



# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

P O Box 169 \* Wexford, PA, 15090 \* [www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org](http://www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org)

## NHG NEWS

*Come to this Week's Annual Conference!*

There is still time to sign up and attend the 2018 NHG Annual Conference on 23–24 March featuring John Philip Colletta, PhD, and Aaron McWilliams from the Pennsylvania State Archives. Come learn about federal records, records held by the state archives, immigration records, naturalization records, maps and gazetteers, and more!

A quick way to sign up for the Friday sessions, the Saturday sessions, or all sessions is through the conference link on our website: [www.northhillsgenealogists.org](http://www.northhillsgenealogists.org). The entire conference will be held at the Columbian Room in Wexford.

Although genealogy can be an expensive hobby, attending a conference offers several benefits for participants, beyond the instruction. Learning about methods and new resources can jump start your own family history. Speakers bring a wider perspective to what you know and about what you need to find. Interacting with fellow genealogists allows for networking, exchanging ideas, support and encouragement, and reminders about what works well for researchers. Although your brain might be full of ideas when you leave, you will definitely be motivated about your own research!

NHG is fortunate to be able to bring nationally known speakers and specialists to our annual conference. Plan to join us on Friday or Saturday to celebrate genealogy!

### *NHG Nominations Committee*

This year's NHG Nominations Committee consists of Dave Williams, Dave Egelston, and Al Hartman. They are looking for potential

candidates for president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please see Dave, Dave, or Al at a meeting. Alternatively, you can email Dave Williams at [peggie@consolidated.net](mailto:peggie@consolidated.net). 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.

### *Share a Website*

We have our first member shared websites. Thanks to Michelle Witsch and Doug Drumheller for sharing their websites with us. Michele shared a couple of Polish sites for research as well as an interesting site on surnames. Doug shared *Penn Pilot*, an aerial photography site with views of Pennsylvania from 1937 and later. Those sites are now on the North Hills Genealogists' website under Links: [www.northhillsgenealogists.org/links.php?cid=31&sid=1](http://www.northhillsgenealogists.org/links.php?cid=31&sid=1).

We would love to share your favorite sites. Cards are available at the sign in table for you to list your go-to site, in addition to all those popular ones that we already have in our toolboxes. If you have any questions or would like to submit this information electronically, please contact Carole Ashbridge ([caroleashbridge@gmail.com](mailto:caroleashbridge@gmail.com)).

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*Note: The newsletter is an NHG member benefit. As such, the newsletter and its contents may not be copied, forwarded, or extracted without written permission from the editors.*

## NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2017–2018

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### For more information:

[Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org](mailto:Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org)

### Newsletter ideas and feedback:

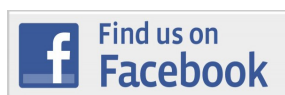
[Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org](mailto:Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org)

## 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 for two people at the same address.

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 Northland Public Library's Conference Room. All members are welcome. NHG is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy March, fellow members!

Spring is (almost) in the air . . . is your research yet in full bloom for 2018? I hope the recent unexpected snowstorms have enabled some long days of research at home in your favorite bunny slippers.

In addition to our conference this month, NHG has some exciting things in store for this year. The board is still working on many of these pieces, but we'll be sure to update you as we are able to discuss the new happenings. For now, you can go ahead and enjoy the latest addition to our website—a gallery of NHG photos from various meetings, events, and functions. Enjoy re-living some fun times with our group!

Over the past month, several people have asked me where to find the citizenship paperwork of their ancestors who lived in Allegheny County, and I realized (as far as I know) that there's not a breakdown that specifies the different places one has to look to conduct a complete search. I've created a work-in-progress guide below.

Prior to 1906, aliens could naturalize in any court of record. In Allegheny County, the courts used to naturalize citizens were the Court of Common Pleas (1798–1906), the Court of the Quarter Sessions (1799–1906), the District Court (1820 (or earlier)–1906), the Circuit Court (1820 (or earlier)–1906), and in very early days, the Supreme Court. It's unclear to me whether there is a distinction between the District and Circuit Courts of Allegheny County in early days and the US District and Circuit Courts of the Western District of Pennsylvania from 1820 on. From 1906 forward, aliens naturalized in the US Circuit Court (until 1911) or US District Court.

