



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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

NHG DONATIONS TOP GOAL

*By Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL,
NHG Pension Fund Donation Chair*

The War of 1812 Pensions are now a little further along in the effort to digitize and place them online at Fold3.com for free. In fact they are about 17,500 pages further along! The North Hills Genealogists' donation campaign recently closed with a whopping \$1,075 in donations. At their May board meeting, the board unanimously voted to increase the NHG matching contribution from \$750 to the amount actually collected, making the contribution sent in \$2,150. This will be matched by the Federation of Genealogical Society's Stern-NARA Gift Fund and then again by Ancestry. Thank you to the thirty-some contributors to this worthy cause!

Although he didn't know it, NHG member C. James Strutz, the first of our largest contributors, won a hand-carved, painted, signed, and numbered wooden dragoon soldier donated by Michael J. Hall of Provo, Utah. Jim will accept his prize at the May 19th NHG meeting. Asked why he contributed, Jim wrote:

Individual researchers must discover the existence of original records, which sometimes are so fragile that simply touching them risks damage, and endure the inconvenience of having to travel to them just for the small hope that they might offer a bit of needed information. Professional digitizing of these old documents not only helps to preserve the originals and reduce future handling by non-professionals but also makes their images forever available for convenient online research by anybody. Increasing numbers of record archive repositories all across the world are doing this.

The War of 1812 was faceted with no single outcome such as independence

or emancipation, so I think fewer people understand the War of 1812 and don't give it the attention it deserves. The War of 1812 was important in American history in that it cleaned up several loose ends left over by the colonial wars of the 1750s–1760s, the American Revolution of the 1770s–1780s, and Ohio country Indian wars of the 1790s. The availability of online records for this era is relatively scarce. When this record digitization project was announced, with the prospect of matching funds that essentially multiplied contributions by eight times, I had to contribute.

Even with NHG contributing this large donation, the pension records are only 50 percent funded. For more information on the fund, the records, and how to contribute further, please see <http://www.preservethepensions.org>.

NHG TO SPONSOR LECTURE AT JUNE GRIP

NHG will sponsor an evening session during the June week of the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP). Judy Russell, CG, CGL, will present "How Old Did He Have to Be?" on Tuesday, June 30th, at 7:00 P.M. Russell will be **(continued on page 83)**

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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

It is finally spring. It's time for a road trip. Time to grab the laptop or tablet (and a few clothes) and hit the road.

My wife and I are going to the National Genealogical Society's conference in early May in St. Charles, Missouri, near St. Louis. We will stop at a couple of county courthouses in western Illinois on the way out. We will be traveling to Minnesota on the way back to visit our grandkids, and their parents (my wife insists this stop is on the way).

Every day it seems there is more family information available on the Internet. This is a good thing, but researching on the Internet does not replace actually visiting the places your ancestors lived, seeing the old neighborhoods, walking the farms and the cemeteries, and visiting the local churches. There is a lot of information that can only be found in local libraries, historical societies, and county government offices, not to mention talking to local people who may actually remember your family, for better or worse.

In reality there is some effort required to properly prepare for a research trip. We are planning a trip later this summer to the Philadelphia area where we will visit some museums and art exhibits, hopefully see some old friends, and of course do some research. In order to prepare for that trip I have written a research summary for the specific family I am researching, listing everything we think we know about the family, what we do not know, and what information we hope to find. I went back to the Internet to make sure that none of that specific information was available online, and then I researched repositories that might have that information.

I am looking for information about my fourth great-grandfather James McGregor, for whom not one official scrap of information documenting his existence has been found. But for instance:

- We believe that James' wife, Elizabeth, arrived in Philadelphia on the ship *Nancy* in November 1802, accompanied by her probable brother James Love and a sister. We do not believe that her husband was

on board that ship, having possibly arrived in Philadelphia earlier.

