



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

PO Box 169 • Wexford, PA 15090 • www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

NHG LOCK-IN AT NORTHLAND

The North Hills Genealogists and Northland Library are collaborating to offer a free event for local genealogists. Back by popular demand is an *After Hours Genealogy Lock-In* on Friday, 7 September 2012 from 6:30–10:00 P.M. at Northland Library. Bring a flash drive to save any information you find or take advantage of the chance to print copies for free.

Registration is required for the event due to limited seating. Please register for this event at the Adult Reference Desk at Northland Library by calling Northland at 412-366-810 or online at <http://northlandlibrary.org>. Find the date on the web page, and register by clicking on the event. There is a limit of thirty people for this event, so please register in advance. If you attended the previous lock-in, please consider letting others sign up for this opportunity. The library will keep a waiting list for this event. When arriving that evening, please use the upper entrance at the library.

The purpose of the Lock-In is to conduct online genealogical research—including using the 1940 census—with volunteers available to assist throughout the evening. Check in will begin at 6:30, followed by an introduction and guidelines for the evening by Amy Steele of Northland. The remainder of the evening will be open research time with the option of guidance from volunteers. Attendees will have access to the library's computer lab and printers as well as print resources. If you have further questions, contact Amy Steele at Northland by calling 412-366-8100.

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE FOR NHG FALL CONFERENCE

The early bird registration deadline is Tuesday, 18 September 2012 for NHG's Fall Conference

Discover Your Roots, Discover Yourself: Bridging the Gap. The conference, featuring D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, will be held Saturday, 20 October. The new location for the conference is the Wildwood Golf Club, 2195 Sample Road, Allison Park, PA 15101. The day begins at 9:00 A.M. with two morning sessions, a hot lunch, two afternoon sessions, and ends at 4:00 P.M.

Taylor is a frequent national speaker. He is the Business Development Manager, North America, for brightsolid Online Publishing. Formerly he was the Director of Education and Programs at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Taylor has spoken at GENTECH, the FGS National Conference, the NGS National Conference, the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, GRIP, and RootsTech. He is the Vice President of Administration for FGS and holds an MLS degree in Archival Management and an MA in History. You might recognize him from the series premiere of NBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?*

Conference brochures are available at meetings and at <http://www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org>. The early bird discount of \$35 for NHG members and \$45 for non-members is due by Tuesday, 18 September 2012. After that date, the fees are \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members. The fee includes a continental breakfast and hot lunch. See you there!

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NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2012–2013

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Vice President:	Shelli Nye
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For more information:	Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org
Newsletter ideas and feedback:	Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

WHO WE ARE—NHG

We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who meet on a regular basis to assist one another in establishing our family histories. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month, except December, at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless Township in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, PA. Tip Time begins at 6:45 P.M., and our general meeting commences at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are free and open to the public.

We publish a newsletter ten times a year for a nominal membership fee of \$15.00 annually. The subscription year runs from August to June, but anyone wishing to join the North Hills Genealogists mid-year will receive back issues of the newsletter for that membership year.

The North Hills Genealogists Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Northland Public Library. The Board meeting is open to all members of the North Hills Genealogists organization.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The new program year for the North Hills Genealogists began August 1 with the newly elected officers assuming their duties. The officers for the 2012–2013 membership year are Shelli Nye as the incoming Vice President, Reed Powell as the returning Treasurer and Webmaster, Claudia Hickly as the incoming Secretary, and myself in my final term as President.

With the two-term limit for executive officers, Rich Hayden has stepped aside as Vice President, but we're so glad he is willing to continue to lead Tip Time, held prior to each monthly program. Kathy White has served as the Secretary for the last three years, but she has many other interests that she'd like to pursue. And the most visible change for this year is that Mary Dzurichko is leaving the role of Program Chair after five years of a lot of hard work to bring respected genealogical speakers to us every month.

