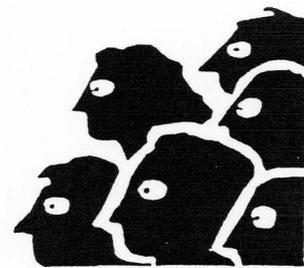


NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



%Northland Public Library, 500 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4555

Volume 9, Number 6 - February, 1999

President: Gary Schlemmer	Vice President: Sylvan Kretz	Secretary: Marcia Coleman
Treasurer: Patsi Lee	Membership: Steph Valentine	Liaison: Elissa Powell
Cemetery Project: Ginny Skander	Book Committee: Marion Hyle	Editor: Donna Booth
Program: Melinda Merriman	Subscription \$12 per year	10 issues - August - June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The North Hills Genealogists -- just what are we? This needs some explanation, because it may be different than what you expect. With an organization with a name such as this, it is natural to mistakenly assume that it has some sort of staff (often unpaid), and office, and lots of local research data to tap. The unpaid part is correct. For NHG, the rest is not.

NHG's primary purpose is to provide meeting programs which are related to researching family ancestors, or historical subjects which leave a paper trail about them (e.g., the Civil War and its soldiers' documents, etc.) or materials and techniques to preserve and keep track of our findings. These meetings are free and open to the public, held at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of each month except December. They are possible only because of the meeting room provided for two hours each month by the Northland Public Library, for which we are very grateful, and because of the constant searching by our program chair and board for new subjects for speakers.

Our second goal is to support the library's genealogy collection. NHG does not have a book collection of its own, nor an office to house it! Surplus cash from our newsletter subscriptions is used to purchase books which explain how to organize your family tree, what to include in it, and where to look for the information.

Sharing the second spot is this newsletter, NHG's public presence. Obtained by subscription, its ten issues each year bring news of local events, personal queries, and whatever tips we can find to make this hobby worthwhile for you. Its pages travel across the country to both individuals and institutions. Our editor donates many hours, using personal equipment, for its completion. We invite and NEED stories of your experiences to help inform our friends and to fill up the pages!

NHG maintains a Surname Card File for public use at the library, and includes the names and addresses of those researching specific ancestors. Our collection of subscribers' five-generation charts appears for inspection at each regular meeting, but, alas, has no public

home. Although we don't have a database of our own, some of our expert volunteers routinely give pointers to individuals seeking local connections for their queries (SASE, of course).

Having used others' resources for much of "our discoveries", we also found it imperative to give something back to the cause. NHG's book "Pioneers Cemeteries of Hampton Township" and its upcoming sequel document inscriptions from those old, and sometimes disintegrating, ancestral tombstones. Dozens of volunteers and hundreds of contributed hours of recording, editing and printing were and are needed to preserve this in an archival quality keepsake.

Use of a free e-mail service has recently enabled us to alert subscribers to special local genealogy events or, as in January, to help keep them off the roads when treacherous weather forced cancellations. News input and book orders to pioneerbooks@Juno.com are also appreciated!

So what is NHG? It is a group of friends helping their friends, of which you are one, develop their family trees. It has neither halls to call a home, nor walls to confine it. The network that it provides is shared by, and depends upon, each of us who use it. A little time from each will lighten the load for all - and help us take the next step.

Gary

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Tues, March 2 - 7:30 PM - NHG Board Meeting, cafeteria, Passavant Hospital. Everyone welcome to attend.

Sat., March 13 - 10:00 AM - WPGS Meeting - Research Day at the Historical Society of Western, PA (see separate article)

Tues, March 16 - 7:00 PM - Regular NHG Meeting - Jean Morris - "Using the Published Pennsylvania Archives in Genealogical Research".

June 25-26 - WPGS 25th Anniversary Conference - Sheraton Station Square Hotel - Keynote speaker: Henry Z. (Hank) Jones, Jr., author of *Psychic Roots* and *Palantine Families of New York.*; also speaking will be Cindi Howells of Cyndislist and John T. Humphrey. Various vendors and exhibitors will also be present.

