



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



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

Volume 5 Number 2 - September 1994

President: Virginia Skander
Vice President: Mildred Hilechko
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10 Issues from August to June

Publicity: Gwen Glasbergen
Connie Foley
Editor: Marcia Coleman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone, and a special greeting to our new members. I hope everyone enjoyed Bill May as much as I did at our August meeting. Sure did a believable job.

Hope everyone who's interested was able to sign up for the field trip to the City/County Building and the County Office Building in Pittsburgh on Thursday, September 22. You can still attend. We're meeting at the City/County Building at 10:00 a.m. and will be visiting the Register of Deeds first at 10:30 a.m.

The Social get together for December will be at Old Economy on Saturday, December 3 with lunch at a local restaurant. Look for details in a later newsletter. Thanks to our Field Trip Chair, Rosemary Miller, for her excellent work in arranging this get together and the September field trip.

We're sorry to announce the death of Elissa Powell's mother the end of August. A book will be donated to the Library in her mother's name as a gift from NHG, as is our standard practice. For those new members who are unaware of our book donation program, if a member of your immediate family (Mother, Father, Brother, Sister) die, a book will be donated in their name to the Northland Library. Please notify one of the officers if you would like a book donated. This program does not include anyone other than the immediate family members (no Aunts, Uncles, In-Laws, etc.).

Our next Board meeting will be Wednesday,

October 5, at 7:30 p.m. in room #2 at the Northland Library. Everyone is welcome to attend. This is where decisions affecting the Club are made. If you would like to participate in this process, please come to the meetings. ALL members are welcome.

Now that summer is coming to an end, research will probably pick up since vacations are mostly behind us. Good luck to everyone in their endeavors. I know we all could use a little luck at some place and at some time in our research. I know I for one need a lot of it.

We will be meeting at 10:00 am on October 22, rain date October 29, to read the Hampton Cemetery on Pioneer Road in Allison Park. The cemetery is next to the Depreciation Lands Museum. Please join us, we need your help with this project. Hope all of you can make it to the September meeting. It's going to be a great one, beneficial to all, and provide you with new avenues of research if you haven't yet used the LDS Family Search programs. Hope to see you there. Ginny

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP	
Where:	City/County Building and County Office Building, in Pittsburgh. Meet in hall at County Office Building.
What:	Visit and tour - Recorder of Deeds, Register of Wills, Office of Prothonotary.
When:	Thur., Sept. 22 at 10:00 am (tour 1 0:30am)
Lunch:	Bring your own or eat in a restaurant.
Transportation:	Arrange your own carpools.
Reservations:	Call RoseMary Miller, 364-6686.

WHERE GENEALOGIST MEET

Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 7:30 pm - **NHG Board** meeting in meeting room #2 at Northland Library. All NHG members are always welcome at all Board meetings.

October 12-15 in Richmond, VA - **Three Day Conference** hosted by the Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

Thursday, Oct. 13 at 8:00 pm - **W.P.G.S.** meeting at the Historical Society Bldg., 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Oakland. Program: Call for program information.

Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 7:00 pm - **NHG Regular Meeting** at the Northland Library. Program: Reed Powell on "Computers and Software for Genealogy."

Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 7:00 pm - **NHG Regular Meeting** at the Northland Library. Program: Round Table Discussion.

GENEALOGY CLASSES SET

Community College of Allegheny County will offer two classes in genealogy this fall. Both teachers are members of both the North Hills Genealogists and Western PA Genealogical Society. Elissa Powell will teach on Sunday afternoons, starting **September 18**, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm at the CCAC North Campus on Perry Highway (Route 19). Nancy Singleton will be at Sewickley Academy on Tuesday evenings beginning, **September 20**, from 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Both courses are four weeks long. For more information please call CCAC at 369-3696.

DECEMBER SOCIAL

When: December 3, 1994

What: Tour of Old Economy

Time: Morning, lunch, following tour.

Price: To be announced.

Transportation: To be arranged.

**SAVE THE DATE AND WATCH FOR FURTHER
DETAILS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.**

QUERIES

Need information on Catherine **SCHMIDT**, daughter of Anna Marie Barbara Keil; Schmidt **HEIST**, born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, married Joseph **HUFNAGLE** after 1860. They lived in Mc Kees Rocks, Allegheny County. Also any information about families that came from Hesse Darmstadt area. Contact LeAnne Heist, 179 Love Road, Chicora, PA 16025.