- We know that three of Elizabeth's children were born in Pennsylvania (in 1803, 1805, and 1807), and possibly a fourth child was born in 1811.
- We have a definitive paper trail for the Elizabeth McGregor family (again without James) beginning with the 1820 U.S. federal census for Pease Township, Belmont County, Ohio, and continuing to the present day, including marriage records for her four children (they were married in Ohio) and tax and property records.

While in Philadelphia I plan to research the following:

- Search for any McGregor Philadelphia tax records, 1800–1820
- Look again for any naturalization records for McGregors or Loves
- Look for baptisms for McGregor children (probably in Presbyterian Churches), 1800–1812
- Search for transit records for the ship *Nancy* in 1802

I have researched information about the following Philadelphia repositories:

- Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- Philadelphia City Archives
- Presbyterian Historical Society
- Independence Seaport Museum

I have collected information about hours, locations, and specific holdings for each. By planning in advance, I am able to focus my research efforts and maximize the time we have available for other pursuits in the area. By planning your research trip in advance, you can do that too.

~ Dave

NHG SPONSORED LECTURE (continued from page 81)

the speaker at this year's NHG fall conference. Take advantage of the opportunity to hear her speak before the conference! GRIP is held on the

campus of La Roche College on Babcock Boulevard. The lecture will be held in room SC103 in the A. J. Palumbo Science Center. Use the Remington Drive entrance on Babcock; this is just north of Duncan Avenue, but not at a traffic light. Look for the Family History signs.

SAVE THE DATES!

The year 2015 is North Hills Genealogists 25th anniversary. To celebrate, plans are in the works for a summer social to be held on August 9th at the Depreciation Lands Museum on Pioneer Road in Hampton Township. A tour of the historical buildings by a volunteer docent along with an explanation of what the Depreciation Lands were will be available. We are in the process of finalizing the details and hope to have more information at the May meeting.

Also in celebration of our 25th anniversary, we are expanding our fall conference! The event is planned for October 30th and 31st at the new Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on Babcock Boulevard. Judy Russell, CG, CGL, will be the featured speaker. There will be a second speaker whom we will announce soon. Mark your calendars for both events!

NHG SIG NEWS

The **Eastern European** Special Interest Group, which focuses on Slovakia, Poland, Russia, and Bohemia, is being facilitated by Karen Melis. She has recently returned from a research trip to Slovakia. Those who previously signed up for this group should have received an e-mail from Karen with a survey. This survey requested your input on the date, time, and place of the meetings, as well as information about your area of interest. Please complete this and e-mail it back to Karen to enable her to best meet the needs of the group. Karen wishes for all those interested in this group to join her for a "Meet and Greet" May 19th at 6:30 (BEFORE the monthly meeting) in the downstairs lobby of Northland Library. Karen hopes to have the first meeting in June.

The **British Isles SIG** recently gathered at St Catherine of Sweden on Wildwood Road for their May 6th meeting. This month consisted of sharing websites for records in Ireland and

continuing to discuss member case studies. One person shared a news release from the National Library of Ireland about records being available online this coming July 8th, and a link that provides tools for searching passenger lists. You can join Cindy Rylands and the members of this group anytime. Their next meeting will be held June 3rd at 11:00 A.M.

Linda Loewer and Bobby Egelston facilitate the **German SIG**. At their April meeting, they brought a laptop to connect to the Internet so members could share favorite websites and enable other members to experience navigating through these websites. They discussed the following websites:

- www.schmidtgen.com
- <http://www.kerchner.com>
- <http://www.lagis-hessen.de>
- www.genealogy.net (a portal to several databases)
- <http://icar-us.eu/cooperation/online-portals/matricula> (online church books)
- <http://www.portafortium.cz> (online church books).

Websites to help in identifying a village of origin were: www.jewishgen.org and <http://isodp.hof-university.de/fuzzyg/query/>. They also discussed Ancestry.com, Familysearch.org, and Cyndislist.com.