To receive a conference registration form, send a SASE to WPGS Conference, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080. Registration is limited.

NHG will be hosting the lunch on June 25.

FIELD TRIPS

Sat, Feb. 20, 1:00 PM - Photo Antiquities Museum - Tour of museum and information on how antique photographs are dated and restored. Bring a photo(s) for help in dating.

Sat. April 17 - Research Field Trip to Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, OH (see separate article)

SEMINARS

Sat. Feb. 27 - 10:00-4:00 - Preservation Fair in Pittsburgh - Saving Your Family Treasures - Carnegie Museum of Natural History (see separate article for details)

Sat., March 20 - Slippery Rock Heritage Society Seminar - Slippery Rock College, Slippery Rock, PA. Lissa & Reed Powell will be speakers at this seminar.

QUERIES

RAMSEY, David (b. 1802); **RAMSEY, Geoerge W.** (b. 1845), Hanover Twp., Beaver County, PA (1860 census). Contact: **Doris Jones, 9543 Magellan Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-6117**

BRADY (1850-1860) PA/MD/WV; **GRANEY** (1860-1870) Ireland/MD/PA/WV; **FLANAGAN** (1840-1870) PA/WV/MD; **O'MALLEY** (1870-1900) Pittsburgh, PA; **RAHRIG** (1830-1840) MD/PA. Contact: **Thomas Rahrig, 1250 West Braddock Road, Cumberland, MD 21502-7511**

BROWN, Jennie (married name: **COOK**) b. 1875, Franklin Twp, Allegheny County, PA. Parents: Jean SKILES and Harry/Henry **BROWN** (b. 1832) Contact: **Irma L. Klows, 601 Semple Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15202-2228**

HODILL (all dates/locations); **HODIL** (1772-present), **GRUBBS** (1800-present) North Hills, Pine Creek, Allegheny County, PA.; **PETERS, William** (1835-present), North Pittsburgh, Allegheny City, PA; **EMIG** (1851-1990's), Millvale, Allegheny County, PA; **YOUNG, William, Nancy Jane** (1806), Pittsburgh/Millvale, Allegheny County, PA. Contact: **Ronald Hodill, 11 College Avenue North, Apt. 302, Columbia, MO 65201-4991**

MARSHALL, Thomas Mercer, James, Archibald; DEAN, Elizabeth Marshall (1850's) Allegheny City, PA; **MARSHALL, Samuel** (1850's) Cranberry Twp/Mars, PA; **GLOVER, James.** Contact: **Goldie Barnhart, 5271 Skylark Court, Cape Coral FL 33904-5870.**

Note: NHG does not do individual research.

WASHINGTON WIRE

Keith Kerr, reporting

"let us, while waiting for new monuments, preserve the ancient monuments"

Victor Hugo, 1832

A membership in the National Trust for Historical Preservation costs \$25 per family. This can be a wise investment when vacationing in the DC and Virginia area. The membership entitled you to free admission to National Trust sites which are normally \$6.00 per adult, and a subscription to their magazine. Trust sites include Montpelier and several beautiful plantations plus the Woodrow Wilson home and Decatur House in DC. If you enjoy a little different tourist spot and you want to be a part of the Trust's effort in historic preservation, this membership is a bargain. Visit the Trust on the Internet at <http://www.nationaltrust.org>. The Trust will play a leading role in the Save America's Treasurers initiative which will be a keystone of the upcoming celebration of the millennium.

WANTED

Your help is wanted. Do you have a research story that you can share with the members of NHG? If so, please send it to the Editor, at the address on the first page.

Do you receive any newsletters, magazines, etc. that have interesting articles or information that could be used in the Newsletter? If so, please bring them to the meetings or send the information to the Editor.