Researching **WASSON** from Ireland, and then Clearfield/Huntington County, PA and **GREENE, WILSON, TAYLOR** from Clearfield/Huntingdon Co. PA and England. Send information to Ms. Francis K. Wasson, 829 Treat Blvd., Talldodge, OH 44278-2635.

Researching the surname **WEYMOUTH**. Send information to Marcia Coleman, 1950 Lammerton Drive, Allison Park PA 15101.

BEGINNERS CORNER

Question: Are there any books or sources where information can be found regarding Cornish immigration across Pennsylvania from 1820-1850?

Answer: There is a project that is trying to establish a biographical data bank about Cornish people who have emigrated to America during the 19th and early 20th centuries. They are seeking information about such emigrants, but may also be able to help with enquires. Please remember to enclose International Reply Coupons if you write to them from outside the UK, or a stamped SASE from within UK.

The address is as follows:

Moira Tangye
The Cornish-American Connection
Murdoch House Adult Education Centre
Cross Street
Redrugh
Cornwall TR15 @Bu
Uk

This information is from Philip Lloyd, Internet, June 15, 1993

BOOK REVIEW

ANCESTOR SHIPS

by Jack Sanders on Internet

An unusual book that may be of interest to genealogists who know when and how their ancestors reached our shores has just been republished. "Ships of Our Ancestors" is a photo album of nearly 900 ships that were used to transport newcomers to our shores — East and West Coasts — from the 1840's to modern times.

This book is not going to help you much with finding your family history. But if you love ships and the sea, and especially if you know what vessels your ancestors arrived on, this book can be fun. The ships themselves are fascinating to look at, ranging from majestic, stately and beautiful passenger liners to some downright ugly scows. In each case you'd pity anyone, crew included, who has had to step aboard. In others, you wish you could step back in time to take a trip.

Most of the pictures are good; some, however, suffer in quality from having been reproduced from mediocre reproductions in other books. Older ships (pre-1870) are generally depicted from paintings and drawings while others are from photographs.

What annoys me about the book is that it tells so little about the ships themselves. Each is identified by name, date of launch, and owner (such as Cunard), and who has the original of the picture used. But that's it. No information on how long it sailed, how many voyagers it made, how big it was, how many people it held, and — often most interesting of all — how it met its end. In fact, the book does not even tell the type of vessel; some seem to be freighters, some perhaps tankers or coal carriers. To see these ships of all sizes and shapes is to wonder about them, yet author Michael J. Anuta has provided only pictures and the barest minimum of information.

However, if you are putting together a family history and know how your family got here, this book could be a great source of some interesting illustrations. And because Mr. Anuta cites where the pictures came from — mostly the Peabody Museum in Salem, Mass. or the Mystic Seaport Museum in Conn. — you can always turn to these libraries for more information. The book includes a full bibliography, as well as an index (although the photos are in all alphabetical order anyway).

"Ships of Our Ancestors," a 380 page paperback reprint of a 1983 book, should be available in book stores

(especially those specializing in nautical books), better genealogical book sources and libraries, or directly from Genealogical Publishing Company, Dept. SM, 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md., 21202-3897 (1-800-296-6687). Price is \$34.95 (plus \$3.00 p&h from GPC).

BOOKS FOR SALE

"My Neighborhood, Cranberry Township"

by Helen DeWald

Helen DeWald lives on the last three acres of the 180-acre farm her family owned on Franklin Road in Cranberry Township. Born and raised in Cranberry, DeWald's story reflects how the township has grown. For the past eight years she has been researching the history of Cranberry and the first families to claim land in the area.

DeWald found descendents of many of the first families in the township and was surprised to learn that most of them have remained in Cranberry, a town named after a cranberry bog in the southern part of the township. The bog flourished then because most of the area in the township was farm land.

DeWald spent years working on her parent's farm, which was first claimed in 1796 by Sam DUNCAN. Her parents, Gilmer and Alice GOEHRING, rented the land from the Duncan family in 1923 until they were able to buy it 20 years later.

In 1925 there were 125 farmers in Cranberry Township, today there are only four families that make their living solely from dairy, cattle or chicken farming.