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society (WPGS) has published a seven volume series, *A List of Immigrants Who Applied for Naturalization Papers in the District Courts of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania*, that indexes individuals who naturalized in certain courts prior to 1906. This is available in the Carnegie Library (CLP) in Oakland in the Pennsylvania Department, and at several other CLP branches—Northland also has select volumes. This series is

organized chronologically, and each volume includes an index to help you find your person of interest. The first volume (1798–1840) is also available in the members-only section of the WPGS website. Once you find an entry, you can search using CLP microfilm or browse for the record on *FamilySearch* at [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/558482](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/558482) and/or [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/594893](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/594893).

According to the *FamilySearch* catalog, most of the records in these two collections are from the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas. However, the catalog also specifies some of the records in this series are from the Allegheny County District Court, the Allegheny County Circuit Court, and the Allegheny County Supreme Court.

I believe the title of the seven volume series is a slight misnomer, as many folks found within the records of the actual US District Court (at least from 1820 forward) do not appear in that index. The records of the US District Court (1820–1930) and the US Circuit Court (1820–1911) of the Western District, both federal courts located in Pittsburgh, are available on *Fold3* ([www.fold3.com/title/119/naturalizations-pa-western](http://www.fold3.com/title/119/naturalizations-pa-western)) and *Ancestry.com* (<https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=2717>).

They are fully indexed and searchable. It appears that these are the same records available on *FamilySearch* at [www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/558485](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/558485), although these can only be browsed.

The records of the Court of Quarter Sessions are now held on microfilm at the CLP's Pennsylvania Department. An index is being created, and the best way to access this is by talking with the WPGS volunteer on duty at the library—it's currently only available internally. Once an entry is found in that index, then researchers can look for the associated record in the microfilms.

From 1906 forward, you'll want to look at the indexes of the US District Court for naturalization records. *Ancestry.com* has the 1906–1930 records indexed and available in the database listed above. The actual index cards from 1906–1990 are available for view at a Family History Center or a *FamilySearch* affiliate library on *FamilySearch* at

[www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/575534](http://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/575534).

The index cards are also located in the Clerk's Intake Counter, Room 3110, of the US District Court of the Western District of Pennsylvania at 700 Grant Street in Pittsburgh. If you find an entry of interest beyond 1930, you can write to the National Archives at Philadelphia for a copy of the record ([philadelphia.archives@nara.gov](mailto:philadelphia.archives@nara.gov)) or order it, using the information on the index card, at <https://eservices.archives.gov>. Electronic copies of records are \$10.

As you can see, you can't just stop after one search when looking for your ancestor's naturalization records in Pittsburgh. Happy Hunting!

Please note this information is correct *as to my understanding*, but because this knowledge has come from several different people who understand different pieces of the puzzle, it's possible I've understood something incorrectly. If you know differently, send me a message and we'll issue a correction in the next newsletter!

See you at the meeting. Happy (almost) spring!

~ Rich

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## WORKING WITH DEEDS INCLUDES UNIQUE TERMS

*By Sharon Cimoch, NHG Past President*

Have you ever found a document that contains words that you could not understand because they were unfamiliar? What sometimes makes it even more difficult is the old practice of using the letter f for s, fs for double sses or v for an o. Over the years, I have had to look up many words to be able to transcribe a will or deed. I finally feel pretty confident about understanding almost any document I come across.

To help you in your research, I thought I could pass on some explanations for unfamiliar words. Then you only have to try to read the fancy chicken-scratch writing instead of also looking up definitions.

The following are often found in deeds from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries:

- **Escheat** – When the ownership of land reverts

to the government if it has been abandoned or the owner has died without leaving any heirs.

