



# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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## 10 MILLION IRISH PARISH RECORDS LAUNCHED ONLINE

A major collection for genealogists with Irish roots was released online at the beginning of March. The leaders at FindMyPast.com and Ancestry.com announced that “10 million Irish Catholic Parish Registers . . . [are] fully indexed . . . and free to search forever.” In fact, not only are the parish registers fully indexed, but also the images of the original documents are available for the first time.

Found in the Irish Catholic Parish Registers are records of baptisms, marriages, and deaths, which cover every diocese in Ireland. Some of the earliest registers included date back to the end of the 1600s and stretch into the first fifteen years of the twentieth century.

Historically, the local parish priests detailed the parish records, often including additional information only known within the local communities.

Researchers can use surnames to explore the collection, or piece together the ancestor matches and multiple generations by searching by year, year range, or location. Other clues to an ancestor’s FAN club can be examined by noting godparents, maiden names of women, witnesses, and specific towns. Verify the family connections by using the information and comparing and contrasting it against other records such as the Irish Census.

Records include registers from both Ireland and Northern Ireland. This collection is expected to provide genealogists with breakthrough finds for their family history research. To watch a tutorial and for full news about the Irish Catholic Parish Records, go to <https://blog.findmypast.com/10-million-new-1632616369.html>.

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## CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION OF THE 1916 EASTER RISING IN IRELAND

*By Colleen Rumble, NHG Member*

The Pittsburgh Irish Community is gearing up to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising in Dublin, Ireland. This is an important time for the people of the Republic of Ireland and for the descendants of those who emigrated from their beloved homeland during the 1700s and 1800s. The Easter Rising is considered the turning point for the birth of the Irish State (Republic of Ireland) to gain its freedom from Britain.

While searching for our ancestors, NHG member Rebecca Kitchta Miller, reminds us to “Know your history; know your church.” This article will follow that rule to describe the historical events and the religions involved that led up to and included 24 April 1916.

Mike McCormack, National Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) Irish Historian, uses the analogy of the Shamrock in his book *The Road to Rebellion*<sup>1</sup> to outline the three categories that led the people of Ireland to their independence from the British Crown.

The first leaf he assigns to “the political and economic pendulum.” Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, British Parliament imposed laws on those who were not members of the Protestant **(continued on page 64)**

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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.*

*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

Beginning March 20th through May 19th, the Heinz History Center is presenting an Exhibit Tour called *Toys of the '50s, '60s and '70s*. Three living rooms will be set up to display the toys representing separate decades, one of which will be a life-size version of a Barbie Dream House from the '60s. Televisions in each room will also run a variety of commercials from each era. When I found out about this exhibit, I started thinking about the progression of toys over the years and how they may have influenced the childhood of our ancestors and us.

The very early toys that emerged at the turn of the twentieth century seem to have been quite simple in their use. Board games like Chinese checkers, Chutes and Ladders, Monopoly, and Parcheesi were created around 1910. Other toys like marbles, pick-up-sticks, pogo sticks, cap guns, slingshots, teddy bears (named for President Teddy Roosevelt), Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, tiddlywinks and BB guns were not complicated in their use but were prominent. Items such as wooden Tinker Toys, Erector sets, and Lionel Trains required some effort in their construction, sometimes needing help from parents. Lincoln logs, a favorite with little boys, came onto the market about 1916 after being invented by the son of Frank Lloyd Wright.

One very practical and useful toy from the turn of the century was the Radio Flyer Wagon. They were usually painted a bright red color with the phrase *Radio Flyer* written along the sides. My older siblings had a wagon during the Depression years, and my mother would tell stories of pulling it along the railroad tracks near where they lived. They would pick up pieces of coal that had fallen off of the train cars and used the retrieved coal so that they could heat their coal stove. My mother would also take the wagon to the grocery store, so they could bring the groceries home more easily. A whole week's worth of groceries would fit perfectly in the wagon bed.

Not too much changed in the toys that became available throughout the next twenty or thirty years until the 1940s when a few new games like Scrabble, Sorry, and Candy Land were added. There was also the invention of the View Master viewer about this time. It was similar to the

stereograph viewer that was popular from the 1850s to about 1920 as an entertainment for adults. The viewer had a round disk that fit into it with pictures on opposite sides of the disk. When you looked into the viewer lens, the two pictures came together giving you a three dimensional picture. The images depicted many different topics including animals, amusement parks like Disney, travel spots, and geographical views. All were very pretty and entertaining for children and their families.

