

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

FRIDAY AFTERNOON - 1:30 PM to 4:30 PM

You've Got the Names, Now Find the People! Facts about Ancestors Found in Federal Records

Presented by John Philip Colletta, PhD

Whenever the path of an ancestor's life intersected with a federal government agency, paperwork was created. That paperwork fills our National Archives. Some of it has been indexed, abstracted, microfilmed, or digitized, but most of it has not. This lecture explores some of the paperwork—both original and derivative—that provides rich biographical detail about our ancestors.

Genealogical Resources at the Pennsylvania State Archives

Presented by Aaron McWilliams

This lecture is an introduction to the types of records available to genealogists at the Pennsylvania State Archives. The presentation will cover the primary types of records, what information they contain, and their accessibility.

FRIDAY DINNER - 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

If you would prefer to stay at the venue rather than venture out for dinner, we are providing an in-house option. For \$15 you can stay and network with fellow genealogists while enjoying a deli buffet with vegetarian options.

Friday dinner is optional and not included in the registration fee.

FRIDAY EVENING - 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Presented by Aaron McWilliams

The State Land Records of Pennsylvania

This lecture provides a detailed look at the State Land Records held at the Pennsylvania State Archives. The presentation will cover the five principal documents created during the patenting process, their indexes, and how to effectively search them. It will also touch on other sources at the Archives, such as land office maps and Board of Property records.

Military Records at the Pennsylvania State Archives

This lecture provides an overview of the military records available to researchers at the Pennsylvania State Archives. The presentation will cover the primary records and indexes available to researchers interested in the military service of Pennsylvanians from the French and Indian War to Vietnam.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Presented by John Philip Colletta, PhD

8:00 AM - Registration and networking

9:00 AM - Opening Remarks

Passenger Arrival Records, Colonial Times to Mid-20th Century

This lecture begins with a discussion of sources for discovering the arrival time and place—and perhaps the ship—of an immigrant to colonial America. It then explores U.S. passenger arrival records, especially 1820-1957, available on microfilm and the Internet. It suggests what facts you need to begin your search and explains step-by-step how to conduct that search.

Naturalization Records, Colonial Times to Mid-20th Century

This lecture addresses the legal means by which non-British settlers in colonial America could become naturalized citizens of Great Britain. It then explains U.S. naturalization laws and processes, which began in 1790, and describes the records that resulted from them. It considers the naturalization of both alien classes and individuals, and provides guidance on how to find an ancestor's records, whether the naturalization occurred in a municipal, state, or federal court.

~ Hot Buffet Lunch and Door Prizes ~

Only a Few Bones: Case Studies in Assembling Sources to Reconstruct Real-Life Events

The biographical facts we discover about our ancestors did not happen in a vacuum. Our ancestors were born, lived, and died in specific physical circumstances at specific moments in time. To reconstruct their lives, therefore, the facts we discover about them must be "situated" in their proper historical context. Three 19th-century case studies drawn from *Only a Few Bones, a True Account of the Rolling Fork Tragedy and Its Aftermath* demonstrate how to use multiple sources to assemble vivid accounts of ancestral events and generate biographies that portray individualized ancestors.

Discovering Your Ancestors' World through Maps and Gazetteers

The facts you discover about your ancestors represent real-life events that took place in a physical place at a particular time. Cartographic collections—maps, atlases, and gazetteers—are essential tools for grounding all of your genealogical discoveries in the real world. This lecture describes different kinds of maps, current and historical, U.S. and foreign, and illustrates the broad range of information they provide. It explains how to use Internet sites to locate cartographic collections in libraries, archives, courthouses, historical societies, as well as those available online in digitized format.

Wrap-Up and Q&A Session

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

	NHG Member	Non- Member
Friday & Saturday (Does not include dinner on Friday.)	\$95 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$105 <input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday	\$55 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$65 <input type="checkbox"/>
After Feb. 20 add	\$10 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$10 <input type="checkbox"/>

Friday:

Afternoon Session \$30 \$30

Evening Session \$20 \$20

Friday Dinner \$15 \$15

Aug. 2017 - July 2018 Membership \$15
(includes up to two people at the same address)

Total enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to:
North Hills Genealogists
PO Box 169, Wexford, PA 15090

Credit cards accepted at:
www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

DATE:

Friday, March 23, 2018

1:30 PM to 4:30 PM - check-in begins at 1 PM

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM - deli buffet

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM - check-in begins at 6 PM

Saturday, March 24, 2018, 9 AM to 4:30 PM

Check-in & networking begin at 8 AM

*Coffee, tea, and water will be available and a hot buffet lunch is also included.***PLACE:**

