

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



North Hills Genealogists
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10 Issues - August - June

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, it is February and hopefully Spring is right around the corner (or at least I hope it is), although a certain furry little animal named Phil says 6 more weeks of winter. (Did you know that Ohio has a "Phil" too? He is a groundhog called 'Buckeye Chuck') I hope they are both wrong in their prediction.

There are some great programs coming up at NHG in coming months and also at WPGS. Our March meeting is Part II of "Coming from the Reich" with Ruth Kittner. I know I'm really looking forward to her talks. WPGS has their annual Spring Conference coming in April. John Colletta will be the speaker at the conference. If you haven't heard him before, you won't want to miss his four talks (and the lunch). They also have John Humphrey coming to talk at their 30th Anniversary Conference in June. Check out the information in the newsletter for more details on both of these conferences. For those of you wishing to travel to warmer weather, you might want to consider registering for the NGS Conference in the States to be held May 19-22 in Sacramento, CA.

The weather this winter has made getting to

distant research locations difficult. Hopefully we will all be able to get back into more away-from-home research in the near future.

NHG is working on plans for a research bus trip to Washington, DC this fall. Check out the information on page 57. This will be updated in future newsletters and on our website.

Have you noticed that certain names jump out at you when you are looking at the obits in the daily paper? Ones you probably would have ignored before you started doing genealogy? About a week ago I noticed an obit in the PG that immediately caught my attention. It turns out it was the first gr-grandchild of my mother's parents. It was my mother's oldest brother's granddaughter. What a shock!! When I called another cousin, she commented that she would never have caught it. So, there is another change in our family tree.

Hope the weather gets better and you are able to make it to our meetings. Be sure to invite any friends who might be interested in a particular program. Remember, they are free and open to everyone.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

all are free and open to the public unless noted

Tues., March 2, 2004 - 7:00 pm - NHG Board Meeting - UPMC Passavant Hospital cafeteria. Everyone welcome.

Tues., March 16, 2004 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - "Coming from the Reich - Part II" - Ruth Kittner. This will be a continuation of the February meeting.

Other Meetings

Mon., February 23, 2004 - 7:00 pm - Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - "The Making of Cold Mountain" - Michael Kraus. The Babcock, Babcock, Boulevard.

Sat., March 13, 2004 - WPGS Monthly Meeting - 10:00 am - Ed Reise, Executive Director of the George Westinghouse Museum in Wilmerding. Drift back in time to the 1890's as we meet none other than George Westinghouse ... dressed in his black long-tailed jacket and black top hat. Sit back and listen as Ed does a captivating first-person impersonation of George Westinghouse. Carnegie Lecture Hall, Oakland.

Tues., March 18, 2004 - Lawrenceville Historical Society - 7:00 pm - "Out of This Furnace" - David Demerest. The steel mills beckoned thousands of immigrants to Pittsburgh and other industrial centers with the promise of employment. Professor Demerest (CMU) will examine immigrant labor conditions through a video presentation and lecture. Canterbury Place, Fisk Street, Lawrenceville.

Mon., March 22, 2004 - Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - 7:00 pm - "Dentistry in the Civil War" - Dr. Michael Kramer. The Babcock, Babcock Blvd.

Sat., April 16, 2004 - WPGS Spring Seminar - Sheraton North, Cranberry. John Phillip Colletta, PhD will present four lectures. See separate article. (fee)

Sat., April 24, 2004 - The Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society - "Taxes, Female Ancestors and Sources for German Research" - Speakers will include Barbara Vines Little and John T. Humphrey. Comfort Inn Conference Center, Bowie, MD. For more information, check out the website
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~usmags>.

May 19-22, 2004 - NGS Annual Conference in the States - Sacramento, CA. Check out the website (fee)
<http://www.eshow2000.com/ngs/> for more information.

Sat., June 19, 2004 - WPGS 30th Anniversary Celebration - 10:00 am - Tour of Woodville The Neville House National Historic Landmark. Speaker will be John T. Humphrey. Lunch will be at Peters Place at noon. More details later. Watch newsletter and WPGS website at <http://www.wpgs.org>. (fee)

Save These Dates

September 11-12, 2004 - "Gathering of the Frontier Families and Indian Tribes of the Northeast Territory" - Point State Park (see writeup)

Septemebr 26 - Sept. 29 - NHG Research Trip to Washington, DC. Check out information on page 57 for more details. (fee)

WOW!! What a line up of progams to choose from!!

