

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



P. O. Box 304
Ingomar, PA 15127

Volume 15, Number 4 - November/December, 2004

<http://www.northhillsgenealogists.org>

e-mail: pioneerbook@juno.com

Subscription: \$15.00 per year

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10 Issues - August - June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We just got back from a one week trip to Cape Cod. We visited both my cousins and my aunt and uncle. I found out that my cousin, being the only child of my grandfather's oldest sister, managed to accumulate all sort of family heirlooms. I spent two very interesting days reviewing old pictures (I was able to borrow five old picture albums) and a small tin box full of documents (letters from my great great-grandfather describing his 1866 trip to Savannah and wills from my other great great-grandfather and a great reat-grandmother). I'm certain that I was holding some documents that were last held by my ancestors. My winter task is to scan all these pictures and to catalog and archive the contents of the tin box. These are gems that help me flesh out my ancestors. They become real people instead of just names with a date of birth, marriage and death on a piece of paper (or computer program).

So I started to think about what questions to ask my older family members. I've encouraged them to talk about their childhood and relatives and try not to stop listening when they repeat themselves. I notice that they drop further clues,

cooner or later, without realizing it. I have to learn to recognize those clues and follow up on everything that hints of a family connection, no matter how remote. I should get a tape recorder as my notes aren't complete and save the tapes for future generations. To be sure, I've tried to verify each face from some other source. Above all, family scandal doesn't bother me, but I have to be sensitive that it may embarass others. We all have someone who has done unpleasant things.

Our Christmas Social is to be held at the Zelenople Historical Society on Saturday, December 11, 2004. After a tour of some of the historical houses, we will then adjourn to the Kaufman House for a luncheon buffet. The total cost is \$16 per person. Additional information on the Social is contained in the newsletter.

Volunteers are always welcome to assist Jo Henderson (Chens4th@aol.com) and Irene Dinning (dinning1@earthlink.net) in the reading and cross-checking of the stones before winter sets in. Volunteers are also needed for the program committee. This committee arranges for our monthly speakers. Should you wish to assist, please contact me at the meeting or via e-mail (svalen@nauticom.net)

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Tues, Dec. 7, 2004 - NHG Board Meeting - UPMC Passavant cafeteria. Everyone welcome.

Sat., Dec. 11, 2004 - 10:00 am - NHG Christmas Social - see article on page 39.

Tues., Jan 18, 2005 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - Genealogical Research on the Internet - Steph Valentine.

Other Meetings

Mon. Nov. 29, 2004 - Noon - "Pittsburgh During the American Civil War" - Arthur Fox. CCAC Allegheny Campus - Student Services Center Auditorium

Mon., Dec. 6, 2004 - 7:00 pm - "Pittsburgh During the American Civil War" - Arthur Fox CCAC Allegheny Campus (see above)

Wed., Dec. 8, 2004 - 7:00 pm - "Pittsburgh's Forgotten Allegheny Arsenal" - Jim Wudarczyk - CCAC Allegheny Campus (see above)

Sat., Jan. 8, 2005 - 10:00 am - WPGS Monthly Meeting - "Exploring Pennsylvania's State Archives and State Library" - James B. Beidler - Carnegie Lecture Hall (**WPGS is planning a research trip to both facilities July 18-20, 2005. This will be a chance to learn how to prepare for this trip.**)

Thurs., Jan. 20, 2005 - 7:00 pm Lawrenceville Historical Society - Ice Age Pittsburgh - Albert Kollar of Carnegie Museum - Canterbury Place, Fisk St., Lawrenceville.

NHG DOES NOT HAVE A REGULAR

MEETING IN DECEMBER. SEE YOU AT THE SOCIAL ON DEC. 11.

(President's Message - continued)

If you have any genealogical subjects that you'd like discussed, please don't hesitate to ask. Remember, this is your organization

Steph

DON'T CALL ME ROSIE

The women who welded the LSTs and the men who sailed on them

At our last meeting NHG member Frank Thomas announced that his daughter Kathy, has written a book about the women who worked as welders on the LST's during WW II. Her mother and aunts were some of these women. When she realized that their contribution to the war effort has never been documented she set out to write a book about them.

Kathy interviewed her mother and aunts and tracked down and interviewed other women who had worked on these ships. She also was able to interview many of the men who sailed on these boats.

Everyone has heard of Rosie the Riveter, but these women were not riveters - they were welders. These are the stories, remembered 60 years later. I had the opportunity to read the book and found it very interesting. Frank has donated several copies of the book to Northland. Check out this very interesting book about what happened on the home front during WW II.

