



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION OF THE 1916 EASTER RISING IN IRELAND

By Colleen Rumble, NHG Member

In last month's newsletter I discussed the repeated attempts by the Irish people to wrestle their independence from the British rule. This article is an examination of the continuation of the struggles and what changes occurred in the course for the fight for freedom of the Irish.

By the mid-1800s, a Gaelic revival was taking hold among the Irish in Ireland and America. These revivals shape the second and third leaf of Mike McCormack's shamrock.

During three centuries of English rule, the Gaelic language was forbidden to be spoken, and Irish literature could not be taught. The Gaelic culture had been forgotten. With the spread of nationalist fever came the interest in the resurgence of the Irish culture. In a speech given by Douglas Hyde on the Anglicization of the Irish, he stated, "We must teach ourselves not to be ashamed of ourselves, because the Gaelic people can never produce its best before the world as long as it remains tied to the apron strings of another race and another island, waiting for it to move before it will venture to take any step itself."¹

Secret societies were formed to study, revitalize, and preserve the language, history, and culture that had been lost. In 1856 the Phoenix Literary Society was formed, while the Society of Preservation of Gaelic was established in 1877. Douglas Hyde formed the Gaelic League in 1893. Poet Patrick Pearse believed the Gaelic League was the driving force for nationalism that led to the 1916 Rising.²

(continued on page 75)

BI-ANNUAL NHG LIBRARY LOCK-IN AT NORTHLAND SET FOR MAY

Due to the past success of the coordinated NHG and Northland Library genealogical lock-ins, the next one is scheduled for Friday, 13 May 2016 from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. The doors will open at 6:30 P.M. at the upper entrance of the library. Pre-registration is required for the NHG-Northland After Hours Genealogy Lock-in. Space is limited due to the number of available computer stations.

To register, call Northland's Adult Services Reference Desk at 412-366-8100, extension 113, or e-mail the library at npladulthoodserv@einetwork.net. There will be a waiting list once the class is filled in case some participants cancel. Those on the waiting list will be contacted as spots open and prior to May 13th.

The After Hours Genealogy Lock-in is an evening of hands-on research with volunteers from NHG and Northland. Volunteers will assist and support your research efforts including searching tips, interpretation of found records, and types of available records within the databases. To save copies of documents and information that you uncover at the Genealogy Lock-in, it is suggested that you bring a flash drive with you. Databases that you will have free access to during the lock-in are Ancestry Library Edition, Heritage Quest Online, and more. We hope to see you at Northland on May 13th as we break down genealogical brick walls!

What's Inside

1916 Easter Uprising	71, 75
NHG Spring Lock-in	71
President's Corner	72
NHG SIGs	74
NHG Help Wanted	75
Ethnic Corner: Jewish	77
Where Genealogists Meet	78
Upcoming NHG Programs	80

NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2015–2016

President:	Sharon Cimoch
Vice President:	Rich Venezia
Treasurer:	Reed B. Powell
Secretary:	Kim Paulson
Past President:	Dave Egelston
Membership:	Ken Berner
Publicity:	Gary Schlemmer
Publicity Tables:	Dave Williams
Book Marketing:	Elissa Powell, CG, CGL
Cemetery Chairs:	Amy Prager Elissa Powell, CG, CGL
Program Chair:	Mary Dzurichko
Newsletter Editors:	Amy E. K. Arner Sue Ennis
Corresponding Sec'y:	Al Hartman
Social Media Chair:	Carole Ashbridge
Tip Time Coordinator:	Rich Hayden

For more information:

Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

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.

We have several Special Interest Groups so members can collaborate informally to learn about various topics and ethnicities.

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.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Last month, we took a break from migration routes in order to highlight the historic toy exhibit at the Heinz History Center, since it was only available for a short time. Now, I think we can pick up the migration routes and follow some new trails, so get your atlas and follow along!

For many years, my mother, sister, two family friends, and I took weekend trips to Virginia or West Virginia once or twice a year. We always commented on how we felt so “at home” in those beautiful mountains, no matter what part of the state we visited. After all of the research that I’ve done, I now know that at least four ancestral families lived for at least a few years near that area of Virginia before moving further west. Would you call that genetic imprinting, genetic memory, or some sort of genetic recognition? I’m not sure, but I always felt an affinity to the mountains and towns there. Many of our early ancestors would have used the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia to find their way from the congested northern states into the more open and available southern states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, etc. Here are some detailed notes about those routes.