QUERIES

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor
Queries are free and open to everyone

SCHOFIELD/SCORFIELD/SCOFIELD, BEAVER, SUTER, VESTRAND, COLLINS, TAYLOR - All from Pittsburgh area, and Bedford/Somerset Counties. **Contact:** *Shirley Agudo, 21 Av. de la Marguerite, 78110 Le Vesinet, France.*

McCLOY, Westmoreland/Fayette Cos.,
METZGER, Washington Co., **SWAIN,**
McINTYRE, SPEAR, TURNER, Fayette Co.
HOCHSTETTLER/HOSTETTER,
Somerset/Fayette Co. **Contact:** *Nancy Silay, 206 Hilglor Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15209*

GOODING, KY, VA, PA, MA; **ADDIS, DeHART,** NJ; **SMITH,** IL, CT., NY, VT; **CECIL, WILLETT,** KY, MD; **CATLIN,** PA, CT; **BEELEER,** KY, PA, VA; **WRIGHT,** CT; **NALLEY,** KY, MD; **DAY,** OH.
Contact: *Gwen Glasbergen, P. O. Box 665, Wexford, PA 10509-0665*

MERRIMAN, Hamilton James (southwestern PA 1823-1911); **Jane MOORE** (b. England 1843 - d. southwestern PA 1914); **Mary Elizabeth COSLET** (PA 1874-1942); **Lydia LESLIE** (Butler Co., about 1840-1880); **William LESLIE** and **Elizabeth** (Lydia's parents?); **John HAYS** (Butler Co., abt. 1781-1874), wife **Mary Agnes DAUGHERTY** (Butler Co., 1790-1872), **George HAYS** (MD & PA, 1753-1837) his wife **Sarah McCANNIS/McCAMISH** (late 1700's through 1800's, d. Butler Co.); **Daniel W. ZINN** (PA & WV), his wife **Mary E. DEVLIN** (PA, 1800's)
Contact: *Melinda Merriman Marn, 721 Sycaamore Dr., Euclid, OH 44132, merrimanm1@hotmail.com* (please put query surname in subject.)

HOUSE, WITTMER, CROWE - Seek information on these surnames, all in PA. **Contact:** *Melinda Merriman Marn (see above)*

MARN, LADIHA, BRADACH, GERM, GANONI, BUKOVEC, KALISEC, TURK. Seek information

on these surnames, all in Ohio. **Contact:** *Melinda Merriman Marn (see above)*

GATHERING OF THE FRONTIER FAMILIES AND INDIAN TRIBES OF THE NORTHEAST TERRITORY

Sept. 11-12, 2004

Fort. Pitt, PA

Come meet the descendants of Daniel Boone, Simon Girty, Simon Keaton, William Crawford, Lewis Wetzel, Samuel Brady, Alexander McKee, and others. Also attending will be members of the Piqua Tribe, and the Shawnee Tribe of Ohio and members of the Delaware and Wyanadot Tribes. The gathering will be held where it all started - Fort Pitt, PA. Come share the history and retell tall tales of great feats and adventures.

There will be a catered lunch for the price of \$7 per person and also a vendor on the grounds if you choose not to attend the catered luncheon. To make a luncheon reservation, send a check made out to: Fort Pitt Museum Associates, Point State Park, 101 Commonwealth Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, attention Doug MacGregor. For more information, contact Ken Girty at kegfdl@aol.com or 724-789-7505

WPGS 30TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE June 19, 2004

Tour of Woodville, The Neville House National Historic Landmark followed by lunch at Peters Place at noon. Speaker at luncheon will be John Humphrey.

More details will be provided in future newsletters and on the WPGS website. Don't miss this chance to hear John Humphrey speak and visit this historic landmark.

FROM AN NHG MEMBER

Two and a half years have passed since I was last the Program Chair for NHG. After my marriage, I wrote the following but did not feel I wrote well enough for Donna to use it in the newsletter. It still isn't well-written, but I updated it to share my thoughts with the NHG members. We can't all be Shakespeare but it's still important that we share our experiences through our newsletter. I hope in the future that I see more written from all of you.... Even if you aren't a Shakespeare or don't have one in your family tree!

