

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

Volume 6 Number - 3 - October 1995

President: Keith Kerr
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Subscription: \$12.00 per year
10 Issues from August to June

Publicity: Gwen Glasbergen
Liaison: Connie Foley
Editor: Marcia Coleman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How lov'd. how honour'd once. avails
thee not.

To whom related. or by whom begot:
A heap of dust alone remains of thee:
"Tis all thou art. and all the proud
shall be!

Alexander Pope, 1717

It was a crisp morning in the little cemetery that had become the back lawn of the Comfort Inn. Some of the older stones from the early 1800's won't be around much longer. Their faces are cracked. Their inscriptions are ruined. One more winter, maybe two, and they'll be gone.

The memorial stone for the young Civil War soldier mortally wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness, all the children swept away in all the forgotten epidemics, the aged minister's wife, the Revolutionary War soldier, the pioneers and the farmers are all now preserved through our efforts. The second half of our publication project has begun with the Pine Creek Cemetery reading. Saving this little piece of history has given us a new sense of purpose and an appreciation of the importance of our work. As we continue with such project, I encourage you to become involved. It's a worthwhile and rewarding endeavor. It can also be challenging as we dug up and uncovered stones, we strained to read inscriptions using rubbing and shaving cream. Now we enter the editing and typing phase.

Keith Larner certainly did a fine and entertaining

presentation last month. I think a little shot of straight history with a little theater is good for all of us. Don't forget our November Roundtable where we can all have an opportunity to hash out problems, to share our successes and failures for the benefit of all. Good luck to our intrepid researchers headed for Washington this month. Don't forget to sign up for our Christmas social.

Keith

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Sat., Oct. 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - **Conference "Relative Theories - A Military Experience"** at the Church of the Covenant, Rt. 136 in Washington, PA. ***

Sun. - Wed., Oct. 22-25 - Joint bus trip with WPGS to Washington, D.C. by pre-registration. ***

Sat., Oct. 28, from 10:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - York County Ancestor Fair, York PA. ***

Wed., Nov. 1 at 7:30 p.m. - **NHG Board meeting** in the small conference room at Northland Library. All NHG members are always welcome at all Board meetings.

Sat., Nov. 4 - **Introduction to Genealogy class** at Pine Creek YMCA, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If enough interest is generated, a full 4 week course will be taught by Elissa Powell. ***

Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 7:00 p.m. - **NHG regular meeting** at Northland Library. Program: Round Table Discussion..

Sat., Dec. 2 - NHG Social - **Christmas Tour of Hartwood Acres** 11:00 a.m. followed by lunch at Brendans North Restaurant.

Tue., Jan. 16 at 7:00 p.m. - **Regular NHG meeting** at Northland Library. Program: Dennis Ardinger will speak on "What's New in Genealogy."

*** You may contact Elissa Powell at 935-6961 for information on this event.

QUERIES

Researching **CLAWSON**, Indian County, Blacklick Twp.; **SEELNACHT**, Pittsburgh, Allegheny City (Northside), PA from Alsace Lorraine; and **SCHNECKENBERGER**, New York, (Austria, Alsace Lorraine). Contact: Diane L. Clawson, 124 Russell Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15209.

Researching **BAYARD, WILSON, REYNOLDS & SHORE**, all from Allegheny County, PA. Contact: Mrs. Eleanor W. Stoltz, 540 Squire Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.

Researching **LOVE**, West Deer Twp.; **KOEBERLEIN**, Etna, Germany; **DAWSON & BRYSON**, West Deer. Contact: Alice K. Tymas, 4434 Bakerstown-Culmerville Rd., Gibsonia, PA 15044.

Researching **POLAND**, OH & VA; **BALLARD, ERUIN, WHEELER, DEMORY, HOLMES & JONES** OH; **WILKINSON, CUSTER, STRAYER, CHARLTON & YONKER**, PA. Contact: Donald A. Poland, 8228 Post Road, Allison Park, PA 15101.