Shelli Nye will serve as the new Program Chair, in addition to her vice presidential duties. Shelli brings a lot of genealogical experience to our organization, notably her work at the LDS Cranberry Township Family History Center. Also joining us is Claudia Hickly, who has been an active member of NHG for four years as well as having many years of experience pursuing her own family history. The new board members bring a new perspective and renewed energy to NHG, and we're very happy that they are joining us.

Our redesigned web site (www.NorthHillsGenealogists.com) went live last month, and you've got to see it! We're really pleased with it, and we hope all of you will be too. The web site has more information and is an easier-to-read format. Thanks to Reed Powell for investigating options for the updated site, and more importantly for his time and effort to transfer data from the original site and to create and enhance the new web page with additional information! There is a new "Links" section too, with hyperlinks to genealogical societies, libraries, blogs, and other resources.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER (continued from page 2)

Thanks to Carole Ashbridge for her time and contributions to this section of the web site. The "Coming Soon" link describes new features that will be added to the site over time, including a section to be accessed by "Members Only." If you have any ideas or suggestions, we would appreciate hearing from you by email (Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org) or by talking to any NHG Board member.

NHG's fifth annual conference is fast approaching and features D. Joshua Taylor, a nationally recognized genealogy speaker who has appeared in several episodes of NBC's TV series, *Who Do You Think You Are?* The theme for the all-day conference is *Discover Your Roots, Discover Yourself: Bridging the Gap*. The conference will be held on Saturday, 20 October 2012 at the Wildwood Golf Club in Allison Park. Registration and the scheduled program lecture topics are available on our new and improved website. Please register by 18 September 2012 to receive the early bird discount. As in past years, there will be an extravagant array of desserts shared by our members. Whether it's for the genealogy or desserts, please join us!

~ Krisanne

QUERY

A benefit of membership in NHG is that you may submit research queries that will be printed in an upcoming newsletter; highlight all known facts about the ancestor including name(s), place(s) of residence, and date(s). Refer to the format of this month's query, listed below.

Looking for information about Thomas **LOVE**, ca. 1800 in West Deer Township, Allegheny County, PA, regarding possible siblings and his parents, living near Philadelphia, PA. Also interested in Ernest **KOEBERLEIN**, ca. 1850 from Germany. **Please contact:** Alice Tymas, 4434 Bakerstown-Culmerville Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044-7701 or call her at 724-443-5511.

NHG OFFICERS FOR 2012–2013

Congratulations to our newly elected officers, and thank you for agreeing to serve NHG in these roles!

President – Krisanne Edwards

Vice President – Shelli Nye

Secretary – Claudia Hickly

Treasurer – Reed Powell

THANK YOU FOR NHG SERVICE

Several outstanding NHG members have recently ended their voluntary time of service on the Board. On behalf of the NHG Board and all NHG members, we extend sincere thanks and grateful appreciation to three of our dedicated individuals: Mary Dzurichko, for all of the time and effort to coordinate, plan, and implement years of excellent and varied programs and speakers which have resulted in well-attended meetings and increased membership; to Kathy White, for her steady presence and accurate recording of proposals, business dealings, and activities of the entire NHG organization at all board meetings for several years; and to Rich Hayden for fulfilling the duties in the role for vice president and then taking the extra time to passionately share his knowledge of genealogy, records, and repositories with the entire organization in order to assist and motivate all members to continue to search enthusiastically for their ancestry.

DESSERTS NEEDED FOR 2012 NHG FALL CONFERENCE!

Volunteers are needed to sign up to donate desserts and baked goods for this year's NHG Fall Conference on 20 October 2012. The dessert table at the 2011 Fall Conference was fabulous, and we received numerous compliments. Kathy White will coordinate the donation of desserts and baked goods, and she will be passing around sign-up sheets at the August and September NHG meetings. Desserts and baked goods can be brought to the venue on the day of the conference. Thank you in advance for your help!

NHG FIELD TRIP!

It can sometimes be daunting to research in a new place. The North Hills Genealogists are sponsoring an orientation and research trip to the Heinz History Center on Smallman Street on 24 September 2012 at 10:00 A.M. We will begin with an orientation by Dr. Alexis Macklin, Director of the Library and Archives Center, and then will have guided help in doing research there on their computers or your own laptops.