- **Appurtenances** – In a land record referring to a right-of-way, buildings, fences, etc. that are attached to the land described in the sale of the property.
- **Bounty land** – The land granted to compensate a person for military service.
- **Proclamation Money** – The Crown issued a royal proclamation in 1704 which fixed a uniform value on all coins in the Colonies to promote trade directly with Britain. I've seen this expression used on very old deeds in North Carolina especially. Instead of paying for the land in pounds, shillings, etc. the deed asks for "Proclamation Money".
- **Chain** – This was a surveyor's means of measuring by using a large chain with each link equaling 7.92 inches. One complete chain was 100 links or 66 feet, a furlong was 10 chains, and 1 mile was 80 chains. Using the square of a chain, a square was 66 feet, 10 square chains was 1 acre, and a square chain was 16 square poles.
- **Pole, rod & perch** – A pole or rod were both measurements of land equal to 16.5 feet and a perch was a linear measure of 5.5 yards and also 16.5 feet.
- **Quit claim deed** – This was a document that transferred the interest a seller had on his property to another person.
- **Dower** – The law provides for a widow to receive a portion of her husband's estate for the support of her and her children if he dies without leaving a will. This may also be referred to as dower right which gives her a portion of the estate for her lifetime.
- **Dower release** – Usually found at the end of a deed. A judge or clerk talks to a wife separately from the husband, asking her if she freely agrees to the sale of the property and is giving up her right to the land without being coerced.

In a future newsletter, I'll provide some definitions of words used in wills and miscellaneous documents.

Sources:

- *What Did They Mean By That? – A Dictionary of Historical and Genealogical Terms Old and New* by Paul Drake, JD, Heritage Books, 2008.

- *A TO ZAX – A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists & Historians*, Third Edition, by Barbara Jean Evans, Hearthside Press, 1995.

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## BUTLER AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY BECOMES A FAMILYSEARCH AFFILIATE

The Butler Area Public Library (BAPL) is now a *FamilySearch* affiliate library. This means that researchers in the library can access restricted digitized content on *FamilySearch* ([www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)). This applies to those using both the library's computers and personal devices connected to the library's wi-fi network.

How can you tell if digitized content is restricted? When using the *FamilySearch* catalog ([www.familysearch.org/catalog/search](http://www.familysearch.org/catalog/search)), look at the Film/Digital Notes section of an entry. If there is an icon with a key and a camera (as shown below) on the right side, the content is restricted.



BAPL's new status is a boon to researchers. Other public libraries in the area that are FamilySearch affiliate libraries include the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Department, the New Castle Public Library, and the Monessen Public Library. In addition to these public libraries, FamilySearch has Family History Centers around the area. There are centers in Cranberry Township, Greensburg, Green Tree, Plum Borough, and Washington.

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## REVIEW OF ANNUAL THE IRISH GENEALOGY WORKSHOP AT THE HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

Each year the Heinz History Center, in conjunction with the Westmoreland County Historical Society, offers a full day of Irish genealogy with international speakers Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt of the Ulster Historical Foundation. Mullan and Hunt travel around the United States each March and present their one-day program at various locations. On March 4th, a packed room of first-time attendees as well as repeat attendees gathered to learn about record groups and access. If you have Irish ancestors,

watch for the Heinz History Center to announce next year's program. Each year the workshops are updated and some topics change to best reflect current information for genealogists with Irish roots.

Sessions this year covered the following six topics:

- "Intro to Irish and Scots-Irish Family History Research,"
- "Tracing Farming Families in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century: Using Land Estate Records,"
- "The Great Famine in Ireland: Sources for Research,"
- "Church Records for Use in Genealogical Research: Administrative Records Such as Vestry Minute Books and Communicant Rolls,"
- "The Importance of Gravestone Inscriptions for Irish Research: A Much-Overlooked Source," and
- "Records Relating to Law and Order in Ireland".

In addition to fantastic lectures, suitable for beginning or intermediate genealogists, there were multiple opportunities to ask questions throughout the day, rather than just at one time. This was an advantage for participants. Concurrent with the lunch break, individuals could sign up to tour the Irish-American Collection Display at the Heinz, in small groups led by the archivists.

At the beginning of each lecture, the speaker would first highlight all of the websites that would be mentioned during that lecture. This gave time for participants to bookmark the sites so that when each was discussed, one could easily find it.

The workshop folder held many gems for genealogists including research guides, special collections available online, and several maps, only available in Ireland. It is also notable to mention that as often as possible, examples from both Ireland and Northern Ireland were offered to illustrate key points and methodology.

In the past five years, the Heinz History Center has offered workshops about various heritage groups while highlighting their coordinating

special collections. Researching in an archive is a bit different than in other repositories, however, with knowledge of the collections and expert assistance, it can be an exceptional experience. Refer to *Where Genealogists Meet* in NHG's monthly newsletter for upcoming programs related to genealogy at the Heinz History Center.