HOGG FAMILY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The Family Tree, Vol. VI, No. 4, Aug./Sept. 1991

The society was organized in 1993 when the Jim Hogg Historical Park at Rusk, Texas was closed. The Society is a non-profit society with a federal tax number. Files are kept on active members, correspondents & locations.

The name "Hogg" is spelled many different ways: **HOGG, HOG, HOGE, HOGUE, HOAG, and HOEGE**. Members receive quarterly newsletter and the annual dues are \$15. Information may be obtained by writing The Hogg Family Genealogical Society, 1020 west Oak Drive, Yukon, OK 73099.

BEGINNERS CORNER

Question: What are some general suggestions for *true* beginners?

Answer: Suggestions for beginners in genealogy are:

1. Interview Relatives

First, question older family members. Encourage them to talk about their childhoods and relatives, and do not stop listening when they repeat themselves. They will drop further clues, sooner or later, without realizing it. You must recognize clues and follow up on everything that hints of a family connection, no matter how remote. Consider using a tape recorder and saving the tapes for future generations or your own library.

After you have heard their stories, you must verify each fact from some other source, to be sure. Do not let family scandal bother you, but remember that it may embarrass others. You are not responsible for your ancestors. We all have some who did unpleasant things.

2. Visit Your Library

Then visit your local library. Inquire of the librarian what heraldic, historical and genealogical publications are available on paper or microfilm, and consult those that relate to the geographic areas of your interest. You must know something about the settlement (when, by whom and from where) and subsequent history of the county or town in order to know what you might expect to find in research for given time periods. Learn how to use the card catalog. Ask the librarian to suggest or recommend genealogy classes that may be offered by a local college or other adult education facility. Ask about any local, regional, and state genealogical and historical societies; then get in touch with their officers. Ask for the name and address of the state Library and Archives in your state capital; then inquire about its holdings and services. Ask about cemeteries, any ethnic or religious libraries or archives that may relate to your search, and any collection or compilation of Bible records. Ask about local chapters of any patriotic, royal or other societies for which there are proven lineage membership requirements, such as Daughters/Sons of the American Revolution.

3. Visit Your Courthouse

As you proceed through the foregoing steps you will learn how to ask the right questions, i.e., those calculated to

elicit the most productive answers. After you have mastered that technique, visit your local courthouse to find out what is there, even if your ancestors lived elsewhere. The one thing all courthouses have in common is clerks who are busy. They can be enormously helpful. Cultivate them by using their time efficiently. Avoid narratives and convoluted questions. Ask, instead, to see such source records as will, deed and marriage books, for example, and inquire as to how they are recorded, arranged and indexed. Read for genealogical clues those that mention the surnames of your interest, including all conceivable spellings. When you encounter conflicting data, ask yourself which version is more likely to be accurate. Which was recorded nearest the event by the person most likely to know?

4. Write Letters to Others

Learning to ask the right questions will help in the correspondence you should undertake with other individuals or societies concerned with the same families or areas, or with foreign embassies in Washington. Enclose a long self-addressed stamped envelope (an SASE to genealogists and others) in every letter you wish to have answered. The recipients will be more willing to reply. Generally, it is better to confine each letter to one specific question, and to tell the recipient what you already know about the subject and what research you have already done. Provide as many dates and places as you can. Thank those who respond and share what you learn with other researchers. Those who share usually benefit most.

5. Record Your Results Systematically

Record what you learn systematically, indicating the source for each fact. Do not treat separate families on the same piece of paper, since they should be filed in separate groups. It usually is helpful to use printed family group sheets or pedigree charts and a filing system organized so that you can locate what you have in an ever-expanding collection.

6. Additional Information

To learn more about these five steps and to continue your pursuit of genealogy, you may wish to purchase *Instructions for Beginners in Genealogy*. This 62-page book will help you get started and develop good record-keeping habits. It is written in a simple, straightforward style and is three-hole punched to carry in a notebook for ready reference. It is available from the Education

Division of the National Genealogical Society. The address is National Genealogical Society, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2363 (703) 525-0050

7. Home Study Course

To continue your learning experience beyond that of a beginner, you should enroll in the Society's home study program, *American Genealogy: A Basic Course*. This widely-acclaimed home study course allows you to study at home at your own pace. It includes careful instructions as well as assignments for you to prepare and return for grading. You will learn how to find and use source records, evaluate genealogical evidence, document each item and maintain orderly records. The course materials include several very valuable appendixes.