The Heinz History Center Library and Archives division contains a wealth of materials for Pittsburgh genealogists and researchers. The collection includes: 700,000 photographs, prints, and negatives; 40,000 books, pamphlets, and monographs; 3,500 individual archival collections of families, organizations, businesses, and industries; 600 periodical titles; and 500 maps and atlases.

Our structured time will last until approximately 1:00 P.M. when we will break for lunch. You may then go back to the library, tour the museum, or return home. Participants will not have to pay the usual entrance charge for the museum.

We can accommodate up to fifteen members on this trip. If you would like to sign up for the excursion, please email Carole Ashbridge (caroleashbridge@gmail.com) indicating your interest and whether you want to carpool and how long you will be staying downtown. Final details concerning times of departures from the North Hills and the History Center will be determined once we have a better idea about the participants' interests and schedules. The trip is on a first response, first included basis.

PITTSBURGH FIELD TRIP REFLECTIONS

Several members who went on our field trips to the Allegheny County Department of Real Estate and Department of Court Records, Wills/Orphans' Division wrote about their experience for the newsletter.

Shelli Nye

I loved going on the field trip and found two things about some extended cousins. I have been looking for the death and burial info on a man of whom I lost track after the 1910 census where I found him living with his nine year old daughter after the death of his wife in 1906. Not finding his will in Pittsburgh made me think of other places and sources. The other find was the marriage record for his daughter. Her married name allowed me to locate her in the 1930 census with her husband and two sons in Cleveland. Her uncle's wife was from Cleveland. Her uncle and family were living just a few houses away and both men were working in the steel factory. Her son was born in 1920 which could account for them missing in the 1920 census. Waiting for more info from the 1940 census!

Betty Kania

The field trip to the City-County Building was very informative and enjoyable. I located my grandparent's marriage record from 1913. As they were both minors at the time, their parents had to approve and sign the license application. Hence, I now have samples of my great-grandfather and great-grandmother's signatures. This was a great find for me.

Sue Stevens

I was one of the lucky members to take the field trip to the City-County Building and County Office Building with Amy Arner and Elissa Powell in May. What a wonderful day!

I usually have a difficult time finding information on my family. I had high hopes that with help from Amy and Elissa, I would have better luck. And did I ever! I found the deeds for: my great-grandfather's house; my grandfather's home; my husband's family house; and my family home. In the Department of Court Records, I found my grandmother and grandfather's marriage application from 1912 as well as my own mother and father's marriage application from 1952.

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FIELD TRIP REFLECTIONS (continued from page 4)

I was thrilled to find all these missing pieces. Now let's go to Westmoreland County so that I can find more distant ancestors' records!

Colleen Rumble

My family was not one to compulsively keep track of family records. You know those families, the ones who neatly recorded every birth date, and kept all those important papers (baptismal, marriage, and death certificates) folded between the pages of the family Bible. So, when I embarked upon my genealogy research, I had to rely heavily on the Internet and the U.S. census.

Having gone to many of our meetings and conferences, I know that for good genealogical research, one MUST get to the original source. But for me, the original source didn't exist tangibly. So, I scoured the Internet for other sources in hopes that somewhere out there was another site that would give me reliable information. Alas, my efforts were futile, and I knew with a heavy heart, my only option was to go downtown to the court house.

Why do I say with a heavy heart? Because, I was baffled from not knowing which building to go to, what room had the records I needed, and once in the correct room, where to begin. Oh, and that list of do's and don'ts, with the stern warning of "Don't tell them you are doing genealogical research," was very intimidating. How was I to ask for assistance? Fortunately, Amy announced an NHG field trip to the City-County Building, so I made sure I got my name on that list.

