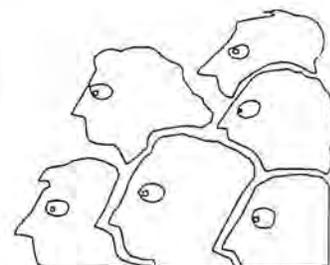


NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



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

Volume 8 Number - 1 - August 1997

President: Gary Schlemmer
Vice President: Patsi Lee
Treasurer: Sherry L. Brady

Secretary: Debi MacIntyre
Membership: Steph Valentine
Subscription: \$12.00 per year
10 Issues from August to June

Publicity: Keith Kerr
Liaison: Connie Foley
Editor: Marcia Coleman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is an exciting time for North Hills Genealogists! The start of a new membership year brings with it both fresh new faces and fresh familiar faces, all inspired by the summer and ready to go.

NHG's very first book, *Pioneer Cemeteries of Hampton Township, Allegheny County, PA.*, is now crafted and in the hands of our printer! Congratulations to Virginia Skander on the success of the project and special thanks to those - notably Keith Kerr, Elissa Powell, Gwen Glasbergen, and others - who devoted many long hours to make it work. Publicity is going out and book orders are coming in. And, as our investment in this public service work begins to return to NHG, we're already looking forward to Book #2!

This is also an exciting time for me. Keith Kerr's very successful term is a hard act to follow, but I am privileged to start our new year with Vice President Patsi Lee, Secretary Debi MacIntyre and Treasurer Sherry Brady - each very capable and looking out for NHG's best interests. And we are aware that it is the continuing effort of our committees, active new members, and dedicated officers-emeritus that is the basis for our success.

NHG's most exciting assets are you, the members, who come with a purpose and a set of expectations. We all want to share in the success of tracing our ancestors through that intricate and tenuous web of records which somehow imitates life. Bring your ideas, questions, and experiences, and join in the action! Happy hunting. -- Gary

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Tues., Sept. 2 at 7:30 p.m. **NHG Board Meeting** Northland Library, room #2. All members are welcome to attend.

Tues., Sept. 16 at 7:00 p.m. - **Regular NHG meeting** at Northland Library. Program: NHG member Frank Thomas on Croatia.

Mon. & Tues., Sept. 29-30 - **A Workshop, "Viewing Your Collection Through the Eyes of a Conservator,"** will take place at the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center. Contact Jeff Allen at 454-6376 for further information.

Tues., Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m. **NHG Board Meeting** at Debi MacIntyre's house. All members are welcome to attend.

Thur. 11, Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. **WPGS Meeting** at Carnegie Lecture Hall. Diana Crissman Smith of Cleveland, OH is giving two 45 minute lectures at 7:15 and 8:15 pm on "United We Stand: Using Civil War Pension Records" and "Extra, Extra: Ancestors revealed through Newspapers."

Sun., Oct. 19 to Wed., Oct. 22 - **Field Trip to Washington, DC.**

Sat., Dec. 6 - **December Social.** Trip to the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center with a lunch at Valhalla, a nearby restaurant and brewery, following the tour. Details to follow.

LOCAL GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

Elissa Powell will be speaking twice in September on **How to Get Started in Genealogy** at Barnes and Noble Bookstores. Thursday, September 4 at 12:30 p.m. will find her addressing the downtown luncheon crowd and on Tuesday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. she will be at the Cranberry store. No. registration is necessary for either event.

Elissa Powell will be speaking at a Northland Library sponsored event on Sept. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Northland Library. The program, **"Your Own Detective Story; The Hows and Whys of Genealogy,"** is free and open to the public.

A Workshop, "Viewing Your Collection Through the Eyes of a Conservator." is being hosted by the Local History Resource Service and will take place at the Senator John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Center on Monday and Tuesday September 29-30, 1997. This two day workshop offered by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums, in conjunction with the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts, will be conducted by Virgilia Rawsley, Director of Preservation Services and Susan Filter, Senior Paper Conservator, both of CCAHA. Contact Jeff Allen at 454-6376 for further information.

GENEALOGY CONFERENCES

The Federation of Genealogical Societies & The Dallas Genealogical Society Conference in Dallas, Texas, September 3-6, 1997. Contact: 1997 FGS/DGS Conference P.O. Box 830220, Richardson, Texas 75083.