If you would like to wite an article for the Newsletter, please do so and send it to the Editor.

The Newsletter is for and ABOUT NHG mmbbers. Your help is needed.

BEGINNER'S CORNER

"Terms 'ahnentafel & tiny tafel' often found in genealogical record keeping" - *Antique Week*,

June 22, 1998

The terms ahnentafel and tiny tafel are often found in genealogical record keeping. Many genealogical applications support both functions.

The ahnentafel report is a narrative report beginning with one person and progressing backward. It is similar to a pedigree chart, however, each ancestor is assigned a number, beginning with "1" for the source person. Ahnentafel is a German word for ancestor table.

Tiny tafel is a German word for tiny tables. It is a compact database for an individual, normally listing a surname and soundex code, time period and location. Tiny tafels are not as descriptive and informative as an ahnentafel. They do contain basic information which comes in handy when checking indexes or sharing surnames.

The following is an example of a tiny tafel. The header contains the researcher's name, address and computing information. This is followed by the name of the genealogical database, ancestral soundex code and surnames, time period and location.

N Ruby Coleman
A 509 S. 2nd Ave
A PO Box 474
A Anton, IA 51004
S rcoleman@netins.net
B <http://www.netins/showcase/general>
Z 29 Coleman/Copsey/Gardner/Allen
A450 1908 ALLEN/Russel, Kentucky/Grayson,
Kentucky
A521 1866 AMSBERRY/Mason, West Virginia/
Mason, West Virginia

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES (FGS)

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) is an organization of societies that was founded in 1976 and is comprised of over 450 genealogical and historical societies. The Federation is the collective voice of these societies at the national level, actively involved in efforts to represent and protect societies, to coordinate and facilitate their activities, and to monitor events that are critical to the future of genealogy.

By belonging to the Federation, our group has access to society management workshops at the annual Federation conferences; a list of speakers and exhibitors to facilitate seminar planning; Society Strategy Papers which offer practical, proven techniques for successful society management; listing on the Federation Web page; and a free web page for the group.

Why join FGS? You gain access to the computerized index of all Civil War soldiers; and discounts on a subscription to *FGS Forum*, the quarterly magazine, in addition to all the benefits a group receives.

NHG is a member of FGS so each member is eligible for individual membership. For information contact the following address:

The Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 830220, Richardson TX 75083-0220
e-mail: fgs-office@fgs.org

To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child. For what is the worth of human life unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?

Cicero

GOD'S ACRE, OLD SALEM, NC

Written by Marcia Coleman, NHG member

On a recent January trip to North Carolina, I found myself in Old Salem, a restored church town. Like any good genealogist, I certainly could not leave without checking out, if only briefly, the cemetery. The cemetery was named "God's Acre", although it looked like it could have been more than an acre to me, but I am not a good judge of size.

The Moravians started Old Salem in 1766; they had migrated from an earlier settlement in Bethlehem, PA. They traced their faith tradition to the Unity of Brethren, one of the earliest Protestant groups. The basic structure of the community revolved around choirs, not musical ones as you might think. Choirs were actually groups, men of a certain age and marital status, women of a certain age and marital status, single men, single women, widows, etc. Older children of the same sex lived and went to school together, while single people of any age lived and worked together in the single brothers' house or the single sisters' house. The women wore different colored ribbons on their bonnets and in the lacing of their dresses. Each color denoted a different choir; children, young girls, older girls, single eligible women, married women and widows.

Now what made the cemetery so interesting is that they buried their members by choirs. All the men were in one area and all the women in another, and the children in yet another. They were buried by death date and the stones were all similar flat white stones. The verses on the stones varied, but not much else. So, if you knew that your great-grandfather had died in such and such a year, you could find his stone quite easily, but you would not find his parents, wife or children buried nearby. Unlike our

cemeteries, you won't chance upon some unknown relatives buried nearby, unless of course, they were of the same sex and had died at approximately the same time.

