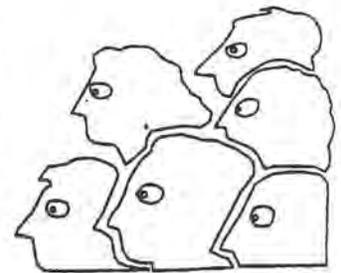




NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



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

Volume 6 Number - 9 - May 1996

President: Keith Kerr
Vice President: Gary Schlemmer
Treasurer: Steph Valentine

Secretary: T. J. Galbraith
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10 Issues from August to June

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on they fate!

Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee,
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee, - are all with thee!

"The Building of the Ship", Longfellow (1849)

Today it seems the present is everything. The future looks bleak; the past is nonexistent. It is any wonder there is the concern over "values". Can anyone have confidence in an improving future with no past to anchor or define his belief? We live in a society so caught up in a world of advertising. We are swamped in avarice and greed. Is this land of opportunity that our ancestors so fervently believed?

This country was built on faith and courage. Our early settlers faced death over and over: The death of malaria and dysentery, the ravages of starvation, the cruel death from the night in the attack of merciless savages.

What courage it must have took to propel the new immigrants to America. The streets were not paved with gold. They were mud and horse manure. The language was strange. The work was hard and back breaking. The mine was dark, cold and damp. The mill was white hot

and suffocating. Hours were long; danger was everywhere. What dream of the future kept them going?

We are amazed at the courage of our soldiers who preserved through starvation and cold to face a vastly superior British army and lose battle after battle. They would not be beaten. In the great battles of the Civil War, through faced with ghastly death, watching thousand perish, soldiers somehow kept the faith in the cause. There are those in this room tonight who have felt that peculiar fear of cold sweat that drips from the back of the neck and down the spine when facing other men in the fatal confrontation of war.

Faith in God, faith in America, faith in the future motivated iron worker, soldier, miner, farmer and settler. What great courage and sacrifice did our female ancestors have to endure the unending work and the great sorrow of losing children to illness? The family shared danger, shared disaster, loss of money in depressions, loss of loved ones. These people did not survive to make us possible because of greed. They did not live to own the next generation of electronic toy. They had faith in religion, faith in their fellow Americans, and faith in the promise that this country holds for all her people. Therein lies our Mission.

Gary Schlemmer, our vice-president, has started the autobiography project. Help him help us all get started in writing our history. The message of courage and faith is the gift we can give our children and grandchildren and all others that follow. We study the past but we are about the future.

Next month is another treat when we are joined by Joe Bullick and his granddaughter to tell stories of the old days in the North Hills. His last visit was very popular and very enlightening on the daily life of the people in the last hundred years or so.

Keith

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Wed., June 6 at 7:30 p.m., **NHG Board Meeting** at Northland Library. All members are welcome to attend.

Sat., June 15 at 10:00 a.m., **WPGS** meeting at the Lecture Hall at the Carnegie Library Building in Oakland. Program: George K. Schweitzer speaking on "Migration Routes and Settlement Patterns" and "Obscure Genealogical Sources." Dr. Schweitzer is the author of genealogical guidebooks for the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Civil War, GA, KY, MD, MA, NY, NC, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA, and Germany and also the "Handbook of Genealogical Sources." This should be an exceptional good program.

Tues., June 18 at 7:00 p.m. - **Regular NHG meeting** at Northland Library. Program: Joe Bullick on "The Old Days in the North Hills."

COURSES ON GENEALOGY & FAMILY JOURNALS

CCAC is offering two courses on Friday evenings in June. Call 369-3737 for more information or to register.

Keeping a Family Journal - Don't you wish your great grandparents had written about the times of their lives? Wouldn't it be great to read about childhood as your parents knew it? Start the tradition. Learn to write simple, short narratives that will captivate your children and their great-grandchildren.

CCAC North Campus	YAB306-11	\$20
4 sessions	June 7	Fri.
Instructor: David Hartle	Room 1105	7-9 pm

Genealogy: Seeking Lost Ancestors - Genealogy is a fascinating hobby! Learn how to investigate and research your family history by using proven methods of resourcing available family information. Completing pedigree charts, family group records, and family data

gathering will be included. One class will be a field trip.

CCAC North Campus	YCA007-12	\$22
5 sessions	June 7	Fri.
Instructor: Sarah Pannell	room 1111	7-9 pm

The genealogy course will be repeated in the fall by NHG's own Elissa Powell.

