



# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



c/o Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Volume 1 - Number 7 - March 1991

**President: Ellissa S. Powell**  
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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month has been busy for your Executive Board members. We have been organizing field trips, speakers for our meetings, working on a beginners packet of information, a surname exchange list and a set of bylaws. The bylaws are included here for your consideration and comment. We will vote on whether to accept them at the April 23 meeting. In the bylaws we have stated that the election of officer's for the following fiscal year (Sep - Aug) will be voted on at the June meeting. Therefore we need some volunteers for a nominating committee. This will be a very easy job as the current officers are probably most willing to serve again! Please can I hear from some volunteers? People who wish to become an officer cannot be on the nominating committee, but please let us know if you would like to participate in this manner as well. My number is 935-6961. Let me hear from you!

Happy Hunting, Lissa

### BEGINNER'S CORNER

**Q:** I know that a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) is the courteous and best way to guarantee a reply from someone, but how can I use U.S. Postage stamps when writing to a foreign country?

**A:** You can send International Reply Coupons with your addressed envelope. They are available for purchase at your local post office for 95 cents each (they have not gone up with other postal rates!). These coupons can be redeemed at your addressee's post office in the foreign country for the correct postage to send a letter to you. It is a good idea to send three coupons when writing to people in foreign countries since

the rates of exchange fluctuate, as well as the cost of mailing to the U.S. is more than what we spend mailing to another country. Remember when writing abroad you CANNOT use an "F" stamp on a letter destined for overseas delivery. International Postal Union regulations require that a postage stamp have a fixed denomination printed on it's face.

**Q:** What do the letter abbreviations after a professional genealogist's name mean and how do they get them?

**A:** The Board for Certification of Genealogists certifies individuals who pass their rigorous tests in 6 different areas of specialty. The Board is a nonprofit agency independent of any society and requires the highest standards of competence and ethics among the people it certifies. Individuals who pass certification are considered members of the Board for Certification as long as they continue to pass re-tests every 5 years. The Board will also mediate any differences that might arise between certified individuals and their clients, whether or not a fee has been paid by that client. The different categories that one can be certified in:

- C.G.R.S. Certified Genealogical Record Searcher
- C.A.L.S. Certified American Lineage Specialist
- C.A.I.L.S. Certified American Indian Lineage Specialist
- C.G. Certified Genealogist
- C.G.L. Certified Genealogical Lecturer
- C.G.I. Certified Genealogical Instructor

Other abbreviations that you may come across in genealogy (not associated with the above Board) are:

- A.G. Accredited Genealogist: One who has passed the tests administered by the Family History Library of Salt Lake City.
- Dip. F.H.S. Diploma Family History Studies: Awarded by the Society of Australian Genealogists to those who pass its exams.
- F.A.S.G. Fellow of the American Society of Genealo-

gists: Fellowship in ASG, an honor society established in 1940, is limited to 50 living inductees elected on the basis of their genealogical scholarship - as evidenced by the quality and extent of their publications. An F.A.S.G. is tapped without prior knowledge of his or her consideration as a candidate for the honor.

- F.I.G.R.S. Fellow of the Irish Genealogical Research Society (Ireland): An honor accorded in recognition of outstanding service to the society and/or worthy contributions to Irish genealogy.
- F.N.G.S. Fellow of the National Genealogical Society: An honor accorded in recognition of outstanding service to the society and/or worthy contributions to American genealogy.
- F.S.G. Fellow of the Society of Genealogists (London): An honor accorded in recognition of outstanding service to the society and/or worthy contributions to British genealogy.
- F.U.G.A. Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association (International): An honor accorded in recognition of outstanding service to the society and/or worthy contributions to genealogy at large.

For more information see the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 79, Number 1 (March 1991) pages 5 - 18 or write to the Board for Certification of Genealogists, P.O. Box 5816, Falmouth, VA 22403-5816.

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## THE READERS' CORNER

Welcome to the reader's corner. We hope that this will become a regular feature of the "North Hills Genealogist." There are many books and publications on the market today, as well as on the shelves of our libraries that can be of tremendous help to us as genealogists. The collection of our own Northland Library is a good place to start. All of the following can be found there.