The field trip, conducted by Amy and Elissa, was a great experience. We started out in the City-County Building in the Department of Court Records, Wills/Orphans' Division. Here we learned how to search for the wills of our ancestors and have them retrieved from the storage to examine. Then we moved onto the Marriage Office to look up the license applications and marriage returns. With our mission completed there, we moved across the street to the Department of Real Estate in the

County Office Building to look for deeds. As we worked our way through the maze of departments, I was grateful for the personal expertise giving me step by step instructions, and the opportunity for hands on experience. In each department, we had to learn first in which volume to look for our ancestor, then how to follow the index codes which would lead us to the page where the ancestor could be found.

I enjoyed success in finding my ancestors' records in each department we visited. In the Department of Court Records I found a will of a great uncle that gave his date of death and mentioned a sister of his I never knew existed. Upon finding the marriage license application of my great-grandparents, I also found some elusive pieces of information: not only my great-grandparent's marriage date, the church in which they were married, but their birth dates as well. When we reached the Department of Real Estate, I was interested in confirming the myth that my great-grandfather owned an Irish pub just before the Depression. To my surprise, I found my grandfather owned two pieces of property. Maybe one of them was the Irish pub? I'll have to go back to the Plat Room to locate these properties on the map.

Since we only had a few hours, I was not able to find all of the documents I needed. But a few weeks later, I had the confidence to make a solo trip. Armed with my detailed instructions, I was able to retrace those steps Amy and Elissa took us through and found the documents of other ancestors. It was exciting to have in front of me the original documents with correct dates as well as other leads. I will have to make another trip because there is more to find.

If Amy and Elissa conduct another field trip make sure you get on board. They are excellent teachers, and getting to that original source is like finding a pot of gold.

Ken Berner

After a successful field trip to the Allegheny County Court House in May, I recorded my observations to perhaps assist you in your own research. To start, remember:

- If you're looking for lost relatives, or

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FIELD TRIP REFLECTIONS (continued from page 5)

relatives you never knew you had, check out the Real Estate Deed books at the local courthouse where your family lived.

- If you're looking for the marital status or death dates of relatives, extended family, or other important people in the lives of your family members, check out the Real Estate Deed books at the local courthouse where your family lived.

Checking the purchase or sale of properties by your ancestors can yield much more information than the simple boundaries of the properties involved. Once you drill into your head that in "deed-speak", the grantor is the seller of a property, and the grantee is the purchaser of property, you soon realize that you can trace your ancestors' transactions both as sellers and purchasers of properties. There are indexes to help you find their names on both sides of those transactions.

I was surprised to find that in the indexes, a "page number" can actually consist of any number of *sheets*, all of which use the same page number. Those sheets are organized, not alphabetized, according to the first initial of the surname you want to find, then by the first initial of the given name. So, everyone with a given name beginning with "A" will be listed on a particular "page number", with "B" on a different "page number". Those indexes will direct you to deed books by volume number, and to a page number within that volume, containing the transcribed details.

I made a list of all my Berner family with a given name starting with "A", for example, and noted from what index book I copied the information, as well as the book to which the index directed me. It wasn't long before I discovered that these transactions frequently identify the participants by full name, with middle initials and marital status, and include the death dates of the deceased in the case of estate settlements. Frequently, you can identify the relationships of participants. If a participant is widowed, that is typically identified. Other participants may be identified as children of the

seller or purchaser, or spouses of other participants.

This type of information helped me fill in previously unknown death dates, middle initials, residential or business addresses tied to a specific date, and also revealed other names of apparent non-family members who may have had a relationship with my family members. This was a great source of information for future research.

In one particularly large transaction, there was a long list of names on the seller's side, some of which seemed familiar. Going home with that list, I discovered some of the surnames (not the specific individuals) appearing on gravestones in the background of pictures I had taken in our family cemetery some time ago. Residential and cemetery neighborhoods can be very similar.

But I also found that one of the specific individuals in this transaction did appear, three years earlier, on the same page of a ship passenger list with my relative, who was on a buying trip to Europe to stock his furniture store. So, was that person involved in some way with my ancestor's business, as well as this real estate deal? This provided more food for thought and research.

