



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

P O Box 169 * Wexford, PA, 15090 * www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

NHG NEWS

Time Change for January Meeting

NHG is turning the January 16th monthly meeting into a special event. Due to this, **we will not have Tip Time this month and the program will start at 6:45 P.M.** We'll have announcements after the program.

This is a special event because NHG has offered our partners in the Pittsburgh-Area Consortium of Genealogical Societies the ability to watch this month's program by Blaine Bettinger from their locations. The Cranberry Genealogy Club, in conjunction with the Cranberry Public Library, has graciously offered our members the option of attending the meeting at the Cranberry Public Library. For space planning purposes, they do ask that you register if you plan to attend there. Visit www.CranberryLibrary.org/DNA to register. Note that **you only need to register if you plan to attend the meeting in Cranberry. Those who plan to attend the meeting at Northland do not need to register.**

NHG Nominations Committee

It is almost time for this year's NHG Nominations Committee to begin its work. The committee is responsible for talking to members about serving as officers (president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary) for the organization. The committee has to finalize the slate for the annual election by Tuesday, April 3rd, at which time it will be presented to the board.

This short-term commitment is a great way to meet other members and to get more involved in the organization. If you are interested in serving, please see a board member at the January meeting or send an email to Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org.

Bring a Website to Share

Beginning in February 2018, we are going to add a new feature to our monthly NHG meetings at the end of Tip Time. It is always so wonderful when we get more of our members involved, and this is a means for you to share with fellow members.

We all have some favorite websites for our genealogy research, in addition to those we frequent all the time like *Ancestry.com*, *FamilySearch*, *FindMyPast*, *Newspapers.com*, *GenealogyBank*, and *Fold3*. We would like to share some of your favorites that you have discovered during your Internet journeys. These websites will be shared at each meeting and added to the Links section (www.northhillsgenealogists.org/links.php?sid=1) of the North Hills Genealogists website.

At January's meeting, there will be cards at the sign-in table for you to write the website name, the URL, and a little bit about what it is or how it helps you. Then in February we will feature the first site at our monthly meeting.

If you have any questions or would like to submit this information electronically, please contact

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NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2017–2018

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Newsletter ideas and feedback:

Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

WHO WE ARE—NHG

The North Hills Genealogists is a group of genealogy enthusiasts who meet to learn, network, and assist one another in establishing our family histories. NHG meets on the third Tuesday of every month except December at 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 starts at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are free and open to the public. Membership runs from August to July for \$15.00 annually.

Benefits of NHG membership include monthly newsletters (not published July or December), field trips, and Special Interest Groups (SIGs). The SIGs are organized so that members can collaborate informally. Current groups are British Isles, DNA, Eastern Europe, German Roots, Pennsylvania, and Writing. Find current meeting information on our website.

The NHG Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Northland Public Library. All members are welcome. NHG is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year to you, genealogists of the North Hills! *Buon Capodanno!* With the Arctic temperatures currently abounding, what better time to snuggle up with a blanket, resources, and your genealogy brick wall?

I always find January to be an excellent time for reflection over the past year. Personally, I made several strides in my genealogical research. I reached back to my oldest known ancestor—Giovanni di Venezia, who arrived in Atripalda, Avellino, Italy, with his son, Antonio, in 1682. These men are my seventh- and eighth-great grandfathers. Through this quest, I also met a new seventh cousin, who comes from the same Venezia line. He's also a genealogist! I met cousins in County Kilkenny, Ireland, who still live on the same land on which my second-great-grandfather lived and was raised. I attended numerous conferences and learned a lot about new records and different ways to approach genealogical problems. I spent many hours in archives in Italy, Ireland, Salt Lake City, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. What about you? Where did 2017 take you? Any great discoveries?