**THERE IS NO NEWSLETTER IN DECEMBER.
NEXT ISSUE IS JANUARY.**

QUERIES

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor

STALEY, Pittsburgh and Indiana Twp., **FUCHS**, Lawrensville. **Contact: Joyce Purdue, 4107 St. Thomas Dr., Gibsonia, PA 15044-9725**

IMMEL/IMEL/EMEL/EMMEL, JACOB, ACHESON, LOZIER, SALVATORA Arriving from Philadelphia through Lancaster, York, Fulton, Bedford, Cumberland Cos. to Westmoreland and Allegheny Co. **Contact: Lois Salvatora 5522 Bauer Dr., Gibsonia, PA 15044.**

HODIL/HIDILL, GRUB/GRUBBS, Allegheny Co., Fox Chapel Twp. **SCOTT**, Clarion Co. **Contact: Ronald Hodill 920 NW 24th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32609**

SLAPSIC/SLAPAK, BAUER, IFFT, SORG, RICHARDS. **Contact: Dorothy Richards, 108 Olde Ingomar Ct., Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

DYE, TUTTLE, FISH, RYAN, Ohio. **Contact: Daryl Hagan, 1835 Dolphin Dr., Allison Park, PA 15101-3325**

WELLER, BECKER, Allegheny City. **Contact: Virginia Kryl, 236 Columbia Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15229-1623**

HIGBEE, JONES, CRAIG, BLACK, MULLEN, GORDON, ZINCK, STEFANKO, all Allegheny City, from 1800 to present. **Contact: Barbara Schmitt, 4022 Cook Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044-9656**

McCRAY, GROS, Buth Co., VA. **Contact: Sally Hough, 640 Olive St., Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4880**

SCHMITT, SCHAEFER/SCHAFFER, Shaler Twp., Allegheny Co., **DAUGHERTY**, Westmoreland Co. **Contact: Ethel Maloney, 301 Oakwood St., Pittsburgh, PA 15209-1751.**

STATE-WIDE GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

September 29-30, 2006

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society and the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania have reached an agreement to hold a state-wide genealogical conference in Pittsburgh on September 29 and 30, 2006. This event, the first state-wide genealogical seminar held in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, will undoubtedly draw considerable numbers of family historians to Pittsburgh because Pennsylvania is a genealogically significant state. For three centuries the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been one of the most populous colonies or states, so many family historians can track their ancestry back to Pennsylvania.

Program specifics will be announced in 2005. Conference planners, John T. Humphrey and Barbara Braden Guffey, have noted the program will feature presentations that will discuss all aspects of Pennsylvania research along with computer and Internet topics. And, not-to-be missed methodology lectures.

Both societies have experience running large conferences. In 1997 the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania hosted the NGS Conference held at Valley Forge, and in 2003 the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society hosted the NGS's Centennial Conference. Both conferences were among the most successful events NGS has held.

Mark your calendars now -- again the dates are September 29 and 30, 2006.

Future newsletters will have more information on this conference as they become available. Save these dates now so you don't miss this great opportunity to meet with other researchers and hear some great speakers.

STATUE OF LIBERTY-ELLIS ISLAND FOUNDATION RELAUNCHES WEB SITE

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman.

The following is an announcement issued by the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation. Note the last sentence. In a conversation with the Foundation he mentioned that they have a number of new things in the works and will be releasing them one at a time over the next few months.

In Celebration of Family History Month, the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. announced the official re-launch of its award-winning website - <http://ellisland.org> - featuring improved navigation, retooled and advanced search capabilities as well as family history research tips and forms, free to all users. The newly revamped site, which contains 25 million ships' passenger records covering entry through the Port of New York and Ellis Island from 1892-1924, first launched on April 27, 2001 to critical acclaim and a deluge of traffic. To date, the site has received over 6 billion hits.

New features offered include:

Expanded and improved search capabilities that allow for a more refined search employing the SOUNDEX system and enabling input for the following data fields:

First name of passenger

Last name of passenger

Gender

Marital Status

Approximate Year of Birth of Passenger

Year Range (expands range for year of birth)

Approximate year of arrival

Year Range (expands range for year of arrival)

Improved and streamlined site navigation, with most features just one mouse click away.

Genealogy Learning Center, which provides a clearing house of immigration information including how-to articles, free downloadable genealogy charts and forms, as well as useful tips using the new search tools.

Ability to easily notify the Foundation of transcription errors via an email link on the Passenger Record page so that they can be corrected once confirmed.