Following Dave Egelston's presentation at the last NHG meeting, the **Pennsylvania SIG** discussed various ways to record their family history and how to achieve that goal. Members also had the opportunity to discuss their brick walls. Some suggestions made to help with these problems were: utilizing the resources at the Heinz History Center, the Pennsylvania Room at the Carnegie Library, and the city directories. One member has been trying to find the biological parents of her grandmother. Another member provided her with documentation entitled "SWAN PA Adoption Search Guideline" to help her with her search. The group will meet at the Shaler Library May 27th and June 24th at 6:00 P.M., take a summer break for July and August, then reconvene in September.

The NHG Board is considering forming two new SIGs, one focused on writing and one focused on

beginning researchers. Both would start in September. If you are interested in joining either of these SIGs, please e-mail us at info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org or see a board member at a meeting.

RESEARCH BEST PRACTICE: DEEPER RESEARCH IN A SINGLE RECORD GROUP

By Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor

The art of searching for elusive ancestors has two common approaches: **1.** delving deeply into one record group or database in order to find all possible ancestors and their FAN Club (Friends, Associates, Neighbors) versus **2.** concentrating upon the life of one ancestor or family by searching for just that one in as many record groups or databases as possible while ignoring all other possible relatives who come into view.

Which practice will lead to better results for genealogical researchers? There are reasons why both approaches have value. The key is to prepare a research plan and stick to it. As genealogist Thomas MacEntee (<http://hackgenealogy.com>) says, "Don't be dazzled by the glitter; it will derail your research plan." In this case, the glitter is any genealogical tidbit that distracts one from the current research goal.

Approach #1

A new record group has been digitized or found by a genealogist. A recent example of this might be the *Pennsylvania Death Certificates*. In this delving-deep approach to research, the genealogist would search **only** the Pennsylvania death certificates but would systematically find the death record of each and every known ancestor. Then, using the search feature, look for all other possible relatives. In the case of the Pennsylvania death certificates, those extra searches could be conducted by surname, full name, date or date range, or even by the names of one or both parents.

A research goal for this approach might be written like this: Find all death certificates for the Williams' family members in Pennsylvania between 1906–1963; or, Find all death certificates for three generations of the George M. Mason family.

Genealogical glitter in approach #1 might be in the form of bird-walking from name to name—meaning stopping for every name that is listed on a group of family death certificates and checking results for everyone. This method would get a researcher slightly off track as in-laws, or even unknown names, are explored.

Approach #2

One particular ancestor is perched on a brick wall in cyberspace, and the current research goal is to find that ancestor's records. The written research goal includes a listing of all possible records in databases, the name(s) and location(s) of the ancestor, and specific record groups to be searched.

For example, Margaret Ann Tuomey Mason would be searched in each U.S. federal census between 1850–1940 (her lifespan), then search New York State census records, followed by birth, marriage, and death records, and finally the *Wilkes-Barre (PA) City Directories*. Recording positive (found) data as well as negative (not found) data is an important strategy in genealogical research using approach #2.

The genealogical glitter in this approach might be deviating from the research plan to look for information about Margaret's husband's family, rather than examining her records. This could lead to records in a different state or region, or cause the researcher to forget the plan for breaking down the brick wall.

Both approaches work, and both are valid for genealogical research. The research goal should direct the search! Pre-planned, written research goals, or even a more detailed research plan, should frame the structure of the research. For example, when the Pennsylvania death certificates were first released in the past year, it was quite tempting to use approach #1 and simply search for every possible relative within the record group. For approach #2, one ancestor's life trail is uncovered, one record at a time. Charting that person's life with multiple record groups will provide a detailed time line. This time line will have gaps, which can lead to the next research goal: to re-visit record groups to search for relatives of that ancestor. In this way, a genealogist becomes more familiar with a

record group through the repeated searches.

Of course, the best researchers will use both approaches to gather all possible records!

USGS ADDS DIGITAL VIEWER TO NATIONAL MAP COLLECTION

Last week, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) added an enhanced online map viewer that is getting strong reviews for image clarity. A wider variety of map views was also added.