RECOMMENDED READING

American Society of Genealogists, *Genealogical Research: Methods and Sources*, 2 vols. rev. ed., Washington, DC. The Society 1980, 1983.

Andereck, Paul A. and Richard A. Pence, *Computer Genealogy: A Guide to Research Through High Technology*, Salt Lake City, Ancestry, Inc., 1985.

Doane, Gilbert H. and James B. Bell, *Searching for Your Ancestors: The How and Why of Genealogy*, 5th rev. ed., New York, Bantam Books, 1982.

Everton, George B., *The Handy Book for Genealogists*, 7th rev. ed., Logan, UT, Everton Publishers, 1981.

Filby, P. William, *American and British Genealogy and Heraldry*, 3rd ed., Boston, New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1983.

Greenwood, Val D., *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., 1973.

Jacobs, Donald Lines, *Genealogy as Pastime and Profession*, 2nd ed. rev., Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., 1968.

Kurzwel, Arthur, *From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Personal History*, New York, William Morrow, 1980.

Meyer, Mary K., ed., *Meyer's Directory of Genealogical*

Societies in the USA and Canada, 6th ed., Airy, MD, The Editor, 1986.

Schreiner-Yantis, Netti, ed., Genealogical and Local History Books in Print, 4th ed., Springfield, VA, The Editor, 1985.

Shumway, Gary L. and William G. Hartley, An Oral History Primer, Salt Lake City, Primer Publications, 1973.

Stryker-Rodda, Harriet, How to Climb Your Family Tree: Genealogy for Beginners. Reprint ed., Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1983.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Where to Write for Vital Records: Births, Deaths, Marriages and Divorces, Publication No. (PHS) 84- 1142, Hyattsville, MD, 1984.

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives, Washington, DC: National Archives, 1982.

Also, find your local LDS Family History Center. Call them to see if you need an appointment - especially to use their computer program, Family Search. They can help get you started.

Above information from Kathy Nevin, 225 Tunbridge Rd., Midwest City, OK 73130

BOOK REVIEW

A BOOK ON MAP SOURCES

by Jack Dolby; Reviewed by Jack Sanders, Internet.

Since the subject of maps surfaces here periodically, I thought I would pass on information about a great book I found at the library this weekend. It is called "The Map Catalog...Every kind of map and chart on earth and even some above it".

The editor is Joel Makower, Tilden Press. The call number is GA105.3 M23 1986. ISBN 0-394-74614-7.

This books tells you where you can get just about any kind of map imaginable. It even has a list of maps you can get from the CIA!

It also lists for most, if not all, states and territories (including Canada) state map agencies, map libraries, and map stores.

It details what types of maps are available from which government entities and commercial concerns. Further, it includes the fees (1986 data) of various types of maps in different reproduction quality from various agencies and companies. If you are trying to locate any kind of map, this should be a good place to check for a source.

BOOK FOR SALE

OAK HILL CEMETERY BURIAL RECORDS, YOUNGSTOWN, MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO, VOLUME I, 19 DECEMBER - 18 SEPTEMBER 1894 is a 342 page softbound, acid free paper book with an every name index of over 8,000 names.

First mentioned in a deed on 7 April 1856, Oak Hill is the final resting place of many of Youngstown's earliest settlers and their descendants. On that date Dr. Henry MANNING and his wife C.M.A. (RUGGLES) Manning, sold a piece of property to the trustees of Youngstown Township. The description of the lot says, "Beginning at a Stake which is one of the corners of the oak hill Cemetery,..." Rich, poor, young, old, famous, infamous, over twenty-five thousand people lie in this quiet and beautifully kept cemetery. On Memorial Day hundreds of small flags mark the graves of the Valley's veterans and veterans from each of our wars lies here. The Civil War is represented by veterans from both the North and the South.