The Great Valley Road – This road began as a buffalo trail and was later followed by Indians as their Great Warrior Path. It was also called the Shenandoah Valley Road and followed the Shenandoah River south through the valley. In general, this route also follows the present day US Highway 11 and Interstate 81, running north and south with the Allegheny Mountains to the west and the Blue Ridge Mountains to the east.

In 1726, German settlers led by Jacob Stover began moving into the northern end of the valley; another colony led by Adam Muller started in Luray in 1730, and the Scots-Irish established Winchester, Virginia. Two years later in 1732, sixteen families arrived with Joist Hite and started Mecklenburg, which later became known as Shepherdstown. By 1749, over four thousand settlers had taken up land in the western counties of Virginia along the valley.

Private investors purchased, or were gifted, land patents and sold off portions of them to immigrants arriving here. Many investors living

in Europe never came to the colonies but had representatives handling their interests in Virginia and Maryland. The head right system was another way to acquire a patent. By sponsoring and paying the passage for someone arriving from Europe, an investor would receive a certain amount of land. Properties called hundreds were based on a similar premise.

At one point, the English government decided that their overcrowding problems could be alleviated by shipping criminals out of the country by selling their labor for a period of five to seven years. Many of these immigrants had been sent to the Americas from Newgate Prison in England and other English prisons.

Scots-Irish settlers found they were unwelcome in some cities, so many of them found their way into Virginia where the land was rocky and not of interest to other settlers. If you've ever been to Ireland, you know that this Virginia land was similar to their homeland, so they knew how to farm it, making use of the stones and boulders to build some of the beautiful barns, fences, and houses still seen in the valley today. Take a drive down either of the highways mentioned previously, and you will see for yourself. Just as immigrants arriving later, these families tended to stay together in ethnic and cultural groups. The Scots-Irish settled in Augusta, Rockbridge, Highland, Bath, and southward, while the Germans settled in the northern areas of New Market, Luray, and Woodstock.

The Valley Road connected in Pennsylvania in the north to the Lancaster Pike, as previously explained. By 1746, a short link in Virginia called the Pioneer's Road stretched from Alexandria to Winchester, the westernmost town in Virginia at that time. This road closely followed what is now US Highway 50. The Pioneer Road was a more direct route west, making Alexandria a more popular port than Philadelphia for the Scots-Irish immigrants coming to America between 1746 and the Revolutionary War. By the early 1750s, the southwestern end of the Great Valley Road at Roanoke was extended so travelers could continue south into North Carolina or southwest into eastern Tennessee. Another route went to Georgia. This route was used not only by humans but livestock. About 120 cattle formed a

drove, controlled by a manager on horseback with two men on foot to assist. As many as five thousand pigs, driven by a swineherd, could be in a drove. With so many cattle and pigs using the same highway as wagons and horsemen, it became very crowded at times.

By 1765, most parts of the road were open to wagon traffic, in particular the Pennsylvania-designed Conestoga wagon, which got larger as the road got wider and longer. They were constructed of oak, with eight-inch-wide hickory-spoked wheels, five feet high. The high canvas top was supported by eight hoops for a height of six feet. The body was sixteen feet long, large enough to accommodate most of the personal belongings a pioneer family would need. Conestoga wagons were usually drawn by five or six strong horses.

The Wilderness Road – Some historians choose to include the Wilderness Road within the route of the Great Valley Road; early pioneers often used both trails to move into Kentucky and the Ohio Valley. The Wilderness Road dates to the discovery of the Cumberland Gap in 1750. In 1774 the Transylvania Company sent Daniel Boone and a group of woodsmen to mark out a road through the Cumberland Gap of Virginia into Fincastle County, now part of Kentucky. By 1775, after much hardship and confrontations with Indians, Boone's men blazed the first trail through the Cumberland Mountains and into Kentucky. The stories of the land in this area created a frantic rush of migrations. The first settlements were at Boonesboro and Harrodsburg; other sites followed on or near the Kentucky River. Even with the threat of Indian raids, the lure persisted, and the Wilderness Road became an extension of the Great Valley Road.

