web.com](mailto:Somebodys-Links-Newsletter-L-request@rootsweb.com)

## THE STORY BEHIND THE NAMES OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

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

Submitted by Bernnice Broniecki

### BUTLER COUNTY

Butler County was erected by an Act of March 12, 1800, and named for General Richard Butler, distinguished officer of the Revolution, who was killed at St. Clair's defeat, by the Indians, November 4, 1791. The seat of justice was also named for this patriot.

The first permanent settlers were David Studebaker and Abraham Snyder, who came to the present Worth Township in 1792. Prior to this, they had spent the winter with the Delaware Indians in their town at the mouth of Wolf Creek, near the present *Slippery Rock*. They were Pennsylvania Germans from Westmoreland County. Scotch-Irish came before 1795 and, after the Treaty of Greenville, settlers came in increasing numbers, including some Irish Catholics. *Butler*, the county seat, was settled in 1793, and laid out by the commissioners, who organized the county, on a farm in Butler Township, owned by John and Samuel Cunningham, who donated 250 acres for the county purposes. The General Assembly designated Butler as the county seat on March 3, 1803, and incorporated it as a borough in the same Act. It was chartered as a city on January 7, 1918.

*Zelienople* was incorporated from Jackson Township in 1840, and named for "Zelie", daughter of its scholarly founder, Baron Dettmar N.F. Basse. It was called "Zelie's City" and later its present name. The Baron, in 1802, built a reproduction of a German castle, which he called "Bassenheim" on his 10,000 acre tract, and in this castle was born his worldfamous grandson, Rev. William A. Passavant, D.D., who founded

many hospitals and orphan homes in America

*Saxonburg*, named for his native country, Saxony, by the founder, John A. Roebling, is also the birthplace of his eminent son, Washington A. Roebling, who built the Brooklyn Bridge and other famous structures. *Harmony* is the site of the communistic society, founded by Rev. George Rapp, in 1804, and named after the society of "Harmonists". The county consists of 790 square miles and contains one city, twenty-two boroughs, thirty-three townships.

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

#### Location of Vital Records in Butler County

Clerk of Courts, P.O. Box 1208, Butler, PA  
16003-1290 (724)284-5233

Criminal Case Files - 1803-Present

Coroner's Inquests - 1960-Present

Prothonotary - same address

Civil Cases - ca late 1800s - Present

Divorces - ca late 1800s - Present

Naturalizations - ca late 1800 on

Recorder of Deeds - same address

Deeds - 1860 - Present

Register of Wills - same address

Birth & Death Records - 1893-1905

Marriage Records - 1885 - Present

Wills - 1800 - Present

Assessment (Tax) Office - same address

Tax Assessment Records - ca  
1800-Present

Veteran's Services - same address

Veterans Burial Records - ca 1800  
-Present

## **WPGS SPRING SEMINAR**

**Saturday, April 15, 2000**

**Holiday Inn, Greentree, PA**

WPGS will hold its annual Spring Seminar on Saturday, April 15 at the Holiday Inn, Greentree, PA. The Seminar will feature James L. Hansen, F.A.S.G. Jim has been the reference librarian and genealogical specialist at the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin since 1974, where he assists several thousand researchers a year.

**8:30** Registration

**9:00** Welcome

**9:15** The Draper Manuscripts - What They Are and How to Use Them

**10:30** Genealogy in Alphabetical Order - Getting the Most from All Types of Indexes

**11:45 - 1:00** Buffet Luncheon & First Families of Western Pennsylvania Awards

**1:15** What to Do When You Hit a Brick Wall

**2:30** Getting Around The Lost 1890 Census

**3:30** Questions & Answers

**\$30** - WPGS members; **\$35** non-Members

Send a check payable to WPGS to:

WPGS Spring Seminar

124 Brandywine Drive

McMurray, PA 15317-3600

Information: (412)6687-6811

## **ALSACE-LORRAINE**

Alsace-Lorraine has been governed by several countries over its history.

France - until 1871

Germany - 1871-1918

France - 1918-1940

Germany - 1940-1945

France - Since 1945

## BOROUGHS LAST

"Vignettes" column by Robert VanAtta, *Tribune-Review*,  
August 18, 1999

Well over half of the 34 boroughs that were chartered by 1880 remain in Allegheny County, most of those gone have been merged into Pittsburgh. A few others advanced to city status, and a name or two changed.

Those original boroughs, year of incorporation and the township at that time from which they were taken unless otherwise noted:

- 1794 - Pittsburgh - Pitt
- 1826 - Birmingham - St. Clair
- 1818 - Allegheny - Ross
- 1829 - Northern Liberties - Pitt
- 1834 - Lawrenceville - Peebles
- 1834 - Elizabeth - Elizabeth Township
- 1841 - Sharpsburg - Ross
- 1842 - Tarentum - East Deer
- 1842 - McKeesport - Versailles
- 1843 - Manchester - Ross
- 1848 - South Pittsburgh - Lower St. Clair
- 1848 - West Elizabeth - Jefferson
- 1849 - Duquesne - Reserve (not the present Duquesne)
- 1849 - East Birmingham - Lower St. Clair
- 1853 - West Pittsburgh - Chartiers
- 1853 - Sewickley - Ohio
- 1858 - Monongahela - Part of South Pittsburgh Borough (not Monongahela in Washington Cty)
- 1859 - Temperanceville - Chartiers
- 1866 - Mt. Washington - Lower St. Clair
- 1867 - Braddock - Wilkins
- 1867 - Bellevue - Ross
- 1868 - Millvale - Duquesne Boro & Shaler Twp.
- 1868 - Ormsby - Lower St. Clair Township
- 1868 - Etna - Shaler
- 1869 - Union - Union
- 1870 - Allentown - Lower St. Clair
- 1870 - St. Clair - Lower St. Clair
- 1871 - Verona - Plum
- 1872 - Chartiers - Robinson

