



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

PO Box 169 • Wexford, PA 15090 • www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

NHG NEWS

Genealogy Library Lock-in

Join us for the next Library Lock-in, co-sponsored by Northland Library and NHG. It will be held on Friday, 24 April 2015 from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. in Northland's Computer Center.

Pre-registration is required for this free event due to the limited number of computers. To register, call the library's Adult Reference Desk at 412-366-8100, extension 113 or visit <http://www.northlandlibrary.org>. If you register and later discover you will not be able to attend, please let the library know. There is usually a waiting list for the lock-in.

Participants will be able to search several subscription databases during the lock-in. Northland has subscriptions to Ancestry Library Edition and Access PA's various databases. Volunteers will be available to help you access the databases for your research. Participants will also have access to Northland's great collection of genealogy reference books.

Nominations Sought for 2015–16 NHG Officers

The membership year for the North Hills Genealogists begins August 1 annually and ends July 31 the following year. The 2015 NHG Nominating Committee consists of Sue Ennis, Dave Williams, and Al Hartman. They are seeking candidates for NHG's officer positions: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Any member who is interested in serving as an officer may volunteer to run.

If you are interested in serving on NHG's board, please see a member of the Nominating Committee at the April meeting, or send an e-mail to Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org.

The NHG Board meets at Northland Library on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. Anyone is welcome to attend the board meetings. One major reason that NHG continues to thrive is due to our volunteers on the NHG board.

War of 1812 Pension Fundraising Update

Thank you to everyone who has donated to this worthwhile cause! We have collected \$440 in February and \$127 in March for a total of \$567 toward our goal of \$750. Remember that for every \$25 you contribute, North Hills Genealogists will match it to make \$50. Then when the funds are donated, the Stern-NARA fund will match the amount; Ancestry.com matches that final donation for a total of \$200 from your \$25.

Please consider sending a check to NHG, P.O. Box 169, Wexford, PA 15090 soon as we will close this fund-raiser on **April 30**. After that date you can still donate directly to the fund and have your donation be matched by Ancestry.com, but the other matching will not be in place. The project is only 50 percent funded and the digitization is only half-way through the alphabetical files.

Remember that the point of this crowd-funding is to make the pension files (which up to now have only been on paper in Washington, DC) available online for free for everyone. Not only that, but every name is indexed. If your ancestor was mentioned in someone else's file, you can search for and find him. For more information, talk to project co-chairs Elissa Powell and Kim Paulson
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NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2014–2015

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Newsletter ideas and feedback:

Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

WHO WE ARE—NHG

We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who meet on a regular basis to assist one another in establishing our family histories. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month, except December, at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless Township in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Tip Time begins at 6:45 P.M., and our general meeting commences at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are free and open to the public.

We publish a newsletter ten times a year for a nominal membership fee of \$15.00 annually. The subscription year runs from August to June, but anyone wishing to join the North Hills Genealogists mid-year will receive back issues of the newsletter for that membership year.

The North Hills Genealogists Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Northland Public Library. The Board meeting is open to all members of the North Hills Genealogists organization.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You have all been forewarned that I am going to talk about writing and presenting your family history at this month's meeting.

I will talk about proper ways to format your information and what to include. I cannot emphasize enough that putting together lists of birth, death, and marriage information about your ancestors, one generation after another, is, to say the least, boring! Standards discussed at writing seminars suggest you need to include probate and property deed information for each family at a minimum. But there is much more that can be provided in a narrative for each family, especially for your direct ancestors. This includes illustrations such as maps and migration routes, and family pictures. It also includes as many family stories as you can gather.

Note that you do not need to prove or even believe that a family story is completely true in order to include it in a family history, as long as you make clear that it may not be. Stories that illustrate someone's character or personality are good, especially humorous ones. Family scandals are also good, but be cautious that your Aunt Jenny does not find out about her father's first family for the first time in your manuscript.