Melinda Merriman Marn

On July 27, 2001 I married Dennis A. Marn, the son of John and Julie Bradach Marn in the First Presbyterian Old Stone Church in Winchester, VA. My parents, Edward J. and Joan Swint Merriman, were married in that same church. On August 17, 2002, we were blessed with a baby girl, Julia Louise (don't I wish my ancestors wrote something like that somewhere for me to find!)

As some of you know, I moved back to Pittsburgh in 1994 to help my Mother who had been in an accident. I was an active genealogist prior to this, but did not have time for genealogy during her recovery. When she was better, I joined NHG.

I immediately, and I mean immediately, became Program Chair. I hadn't even finished writing my membership check when Gary Schlemmer, then President, appointed me. (He really asked!)

The North Hills Genealogists group has brought me a lot of enjoyment. Although it is said that I was serving the group, it is incredibly rewarding to participate in the planning of the NHG activities and in a way, the group was serving me.

You, the members of NHG told me what programs you wanted, suggested speakers or volunteered to speak and then I got credit for "finding" the

wonderful speaker! Everyone should have such a job.

On top of that, most of you have at least heard my family names and everytime a Merriman, Swint, Wittmer or Barwell comes up in your research, you have been kind enough to share that information with me. (I had to get my surnames in here; this could be my last chance and I never miss an opportunity to share my family names.)

I would highly recommend that anyone who has a true interest in genealogy join in on the activities.

Each and every program or activity has helped my own genealogy in some way, even when I didn't see a benefit beforehand. Even if you don't want "responsibility", come to a board meeting and listen, go to a cemetery reading, attend the round table. Most times, whether the program is about my religion or ethnicity or not, I get something out of it that applies to my research. The same applies to board meetings and cemetery readings. It is incredible what you learn that applies to your family. Remember the groups that always participates is the group with the most experience overall. What a resource to have them in one location to learn from or even available for a quick private question!

My husband, Dennis, has many good points, such as that he is a genealogist, and one not so good: he lived in Cleveland!

Although we plan to move to Pittsburgh as soon as possible, I am living in Cleveland and had to pass on the Program Chair position to Tom Wiley.

Tom has served NHG faithfully in many capacities. I was so glad that Tom agreed to take over programs for NHG. I knew he would do the great job he always does!

Please remember to look for Tom before or after the meetings as you looked for me and put in (continued on next page)

your requests for future programs. He can't give the group the programs it wants unless you let him know what you want!

I want to thank all of you who suggested a topic, recommended a speaker, and of course, all of you that were speakers for me. I also want to thank those who helped me with my genealogy and to thank the NHG Board from the years I was there: Syl, Donna, Ginny, Gary, Kay, Jean, Bill, Lois, Steph, Tom, Elissa, Patsi, and Shirley with extra thanks to the two Presidents that I worked with: Syl and Gary. I'd like to thank Syl and Gary's wives, Jean and Jessie for tolerating all of the telephone calls. Last but not least, I would like to thank Gary again because he was the one that "decided" that I would be Program Chair. Thank you Gary, it was great!

I hope you will all think about how to participate since Gary, or our current President Donna Booth and the other Board members would be way too busy to "decide" for each one of you. Help them out. Pick something new for you at NHG, maybe sharing your genealogy finds in the newsletter, attending Board meetings, participating in cemetery readings (always a good time) and talk to Donna or a Board member about your interest!

Melinda

REVIEW OF PINE AND RICHLAND PIONEER CEMETERIES BOOK

The following review is as published in FORUM, the magazine of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (Winter 2003, 15:4:31) and is reprinted here with the permission of THE FORUM and Paul Milner, FORUM Review Editor.

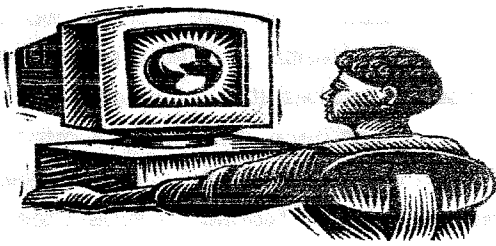
Pioneer Cemeteries of Pine and Richland Townships, Allegheny, PA, published by North Hills Genealogists, 2003, 486 pages. Index, maps, photographs. Hardcover.