For a long time, this was a crude trail allowing only pack teams to cross the mountains. In 1796 it was widened to allow a Conestoga wagon to pass. Before that, travelers would follow the Great Valley Road but were forced to abandon their wagons at Sapling Grove. They would re-pack their belongings onto horses before continuing on the strenuous trails into Kentucky. A caravan of packhorses and people on foot sometimes stretched along three miles on the trail. The early pioneers used the horses to transport huge baskets, bundles of clothing, bedding, and household articles. Indian raids were common

along the way. Professional packhorse men charged pioneers for experts to help them transport supplies through the wilderness.

Kentucky became the fifteenth state in 1792, by which point over sixty thousand people had taken the Wilderness Road there. After 1796 when the trail was widened, a Conestoga wagon could cross over the mountains, and a family could travel from the coast at Alexandria, Virginia, all the way to the middle of Kentucky in one wagon.

~ Sharon

Suggestions for further reading:

Early American Roads and Trails, by Beverly Whitaker, MA (Kansas City, Missouri: no publisher, 2002).

Migration Patterns in the United States by Beverly Whitaker, MA (No place: Heritage Productions, 2003).

Map Guide to American Migration Routes, 1735–1815 by William Dollarhide (Bountiful, Utah: Heritage Quest, 2000).

U.S. Migration Routes map from *Family Tree Magazine*, March 2008

(www.familytreemagazine.com).

NHG'S SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS PLAN UPCOMING MEETINGS

In the past year, several NHG members have volunteered to lead an NHG SIG, with each group focusing on a specific topic as indicated below. Participation in any SIG can begin at any time for NHG members and was started to provide a member benefit throughout the year.

Always check the NHG website at www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org for the most updated SIG information. No matter how you participate in a SIG meeting—listening, sharing, or leading—you will reap the benefit of networking with fellow genealogical enthusiasts.

Pennsylvania SIG

Next meeting: 27 April 2016, 6:00 P.M., Shaler Library

A member summarized a program she attended at the Heinz History Center, sponsored by the Ulster Historical Foundation. Discussion followed about the various spellings of Irish

surnames. Next the group discussed the Cloud and how to use it for one's records and research. Concerns such as lack of privacy and potential tracking of documents were discussed. The general consensus of the group was to back up documents in more than one place. The phone app *Genius Scan* was recommended as a portable and quick way to scan documents. Another topic was the importance of re-visiting older records, as it is easy to overlook important information the first time you encounter a record. The jam-packed March meeting concluded with a discussion of wills, land, and financial records.

British Isles SIG

Next meeting: 4 May 2016, 11:00 A.M., St. Catherine of Sweden Church, Room 113

Two members, Judy and John Esposito, gave an informative talk about oral history interviews and their uses. They shared what devices to use to record interviews as well as what to do after the interview. An important tip from the Espositos was to "Keep the interview interactive to cover topics logically and efficiently."

Writing SIG

Next meeting: 30 April 2016, 1:00 P.M., Shaler Library

At their last meeting, this SIG discussed one member's detailed account of his ancestor's immigration to Pennsylvania and his service in the Civil War. Further discussion was held about the proper way to cite references, specifically census records. It was generally agreed that Ancestry.com's references are of a mediocre standard while FamilySearch.org's are of a much higher caliber. The assignment for the April meeting is to start an autobiography to either develop a time line of your life so far or use Lisa Alzo's "Writing Exercises for Writing Your Family History: Life Story Guide" and pick one topic or life event to create a few written paragraphs.

German SIG

Next meeting: 21 May 2016, 9:00 A.M., Shaler Library – Yates Room.

**Note change of location.*

The German SIG will continue to learn and share with their upcoming May meeting. This group has been very active and has provided those who participate with in-depth information to support genealogical research related to German roots.

HELP WANTED: NHG PROGRAM CHAIR/CO-CHAIR

NHG Program Chair Mary Dzurichko would like to step down, so we are searching for a replacement. Good communication and organization required. Duties include contacting possible speakers and scheduling their program dates; obtaining program synopses from the speakers, posting them to the NHG website, and providing them to Northland Library three months in advance for advertising; arranging for the necessary equipment for the program with Northland Library in advance of each meeting; and providing a brief monthly report to the NHG Board. Organizing the December Holiday Social tour and luncheon is also one of the responsibilities. For more information, contact Mary Dzurichko at a meeting or via info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org.