As a child, DeWald attended Sample School, a one-room school house on Rowan Road. DeWald believes she is one of the only two people who went the whole way through the grades in the one-room school. The school is currently being used as a storage building for the township.

In 1911 the Thorn Hill Home for boys was established, it is now the 1,500 acre Thorn Hill Industrial Park

The book is available by contracting Helen DeWald at 776-1796. Copies are \$12.00 each.

-Continued on next page-

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**“Beyond the Alleghenies”
by Betty Koch**

Betty Koch, president of the Bethel Park Historical Society (LHRS member), has written a children's historical novel which revolves around the Whiskey Rebellion. For information or orders, Call (412) 835-3327.

**FIRST CATHOLIC SLOVAK
UNION/JEDNOTA**

Mahoning Meanderings, Mar - 1994, Vol. 18

The inactive application-membership insurance files of the JEDNOTA are among the best records of immigrant family life in America. They present accurate information concerning 40,000 Slovaks who joined between 1890 and 1913. A change in form of their insurance policies led the officers of the Union to abandon these files and through the foresight of successive officers they were preserved and eventually donated to the Immigrant Archives of the University of Minnesota. These records include the immigrant's name, address, local lodge and parish. Also, birth date, village and county of origin, parents address if alive at time, number of children, sisters and brothers, medical history, height, weight, etc.

There is a \$10.00 an hour fee for research, plus cost of photocopies. Not all applications are complete with all the information, but what you do get is worth the money. Send as much information in with your request, as you can, to cut down on research time. Important information to send includes : name, address, wife's name and Parish name.

THE NATIONAL SLOVAK SOCIETY

Kruh Mladeze - Young Folks Circle of the National
Slovak Society - Vol. 1, No. 23.
Spring and Summer 1994

It was on February 16, 1890, when the Slovak immigrants were still comparatively few and sparsely settled in America, the land of their adoption, that a handful of far-sighted Slovak humanitarians gathered at

a table in Walther Hill, in Old Allegheny, now Pittsburgh's Northside and planted a seed that was destined to grow into America's first fraternal benefit society for Slovaks.

These founder's all embracing love of God, of country, of mankind, their pride in their ancestry, their indomitable spirit, their driving courage lives on in the members and officers of the Society today.

Attending the first convention of The National Slovak Society were: John **RYBAR**, Rev. Ludvik **NOVOMESKY**, Peter V. **ROVNIANEK**, Anton S. **AMBROSE**, Stephen **ORAVEC** and John **MILLER**.

Through all these 104 years the National Slovak Society, true to its fundamentals of human brotherhood, has protected its widowed, its orphaned, its sick and needy and its aged; has preached and practiced the gospel of fraternalism. It has taught the American public who the Slovaks are, whence they came and has kept alive its love of its Slovak ancestry.

PROTECTING YOUR RECORDS

Recent devastating natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, earthquakes and fires have brought into focus the essential need for each of us to find ways to protect our records.

Provide copies of your ancestor charts and other materials to: your local genealogical society, your local library, your state genealogical society and the genealogical society or historical society in the county where your ancestor/s resided.

If you use a computer to manage your database and documentation, you should consider the following measures. Give a copy of your back-up disks to a friend or relative, in another location, for safe-keeping. Convert your data to GEDCOM and give a copy to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Send a disk containing your family history to your local library.

The above information was printed in the Mahoning Meanderings, Mar-1994, Vol. 18. They adapted it from articles that appeared in *Speaking Relatively*, East Cuyahoga Chapter, OGS Newsletter, Vol. 19, #1, Jan/Feb/Mar 1994 and from the Northwestern, Oh. Gen. Soc. in Toledo, Vol. 12, #3, Mar 1994.

THE SURNAMES OF PITTSBURGH OLIVER AVENUE OLIVER AND HENRY W. OLIVER

by Hax McCullough

from The Quarterly Newsletter of the Historical Society
of Western Pennsylvania - Spring 1994 - Vol. 5 No. 1

Henry W. **OLIVER** (1840-1094) known to most as Harry, was a self-reliant, self-made man in the best tradition of 19th century America. The Oliver family, of Scotch-Irish ancestry, emigrated from Dungannon, County Tyrone, Ireland, to Pittsburgh in 1842. Oliver rose to direct many companies, led an extremely busy, productive life, and died a multimillionaire.