The Genealogical Helper I thought it best not to assume that "everyone knows" about this publication, since I, myself, did not discover it until two years after I had begun my research. The current issue can be found at Northland, downstairs with the other current periodicals. Back issues are kept for three years and may be requested and checked out at the upstairs circulation desk.

The "Bureau of Missing Ancestors" section is full of queries about thousands of ancestors, all of whose surnames are indexed. There are many helpful articles, book reviews, advertisements, and other regular features in every issue. It is published bi-monthly, and each issue has its own special feature, such as the May-June issue's Directory of Genealogical Libraries. If you've never done so, be sure to take a look at this wonderful publication.

Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy by Val D. Greenwood. Call # 929.1 G85 This is personally my favorite "how-to" book. Northland has 2 copies of the 1st edition (1978) and 2 of the 2nd edition (1990). The good news is that they are all circulating copies! The first part of the book discusses research principles and practices. A notable addition to the 2nd edition is a chapter on the evaluation of evidence. The second part details various types of American records and their uses. Background information on how these records evolved is particularly helpful in determining which records to search. The 1990 edition also includes a third part called "New Ideas" which contains chapters on computers and family history.

Other reviewers, far more experienced than I, have called this book "indispensable", "a comprehensive textbook", "an encyclopedic volume", and "the type of book a person can buy when he's beginning with genealogy as a hobby and can continue to use through years of family history research." By all means, "check this book out." If the later edition is not available, do not hesitate to look at the earlier one. Just keep in mind that certain information, such as addresses, may not be current.

Journey to Pennsylvania by Gottlieb Mittelberger. Edited and translated by Oscar Handlin and John Clive. Call # 974.102M69. This is a little gem of a book that you can read in an evening. We sometimes become so involved in searching for our genealogical evidence that we forget those names and dates we have collected were real people living real lives, just like us. Gottlieb Mittelberger was a man from Germany who was given the opportunity to come to the New World, did so, and chose to return to his native homeland. He wrote this volume in 1756 as an honest account of his experiences in the New World.

The first part describes the hardships of the voyage. Whether your ancestors were German immigrants who came to America in the mid-18th century like Mittelberger, or recently arrived in this country during the last century, you get a feel, through this eyewitness

account of what hardships were faced by our immigrant ancestors. The second part is a delightful narrative of mid-18th century Pennsylvania, but also describes the perils and hardships of life in a new land. Reading this book can help breathe life into those names that hang on our family trees. Northland Library has at least two copies of this book.

If there are any books or publications you have found especially interesting or useful to you, please let us know so that we can share them with our readers.

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**From an Associated Press Newspaper story for January 2, 1991: "Outdated computers, sloppy record keeping hold history hostage" by Michael J. Sniffen**

A slice of U.S. History has become as unreadable as Egyptian hieroglyphics before the discovery of the Rosetta stone. And there's more historic, scientific and business data in danger of dissolving into meaningless jumble of letters, numbers and computer symbols. Americans paid billions to collect the information and now may have to fork over millions more to preserve it.

That's part of the price for the country's eager embrace of more and more powerful computers. Much information from the past 30 years is stranded on computer tape from primitive or discarded systems --unintelligible or soon to be so.

As a result, hundreds of thousands of Americans researching family history -- the largest use of the National Archives -- will find fascinating records of their relatives beyond reach. Detection of a disease or environmental threat or shift in social class could be delayed because data was lost before researchers even knew what questions to ask.

"The ability to read our nation's historical records is threatened by the complexity of modern computers", said Rep. Bob Wise, D-W.Va., chairman of a House information subcommittee that wants the government to start buying computers that will preserve data for future researchers.

A number of records are lost or out of reach:

- Two hundred reels of 17-year-old Public Health Service computer tapes were destroyed last year because no one could find out what the names and numbers on them meant.

- The government's Agent Orange Task Force, asked to determine whether Vietnam soldiers were sickened by exposure to the herbicide, was unable to use the Pentagon computer tapes containing the date, site and size of every U.S. herbicide bombing during the war.

- The most extensive record of Americans who served in World War II exists on 1,600 reels of microfilm of computer punch cards. As the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor approaches, no manpower, money or machine is available to return the data to a computer so ordinary citizens could trace the war history of their relatives.