The USGS website *The National Map* site features a collection of over 175,000 historic and current maps from 1880 through present day. Genealogists can browse the maps, and zoom in to a specific location that is known or search using location names. Another way to access the available maps is by entering a date range in order to view an area during various times in the history of your ancestors' lives.

Every map is free to download! A variety of formats is available from JPGs to TIFFs, or for the more advanced genealogical map user, choose a KMZ file, which will import into Google Earth or a GeoTIFF, which will import maps directly into GIS software. A tutorial is offered in the *Help* section of the USGS website, found at <http://nationalmap.gov/index.html>.

Search for a map and then download two versions—one that is “zoomed out” to showcase the region, and a second that is “zoomed in” to the precise town, cemetery, or neighborhood that is of specific interest to the genealogist. The USGS website *The National Map* contains a wealth of links and information about the types of maps and why you might need to use that type.

Adding historic maps to any published genealogy will certainly enhance the research findings for your family. Remember to cite the source for each map used.

EXPLORE THE EVIDENCE EXPLAINED WEBSITE TO LEARN ABOUT CITING SOURCES

Explore the website *Evidence Explained* by Elizabeth Shown Mills to learn about citing

sources for genealogical research. The updated 2nd Edition of *Evidence Explained* was released in 2012; since then, the online version has added a lot of valuable content.

QuickTips are links to *QuickLessons* with articles, examples, and scholarly information about how to cite each record type. Models to follow are provided and sample pages of text are highlighted for researchers to compare to their own documentation.

There is a *Forums* link where visitors to the *Evidence Explained* website can ask questions and then watch the insightful answers appear. There are many graphics and charts to illustrate certain examples and to provide a compare/contrast visual. The *Book Store* link offers an electronic version of the 2nd Edition of *Evidence Explained* and inexpensive, but valuable, *Quick Sheets* on a variety of 21st century record groups.

Go to the Evidence Explained website, <https://www.evidenceexplained.com>, for answers to all questions about how, when, and why to cite sources in genealogical research.

FAMILYSEARCH ENHANCES SITE WITH NEW COLLECTIONS

Since 1 May 2015, FamilySearch.org has added more than 12 million new indexed records and images to its already vast database collection. According to the [FamilySearch blog](#), the latest collections include information from “Canada, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, and the United States,” added on May 1, and on May 8 more records were added for “Canada, Peru, the Philippines, and the United States” as well as for “Costa Rica, Croatia, Jamaica, and Puerto Rico.”

What does one begin to search?!

Here is an overview listing many of the newest collections of records:

- Canada – Newfoundland censuses, 1935, 1945
- Canada – Nova Scotia deaths, 1890–1955 and 1956-1957
- Canada – Saskatchewan, Catholic church

- records, 1846–1957
- Canada – Saskatchewan, cemetery transcripts, 1850–1994
- Croatia – Church books, 1516–1994
- Czech Republic censuses, 1800–1945
- New Zealand – Probate records, 1843–1998
- Philippines – Naval Parish records, 1818–1978
- Puerto Rico – Civil registrations, 1805–2001
- U.S. – Arizona county marriages, 1871–1964
- U.S. – Billion Graves index
- U.S. – Georgia, Deaths, 1928–1939
- U.S. – Georgia, Fulton County records, 1827–1955
- U.S. – Iowa, GAR membership records, 1861–1865
- U.S. – Missouri, County marriage, naturalization, and court recordings 1800–1991
- U.S. – New Hampshire birth certificates, 1901–1909
- U.S. – New York, county marriages, 1847–1848; 1908–1936
- U.S. – North Dakota censuses, 1915, 1925
- U.S. – Ohio, Bloomfield Twp. Brownwood cemetery records 1824–2012
- U.S. – Texas, Manifests of aliens granted temporary admission at El Paso, 1924–1954
- U.S. – Applications for headstones for U.S. military veterans, 1925–1949

From the FamilySearch.org main page, genealogists can access these and all other collections. Search by name of collection or by location. This immense amount of searchable records reminds all genealogists to check back often to see what is new at FamilySearch.org.