GENEALOGY CONFERENCES

The First Annual Genealogy & Family Conference, Saturday, June 8, 1996, 8:30 a.m. at Lakeland Community College, Kirtland, Ohio. Sessions include Oral History, Family Medical History, Preservation, Researching with Computers, Copyright Protection, Fair Use and Journalling. Cost is \$29.00 plus \$5.00 for lunch. Register by phone using Master Charge, Visa or Discover cards. Phone 216-953-7116 or 800-589-8520. To register by mail send a check to Lakeland Community College, 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio 44094.

Civil War History Conference, Seton Hill College, Greensburg, PA on June 22, 1996. There will be six different lectures, exhibits, book store, etc. Cost: \$25.00 (includes lunch). Limited to 200 and reservations are a must. Questions: (412) 836-1800. Mail reservation check to Westmoreland County Historical Society, 951 Old Salem Road, Greensburg, PA 15601.

3rd Annual 4-Corners Ancestor Fair, July 25-27 in Springdale, Arkansas. Send SASE to: 4 Corners, 509 W Spring, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

Lancaster County Ancestor Fair, Farm and Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Dr., Lancaster PA. Sat. 27 July 1996; 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$3.00. Surname directory is being compiled listing names and addresses of individuals doing research. Price is \$4 for 5 names. Send to Lancaster Surname Directory, Carolina Trader Promotions, PO Box 769 Munroe, NC 28111-0769 or call Richard and Esther Shields at 704-282-1339.

F.G.S. Annual Conference is in Rochester NY, Aug. 14-17. "In Your Ancestor's Image," will feature more than 100 lectures delivered by over 70 knowledgeable experts. The conference program includes sessions on basic research procedures and methodology, immigrant origins, localities (including New York State and Canadian emphasis) and technology applied to genealogical interests.

To receive lecture information and registration details contact the Federation Office: "In Your Ancestors Image," P.O. Box 830220, Richardson, TX 75083-0220. Elissa Powell will be attending. Call her at 935-6961 for more information.

York County Ancestor Fair, Springetts Fire Hall, 3013 E. Market St., York, PA. Saturday 26 Oct. 1996. 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission \$3. Surname directory being compiled (same info as Lancaster County Ancestor Fair listed above)

QUERIES

Looking for any connection to or about **CONWAY** from the Newcastle West / Ardagh area of County Limerick, Ireland. Looking for Conway siblings of my grandfather who had Pittsburgh connections: John, b. 1860; Martin, b. 1863; Mary, b. 1865; Ellen, b. 1867; Johanna, b. 1871; and Michael, b. 1878. Also searching for Thomas **O'SULLIVAN** or **SULLIVAN** who was in Pittsburgh about 1870, possibly born in Carickerry, Ardagh, County Limerick. *Contact:* Michael Conway, 32 Elm Crescent, Bentley, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, England DN4 0PZ.

A new Query Newsletter, "Lost and Found" prints only queries of a genealogical nature. Six issues a year; \$15 per year. Unlimited queries for members. Write to Ethel Weber, P.O. Box 207, Wathena, Kansas 66090.

[*Editors note:* I have had no experience with the Newsletter but the editor of the *Highpoint* found it well put together.]

BEGINNERS CORNER

Question: What is the formula for figuring the birthdate of an ancestor whose tombstone only provides the death date?

Answer: The formula is as follows:

From the year-month-day of death, subtract the years-months-days that the person lived; from the result, subtract 8870 and your answer is the year-month-day of birth.

Example:

Died 1889, May 6	18890506
71 years, 7 months, 9 days	<u>710709</u>
	18179797
subtract	<u>8870</u>
Birthdate	18170927

Which is September 27, 1817

The above information from the *Antique Week* and *Shelby County Newsletter* via *The Highpoint*, Feb., 1996, Vol. 27, No. 2

BOOK REVIEWS

SCOTS COLONIST ORIGINS

More than 150,000 natives of Scotland came to the New World before the Revolution, and finding their origins has challenged genealogists for decades. Most may never be traced, but the noted Scottish researcher David Dobson has given a hand to the possible descendants of more than 7,000 immigrants in "The Original Scots Colonists in Early America, 1612-1783."