Planting the Seed, A Workshop on Genealogical Research, will be held on Saturday, September 20 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Garden and Civic Center Bldg., Greensburg, PA. The workshop is put on by the Westmoreland County Historical Society and the primary focus of the workshop will be on 18th and 19th century Western European migration patterns in the United States with a particular emphasis on Pennsylvania and Westmoreland County. The following speakers will be presenting, Pastor Paul Miller Ruff, Marie Foreham, Janie Mason, John Heisey and Richard S. Heckman. For Reservations send a check for \$25.00 to WCHS, 951 Old Salem Road, Greensburg, PA. Lunch is on your own. For more information call (412) 836-1800.

The Second Annual Central Indiana Genealogy Conference of the Genealogical Society of Marion County will be held Saturday, September 27, 1997. The theme of this year's conference is "Tracking Our Heritage; the Pathways of Our Knowledge." the conference includes workshops, a vendor area and a genealogy computer center. For more information write to Genealogical Society of Marion County, Attention: Conference, P.O. 2282, Indianapolis, IN 46206

The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International Conference will be held on October 1-4, 1997 at the Radisson South Hotel (Bloomington MN). To be placed on the mailing list (non-members only) and to receive a copy of the registration booklet please send your name and address to: C.G.S.I. Conference, PO Box 16225, St. Paul MN 55116-0225. For further information about the conference call the Czechoslovak Information Hot-Line (612) 645-4585.

The 14th Irish/Scots-Irish Family History Conference will be held in Pottstown, Pennsylvania October 10 and 11, 1997. It will be held at the Pottstown Chapel at 93 Mangers Mill Road, Pottstown, PA. Pre-registration is required. For details and a registration form contact Joseph P. Reiley Jr., 19 Laurel Road, Boyertown, PA 19512-8013. [E-Mail JPreiley@aol.com] Pre registration is on a first come, first served basis ONLY.

This year's conference has a huge program with more than 70 presentations and seminars. The list of programs also include a few on English, French, German and Italian genealogy. There are also quite a few "generic" topics such as internet genealogy, how to use the Pennsylvania State Archives, efficient use of various genealogy software packages.

19th Annual Family History Conference, sponsored by the Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society and the Lancaster County Historical Society, will be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, October 30-November 1 at the Holiday Inn/Lancaster Host Hotel and Conference Center, Lancaster, PA. Eakle, President of the Genealogical Institute of Salt Lake City, will discuss "American Migrational Patterns" of cooperative and religious groups, including migration-oriented records. She will also conduct three workshop: "Migrational Patterns into the Central United States," "Planning a Research Trip to Your Place of Origin," and "Evaluating Genealogical Evidence." There will be 20 other workshops on varied aspects of genealogical research. A program and further registration details are available from Lola M. Lehman, Lancaster Mennonite Historical

Society, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602-1499 (include SASE). Phone (717) 393-9745; Fax: (717) 393-8751. Registration deadline is October 15.

WASHINGTON DC BUS TRIP

NHG and WPGS are sponsoring a bus trip to DC from Sunday Oct. 19th until Wed. Oct. 22. If the bus is filled up and you can arrange your own transportation to DC you can take advantage of the group hotel rates. For more information contact either Suzie Johnston at 486-3904 or Elissa Powell at 935-6961. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan to join the group this fall as they "research" their way through Washington. They had a wonderful trip to DC last fall.

GENEALOGY CLASS

Elissa Powell is teaching a beginning genealogy class at CCAC North Campus on Rt. 19 on five Sunday afternoons, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 21. The class includes a hands-on field trip to the Carnegie Library with individualized help from the instructor. Registration is being taken by CCAC, Office of Continuing Education, 8701 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. The cost is \$34. Walk-in registration is allowed although pre-registering helps to ensure that a class will not have to be cancelled due to lack of enrollment or closed-out due to the maximum people signing up.