He was described as "an ideal citizen; a great man of uncommonly fine judgment." His fairness, integrity, and kindness were admired by all who knew him. Tall and distinguished, he had charm, humor, and many friends. He was optimist and a born salesman, always planning for the future, searching out new ways to do things or new things to do.

Oliver's business career, which was fulfilled in steel, railroads, and mining, began as a messenger boy. In 1863, he founded a small business that manufactured nuts and bolts which grew into the giant Oliver Iron and Steel Company. He was one of the founders of the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad, where he introduced many improvements, including steel cars. He was one of the pioneers of the Mesabi ore district in Minnesota which he developed through the Oliver Iron and Mining company. In his later years, Oliver invested widely in property and erected handsome business structures.

The Oliver residence in Pittsburgh was at 845 Ridge Avenue. After Henry Oliver's death, the city of Pittsburgh renamed Virgin Alley, between Fifth and Sixth avenues downtown, calling it Oliver Avenue. The name also lives on in the Oliver Building, Mt. Oliver, One Oliver Plaza and Oliver Realty.

*You know you're an **ADDICTED GENEALOGIST** if you can pinpoint Harrisham, Hawkhurst and, Kent on a map of England but can't locate Topeka, Kansas.*

A HISTORY OF GRAVESTONES/CEMETERIES

The Family Tree - June/July 1994

Very early, the practice of putting a stone on a grave arouse not from piety but from fear; it's origin was not respect for the dead, but the motive of self-protection.

Even after all precautions had been taken, the living were still afraid that the dead person might return and act against his former community. To make absolutely sure he stayed in his tomb, they weighted the soil down with a stone.

At first, people were buried anywhere, generally near where they had died or had been killed. Thus graves could be found in the most unexpected places.

Primitive society looked upon a dead person as something impure. To touch the body or even pass over its burial place was considered an act of dishonor. Thus, they marked the graves with stones. These stones were meant to be warnings to passers-by to keep well away from the graves. At times, to make the stones stand out clearly, they were coated with lime.

This identification and consideration led to the origin of the cemetery. Special fields, removed from close human habitation, were set apart to isolate the dead in order to protect the living from contamination.

A later development was the worship of graves. The tombstone was looked on as a home for the spirit. Later on, people were no longer worried about getting defiled, but became concerned that the grave may be desecrated. They placed stones on the grave to present animals from digging up the body.

CEMETERY READING PROJECT

We will be reading Hampton Cemetery this fall. The reading is scheduled for October 22 at 10:00 am, the rain date will be the following Saturday, October 29. The cemetery is located on Pioneer Road, off Route 8 Allison Park. It is next to the Depreciation Lands Museum. We hope that you can join us.

FIRST FAMILY DESCENDENTS SOUGHT

The descendants of the settlement of the First Colony 1714-1994 for the 280th anniversary are sought.

Looking for descendants of Melchior **BRUMBACK**, Joseph **COONS/KOONTZ**, Peter **HITT**, Rev. Henry **HAGER**, Herman and John **FISHBACK**, Jacob **HOLTZCLAW**, John **KEMPER** John Henry **HOFFMAN/HUFFMAN**, John Joseph **MARTIN**, Jacob **RECTOR**, John **SPILMAN**, Harman **UTTERBACK**, Tillman **WEAVER**.

Please send information regarding any descendants to the German Foundation, PO Box 693, Culpeper, VA 22701.

REVOLUTIONARY/DAR SOLDIERS

Internet - Sandy Clunies July 6, 1993

The DAR Patriot Index is a collection of 3 published volumes up to 1982 (available many places,) plus paper updates to 1992 at the DAR Library in Washington, DC. A new set of 3 published volumes, incorporating the updates to 1992 will be published soon.

These contain listings of those Rev. War Soldiers and patriots under whose ancestry some woman has joined the DAR. It is **NOT** a complete collection of everyone who served in the Rev. War cause. Just those (usually) men whose descendants have submitted lineage applications to the DAR.

The index contains the name of the soldier/patriot, rank and state of service, known birth/death dates, name of spouse, know marriage date. With this information, one can request, for \$4.00 each, the photocopy of the actual DAR application papers for one (or more) of the descendants. This will list **JUST** the direct line of that person, and will not include the siblings and sibling spouses along the line.