You no doubt have heard many family stories over the years and probably have not written them down (which of course you need to do). But there are ways that you can actively solicit additional stories. This involves talking to actual living relatives, which can be difficult to do sometimes. That may include that aunt who lives in Michigan whom your mother has not talked to for twenty-five years because the aunt inherited grandma's good china and your mother didn't. Actually, not inheriting that china may be considered a godsend today, because if your mother had inherited it, you probably will inherit it, and then what would you do with it since you know your kids don't want it? My point is that the last generation's antagonisms are not yours, and you should take advantage of that.

Here is an approach I recommend. Have you taken out all of those old family photographs you have been collecting and identified every family member in each photo by their full name? That is

actually one of the first steps to compiling information for your family history. Whether you have or not, gather up several of those photos, call your aunt in Michigan and tell her you are on your way to “X” and would like to stop by for a couple of hours to help identify some people in old photos. She may be surprisingly gracious. Start with your photos, and ask if she has others. Talk about the place, time, and circumstances surrounding those pictures, and take notes. Don’t push too hard on your first visit, because you are going to want to come back with your portable scanner and perhaps do an audio or video interview with her and members of her family.

Repeat for every living, older family member.

Holiday dinners and other family gatherings are prime venues for collecting other stories. At my family reunion last May in Idaho, I found various groups would happily provide stories, especially about a person who was not in the room at the time.

Once you feel comfortable talking with your relatives, you should more systematically interview them for their life history. Professional interviewers would suggest you start by taking down a timeline of your person’s life, then going back and systematically asking questions about each significant time period or event.

Last month, Carole Ashbridge talked about using Evernote to organize your genealogy. She said that the best way to begin would be to start with a new application. I would suggest that using Evernote to organize your family stories would be a perfect application. Start by typing in all those stories in your head and others that you have collected recently. Upload pertinent photographs and those audio and digital interviews. Tag everything in multiple ways. Then when you actually sit down to write about a particular family, everything is right there.

Some of you may be focused on finding those documents that will definitely link you to that Revolutionary War hero. But you know that those documents, if they exist, will not go away, and in fact will be easier to find in two or five years. In the meantime, your older relatives are

getting, well, older. Do not lose the opportunity to talk with those people. You have the rest of the spring and all summer to go forth and collect.

~ Dave

NHG NEWS

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at the April meeting or see <http://www.preservethepensions.org>.

Volunteers Needed to Revive the NHG Resource Packet

For many years, NHG offered a genealogical resource packet to new members. The resource packet contained helpful articles, blank family group sheets and pedigree charts, and a listing of local repositories, among the many pages.

It is time to update and revitalize the NHG resource packet in order to be ready for the 2015–2016 membership year that begins August 1. Some long-time NHG members believe that the packet is a nice member benefit. Once the newly updated resource packet is available, it will be easier to maintain since it will be in digital form.

Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-editor, has volunteered to lead the revision process for getting the NHG Resource Packet to reflect 21st century best practices and current sources. A few volunteers are needed to form a short-term committee to revitalize the packet contents. Most of the work will be completed between June and July. Another way to volunteer for this project is to offer ideas about the packet contents. If you would like to volunteer to join the resource packet committee, please contact Sue Ennis at 724-452-3176 or e-mail her at susanennis@verizon.net.

NHG SIGs Update

Exciting news has been coming out of the NHG Special Interest Groups, also known as SIGs. The NHG Board encourages members to take time to attend one of the meetings and experience first hand the enthusiasm and camaraderie within these groups. The SIGs link on the NHG website for more details about each group, including meeting times.

The **Eastern European** group, which is now forming, will be facilitated by Karen Melis. A

questionnaire will be e-mailed in early May to those who have expressed an interest in this group. Karen is hoping to have the group start meeting in May or June. If anyone has a suggestion of where the group could meet, e-mail her at zamagurie@zoominternet.net.