As a post–World War II child, I have memories of other toys available to me during the 1950s in addition to those above that were already in our home before I was born. We had the hula hoop, sock monkeys, Mr. Potato Head, jacks, the Slinky Dog that was pulled along with a string having a slinky attached to the middle of the front and back of the dog, lawn darts, the Ant Farm with live ants living in a glass case full of sand or dirt, and, of course, the Barbie doll.

As a tomboy in my early years, I climbed the maple trees in our yard, skated down the road wearing my clip-on skates, and played with the other kids outside all day. We had movies during that time featuring Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Hopalong Cassidy, and others so everyone wanted to play cowboys and Indians. I usually got to play Dale Evans, because I had a cowgirl vest and skirt made of felt with fringe all around, plus a cowgirl hat. All of us kids had a set of cap guns in our gun holsters. We were well prepared to act out the movies that we got to see on Saturday afternoons at the theater.

Even though I was a tomboy, I still played with dolls on occasion. My favorite doll at this time was a Betsy Wetsy doll that came with a small layette set and a bottle, shirt, and diaper. If I remember correctly, at the time it became available, the doll was sometimes considered scandalous, because when she was given a bottle of water, she would then wet her diaper from a tiny hole in the middle of her bottom. She would also cry when you squeezed her belly. Some parents refused to buy one for their little darling. Even with all of that, I found that she was named one of the one hundred most memorable and creative toys in 2003 by the Toy Industry Association, and they are now available on e-Bay for as much as \$75. My doll was ruined

when my niece wrote with a ballpoint pen all over her face and body, and that's when I put away my dolls.

My children had toys during the '60s that were a little more technical in their use. My daughter had a little oven that cooked a small cake or brownies using a light bulb. (They never tasted very good though.) They still had the Lincoln Logs and Erector sets, but there was also the Rock 'em Sock 'em Robot, Speak and Spell that taught them simple words, the G.I. Joe doll for the boys and Mrs. Beasley for the girls, toy play food, the Slinky that would walk down the stairs, Etch a Sketch, a Fisher Price Phone, and we can't forget those noisy Big Wheels the kids rode all around the neighborhood.

Researching all the toys through the decades was a lot of fun and brought back many happy memories of play times for myself and my children. Why don't you take some time yourself and begin putting down your memories of childhood? Don't forget we recommend that you tell your own story and not just the stories about your ancestors. What better way to begin your family's history than by telling about what it was like to be a child?

To find the times and dates for the exhibit at the Heinz History Center, go to their website [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org), and look under the Exhibits tab. For more information about this ongoing exhibit, please contact Caroline Fitzgerald at [ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org](mailto:ccfitzgerald@heinzhistorycenter.org) or 412-454-6373. The toys that I've mentioned and many more will be available to view and enjoy during this very short period of time.

~ Sharon

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## **ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DEBUTS UPDATED GENEALOGY CENTER**

The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, unveiled its new rooms in the Genealogy Center in March. Thanks to a grant from their foundation, ACPL was able to update its technology and to re-purpose little used rooms on their second floor wing to add a Life Stories Center and a Discovery Center.

ACPL's Genealogy Center Manager Curt Witcher believes that the rooms have multiple uses and adds to the facility. The Life Stories Center is for collecting and preserving oral histories. Researchers and visitors will be mentored by volunteers to use the technology to record stories in the center or patrons can check out the recording equipment to tape the stories of people at their residences.

ACPL plans to organize and catalog all donated recordings and make them available to the public. In the future, the recordings can be accessed for their historic value. The preservation of the stories, whether recorded in first person or retold by a relative, can offer unique details about life in a certain era, a specific location, or both.

The purpose of the new Discovery Center is flexible and offers a significant upgrade for ACPL. The Discovery Center is designed in theater style for up to 240 guests in a large group lecture; the room can also be sub-divided for small group work or meetings. This room is fully wired with current technology for presenters and for use in examining images and documents. There are outlets for patrons to use their own technology to capture images and data. Equipment includes document cameras and multi-function copiers.

For more information, go to [www.acpl.lib.in.us](http://www.acpl.lib.in.us) or find them on Facebook, ACPL Genealogy Center.

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## WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE RETURNS IN APRIL

The TLC television network has announced the return of *Who Do You Think You Are?* starting on Sunday, 3 April at 9:00 P.M. Ancestry.com is again teaming up with TLC to sponsor the new season.