Applications submitted prior to the 1950's were not subjected to the same rigorous standards as today, so some of them have been declared of questionable value. The applicant was supposed to list references, but in many cases, these are skimpy. Later applications are of better quality.

So, if you believe a certain ancestor served in the

Revolution (1775-1783), you need to know name/dates/state/spouse in order to verify that the DAR Patriot Index contains a listing. This will mean that some woman applied under that person's name. If the name is not there, it does not mean that ancestor did not serve - it only means that no one has applied to DAR under that name. New names are added every year.

The address for copies of applications: NSDAR, 1776 D. St., NW, Washington DC 10006 (202) 628-1776.

HISTORY OF THE ALLISON PARK POST OFFICE

US Postal Publication- Allison Park - 1994

In 1888, Matilda Allison sold 76 acres of land to developers, and the village of Allison Park was laid out. The Town received its name from the ALLISON family who resided here and a popular local minister named PARK, thus the name Allison Park.

The Allison Park Post Office has had numerous locations, the first being at Naylor's store near the intersection of Naylor Avenue and Butler Plank Road. During this time, the oil and gas boom helped the area to prosper and flourish by bringing many jobs to the area residents. The Post Office relocated to the IOOF Hall; it remained there until 1939 when it moved to the Bryne Hotel (also known as the Hohmann's on the east side of Route 8).

During April of 1949, the Post Office was moved to Aulds Building on Route 8. The Postmaster at that time was John O'Brien. The Post Office remained there until 1963 when it was relocated to a new Post Office building on Mt. Royal Boulevard. In 1985, the Post Office moved into a new building, 4746 William Flynn Highway (Route 8).

HARD TO READ RECORDS

The Family Tree - June July 1994

For easier reading of faded writing, use the direct beam of a black light. If your are trying to read poor microfilm copies, try using pink or green sheets of paper laid on the reader screen. The pastel color seems to absorb some of the glare of the white and somehow makes the film easier to read.

DISAPPEARING ANCESTORS

Mahoning Meanderings Mar-1994, Vol. 18

If you have an ancestor who disappears in the 1850's, try checking the 1852 California State Census. Over 50,000 people traveled overland to the gold fields, while more went by ship. The 1852 State Census of California is especially valuable, as it asked for the person's residence. Most answered with the name of the state from which they came. By 1855, 23,000 had moved on or, returned to their former homes.

EASTERN REGIONAL COAL ARCHIVES

The Family Tree - June/July 1994

If you have ancestor who was a coal miner, you may find records in a collection of pertinent materials in the Eastern Regional Coal Archives, Craft Memorial Library, 600 Commerce St., Bluefield, WV 24701. This library welcomes contributions of material. The library will also will help with research: Call Dr. Stuart McGehee, Archivist at 904-325-3943 for information on in-depth research.

CHAPEL'S FOUNDATION ROOTED IN THE PAST

By Donald Miller

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette - Sept 16, 1993

A stunning structure of cedar logs, shakes and shingles celebrates the Old World part of an ethnic group that found its future in this country.

The recently built St. Nicholas Chapel, Beaver, was created in the 17th-to-18th century style of central Europe's wooden country churches. It honors Ruthenian immigrants who entered the United States between 1880 and 1915.

They came from Villages in the Carpathian Mountains of eastern Slovakia, western Ukraine, southern Poland and northern Hungary and worked in American coal mines, steel mills and other industrial plants.

The chapel, its exterior washed in an aging white stain, rises on the highest ground of the Seven Oaks Country Club, following the custom of building churches on

GERMAN NAMES AND THEIR ENGLISH EQUIVALENTS

Genealogy Bulletin (Dollarhide Systems)
No. 21, Jan-Feb-Mar 1994

Alzheimer	Old Hamlet
Bosch	A plant
Brahms	Swamp Mountain
Demler	Glutton
Einstein	Stone Enclosure
Essner	Forge Worker
Esterling	Easterner
Etzel	Attila the Nun
Ewald	Keeper of the Law
Falter	Apple Tree
Farber	Dyer
Fasching	Mardi Gras
Fassbinder	Barrel Maker
Geller	Town Crier
Goethe	Godfather
Grabel	Little River
Knockenbauer	Butcher
Oestreich	Austrian
Schubert	Shoe Maker
Walden	Forests
Wannamaker	Basket Weaver
Weinstock	Grape Vine
Weisskopf	Blond
Werner	Army Protection
Zeigler	Tile Setter
Zimmerman	Carpenter

WE NEED YOUR GENEALOGY SOFTWARE INFORMATION

Mildred Halechko is compiling a list of the kinds of software we are using for our genealogy database and the kind of computers that we are using. If you are considering buying a program or are having trouble with a program, you may wish to talk with someone that is familiar with the program and this list could help.