The **British Isles** group members meet at St. Catherine of Sweden Roman Catholic Church on Wildwood Road in room 113 at 11:00 A.M. the first Wednesday of each month. At the past meeting, each member presented one specific problem from his or her research. Members offered ideas and tips to solve the problems. Rich Hayden used his own difficult ancestor to provide examples of what resources he had used and how those led him to other resources.

In the **German** SIG, members continue to branch out into interesting areas of research. This past month some members shared information about an online subscription for records from the Evangelical (Protestant) Church books and a handwriting sheet in the Fraktur font used in German printed documents. The book *In Search of Your German Roots* by Angus Baxter was recommended. Two members compared their research, enabling one of these members to trace their family tree back another generation. Look for this group on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:00 A.M. at St Paul's Methodist Church on Ferguson Road in Allison Park.

The **Pennsylvania** Group has a change of meeting date, **this month only**. They will meet **April 29th** from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. on the 2nd floor of the Shaler Library. In the round table format, members share tips on research involving the online site *Chronicling America 1830-1936*, the New York state census that was conducted every ten years in years ending in 5, and discussing military records housed in the alcove at the Carnegie Library in Oakland. Rich Hayden brought in bound copies of the "Laurel Messenger", a newspaper from Somerset County. A few members found their ancestors in these articles.

This initial phase of the first three Special Interest Groups has been well attended with interesting ideas and support from the members. It is not too late to join one of these

SIGs if you are interested. Contact the leader of the specific group you would like to join, or speak to the leaders or a member of the NHG Board at the next meeting.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP AT HEINZ HISTORY CENTER SUMMARIZED

On 23 March 2015, the Heinz History Center, in conjunction with the Westmoreland County Historical Society, sponsored an Irish Genealogy Workshop at the center's Detre Library. In addition to discussions by the Heinz History Center and the Westmoreland County Historical Society staff concerning Western Pennsylvania resources at their respective facilities, two members of the Ulster Historical Foundation discussed records available to pursue your Irish and Scots-Irish roots. Information on the Ulster Historical Foundation can be found at <http://www.ancestryireland.com>. There was a full house of about one hundred participants, of which about **twelve** were NHG members.

In addition to the North Hills Genealogists, other local groups such as the Pittsburgh Family History Center, the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), the Mt. Lebanon Genealogy Society, the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh participated.

NEW DIGITAL ITEMS ADDED TO POWER LIBRARY DATABASE

The *Pennsylvania Photos and Documents* database of the state's *POWER Library* resource continues to add new digitized items to its collection. *POWER Library* is available through the web page of every public library in Pennsylvania. Interested researchers will need to input a library card or E-card number for full access to the wealth of primary source documents and images.

At the end of March, the *Wilson College World War II Collection* was added to the *PA Photos and Documents* database. This specific collection is searchable, and items may be downloaded. The digital items include photographs, letters, and historic items from graduates of Wilson College who served as soldiers and Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASPs) during World War II.

Other digital collections from Pennsylvania's colleges and universities include Carnegie Mellon University, Dickinson College, Gettysburg College, Penn State University, Temple University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Scranton. Previously, these primary source collections were only available on-site at the institutions.

If searching for similar collections in other states, the quickest way to locate the databases is to search using the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Access the DPLA search bar through <http://dp.la/>. Repositories with holdings of interest to genealogists are constantly updating their digital collections as funds become available and as technology makes the process of preserving documents and photos more efficient. Check often with databases such as *PA Photos and Documents* to see what has been updated. The digital items within the databases of *POWER Library* can enhance genealogical research or lead to the discovery of new findings.

MY SEARCH FOR A VILLAGE OF ORIGIN

By Bobby Egelston, NHG Member

[Editors' note: This is a great example of how persistence and networking with other genealogists can help us break through our brick walls.]

This article describes an eleven year search to find the village of origin of my great-grandmother and the various paths I took to get there.