Celebrities featured in this spring's episodes include Scott Foley, Lea Michele, Chris Noth, Molly Ringwald, Katey Sagal, and Aisha Tyler. Watch the website at [www.TLC.com/WDYTYA](http://www.TLC.com/WDYTYA) for more information.

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## 1916 EASTER RISING (continued from page 61)

Church of Ireland. These laws were not just suppressive but also oppressive; the non-conformists had their land confiscated and were not permitted to own land, subjected to unfair taxation, and forbidden to trade their wares except to England. They also suffered the loss of religious freedom and the right to vote or to represent themselves in Irish Parliament. The laws were made to give the British complete control over the Irish.

About 80 percent of the Irish were Roman Catholic,<sup>2</sup> but the Ulster Presbyterians were victimized by the same laws.<sup>3</sup> Hostilities from the Irish would erupt. To pacify this, the Crown and Parliament made promises that were neither kept nor rescinded. With each of these swings, a rebellion would ensue. Six rebellions marked the road to Ireland's independence as referenced by the Proclamation of 1916.<sup>4</sup>

Although not mentioned in the Proclamation, some point to The Battle of Clontarf on Good Friday, 23 April 1014 as the first battle for freedom. High King Brian Boru defeated the invading Norseman and freed Ireland from their domination. The six rebellions throughout Ireland's history echo The Battle of Clontarf in the fight from domination and for freedom.

The Ulster Plantation began in 1609 when the Irish Chieftains O'Neill and O'Donnell fled Ireland. Their land was confiscated by King James I for colonization by English and Scottish Protestants. During the **first rebellion** in 1641, the Irish Catholics tried to regain the confiscated land. This rebellion failed, and Oliver Cromwell confiscated more land. The **second rebellion** occurred in 1690 when the displaced Roman Catholic Irish supported the exiled Roman Catholic King James II. They hoped that a victory would regain their land and religious freedom. William of Orange defeated King James at the Battle of the Boyne. From this defeat, the Catholics saw more oppression through the Penal Laws; they were not allowed to bear arms, schools were disbanded, and Roman Catholics were forbidden to attend Trinity College.

Inspired by the American War of Independence and the French Revolution, the Irish again sought reform for religious rights and to govern themselves. Theobald Wolfe Tone, a Protestant lawyer, empathized with the Catholics and formed the Society of United Irishmen, consisting of Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, and Protestant sympathizers. They believed in a “peaceful co-existence with equality”,<sup>5</sup> and wanted a democratic Ireland independent of Britain.

In 1798 the British began attacks on the United Irishmen, and Wolfe Tone determined that a rebellion must occur. Wolfe Tone and the United Irishmen sought France’s help. This began the **third rebellion**. County Down; Ballynahinch and Saintfield in County Antrim; and County Wexford saw bloody battles where thousands of United Irishmen perished. Some sources give the count at thirty thousand. They were defeated at the Battle of Vinegar Hill in County Wexford. The French soldiers were imprisoned while the Irishmen were massacred for treason. Wolfe Tone was captured and sentenced to execution. He committed suicide instead. In the aftermath, the Presbyterians considered this a war of religions and not of land rights.

William Pitt, Prime Minister of England, sought repercussions for this rebellion in January 1801, with the Act of the Union. He created the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The Irish Parliament was abolished, and the London Parliament had complete control of the people of Ireland. The flag for Great Britain incorporated parts of all England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland and became known as the Union Jack. No longer could the green flag with the golden harp be flown. Henry Grattan, a Protestant Member of Parliament, was opposed to the Act of the Union and tried unsuccessfully to restore the Irish Parliament.

The **fourth rebellion** came in 1803 when Irish Nationalist Robert Emmet reorganized the United Irishmen. He had conceived what seemed to be a perfect military plan to seize Dublin Castle. However, the plan failed with the refusal of the Wicklow rebels to participate and the Kildare rebels turning back due to a lack of promised arms. A small band of men did march

to the castle but were arrested. At his trial, Robert Emmet gave a speech stating that no man should write his epitaph until “Ireland had taken her place among the nations of the earth.”