- 1872 - Mansfield - Scott
- 1874 - West Bellevue - Kilbuck
- 1875 - Beltzhoover - Lower St. Clair
- 1875 - Glenfield - Kilbuck
- 1876 - West Liberty - Lower St. Clair

A state legislative act in 1872 provided for the annexation of a number of these into Pittsburgh, and 13 additional wards were also created that year by Pittsburgh City Council to provide for them. Included in that action were Ormsby, East Birmingham, St. Clair, Birmingham, South Pittsburgh, Allentown, Mt. Washington, Monongahela, West Pittsburgh, Union and Temperanceville.

## PENSION RECORDS FOUND

From the *Clark House News*, January 2000

Over a hundred boxes of pension records that date back to the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and the Seminole War were recently found at the National Archives. None of these have ever been indexed or microfilmed. They are arranged by account number and are being published in *American Genealogy Magazine* by Datatrace System, P.O. Box 1587, Stephenville, TX 76401

## GERMAN PREFIX OF "KUR" ON A PRINCIPALITY'S NAME

From the Hesse-L mailing list

The prefix "Kur" on any historical German principality (sometimes spelled Chur on some maps from the Middle Ages through the early modern period) signified that the ruler of that particular principality was a "Kurfuerst" or elector who had a right to cast a vote in elections for the Holy Roman Empire. If you take a look at the basic map of 19th century Germany it will help:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/wggerman/images/south.gif>

## **AN GORTA MOR: THE GREAT FAMINE**

by Carla Karcher in the *Tribune-Review*, May 16, 1999

Just 150 years ago, only a scattering of Irish immigrants lived in the United States. Despite the turmoil caused by -- and for many, the oppression suffered under -- British rule, Irish people clung fiercely to their country. In the 700 years, the Irish waged many fierce battles against outsiders, but the most ruthless opponent they faced was a fungus.

In 1845, potato blight swept through Ireland. The potato was the mainstay of the Irish diet and was traded for other foodstuffs. The blight caused a famine of enormous scope: potato crops literally rotted before the eyes of those it had fed.

People hoarded what they had, but within weeks, food shortages were critical in several areas. People were seen scouring fields for edible plants, and some visitors reported seeing children eating grass like cattle.

Workhouses and soup kitchens offered some assistance. In the workhouses, hard physical labor was extracted for starvation wages. Men, women and children often died while under the ministry of a workhouse.

Most of Ireland's farmable land was owned by British landlords and farmed by Irish tenants. The wheat, barley, corn and oats harvested from these estates was shipped to England. As the situation grew more desperate, many sold what little they had -- including the clothes off their backs -- in order to eat.

Many tenant farmers, unable to pay their British landlords, were evicted and reduced to living in makeshift huts or sleeping in ditches. Dysentery, cholera and even typhus raged through the weakened population. The diseases were generalized as "famine fever" and killed thousands. Many escaped starvation only to die

of fever.

The bitter conditions fueled a great exodus from Ireland to North America. Emigrants were packed into what came to be known as famine ships or coffin ships. Many vessels were crowded and poorly provisioned; those who survived the voyage arrived wretched, ill and destitute.

In the US, quarantine regulations differed from port to port. Passengers with no symptoms of fever were released and were immediately in search of food, work and a place to live. Many died while waiting out quarantine periods and so many were dead upon arrival that they were buried in heaps and piles.

A million people died during the potato famine in Ireland and 1 million or more fled the starving nation during those years. The famine lasted five years, but the exodus continued for almost 50 years. Ireland's population in 1900 was half of its pre-famine numbers.

### **ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH**

The St. Andrew's Society of Pittsburgh will be presenting a course on Scottish and Scotch-Irish Genealogy as a part of Pitt's Informal Program at the University of Pittsburgh in Oakland. Course Number is CO2PD-1505.

The course will be taught by T. J. Galbraith, Genealogist for the St. Andrew's Society with some historical perspective provided by Kenneth Stiles, Pres. of St. Andrew's Society. The class will meet for five Tuesday evenings, from 6:30-8:30, starting March 7.

Cost - \$69 + \$3 registration fee.

Pitt: 412-648-2560

T. J. Galbraith 412-367-3396

# **NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS**

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

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

### **DATED MATERIAL**

**SAILING INTO THE SUNSET: TIPS FOR FINDING YOUR ANCESTORS  
ON PASSENGER LISTS --- Elissa Scalise Powell  
MARCH 21, 2000**

#### **THIS & THAT**

We are looking for stories from NHG members on their research successes (and failures). Share your stories with the other members of the group. Send your stories to the attention of the Newsletter Editor.

Do you have a favorite website or maybe a particular genealogy book or magazine? If so, share the information with the other members. Send the information to the attention of the Editor.

To contact me directly, please feel free to e-mail me at [DJBooth@worldnet.att.net](mailto:DJBooth@worldnet.att.net). I Look forward to hearing from you.

#### **IT'S 2000 AND OUR TENTH YEAR!**

NHG is now in its tenth year and growing all the time. Exciting things are happening.

We are working on the second volume of the Pioneer Cemeteries book. Get out and help with the readings this spring.

Our Program Chair, Melinda Merriman has been hard at work arranging programs of interest to everyone. Watch for announcements of future programs and outings. There are exciting programs coming this year.

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE AND SEE YOU AT  
THE MEETINGS.**