This 370 page compendium, recently issued in its second printing by Genealogical Publishing Company, contains data extracted from such sources as family and estate papers, probate records, registers deeds, several courts' records, port books, customs registers, newspapers, diaries, journals, school records, church records, and many other sources.

Up to 23 different pieces of data may be available on any of the people listed, including date and place of birth, occupation, cause of banishment (where applicable) residence, parents, emigration date, port, destination, ship, place and date of arrival, place of settlement, spouse, children, and -- of course -- the source. Destinations include not only the colonies, but also such Caribbean Islands as Jamaica and the Barbados.

Here's a sample of one of the McKenzies (there are 10 pages of M(a)cKenzies, incidentally):

"McKenzie, Gilbert, b. 1740, farmer, res. Kintyre Argyll, sh. Sept 1774 fr. Greenock to Wilmington N.C. in Diana, m. Margaret... (PRO.T47.12)" (The cited source there is the Public Record Office, London.)

Some you may not want to learn about: "Smart, John, vagrant and thief, res. Huntly Aberdeenshire, tr. Feb. 1766..." or "Lawson, Mary, infanticide..." or "Laurie, Andrew, rapist..." or "Hutton, Barbara, whore..."

But, of course, there are plenty of clergymen, educators, merchants, carpenters, and persons of higher standing who generally have more of the 23 items provided than are available for those who were transported for crimes. The book, which took author Dobson several years of research, is done in dictionary fashion, with 7,180 people covered. There is also an index of spouses and an index of ships.

Anyone seriously researching Scottish ancestry should have access to this reference, and its wealth of clues to Scottish roots. If it's not at your library, the hardbound edition can be ordered from GPC, Dept. SM, 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md., 21202-3897 (toll-free order number is 1-800-727-6687) at \$28.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

BOOKS FOR SALE

NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

"Newspaper Accounts of Births, Marriages, Deaths, 1808 - 1929 (not all inclusive), Westmoreland County, Penna.," compiled by Mary Jane Mains, 1996, 318 pages, alphabetical listing w/newspaper reference and maiden name index. Softcover, \$25.00 plus \$1.50 sales tax (PA residents Only) and \$3.00 for mailing. Send to WCHS, 951 Old Salem Road, Greensburg, PA 15601.

MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES FROM NEWSPAPERS

"Marriage and Death Notices From Newspapers 1808 - 1921 (not all inclusive) Westmoreland County, Penna.," by Agnes Campbell Tomichuk, 1988, 200 pages, alphabetical listing w/maiden name index. Softcover, \$20.00 plus \$1.20 sales tax (PA residents only) and \$2.00 mailing. Send to: WCHS, 951 Old Salem Rd., Greensburg, PA 15601.

NHG MEMBER'S NEWS

Elissa Powell, C.G.R.S. is interim editor of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society newsletter, JOTS. She is also President-elect of W.P.G.S.

SURFING THE NET

If you are surfing the World Wide Web, you may want to check out the commercial websites of a couple of well-known genealogical companies:

Banner Blue Software, creators of Family Tree Maker and the World Family Tree CDs, can be found at: WWW.FAMILY TREEMAKER.COM They will tell you about their products, CDs and how to enter your family information into their World Family Tree CD project. Also submitters' names of the World Family Tree pedigree charts can be found here as a free service.

The Everton Publishers can be reached at: <http://www.everton.com/> Their website advertises that it can Link to the National Archives and The Library of Congress. You can also access their On-Line Search and do a free trial search of their on-line databases including Social Security Death Benefits Index, "Roots Cellar," English 1851 Census (partial), US 1880 Census (partial) and Canadian 1871 Ontario Census, etc. [Thanks to Reed and Elissa Powell for the above info]

Switchboard is a free nationwide residential and business directory from condinate.com. If you put in a specific surname it will give you the names and addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses, if available, of all the persons in the database with that surname. The search can be narrowed by entering first names, cities, street addresses or zip codes. <http://www.switchboard.com> is the address. [Thanks to Grace and Bill McVay for this information.]

= MAKING YOUR OWN TRACKS =

A kickoff meeting for the NHG Autobiography Project, designed to encourage all NHG members to tell their families or future generations something about themselves, will be held at 6:30 p.m., half an hour before the next regular meeting, on June 18, 1996. Be there with ideas or examples on ways to do it (letters, photographs, etc.), how to get started, and how to pass those ideas on to our members.