QUERIES

Compiled and typed by Keith Kerr, Query Editor

Looking for records for Jeremiah **JESSON**, living in 1870 census in Sharpsburgh, Allegheny, PA, (born 1830 in England son of William Jesson) wife Mary **HARTSHORN** Jesson (b. 1831 Eng dtr of Samuel Harthorne) married 16 May 1853 in Tipton, Dudley, Staffordshire, Eng. Known daughters were :Clara Jesson (wife of William **WAGGONER** m.13 May 1886 Mansfield, Allegheny, PA.) (b. 10 Mar 1865 in West Bromwich, Worcester, Eng.), Ella or Ellen Jesson (wife of Alexander **ABBOTT** m. 21 Jun 1892 in Pittsburgh) b.18 June 1869 in Warrington, Doncaster, Lancs.,Eng. (no children as of 1900 census) , and Mary Jane Jesson (wife of Archibald **KENNEDY** m. 27 April 1887 in Emmanuel Church, Allegheny, Allegheny Co.) b. 2 June 1860 in Doncaster, York, Eng. The daughters seemed to have

lived in Sewickley at different times. Any helps? Contact: *Kathy L. Baumgarten, 18 Elm St Plattsburgh, NY 12901. Phone: 518-561-6312 ; E-mail CXPALLAS@AOL.COM*

GROETZINGER, Allegheny County, PA; **ENGLISH**, Pine, Ross, McCandless Townships, Allegheny County, PA; **VOGLE**, Washington County, PA; **DOWLER**, Ohio County, WV and Crosscreek Township, PA; **HOLMES**, Westmoreland and Washington County, PA: **ATEN**, Moon Township, Allegheny County and Washington County PA. Contact: *Margaret E. Duffy, 14 South Spring Road, Westerville, OH 43081-2445*

SCHMITT, Shaler Township, Allegheny County, PA; **SCHAFER**, Shaler Township, Allegheny County, PA; **DAUGHERTY**, Upper Burrell Township, Westmoreland County, PA; **BYERLY**, Upper Burrell Township, Westmoreland County, PA. Contact: *Ethel Maloney, 301 Oakwood Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15209-1751.*

HILLS, **EDWARDS**, **MUSZYNSKI**, **STRZELECKI**, **STEFANSKI**, **TUCKER**, **HOLMES**, **BITTERMAN**, and **GROSS**. Contact: *Richard Hills, 335 Summit Avenue, Ligonier, PA 15658.*

BRADLEY, Allegheny, Fayette, Somerset Counties, PA; **BRADY**, Fayette, Huntingdon, Westmoreland Counties, PA **GRANEY**, Huntingdon, Montgomery Counties, PA; **O'MALLEY**, Allegheny and Fayette Counties, PA; **RAHRIG**, Allegheny and Fayette Counties, PA. Contact: *Thomas F. Rahrig, 1250 West Braddock Road, Cumberland, MD 21502-7511.*

KAPPLER, **PEYTON**, **SCOTT**, **MCCALLUM**, all of Allegheny County, PA. Contact: *Ruth Graf, 8353 Elaine Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237.*

SAMUEL SMITH and **DAVID GROUNDS** of Smith's Ferry, Beaver County, PA. Contact: *Joseph E. O'Hanlon, 2425 Lakemont Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044.*

KALBAUGH, Westmoreland County, Berks County, PA and Western Maryland; **FLESHER**, Somerset County, PA and WV; **WADSWORTH**,

Fayette and Westmoreland Counties, PA.
Contact: *Vera K. Avetta, 146 Gene Drive,
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-1127.*

WHITE in early PA, **BARTLETT** in NY. Contact:
*John B. White, 127 Oak Manor Drive, Natrona
Heights, PA 15065-1949.*

BROWN, Franklin Park, PA; **SKILES**, Franklin
Park, PA. Contact: *Michael E. Palbus, 5403 Peach
Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044.*

GIBSON, Morgan County, Washington County,
OH; **CRANE**, Lenawee County, MI, also
STANBERY, **MERRIAM**, **HUMPHREY**.
Contact: *Julie Kant, 1552 Alaqua Drive, Sewickley,
PA 15143-9558.*

SCHALTENBRAND from Alsace Lorraine to
Pennsylvania; **MCCARTHY** from County Cork,
Wales to Pennsylvania. Contact: *Norine
Benzenhoefer, 2684 Pointview Drive, Allison Park,
PA 15101.*

ABEL, St. Paul, MN; **STANG**, Indiana County, PA;
ENGEL, Beaver County, PA; **MILBERT**, Grand
Traverse County, MI; **REICHENEDER**, St. Louis,
MO. Contact: *Darlane Abel, 104 Biscayne Terrace,
Pittsburgh, PA 15212.*

BEGINNER'S CORNER

Question: How can I find my grandmother's maiden
name?