I also think January is a great time for gratitude—what better way to positively start off the new year! On that note, I'd like to say "Thank You" to each and every North Hills Genealogists member, near and far. Without your interest, we wouldn't have a group. Without your support, we wouldn't have an annual conference or monthly meetings that allow us to spread the good word of genealogy and help many in their ancestral journeys. Thanks for being a member and for believing in the mission of North Hills Genealogists. We are happy to serve you and thrilled that you spend your free time with us, whether that be in monthly meetings, reading the newsletter, or our group outings.

In 2018, NHG will also be growing and changing. We have more members than ever before and are looking at different ways to best serve our growing membership. If you remember a survey that was offered to members last spring, we have been looking at those results and taking action on some of the recommended items. You already know about one of the biggest new items for 2018

—our DNA SIG (Special Interest Group), which kicked off with record attendance in December. We will also continue to explore and expand upon the collaboration we have started with the Pittsburgh-Area Consortium of Genealogical Societies. We are slated to make some updates to our by-laws, which will require your input at a future meeting. We are also starting a bi-monthly appearance on *Pittsburgh Today Live*. Yours truly and conference committee member Linda Loewer had our first appearance on Friday, January 12th. You can watch the segment online at <http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/show/pittsburgh-today-live/video-3791615-north-hills-genealogists-helps-you-find-your-roots>. There are a few other surprises in store, but mum's the word for right now, as we work out some of the details. As you can see, 2018 will be a big year for us!

Please remember you can always email me with your ideas and thoughts about NHG, proposed changes to the by-laws, the members-only section of our website, or anything else, sent to President@NorthHillsGenealogists.org. I'd love to hear from you!

Keep warm and be well!

~ Rich

NHG NEWS **(continued from page 41)**

Carole Ashbridge (caroleashbridge@gmail.com).

Franklin County Ledger

Last fall Northland Public Library received an interesting donation—a handwritten ledger. Library Director Amy Steele gave the ledger to NHG to research. Our Elissa Scalise Powell determined that the entries in the ledger date from 10 April 1894 to 16 November 1898. The arrangement of the entries indicate that the ledger may have been used in a hotel. The first page of the ledger has a notation of Franklin County, which may indicate that it was used in that county.

One of the last pages in the book has several raised seals from what appears to be a masonic

organization in Ickesburg, Perry County, Pennsylvania. It's not clear how or if the seals relate to the earlier entries.

NHG, with Amy Steele's blessing, is trying to determine the proper home for the ledger. Once that is done, we will donate it to a historical society in that area. In the meantime, we are considering photographing each page of the ledger, transcribing the information, and posting it on our website. If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please let a board member know, or send an email to Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org.

Annual Conference

The early bird registration deadline for NHG's annual conference is Tuesday, February 20. The conference will be held Friday, March 23, and Saturday, March 24, at the Columbian Room in Wexford. We are delighted to have John Philip Colletta, PhD, and Aaron McWilliams as the featured speakers. Colletta specializes in federal records held at the National Archives. McWilliams is an archivist at the Pennsylvania State Archives. Friday's lectures will focus on records at archives—both the national and state levels. Saturday's lectures will focus on immigration, naturalization, how to put your ancestors into historical context, and maps and gazetteers. Registration forms are available at all NHG meetings. If you prefer to pay with a credit card, please visit www.northhillsgenealogists.org/cpage.php?pt=71.

RESOLVE TO WRITE ABOUT RELATIVES IN 2018

By Sue Ennis, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor

When it comes to considering genealogical resolutions for 2018, writing about ancestors is a common theme. Writing up the stories re-told when interviewing any relative is an example of a typical way to preserve family stories. Other methods to gather stories include writing from personal experience, remembering and writing stories told by relatives, asking family members to write-up their own stories, and collecting various individual views of one event or story and then compiling those perspectives into one composition.

Knowing where to start or how to draft the written word is a common stumbling block for writers. Whether writing from memory or from notes, start by writing the beginning of the story, re-telling details while composing. No fancy introduction or back story is necessary. Many who falter while beginning to write are thinking in terms of a fully developed introduction or about providing detailed background about the relative. Those details can wait until after the story is preserved. It is a common practice to write an introduction last.