The "Ellis Island Society Links Network" which connects visitors seeking additional assistance with societies specializing in local genealogy, history, ethnic and surname research

"We have paid close attention to the feedback we have been receiving from the millions of people who have used our website over the past three years," said Stephen A. Briganti, President and CEO of the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. "We are proud of the work we have done so far and pleased to unveil these exciting new features and improvements as an extension of our continued service to all families involved in tracing the lives of their immigrant ancestors."

To try these new features out for yourself or for more information on the Foundation, visit:
<http://www.ellisland.org>.

A variety of additional features are scheduled to be phased in over the coming weeks.

MEMBER'S STORY
My Trip to Washington, DC
Laura Kunig

I was thrilled to be going back to the National Archives, so when I first learned that we were going to DC, I started to make lists of what I needed to research. I prepared folders that included copies of information from Ancestry. My boyfriend's sister gave me a subscription to Ancestry.com and then my researching for this trip exploded. I was able to locate many relatives in the 1930 census and a few other relatives in census years I had not yet obtained. I was so excited when I copied the 1930 census showing both of my parents when they were six years old.

My main area of concentration was the census, passenger lists, naturalization records and WW II Draft registrations. My friend, Judi, has Ancestry Plus, therefore she was able to look up my great-great-grandparents' passenger lists from 1863. Not only did I find my great-great-grandparents, Isaac and Mary Ann Cooper, and my great-grandmother, Mary Ann, but discovered three other children I had not known of previously. Mary Ann had two older brothers, Isaac and Enoch and an older sister, Fannie. I was so excited I could have burst!!! I now have a copy of the manifest and my next step was to locate the Coopers in the 1870 census. Everything matched. I was floored to find out that the family lived in Luzerne County in Lackawanna Township because the 1880 census placed the family in West Newton, Westmoreland County showing Mary Ann the oldest child with four younger brothers: William, Thomas, John and George. There were so many surprises that day. I was able to locate Isaac and Enoch in the 1880 census living on the South Side as boarders and working as laborers. Beyond that, I suspect I found Enoch's son in the 1900 census still living on the South Side. I have not had any luck locating Fannie yet.

I found many other wonderful things while at the Archives: a great-great uncle's naturalization papers that should lead me to my great-great aunt's passenger list, quite a few family members in the census and my grandfather's WWII Draft registration.

I can honestly say that I hit the mother lode this time. There have been past trips to the Archives where I came home virtually empty handed, but this time I was on such a roll that they just had to pry my hands off the readers and drag me back on the bus. This trip was far and away my most successful. I had the time to research and organize and reorganize when necessary. I will be spending Thanksgiving in Potomac, MD and I am hoping to make another trip to the Archives and see if my luck holds out!!!

Congratulations Laura! If anyone else has a story to tell about their trip to DC, please pass it along for future issues of the newsletter..

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES NOW ACCEPTS
ONLINE ORDERS**

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman.

The National Archives' most frequently requested genealogical records may be ordered online. Using "Order Online", you can order copies of passenger arrival records; copies of specific pages from the Federal Census; copies of Eastern Cherokee applications; copies of Federal land entry files; Federal military pension files for the Revolutionary War through the Spanish American War -- all from the comfort of your own home.

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has made all of its form requests available online at: http://archives.gov/research_room/orderonline.html. The site requires that you register as a user and pay with a credit card.

**RESOURCES AT NORTHLAND
LIBRARY AS PRESENTED BY AMY
STEEL, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN**

The following notes on our October meeting presented by Amy Steel from Northland were prepared by Kara Walton. If you missed the meeting you will want to read this information to use the next time you go to Northland. Thanks Kara.

Most of the genealogy collection is 'how-to' as opposed to Carnegie Library which has many primary and secondary sources.

Genealogy books use the Dewey numbering system and start with 929. Some of the books at Northland include:

The Handy Book for Genealogists - the current edition is for Reference use only. Previous editions are circulating.

The Source - Guidebook for American Genealogy
Genealogist Address Book - includes groups and ethnic groups

Dictionary of American Family Names

Allegheny County Cemetery Index

Discovering Your Female Ancestors

Oxford Dictionary of Nicknames

1815 Pittsburgh City Directory

A lot of how-to guides for various ethnic groups.

Videos on genealogy - ex: using Ancestry.com,

Family Search, preparing a Heritage album

Periodicals such as *Family Tree Magazine* and *Family History* magazines. Back issues circulate.

Northland has online subscriptions to:

Ancestry.com (including the Plus version)

Heritage Quest - has census, family histories, local histories and PERSI. These can be used free of charge in the library. They limit the online home access to the 5 supporting communities.

Amy Steele teaches a class each month on Heritage Quest and Ellis Island databases.

