



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

**Volume 1 Number 5
JANUARY 1991**

Our New Address:

**North Hills Genealogists
c/o Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455**

Please use the above address for all your future correspondence with NHG unless otherwise noted.

President:	Elissa S. Powell
Vice-President:	James G. Rickey
Sec./Treasurer:	Maureen D. Durstein
Membership:	Robin Schooley
Publicity:	Connie Foley
Programs:	James G. Rickey

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I trust everyone had nice Holidays and perhaps in the merry-making found a new ancestor or relative or two! I managed to squeeze in a field trip to Ashtabula County, Ohio where I was delighted to find a wonderfully stocked and helpful library, courteous courthouse personnel and a very active County Genealogical Society. The Henderson Library, (54 East Jefferson Street, Jefferson, OH 44047), although half the size of our Northland Library, had almost a whole room devoted to genealogy! For anyone searching their Ohio roots and especially their ancestors from Ashtabula County, this collection is surely one to check out. The Ashtabula County Genealogical Society (ACGS) does do research for a minimal fee. Write them in care of the Henderson Library for a list of sources they can check for you.

Our North Hills Genealogists' Group is growing! Many of you have become members and we even have some out-of-state members. Members benefit not only by receiving our newsletter, but by having special field trips arranged, such

as the one in February to the Carnegie Library's Pennsylvania Room. Members can place queries in the newsletter and ask for some minimal research on a particular problem (submit to 1846 Concord Dr., Allison Park, PA 15101). People at our meetings are always ready to help you find your roots ... just ask!

We are still in the process of seeking the best direction for this group to take. If you would like to help guide this effort, please come to our next board meeting, Feb. 12 or let one of the officers or committee members know of your concerns.

Happy Hunting!
-- Lissa

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Our next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12th, at 7:30 P.M., in the Meeting Room #2 at Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless. All members are welcome to attend and provide input to the future direction of our group.

LDS FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY GETS NEW COMPUTER

This month is the unveiling of the Greentree Family History Library's computer. This will allow patrons to search the IGI by country instead of state-by-state for a certain surname. Printouts from the computer will be 10 cents per page. A librarian said that perhaps in the future a service of this computer search would be direct transfer of data to a patron's disc for use at home later!

Other things to look for in the future at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Family History Library on CD-ROM on their computer:

- U.S. Social Security Death Register (39 million names)
- Australian births, marriages, deaths 1788-1888 (5 million names)
- 1880 U.S. Census (50 million names)
- English 1881 Census (27 million names)

No release date has been announced on any of the above.

OUR MEETINGS

The North Hills Genealogists meet the fourth Tuesday of every month (except December) at the Northland Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. At 7 pm we present "Tip time" which has an informal presentation of a topic. Our main speaker takes the floor at 7:30 pm. In January we are happy to have Susan Faull who is speaking on "Preservation of Family Photographs".

DAGUERREOTYPE CAUTION

From "Kinfolks," Southwest Louisiana Genealogical Society comes the following caution: Experts advise not to touch, clean or polish a daguerreotype as it is an amalgam of mercury on a silver surface. If you try, you may wipe off the picture. A true daguerreotype can be cleaned and then easily copied. Better still, make a copy FIRST. For information, consult your local library or write Larry Schaap, Univ. Texas Humanities Research Center, Austin, Texas.

--P.G. Co. Gen. Soc. Bulletin,
February 1982

FEBRUARY SPEAKER

The main speaker at our meeting on February 26th will be Nancy Singleton. Nancy will discuss genealogical problem solving. This includes, for example, trying to reconcile two different pieces of information about the same person or event. Nancy, who is active in the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, teaches classes in genealogy.

The February meeting will begin at 7 P.M., with "Tip Time", with Nancy Singleton addressing the group at 7:30 P.M.

SPECIAL THANKS to RUTH RENTON for the wonderful and informative lecture she gave at our last meeting on German Research using American Church Records.

BEGINNER'S CORNER

Q: When looking through some books at the library, I came across a Sarah Perine, one of the names in my husband's tree. I dismissed it as being his relative because the husband's names of each Sarah was different. Now I have more information on Sarah Perine and would like to look this book up again, but alas I did not make any note as to its title or call number! I had assumed that the library would always have it and that I "knew" what it "looked like" (a small blue book, or was it large and green?). I have spent several days looking for this book again and cannot find it. Can you explain how to avoid this problem in the future?