There are aids to support the writing of family history stories found in books and online. Typically, a list of either topics or questions is easily found in genealogical websites, blogs, and books. If online, use this phrase for a successful search: “questions to ask relatives”.

The North Hills Genealogists’ Writing SIG is a group devoted to writing up ancestral tales. Attending a SIG meeting is an NHG member benefit; by participating in even one session, the ideas exchanged among the members can spark ideas for writing about family. In early January, FamilySearch.org published a helpful article highlighting specific ways to work on writing about ancestors and relatives; the full article is available here: www.familysearch.org/blog/en/18-writing-tips-tell-stories.

Two genealogical bloggers recently offered insight about writing about relatives. Amy Johnson Crow, CG, is an experienced professional genealogist who is offering a free option for obtaining ideas about writing family stories. Crow has created a free program, “52 Ancestors in 52 Weeks”, with details on her blog about how to receive weekly prompts and periodical reviews. Access that information at www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/52-ancestors-in-52-weeks. By simply inputting your first name and providing an email address to Crow, interested researchers will receive one email each week in 2018. There will also be a once-a-month review. Even if no writing is done in some weeks, the email with the writing topic and prompt can be saved for future writing.

A British genealogical blogger, Julie Goucher, is the writer of *Anglers Rest* blog. Many of her blog posts offer insight into general genealogical

research, writing about family history, and her own adventures with genealogy. Goucher is offering a collection of writing prompts in her “Book of Me, Written by You” for use to preserve family stories. Information about how to access the content of the book through her blog or social media can be found at www.anglers-rest.net/book-of-me-written-by-you.html.

The idea of once-a-week writing to collect, record, and preserve stories about family members is a New Year’s resolution worth keeping in 2018.

SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL REPOSITORIES: HEINZ HISTORY CENTER’S DETRE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

By Amy Arner, NHG Newsletter Co-Editor

For our holiday social, forty-two NHG members visited the Detre Library and Archives (www.heinzhistorycenter.org/detre-library-archives). Those of you who did not attend missed out on wonderful information about resources for research in Western Pennsylvania. The Library and Archives collection includes more than seven hundred thousand images, forty thousand books, three thousand manuscripts, six hundred periodicals, and five hundred maps. These resources cover all aspects of life in Western Pennsylvania, past and present.

Several ethnic groups have dedicated collections housed in the Library and Archives. These include the African American Program, the Italian American Program, and the Rauh Jewish History Program and Archives. Each has its own page on the Heinz History Center's website:

- African American – www.heinzhistorycenter.org/collections/african-american-program
- Italian American – www.heinzhistorycenter.org/collections/italian-american-program
- Rauh Jewish Archives – www.heinzhistorycenter.org/collections/rauh-jewish-history-program-and-archives

The African American Program and the Italian American Program collect artifacts as well as archival materials. The Rauh Jewish Archives has its own digital resources and finding aids.

Many of the items in the Library and Archives are one of a kind. I've used nineteenth century militia and voter lists from Westmoreland County, the papers of other genealogists, and eighteenth century tax lists from Allegheny County. I've also used published materials from their collections, including newspapers from numerous communities in Western Pennsylvania and histories of various area industries.

The Detre Library and Archives has ways researchers can learn about their collections, specifically books, manuscripts, and photographs. Links to all three ways are online at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/detre-library-archives/search-collection. The first way is their online catalog, which covers books and manuscripts. Researchers can type a location or subject into the Simple Search box, or use the link to the Advanced Search that is below the Simple Search box. Each entry in the list of results is a clickable link that will take researchers to a detailed description of the item.

The second way researchers can learn about the collections is through their finding aids. These cover manuscripts and photographs. There are over nine hundred available. Finding aids provide detailed information about manuscript collections, including a description of the collection, the size of the collection, and how it is arranged. Researchers should study the finding aid before using a collection—it will help you determine whether the collection is relevant to your work, and, for large collections, which boxes and folders to request.