1916 EASTER RISING (continued from page 71)

Arriving on the shores of America, penniless and subject to prejudice, the Irish became wage earners; many became figures of authority, some in the political arena. The Irish Americans were thought to be more Irish than their brothers in Ireland. Angry and mourning their losses, they too formed Gaelic societies that not only kept the Irish culture alive for the next generation but also generated funds, supplies, and men for Ireland's freedom. One of these societies was the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) to preserve Catholic values. In 1859, a committee within the AOH, called the Emmet Monument Society, was formed to raise funds for Ireland's independence.³

James Stevens and John O'Mahony, two exiled leaders from the failed 1848 rebellion, began plans for the next rebellion. Stevens returned to Ireland in 1858 to organize the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB) with the members of the Gaelic revival societies. In 1859, O'Mahony organized the Fenian Brotherhood, named after a legendary ancient Ireland warrior, with the Irish Americans.⁴ The names of the two organizations were commonly interchanged for secrecy and sometimes referred to as "The Organization." The main purpose of the

organizations was to achieve freedom for Ireland by force.

The date chosen for the **sixth rebellion** was 5 March 1867. The Fenian Brotherhood provided funds, supplies, and soldiers from both sides of the American Civil War. With their counterpart the IRB, eight thousand men marched through Dublin, County Limerick and County Cork, but only four hundred men engaged in battle. The rebellion was not only poorly planned, but the British had infiltrated the ranks of the IRB, resulting in the arrest of the leaders. Another rebellion ended in failure.

Timothy Deasy and Thomas Kelly, two leaders of the 1867 rebellion, were captured in Manchester. A group of thirty to forty Fenian brothers successfully rescued them as they were being transported to jail; however, a British constable was mortally wounded during the rescue. Three Fenian brothers, William Allen, Michael Larkin, and William O'Brien, were arrested. They admitted to being involved in the rescue attempt, but maintained their innocence related to the homicide. False witnesses were brought against them, and they were sentenced to death by hanging. The executions of the Manchester Martyrs created outrage among the sympathizers in America, Ireland, and Britain, which helped to popularize the Fenian Movement.

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, the organizer of the Phoenix Society, was born in 1831 in County Cork, the area hardest hit during the famine. As a young boy he lost his father due to complications of starvation and then moved to Skibbereen to live with relatives. It was here that he began the Phoenix Society, joined the IRB, and wrote for the *Irish People*, a nationalist publication. Rossa was arrested in 1863 for his writings and exiled from Ireland. He settled in New York City, became a prominent businessman and politician, and maintained his involvement in the IRB.

Rossa died 29 June 1915. Upon orders from Dublin IRB leader Thomas Clark, Rossa's body was sent back to Ireland. On 1 August 1915, Jeremiah Rossa was given the funeral of a dignitary. Thousands of people lined the streets from Dublin City to Glasnevin Cemetery for the funeral procession, with thousands of Fenian members following the hearse. At the grave site,

Patrick Pearse called upon the gathering to stand together for the freedom of Ireland. He then ended with this oration: "They think that they have pacified Ireland. They think that they have purchased half of us and intimidated the other half. They think they have foreseen everything, they think they have provided against everything, but the fools, the fools, they have left us our Fenian dead, and while Ireland holds these graves, Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."⁵ This oration is believed to be the fuel that ignited the smoldering timbers for the 1916 Easter Rising.

Pearse was referring to the Act of Union, which was still in existence while the people of Ireland continued to be under British rule. The absentee landlords practiced rent racking, evicting peasant farmers who couldn't pay the increasing rent. Oppression continued, but there was some relief for the small percentage of Irish landowners. They were given the right to vote, but it was not in private and the Irish feared retribution if they dared to vote against the British landlords.