- Census data from the 1960s and NASA's early scientific observations of the Earth and planets exist on thousands of reels of old tape. Some may have decomposed; others may fall apart if run through the balky equipment that survives from that era.

One of the biggest headaches is sloppy record-keeping. Everyone who designs a computer or a program for it is supposed to write down -- on paper -- how the machines operate, how the program organizes data and what information is on each tape.

Often, they don't.

"Documentation is a bore", explained Kenneth Thibodeau, director of electronic records for the National Archives.

It could get worse. The government now owns more than a million desktop personal computers. "There's not a great deal of control over what kind of information is on them, how long it's kept and how well it's documented", Thibodeau said.

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#### QUOTE:

"He that has no fools, knaves nor beggars in his family was begat by lightning." -- Thomas Fuller.

#### QUERY

I will accept any and all references to the SPURGIN / SPURGEON surname in the United States from 1719 - 1990. Try to be at least a little specific (i.e. name, date, location, etc.). I'll try to acknowledge all replies, perhaps with further questions. Mike Spurgeon, P.O. Box 1, Athens, OH 45701.

Excerpted from:

"A Guide to Research - Genealogical Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints", by Corporation of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. 1983.

## SOME COMMONLY USED LDS RECORDS FOR GENEALOGISTS

### \*\* Family Group Records \*\*

The Family Group Records collection consists of about 8 million Family Group Record forms submitted by members of the LDS church and others. These forms contain information on families from all over the world. They also provide LDS temple ordinance dates. The collection is divided into two sections: the Archive section and the Patron section. The two sections relate to who the submitters were and the time period in which they were submitted. The Patron group is the most recent of the two. (The Library is in the process of organizing the latest "mass" group of submissions which may prove to be as large as each existing section).

The sheets are filed alphabetically by the husband's name and then in order by birth date. E.G. to find a sheet on Robert Patton Frazier (born 20 Mar 1853) you would look for the sheets with the name and then look for the sheet with his birth date.

### \*\* IGI \*\*

The International Genealogical Index (IGI) is a computerized index of various records. It lists the names of over 68 million deceased persons from many countries and time periods. It is printed on microfiche.

To find your ancestor's name in the IGI look for the place where he or she was born or married. E.G. if you ancestor was born in Tennessee, look in the United States section for Tennessee. Then look for the microfiche where your ancestor's name would be listed.

The IGI lists such information as the names of the parents or spouse and the dates and locations of births, christenings, marriages, or other events. It also contains LDS temple ordinance dates.

The columns of information on the fiche are:

1. Name (last, first)
2. Name of father/mother or spouse
3. Sex (M/F) Husband/wife (H/W)
4. Type of event (marriage, birth, christening)

5. Event date
6. County, town, parish name
7. Batch number
8. Serial Sheet

If you find your ancestor's name in the IGI be certain to note the source numbers from the two last columns. These numbers can help lead you to the actual document. There you may be able to find additional information or identify the person who submitted the information.

There are records available for decoding the batch/serial sheet numbers. For example, they may refer you to a microfilm record of original documents.

### \*\* Original Documents \*\*

Original documents are records created at the time of important events in your ancestors' lives, such as births, marriages, and deaths recorded by the local church or government. Some major type of documents are civil, church, census, probate, land, military, immigration, court. Most original documents in the Genealogical Library are microfilm copies of records found in courthouses, churches and other archives throughout the world. Most of the records date before 1900.

To find original documents, look in the computer catalog (microfiche) in the locality section. For example, if you were looking for a record of Ray County, Missouri, first you would find the microfiche for Missouri, look on that fiche for Ray County, and then for the record type. E.G. you may find abstracts and indexes of deeds, deed records, probate records, birth records, church records, etc.

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### From a February 11, 1991 Newspaper article:

Harrisburg (AP) - ... Gov. Robert P. Casey wants fees boosted for Vital Records ... Birth certificates: \$10 instead of \$4. Death certificates: \$10 instead of \$3.

If you need any official records from Pennsylvania (after 1906), you had better order them before the prices go up!

Vital Records, P. O. Box 1528, New Castle, PA 16103

Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope a good idea.

## MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

Passengers of the MAYFLOWER with known descendants were: John Alden, Isaac Allerton, John Billington, William Bradford, William Brewster, Peter Brown, James Chilton, Francis Cooke, Edward Doty (Doten), Francis Eaton, Moses Fletcher, Edward Fuller, Samuel Fuller, Stephen Hopkins, John Howland, Richard More, William Mullins, Degory Priest, Thomas Rogers, Henry Samson, George Soule, Myles Standish, John Tilley, Richard Warren, William White, and Edward Winslow. Moses Fletcher's descendants remained in Holland, and Tilley descendants are also descendants of Howland. And, of course, descendants of John Alden and Priscilla are also descendants of Priscilla's father William Mullins. If you think you may be a descendant, you can write to the General Society of Mayflower Descendants, 4 Winslow Street, Box 297, Plymouth, MA 02361. The Society also has a number of printed works, listing descendants and members of the Society.

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## GENEALOGICAL DISPLAY AT LIBRARY

The North Hills Genealogists (that's us, folks!) will have a display in the Northland Public Library's lower level display case from May 1 - 15. In order for this to be an interesting display of what we are about, we are soliciting examples of books, photos, heirlooms, etc. for this case. The case does have a lock on it, but do not contribute anything really valuable. Please call Robin Schooley at 934-0432 to make arrangements for her to receive your items. She is also going to be setting up the display on Wednesday, May 1. If you can help her, please give her a call.

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## NEED A RIDE TO A LIBRARY?

One of our members, Robin Schooley has offered to drive others to the Carnegie Library in Oakland or the LDS Family History Library in Greentree on the days that she will be going to do her research. Give her a call at 934-0432 to make arrangements.

## GERMAN PASSENGER LISTS

The Historic Emigration Office in Hamburg, Germany has ship passenger lists of emigrants who sailed overseas directly from Hamburg or indirectly from Hamburg via other European ports. The period covered is from 1850 to 1934 (with the exception of January through June, 1853). Concerning emigrants who departed from Hamburg directly, however, these lists were compiled only for ships with more than 25 passengers until 1871. A considerable number of emigrants sailed via Bremen. Unfortunately, the Bremen lists were all destroyed by fire.

The Hamburg passenger list can be consulted only with the help of yearly indexes in rough alphabetical order. The Historic Emigration Office will search for a name but they must have the year of emigration as exactly as possible. To pinpoint the year, the U.S. Census Records for 1900 or 1910 may be able to help.

The research fee is \$30.00 US or DM 60,00 for every year and every name (starting with a different initial) that you request to be searched. For very further year they have to research, an additional \$30.00 or DM 60,00 will be charged. Payment will also be required if the search is not successful. Please send a check made out to HISTORIC EMIGRATION OFFICE and your search will be dealt with as soon as possible.

HISTORIC EMIGRATION OFFICE  
Holstenwall 24  
W-2000 Hamburg 36  
Germany

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## THE SADDEST WORDS ...

A thought from Mary Wiley, columnist for the North Hills News-Record in the February 1-4, 1991 edition:

" I know families that have tapes made by senior members talking about the way it used to be. Others take the time to write their memories. Such things are invaluable, especially as the young ones grow up and develop memories of their own. A poet once said something about the saddest words being "it might have been." I'd like to add to his list "There's no one left to ask."

## RENT BOOKS BY MAIL

The Hoenstine Rental Library, founded in 1955, specializes in Genealogical and Historical Research for the Central area of Pennsylvania, but encompasses other areas of the state as well. The Library is privately owned by Barbara A. Hoenstine, M.L.S. and is located in Hollidaysburg, Pa., the county seat of Blair County. This location gives access to many courthouse records and to other counties located in close proximity to Blair. Research is also done at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

Materials in the collection at the Library include: family and county histories, biographies, cemetery and church records, obituaries and death notices and materials about other aspects of Pennsylvania history, many of them rare or out-of-print. Military records, the published Pennsylvania Archives, books about genealogy in general, and an extensive surname file are also among the collection. Most books are available to rent from the Library or in lieu of that, photocopying service is available. A deposit is made when the request is made to rent a book. You can keep the book for 30 days and then receive 75% of your deposit fee back when you return the book. The books are listed in a Guide and two Supplements which have the ordering information as well as a comprehensive index of the thousands of surnames appearing in the books. You can order the Guide and/or the two supplements from:

Hoenstine Rental Library  
414 Montgomery Street    phone: (814)695-0632  
P. O. Box 208  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

The Library is also open for your own research from 9-12 and 1-4 Mondays through Fridays. Up to four researchers at a time are welcome. There is a charge to use the library. They also offer a research service and some books for sale (send SASE for the newest sale list).