The final way researchers can learn about the Library and Archives collections is through their digitized photographs on Historic Pittsburgh. More than 4,500 images and photographs are available in digital form. Note, however, that this is a minuscule portion of the Library and Archives photographic collection. Also, take advantage of staff knowledge. If you tell them what you're researching, they may be able to suggest additional resources that are relevant.

The Detre Library and Archives is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Researchers visiting the Library and Archives do not need to pay the entrance fee for the Heinz History Center. Remember that this is

not a public library, so some restrictions apply for those visiting. It is a closed stack facility, so you will need to request materials from the staff. Researchers cannot take bags, notebooks, and purses into the reading room. The Library and Archives has lockers in the lobby area right outside the reading room where researchers can store their possessions. Researchers will need a quarter to lock a locker. The quarter will be returned when the researcher opens the locker. Also, researchers are not allowed to use pens in the reading room. The staff has pencils researchers can borrow. Researchers are allowed to photograph and scan materials.

Many times the questions we're trying to answer about our families require us to think outside the box. Using manuscript collections is one way to do that, and the Detre Library and Archives is a wonderful place for it.

NEWLY RELEASED PUBLICATIONS ASSIST RESEARCHERS

Two recently released books and an informational document will benefit genealogical researchers with all levels of experience. Read below for a brief summary of the contents and how to access the publications.

The DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) announced the release of a new book, *Pennsylvania in the American Revolution: A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians* written by Eric G. Grundset, exclusively for DAR Publications. This book discusses the wealth of materials such as manuscripts and archival papers about Pennsylvania's unique resources that document the American Revolution. This publication is only available as a searchable PDF and can be purchased and downloaded for \$25.00 from the DAR website: www.dar.org/dar-shopping/dar-online-store/product-detail/3509.

The second book is an updated edition of Val D. Greenwood's outstanding resource, *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, 4th Edition*. Greenwood's book is well-used and highly respected among genealogists from beginners to advanced researchers. Included are details about current research tools, record groups and their availability, and how-to insight. *The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*,

4th Edition is available from most book sellers or directly from the publisher, Genealogical Publishing Company (www.genealogical.com). Currently there is an offer for a 15% discount for purchasing this fantastic resource. You can find the promo code for the discount and a direct link to the online bookstore by following this link: www.genealogybargains.com/genealogy-bargains-monday-january-8-2018.

A free informational document titled, *Military Service Records, Awards, and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Services*, was just published by the United States Congressional Research Service. The document contains a wealth of information related to US military personnel. For example, this publication outlines where researchers may access service records of individuals and histories of military units. This information is mostly available free and online. An interesting section of the document explains how to locate or replace awards from military service. *Military Service Records, Awards, and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Service* is presented in PDF format and may be downloaded free by following this link: www.fas.org/sgp/crs/secrecy/RS21282.pdf. The Congressional Research Service is part of the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov) and primarily serves the need to publish important documents for Congress. In this case, the publication is helpful to genealogists.

LEGACY FAMILY TREE OFFERS FREE WEBINARS

Press Release (Partial) 28 December 2017

MyHeritage and FamilyTreeWebinars.com are pleased to announce that registration is now open for its 2018 Legacy Family Tree Webinar Series. Choose from 106 classes from genealogy's leading educators on topics ranging from Jamestown to England, from DNA to online privacy, and from how to use Geni and MyHeritage to Legacy.

The live series will feature genealogy celebrities like Blaine Bettinger of theGeneticGenealogist.com, Cyndi Ingle of cyndislist.com, and Judy Russell of legalgenealogist.com. It will also feature the presidents of genealogy's largest organizations. Learn about photo restoration,

Jewish genealogy, handwriting, FamilySearch, Quakers and Palatines, the Genealogical Proof Standard and much more.

We are also proud to once again host the monthly webinar series for the [Board for Certification of Genealogists](#) where we will learn from the likes of Paula Stuart-Warren, James Ison, Alice Hoyt Veen and other board-certified genealogists.