Daniel O’Connell, born in County Kerry to a middle class Roman Catholic family, was forbidden by the Penal Laws to be educated at Trinity College and left Ireland to study abroad. He was a man of nonviolence and thought that the rights of Catholics could be gained in a peaceful manner within Parliament. Upon his return to Ireland, he began to write and distribute pamphlets for Catholic emancipation. In 1823 he set up the Catholic Association. At first only the middle class Catholics were members, but O’Connell decreased the amount for dues to a penny, referred to as the Catholic Rent, to allow the lower class to take part, giving him a larger support system and funds. O’Connell used the money to fund pro-emancipation Members of Parliament in elections.

In 1828, O’Connell took advantage of a by-election in County Clare for a seat in the British House of Commons. Being Catholic, the Penal Laws forbade him to *sit* in Parliament, but O’Connell argued that nothing was mentioned about *standing* for election. He won the election, but could not take the seat unless he swore to an oath of supremacy. The Prime Minister, Robert Peel, recognized the gravity of the situation, and fearing another rebellion, convinced King George IV that Catholic emancipation and the rights of members of all Christian faiths needed to be established. Since the Emancipation Act was not made retroactive, O’Connell had to be re-elected and was voted in unanimously. He took his seat in Parliament in February 1830.

O’Connell achieved his goal. He could now work from within Parliament. This earned him the title “The Liberator”. He set up a Repeal Association to push for the repeal of the Act of the Union. He wanted an independent Kingdom of Ireland to govern itself, but nodded to Queen Victoria to be Queen of Ireland. To accomplish this, the Repeal Association set up a series of large rallies called Monster Meetings outside of Ulster. The largest was held at Tara with about 100,000 people attending. The next meeting was to be held at Clontarf, but Prime Minister Robert Peel banned the meeting. Not wanting to risk bloodshed,

O'Connell called off the meeting. He was arrested for conspiracy and sentenced to jail, but the House of Lords overturned the conviction. The Monster Meetings were O'Connell's only plan of leverage against the Act of Union.

A group of young journalists, including Thomas Davis, Charles Duffy, and John Mitchell, were followers of O'Connell. They published his papers and organized the Monster Meetings, but differed with O'Connell that freedom could be obtained in a nonviolent manner and thought that Ireland should be a separate nation. With the cancellation of the Clontarf meeting, and O'Connell having no other plan, the three young journalists separated from O'Connell and started the Young Ireland Movement (in reference to O'Connell being Old Ireland). They were joined by William Smith O'Brien and James Stephens in organizing a revolt. This occurred at the height of the Great Hunger where those who hadn't emigrated were evicted from their homes, because they didn't have potatoes to pay their rent and were dying in the streets of starvation, typhoid, and dysentery. The Young Irelanders with their newspaper *The Nation* gathered a following. Thinking they had a large support of six thousand farmers, they planned another uprising in County Tipperary. In the end, only one hundred starving men with picks as their weapons arrived for the **fifth rebellion** of 1848. The revolt was a complete failure and became mockingly known as the Widow McCormack's Cabbage Patch. Some of the leaders were captured and sent to prison at Van Diemen's Land, Australia, while others escaped to America and France.

Next month a sequel will discuss the **sixth rebellion** of 1867 and the 1916 Rebellion. These events apply to Mike McCormack's remaining two leaves of the Shamrock from *The Road to Rebellion*.

#### Sources:

1. Mike McCormack, *The Road to Rebellion* (No place: Shamrock & Clover, 2015).
2. Trinity College Library, *Youtube* ([www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL55XqDjybyL\\_HtaZQSfy0ljqYL3iR7YGS](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL55XqDjybyL_HtaZQSfy0ljqYL3iR7YGS)), "Ireland in Rebellion, 1782–1916".
3. John M. Berkley, *Short History of the*

*Presbyterian Church in Ireland* (<http://lisburn.com/books/history-presbyterian/history-presbyterian-1.html>).

4. Trinity College Library, *Youtube* ([www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL55XqDjybyL\\_HtaZQSfy0ljqYL3iR7YGS](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL55XqDjybyL_HtaZQSfy0ljqYL3iR7YGS)), "Ireland in Rebellion, 1782–1916".

5. *History of Ireland* ([www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/past/history/17891800.html](http://www.wesleyjohnston.com/users/ireland/past/history/17891800.html)) "1789 – 1800: The United Irishmen and the 1798 Rebellion."

#### Other References:

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

Charles Murphy. *Heritage of Ireland Print*. New York: Crescent Book, 1991.