For more information, you can write them or see the article in "Heritage Quest" magazine #29, page 48.

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## Field Trip to L.D.S. Family History Library

A daytime trip has been arranged to get an overview of the vast resources at our local Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Family History Library located in Greentree. On Monday, April 22 from 10 AM to Noon we will be introduced to the Mormon sources for genealogy: from books, microfilm and microfiche to computer sources. The library is located at 46 School St., just off the Greentree exit of I-279. Car pooling can be arranged if you let us know if you wish to drive or ride. Since the librarian is coming in on a day they are normally closed, do not expect to stay past the noon time to do research. See the enclosed form or let Lissa Powell (935-6961) know if you can come.

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## Field Trip to Western Reserve Library

An all day field trip to the Western Reserve Historical Society Library in Cleveland, Ohio, is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 1991. A description of the library's holdings is included in this newsletter to let you know the kinds of things that they offer. A sign-up sheet is also included with the newsletter. If you wish to attend, please mail the form to us in care of Northland Library, or give to one of the officers, by Thursday, May 2nd. Please note the library charges \$4 for non-members (\$2 for senior citizens & students) to use the library.

Car pools will leave at 7 AM at an agreed upon location. Riders can therefore share tolls and gas. Car pool(s) can also elect to stop for dinner upon returning from Cleveland. If you need a map of the area within which the library is located, please see Jim Rickey.

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## CAR POOLING POLICY

An attempt will be made to arrange car pools for all field trips. However, such arrangements depend solely on the willingness of members to offer to drive for other members. In lieu of such offers, members may find it necessary to arrange their own transportation to such events. If you have filled out a form requesting that you would like to ride in a car pool, you will be notified within two to three days before the trip if car pooling is or is not available.

## APRIL MEETING

Members Bob Schroeder and Tom Wiley will be our speakers at the April meeting on Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:30 PM. Bob and Tom will discuss how a non-professional can copy old photographs. They will also demonstrate how this is done with several photographs. We will also have some of the periodicals that were donated to us on display for your perusal.

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## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

The Slippery Rock Heritage Association, Inc. is having their fifth Annual Genealogical Workshop on Saturday, April 13, 1991 from 8 AM to 4 PM at the Slippery Rock Township Building, Harmony-Branchton Roads, Slippery Rock, PA. (412) 794-4636. The workshop "Climbing Your Family Tree Can Be Fun" is presented by The Everton Publishers, Inc., publishers of the Genealogical Helper. Lecture topics include:

- o Unusual Record Sources: Uses a variety of little-known or little-used record types to explain the genealogical and biographical data each may contain. An excellent way to look at genealogical research in a new light.
- o Finding Your Female Ancestors: Women ancestors are not as easy to find as men. This talk will provide help in this regard.
- o Immigration, Emigration and Naturalization Sources: Covers help concerning ancestors movements from one place to another.
- o German Research: Helps for ways to cross the Atlantic in your research efforts of your German Ancestors.

Pre-registration (before April 5, 1991): \$25.00  
At the door or postmarked after April 5: \$30.00

Participants will receive:

- o FREE one year subscription to The Genealogical Helper (\$21.00 value). This is the largest genealogical magazine in the world.
- o Automatic membership in Everton's International Genealogical Society.

- o Personal Research in Everton's computerized database on microfiche. These are the Computerized Family file and the Computerized "Roots Cellar" (Approximately 1,000,000 names).
- o Research in any of the books that we have available at the workshop.
- o Participation in a true "hands-on" workshop. We hope that everyone will be able to discover some new information through the lectures, books, or people in attendance.