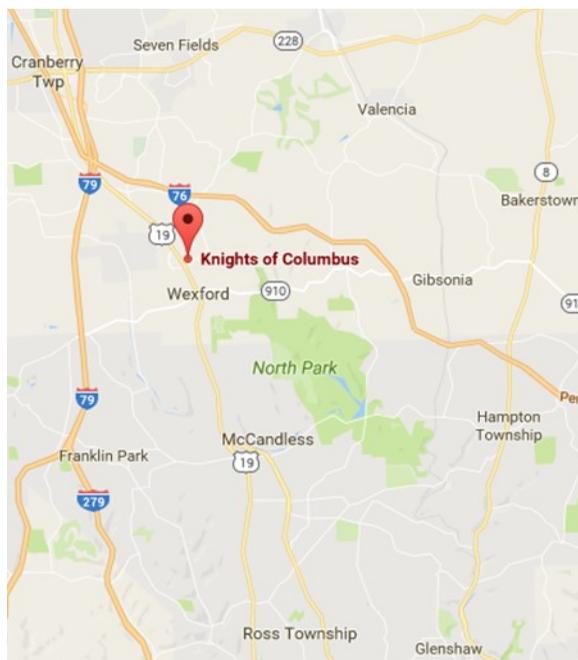
The Columbian Room

(formerly Knights of Columbus)

250 Swinderman Road, Wexford, PA 15090

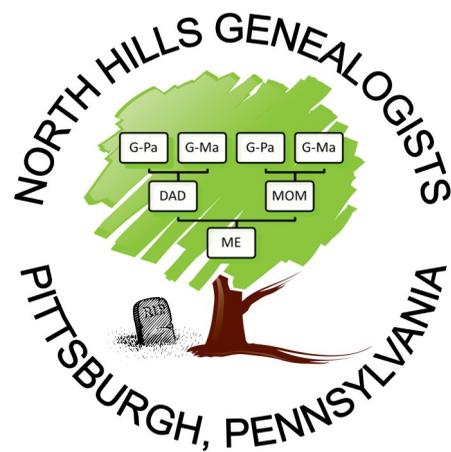
DIRECTIONS:

Located in Wexford, The Columbian Room is located just off Rt. 19, near Rt. 910, and is a short drive from both Cranberry Township and Pittsburgh.



North Hills Genealogists

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Family History Conference

Friday, March 23, 2018

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Featuring

John Philip Colletta, PhD**Aaron McWilliams**

Thank you for your interest in attending North Hills Genealogists' 11th Annual Family History Conference.

This two-day family history event will be held at The Columbian Room, formerly the Knights of Columbus, in Wexford, PA.

A Saturday conference registration includes a full day of lectures by John Philip Colletta, PhD, a hot buffet lunch, and door prizes. In addition, there are two sessions available on Friday - one in the afternoon and one in the evening.

For those attending one, or both, of the sessions on Friday, we're offering the opportunity to stay and network while having dinner at the facility. Friday dinner will be a deli buffet, with vegetarian options, for \$15. Dinner on Friday is optional and not included in the full two-day registration fee. There are also many restaurants in the area for those wishing to venture out.

If you are traveling from out of town and require overnight accommodations, area hotels include:

- DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh-Cranberry
- Comfort Inn, Cranberry Township
- Holiday Inn Express, Pittsburgh-Cranberry
- Econolodge, Wexford

This is just a sampling of nearby hotels. We encourage you to find what works best for your needs.

Again, thank you for your interest in our Family History Conference, and we hope to see you in March!

Online registration and additional information:

WEBSITE: www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

EMAIL: conference@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

**John Philip Colletta, PhD,**

is a popular Washington, D.C. based lecturer on topics of family history research and writing. For twenty years, while laying the foundation for his career in genealogy, he worked half-time at the Library of Congress and taught workshops at the National Archives. Today Dr. Colletta lectures nationally, teaches at local schools, and conducts programs for the Smithsonian Institution's Resident Associate Program. In 2014 The Teaching Company released Dr. Colletta's 15-lesson course, "Discovering Your Roots: The Fundamentals of Genealogy," as one of their "Great Courses" on DVD or CD with accompanying manual. Dr. Colletta's publications include numerous articles, both scholarly and popular, two manuals – *They Came in Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record* and *Finding Italian Roots: The Complete Guide for Americans*, and a "murder-mystery-family-history," *Only a Few Bones: A True Account of the Rolling Fork Tragedy and Its Aftermath*. Dr. Colletta has received many professional awards and honors and appears frequently on podcasts and local and national radio and television. His PhD in Medieval French is from The Catholic University of America.

**Aaron McWilliams** is a reference archivist at the Pennsylvania State Archives. He is responsible for

handling research inquiries at the Archives and frequently represents the agency at genealogical events. His areas of expertise include Pennsylvania state land records, Pennsylvania's Revolutionary War militia, and genealogy. He has appeared on *Who Do You Think You Are?* and contributed to both *Who Do You Think You Are?* and *Finding Your Roots*. Prior to joining the Pennsylvania State Archives, Aaron worked as a reference archivist at the Maryland State Archives and as a professional genealogist.