E. Evans, K. Hughes, R. Stalley, et al. *The Irish World*. New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1986.

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## ETHNIC CORNER: WALES

The Welsh people, although often associated with the English through shared genealogical records, have a distinct and separate personality, which is revealed through their culture and traditions. Their unique language is challenging to pronounce and to spell, but genealogists researching their Welsh roots have a wealth of record sources available to paint a clear image of the proud Welsh people.

In contrast to the complexity of place names in Wales, there is a simplicity and commonality of surnames from there, such as: Williams, Roberts, Jones, Evans, Davis, and Hughes, to list a few. The issues of language and common surnames must be overcome when searching for one's Welsh ancestors. Begin by browsing the website *GENUKI: UK and Ireland Genealogy*, and search the "Wales" link, found at [www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal](http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/wal). From gazetteers of Wales to church histories, the many links on the website provide a thorough overview of Wales for family historians.

Other valuable websites to use for Welsh genealogy include:

- *FindMyPast* [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) – FindMyPast contains most Welsh parish registers listing births, marriages, and deaths from about 1538. Censuses and passengers lists are other great resources.

Although sixty-eight Welsh churches do not have records listed, some of those may be available through the Family History Library.

- *National Library of Wales* [www.llgc.org.uk](http://www.llgc.org.uk) – This site has the most comprehensive collection of Welsh genealogical material. Much of the information is online with more images added daily. Other records include wills, deeds, maps, parish registers, and marriage bonds. Be sure to consider the National Library of Wales for on-site research . . . more about that below.
- *FamilySearch* [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org) – This includes great wiki pages with links, Welsh parish register indexes, and free access to many of the Welsh records listed in the other sites, above.
- *A Vision of Britain Through Time* [www.visionofbritain.org.uk](http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk) – This site offers maps, gazetteers, and travelogues to enhance your research.
- Ordnance Survey [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk) – More great maps, some interactive, to locate where your ancestors lived.

There are two great books to aid your Welsh genealogical research. *Welsh Family History, A Guide to Research*, second edition, by John and Sheila Rowlands, covers a wide range of subjects by knowledgeable authors. The helpful information includes a historic map of the counties of Wales and their historical county record offices. This map is helpful in showing how the counties have changed over the years; since most genealogical data on the Internet is organized by historic counties, this resource is vital. *Tracing Your Welsh Ancestors, A Guide for Family Historians* by Beryl Evans has comprehensive research topics and lists family history societies and their websites in chapter 3. Appendix 3 has a complete listing of the Register Offices in Wales. Since 1 July 1837, civil registration of all births, marriages, and deaths in Wales have been mandatory. Most certificates are available at these offices. For a searchable database of the certificates, see FreeBMD ([www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)).

The ultimate genealogical field trip is to travel to the country of one's ancestors for on-site

research! If you are fortunate to visit Wales and have time, here are some suggestions for on-site research:

- After finding the birth parish of your Welsh ancestors, which should be your first priority, visit the parish church of your family.
- The National Library of Wales is an awe-inspiring building with a substantial collection. Register before you go on the library's website and plan to spend at least a week there for maximum benefits.
- Visit the appropriate county record office for your Welsh ancestors.
- Many Family History Societies have a headquarters building with various record collections—well worth the visit.
- Locate and make arrangements to visit your ancestral abode.

As with many ethnicities, digital and indexed records continue to be added to online collections. Do as much research as you can from home, and then start planning your trip to Wales!

*Editors' Note: Special thanks to NHG's Dave Williams for providing resources for the Welsh Ethnic Corner. Diolch yn fawr.*

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## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

### **18–19 March 2016 HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

HSP will hold its Family History Days at their facility and the Double Tree Hotel in Philadelphia. It will feature lectures on a variety of topics. Each day there will be a Breakfast for Beginners for an additional fee. For more information, please visit [www.hsp.org](http://www.hsp.org).

### **Saturday, 19 March 2016 9:00 A.M. HEINZ HISTORY CENTER**

The Heinz Center's Detre Library and Archive and the Westmoreland County Historical Society (WCHS) are co-sponsoring an Irish Genealogy Workshop. Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt of the Ulster Historical Foundation will present five lectures on Irish research plus hold a question

and answer session. There will also be a presentation about genealogical resources at the Detre Library and WCHS. The cost is \$30 for History Center members and \$40 for non-members. For more information, please visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org).

**Wednesday, 23 March 2016 6:30 P.M.  
CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB**

Billie Gailey of the Kuskushkee Trail Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) will share information about the resources available through that organization. More information is available at [www.cranberrygenealogy.org](http://www.cranberrygenealogy.org).