Within the description of the property being bought or sold, I've also found the names of other individuals (i.e. "...continuing to the Jones property...") who may or may not be related to my family member, but may be worth further research to flesh out the event. It's interesting, too, if one of those names is familiar because it's associated with the name of what is now a local landmark. Further, I have made note that somewhere within this record is usually a reference about when this property previously traded hands, and the volume and page on which you can find that information. So many pages, so little time.

Editors' Note: Thanks to Shelli, Betty, Sue, Colleen, and Ken for sharing their field trip experiences.

Don't forget to like NHG on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!

NHG 1790 PROJECT

By Rich Hayden, NHG Member

The “1790 Project” began as an effort by genealogical groups in New England to document heads of households appearing in the first census of the United States. For specific details about the 1790 Project, please refer to <http://www.americanancestors.org/western-ma-1790s-project/>.

The time after the Revolutionary War were years of much family migration, especially in New England, producing many of those problem ancestors who seem to appear suddenly from nowhere and then disappear just as quickly to somewhere else. If brief biographies could be assembled for each of these individuals and their immediate families, the origins of these problem ancestors might be more easily identified.

In 1790, Allegheny County included territory from its current southern boundary north to Lake Erie. The NHG project will focus on the territory north of the Allegheny River. Only thirty-seven heads of household were enumerated in this vast expanse on the 1790 census! Much of this land included the “Depreciation Tract” set aside for Revolutionary War veterans.

NHG is undertaking the task of further identifying these families as its contribution to the ambitious and worthwhile 1790 Project. We invite our members and friends to inform us of any information that may be useful in further identifying these individuals and their families.

Some—such as James Robinson, Charles Palmer, Jacob Dixon (Dickson), James Sample (Semple), James McClelland, George Brickell, Benjamin Poor (Power), Esly Poor (Power), and Benjamin Coe—remained in the area and are fairly well known. Others—such as Peter Cutwright (Cartwright, Cortright, etc.) and Abraham Russ—were murdered by Indians only a year after the census. The remainder, however, left few footprints in Allegheny County. For these individuals your assistance is especially welcome.

The thirty-seven heads-of-household are listed

here in order of their appearance in the 1790 census; alternate spellings are given where known. WM stands for white male and WF stands for white female. The >16 and <16 refer to men younger than and older than age 16.

- 1) Charles Conrad, 1 WM>16, 4 WF
- 2) Philip Bradley, 1 WM>16
- 3) Martin Keller, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 5 WF
- 4) John Brown, 1 WM>16, 4 WF
- 5) James Robinson, 1 WM>16, 3 WM<16, 3 WF
- 6) Charles Palmer, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 2 WF
- 7) Jacob Dixon (Dickson), 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 3 WF
- 8) Marcus Hulings, 1 WM>16, 6 WM<16, 3 WF
- 9) John Clevedence, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 3 WF
- 10) Charles Hammel, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 2 WF
- 11) James Sample (Semple), 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 3 WF
- 12) James McClelland, 2 WM>16, 2 WF
- 13) George Brickell, 2 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 2 WF
- 14) Edward Strutt, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 2 WF
- 15) Hugh McElwain, 1 WM>16, 4 WM<16, 1 WF
- 16) Charles Rector, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 3 WF
- 17) Samuel Murphey, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 1 WF
- 18) Joshua Clark, 1 WM>16, 3 WF
- 19) Luke Chapman, 2 WM>16, 2 WF
- 20) Benjamin Poor (Power), 2 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 4 WF
- 21) John Carmichael, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 2 WF
- 22) James Phillips, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 2 WF
- 23) James Poor (Power), 1 WM>16, 2 WF
- 24) Esly Poor (Power), 2 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 1 WF
- 25) Alexander Logan, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 2 WF
- 26) Benjamin Coe, 5 WM>16, 4 WM<16, 4 WF
- 27) Ezekiel Day, 1 WM>16, 4 WM<16, 2 WF
- 28) Daniel Howe, 1 WM>16, 4 WM<16, 2 WF
- 29) James Thornhill, 2 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 5 WF
- 30) Angus Wilkison, 1 WM>16, 3 WM<16, 1 WF
- 31) Samuel Hulings, 2 WM>16, 3 WF
- 32) Daniel Swainey (Sweeney), 1 WM>16, 5 WM<16, 4 WF
- 33) Elias Thomas, 1 WM>16, 1 WM<16, 6 WF
- 34) Peter Cutwright (Cartwright/ Cortright), 2 WM>16, 1 WF
- 35) Abraham Russ, 2 WM>16, 4 WF
- 36) John Leonard, 1 WM>16, 3 WM<16, 2 WF
- 37) Jacob Derry, 1 WM>16, 2 WM<16, 3 WF