These burial records were copied from books the various cemetery superintendents produced over the years, beginning in December 1878. The cemetery still records burials as they occur. This volume contains the records through September 18, 1894. The dates recorded through January 4, 1887 are death dates. After that, the date is of the interment.

The price of the book is \$25.00, plus \$2.00 postage and \$1.50 sales tax for OH residents if ordered before December 31, 1995 and \$30.00, plus \$2.00 postage and \$1.80 sales tax for OH residents if ordered after January 1, 1996. Make checks payable to Mahoning Co. Chap., OGS and mail to Mahoning County Chapter, OGS, c/o Lois Glasgow, Publications, P.O. Box 9333, Boardman, OH 44513-9333.

QUAKER MEETINGS

By: Cheska Wheatley

Meeting Organization of the Society of Friends (Quakers)

The organization of the Friends Society was pyramidal. At the base was the local meeting with its worshipping congregation. The popular picture of a plain-garbed group sitting silently in an unornamented room is correct. Such mundane affairs as seeing that the meeting house was cleaned, firewood provided, and broken glass replaced were entrusted to preparative meetings. Most large local meetings were preceded by preparatory meetings, which could settle minor offenses and appoint overseers to report any violations of the discipline to the monthly meeting.

The Monthly Meeting

The level at which most of the work of the church was conducted was the monthly meeting, which was composed of all the local meetings in a township or small geographical area; men and women met in separate monthly meetings normally held at the same time. Any Friend in good standing could attend and speak at these business meetings, but the opinions of "weighty" members-- ministers, elders, overseers-- carried the most influence in arriving at a "sense of the meeting." All decisions were made by the entire body, with the clerk ascertaining the will of the group; such procedures as voting and majority rule were never used. Many activities of the meeting were entrusted to small committees, again consisting primarily of weighty Friends. The monthly meeting regulated marriages, controlled funds, gave charity, supervised the schools, disciplined or disowned anyone guilty of a moral offense, and sent reports to the quarterly meeting.

The Quarterly Meetings

The quarterly meetings, normally composed of all the monthly meetings in a particular county or geographical area, were attended by delegates from each monthly meeting. Quarterly meetings were a half-way point between the monthly and yearly meetings. Any problem too large for a local meeting to solve was referred to the quarterly meeting, which could settle the matter or place it on the agenda of the yearly meeting. The epistles from the yearly meeting were read and questions answered about the state of local meetings. In England the quarterly meetings sent written reports on the doings of the monthly

meetings to the yearly meeting, but in America oral reports were often used, and the practice of giving written answers to specific queries was not general until 1755. There were special quarterly meetings for ministers and elders designed to aid them in overseeing the congregation. Both types of quarterly meetings usually began with a period of silence and worship after which business was conducted.

The Yearly Meetings

Delegations from the quarterly meeting attended the yearly meetings. In the colonies there were six yearly meetings: Pennsylvania and New Jersey (usually termed Philadelphia), New York, Maryland (or Baltimore), Virginia, North Carolina, and New England. In Great Britain there were yearly meetings in London and Ireland. (At various times there were special yearly meetings and half-year's meetings held in America and England; these were generally occasions for worship and no administrative business took place.) The yearly meetings occupied several days; several thousand people attended the largest, such as those at Philadelphia or Newport. In theory, any decision reached by the yearly meeting on any matter was binding upon all quarterly and monthly meetings within its jurisdiction. A controversial matter was apt to be appealed from the monthly or quarterly meetings to the yearly meeting, and if a consensus could not be reached, the problem would be postponed until the next session. During the year, Friends might write to London Yearly Meeting for its counsel. All yearly meetings were autonomous, but the two most powerful meetings were London and Philadelphia, and London was first among equals. Philadelphia attempted to exercise similar influence in America but enjoyed only sporadic success.