When Reed Powell speaks in October on genealogy software programs he can also use this list to determine which programs are of interest to our members. Please send you information immediately to: Mildred Halechko, 2919 Albine Drive, Glenshaw, PA 15116.

sites "closest to God."

The 750-acre club and 80-seat chapel are properties of the Greek Catholic Union of the U.S.A., a fraternal, beneficial and insurance organization funded by and for Ruthenians in 1892. The GCU purchased the Beaver property in 1972. The once-current term "Greek Catholic" in the group's title refers to Byzantine Rite Catholicism, the Ruthenian religion and one of the Catholic Church's Eastern branches.

The GCU has 50,000 members, of which 5,000 have visited the chapel, experiencing much pride. The chapel is not a parish church but a memorial to immigrants and founders of the GCU.

There are 350,000 Byzantine Rite Catholics in the United States, with dioceses in Pittsburgh; Passaic, N.J.; Parma, Ohio; and Van Nuys, Calif.

The chapel's architect, Thomas Stephen Terpack of Highland Park, said most Carpathian village churches were designed not by architects but by local craftsmen, in the European tradition of the master builder.

Terpack, 51, considers the design of St. Nicholas Chapel the highlight of his career. "Most architectural projects pay the mortgage," he said. "This was a labor of love."

On a tour he pointed out that the progression of the tops of exterior crosses is typically on a 30-degree angle from sanctuary to vestibule. Steep 45-degree roof slopes were used because of snow loads.

"The evolution of the 'onion domes' is unclear," he said, "but they are certainly unique to Slavic Orthodox tradition."

Interior oak walls, laid up in a random pattern of 4-, 6- and 8-inch beveled planks, were spattered with stain which runs, adding to the appearance of age. Various sanctuary levels were stained in progressively lighter tones to keep upper areas from seeming too dark.

The brilliant gold ceiling is dominated by a large circular portrait of Christ Pantocrator, traditional Byzantine motif for the "all-encompassing Lord."

Frederick M. Petro, GCU communications director, said chapel plans were in the idea stage for more than 25 years, mostly awaiting funds. The union's success with annuity insurance led to the project.

"We surveyed books on wooden churches in an eight-county area in Slovakia and western Ukraine and located 120 churches by villages on a turn-of-the-century map." They also worked from photographs taken by a Czech art historian and a book on wooden churches by David Buxton, English architectural historian.

This research helped Terpack who is of Ruthenian descent, with his design, which took 16 months to complete. Construction was done in 14 months by Aliquippa contractor, William Johns. Michael Barbush of North Side interior designers Burke & Michael Inc. did inside design using leaded glass and other hand-crafted elements. Both Terpack and Barbush are GCU members.

Petro explained that there are three basic church styles: "simple Greek cross, rectangular with tower and dome on the front and the three-progressively-taller-tower style. Our church is a composite of existing churches and was chosen from Saris County, Slovakia, the region native to most of our organization's ancestors."

Terpack, 51, noted that the log-like construction of the lower walls and lack of side windows are typical of Ruthenian churches. Villagers took refuge in them when attacked.

The floor plan consists of a vestibule, sanctuary (nave and pews) and altar, which is separated from the sanctuary by an icon-bearing screen (iconostasis).

The chapel is dedicated to St. Nicholas of Myra, patron saint of the GCU, who is known for his gift-giving and a series of miracles. Scene of his life are depicted in 10 brilliantly colored new iconic paintings set into the walls of the sanctuary. More paintings are hung on the parcel-gilt altar screen.

The iconography and screen were designed, carved and painted by GCU members Dan Loya and Christine Uveges of Eikona, a Vermilion, Ohio, Byzantine art studio.

The GCU decided installing bells in the vestibule dome was too costly. A tape system of recorded bells from local Byzantine Rite churches is used instead. In another contemporary note, sanctuary and altar lighting is controlled by computers, allowing four different ambiances.