Answer: Below is a list of 19 different ways to find a
maiden name.

1. The Woman's death certificate - if within period of vital
state registration.
 - a. See International Vital Records Handbook, by
Thomas J. Kemp. Genealogical Publishing Co.,
1990, for forms and addresses
 - b. Where to Write for Vital Records or other
similar books.
 - c. Use Ancestry's Red Book or Everton's Handy
Book for records available, each state and
county, plus addresses.
2. All children's birth and death certificates if they lived
into the 20th century,

- a. Should name father and mother, and often
their places of birth.
3. Copy of her obituary published in newspapers in
nearby towns.
 - a. Also check to see if father or any brothers
survived her.
 - b. Obituaries of her children often give mother's
maiden name.
4. Marriage certificate.
 - a. If county and husband's name is known.
 - b. Check children's marriage certificates. These
may give parents.
 - c. If married young, a parent may have given
permission to marry.
5. Probate records.
 - a. Check for Probate Proceedings, including will
or administration.
 - b. Witnesses often included one person who was
a relative of the wife.
6. Land Records
 - a. Quit Claims for father's real estate will prove
her relationship.
 - b. Any mortgage was very often carried by the
woman's father.
7. Printed Church records or printed marriage records
 - a. Published in books found in libraries.
 - b. Published in journals. Check Periodical
Source Index (PERSI).
8. Unpublished church records of marriage
 - a. Microfilmed by LDS.
 - b. Find and check individual churches and/or
their church archives.
9. International Genealogical Index (IGI)
 - a. Microfiche index in LDS libraries, including
entries and abstractions from all over the world.
Has over 18 million entries, but not all, however.
10. Divorce papers
 - a. If great-grandfather seemed to vanish, worth
a check.
11. Newspaper indexes
 - a. Many localities have indexed marriages and
other vital records. Write distant libraries,
historical or genealogical societies.
12. Histories
 - a. Biographies of her husband and/or any
children.
13. Widow's Military Pension
 - a. Revolutionary War
 - b. Civil War
 - c. War of 1812
 - d. Any other war where she may have received
pension.

14. Locate a family genealogy of husband's line
 - a. In LDS catalog
 - b. Index to Genealogies in Library of Congress
 - c. MUCMUC - National Union Catalog of Manuscripts
 - d. Other Libraries
15. Locate distant relatives who have information
 - a. Query in Genealogical Helper, newsletters, newspapers, etc.
16. Census 1880, 1900, 1910
 - a. Relationship is stated and in-laws may be living with family.
17. Certificate of Naturalization of husband
18. Bounty Land Warrant.
19. Tombstone Company, cemetery office, or funeral director's records

From *Rocky Mountain Buckeye*, Volume III, No 1. Originally in *Henry County Chapter, Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter*.

BOOKS REVIEWED and FOR SALE

Pioneer Cemeteries of Hampton Township, Allegheny County, PA

This cemetery listing book documents the final resting places of many settlers of the area. It includes not only complete readings for the Pine Creek, Depreciation Lands, and Hampton Cemeteries, but also the lot owners' book for the latter and a guide to the other cemeteries in Hampton Township. Each stone has been recorded exactly with dates, relationships, epitaphs, stonecarvers' names, and other notations such as the condition of the stone or whether any other marker or a photo of the deceased was present. An everyname index includes maiden names when known. This hard bound, library-quality book is over 200 pages and contains many photographs of the gravestones, history of the area and maps.

The regular price of \$19.95 is discounted in a pre-publication sale until September 30, 1997 to \$14.95 plus applicable tax, postage and handling as follows: Before September 30th: PA residents mailed \$19.00, PA Residents pickup \$16.00 and Libraries and Outside PA \$17.95. After Sept. 30, 1997: PA Residents mailed \$24.35, PA Residents pickup \$21.35 and Libraries and Outside PA \$22.95. Send orders to: The North Hills Genealogists, c/o Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455.

Parish Records of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Irwin, Part II, 1885-1945

Parish Records of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Irwin, Part II, 1885-1945, by Paul Miller Ruff. Contains the story of the congregation, 768 baptisms, confirmations, marriages, funeral, communion, receptions & dismissals. Many entries include where they came from in Sweden. 148 pages. \$12.50 + .75 PA sales tax, PA residents. Send to author, at 18 Fosterville Road, Greensburg, PA 15601

This "Mother Church," of the thousands of Swedish people who migrated into SW Penna. beginning in 1870's, was first known as the Swedish Lutheran Westby Congregation.