PRESERVATION FAIR IN PITTSBURGH

On Saturday, February 27, a "Preservation Fair in Pittsburgh, Saving your Family Treasures" will be held from 10 AM - 4 PM at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA.

If you are concerned about preserving family documents and photographs or wondering about how to display or store family heirlooms such as quilts and clothing, here's an opportunity to talk with the experts, see demonstrations of conservation techniques and pick up information on things you can do to save your family treasures.

The event is open to the public and is free with admission to the Carnegie Museum. The Fair is sponsored by the Oakland Library consortium, representing Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Main Library; University of Pittsburgh Library System; Carnegie Mellon University libraries; and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History.

Visitors are welcome to bring a family treasure and discuss conservation options with the experts. No appraisals will be provided during the Fair.

Thanks to Beth Lawry, Northland Library for passing along this information.



WEB WANDERINGS

(note: all start with <http://> unless otherwise noted)

WPGS 25th Anniversary Conference

www.nauticom.net/www/powell/wpgs25th.html

Immigrant Ship Transcribers Guild
Contains more than 300 passenger lists
istg.rootsweb.com

GenConnect Boards

Canada

cgi.rootsweb.com/~genbbs/index/Canada.html

Prussia

cgi.rootsweb.com/~genbbs/index/Prussia.html

Surname Boards

cgi.rootsweb.com/~genbbs/indexFamAssoc.html

Famikly Chronicle Surname Origin List

www.familychronicle.com/surname.htm

If you have a favorite website that you have found to be very helpful in your research, please forward the information to the Editor for future issues.

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

For a catalog of more than 1,000 titles of genealogy cassette tapes available for purchase, send \$2 to: Repeat Performance, 2911 Crabapple Lane, Hobart, IN 46342, or contact the company at 219/465-1234. Repeat Performance offers tapes of lectures presented at various National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies conferences, the Jewish Genealogy Seminar in Boston, GenTech, and the Third Irish Genealogical Congress in Kildare, Ireland.

The tapes typically sell for about \$7.50 for an hour lecture from a professional genealogical lecturer. And if you can get the syllabus from the sponsoring society with the handout material, it could almost feel like being there!

Repeat Performances will tape some of the lectures at the WPGS conference at the Sheraton Station Square in Pittsburgh on June 25-26.

(thanks to Lissa Powell for this information)

WESTERN RESERVE FIELD TRIP

April 17, 1999

On Saturday, April 17, NHG will make its annual research trip to Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland. Drive or carpool with friends for a day of research. The library has US and state census records, surname files, and many books for all states. Bring a box lunch or use the vending machines. Directions to Western Reserve will be available at the March meeting. If you plan on going, let any of the Board members know or send a message by e-mail to: pioneerbook@Juno.com (the NHG e-mail address)

WPGS MARCH 13 MEETING

Field Trip to John Heinz Regional History Center

The March meeting of WPGS will be a field trip to the John Heinz Regional History Center, 1212 Smallman Street (Strip District). Two orientations will be given by the librarians.

The following schedule has been set for the day:

10 a.m. - Historical Society members **ONLY** will meet in the library on the 6th floor for orientation. (You are a member if you do not have to pay to enter the Center.)

11 a.m. - Non-Historical Society members will gather in the lobby to pay the reduced fee of \$4.25. Do NOT pay at the counter. We must pay the Historical Society in one lump sum to get the reduced fee.

To reserve a spot, please call WPGS at 412-687-6811 and leave your name, phone number and which time you will be arriving. If calling for more than one person, please give the same information for each person. If you wish to pre-pay, send a check payable to WPGS for \$4.25 to WPGS March Meeting, 10592 Perry Highway, #255, Wexford, PA 15090. Prepayments are non-refundable.

GIRL SCOUTS' INTERNATIONAL EXTRAVAGANZA

February 21, 1999

Shaler Intermediate School, Mt. Royal Blvd.
Cafeteria

NHG will have a display/book table and several members will be on hand to answer questions about researching your family tree.