In addition to the latest database collections for genealogical researchers, FamilySearch.org also just completed the digitization of its 200,000th book. The books are fully searchable online at books.familysearch.org. The books in this collection have been donated to FamilySearch since 2007 from many repositories across the United States.

Researchers can search the digital book collection by surname, location, or title. This is a fantastic way for genealogists to access books that are out of print, books with few copies, and books from remote libraries or historical societies. If using passages or images from these books, be sure to record a citation, and check copyright date with fair use and public domain.

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY ADDS ANCESTRY.COM

At the end of April 2015, the Cranberry Township (Pennsylvania) Library proudly announced the addition of [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)'s Library Edition to its menu of digital resources. Patrons need to be at the library computers in order to access this subscription website. This is the first Butler County public library in many years to have a prominent genealogical database available for its patrons. Other online resources of interest to genealogists include *Obituary Index Online*, *POWER Library*, and the *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Each database is searchable, has a read aloud option, and contains complete citation information. For more information about the recently renovated Cranberry Township Public Library, go to <http://www.cranberrytownship.org/index.aspx?NID=830>. The library is located in the Cranberry Municipal Building at 2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Thursday, 21 May 2015 7:00 P.M. WESTMORELAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Alfred Young, author of *Lee's Army during the Overland Campaign*, will present a program based on the research for his book. The event will be held at the WCHS Pollins Library, 362 Sand Hill Road, Suite 1, Greensburg, PA 15601. It is free for WCHS members and \$7.00 for non-members. More information is available at <http://www.westmorelandhistory.org>.

24 May and 31 May 2015 1:30 P.M. OLIVER MILLER HOMESTEAD

The homestead will be open for self-guided

www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

tours about eighteenth century life in southwestern Pennsylvania. Docents will be available to answer questions. The homestead is in Allegheny County's South Park. The entrance fee is \$2.00 per person. For more information, please visit <https://www.facebook.com/OliverMillerHomestead>.

Wednesday, 27 May 2015 6:30 P.M. CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB

Diane Klinefelter, the curator of the Capt. Thomas Espy Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, is the speaker at this month's meeting. She will present "Mothers, Marms, & Madams: Women in the Civil War." The meeting will be held in the Cranberry Public Library's Franklin Station Room. The library's address is 2525 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township, 16066. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more detailed information, please visit <http://www.cranberrygenealogy.org>.

Editors' Note: NHG members may remember visiting the Espy GAR Post for our holiday social several years ago.

Saturday, 6 June 2015 1:00 P.M. GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

The topic for the next meeting is the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), and pioneer families. The meeting will be held in the Citizen Library's Public Meeting Room. The library's address is 55 South College Street, Washington, PA 15301. The meeting is free and open to the public. More information is available at <http://www.genealogicalsocietyswpa.com>.

Saturday, 13 June 2015 10:00 A.M. WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

WPGS's next meeting will feature Tammy Hepps as the speaker. She will present "Family History Your Family Will Actually Enjoy." The meeting will be held at the Carnegie Library Lecture Hall in Oakland. It is free and open to the public. For more information, go to <http://www.wpgs.org>.

Saturday, 13 June 2015 9:00 A.M.
ROOTSTECH PITTSBURGH
FAMILY DISCOVERY DAY

Attend presentations by local genealogy experts; get individualized help in the staffed Internet cafe. There will be special classes for youth ages 12-18. Some of the presentation topics will include Google your ancestors, using Puzilla, African American family history, how to index, free church records, using Catholic Archives, and the American Civil War. The event will be held at 250 North Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, which is in Oakland. Pre-registration is requested. Register and find more information, including the presentation schedule, at <http://www.RootsTechPittsburgh.org>.

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 Snaveley, 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.