And for the first time—we will be the host of the brand-new webinar series, [MyHeritage Webinars](#), to learn about matching technology, get insights into DNA ethnicity, digital photos and other topics for research.

Sign up (it's FREE!) for one or for all of the 2018 Webinars today, and you will receive a reminder email both one day and two hours prior to the live event.

[Click here to register.](#)

[Click here to register for multiple webinars at once.](#)

Here are the speakers and topics to be offered in January and February 2018 from Legacy Family Tree Webinars:

- *MyHeritage Webinars: Genealogy for Beginners: Start Your Online Family Tree* by Daniel Horowitz. 1/16
- *BCG Webinars: Finding Thomas' Father: an 18th Century Prince William County Virginia Case Study* by Pam Stone Eagleson, CG. 1/16
- *Introducing the Geni World Family Tree* by E. Randol Schoenberg. 1/17
- *Finding Jamestown Ancestors* by KC Reid. 1/24
- *MyHeritage Webinars: Understanding DNA Matching Technology*. 1/30
- *Comparing the Genealogy Giants: Ancestry, FamilySearch, Findmypast and MyHeritage* by Sunny Morton. 1/31
- *Photo Restoration Roadshow* by Eric Basir. 2/7
- *Have Nordic Ancestors? Count Yourself Lucky-Nordic Records Are Amazing* by MyHeritage Webinars. 2/13
- *Using Swedish Taxation Records to Solve Tough Genealogical Problems* by Jill Morelli, CG. 2/20
- *Tribal Quest: A Special Project to Document the Family Histories of Tribal People* by Golan

Levi. 2/21

- *Legacy 9 Unlocked* by Geoff Rasmussen. 2/23
- *Find Your Roots in German Farm Histories* by Gail Blankenau. 2/28

[Editors' Note: The entire year of webinars can be accessed at www.familytreewebinars.com/pdf/ftwbrochure-1514477411.pdf.]

PENNSYLVANIA VITAL RECORDS OFFICE IN NEW CASTLE CLOSSES

In mid-December 2017, Pennsylvania State Representative Kathy Rapp announced the closing of the Vital Records Office in downtown New Castle with other changes. Effective on 1 January 2018, the New Castle Office of Vital Statistics has closed the office that was on Mercer Street. Although there are plans to open another office in the area, it will take time to accomplish that move.

Walk-in applications for a copy of a birth or death certificate will no longer be accepted at the Lawrence County location. Once re-located, this office will “focus primarily on processing online and mail-in orders, and in conducting extensive searches of our state’s vital records,” according to Representative Rapp’s press release.

The offices in Erie, Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg will remain open for walk-in applications of vital records.

RECLAIM THE RECORDS ANNOUNCES ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY INDEXES

Advocates with Reclaim the Records have announced newly released access to the index of two important groups of vital records. The data for these records has been uploaded to the Internet Archive and is now available to be searched by the public.

The first record is the *Index to Deaths in Buffalo, New York, 1852–1944*. The digital index file has some of the pages cut off slightly and a few pages were photographed out of order, but the information is very complete.

According the *Reclaim the Records* site, “for a few of the years, 1891–1897, there is an awesome second page of data included.” The additional details include full names of parents, maiden names of females, and places of birth for each parent.

Previously, Reclaim the Records advocates had obtained and published the index of New Jersey birth, marriage, and death records for 1901–1903 and 1914. Now an expanded version of records has been authorized. *The New Jersey Marriage Index, 1901–2016* is now digitized and free online. Organized year by year, some years also have a separate index for the Grooms and another for the Brides.

For full details about and access to these records from neighboring states, click on www.reclaimtherecords.org for access to the site, and then scroll down slightly and click on each record group. If interested, read about the work of Reclaim the Records or sign up for their free newsletter by using the links on the home page.