A: *Genealogy is the art of being detailed in everything you do, including every successful and unsuccessful encounter with books, magazines, queries and court house records. A log of your research on each family could be kept so that you know where you have already been in your search. Negative data is helpful too. It points us out of unproductive paths. Your log should have columns for the date of the search; place; call no. of book or Docket no.; the full name and author, publisher and publishing date; time period covered or searched; the surnames searched; comments; and a results column. This kind of documentation, though somewhat time consuming, can actually save you a lot of time in the end. It is also handy when you want to create a 'source list'. This is a list of all your sources with an assigned number (usually sequential in the order you have found them). Then you can just use the number next to dates and places to show from where they were extracted. If you should ever want to make application to a heritage society or just to show Aunt Hattie she's wrong about Uncle Reed's birth date, you can pull out the proof you need. A log should also be kept when you do census research also. A log could be kept on*

each family noting each year and the counties search. In this manner you can follow a family as they moved around.

Q: I have always believed that my great-grandmother's parents were John and Mary Gravatt since those were the parents' names on her death certificate. I have recently found a niece of my grandmother's who says they were Wesley Sylvester Gravatt and Elsie Armedia Hitchcock! How can the death certificate have been so wrong?

A: *The only thing you can believe on a death certificate is the date of death. The informant could have been a neighbor, relative, or even the undertaker himself. Names could have been misspelled, other statistics could have been in error. A death certificate is a secondary source of information for anything other than the date of death itself.*

MEMBERS TAKE NOTICE:

At the last board meeting it was voted to join the Federation Of Genealogical Societies. In doing so each member of our society will receive, free of charge to them, a quarterly publication. This publication, called The FORUM, gives interesting genealogical news on a national basis. It has articles on different national sources and libraries, including what's new at the LDS Family History Library. It lists conferences and publications put out by genealogical societies, giving those societies names and addresses. It's a nice source to see if a group is active in your area of interest.

If you do not wish to have your name and address given to the FGS, please let Elissa Powell (935-6961) or Maureen Durstein know, or drop a line to our address (on the application and elsewhere in this newsletter) by Feb. 15.

GENEALOGY IS LIKE ...

Doing genealogy is like doing a jigsaw puzzle; you put the picture together one piece at a time (occasionally you get lucky and someone has already done some of the puzzle for you). The pieces are clues, data, points of information. One group of clues together may point to the next place to look for the next clue.

Genealogy is also like doing a jigsaw puzzle where the pieces for every puzzle you own are together in the same box and there are pieces missing.

Genealogy is like looking for puzzle pieces hidden all over the house and are not all for the puzzle you are working on. A goal may be to just find enough pieces so that you can tell what the puzzle is a picture of.

From the "Medina County (OH) Story", November 1990, as taken from "Certified Copy" of Greater Cleveland Chapter of OGS, V. 16, #1, 1987:

FREE NEWSLETTER

The DOLLARHIDE SYSTEMS is offering their "Genealogy Bulletin" Free of charge to those who send their address to:

GENEALOGY BULLETIN
The Dollarhide Systems, Inc.
203 West Holly Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

The Fall of 1989 edition had several interesting articles and only 6 pages of advertising out of 16! Bill Dollarhide is the Editor and writes a lot of the future articles.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society's next meeting will be February 9, 1991 at Trinity Cathedral, Oliver Ave & 6th. It will be an all day affair, so bring a brown bag lunch or plan to pop out to a nearby restaurant. Hot drinks will be served. During the noon break the Society Store and tables where books and other genealogical materials may be purchased will be set up. Parking is available at Mellon Square and at the garage beside the former Gimbels store. The schedule is as follows:

10 AM - Dr. James Sterrett will talk on Jefferson & Clarion Counties

11 AM - Mrs. Dottie Wilson will present Clearfield County

1 PM - Dr. Ellen Hays Perrin moderates a panel on "Heritage and Lineage Societies" with membership procedures and resources for genealogists.