Two prominent leaders of the British Parliament, Stewart Parnell and William Gladstone, tried in vain to help the Irish with a Home Rule Bill. The bill was to allow the Irish to govern themselves but remain in the United Kingdom. This appeased some, but others wanted complete freedom from Britain. Northern Ireland formed an army, the Ulster Volunteers, to protect them if the bill was passed. In retaliation, the Irish in the south formed the Irish Volunteers. The bill passed in the House of Commons several times, but was vetoed in the House of Lords each time. In 1914 the bill was finally passed, but postponed due to the outbreak of World War I.

On Easter Sunday, 23 April 1916, Thomas Clarke, Sean MacDiarmada, Patrick H. Pearse, James Connolly, Thomas MacDonagh, Eamonn Ceannt, and Joseph Plunkett gathered to compose the *Proclamation* declaring Ireland as a separate nation from Great Britain. They thought that with Britain engaged in the war with Germany that this would be the best time for the Rising.

The insurrection, originally planned to take place at strategic points throughout Ireland, consisted of the Irish Volunteers, the IRB, Irish Citizen Army (the socialist trade union organized by Connolly to protect the workers), and Cumann Na mBan (a women's suffrage organization). However, Eoin MacNeill, leader of the Irish Volunteers, called off the maneuvers in the southern counties when he learned the shipment of arms from Germany failed to arrive. This left the fighting to take place primarily in Dublin. Eighteen hundred men and women, now called the Irish Republican Army, armed with rifles and pistols, positioned themselves in buildings around Dublin with the General Post Office (GPO) as the headquarters for the Rising.

Shortly after noon on Easter Monday, Pearse, standing on the steps of the GPO, signaled the start of the insurrection by reading the Proclamation. The British Army responded by descending on Dublin with an estimated nineteen thousand soldiers with machine guns, artillery, and a gun boat. They fired upon the buildings, setting Dublin ablaze. The fighting lasted for six days. Pearse decided to surrender when he witnessed civilians being killed as they attempted to escape the burning buildings. He signed an unconditional surrender on Sunday, 29 April.

At first, the public did not support the Rising, but with the swift execution of the leaders by firing squad and the imprisonment of thousands without a trial, public opinion changed. Mike McCormack quotes Florence O'Donohue, a participant in the Rising: "the military failure of the rising proved to be less significant than its impact on the nation's mind; the historic Irish Nation was reborn."⁶

By 1918, the majority of the people of Ireland accepted the Proclamation as the national constitution. In December 1921, the Irish Free State was established, and on Easter Monday, 18 April 1949, the Republic of Ireland was proclaimed.

Note: The full text of the Proclamation can be found at www.easter1916.net.

1. Frederick Wertz, *Irish Central* (www.irishcentral.com/roots/The-Gaelic-Revival-in-Ireland-and-America.html), "The Gaelic Revival in Ireland and America."

2. Mike McCormack, *The Road to Rebellion* (No place: Shamrock & Clover, 2015).
3. Mike McCormack, *The Road to Rebellion* (No place: Shamrock & Clover, 2015).
4. *Encyclopædia Britannica* (www.britannica.com/biography/John-OMahony), “John O'Mahony.”
5. James J. Lamb, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, [e-mail address for private use], to Colleen Rumble, e-mail, 29 July 2015, “August 1st May Have Changed Ireland Forever”; privately held by Rumble, Bradford Woods, Pennsylvania, 2016.
6. Mike McCormack, *The Road to Rebellion* (No place: Shamrock & Clover, 2015), part 10.

Other Resources:

A Short History of Ireland. New York: Barnes and Noble Books, 1996.

ETHNIC CORNER: FINDING JEWISH ANCESTORS

There are two well-known obstacles facing any genealogist who begins to trace a family's Jewish ancestry: the Holocaust and the vast migration of families in the past century. These obstacles are often intertwined, but Jewish genealogy has progressed rapidly in the past decade. Not all records were destroyed during the Holocaust; not every town was eliminated. As time has passed, Jewish records have been uncovered and preserved.

A solid place to begin to gather information about resources and tools is on *Avotaynu*, found at www.avotaynu.com. *Avotaynu* provides excellent guides for Jewish records and suggestions for genealogical research. Complete books and journal articles describe tracing historic events, cultural traditions, family surnames, and more. There are forty-two databases with more than seven million records. Research guides include directions for searching surnames, which are organized phonetically but can be deciphered using tools on the site.