FamilySearch FREE SIGN-IN OFFERS GREATER SUBSCRIBER EXPERIENCES AND BENEFITS

Press Release

16 November 2017

Salt Lake City—Beginning December 13, 2017, patrons visiting FamilySearch.org will see a prompt to register for a free FamilySearch account or to sign in to their existing account to continue enjoying all the free expanded benefits FamilySearch has to offer.

Since its launch in 1999, FamilySearch has added millions of users, billions of various historical records, and many fun, new features like Family Tree, Memories, mobile apps, digital books, and dynamic help. In order to accommodate continued growth of these and future free services, FamilySearch must assure all its partners that its content is offered in a safe and secure online environment. Patrons creating a free account and signing in fulfills that need.

Patron sign in will also enable FamilySearch to satisfy the ongoing need for user authentication. This authentication can deliver rich, personalized

discovery, collaboration, and help experiences. Simply put, signed-in visitors can access more searchable content and enjoy more personalized services.

“A large percentage of our current site visitors are not benefiting from much of what FamilySearch has to offer because they don’t realize the need to simply sign in with their free account to do so,” said Steve Rockwood, FamilySearch CEO. “They are basically arriving in the parking lot but not coming inside for the main event,” he said about website visitors who do not sign in.

FamilySearch is committed to patron privacy and does not share personal account information with any third party without a patron’s consent.

See [Registering to Use FamilySearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) for information about creating a free account.

[Editors’ Note: The URL for information about FamilySearch accounts is www.familysearch.org/ask/salesforce/viewArticle?urlname=How-to-register-for-a-FamilySearch-Account-or-LDS-Account-1381813676484&lang=en.]

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Monday, 22 January 2018 1:00 P.M. MT. LEBANON GENEALOGY SOCIETY

This month’s program will feature NHG member Rebecca Kichta Miller. She will present “What Your DNA Test Will Not Tell You.” The group meets in the Mt. Lebanon Public Library’s Meeting Room A. The meeting is free and open to the public. More information is available at www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/306/Genealogy-Society.

Friday, 2 February 2018 6:00 P.M. HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

The History Center will hold its fourth annual Black History Month lecture. Dr. Tera W. Hunter will discuss her new book, *Bound in Wedlock: Slave and Free Black Marriage in the Nineteenth Century*. Hunter is a professor in

Princeton University's Department of African American Studies and its History Department. Registration is required for this free event. More information and a link to register are available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/black-history-month-lecture-bound-in-wedlock.

Wednesday, 28 February 2018 6:30 P.M. CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB

NHG member Debbie Billeter will present “Using DNA to Solve Genealogical Brick Walls.” This program is a case study about finding appropriate candidates to solve a genealogical problem. The program will be held in the Cranberry Public Library’s Franklin Station meeting room. Please visit www.cranberrygenealogy.org for more information.

28 February–3 March 2018 ROOTSTECH

Registration is open for RootsTech. More than 200 sessions will cover DNA, tools, organization, methodology, and more. The conference will be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City. Additional information and a link to register are available at www.rootstech.org.

Sunday, 4 March 2018 9:00 A.M. HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

Once again the Heinz History Center is partnering with the Westmoreland County Historical Society to hold an Irish Genealogy Workshop. Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt from the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast will present six lectures and hold a Q and A session during the workshop. There will also be a curator-led tour of the center’s Irish American collection. The event will be held at Heinz History Center. For detailed information and to register, watch www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events.

23–24 March 2018 NHG ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Our annual conference will feature John Philip Colletta, PhD, and Aaron McWilliams as the speakers. Friday’s sessions will focus on using archives. Saturday’s sessions will cover immigration, naturalization, telling the stories of

your ancestors, and maps and gazetteers. The event will be held at the Columbian Room in Wexford. The early bird registration deadline is February 20th. For more information, visit www.northhillsgenealogists.org, or pick up a brochure at a meeting.