The Society's March 9, 1991 meeting will be a Western PA Cemetery Workshop at a site to be confirmed yet. Everything you wanted to know about reading a cemetery, photo-taking, rubbing stones, etc.

Another place to meet genealogists is in a Genealogy Class! Two classes are being offered though the Community College of Allegheny County. The class is 10 sessions held at night from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. for \$25.00. One is at Hampton High School on Thursday nights starting February 14. The other, taught by Nancy Singleton, is held at Carson Middle School on Tuesday nights starting February 12. For more information call the CCAC offices on Perry Highway at 369-3737.

INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGY CONSUMER ORGANIZATION (IGCO)

The international Genealogy Consumer Organization (IGCO) is a non-profit, volunteer "registration, information and arbitration agency" for professional genealogists and genealogical consumers. Since its establishment in May 1980, IGCO has freely registered over 250 professional genealogists who have agreed to adhere to its international code of ethics. It has also distributed thousands of free pamphlets and other genealogical material to the public and has freely arbitrated and investigated over 300 complaints from and against professional genealogists, businesses and consumers--resulting in the return of over \$30,000 worth of genealogical materials, books, computer hardware and/or cash refunds to consumers and professionals.

IGCO's Board of Trustees consists of genealogists, historians, geographers and lawyers, all of whom do not make a living as genealogical researchers or through its endeavors, but who have expertise in genealogical research or in other related activities and who are dedicated to promoting and maintaining integrity and professionalism between professional genealogists and genealogical consumers.

The following pamphlets are free, and can be obtained from the International Genealogy Consumer Organization, 369 East 900 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) for each three pamphlets requested.

THE CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO HIRING
A PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST

LEGAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRO-
FESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS AND
THEIR CLIENTS

LIST OF REGISTERED GENEALOGISTS

A SUGGESTED CONTRACT FOR PRO-
FESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS AND
THEIR CLIENTS

THE FREE REGISTRATION OF PRO-
FESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS

DIRECTORY OF ENGLISH GENEALO-
GISTS AND RECORD AGENTS

RESEARCHING ENGLISH GENEALO-
GY FROM AMERICA

THE DIRECTORY OF WELSH GENEAL-
OGISTS AND RECORD AGENTS

SCOTTISH AND IRISH GENEALO-
GISTS AND RECORD AGENTS

IGCO DOES NOT RECOMMEND THESE GENEALOGISTS, PUBLICATIONS, OR BUSINESSES:

Alabama Genealogical Quarterly, of Mobile, Alabama USA (see October 1982 REPORT)
Anderson, Robert D., of Omaha, Nebraska USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
DeBreffny, Brian, of London, England and Kilkenny, Ireland (see April & July 1982, & Jan-Mar 1983 REPORT)
Dougherty, Donald A., of Exeter, New Hampshire USA (see October 1982 and Jan-Mar 1983 REPORT)
Genealogical Reference Builders Newsletter, of Post Falls, Idaho USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Hanson, Diana, of Oahu, Hawaii USA (see October 1982 REPORT)
Howard, Bruce A., of Mobile, Alabama USA (see October 1982 REPORT)
Jonasson, Eric L., of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (see October 1982 and Jan-Mar 1983 REPORT)
Journal of Genealogy, of Omaha, Nebraska USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Pelton, Susan, of Oakley, Idaho USA (see October 1982 REPORT)
Redding, Richard E. Jr., of Englewood, Florida USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Tree Searchers Genealogical Services, of Englewood, Florida USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Van Hart, Barbara, formerly of Ft. Wayne, Indiana USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Wheatfield Press, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (see October 1982 and Jan-Mar 1983 REPORT)

IGCO DOES NOT RECOMMEND THESE CONSUMERS:

Droddy, Roy D. J., recently of Salt Lake City, Utah USA (see April & July 1982 REPORT)
Starke, Merlyn, of Eagle Grove, Iowa USA (see October 1982 REPORT)

IGCO RECOMMENDS CAUTION ON THESE GENEALOGISTS AND BUSINESSES

Beatrice Bayley Inc., of Sterling, Pennsylvania USA (see July 1981 & July 1982 REPORT)
Sharon L. Taylor (or Numa Company Ltd.), of Copley, Ohio USA (see April 1982 REPORT)
Spectator Books Inc., of Moweaqua, Illinois USA (see October 1982 REPORT)
Warnick, James P., of Moweaqua, Illinois USA (see October 1982 REPORT)

WAYS TO USE YOUR COMPUTER

Have you thought of all the ways you might use your computer for genealogical research?