Schedule is: 8:00 AM - Registration  
Noon - Buffet Lunch  
4:00 PM - End of workshop

Make check payable to :  
Slippery Rock Heritage Association, Inc.  
Genealogy Workshop  
Box 511  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057

Please enclose your name, address, phone, and names you are researching.

**WESTERN PA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY** at the Historical Society, 4338 Bigelow Blvd. (Oakland), Thursday, April 11 at 8 PM. They will have Thomas Diehl, GENCAP (Genealogical Computer Association of Pennsylvania) founder speaking on "Hardware, Software, and Genealogy". All are welcome.

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**WPGS** is also having classes on Saturdays at the Historical Society Bldg. in Oakland, beginning at 10 AM:  
6 April : Audrey Iacone on Library Use and Material  
13 April: Helen Harriss on Wills, Deeds and Courthouse Information  
20 April: Henry Hively on Military and Pension Records: at 11:30 AM:  
Eden Harriss on Archival Preservation  
27 April: Ruth Renton on Census, Church and Cemetery Records  
4 May: Lesle Dunn on Passenger lists, Naturalizations and Vital Records

Each session is \$8.00 or \$35.00 for all including textbook. For more info, call 681-5533.

## ARE YOU A LUKEWARM GENEALOGIST?

(The Family News Network) There is no such thing as a lukewarm genealogist. It's true that a run-of-the-mill family tracer methodically jots down what someone gives or sends them, doesn't get very excited about the mail and can put genealogy aside in favor of going to lunch with a friend.

But a true family tree nut will hide the telephone bill from the spouse, buy stamps by the sheet, not operate well until mail time (or electronic bulletin board echo time), then hate the mail man (or the national genealogical conference on the electronic bulletin board) if nothing genealogical is delivered, beat the typewriter (or computer) until 2 a.m. and get up the next day ready for more.

A real genealogist will plod through cemeteries looking for tombstones in pouring rain and winter's winds with fingers and toes numbing, flout in poison ivy and, after finding that the film was not winding through the camera, as happened to me, travel many miles to the same cemetery under the same conditions.

A genealogy bug collects papers full of possible information until that end of the house where they are stored sags, then hesitantly suggests a room be added, all the while being the steadiest customer of the public library, where he is recognized as the one who resembles a pack horse.

A genealogist dislikes others who want to drone on about their family tree and findings, loves anyone who is researching one of his names, even if it is Smith or Jones, is always going to get things filed tomorrow but never does, thinks his knee-high piling (as opposed to filing) system is justified no matter who has to wade through it or fall over it, like to drone on and on about his family tree and findings, and can't bear to part with even the tiniest scrap of paper. After all, that might contain the missing link.

A genealogist can best be described as a loner, a mediator, a lover of clutter, a collector of dimes (or quarters) for copy machines and a constant student of history, especially migration routes of his forbear. He tolerates non-genealogists and the people who refer to genealogy as a "hobby" - after all he is discovering his personal history and recording it all in one spot. If certain diseases follow him from one generation to the next, he can possibly assist the doctor with a diagnosis. He (or she) abhors those who say they started but found a skeleton in the closet. He knows they never tried, granted,

there may be skeletons, but we can't be responsible for them. He knows, too, that the very person who things genealogy is silly will, some day, eat humble pie and ask, knowing that the answer will be there.

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## Norway Research

The following information is excerpted from an excellent article by Jo Ann Winistorfer in North Dakota REC Magazine.

Norwegian family history tracers have two important root-digging tools that other nationalities don't have: Bygdelags and bygdebokers. A bygdelag or "lag" is an organization of descendants from specific counties ("amts"), regions, or even valleys, in Norway. Both Norwegians and Americans belong. Currently there are 28 lags, affiliated with the National Council of Norwegian-American Bygdelags (for a free list, send an SASE with your request to Genealogy 8, c/o Jo Ann Winistorfer, North Dakota REC Magazine, Box 727, Mandan, ND 58554). Many have newsletters with genealogical information and history. A bygdeboker is a Norwegian area history. Largest such collection, available through inter-library loan, is at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Library in Madison. The Chester Fritz Library at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58201, has a collection of 540 bygdebokers (not available for lending) which are described in a free publication, "A Guide to Genealogical and Family History Sources." Detailed area maps of Norway are available from The Master's Touch, 209 West Water Street, Decorah, IA 52101. Write for a free "index map" to determine which maps you need, then order at \$6 each (medium-long waiting period, as maps are ordered from Norway). Each full-color topographical map covers an area about 10x15 square miles and lists every farm name.