[Editor's note: When I was home last month my Dad gave my maternal grandmother's ring to my 8 month old niece. I got thinking about it when I got home. My brother, the father of my niece, was 4 when our grandmother died so he has no memory of her. With that

in mind, I wrote a letter to my niece telling her my memories of the gracious lady that had previously owned the ring. I have a feeling that Gary's little speech last month about writing our memories down got me going on the project. Thanks, Gary and I hope many of you will take his advice and get the pen or computer out. Better yet, I hope many of you will come to the meeting before our June meeting. See you there!]

THE PERIODICAL SOURCE INDEX OR PERSI

The PERSI is the largest index of its kind in the world, indexing articles from the broadest spectrum of English-language and French-Canadian genealogy and local history periodicals.

The staff of the ACPL Foundation's Historical Genealogy Research Center will search for your ancestors in the PERSI electronic database. There are two distinct searches that can be done: A Place search and a Surname search.

For further information, instructions and a price list write to: ACPL Foundation, PERSI Database Search, P.O. Box 2270, Ft. Wayne, IN 46801.

McKEESPORT

By Stephanie Riccardi, Archivist Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, *Pittsburgh Golden Times*
Feb. 1996

McKeesport, one of the oldest towns on the Monogahela River, was laid out in 1795 by John McKEE at the mouth of the Youghiogheny River. John McKee was a boat builder who made his fortune building flat boats and keel boats for the many thousands of settlers moving through Western Pennsylvania and down the Ohio River to points West. In 1777, fourteen carpenters and sawyers arrived at Fort Pitt from Philadelphia to work in the McKeesport boat yards and to build the growing community.

Steel mills, along with other heavy industry began to appear in 1872, clustered along the river. By the 20th century coal, gas, oil exploration and electrical machinery became McKeesport's major industries.

TIDBITS: Genealogist: One who traces your family as far as your money will go.Slapstix

NHG DONATES BOOKS TO NORTHLAND LIBRARY

The North Hills Genealogists have donated the following books to the Northland Public Library. Most books will be catalogued in the Genealogy section (Dewey decimal 929) except for the "Roots for Kids" which should be found in the Children's department of Northland. This latter book is now out of print and was the last one our distributor had.

Italian Genealogical Records: How to Use Italian Civil, Ecclesiastical, & other Records by Trafford Cole; \$34.95

Unlocking the Secrets in Old Photographs by Karen Frisch; \$12.95

American Passenger Records by Michael Tepper; \$17.95

Marriages and Deaths from the Pittsburgh Dispatch \$14.45

Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Translation Guide by Jonathan Shea and William Hoffman ; \$29.00

How to Publish and Market Your Family History by Carl Boyer, III; \$17.50

Roots for Kids; \$ 8.75 (In the Children's Department)

Unpuzzling Your Past by Emily Croom; \$14.95

Pennsylvania Genealogical Research by George K. Schweitzer; \$12.00

Hereditary Society Blue Book, \$38.00

U.S. Military Records by James C. Neagles; \$39.95

This book was given in Memory of Leonard Wayne Schlemmer, father of Gary Schlemmer

Our total book donation amounted to \$240.45.

OPPS, A TYPO LAST MONTH — In the April NHG Newsletter on page 77 the date of the Spanish American War was listed as 1878, it should read 1898. On page 75 Gary Schlemmer, candidate for Vice President statement should read: **Thriving** not **thieving** on discovery. Sorry, Gary!!!

ONE DAY EXCURSIONS

It is summer time and a time to take a well deserved break from our work routines. Listed below are several destinations that are both close to Pittsburgh and historical in nature. *Have fun!!*

HANNA TOWN

Hanna's Town, an 18th century town named for Robert HANNA, was the first County Seat west of the Allegheny Mountains. The town was destroyed on July 13, 1782 as one the of the last acts of the American Revolution. Through the cooperative efforts of may people, the Westmoreland County Historical Society, and the Elizabeth Hanna Guild, Historic Hanna's Town is coming to life again.

Guided tours of the reconstructed Courthouse-Tavern, jail, log palisade Fort, Klingensmith House, and archaeological excavations are conducted by volunteers . costumed in 18th century garments. Demonstrations of colonial skills and craft show life as it was in the late 1700's.

Tours available from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 1:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays during the months of May, September, and October. the site is open daily, except Mondays, in those same hours Memorial Day through labor Day 1996.