This is a quality cemetery book worthy of emulation. The attention to detail and supporting documentation makes it a nice tool for anyone searching in northern Allegheny County. The introduction explains this is a modern reading of all older cemeteries (those in existence before 1900), but where possible comparison has been made with earlier readings and church and cemetery records. The cemeteries were transcribed row by row from front to back and from left to right. This means that the original order has been maintained to show who is buried near whom. There is a history of the two townships, locations and descriptions of the cemeteries, information on earlier readings or documentation and some photographs. Readings from modern cemeteries having accessible records and some smaller family cemeteries with no stones are not included, although the cemeteries themselves are listed and described.

The individual entries are arranged with the surname in all capitals in the left margin for easy searching. Parentheses set off row number, stone number and code for the type of stone. A description of the stone includes the color and shape (if special). The condition, placement and symbols are noted. The actual inscription is placed in quotes, with additional comments following, such as church records, discrepancies between earlier readings or sources. An alphabetical index includes some topics such as stone carver, funeral directors, DAR, Ireland, military company names and more.

Ed: Congratulations to everyone who worked on this book. To get such a great review from a nationally-known genealogist is wonderful. A special thanks to Ginny Skander for organizing the readings and doing the typing for this book.

Are you signed up to help with book #3 - *Pioneer Cemeteries of McCandless & Franklin Park*? If not, contact Jo Henderson or Irene Dinning to sign up.



WEB WANDERINGS

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

Do you have a favorite website? Is there a specific place you would like to find a website for? If so, please send a note to the editor at the address on the front or by e-mail at DJBooth@worldnet.att.net.

Were your ancestors from the UK? Vintage postcard, artwork & maps
pastviews.com

Irish Genealogy
eneclann.ie

US Genweb Search Engine
rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/ussearch.htm

Genealogy Classes
nsgenealogy.org

Genealogy.com Learning Center - Genealogy Classes
genealogy.com

The purpose of this column is to provide information on websites that can help you in your research. All sites listed were running at the time the newsletter was prepared. If you have a favorite website, one that you have found very helpful in your research, please send it to the Editor at DJBooth@worldnet.att.net and we will pass it along to NHG members.

WPGS SPRING SEMINAR

APRIL 17, 2004

Location: Sheraton - North (Cranberry)

Speaker: John Phillip Colletta, PhD

Cost: \$35 for WPGS members; \$40 for non-members.

John Colletta is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University (Birmingham, AL) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Salt Lake City, UT). His latest book is *Only a Few Bones, a True Account of the Falling Fork Tragedy and Its Aftermath*. A previous book is the well-known *They Came in Ships*.

The following is the schedule of lectures/lunch for the conference:

9:15 am - Libraries, Archives and Public Record Offices - Understanding Resource Repositories

10:30 am - Passenger Arrival Records

11:45 am - 1:00 pm - Lunch

1:15 pm - How to prepare for a successful research trip in European records

2:30 pm - Turning biographical facts into real-life events: How to build historical context.

3:30 pm Question & Answer Session

Registration information will be in future newsletters and on the WPGS website at <http://www.wpgs.org>

Don't miss this chance to hear a wonderful, entertaining speaker.

NORTH HILLS RESEARCH TRIP PLANNED

Please join the North Hills Genealogists on a research trip to Washington, DC, Sunday, September 26 through Wednesday, September 29, 2004. You will be able to research at the following facilities, all close to our hotel, and each with unique resources. Plan to attend with your research friends and get a less expensive rate.

National Archives (NARA I): Things you will find at the National Archives: Passenger arrivals and border crossings, Naturalization records, Census records for all states (including Agricultural, Mortality, Industry/Manufacturers and Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Classes), Passport Records, Records of the Regular Army, Service Records of Volunteers, Naval and Marine Service Records, Pension Records, Bounty Land Warrant Records, Records of Native Americans, African Americans, Merchant Seamen, Civilian Government Employees, Land Records, Claims Records, Tax Records including 1798 Direct Tax list for PA and Tax Assessment Lists for the Civil War period.

NARA II - College Park (where North Hills Genealogists' former president Keith Kerr works) Special to this facility is the cartographic division, enumeration district maps, township survey plats, U.S. Land district maps, military maps, and maps pertaining to American Indians.