7–8 April 2018
FAIRFAX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Both days of this conference will feature six tracks of four lectures each. This year's conference theme is *The Joy of Genealogy*. The conference will be held at the Westin Hotel in Falls Church, Virginia. The track topics will include church records, Jewish genealogy, Scottish research, African American research, using FamilySearch and its FamilyTree, and presenting genealogical information to non-genealogists on Friday. Saturday tracks will include Irish research, African American research using slave records, Quaker research, recent immigrants to America, death and related records, and using religion and theology in your research. NHG President Rich Venezia will be one of the presenters. For more information, please visit www.fxgs.org.

11–14 April 2018
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

This year's conference theme is *Blazing New Trails*. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, Ohio. Each day will feature five lecture tracts, focusing on topics like DNA, ethnic groups, technology, and Ohio and the surrounding states. For more information, including the schedule, please visit www.ogsconference.org.

Saturday, 28 April 2018 9:00 A.M.
PALATINES TO AMERICA OHIO CHAPTER SEMINAR

This year's seminar will feature Roger Minert, PHD, AG, as the speaker. He will present four lectures: "A Genealogist's Outline of German History since 1517," "Residential Registration in Germany," "German Census Records," and "Communicating with Agencies and Individuals

in Europe." The seminar will be held at the Der Dutchman Restaurant in Plain City, Ohio. For more information, please visit www.oh-palam.org.

24–29 June 2018
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH

Registration for GRIP opens February 14th. The first week of GRIP will feature eight courses: *From Confusion to Conclusion: How to Write Proof Arguments*, *Mastering the Art of Genealogical Documentation*, *Thinking Genealogically: Advanced Methods*, *Irish Research*, *In-Depth Sources for US Military Research*, *Chromosome Mapping*, *Family Archiving: Heirlooms in the Digital Age*, and *Researching New York: Resources and Strategies*. Please visit www.gripitt.org for more information.

22–27 July 2018
GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH

Registration for GRIP opens February 14th. The second week of GRIP will feature eight courses: *Intermediate Genealogy: Tools for Digging Deeper*, *Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy*, *Women and Children First!: Research Methods for the Hidden Half of the Family*, *Walking in Penn's Woods: Pennsylvania Research*, *Practical Genetic Genealogy*, *Advanced Genetic Genealogy*, *You Be the Judge: Practicum Using Standards to Evaluate Genealogical Work*, and *Church Records: Denominations and Problem Solving*. Please visit www.gripitt.org for more information.

30 July–3 August 2018
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HSP is offering a week-long course on Pennsylvania research at their facility in Philadelphia. The course is aimed at genealogists of all research levels. For more information, including a course schedule, please visit www.hsp.org/calendar/researching-family-pennsylvania-2018.



P.O. Box 169
Wexford, PA 15090

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



UPCOMING NHG PROGRAMS

Tuesday, 16 January 2018 **Understanding DNA Ethnicity Estimates**

Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD

Learn how testing companies create ethnicity estimates, the accuracy of the estimates, and ways to use them in your research. Together we will compare and contrast ethnicity estimates at the big five testing companies (23andMe, AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA, LivingDNA, and MyHeritage) and discuss their limitations and uses. This will be a live webinar .

Tuesday, 20 February 2018 **Bridging the Decades: Little-Used Clues from the Census**

Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, NHG Book Marketing Chair

Learn how the US decennial censuses can give clues which, when used with other records, lead to more discoveries

about an individual or a family. Each year enumerators asked new questions which need to be examined closely to discover new leads, wringing out every clue from this common source. Follow one family back in time as we examine these hidden clues in the census. Powell is a founding member of NHG and our first president.

Tuesday, 20 March 2018 **Creating a Family Archive**

Rebecca Kichta Miller, NHG Member

Miller will show us that there is a difference between archiving your family history and scrap-booking the major life events of your family. However, preserving your family's original photos and mementos takes specific skills. Learn ways to take your prized possessions out of those old albums, storage boxes, and trunks and into this century. Miller served as the president of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society (2016–2017) and currently serves as editor of its newsletter.