27 and 28 June 2015
WESTMORELAND COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WCHS will host two days of frontier court reenactments at its Historic Hanna's Town facility. Hanna's Town was the first county seat for Westmoreland County and held the first English courts west of the Allegheny Mountains. The event will feature cases actually heard between 1773 and 1786. Court sessions will be held on Saturday at 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. and Sunday at 2:00 P.M. The event is free for WCHS members, \$5.00 for adults, and \$4.00 for children and seniors. Hanna's Town is located at 809 Forbes Trail Road, Greensburg, PA 15601. For more information, please visit <http://www.westmorelandhistory.org>.

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>.

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>.

2015–16 NOMINEES FOR OFFICERS OF NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

PRESIDENT – Sharon Cimoch and her husband Bob live in Cranberry Twp. She is now retired after working in several secretarial positions. Her daughter Laurie is a 3rd grade teacher in Columbus, Ohio where she lives with her 12-year-old daughter, Alicia. Her son Sean is a talented writer and musician, playing guitar, keyboard, and harmonica at various regional venues. After the death of her son, David, almost 25 years ago, she became an active member of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. She has served on the MADD Butler County board, as a grief support group facilitator, and as a speaker on impact panels at local schools, prisons and other events. Sharon has been researching her ancestors for eight years. Her efforts have paid off by enabling her to become a member of the DAR and of the Colonial Dames XVII Century. In 2012 she served as the NHG Indexing Chair to lead volunteers in indexing the 1940 census. Most recently she has served as Member-at-Large on the NHG Board.

VICE PRESIDENT – Rich Venezia is a New Jersey native who now calls Pittsburgh home with roots in Italy, Ireland, England, Wales, Prussia, and Canada—and perhaps most importantly, Wilmerding! In his past life, he was a professional actor, a marketing officer for a theatre in Dublin, and a study abroad advisor in Massachusetts. He started *Rich Roots Genealogy* after having researched his own family for a decade and credits his maternal grandmother for his passion for family history. He was a member of the research team of *Genealogy Roadshow's* Season 2, and he specializes in Italian and immigrant ancestry. He writes and lectures on a variety of topics.

SECRETARY – Kim Paulson has lived in the North Hills area of Pittsburgh her entire life. She grew up in Shaler Township and moved to McCandless ten years ago. Kim attended LaRoche College during the evenings and received her Bachelor's Degree in Business in 2000. She has worked for PNC Financial Services for twenty-nine years where she is currently a Human Resources Project Manager. Kim joined the North Hills Genealogists in 2012 and enjoys broadening her knowledge of family history and genealogy through NHG members and resources. Kim's interest in genealogy started a few years ago with the show *Who Do You Think You Are?* Since then she has been tracing her ancestors in the Pittsburgh area and beyond. Kim enjoys traveling with her family and spending time outdoors gardening.

TREASURER – Reed B. Powell is the current and longtime NHG treasurer. He has worked in the computer industry since the early 1970s and now works for Impaqt, an Internet marketing company in Green Tree, where he develops database applications. Reed also serves as the web master for the North Hills Genealogists, and he also lectures locally and nationally on the use of technology in genealogical research.

A thank you is extended to these four members who have offered their time and talent to serve NHG.

BALLOT FOR THE 2015—2016 OFFICERS – NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

Ballot is due on or before 30 June 2015. Your ballot may be turned in at any NHG meeting or mail your completed ballot to: ***North Hills Genealogists, P.O. Box 169, Wexford, PA 15090.***

President

Sharon Cimoch _____
_____ (write-in)

Secretary

Kim Paulson _____
_____ (write-in)

Vice President

Rich Venezia _____
_____ (write-in)

Treasurer

Reed Powell _____
_____ (write-in)



P.O. Box 169
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

Mark Your Calendars!

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.

Tuesday, 30 June 2015 **Special NHG-Sponsored Lecture at GRIP** **How Old Did He Have to Be?**

Judy Russell, CG, CGL

Is this man John the father or John the son? Could that man be my ancestor who married in 1802? Knowing a person's age is often the key to distinguishing between two people of the same name. But if no record gives a birth date, how do you know how old someone was? The law can often give the answer.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – 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.