The yearly meetings were in close contact with each other. London Yearly Meeting distributed epistles every year to all quarterly and monthly meetings in England and to every yearly and many quarterly and monthly meetings in America. Most yearly meetings received a second letter which might contain answers to specific problems faced by that meeting. The yearly meetings in America sent out epistles to London and to their own monthly meetings, but did not always send letters to each other. In 1714, when Philadelphia Yearly Meeting wished to consult with other American yearly meetings on the subject of slavery, it sent a message to London Friends requesting them to ask the questions since it was easier for London to communicate with North Carolina and Virginia meetings than for Philadelphia to attempt to correspond directly.

Friends attempted to make their organization and their religious beliefs as harmonious as possible. Since they thought that Christian revelation was the same the world over they made a deliberate effort to make certain that their recommendations were agreed upon by most Friends. Frederick Tolles believed that "Quaker thinking on most subjects varied relatively little from place to place, so that the ideas of English and American Friends down at least to the Revolution can be regarded as practically interchangeable." One can examine the epistles, or discipline, or minutes of a meeting in England, in New England, or in North Carolina and fail to determine from the contents any difference in geographical location.

SLOVAK GEOGRAPHY : SIMPLE AS ABC

by Ray Plutko, *Nase Rodina*, Sept. 1994 Vol. 6 No. 3

It's time to pack those suitcases...because we're heading back to the mother country in a continuing search for our Slovak ancestral line.

In order to make the most of your tour package, not to mention your sense of direction, we've thrown in a brief geography lesson just for the asking.

Many of you have noted the frustration of the notable absence of the word Slovakia when working with papers and official documents. Terms such as Austria-Hungary, Upper Hungary, and the Kingdom of Hungary are commonplace. But, they have left the researcher with little more than an instant roadblock and no alternate route.

However, there is a common thread that runs through the centuries of ancestral lines in Slovakia and this is your key in your attempt to pinpoint the village of your ancestors.

The key is one denoting the various counties in Slovakia. In fact, our parents and/or grandparents most often referred to the county or district from which they emigrated and NOT the village in which they were raised.

This was further perpetuated by newspapers in the United States and Canada as the obituary notices generally referred to the county or district of the deceased. Unfortunately many of us fell right into line and took this "evidence" to be the name of the village.

However, as with virtually everything in researching one's family history, it is imperative to familiarize oneself with a few terms and this occasion is no different than countless others.

The county may also be referred to as the zupa and on occasions, you may even see the term stoice. These should comprise a minimal segment of your research vocabulary.

These counties trace their history to the feudal period in Slovakia and designated the lands then under control of the king and/or noble families.

Although there have been minor changes by way of treaties over the centuries, the basic concept remains intact and this is your best route in pinpointing the area from which your ancestral line originates.

When studying present day maps of Slovakia, there are 19 counties (zupas) to take into consideration. These 19 are the most widely accepted in terms of genealogical research and were evident when our relatives were part of the mass migrations of emigrants shortly after the start of the 20th century.

In an attempt to assist you with a point of reference, I have broken down the 19 counties into general Western, Central, and Eastern regions.

Western - Bratislava (sometimes written as Pressburg), Nitra, Rabska, Komarno, Ostrihom, Tekov, and Hont.

Central - Trencin, Turiec, Zvolen, Novohrad, Gemer (which sometimes makes reference to a smaller sector known as Malohont), Liptov, and Orava.

Eastern - Spis, Abov (which sometimes makes reference to a smaller sector known as Turna), Saris, Zemplin, and Uzska (sometimes written as Uh).

These designations do not follow a true vertical west, central, and east boundary as we know it, but should assist greatly in narrowing your personal research.

Each county is broken down further into districts known as okres. If you have the name of the zupa of your relative, you now have a specific area and if you are lucky enough to have the okres, you are within a few miles of the exact village.

Without question, I would urge you to get a map of Slovakia for use in your research - it is a must! Although

maps are numerous, the one offered by Jednota Press, P.O. Box 150, Middletown, PA 17057, is excellent. It shows the location of a vast number of villages in Slovakia. Additionally, the names of the villages are large enough to make the listings legible.