The Swedes who came to SW Penna. were from the industrial and mining areas of Sweden. They came here to work on the railroads and in the steel mills.

INTERNET LINKS

The Ohio Historical Society has gone on-line with a prototype of about 90% of the death records for the years 1913-1917. Eventually the data base will expand to 1908-1944.

<http://www.on-library.com/cgi-onlib/ohiohist/dindex.pl#search>

Cornish Surname Index

<http://www.zynet.co.uk/jloob/csurname.html#top>
 Revolutionary War Records for soldiers of Northampton and Lehigh counties, Pennsylvania

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/3955/rev.htm>
 German and Russian Genealogy

GER-RUS2@LISTWERV.NODAK.EDU
 Genealogy of more than 4000 French-Canadian and Acadian-cajun

surnames: <http://www.cam.org/~cdrgduq>
 Research in the United Kingdom & Ireland

GENUKI-L@MAIL.EWORLD.COM
 "New England Genealogy" has a number of family trees and a history and sources for each name. Most surnames are from New England with a number of others going back to England:

<http://www.geocities.com/heartland/hills/1094/>
 Alabama General Land Office Records in the HomeTown Library:

<http://www.ancestry.com/home/library/subscriberdatabases.htm>

"MISSING LINKS" - An On-line Weekly Newsletter for Genealogists

"Missing Links" features serious and humorous articles, research tips and web sites, plus true stories by family historians of triumph and frustrations in its Successful Links, Lost Links and Elusive Links columns. To receive the newsletter just e-mail a request to Julie_Case@prodigy.com

PLACES TO VISIT

NEW RESOURCE IN PITTSBURGH

A new Library Center has opened downtown and it is located at 414 Wood Street. This Center is a combination of the old Carnegie Business and Information Center and the Point Park College Library. This new creation features 100 networked work stations, a theater, and new microfilm equipment. The library is open Monday through Thursday 8 AM-9 PM, Friday 8 AM-5:30 PM, Saturday 8:30 AM-5 PM and closed on Sunday.

If anyone has investigated this we would much appreciate a first-hand account.

Thanks to Keith Kerr for the above information

NEHGS LIBRARY REOPENS

The New England Historic Genealogical Society reopened its library on June 3. Everyone seems pleased with the renovations.

NEWSLETTER STAFF UPDATE

Keith Kerr is the most recent addition to the staff. He will be typing and compiling the queries for the newsletter. The queries take a lot of time and I appreciate having monthly help with it. Ginny Skander and Julie Kant have been helping out with the typing which has lessened the hours that it takes to get this newsletter ready each month. Ginny also has the newsletter copied, puts mailing labels on, and mails out the newsletters that are not picked up at the meeting. Steph Valentine prints the mailing labels and many NHG members send me letters and e-mail with information and articles. Thanks!! If you would like to join this very important group of individuals please call Marcia Coleman at 367-5123 or e-mail at coleman3@ix.netcom.com

SOME DON'T - SOME DO

*Gallia Co. Hist. & Gen. Soc. Newsletter, Vol. 18, No. 4
via Mahoning Meanderings, Feb. 94, Vol. 18.*

Some members work to make us strong.

Some join just to belong.

Some dig right in and work with pride.

Some go along just for the ride.

Some volunteer to do their share,

Some won't work and just don't care.

On meeting days, some always show,

While some cannot, some never go.

Some always pay their dues ahead,

Some get behind and forget instead.

Some do their best, some let things go,

Some never try to help us grow.

Some drag.....some pull,

Some don't.....some do;

Remember in 1997-98, **WE NEED YOU.**

Editor's note: It is time to renew your dues for next year.

NHG MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

In conjunction with the Slippery Rock Heritage Association and Butler County Historical Society joint seminar on genealogy, Elissa Powell was invited to be a guest on a regular radio show which aired for about 20 minutes on Sunday, August 10 at 7:06 a.m. and again at 12:20 p.m. on WISR AM 680.