If you can contribute any information about these heads of households for submission to the 1790 Project, please contact Rich Hayden at rahayden@verizon.net. Full names of spouses and children, dates of events, and prior and later residences would be especially helpful.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Wednesday, 22 August 2012, 6:30 P.M. CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB

The next Cranberry Genealogy Club meeting will be August 22nd. Elissa Powell, CG, CGL, will present "Thinking Outside the Index: Internet Search Techniques." The meeting will be held in the Library Conference Room at the Cranberry Township Municipal Building, 2525 Rochester Road. Meetings are free and open to the public. For more information, please visit <http://www.cranberrygenealogy.org>.

Saturday, 8 September 2012, 10:00 A.M. WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The next WPGS meeting will be held on September 8th. Dr. Miles Richards will discuss George Washington's visits to Western Pennsylvania in 1770 and 1784. It will be held in the Carnegie Library Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh. Meetings are free and open to the public. Parking in the Carnegie Library and Museum Garage is \$5.00. Go to <http://www.wpgs.org> for more details.

Saturday, 8 September 2012, 2:00 P.M. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The Genealogical Society of Southwestern Pennsylvania's next meeting will be held September 8th. Joshua J. Scully will present "From Quebec City to Port-au-Prince: The Ambitious Rise and Fall of France's North American Empire." The meeting will be held at Citizens Library, 55 South College Street, Washington, PA. More information is available at <http://www.genealogicalsocietyswpa.com>.

Friday–Sunday, 14–16 September 2012 FAMILY TREE UNIVERSITY VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Registration is open for Family Tree University's Virtual Genealogy Conference. It will have three tracks: genealogy technology,

research strategies, and ethnic research. The presenters will include Diana Crisman Smith, Lisa Alzo, Thomas MacEntee, Lisa Louise Cook, and more. In addition to fifteen lectures, the conference will feature text-based chat sessions. More information is available at <http://www.familytreeuniversity.com>.

Saturday, 6 October 2012, 9:00 A.M. OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Ohio Genealogical Society's (OGS) Fall Seminar will feature Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA. It will be held October 6th at the OGS Library in Bellville, Ohio. Lowe's lectures will include "My Ancestor the Farmer," "Finding Black Roots in a White World," "Out on a Limb, Trapped by Bad Research," and "Learn When to Keep Your Mouth Shut!" More information is available at <http://www.ogs.org/fallseminar2012.php>.

Saturday, 6 October 2012, 8:30 A.M. TARENTUM GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Tarentum Genealogical Society (TGS) and the Armstrong County Museum and Genealogical Society (ACGS) are sponsoring an all-day conference on October 6th. Paul Milner will be the featured speaker. He will present four lectures "Irish Immigrants to North America: Before, During, and After the Famine," "Irish Maps and Tools for Finding the Right Place," "Finding Your English Ancestors: The Big Four," and "Finding Your Scottish Ancestors: The Big Five." The cost is \$20 for TGS and ACGS members and \$25 for non-members. For more information and a registration form, please visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~patgs>.

Saturday, 13 October 2012, 8:30 A.M. MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society will hold an all-day program on October 13th. The theme is *Solving Research Problems with an Interesting Twist*. The event will be held at the Best Western Hotel in Westminster, Maryland. The

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lectures will include “Our Ancestors are Hiding on the World Wide Web,” “It’s Never Too Late,” and “Unscrambling Genealogical Puzzles.” The early bird registration deadline is October 1st. For more information, please visit <http://magsgen.com>.