From Exit #6 on I-76 (Pittsburgh-Monroeville), follow US 22 east to PA 819, then south 4 miles and east again at crossroads leading into Hanna's Town.

COOPER CABIN

Cooper Cabin is a pioneer museum maintained and operated by the Butler County Historical Society. It consists of the original cabin built before the War of 1812, two story log additions added just after the Civil War, a completely reconstructed spring house, a coal house (which now houses a small tool collection), a spinning house, an oil well model, an herb garden, a flower garden, nature trail and small gift shop.

The artifacts on display explain the evolution of living on a farm in Butler County.

The grounds are open to the public every Sunday between 1:30 & 4:30 May through September, with an interesting program, demonstration or display of historical

significance present each week. Each weeks program is different.

Cooper Cabin is located in Winfield Township, Butler County at 199 Cooper Road. Cooper Road is off Rt. 256, about one mile north of Knox Chapel and about nine miles south of Butler. The cabin is on the left about one mile down Cooper Road. Watch for blue directional signs.

SENATOR JOHN HEINZ PITTSBURGH REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

Visitors to the Regional History Center will find: **Points of Time** - this exhibit is an overview of the area's history. the exhibit showcases western Pennsylvania's development from pioneer settlement to industry giant to modern technical center. **Discovery Hall** - The exhibit allows children to learn history with a series of hands-on-activities. Children can even try their hand at pickle packing or bucket toting. **Library and archives** - visitors can search for information on their ancestors as well as information on local businesses,e organizations and other local facts. **Museum Shop** - The lobby area offers a selection of books on western Pennsylvania history, ethnic crafts, maps, posters and museum-related items. **Coat room and cold storage** - Check your coat and bags in the full service coat room. It offers cold storage for fresh food purchases from the Strip District's markets.

The museum is located at 12th and Smallman Streets, Strip District, Pittsburgh. Operating hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. The library and archives will be closed Sunday and Mondays. the admission is \$5.75 for adults and \$4.25 or senior citizens and children 3 to 18. For details call 454-6000.

MEADOWCROFT MUSEUM OF RURAL LIFE

Meadowcroft preserves the history of life on the land in Western Pennsylvania. Located in Washington County, it contains 125 historic structures and an archaeological site that contains evidence of the earliest human habitation in eastern North America. From Pittsburgh — Take I-79 south to Bridgeville Exit #11. Turn left on Route 50 West. Follow for approximately 25 miles to Avella, PA, and follow signs to Meadowcroft. Call either Meadowcroft at 412-587-3412 or the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania at 412-454-6000 for information on operation dates and special events.

YOU GET IT FROM YOUR FATHER

You got it from your Father,
'twas the least that he could give.
And it is yours to use and cherish as long as you may
live.
If you lose the watch he gave you,
it can always be replaced.
But a stain on the name he gave you can hardly be
erased.
Then always guard it wisely,
until each day is done.
You'll be glad that name is spotless when you give it to
your son.

Taken from *Tarentum Genealogical Society Newsletter*,
vol. 4, No. 1, Winter 95/96.

HOLDINGS OF THE OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Joy Wade Moulton, *Dispatch*, Columbus Ohio
Dec. 10, 1995

It is now possible to order some Ohio birth and death records by electronic mail from the Ohio Historical Society. In addition, researchers across the country can obtain information about programs, services, and collections of the Archives/Library division through the society's home page on the World Wide Web.

The society has begun to electronically catalog the State Archives of Ohio and to convert the Archives/Library printed catalog. When the project is completed, researchers will have immediate access to sources at the society.

The society collections include books, periodicals, journals, newsletters, manuscripts, maps and state and local archives. Among the printed sources is a collection of county histories, city and county directories, some 2,500 genealogies and family histories and published military histories.

Of special interest are the military rosters from the American Revolution through World War 1. For each individual, the unit, rank, age, length of service and brief comments about service are included. Civil War rosters contain a list of battles in which individual regiments participated. All rosters are either indexed or in alphabetical order by surname.

A microfilm copy of the Graves Registration File includes most veterans buried in Ohio regardless of the state in which they served. It covers Revolutionary War veterans and extends to 1967. Surnames are listed in alphabetical order.

Other military sources of note include the *Military History of Ohio* by H. H. Hardesty (New York, 1886-1887). This multi-volume work gives an overview of the participation of Ohio units in the Indian War, War of 1812, Mexican War and Civil War. The volumes cover 29 or the 88 counties in the the state.