The four basic classes of software used in genealogical research are; 1) the genealogical program, 2) wordprocessing, 3) database managers, 4) communications.

This article lists ideas for use of databases. Your genealogy software is a database program itself, but you will have other uses for databases. Here are some ideas:

ADDRESSES: The first database you might think of is for names and addresses. A good address database should allow you to sort out your correspondence by surname. It is also nice to have the date of your first correspondence and other notes.

SURNAME DATA: for KEEPING DATA THAT YOU DO NOT WANT TO ADD TO YOUR GENEALOGY SOFTWARE PROGRAM, you might want to set up surname data files. Many genealogy data programs do not allow the entry of the kind of information you might like to keep. You can set up your own databases to keep census, cemetery and many other types of information.

CHECK FILE: An important use of a database can be for a car check file. Anytime you think of something you want to check the next time you go to a particular library or courthouse, make an entry in this database. The next trip you make there, you can print out the information you need to check.

QUERIES and MEMBERSHIPS: Another database might be used to keep a check on all the queries you have

placed in newsletters. What did you query say in the newsletter last year say. If you belong to a number of genealogical societies, you might want to keep a record of membership fees you have paid and queries submitted.

BOOKS: You also will use a database of books and other references. Create the database to allow you to sort out the books you have in your own collection, the books you will ask your spouse to get for your birthday, books you have already checked at the library, and books you still need to check. Books already checked should indicate whether you found nothing or whether you entered information from them in your surname databases. List the name of the library and call number on all books.

INFORMATION SOURCES: Where do you write to get information on land records? What kind of form to you use to get information? A database on sources can keep that information. It can tell you where to get certain kind of information or what kind of information is available from a particular source.

ACCOUNTING: Somewhere, either in a database or in a wordprocessing file, you should keep an account of the money you have spent on your genealogical research. It is especially important if you do any research work for others for a fee.

--Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter, Dec. 1990, XXI #12 pg. 173.

Editor's Note: The above suggestions in the OGS Article can be used by those without a computer just by using a series of notebooks, one for each suggested "database". Thus, you can keep the addresses of your correspondence, each page heading being a different family

surname. Columns on the page could be date of first contact and relationship to you. The "Surname Data" Notebook can contain any miscellaneous data you find on connection-not-yet-found relative. The "Check" Notebook can list the libraries and institutions you frequent on each page, with notes on what you would like to look up the next time you are there. And so on....

ALABAMA STATE ARCHIVES which has Civil War Pension Records (Confederate) is:

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT of
ARCHIVES & HISTORY
624 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130

FIELD TRIP TO THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY

A field trip to the Carnegie Library on Forbes Avenue, Oakland, is scheduled for Saturday, February 16th, at 9 A.M. for members of the North Hills Genealogists. There is no cost involved. The library staff will provide a tour and orientation to the Pennsylvania Dept., Social Science Dept., and the Microfilm room. The tour will last from one to one and a half hours. At the conclusion, members are free to remain at the library to pursue their research.

If you are interested in attending, please REGISTER BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11th,

by sending in the attached form to:

North Hills Genealogists
c/o Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455