GENEALOGY - U.S. GOVERNMENT

Internet

The following assistance from the U. S. Government is available to those trying to find information about their family background.

Family Folklore

The pamphlet, *Family Folklore* (188N) \$1.75, describes how to record family stories and tradition to add to genealogical research. To obtain a copy write: Consumer Information Center, Pueblo, CO 81002.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH

The staff at the National Archives is eager to help individuals researching their family heritage. A 20-page booklet, "Genealogy Records in the National Archives," is available free of charge. Contact: Reference Service Branch, National Archives and Records Administration, 8th and Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 205, Washington, DC 20408/202-523-3218.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Local History and Genealogy Section, General Reading Room, Washington, DC 20540/202-287-5537. This section contains a number of "finding aids" and indexes arranged by family names and geographic location. Reading room contains card catalogue of publishing genealogy by surname now being put on computer terminals.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS

Central Reference Division, Washington, DC 20408/202-523-3218. This division has ship passenger records from 1820, military records from the Revolutionary War, and census forms from 1790 to 1910. Anyone in the USA can rent microfilm on the census 1790-1910 or the Revolutionary War from the local public, college or genealogical library. To do this contact: DDD Company, P.O. Box 2940, Hyattsville, MD 20784/301-731-4595 or your local library. The cost is \$3.25 per reel for a one-month rental. Three catalogues are available listing films on census (1) 1790-1890, (2) 1900, and (3) 1910 at \$5.00 each. The Revolutionary War catalogue is a 3-volume issue at \$1.50 total. All of the above are also available for rental in Canada.

READERS' QUESTION COLUMN

I have used a regular copier to make numerous copies of old phonographs that I later put into a "Photo Family Tree" for all of my nephews. They turned out very well and were a good way of passing family photos to the younger generation in an inexpensive manner. I have also received numerous color copies of pictures in my friend's Christmas cards. The quality is amazingly good. It doesn't take that much time to copy photographs and it doesn't cost nearly as much as having copies made by the "photographing photos" method.

Now here come my questions: (1) How well will the laser copies will hold up? 10 years 50 years, 100 years? Many of us have black and white photos that have been around for over a 100 years. How will these laser copies compare? (2) Could the copier damage in any way the original photo, make it age quicker, fade, etc. I know very little about the subject of photography and/or copies made from a copying machine.

If you have an answer to either of these question please drop a note to Marcia Coleman, 1950 Lammerton Drive, Allision Park, PA 15101

INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Many of our members belong to various genealogy and historical clubs in other areas. Any articles that you find that you think might be of interest to our members would be greatly appreciated. It is nice to have articles from a varied list of sources.

If there is an interest in a "Readers' Question Column" where our readers could send questions to, I would be willing to print that information as well. I probably won't be able to answer the questions myself but most likely one of our readers could. Send your questions to the NHG Newsletter Editor at the address listed below.

We are always willing to print your queries so if you are having trouble with a particular branch of your family send your "problem" to the **NHG Newsletter Editor, Marcia Coleman, c/o Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455 or to 1950 Lammerton Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101.**

BITS AND PIECES

WISCONSIN 1855 INDEX OFFERED

The Northwoods, Wisconsin Genealogical Society has indexed the 1855 state census of Wisconsin. It includes surname, number of persons in the household, city and county of residence, and any other information on the original record. You may secure a copy of the index for one surname by sending \$2.00 plus a long SASE to Sue Swanson, 219 Harmony Hills, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

NORTH CAROLINA ARCHIVES WILL ANSWER

The North Carolina Archives will answer inquires by mail if letters ask single, specific questions such as , "Do

you have proof of service for a Confederate soldier named John Grey from Wayne County? Enclose SASE, out-of-state inquires a \$5.00 search fee payable to NC Dept. of Cultural Resources. Following your answer, the document may be ordered for copying. Send inquires to 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601.

MAPS FROM US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The US Geological Survey, through their Earth Science Information Center, will send you catalogs and information for ordering reproductions of out-of-print maps. They will also send a 12 page booklet: *Maps Can Help You Trace Your Family Tree*. Call 1-800-USA - MAPS daily 8 am to 4 pm Eastern Standard Time.

All of the above from *The Family Tree*, June/July

Oct. 18 - REED POWELL - SOFTWARE FOR GENEALOGY

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
c/o Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455

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