Friday, 19 October 2012, 7:00 P.M. **KUSHKUSHKEE TRAIL CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

The Kushkushkee Trail Chapter is sponsoring a special evening event on October 19th. D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, will present “It’s a Revolutionary Idea: Tracing Your Patriot Ancestor.” The event will be held at the Ross Community Center, 1000 Ross Municipal Drive, Pittsburgh. The cost is \$20 and pre-registration is required. The chapter’s web site is <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~paktcdar/Kushkushkee.htm>.

Saturday, 20 October 2012, 8:00 A.M. **NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS FALL CONFERENCE**

NHG will hold our fifth annual conference on Saturday, 20 October 2012. We will be using a new venue, the Wildwood Golf Club, 2195 Sample Road, Allison Park. D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, will be our speaker. He will present four lectures: “Discovering USGenWeb,” “Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the U.S. between 1780 and 1830,” “Mapping Your Success: Employing Maps for Genealogical Research,” and “Putting It Together: A Case Study.”

The registration fee includes a continental breakfast and buffet lunch. We will have door prizes, including a combination printer/fax/scanner, genealogical software, a discount certificate from Heritage Books, and more. The registration brochure is available at meetings and on our web site, <http://www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org>. The Econo-Lodge in Wexford (724-935-1000) is

holding a room block in the name of the North Hills Genealogists at a discounted rate.

PA PROBATE RECORDS ON FAMILY SEARCH

FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org>) has expanded its digital offerings to include Pennsylvania probate records. The collection is called Pennsylvania Probate Records 1683–1994. Records for Centre, Lycoming, Monroe, Philadelphia, Pike, Union, and Wyoming counties are not included in the collection. The collection covers the years 1683–1994, however the record span for each county may be different than the database title.

FamilySearch digitized the Family History Library’s microfilm collection of Pennsylvania probate records, including the index volumes. The collection is not searchable, but you can browse the images by county. When you click on the name of a county, a list of the types of records will be displayed. Some possible record types include estate indexes, Orphans’ Court dockets, proceedings indexes, probate files, will books, and more. Not all counties used all of these record types. You can use the index volumes to locate records for individuals within a county.

1940 CENSUS INDEX COMPLETE

The index for the 1940 U.S. census was completed in just 124 days! This massive volunteer effort was coordinated by FamilySearch. Each census page was indexed by two different people, and the results were compared. Any discrepancies between the transcriptions were checked by a third person, resulting in a fairly reliable index.

The records for most states are searchable now; the exceptions are Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, South Carolina, and Tennessee. These last few states will have searchable records in the next few weeks. The index is available for free at FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org>).

Many thanks to all of our members who helped with the indexing!



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, 18 September 2012 **MANUSCRIPTS AND MYSTERIES**

Michael Dabrishus

This evening focuses on preserving original letters, scrapbooks, and other materials found in manuscript collections at the University of Pittsburgh archives. An exercise uses a special letter concerning someone whose name everyone knows, a tragedy known worldwide, and an event visited by hundreds of thousands of people. Join in the detective work to unravel this mystery!

Tuesday, 16 October 2012 **WIKIS, BLOGS, TWITTER, FACEBOOK,** **DROPBOX, RSS FEEDS, THE CLOUD:** **WHAT DOES ALL THIS JARGON MEAN?**

Carole Ashbridge, MLS, NHG Social Media Chair

Ashbridge, who is always looking for an easier way, will discuss applications that can help you keep up with trends in genealogy, research your family, and organize all that paper. The best part—most are FREE!

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – Tuesday, 21 August 2012 **BEGINNING YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH JEWISHGEN.ORG**

Debbie Kapp, NHG Member

JewishGen is the go-to website for starting your Jewish and Eastern European family history research. We'll review navigation and search techniques, explore some of the research helps, and look at the content of databases.