An added benefit of this particular map is that an insert shows the 19 zupas and thus, is a valuable aid in your research. The lone drawback of the map is that there isn't any alphabetical listing of the villages and corresponding map coordinates. This is also an excellent map for the Uh region, which is often difficult to locate.

One additional source of maps is through Jonathan Shepard Books, Box 2020, Plaza Station, Albany, NY 12220. They have two in particular that are excellent for your collection: a three map set of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and a three map set of East Central Europe.

Hopefully, I have made your task easier and eliminated one of those frequent roadblocks encountered when tracing your family in Slovakia, you will have to agree, it's as simple as ABC...or is it okres, stolice, and zupa?

Note: Ray is the director of the Slovak Genealogy Research Center which assists Slovaks in their research efforts. His center also has a "Slovak Genealogy Research Kit" that was designed for those tracing their Slovak roots. More information is available by writing to Ray Plutko, 6862 Palmer Ct, Chino, CA 91710)

HERITAGE CENTER OPENS

Butler County Historian - August 1995

The Butler County Heritage Center opened in June of 1995. The original idea was to have a place to display the Butler built automobiles, the "jeep," the Bantam, the Austin, the Standard and the Huselton. But as the project progressed it became obvious there was a greater story to tell.

The current exhibit includes photos, documents and artifacts which represent Pullman Stand, Armco, the glass industry, the oil industry, and agriculture, as well as two of the automobiles, the "jeep," and the Bantam Hollywood. The display area is approximately 4500 square feet and includes a gift shop with many unique Butler county souvenirs. The exhibit will continue to grow and change, so plan more than one visit.

WHO'S WHO OF OLD BUTLER

*Excerpts from This Old House
News Weekly - August 16, 1995*

The Shaw House, a historic house on Diamond Street was in the same family for four generations and 150 years before being turned over to the Butler County Historical Society in 1986. But the house was inhabited by other families before the Sullivans moved in 1836.

A Profile of the inhabitants of the house: Walter **LOWRIE** built the house in 1828 when the population of Butler was about 450 and lived there until 1836. He and his wife, Amelia **McPHERRIN**, had eight children. Lowrie served as a U.S. senator from 1818 to 1824, then as secretary of the senate until 1836 when he left Butler to become secretary of the newly formed Board of Foreign Missions in New York. Mrs. Lowrie died in 1832. Three of the couple's sons also became active in the missions field.

George Washington **SMITH** owned the house from 1836 until 1839. A local attorney, he was co-owner of The Sentinel newspaper. In 1844, he defended Sam **MOHAWK**, the Indian who murdered the **WIGTON** family. Later, he served in the state legislature in Kansas.

Charles C. **SULLIVAN**, an attorney who was twice elected to the state senate, bought the house in 1839. He married Susan **SELTZER** in 1845; the couple had five children. Mrs. Sullivan made many changes to the house that remain today. The couple live in the house the remainder of their years; he died in 1860; she died in 1911.

Louisa Sullivan **SHAW**, the Sullivan's oldest daughter lived in the house until her death in 1919. Louisa had lived briefly in Chicago with her husband Joshua., until he died after three years of marriage. They had one son, George Shaw.

George and his wife Mary **IOLA** lived in the house following Louisa's death. George lived until 1947; Mary Iola Shaw until 1959. The house remained unoccupied and unused until their daughter, Isabelle Shaw **ADAMS**, died in 1986, leaving the house to the Butler County Historical Society in her will.

Tidbit....The measure of a man's character is not what he gets from his ancestors, but what he leaves his descendants.

HELP NORTHLAND LIBRARY

BORDERS Books and Music invites you to participate in Borders Benefit Days. A percentage of your purchase during the designed period of **November 24 to November 30** will be donated to Northland Library.

Northland Library has been very helpful to us and this would be good way to say thank you in a way that will benefit the library financially.