Next, go to the website for the United States Holocaust Museum, www.ushmm.org, or visit the research center at the museum in Washington, D.C. There is a wealth of information—accurately and sensitively presented—for children, older students, and

family members to explore. Start on the website with either the introduction “Learn About the Holocaust” or search the “Research and Collections” link for specific data groups. Once you understand the basics of Jewish records, proceed to other sources.

The free website, *JewishGen*, includes tools and databases for family history research. It is affiliated with New York City's Museum of Jewish Heritage and is found at www.jewishgen.org. *JewishGen* is eager to preserve and publish records about Jewish families and traditions.

Both *Ancestry.com* and *FamilySearch.org* have growing collections of records and images about Jewish ancestors and where they lived. At *Ancestry.com* (www.ancestry.com) first search “All Jewish Collections” in the card catalog, or start by choosing one specific database collection and thoroughly searching it. *Ancestry.com* has partnered with four national Jewish organizations to share, preserve, and publish records for Jewish genealogy.

On *FamilySearch.org*, start with the FamilySearch Wiki using the keywords “Jewish Genealogy” in the topic search bar. Available records and sites are summarized with links to a collection or record group. An outline of what to expect to find is included. Researchers can also search by country and then narrow down the links to specific regions or Jewish records when using *FamilySearch.org*.

Another site for beginning and advanced Jewish genealogical research is the *Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute* page, found at www.genealogy.cjh.org. Click on the resources link and start with their research guides, which outline contents of record groups and database collections, how to access, what you will find within, and what is coming soon. There are many links to other collections, microfilm, and experts.

In the past few years, *Cyndi's List* (www.cyndislist.com) has been greatly enhanced and updated. Overlooking the quality information about Jewish genealogy on *Cyndi's List* would be a mistake. Some great links for starting your Jewish genealogy research are “How To” and “Birth, Marriage, Death” for detailed explanations of records and where to find them.

There are articles and links to sites found through the *Family Tree Magazine* website, www.familytreemagazine.com. One evolving, academic website, the *Foundation for the Advancement of Sephardic Studies and Culture* (www.sephardicstudies.org) describes the Sephardic communities, people, and heritage.

Resources for identifying Jewish ancestors will continue to be digitized. Repeat keyword searches often on *FamilySearch.org* and other database sites where new records are added regularly. Once the basic information is collected about Jewish ancestors, refer to other records related to the specific country of origin.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Thursday, 21 April 2016 6:00 P.M. BUTLER AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Barb Conner, Conservation Services Manager at the Heinz History Center, will present ways you can preserve your family archive. The meeting will be held in the library's Basement Meeting Room. To sign up for class, call the Weir Genealogy Room at 724-287-1715 x116 or e-mail baplgenealogy@bcfls.org. For more information, please visit www.butlerlibrary.info.

Wednesday, 27 April 2016 1:00 P.M. CRANBERRY FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Lynne Arrington, FHC Director, will present "Using Family History Center Library Edition Resources." This will be a tutorial on using the databases available at the FHC. The FHC's address is 2771 Rochester Rd., Cranberry Twp, PA 16066. For more information, please e-mail cranberryfhc@gmail.com.

Saturday, 30 April 2016 9:00 A.M. CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-editor, will present a lecture focusing on using Ancestry.com Library Edition. The lecture will be held in the Franklin Station Room. It will combine mini-lectures with hints for searching

Ancestry.com and hands-on exploration in a collaborative setting. It is recommended to bring your own technology, but a limited number of computers will be available. This free lecture does require you to register with the library at www.cranberrytownship.org/index.aspx?nid=830.

Saturday, 30 April 2016 10:00 A.M. AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH

AAHGS Pittsburgh is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary with a conference. Michael R. Williams will speak at the Foerster Building at the main campus of CCAC. The topics will include "What's In Your Genes? DNA Testing for Ancestry Made Simple for Heritage Seekers" and "Finding Hollow Creek Plantation: An Adoptee's Biological Slave Ancestral Research Journey." The \$25 fee includes lunch and a souvenir booklet. The registration deadline is 25 April. For more information, contact Marlene Bransom at bransom1@comcast.net.