Other sections to check:

History books are also a good source. Usually in Dewey #970.

Pittsburgh, area town and Allegheny histories.

Craft section has books on scrapbooking and how to make a heritage album.

Art books can sometimes be good resources also

Discovering the History of Your House is also recommended.

The Belles of New England - textile history and is indexed

They have a white 3-ring binder that has oral histories of area townships, churches and people.

The Children's department also has genealogy books for them to use.

Computer Center:

They have a scanner that takes sizes of about 8-1/2" x 12"

There are approximately 26-28 computers

They have a microfilm reader but no printer (CCAC North has a printer)

They have a microfiche reader/printer.

Some of the changes to the set-up of Northland include:

Children's books are downstairs, adults are upstairs.

You now return materials in outside drop box.

Reserved books and interlibrary loans are done at the checkout on the lower level

Reference desk is upstairs

Second floor express check uses new RF technology - only one in PA

If you have books to donate they can be taken to the receiving dock.

The book sale will now be in the spring, not the fall.

The library now has wireless Internet access (as of 10/18/04)

Great job Kara. There are a lot of resources at Northland to check out on your next visit.

NHG CHRISTMAS SOCIAL
Saturday, December 11, 2004

The NHG Christmas Social will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2004.

We will be visiting the Zelianople Historical Society. The Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation of local historical resources as well as the education of members and the public. A research library is maintained at Passavant House, with a large collection of primary resource materials as well as genealogical records of many immigrant families. These materials are available to researchers seeking their own family records and those involved in scholarly pursuits.

We will meet at the Passavant House at 243 S. Main Street at 10 am. This is the Society's headquarters. We will split into two groups with one staying to tour the Passavant House and the other starting their tour at the Buhl House. At about 11 am the groups will switch and go to the other house for their tour there. We will then proceed to the Kaufman House for lunch at 12:30 pm. The Kaufman House is a short two-block walk north at 105 S. Main St.

At the Kaufman House we will have a buffet luncheon in the second floor dining room. The lunch will consist of Croissant sandwiches, with a choice of ham, chicken salad and tuna salad, fruit salad, a fresh vegetable tray, choice of milk, pop, iced tea, coffee and juice and ice cream for dessert.

The cost of the tour and luncheon is \$16 per person **prepaid**. The deadline for reservations is December 3, 2004. There will be no refunds unless your reservation is cancelled by Nov. 22. A reservation form is available on page 29. Please mail your reservation to our Post Office box. Please do NOT send your reservation to Northland Library.

Please mark "Christmas Social" on the envelope.

Passavant House

Passavant House was home to one of the founding families of Zelianople for more than 150 years and is also one of the earliest buildings erected in the town. Built 1808-1810 its first residents were Zelig Basse Passavant, for whom the town is named, and her husband Phillip Louis Passavant.

Zellie, daughter of the town's founder, and Phillip came to Zelianople from Germany shortly after their marriage in 1807 at the behest of her father who wanted the couple to settle in this new land with him.