Make out your Holiday gift giving list and head for Borders anytime from Friday, Nov. 24th to Thursday Nov. 30th.

NHG CORRESPONDENCE

"Dear Fellow Genealogist,

I am writing to inform you that Beverly Gierl (my mother), a member of NHG has passed away. She died 8 May 1995, three years to the day that my father died.

About a year after my father's death we spotted a newspaper article about the genealogy meeting - we went and were hooked. For the last two years my Mother and I traipsed through the National Archives (sneaking crackers and cookies into the microfilm room) and local cemeteries. We spent ours at the computer inputting info, only to lose it when we forget to save! We came to meetings when we could (my work schedule changed and I have not been able to attend for a year, but enjoyed working on the cemetery project.)

I believe that pursuing genealogy brought my mother out of depression that came on with my father's death. We had so much fun together. She was more than a mother to us; she was our best friend. She had a way of making each of her seven children feel as though we had a special relationship with her.

Some of her friends donated fund to the North Hills Library to purchase genealogy material.

I have not been able to continue our research as of yet - but I hope one day soon to 'pick up' where we left off."

Sincerely Barbara Gierl

REILLY'S "SUMMER SEAT FARM"

When it is fall and the pumpkins are turning bright orange, have you ever wondered where the name Reilly's Summer seat Farm came from? I have wondered every time I have passed the sign and just recently I found out the answer.

After the Revolutionary War, the soldiers were guaranteed payment, but money, had depreciated to being almost valueless. Ben Franklin set up a system through the State Legislature to pay the soldiers. An area north of Pittsburgh was set aside and called the Depreciation Lands, which the soldiers received as pay.

The owner of a 334-acre parcel, Richard **SOMERS**, named his land "Summer Seat," the word "seat" meaning place, such as a county seat. The Somer's deed now hangs in the Mount Nebo Schoolhouse. Incidentally, the original log cabin that stood on the property is part of the Reilly's farmhouse.

The above information is from the *McCandless Magazine*, September 1995.

NEWSPAPER PRESERVATION

Hints from Heloise via *Mahoning Meaderings*,
Sept. 1995, Vol. 19.

A home style "bleaching" process keeps newsprint from yellowing. The acid in the newspaper is what makes the paper turn yellow over time. When done correctly this simple "bath" should keep your newspaper articles from turning yellow for years.

Make a solution by mixing two tablespoons of Milk of Magnesia with one quart of club soda. Refrigerate this mixture for eight hours. Pour the solution into a shallow pan, large enough to hold the clipping. Lay one clipping at a time in the liquid and let it soak for an hour. Remove the excess moisture, then let it dry on a clean flat surface. Now you have an archival-quality copy, which can be place in an acid free album.

Tidbit...A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children: and the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just.

Proverbs 13:22

CEMETERY READING ADVENTURE

by Marcia Coleman

Your editor learned a lot on her first cemetery reading experience. It was a glorious September day, although a little on the chilly side, and I approached the day as if I were going to a Saturday afternoon football game. I was dressed warmly (in layers) and had my gloves, a pocket full of Kleenex and a couple of aspirin in case my arthritis acted up. The only other thing I brought was the clip board which I had been instructed to bring. Fortunately the other readers were fully equipped; they had tracing paper and crayons, paper towels, shaving cream and a wiper plus loads of experience.

Fortunately my partner, our Vice President Gary Schlemmer, knew what he was doing. He carefully and skilfully prepared a stone for our reading. It was at this point that I learned the first rule of cemetery reading and that is - *Do Not Walk Backwards While Trying To Read A Stone*. If I had known this rule I would have not have suddenly found myself flat on my back in the cemetery.

Accidents aside, it was a wonderful experience and I really learned a lot. Interesting enough that little cemetery is the final resting place for several soldiers from both the Civil War and the Revolutionary War. Even if you have never read a cemetery before, come join us on the next project. It is great fun. Just don't walk backwards while trying to decipher the writing on a stone or you may suddenly find one of those low depressions and end up like I did, flat on my back in a cemetery.

JOHN D. WHO?