MILITARY RECORDS INFORMATION

from the *Clark House News*, Historical & Genealogical Society
of Indiana County, January, 1999

World War Draft Cards - They list the place of birth, and often the extent of the family living with that person, where he worked and what ailments or reasons for avoiding being drafted.

Pension Records - If you had a relative apply for a pension from the start of our country (Revolutionary times) to about the Spanish American War, then these records are a goldmine for genealogists. Often the spouse is left with the husband already dead, especially with the men from the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. The pension did not become available until the 1870's and the spouse often had to prove that she was indeed married to that man. Some applications will have pages of information on his life and exploits.

Military Records - There are times when a person of a certain family just disappears into thin air. Such as during the years 1861- 1865 (Civil War). The records can often tell where men died and are buried.

FIRST FAMILIES OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Have you been accepted as a charter member of First Families of Western Pennsylvania? If you have, please send your name and the name(s) of your qualifying ancestor(s). We would like to publish a list in a future issue of all NHG members who have been accepted into First Families of Western Pennsylvania.

If you have been accepted into any other First Families group or any other society, please send along that information too.

EMIGRANT RECORDS

Written by Brian Bonner Mavrogeorge,

Brian_Mavrogeorge@broder.com

Previously published by RootsWeb Genealogical Data
Cooperative, RootsWeb Review, Vol. 2, No. 5, 3 February
1999

Between 1820 and 1860, 20 percent of America's immigrant population was from Germany, and in the same period the largest group of new immigrants was Irish. Every step of the way through the process of immigrating to the United States, and in some instances to Canada, these people left records and documents. So, if you know where your gateway ancestor lived before emigrating, check for information in the "old country" localities.

--At the national level. In order to emigrate, the person may have had to prove he was released from service to a nobleman (letter of manumission) or that his military service was completed. Then he would have to apply for a passport or "permit to emigrate". These records might have information about birth, residence, parentage, spouse, and children of the emigrant.

--At the local level. Many people emigrating had to use baptismal records to prove their identity. The local minister would issue a certified copy of their baptismal entry with their name, birthdate/place, baptism date, and their parents' names. Often the minister entered into the register something like "went to the New World in 1740" next to their baptismal entry. Sometimes the emigrants simply received a letter that identified them as a member of a specific congregation. Estate and property settlement records in the "old country" may give information regarding an emigrant's departure.

English court records include names of people who committed misdemeanor crimes and were sentenced to serve as the indentured servants of

plantation owners and businessmen in the colonies. These owners and businessmen paid for the servants' passage. Many of those court records have been abstracted and published.

--At the ports. North American researchers often check passenger lists for arrivals at U.S. and Canadian ports. But remember that such lists were created at both ends of the journey. While not all lists have survived, a search for both can be worthwhile. In some instances government agents and real estate companies recruited workers, and they maintained lists and recorded the location of the lands they would settle. The lists sometimes contain the emigrant's residence at time of departure, the cost of the ticket, the name of the person who paid the fare, and the final destination.

According to the Immigration and Naturalization Tutor that accompanies Ultimate Family Tree, there are more than 3,500 printed emigration sources (and some on CD-ROM). Use these indices as finding aids and to establish where your ancestors came from. Then systematically search that location for the records the emigrants left behind.

NHG MEETINGS

Northland Library has advised us that under new rules for using meeting rooms, all meetings must be over and the rooms vacated by 9 p.m.

NHG will begin its monthly meetings promptly at 7 p.m. in order to finish the meeting and have time to put away the tables and chairs.

Your help in setting up and clearing the room for our meetings will enable us to use our allotted time for our meetings.