EXTRA NHG NEWSLETTERS

If your newsletter is lost or destroyed in the mail please contact Steph Valentine at 934-3398 or e-mail at svalen@nauticom.net

HELP WANTED

The Publicity Committee is looking for an individual that would be willing to make a monthly flier for posting in local libraries. The fliers would list our current meetings, programs and events. The flier would need to be "eye catching."

If this is a job you can do for NHG, Please contact Debi MacIntyre at 369-0805.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY

In the February, 1997 (Vol. 7, No. 6) and the April, 1997 NHG Newsletter (Vol. 7, No. 8) we began a series on the Counties of Western Pennsylvania taken from "Your Family Tree" written by Francis Strong Helman and printed in *Clark House Quarterly*, published by Historical and Genealogical Society of Indiana County, July 1996, Vol. XVI, No. 3 and October 1996, Vol. XVI, No. 4. Below is the continuation of the history.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Washington County was formed in 1781 from part of Westmoreland County. It had been claimed by Virginia and was included in its original charter from Queen Elizabeth granted to Sir Walter Raleigh in 1584. In 1708, James I divided the colony of Virginia between the London and Plymouth Land Companies. The southwest portion of Pennsylvania claimed by Virginia then belonged to the Plymouth Land Company. Charles I who succeeded James I gave extensive grants to Lord Fairfax and Lord Baltimore which caused much difficulty. In 1734 Virginia contained eight counties. Since the Revolutionary War that area has been divided and sub-divided until it became absorbed by several states and many counties. What is now Washington County was first included in West Augusta district of Virginia. The erection of counties for that territory era are as follows:

1720 - Spottsylvania formed from West Augusta

1734 - Orange formed from Spottsylvania

1738 Frederick and Augusta taken from Orange.

Augusta covered all of that portion of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge Mountain.

1778 - West Augusta was divided into three counties (referred to by historians as the "Virginia Counties") Namely: Yohogania, embracing the northern part of present Washington County, Ohio, embracing the southern part of Washington County; Monongalia, covering a large part of the present Fayette County.

The completion and final marking of the Mason-Dixon boundary line settled the controversy. The last minutes of Yohogania and Ohio county courts of Virginia were written in 1780. The Ohio county still exists in West Virginia and these old records are preserved at Wheeling. The original Monogalia county records were destroyed by fire at Morgantown. During the existence of Virginia courts a Pennsylvania court met at Hannastown in Westmoreland, (erected in 1773), of which Washington

county then a part according to our provincial claims. All courts seemed to function in good order, and in these later years of the Revolutionary War, keen interest in freedom and allegiance to their new nation certainly must have been foremost in the minds of these hardy pioneers.

The Militia which accompanied Brigadier-General George **CLARK** in 1781 and Colonial William **CRAWFORD** in 1782, against the Indians was made up of Westmoreland and Washington county men.

Captain **VAN SWEARINGEN**, Hugh **SCOTT**, James **EDGAR**, John **ARMSTRONG**, and Daniel **LUTE** were appointed as commissioners to purchase land for the purpose of building a court house and jail. Captain Swearingen was the first sheriff, William **McFARLANE** the first coroner and Thomas **SCOTT** Esq., the first prothonetary.

Washington is the county-seat, earlier called Basset Town, laid out by David **HOGUE**, October 1781.

The lineage of many early settlers can be traced back to Virginia through migration along the Monongahela River, and others through Westmoreland to eastern Pennsylvania.

CLEARFIELD COUNTY

Clearfield County was formed in 1804 from parts of Huntington and Lycoming Counties. It is bounded on the north by Elk and Cameron; west by Jefferson and Indiana; south by Cambria, and on the east principally by Centre, a few miles bordering on Clinton, while just a tiny bit touches on Blair County. In 1805, the commissioners appointed by Governor **McKEAN** (Roland **CURTAIN**, Jas. **FLEMING** & Jas. **SMITH**), selected a tract of land, owned by Abraham **WITMER**, as a site for Clearfield, the county-seat. This town is on the site of the Indian town of Chinklacamoose - "where the moose meet."

The Commissioners of Centre Co., by virtue of a legislative enactment, took charge of the new county and exercised provisional authority over it until 1812, when Clearfield selected her own commissioners; Robt. **MAXWELL**, Hugh **JORDON** and Samuel **FULTON**. They appointed Arthur **SELL**, Sr., as county treasurer. Finally in 1822 Clearfield Co. was organized for judicial purposes and empowered to elect her own county officers.