Sunday, 1 May 2016 9:00 A.M. HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

Judah Samet, a survivor of the Bergen-Belson concentration camp, will discuss the Holocaust. He will talk about his family's experiences when they were taken from their home in Debrecen, Hungary. All are welcome for this free event at the Holy Spirit Church in Oakland. A good will offering is requested for the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Visit www.HolySpiritChurchPgh.org for more information.

Tuesday, 3 May 2016 6:30 P.M. HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

The Museum Conservation Center will hold "Digitizing Your Family Photographs, Part 1." This workshop will cover digital photo preservation, including scanning techniques for 2D and 3D objects. There will be demonstrations and examples for attendees to see. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$30 for History Center members and \$35 for non-members. For more information and to register, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Wednesday, 4 May 2016 1:00 P.M.
**CRANBERRY FAMILY HISTORY
CENTER**

Gloria and Dan Mason will present "Understanding DNA Testing and Why You Might Be Interested." The FHC's address is 2771 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. For more information, please e-mail cranberryfhc@gmail.com.

4-7 May 2016
**NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY**

The annual NGS conference will be held at the Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. The theme for this year's conference is *Exploring the Centuries: Footprints in Time*. Each day will feature ten lecture tracks. For more information and to register, please visit <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>.

7-8 May 2016
**BEAVER COUNTY HISTORY
WEEKEND**

The theme for this year's history weekend is industry. A variety of museums and historical societies in Beaver County will be open to the public. Some of those include Old Economy Village, the Ellwood City Area Historical Society, Vicary Mansion, the Little Beaver Historical Society Complex, the McKinley School, and the Monaca Hall of Fame. Some of the institutions will have special displays. For a complete list of the participating institutions, visit www.facebook.com/BeaverCountyPA.

Tuesday, 10 May 2016 6:30 P.M.
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

The Museum Conservation Center will hold "Digitizing Your Family Photographs, Part 2." This workshop will build on the concepts covered in part 1, held the week before. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to register, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Saturday, 14 May 2016 10:00 A.M.
**WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Michael Williams will present "What's in Your Genes? DNA Testing Made Simple for Heritage Seekers". The lecture will be held at the Carnegie Library Lecture Hall in Oakland. It is free and open to the public. Parking at the Carnegie Museum/Library garage is \$6 for the day. For more information, please visit www.wpgs.org.

12-17 June 2016
**INSTITUTE OF GENEALOGY AND
HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

This institute is held on the campus of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. Ten courses covering a wide range of topics will be offered. Registration is open, although three courses have waiting lists. Visit <http://samford.libguides.com/ighr> for more information.

26 June-1 July 2016
**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH
INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH**

Registration is open for the first week of GRIP. Six courses will be offered: *Family Archiving: Heirlooms in the Digital Age*, *Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy for the 21st Century*, *German Research Resources*, *Mastering the Art of Genealogical Documentation*, *Pennsylvania: Research in the Keystone State*, and *Women and Children First! Research Methods for the Hidden Members of the Family*. Two courses have waiting lists. Visit www.gripitt.org for more information.

15-16 July 2016
MIDWESTERN ROOTS

Registration is now open for this year's conference. More than thirty sessions are scheduled for the conference, which will be held at the Marriott East in Indianapolis, Indiana. Topics will include technology, Indiana research, DNA, and more. More information is available at www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots.



P.O. Box 169
Wexford, PA 15090

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, 17 May 2016

The Ancestor Deep-Dive: How You Can Find Out Everything there Possibly Is to Know about Your Ancestor

Tammy Hepps

Learn a methodology for creating a research plan centered around the discoveries we want to make, not the pathways we think are available for getting there. We will cover how to brainstorm what we want to know and how to work backwards.

Tuesday, 21 June 2016

Technology for Genealogy

Rebecca Kichta Miller, NHG Member

Miller will discuss various technology tools and how to apply them to genealogy. Topics that will be discussed are tablets and mobile devices, software, searching resources, metadata, blogs, wearables, voice to text, handwriting recognition, organizing, and sharing.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – Tuesday, 19 April 2016 **Organizing for Genealogists**

Debbie Billeter, NHG Member

Billeter will discuss how to file and store papers, record what you know (logs), determine what you still need (research plans), access information remotely (Cloud), and take searchable notes (Evernote). Included are a few tips about what to bring with you when going on a research trip.