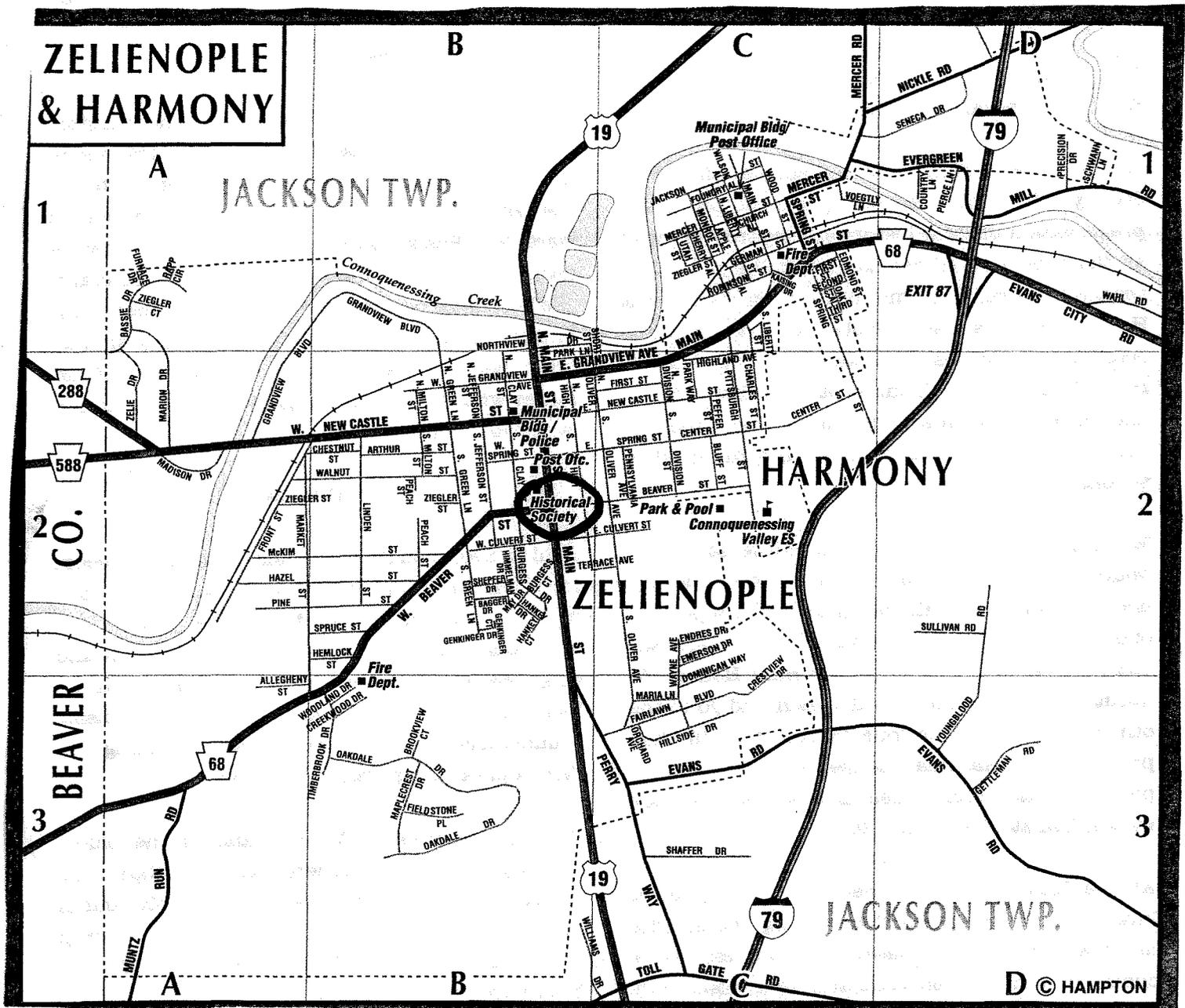
Buhl House

Buhl House, with its ten rooms, houses a museum for the Buhl family and for the town. Collections include artifacts related to the history of Zelianople, its schools, commerce, business and daily life, as well as temporary, traveling and 'on loan' exhibits. Buhl family portraits and items commemorating the family's beginning in Zelianople and significance in history.

Buhl House was built 1805 and is the oldest existing building in Zelianople. Christian Buhl arrived in America from Germany in 1802 and in 1804 married Fredericka Dortha Goehring from nearby Cranberry Twp. The couple raised their 11 children in their home.

Don't miss this chance to see examples of life in the 1800's. You will get the opportunity to see how our ancestors from that time period lived. You will also get a chance to learn more about this area of Pennsylvania.

See you on December 11. Reservation form, can be found on page 39.



Passavant House is located at 243 S. Main Street.

Parking on S. Main St. is metered with most meters having a two-hour limit. There is a public parking lot one block north of the Kaufman House with 12 hour meters. There is limited parking a

at the Kaufman House.

The location of the Historical Society is circled on the above map.

See you December 11 at 10:00 am.

**NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
CHRISTMAS SOCIAL
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2004**

NAME: _____

Please print or type

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

Please include your phone number/e-mail address so that we can contact you in case of any last minute changes in the plans for the social.

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Deadline for reservations is December 3, 2004. There will be no refunds for cancellations after November 22, 2004.

Parking on S. Main Street is metered with most meters having a two-hour limit. There is a public parking lot one block north of the Kaufman House, with 12 hour meters. If you need handicapped parking at the Kaufman House, please indicate below.

_____ Need handicapped parking at Kaufmann (Note: There is limited handicapped parking, so please only request this if it is absolutely necessary).

Send your reservation with a check for \$16 per person to the following address:

**North Hills Genealogists
P. O. Box 304
Ingomar, PA 15127**

Please mark "Christmas Social" on the envelope.

Please do NOT send your reservation to Northland Library. We no longer have a mailbox there and it may delay your reservation.

SEE YOU DECEMBER 11, 2004

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

P. O. Box 304

Ingomar, PA 15127

FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL



JANUARY 18, 2005

7:00 PM

GENEALOGY RESEARCH ON THE INTERNET - STEPH VALENTINE

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

MERRY CHRISTMAS