The county is traversed by the West Branch of the Susquehanna which rises in Indiana Co. This brought the early lumbermen into the section since it provided means

of reaching eastern Pennsylvania markets, and pine trees became a great source of income. From 1862-74, when the railroads had replaced many of the river rafts, it was estimated that the annual trade of the county in lumber was over two million dollars.

There were residents who asked what poor Clearfield Co. would do when the lumber was all cut! It has been found to have a large bituminous coal basin, and as early as the 1860's mining overshadowed the lumber trade. Coal was also run down the river for sale at the larger towns. It was a tedious business for a mishap could easily send the cargo to the bottom of West Branch.

In 1814, Peter **KARTHAUS**, native of Hamburg, Germany, established a furnace for iron ore at the mouth of Little Moshannon Creek. This passed into hands of different owners until it was abandoned about 1840. Karthaus in the mean time became a Baltimore merchant.

Clearfield County's streams and mountains are the scene of annual fishing and hunting parties, and summer homes of all sizes provide many with restful hours of relaxation in the beautiful scenic area.

Some of the towns are Dubois, Curwensville, Osceola Mills, Morrisdale, Grampian, Houtzdale and Helvetia.

BRANCHING OUT

"I've got some e-mail excitement going on here. A few weeks ago my father received a letter addressed to his former home from a person inquiring about the **GLOVER** family. She wanted to know about my great-aunt. The person was from England and she had an e-mail address. We have been writing back and forth and it turns out we are 3rd cousins. She has been to Ireland and spent a day or 2 in the Public Records Office in Belfast. It has been fascinating!!!!!! Though you would understand!"
Barb

[*Editors note:* This e-mail from NHG member Barb Greeway prompted me to consider having a column where NHG members could print their genealogical successes, frustrations or just interesting experiences. Send your contribution to NHG Newsletter Editor, 1950 Lammerton Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101 or e-mail to coleman3@ix.netcom.com]

Tidbits....Jeanealogy: The study of Levis & Wranglers from *Ancestry Trails*, April, 1997

YOU MIGHT BE A GENEALOGIST IF.....

The author is NHG member **KATHY BAUMGARTEN**

- 20) Every time you reach for an envelope, you pull out an SASE instead.
- 19) You have copies of wills from 1850, but still haven't written your own.
- 18) You have copies of deeds, but don't own your own home.
- 17) The only reason you learned to use a computer is because your surname list went over 1500 individuals.
- 16) The more you have to deal with your descendants, the more you love your ancestors.
- 15) You know where all your ancestors are buried, but don't have your own plot picked.
- 14) You read TV& movies credits to watch for your related surnames.
- 13) In your spare time you figure out alternate spellings of surnames.
- 12) You can soundex a surname without using the code guide.
- 11) Inside your wallet you carry your drivers license and the address to the Pa. Dept. of Health and Vital Statistics.
- 10) At a family reunion, you group people together for photos by degree of kinship, and make them take off their glasses so dominant facial features are evident.
- 9) You don't raise an eyebrow when your neighbor runs off with the mailman, but wonder why your great-grandfather only left his son a featherbed.
- 8) You know it's better to be a second cousin, twice removed, than to be a fourth cousins.... and you know why.
- 7) Your idea of a great day trip is to see how many cemeteries you can hit in one afternoon.
- 6) You plan family vacations around the location of cemeteries.
- 5) You know what your great-grandmother died of, but still forget to do regular breast self-exams.
- 4) You know how much all the fees are for money orders, and what the registrar's first name is.
- 3) You communicate more often with cousins on-line than with your spouse.
- 2) Columbo has nothing on you when it comes to rooting out kinfolk- but where the heck are those car-keys?
- 1) You take out a full page ad in Everton's Genealogical Helper

[*Editors note:* Thanks Kathy for sharing this.]

FINAL RESTING PLACES

By Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG

In a remote area in Kentucky, where none of my family ever lived, on a hot summer day I explored a chigger-infested cemetery high on a rugged hill -- just in case I might find some ancestor's final resting place. Colleagues confess they do the same.

As a child, I accompanied my maternal grandmother to decorate the graves of family members on Memorial Day, and as a result, a great deal of family history was passed on to me. I know where her two-year-old son, who died of the croup, is buried even though no stone marks his grave -- something that always bothered grandmother because she never had the money to purchase one.