BRITISH POUNDS

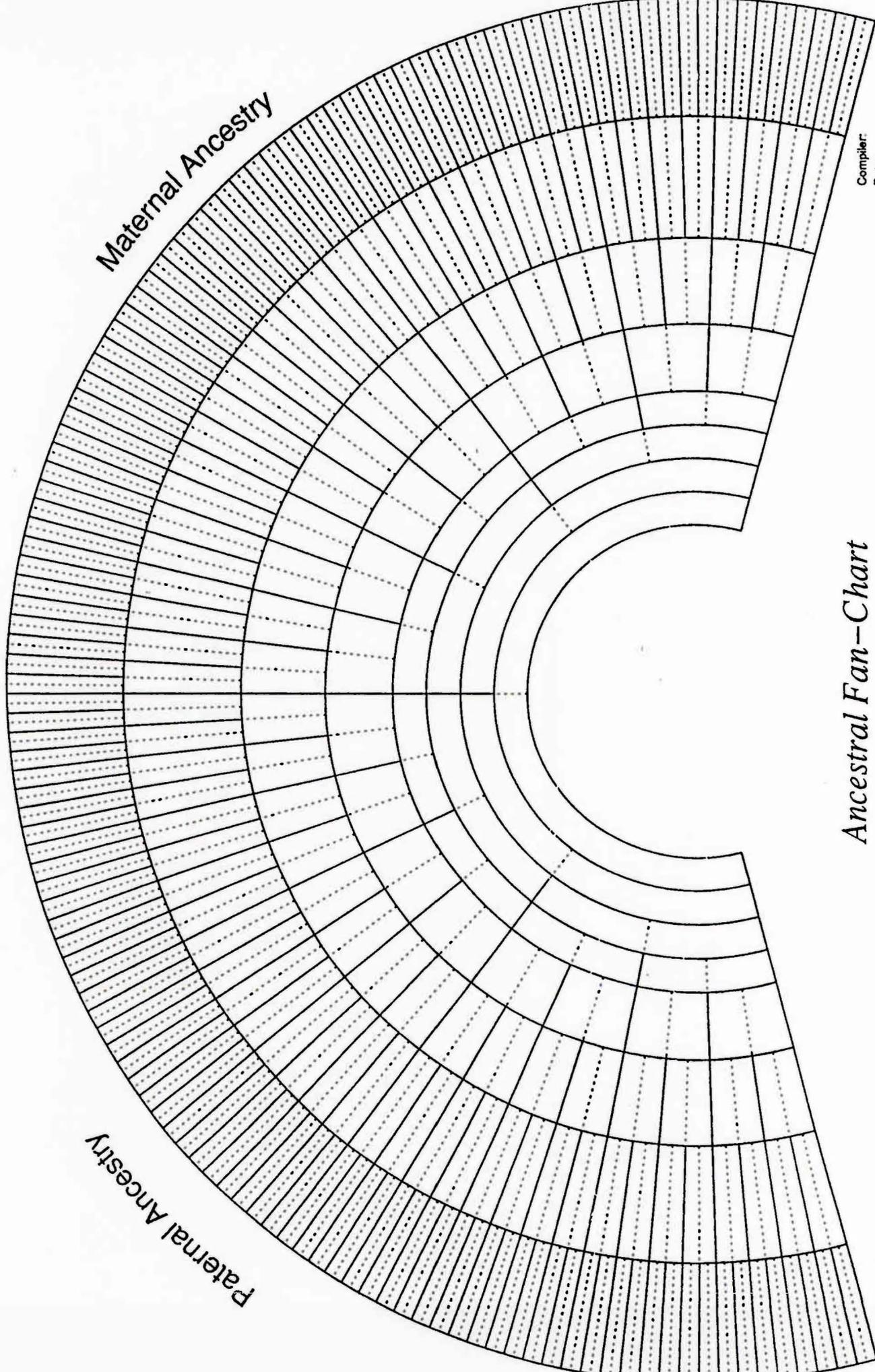
Because many banks in both North America and Britain charge large fees for processing even small checks in foreign currency, the problem of sending money to Britain has been difficult to cope with up till now.

However, that need no longer be the case. There is a Swiss banking firm in Washington that will send you a check in pounds Sterling for only \$2.00 US per check. Call them on their WATTS line number and tell them how many pounds you want to send to Britain, and to whom the check is to be made. They tell you how much it comes to in US money and you send them a check for that amount plus the \$2.00 fee for check. They send the Sterling check out to you at once so that the checks cross in the mail. It is probably the cheapest and most efficient way of getting Sterling funds that exist anywhere. The firm:

RUCSCH INTERNATIONAL
1140 Nineteenth Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Telephone Toll-Free: 1-800-424-2923

*****FREE HELP***
FREE QUERIES
available to MEMBERS !!
JOIN NOW !!**



Maternal Ancestry

Paternal Ancestry

Compiler:
Date:

Ancestral Fan-Chart