DAR Library (not just for Daughters of the American Revolution!) You can use the card catalog at <http://dar.library.net/> and plan your research. Don't miss the GRC records indexed at <http://grc.dar.org/dar/darnet/grc/grc.cfm> containing manuscripts arranged by state that include unique material submitted by each DAR chapter since the 1910s and containing over 7,000,000 names in such records as cemetery inscriptions, military records and bible records.

Library of Congress. Don't miss Geography and map room, the Newspaper Reading Room and Local History and Genealogy Reading Room (for more info see the Reading Room link at www.loc.gov/rr/main/inforreas)

TRIP ITINERARY

Sunday, September 26, 2004

11:30 am - Assemble on the bus (location to be announced)

5 pm - Arrive at the Hotel Harrington, 11th and E Streets, NW, Washington DC

6 pm - Buffet dinner at the hotel

7 pm - Orientation meeting in the 1st floor meeting room of the hotel

Monday, September 27, 2004

On your own for research. Note that the Library of Congress is open until 9:30 pm.

Tuesday, September 28, 2004

On your own for research. Note that the National Archives is open until 9 pm.

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

4 pm - Bus leaves Hotel Harrington for Pittsburgh
A stop will be made for dinner in Breezewood, PA. Approximately 10:30 pm arrival in Pittsburgh.

COSTS

Each price per person and is based on the number of people sharing a hotel room. Included are bus transportation to and from Pittsburgh, dinner on Sunday night, breakfast each of the three mornings, and an orientation Sunday night.

Each person should make arrangements with their roommates before registering for the bus trip so that you know which room size to reserve as well as to be able to give their names. Some triple and quad rooms have individual beds. Non-genealogical partners can be roommates on a space available basis as Washington is a wonderful place to explore and the hotel is

Trip to Washington, DC (continued)

located close to many attractions. In order for the trip to be a success, your indication of interest and/or payment by **May 18, 2004** is necessary. Refunds may be requested until August 25.

**Quad \$175 Triple: \$200 Double \$240
Single \$375**

Payment can be made by check payable to the North Hills Genealogists, or by credit card using PayPal at www.northhillsgenealogists.org. (See www.PayPal.com for free registration). For more information and links to local sites, see the website or contact Elissa Powell at 724-935-6961 or Elissa.PowellGenealogy.com

UPDATE OF GENEALOGY SCAM

In past newsletters we told you about the workings of various scams by a young man named Elias Abodeely. Dick Eastman (Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter) posts status updates on this person's scams. Previously we reported that the websites operated by this person were unable to accept credit cards because he had lost his merchant account. Then he went to PayPal but they also shut down his account. He then went to "e-checks, where the hapless buyer was encouraged to enter the numbers along the bottom of a blank ckeck. Information was then used to directly charge the buyer's checking account. This last method was mentioned in Abodeely's arrest record for several felonies.

The latest web site in this operation, GenealogyTechs.org now has lost its e-check account. Clicking on the payment screen results in a display that says that the e-check account is closed. The primary web site is still in operation (as of the time this is written) but is unable to accept payment by e-checks.

NOW WHAT? ONLINE:

NAMING NEPHEWS

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Q: In a guardianship order (1825 Onondaga County, NY), the guardiaan is called the "nephew" of the deceased. Did "nephew" in that time and place generally mean the son of one's sibling or the son of one's spouse's sibling as it does today?

A: In earlier centuries, "nephew" sometimes referred to a male or female child of a sibling or spouse's sibling, a male or female grandchild, a cousin or another relative. The habits or preferences of individual clerks of courts may have determined when "nephew" took on its current meaning in a given locale. By the end of the 17th century, though, most locales had narrowed the definition to the current meaning. Thus, you'd probably be safe in approaching 19th century research with the current definition. Keep an open mind, and let available records guide your discovery of specific family relations.

Emily Groom

Emily Groom is the author of "The Sleuth Book for Genealogists" (Betterway Books, \$18.99)

CENSUS: REGION HAS GERMAN, IRISH ROOTS

Tribune-Review, Monday, Dec. 3, 2001

Submitted by Tom Willey

A recent Census 2000 Supplementary Survey shows the ancestry of people in the six-county Pittsburgh Metropolitan area.