GERMAN BOUNDARY AND LOCALITY NAME CHANGES

The Corporation of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day
Saints, 1978
on the HESSE-L@rootsweb.com site

HESSE (Hessen)

Hesse is presently a state in Germany. It was formerly an electoral principality and county (Grafschaft). It is made up of two other former principalities, namely Hesse-Darmstadt and Hesse-Kassel - plus part of the former Prussian province of Hesse-Nassau. During the medieval period Hesse was the focal point of struggles between the secular and the ecclesiastical powers. By the end of the fifteenth century, the Landgrafschaft of Hesse was the greatest and strongest power of central western Germany.

Under the direction of Philipp the Magnanimous (1517-67), Hesse played an important role in the Reformation, specifically in the drafting of the Wittenberger Concord of 1536, which was an attempt to bring the followers of Zwingli (the founder of the Reformed church) and of Luther to an understanding. At the death of Philipp, Hesse was divided among his four sons. Wilhelm IV, the oldest, received Hesse-Kassel, about half of the principality; Ludwig, with Hesse-Marburg, received about one-fourth; and Phillip, with Hesse-Rheinfels, and Georg, with Hesse-Darmstadt, each received about an eighth. The line of Hess-Rheinfels died out in 1583 and Hesse-Marburg in 1604. The debate over the division of these two areas resulted in the Marburger Succession Conflict (Marburger Erbfolgestreit). As a result, the destructiveness of the Thirty Years' War was intensified by a continuing feud between the two ruling houses of Hesse during the war.

HESSE-DARMSTADT

Hesse-Darmstadt gained in power after the Peace of Westphalia (1648) through the time of Napoleon. From 1803 to 1815 it lost territory on the west side of the Rhine, but was given territory in the east side in recompense. It gained Kurmainz, Kurpfalz, and the Kurkolinsche duchy of Westphalia. In 1806 Darmstadt gained the country (Grafschaft) of Erbach. In 1815 the Kurkolinsche duchy of Westphalia was exchanged with Prussia for Isenberg-Birstein, Worms, Alzey, and Bingen.

HESSE-KASSEL

In 1807 Hesse-Kassel was combined with the kingdom of Westphalia, and Napoleon placed his brother Jerome on the throne. In 1813 the electoral principality of Hesse-Kassel was reestablished, and it acquired the lower country (Nieder-Grafschaft) of Katzenelnbogen. In 1866 Hesse-Kassel was annexed by Prussia and the name was changed to Hesse-Nassau. This new Prussian state included territories taken from Hesse-Darmstadt -- the duchy of Nassau and Hesse-Homburg, the former Bavarian areas of Gersfeld and Orb, the districts of Biedenkopf and Voehl, and the city of Frankfurt am Main.

(Note: Hesse is also written as Hessen; Hesse-Darmstadt as Hessen-Darmstadt; and Hesse-Kassel as Hessen-Kassel)

The location and correct identification of records is the underpinning of all we do in genealogical research, and if we are careful at this early stage, the rest of our genealogical work will benefit.

**Robert Charles Anderson, CG, FASG,
Director, New England Historic Genealogical
Society's Great Migration Study Project**

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

C/O Northland Public Library

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4555

FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL

MARCH 16, 1999

**JEAN MORRIS - USING THE PUBLISHED PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES
IN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

ORIGINAL SOURCES AVAILABLE

When searching Filby's *Passenger and Immigration Lists*, if you find a reference to your family, you should know it is possible to get a copy of the original source. Contact the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48202. Burton's maintains all the sources indexed in Filby's. Remember to cite the source number with the reference. The charge (1998) is 20 cents per copy plus \$2.00 for postage and handling.

Both articles from:

The Family Tree, February/March, 1998

Our ancestors used their life savings to purchase a one-way ticket to a destination they had only heard about. One that held the promise of hope, freedom and opportunity.

Having sold their few worldly possessions, they boarded a ship with little more than the clothes on their backs, and dreams in their heads.

Their lives were reduced to one line entered on a ship's manifest.

Lee Iacocca