Published histories for Ohio artillery, infantry and cavalry regiments also are among the society's holdings.

In addition to the Ohio Census for 1820-1880 and 1900-1920 on microfilm, mortality schedules which list Ohio deaths for one year preceding June 1 of the census year also are on microfilm. Included are 1850 (counties H-N), 1860 (all counties) and 1180 (counties A - Geauga). Only 1850 is indexed.

Birth and death records for various periods obtained from a variety of sources including probate court and transcribed records of the Daughters of the American Revolution, are available on microfilm for 29 counties. The research staff of the society will search for one name in one county for \$3.00 fee, plus 18 cents state tax for Ohio residents. When the date of birth or death is not known, please specify a 10-year period to be searched with each request.

There is no statewide index to marriage records before Sept. 7, 1949; records before that date were kept in the counties. The society does have a collection of county records on film, together with other transcriptions.

The society is the state depository for Ohio Newspapers, most of which are also on microfilm. Approximately one-half of the counties have a printed index to early issues of a least one newspaper. It is now possible to order microfilm copy of which the society holds the original. An American Library Association Loan form obtained from and submitted through a local public library should include a check for \$8 per roll made payable to the society. Allow 30 days for delivery to the library.

For information on additional holdings, send for a free copy of the Ohio Historical Society Information packet to 1982 Velma Ave., Columbus Ohio, 43221, or access the

home page of the society of the World Wide Web:
<http://winslo.ohio.gov/ohswww/ohshome.html>

E-mail requests may be sent to the society for a half-hour search of the following indexes: Vital records, probate indexes, grantor-grantee deed indexes, census indexes and naturalization. For each search (one name in one source) the fee is \$3. A Statement will be sent following the search. Use: ohsreff@winslo.ohio.gov

TEXAS BIRTH RECORDS

By Roger Bartlett, Austin, Texas, From Internet, July 8,
1993

The Genealogy Collection of the Texas State Library has the INDEXES to Texas Births and Deaths recorded with the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics from 1903-1976. The Bureau of Vital Statistics or the county clerk in the county where the birth or death took place must be contacted for information from 1977 through the present.

The indexes show the surname, the given name (if a child had not been named at the time of birth, the listing will read "Inf. of," followed by the mother's or father's given name), the county of birth or death, the date of birth or death, and the file number of the certificate.

Several factors can make a search in these indexes unsuccessful. The law providing for registration of births and deaths in Texas went into effect in 1903 but did not become mandatory until 1921. Many county clerks did not adhere to this law until as late as the 1930's or 1940's. Therefore, some births and deaths may be recorded only in the counties where they took place, or not recorded at all.

Many people who received no official record at the time of birth established one later in life with a local county court or with the Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics. These are called probate and delayed birth certificates. The Genealogy Collection has indexes to some of the records with the Bureau of Vital Statistics.

Names in the birth indexes for 1903-1909 are in one alphabetical series. The remaining indexes (1910-1976) consist of a separate alphabetical list of names for each year. Names in the death indexes for the years 1903-1940 are in one alphabetical series. The names in the death indexes for 1941-1945 form a second alphabetical series. The remaining indexes (1946-1976) consist of a separate alphabetical list of names for each year.

The Genealogy Collection's staff will make copies of entries in the indexes upon written request. The charge is \$.15 per page, with a minimum charge of \$1.00. Do not send advance payment when requesting copies, you will be billed. The staff can respond to no more than one letter per week. If more copies are needed than they can provide, they will supply a list of professional researchers who can do the work for a fee.

Copies of the birth and death certificates can be obtained by sending the index information, plus \$11.00 per copy for birth certificates, or \$9.00 per copy for death certificates, to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1100 Wet 49th St., Austin, Texas 78756. Requests for deaths within the last 25 years and births within the last 50 years should include the father's full name and the mother's maiden name, your reason for obtaining the record, and your relationship to the subject.

The following microfilmed indexes can be borrowed through your local library on interlibrary loan: Births, 1903-1976; Deaths, 1903-1940; Deaths, 1941-1945; Deaths, 1946-1976; Probate Births. If you wish to borrow any of these, please indicate the SURNAME(s) and YEAR(s) needed. Interlibrary loan requests must be on an ALA interlibrary loan form. Requests should be addressed to: Genealogy, Texas State Library, Box 12927, Austin, Texas 78711. There can be a six month waiting period.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics has marriage records since 1966. Records of marriages before 1966 are located in the county clerk's office where the marriage took place.