In 2004 I decided to find where my paternal great-grandmother, Marie Brübach, came from in Germany. The information I had was that she had married William Kuehner in Pittsburgh and he died young in an industrial accident. They had five children. My grandmother, Anna Marie Kuehner, was their fourth child and second daughter. In 1982 I had interviewed my Great Aunt Louise, Anna's sister, and she told me her mother was one of four girls; one sister was named Kate, and her mother had been orphaned at age twelve. As for Marie's place of origin, all she knew was Germany, and she had no idea

when Marie had emigrated. She told me that twenty years after William Kuehner's death, Marie married Henry Ploesch, whom I discovered was the widower of her sister-in-law, Louise Kuehner Ploesch.

Typically one looks for origin information in

- the United States federal census
- immigration records or ship passenger lists
- church records, including marriage records and the baptisms of the children
- death records

Knowing that she died in December 1945, I ordered Marie Ploesch's death certificate from the Pennsylvania Division of Vital Records in New Castle. They couldn't find her death certificate. The census records where Marie appeared only listed Germany, and I have not yet found her immigration record. Therefore I focused on church records.

In 2005 I found Marie's marriage record of 3 April 1886 in the records of Second St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh (on microfilm at the University of Pittsburgh's Archives Service Center). The groom's birthplace was recorded as Roigheim, Wuerttemberg, which I knew was correct. The bride's birthplace was recorded as Würzheim, Kurhessen. While this looks like a legitimate name for a village in Hessen, no such place exists. I searched the name at ShtetlSeeker, which is now called the JewishGen Gazetteer, (www.jewishgen.org) and a program on ExpediaMaps that no longer exists and got no close matches.

On a trip to Salt Lake City in 2010 I sought help at the Family History Library with my dilemma about the name of her village of origin. The researcher there suggested it might be Wehrheim in Hessen-Nassau. I read through the church books for this area and found no Brübachs. My conclusion was that the information was wrong or mis-recorded.

I then looked for the baptismal records of Marie's children. I had five chances that a village of origin might be recorded. Returning to the records of Second St. Paul's Lutheran Church, I found the baptismal records for her two older children. No information on her village of origin was recorded.

Knowing they were Lutheran, I began searching other Lutheran church records and found the baptismal records for the three youngest children in the German Evangelical Protestant Church records in Pittsburgh. Unfortunately, they too did not record her village of origin. Where could I turn next?

Since my Aunt Louise had said Marie had three sisters, I began researching all the godparents named on the baptismal records, hoping one of these might be a sister and through her I could locate their village of origin. I traced these people in the census records and looked up marriage licenses. Many of the godparents were Kuehners, but none had any connection to Brübach.

Next, I began to search for any other Brübachs in Pittsburgh that may have been related to Marie. I looked at city directories for 1886 to see if any other Brübachs lived at the address she had given on her marriage license application. None did. Then I searched the Allegheny County marriage license index for all Brübachs who applied for marriages between 1885–1890, hoping to find Marie’s siblings. Then I looked up the name of the church where they were married, using the name of the minister to locate the church. While the name of the village of origin was listed in the marriage records, most of these Brübachs were from Bavaria and had married in the German United Evangelical Protestant Church in Birmingham. No matches there.

I found the marriage license application for Marie Kuehner and Heinrich Ploesch in 1923. Marie listed her mother as Gertrud Hunch and her father as “Repo”; birthplace Germany. She was married by a justice of the peace and so no church record would be found.