Oil County Gazette, 1995; Vol. 7, No. 1

OIL CREEK VALLEY, 1860 - There has been talk along Oil Creek about John D. **ROCKEFELLER**, alias the "Bloodless Baptist Bookkeeper," a trim Methodical 21 year old ex-bookkeeper from Cleveland, Ohio, who seems to be buying much land and interest in oil companies here. It has been conjectured that if Rockefeller continues purchasing at the rate, he could emerge as the builder of a giant oil monopoly unrivaled to date. Who knows what may ahead for this penurious Cleveland bookkeeper?

Tidbit...Do you know why all handkerchiefs are square? On June 2, 1785, King Louis XIV of France decreed: "The length of handkerchiefs shall equal their width throughout my entire kingdom." L. M. Boyd, Crown Syndicate

LOCAL CHURCH HISTORY

Excerpts from *Weekly*, Sept. 6, 1995

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Zelienople celebrated its 175th year as a place of worship. On September 12, 1821 a group of early settlers met in the home of George **MULLER** at Benvenue. With the help of Bishop Johann C.G. **SCHWEITZERBARTH**, they organized the St. Paul's Lutheran congregation. Schweitzerbarth conducted the first regular Lutheran service in the valley. He was a native of Germany and arrived in the area in June of 1819. The early church conducted services in the great hall at Benvenue, the round school house and at the Harmonist Meeting House.

Benvenue, a mansion build in 1816 by Muller on a hill south of Zelienople, in Beaver County, means "welcome" or "good arrival". It was designed by Dettmar **BASSE**, founder of Zelienople, and is now a B & B inn.

When Zelienople was incorporated as a borough in 1840, St. Paul's Lutheran Church was the only church within the borough. Two other early churches in Zelienople trace their origins to St. Paul's; English Lutheran Church in 1843 and St. Peter's Reformed Church, United Church of Christ in 1858.

Philippe and Zelig **PASSAVANT** donated the land for the church building; the cornerstone was laid on July 19, 1826 and it was dedicated in 1827. Johannes Muller built the first pipe organ which was installed in February of 1838.

The congregation was under the pastorate of the Rev. Johannes **BUTZ** from 1866 to 1906. It was during this time, in approximately 1874, that the original bell tower of stone was removed and a wooden bell tower was built with a steeply pitched roof cap.

During the pastorate of the Rev. Frederick H. **MEYER** (1906 to 1915), the original church edifice was completely renovated and enlarged. The Moller pipe organ was installed in 1918 during the pastorate of the Rev. Eugene **POPPEN**. The organ was rebuilt in 1958 while the Rev. George **STROBEL** headed the congregation. Also during Strobel's pastorate, the Educational Building was erected in 1960, and is now known as the Strobel Hall.

Rev. William Brewer Jr. came in August of 1989 and he is the 156th pastor to serve the church.

BITS AND PIECES

NEW VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

If you are tracing ancestors from northern Virginia, you might consider subscribing to the brand new *Northern Virginia Genealogy - A Magazine about Virginia Families* published quarterly. Records pertaining to Fairfax, Loudoun, Arlington, Fauquier and Prince William counties - and Alexandria City. Specific attention is paid to families of this important part of Virginia and their history. There are 48 pp each issue and it is published in January, April, July and October. There is an index in the October issue.

Subscribers may submit free queries relating to the area of interest - subject to editing and available space.

More information from Northern Virginia Genealogy, Rt. 1, Box 15A, Lovettsville, VA 22080-9703.

BARTERING GENEALOGISTS WANT YOU

A national *Directory of Bartering Genealogists* is being organized listing genealogists who are willing to do research in their home areas in exchange for research in another area. No money changes hands - just research. Write the Directory Compilers of Arizona, 1795 W. Wetmore Rd., Tucson, AZ 85705.

REMINDER: Our Social will be on December 2nd beginning at 11:00 a.m. with a tour of Hartwood Acres, followed by lunch at Brendans North.

Nov. 21 - Round Table Discussion

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

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