Additional information on Norwegian genealogy: "How to Trace Your Ancestors in Norway," 8-page booklet free from Norwegian Consulate General, 229 Foshay Tower, Minneapolis, MN 55402; "Some Basic Genealogy Information," from Sons of Norway International, 1455 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408; a booklet with information on the Norwegian Emigration Center, available from the Center, Domkirkeplassen 3, 4000 Stavenger, Norway.

# BYLAWS FOR THE NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

**ARTICLE I. NAME:** The name of this Society shall be the North Hills Genealogists.

**ARTICLE II. PURPOSES:**

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 newsletters.
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.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP.**

1. Any interested person may become a member of this Society upon payment of the dues.
2. Dues shall be the amount voted upon by the members in attendance at the Executive Committee meeting before they take effect in September of each year.
3. Membership is from September 1 to August 31 of the following year.
4. Members entering into the Society mid-year shall receive all back issues of the Newsletter to the previous September.
5. Members are entitled to free queries in the Newsletter.

**ARTICLE IV. MEETINGS.**

1. Regular meetings will be held the fourth Tuesday of each month, except December. Meetings will start at 7:00 PM.
2. Meetings are held at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless Township, in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, PA 15237.
3. Meeting schedules may be changed by the Executive Committee with membership notification.
4. A quorum at any meeting of the Society shall consist of one fifth of the membership in good standing. Motions shall be carried by a simple majority vote of those present, except where these Bylaws provide otherwise.
5. All meetings are free and open to the public.
6. The Annual Meeting which will elect the new officers for September will be held in June.

**ARTICLE V. OFFICERS.**

1. The officers of this Society, each of whom shall be a current member of the North Hills Genealogists, shall be as follows: (1) President, (2) Vice-President, (3) Secretary, (4) Treasurer.
2. Term of office for each Society Officer shall be for one year beginning in the September after the election.
3. No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in one position.
4. A vacancy in any elective position shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee until the next annual election.
5. Nominations: At a regular meeting the President shall appoint a nominating committee of three members. It shall be the duty of this committee to prepare a slate of at least one nominee for each Society office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, provided the prior consent of each nominee has been obtained.

**ARTICLE VI. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.**

1. The President shall preside at all business meetings; shall appoint all committees; and perform such duties as may be required to best fulfill the purposes and the activities of the Society.
2. The Vice-President in the absence of the President shall assume and perform the duties of the President. He shall also be Program Chairman and provide an appropriate program at each regular meeting of the Society.
3. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the business meetings and the meetings of the Executive Committee of this Society, and perform other duties as delegated or required to best serve the purposes of this Society.
4. The Treasurer shall receive the dues and other moneys of this Society, pay all bills and disbursements, keep an accurate record of all financial transactions, prepare or cause to be prepared all necessary financial reports and papers and other duties as delegated or required to best serve the purposes of this Society, including a fiscal statement for the annual meeting in June.

**ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

1. In addition to all current elected Society officers, the Executive Committee shall include as members the immediate Past President of this Society and the Chairman of each standing committee.
2. The Executive Committee will meet at the call of the President.
3. The Executive Committee shall make considered decisions, weighing any input from the general membership.
4. All members in good standing are invited to attend Executive Committee meetings.

**ARTICLE VIII. STANDING COMMITTEES.**

1. Membership Committee shall acknowledge new members with a welcoming letter having gotten their name and address from the Treasurer. Any back issues of the Newsletter for the current membership year should also be sent to new members.
2. Special Projects Committee will guide any short term project the Society as a whole wishes to undertake.
3. Newsletter Committee will produce a monthly Newsletter (except December and July) of information to be handed to members at the monthly meetings and mailed to members who are absent.
4. Budget Committee will produce an annual budget for approval by the executive committee.

**ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS.**

This Society's bylaws may be amended at a general business meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular business meeting. Unless otherwise provided, such amendment shall become effective upon adjournment of the meeting at which it is adopted.