I looked again at the record for Marie’s marriage to William Kuehner and saw that the witness at the marriage was Katherine Finger. I began researching Katherine Finger and found her in the 1880 census with her husband, Charles. I could not find Katherine Finger in the 1900 census, but I did find a son Charles Finger living at 2137 Rose Street, 13th Ward, Pittsburgh, with William Kuehner and his wife Katherine. They had been married three years. I looked at the

1897 Allegheny County marriage license index and found an application for marriage for Wilhelm Kuehner (born 1832) and Katherine Finger, nee Brübach (born 1854). I found their marriage record at Second St. Paul’s Church. Her birthplace is listed as Mörshausen, Hessen. (Note: Wilhelm is the father-in-law of Marie Brübach Kuehner). Katherine is a good candidate to be the sister “Kate” Aunt Louise mentioned. If so, Marie’s sister just became her mother-in-law! And I finally found another possible village of origin!

So I started looking for the death date for Charles Finger, Katherine’s first husband, hoping an obituary might give me more information on these people. I was unable to find any death date for him. I also began searching for her marriage to Charles Finger, probably 1872–74 based on the age of her first child and her stating in the 1900 census that she immigrated in 1872. I researched the marriage records of ten Lutheran churches in Allegheny City and Pittsburgh and could not find her.

Still hoping to find other Brübachs in Pittsburgh that were related, I checked the records of another Lutheran church, the Smithfield Congregational Church for baptisms, marriages, and deaths of Brübachs. What I did find in the Smithfield Congregational Church records was the death record for Katherine Kuehner, widow of Finger, nee Brübach who died in 1906 from pneumonia brought on by typhoid fever.

I ordered the death certificate for Katherine Kuehner, nee Brubach and on this her father’s name is listed as George with the surname Riebach and her mother is listed as Gertrude Rieschel. Were Katherine and Marie not sisters? Katherine’s son-in-law gave this information, so I discounted the error in father’s surname and concentrated on the confirmation that both Katherine and Marie had a mother named Gertrude, which is not that common a given name.

In 2012 I tried again to get a death certificate for Marie Ploesch, using the name Marie/Mary Kuehner with the exact death date of 22 December 1945. I got a death certificate this time, but her parents were listed as “Unknown”. My dad’s cousin Ken Kuehner had told me that Marie

had been identified as an “Alien” during WWII because she spoke German. So I sent \$20 to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (www.uscis.gov/genealogy) to have the 1940 Alien Act Records checked for Marie. They did not find a record for her.

In 2014 while looking for baptisms of another family in the records of St. Paul’s Church, Allegheny City, I found baptisms for the children of Paul (not Charles) Finger and Anna Katharina Bruebach. I again went through the marriage records at this church for this couple, but did not find them. One of the godparents listed is a Henry Hensch. Could this be a relative since Marie gave her mother’s maiden name as Hunch on her 1923 marriage application? I researched Henry Hensch but only found his birth place as Hessen, with no village name in any of his records.

Meanwhile, I had been using JewishGen (www.jewishgen.org) to research Mörshausen, the village Katherine gave when she married Wilhelm Kuehner in 1897. I looked to see if there was a village nearby that might be construed as Würzheim. There were two villages named Morshausen/Mörshausen in Hessen. However, the one located in Kreis Melsungen also had a village nearby named Bergheim. Could this have been mistakenly misheard and written as Würzheim? I tried to locate the church records for this area. The Family History Library had none in the right time period. I needed to determine what archive might have these church records. Using the website <http://www.amason.net/hessen>, I found a map that shows how the Evangelical Church Districts today follow the jurisdictional boundaries prior to 1866. Hessen has several divisions. In July 2014 I e-mailed the archive at Kassel, but got no response.

In the fall of 2014 I learned of a new website, Familienforschung mit Archion (<https://www.archion.de>), which is an Evangelical church book portal in Germany that would soon be available as a subscription site. When Ami Wessel joined our German SIG, she stated that she was a beta tester for Archion and offered to do research for me. I asked her to look for my Brübach sisters. Unfortunately, the records for Mörshausen and Bergheim were not

then available.