**Thursday, 24 March 2016 6:00 P.M.  
BUTLER AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Immigration research will be the focus of a lecture at the library. This lecture will cover passenger manifests, naturalization documents, and research techniques. It 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](mailto:baplgenealogy@bcfls.org). For more information, please visit [www.butlerlibrary.info](http://www.butlerlibrary.info).

**Saturday, 26 March 2016 11:00 A.M.  
FORT PITT MUSEUM**

The museum will hold a day of presentations about Indian captivity. "Flesh of Our Flesh, Bone of Our Bone" will feature Jeremy Turner, a Shawnee tribe member, and Dr. R. Scott Stephenson. The program will include a discussion of narratives by Indian captives. For more information, please visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt).

**Saturday, 3 April 2016 9:00 A.M.  
SOUTH HILLS GENEALOGY DAY**

Attend a free event featuring three lectures. Marilyn Holt, head of the Carnegie Library's Pennsylvania Department, will present "Climbing Your Family Tree: Beginning Genealogy". Tammy Hepps, who serves on the board of directors for the website *JewishGen*,

will present "Conducting Story-Driven Research". NHG's Elissa Powell will present "Hiding Behind their Skirts: Finding Women in Records". The event will also feature one-on-one consultations with the speakers. Registration is required. The registration deadline is 31 March. For more information and to register, please visit [www.bethelcong.org/events/south-hills-genealogy-day](http://www.bethelcong.org/events/south-hills-genealogy-day).

**14-16 April 2016  
LANCASTER FAMILY HISTORY  
CONFERENCE**

The Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society's annual conference will be held at the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center. Thursday will feature field trips, Friday workshops, and Saturday lectures. The registration deadline for the field trips is 23 March. The deadline to register for the conference is 6 April. For more information, please visit [www.lmhs.org](http://www.lmhs.org).

**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](mailto:baplgenealogy@bcfls.org). For more information, please visit [www.butlerlibrary.info](http://www.butlerlibrary.info).

**28-30 April 2016  
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

The annual OGS conference will be held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. The theme for the conference is "Tracking Your Ancestors." The program brochure and a registration form, along with other information, are available at [www.ogsconference.org](http://www.ogsconference.org).

**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](http://www.cranberrytownship.org/index.aspx?nid=830).

**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>.

**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*, *Master 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](http://www.gripitt.org) for more information.

**12–14 July 2016**  
**MIDWEST AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY INSTITUTE**

The fourth year of this institute will be held at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. It will feature four tracks: Fundamental Methods and Strategies, DNA & Genealogy, Intermediate Genealogy—Pre & Post Slavery Era Research, Genealogy Writing from Planning to Publication. More information is available at [www.maagiinstitute.org](http://www.maagiinstitute.org).

**15–16 July 2016**  
**MIDWESTERN ROOTS**

Details are still being finalized for this year's conference, which will be held at the Marriott East in Indianapolis, Indiana. Watch [www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org) for more information.

**17–22 July 2016**  
**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH**

Registration for the second week of GRIP is open. Seven courses will be offered: *Advanced Research Methods*, *Advanced Genetic Genealogy*, *Diving Deeper into New England: Advanced Strategies for Success*, *From Confusion to Conclusion: How to Write Proof Arguments*, *Intermediate Genealogy: Tools for Digging Deeper*, *Practical Genetic Genealogy*, and *Resources and Strategies for Researching Your Italian Ancestors*. Two courses have waiting lists. Visit [www.gripitt.org](http://www.gripitt.org) for more information.

**1–5 August 2016**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA**

HSP has announced a week-long class on Pennsylvania research. The title is *Researching Family in Pennsylvania*. The class will cover early Pennsylvania, vital records, court records, tax lists, deeds, records at the Pennsylvania State Archives, military records, Philadelphia research, Pittsburgh research, and more. See [www.hsp.org](http://www.hsp.org) for more information.

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## UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

## Mark Your Calendars!

### **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.

### **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.

### **THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM – Tuesday, 15 March 2016** **Taming the Beast: Keeping Your Data in the Cloud without Losing Control**

*Reed Powell, NHG Treasurer*

Powell will give a presentation on off-site storage for your computer files. “The Cloud” is where more and more of our data is stored—but how can we control what we cannot touch and see? File Syncing vs Sharing vs Backup? How do you most effectively use the commonly available services?