Research in cemeteries may provide the only evidence and information about our ancestors, particularly the women and children, for whom no other records exist. This is true in the example of my uncle who died young. He was born in 1907 and died in 1909. As a result he does not appear in the 1900 or 1910 census with his parents and siblings, and no Bible record survives. Only a cemetery deed confirms this oral tradition.

CEMETERY RESEARCH in addition to reading tombstones, should include checking these records:

-- Burial registers of cemeteries, recorded chronologically as the funerals occurred.

-- Church burial registers.

-- Sexton's records. These are found at municipal cemeteries, commercially operated memorial parks, and at many large denominational facilities shared by two or more churches. These records also lists the plots available in that cemetery -- occupied, owned, or not owned.

-- Cemetery deeds. Like real estate deeds, the originals are given to the owner of the plot, but recorded copies of sales, transfers and bequests of title will be found at the sexton's office in the cemetery deed books.

-- Burial permit records and grave-opening orders. For the past 70 years or so, state health departments have regulated burials. Burials are usually done by licensed morticians, who obtain a permit from the city or county authority. Most cemeteries also have records of grave

openings -- for burial, postmortem exhumation, or transfer of the body. Such records usually begin about the time of state registration of deaths.

Local monument companies and funeral homes also can be excellent sources of information, and don't forget the obvious: Check with the local library, historical, and genealogical societies for compiled cemetery records.

A "VIRTUAL GRAVEYARD" ON THE INTERNET

In Japan it will soon be possible to be virtually dead. A Buddhist temple in the city of Hiroshima plans to open a "virtual graveyard" on the internet. Visitors will be able to choose different types of electronic tombstones and include photos of the deceased family and family records on a Web page. They would also be able to create their own memorials in advance and leave informal wills for their families.

Yukihio Takada, monk at the Kannonin Temple, said the idea came from people who live too far away from the temple to visit but want to attend a family memorial and pay respects to ancestor. "After we announced we would offer the service we had 200 people asked to register, including Japanese people living overseas," Takada said. He said they included people whose relatives graves had been destroyed in the 1995 Kobe earthquake.

The temple's graveyard is expected to be launched on the temple's homepage this year and the temple will make no charge for putting "gravestones" on it. Kannonin's homepage (<http://www.urban.or.jp/home/kanjizai/>), at which visitors are greeted by the smiling face of the temple's senior monk, already boast about 20,000 hits a month, Takada said.

THANK YOU

I want to thank the NHG for the lovely flowers I received while I was recuperating in July from surgery. They brighten my day, actually many days, and lifted my spirits. The flowers lasted for two weeks which must be a record for fresh flowers. Thanks so much. I would also like to thank the NHG members that sent me cards and greetings via the US mail and E-mail.

Marcia Coleman, Newsletter Editor

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

FIRST CLASS

SEPT. - NHG MEMBER FRANK THOMAS

BITS AND PIECES

DECIPHER TOMBSTONE

Family Tree, Vol. VII, No. 2, Apr./May, 97

The best way to read those hard-to-read tombstones is with a mirror. A compact mirror or a cheap 5 x 7 one will do. Hold the mirror to the side of the transcription and reflect the sunlight onto it. The cross light picks up everything and it doesn't damage the stone.

NORWEGIAN HELP

The Family Tree, Vol. VI, No. 3, June/July 1996

Norwegian resources may be found at the Vesterheim Genealogical Center and the Naeseth Library. the Center is a division of Vesterheim, the Norwegian-American

Museum in Decorah, Iowa. Genealogical resources are available to visiting Center members at no charge, by appointment only. Non members may use the center, by appointment only, for a \$10 a day fee. Membership information is available by writing Vesterheim, 501, W. Water St. Decorah, IA 52101.

DANISH COMPUTER NETWORK

The Family Tree, Vol. VII, No. 2, April/May 1997

The Danish Immigrant Museum recently opened near Elk Horn and Kimballton, Iowa, the historic center of the Danish emigration to America in the 19th century. A computer network will link people, families and artifacts as part of its function as an international clearinghouse for information about Danes in America. Information is available from Danish Immigrant Museum, PO Box 178, Elk Horn, IA 51531' or call 712-764-7225.