In February 2015 HelenJean Gent, a friend at Oakmont Genealogical Study Group and a NHG member, told me about the book *Marriage Returns, City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, PA 1870–75*, compiled by the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. In volume 1, I found the marriage record for John Paul Finger and Katherine Brübach. An alderman married them in a civil ceremony on 3 January 1874. This explains why no church record exists. Both parties listed Germany as their place of birth.

Ami Wessel e-mailed me on March 24, 2015 with the news that she had found and copied the birth records for the sisters, Marie and Anna Katherine Brübach. Mörshausen and Bergheim records from the archive at Kassel were online. I immediately paid for a month’s subscription to Archion and learned a lot about my great-grandmother, Marie Brübach. Her family lived in Mörshausen, Kreis Melsungen, Hesse. Her father was Johann George Brübach, a woodworker, and her mother was Gertrud Steinbach. Marie, born 20 October 1860, was the youngest of four children. Her siblings were Johan Adam, Anna Martha (who married twice and never left Hessen), and Anna Katherine. Marie’s mother died in 1871 and my guess is that Anna Katherine left shortly after this for America. Their father died two years later in 1873. Aunt Louise was right that Marie was orphaned by age twelve. I do not know when Marie came to America.

After eleven years of research and with the help of other genealogists and the information given by her sister in a second marriage record in 1897, I finally know the village of origin of my great-grandmother Marie Brübach, born 1860 in Mörshausen, Hesse, Germany.

Be persistent. I had the incorrect name for her village of origin in her 1886 marriage record, incorrect information on her parents’ names in her 1923 marriage license application, an incorrect recording and indexing of her name in the 1900 census, a death record using her first husband’s surname, and an incorrect name for her sister’s husband in the 1880 census. I overcame all of that to find my great-grandmother’s birth place.

PENNSYLVANIA BIRTH CERTIFICATES ADDED ONLINE

In conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Archives, Ancestry.com has digitized the Pennsylvania birth certificates from 1906 to 1908. The digitized versions are in color, so researchers can see if any notations were made in a different ink.

Access to these records are included in a subscription to Ancestry. If you do not have an Ancestry subscription but are a Pennsylvania resident, you can still access the records. There are instructions on how to do so at <http://phmc.info/ancestrypa>.

If you have an Ancestry subscription and would like to search just the Pennsylvania birth certificates, these are the steps to take:

- Make sure you're logged into Ancestry.
- In the menu along the top of the main screen, hover your mouse cursor over the Search option.
- When the menu appears, pick the Card Catalog option. This will take you to a new screen.
- On the new screen, type "Pennsylvania birth" into the field labeled Title on the left side of the screen. It does not matter if you use capital letters.
- The database with Pennsylvania birth certificates will be the only result displayed. Click on the text "Pennsylvania Birth Records 1906–1908" to access the database.

The same instructions will work to search just the Pennsylvania death certificates. In the third step, type "Pennsylvania death" rather than "pennsylvania birth" into the field labeled Title. The death certificates will be the top result displayed, with the title "Pennsylvania Death Certificates 1906–1963".

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

25 April 2015 9:30 A.M.
**WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Join the Genealogical Committee, an auxiliary of the Western Reserve Historical Society, for an all-day seminar on genetic genealogy. CeCe Moore, who is the genetic genealogy consult for PBS's *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.*, will present four lectures on using DNA in your research. More information is available at <http://www.wrhs.org/upcoming-events>.

10 May 2015 10:00 A.M.
**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Join WPGS for a series of classes on getting started in genealogy. "Introduction to Genealogy" will be held on four consecutive Saturdays in May, starting on the 9th. All of the classes will be held in the Pennsylvania Department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (Main Branch). The cost for the classes is \$30.00. Pre-registration is required. To register, call 412-622-3154. Topics to be covered include census records, vital records, military records, immigration and naturalization records, land records, organization, preservation, and more.