IRONWORKERS RESEARCH PROJECT

Elissa Powell

If you have family records of English and/or Welsh ancestors who worked in the iron industry in the Pittsburgh region between 1830 and 1880, your help is needed. Researcher Anne Knowles and William Jones of the Institute of Earth Studies at the University of Wales are doing a preliminary inquiry as to the availability of such records.

They are interested in skilled laborers, managers, common laborers, and investors; male and female. The information can be anything, not just evidence of employment. The records may be family histories, diaries, journals, letters, newspaper clippings, certificates, church records, and union records. They would also like to know about local histories in English

or Welsh that you have found useful, so that they can add them to a bibliography.

Your records are valuable, and you would not want to lose them. Please write a description of what you have as completely, but as succinctly as possible. Indicate whether you would be willing to have them photocopied. Also, indicate whether you would be able to come to a central location in Pittsburgh to show your information in an interview with Anne Knowles.

Anne Knowles hopes to come to Pittsburgh in August 1996. If she is able to do so, she would like to talk to W.P.G.S. about this project, and how it can relate to the study of immigration and life travels of any nationality group.

We also are waiting for additional information from her as to whether they will be including the Irish, Scots, and Ulster Scots in the study.

Please send your descriptions of the English / Welsh ironworkers now to:

Dr. Anne Knowles
Institute of Earth Studies
University of Wales
Llandinam Building
Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 3DB
Wales, United Kingdom

Have them weighed at the post office for both airmail and surface mail. Sometimes they are the same price!

[NOTE: We have invited Dr. Knowles to come to our August 20th meeting at Northland Library if she is in town. If you are interested in this project you may want to mark that date on your calendar in the case that she can make it.]

A Conference for the Nation's Genealogists...



In Your Ancestors' Image

14-17 August 1996 ♦ Rochester, New York

1996 FGS/RGS Conference
P.O. Box 830220
Richardson, Texas 75083-0220
Phone/fax 214/907-9727
Conference homepage:
<http://www.vivanet.com/~halsey/fgs96.html>

BALLOT FOR THE NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

INSTRUCTIONS: Each member of the North Hills Genealogists is entitled to one vote for the election of officers.

Officers elected will serve from August, 1996 to July, 1997 Please drop your vote in the ballot box at the JUNE meeting or return it to the address at the top of the NHG Newsletter before June 18, 1996. Votes will be counted at the June meeting and the new officers announced at that time.

President (vote for only one):

Keith Kerr _____

Write In _____

Vice President (vote for only one):

Gary Schlemmer _____

Write in _____

Treasurer (vote for only one):

Sherry L. Brady _____

Write in _____

Secretary (vote for only one)

Debi MacIntyre _____

Write in _____

BITS AND PIECES

PRINTED FAMILY HISTORIES

from Sioux Valley Gen. Soc. *Pathfinder*, Vol. 41 No. 4,
Oct. 1995; via Clark House News, Feb. 1996

The Library of Congress, Family History Div.,
Washington DC 20541, will send a printout of the family
histories that they have on a particular surname. Send a
stamped envelope (limit 1 or 2 names).

VETERAN TOMBSTONE INDEX 1879-1903

Rocky Mountain Buckeye, Vol. VII, No. 5, Jan. 96

Under the terms of a law passed in 1879, the U.S.
Government would buy a headstone for any veteran who

was buried in a private cemetery. Applications for these
stones during 1879-1903 are indexed. Write to the
following address, giving the name and if possible as
many items of information as you can: General Archives
Div., National Archives, GSA, Washington DC, 20408.

FEDERAL RECORDS

from *DuPage Co. IL Gen. Soc. Newsletter*
via *The Highpoint*, Mar. 96, Vol. 27, No. 7

"Your Right to Federal Records" is a pamphlet that can
be ordered for \$.50 from R. Woods, Consumer
Information Center, H, P.O. Box 100, Pueblo, CO
81002. It includes how to use the Freedom of Information
Act and Privacy Act to obtain records from the Federal
Government. Order by No. 499T.

JUNE 18 - JOE BULLICK - NORTH HILLS HISTORY

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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

**FIRST
CLASS**