Ancestry	2000 Estimate	% of Population
German	867,033	29.1%
Irish	415,083	18.1%

Edward Muller (Pitt) said the census survey counts nations such as Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the Ukraine individually.

NEW LOCAL PUBLICATIONS

Two new local publications are now available for sale.

A Guide to Using the Published Archives of Pennsylvania, 2nd Edition. Dec. 2003. Compiled by Jean O. Morris (morrisj@nauticom.net)

To quote from the author, "The 138 volumes of the published Pennsylvania Archives are the single most valuable research tool for Colonial (1681-1774) and Revolutionary (1775-1783) research in Pennsylvania.

There are two sections in this guide:

Part I describes the contents of each volume in each of the nine series of the Archives.

Part II has individual county references.

Ed: I've used the first edition of this guide and found it the best way to find information in the Archives. I look forward to using this second edition as part of my research.

Grand Army of the Republic, Department of Pennsylvania - Post 206 Personal War Sketches - Diane Ragan, CGRS w/introduction by Tony Burroughs, FUGA.

Diane Ragan, CGRS, former Vice President at Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum and Memorial in Oakland [and currently President of WPGS] has written a book which began when she found rare documents in the vaults of Soldiers and Sailors. These documents are the records of Allegheny County's African-American soldiers from the Civil War (1861-1865). Ms. Ragan became so interested in the material contained in these records that she did three years of research of census, probate, land, military, cemetery and marriage information to discover the personal stories of

over 275 men. These veterans served with the United States Colored Troops, lived in Allegheny County, PA and became members of the Grand Army of the Republic Robert G. Shaw Post 206. At least 50 of these men were present at Appomattox when General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Confederate Forces to General Ulysses S. Grant. The membership applications, meeting minutes and war sketches reveal genealogical information seldom found by family historians researching their pre-1865 African-American roots. An estimated 2000+ descendents of these men are living around the Pittsburgh area today.

The book has been published by WPGS, contains 200 pages and is available through WPGS for \$29.95 plus \$4 s/h and \$2.10 sales tax. The book has been endorsed by Tony Burroughs, Fellowship of Utah Genealogical Association and best selling author of *Black Roots: A Beginning Guide to Tracing the African American Family* (Simon & Schuster, 2001)

A NOTE ON NOTES

Suzie Sabin

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For each individual in my genealogy software, I structure the notes section in chronological order.

I enter research information that I've found or still hope to find, including births, census records, land records, county boundary changes, wars during the person's lifetime (a reminder to search military records), children's weddings, church records, obituaries, parents' deaths, family letters. Each note is formatted 'year, note' with an asterisk (*) before the year for information that needs to be researched or verified. I always send the notes when exchanging GEDCOMs with other researchers.

Do you have any research tips? Share them.

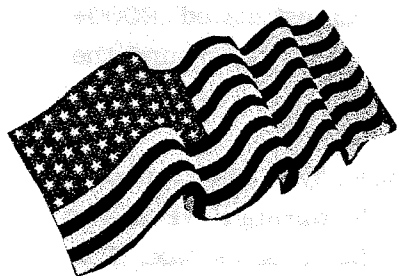
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL



COMING FROM THE REICH - II

Ruth Kittner

March 16, 2004 - 7:00 pm

MEMORIAL DONATION TO NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Board of North Hills Genealogists has voted to make a donation to Northland Public Library for the purchase of genealogical material for the library in memory of Sr. Mary Ann Busovicki. Sr. Mary Ann was a long time member of NHG. She died on January 13, 2004. We are requesting that the library purchase genealogical materials on Polish genealogy since this was Sr. Mary Ann's main interest in her genealogical research.

North Hills Genealogists is a group of people who share an interest in genealogy and meet to share their knowledge. NHG does NOT maintain a library and does NOT do research

for others. An individual member may choose to handle research requests, but NHG will not be responsible for the quality of the work performed or any fees charged.

NEWSLETTER INDEX

An index to the articles in the NHG Newsletter for 2002-2003 is now available. If you would like to have a copy of this index, send a SASE to North Hills Genealogists, P. O. Box 304, Ingomar, PA 15127 and a copy of the index will be mailed to you. Did you know that our newsletter is indexed in PERSI?