13–16 May 2015
**NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY**

NGS's next conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri. The conference program is available and registration is open. This year NGS will live stream some of the conference sessions. Registration for the live streaming is now open. The streamed sessions will be available for purchase in packages. One package will focus on the immigration and naturalization process and the other on methodology techniques. Each package consists of five lectures. If you can't attend the conference in person, purchasing and watching one of the packages is a great way to learn. For more information and a registration form, please visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>.

Saturday, 16 May 2015 1:00 P.M.
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

The Heinz History Center's Museum Conservation Center will hold a workshop on preserving military items using shadow boxes. Niles Laughner will lead the workshop, entitled

“WWII Shadow Box Talk.” Pre-registration is required for this event. The cost is \$30.00 for History Center members and \$35.00 for non-members. For more information, please visit <http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org>.

Monday, 18 May 2015 1:00 p.m.
MT. LEBANON GENEALOGY SOCIETY

Jim Struber will describe the resources available through the Family History Library's Family History Center system. He will discuss what is available in person and what is available on FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org>). The free program will be held at the Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Pittsburgh, 15228. The group uses one of the library's two lower level conference rooms. For more information, please visit <http://mtlebanonlibrary.org/306/Genealogy-Society>.

26–27 June 2015
PALATINES TO AMERICA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

This year's Pal Am conference will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, on Second Street in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Lecturers will include Michael D. Lacopo, Jonathan Stayer, Katherine Lowe Brown, Iren Snively, Joe Lieby, and Kathleen Hale. There is optional research time at the Pennsylvania State Archives on 25 June. Watch <https://www.palam.org> for additional details and registration information.

28 June–3 July 2015
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH

The first GRIP session this summer will feature classes on writing your family history, kinship determination, research in New York, using church records (with NHG Fall Conference 2014 speaker Reverend David McDonald), land records, and DNA. Space is still available in some classes. Class descriptions and more information are available at <http://www.gripitt.org>.

19–24 July 2015
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH

The second GRIP session this summer will feature classes on intermediate research, advanced research, genealogy as a career, Pennsylvania research, DNA, and using the law in genealogy. Space is still available in some classes. Class descriptions and more information are available at <http://www.gripitt.org>.

Saturday, 6 June 2015 2:00 P.M.
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The group will discuss the Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, and Pioneer Families lineage societies. The meeting will be held at the Citizen's Library, 55 South College Street, Washington, PA. For more information, please visit <http://www.genealogicalsocietyswpa.com>.

22 August 2015 9:30 A.M.
AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Akron-Summit County Public Library and the Summit County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society are co-sponsoring an all-day seminar. The theme is *Discovering Your German Ancestors*. Jim Beidler will present five lectures on the theme. For more information, please visit <http://sc.akronlibrary.org>.

17–19 September 2015
NEW YORK STATE FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society and the Central New York Genealogical Society are co-sponsoring a conference at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center Syracuse/Liverpool in Liverpool, New York. There will be tracks on society management, New York research, and genetic genealogy. The early bird registration deadline is May 31st. For more information, please visit <http://www.nysfhc.org>.



P.O. Box 169
Wexford, PA 15090

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, 19 May 2015 **Witches of Pennsylvania**

Thomas White

Pittsburgh author and historian, Thomas White, returns by popular demand to speak about his book *Witches of Pennsylvania*, which deals with a lot of Pennsylvania German heritage and folklore. Come and learn about where and how your family stories and traditions may have originated.

Tuesday, 16 June 2015 **Caring for Your Archives**

Sierra Green

Green, an archivist at the Heinz History Center, will give a presentation about caring for and organizing your family archives. In particular, she will offer guidance and tips from the archival profession about how to preserve the stories that give meaning to the items in your family collection.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – Tuesday, 21 April 2015 **Writing and Presenting Your Family History**

Dave Egelston

NHG President Dave Egelston will discuss various formats for creating a family history—from formal multi-generation histories to informal treatments of a few generations in booklet, picture book, video, or slide format. Egelston will cover writing articles for both peer-reviewed journals and popular magazines.