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## **SPOTLIGHT ON LOCAL REPOSITORIES: UNIONTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY'S PENNSYLVANIA ROOM**

*By Joan Peake, Pennsylvania Room Volunteer*

The Pennsylvania Room in the Uniontown Library houses the best resources for research in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The collection is housed on the second floor of the Uniontown Public Library. If you are interested in genealogy or history in the county, this is the place to go.

The room has a large collection of books covering family genealogies, county and local histories, regional art and culture, local religions, the coal and coke industry, city directories, and local school yearbooks. Researchers can access the library catalog from home before a visit at [www.uniontownlib.org](http://www.uniontownlib.org). Scroll to the bottom of the page and under the category *Find* click on *Search the Catalog*.

Two unique collections for area research are the Obituary Card Index and the cemetery book collection. After finding a death date using these resources, use the newspaper microfilm for the major Uniontown newspapers from 1839 through 2017. The *Genius of Liberty* is available on microfilm starting in 1839, although many early issues are missing.

Extensive vertical files exist for local families, which include some Bible records, Civil War pension records, and files donated by well-known Fayette County researchers. The microfilm collection includes marriage, probate, deed, and tax records. There is also an excellent map collection.

Another little-known resource is the twenty-eight volume set of the Josiah V. Thompson Journals. Thompson was a banker who made his fortune buying and selling coal lands. He was also an avid

genealogist who talked with anyone connected to not only his families, but other families from Fayette County. His journals contain genealogical information from people he visited on business trips or local genealogical research trips and include Bible records, will and deed transcriptions, and cemetery readings.

Some items are housed in the Rare Book Room. This includes some of the Fayette County Home records. The records are incomplete but include registers containing births and deaths, families admitted and released, aid to the poor in the county, and financial registers. There is an index to the inmate registers which can be accessed upon request. Also a collection of family Bibles, both original and copies resides in the Rare Book Room. The Pennsylvania Room curator keeps a list of these at her desk. The Pennsylvania Room holds the records of James Hadden, the author of *A History of Uniontown: The County Seat of Fayette County, Pennsylvania*. These include some original deeds, courthouse records, and additional information concerning the families included in the book.

While researching in the library there is access to wi-fi and the *Ancestry Library Edition* and *Newspapers.com*. Ancestry must be accessed at the library but those with a Uniontown Library card can access *Newspapers.com* from the comfort of their home.

The Pennsylvania Room is located on the second floor of the Uniontown Library, 24 Jefferson St., Uniontown, PA 15401. The room is closed on Mondays and open during library hours Tuesday through Saturday. The hours are subject to change during the summer. The library phone number is 724-437-1165. To reach the Pennsylvania Room, ask for Maria Sholtis, the curator. Please call before visiting to check hours and staff coverage, since the room may be staffed by volunteers when the curator is on vacation. Any questions can be emailed to [paroomlib@hotmail.com](mailto:paroomlib@hotmail.com).

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## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

**Thursday, 22 March 2018 7:00 P.M.**  
**UPPER ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP**

## PUBLIC LIBRARY

NHG member Rebecca Kichta Miller will present "Genealogy: What Your DNA Test Will Not Tell You." It will be held in the library's multi-purpose room, 1820 McLaughlin Run Road, Upper St. Clair. The program is free and open to the public, however registration is required. More information about the program and how to register is available at [www.twpusc.org/library/library-home](http://www.twpusc.org/library/library-home).

## **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. For more information, visit [www.northhillsgenealogists.org](http://www.northhillsgenealogists.org), or pick up a brochure at a meeting.

## **Monday, 26 March 2018 10:15 A.M.** **ZELIENOPE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

NHG Newsletter Co-Editor Susan Ennis will lead a workshop about learning tips and tricks to grow your family tree using Ancestry.com Library Edition and other databases. Please bring a laptop or tablet if you have one available. This workshop is free and open to all levels of genealogy enthusiasts. Use the time to brainstorm solutions to brick walls and to move ahead with your genealogical research! The library's address is 227 South High Street, Zelienople, 16063.

## **Tuesday, 27 March 2018 6:00 P.M.** **BUTLER AREA LIBRARY**

The library plans a "Genealogy 101" program for beginning family history researchers. This will cover basic tips and tricks for people to get started researching their family history. Registration is required. To register, email Margaret at [mhewitt@bcfls.org](mailto:mhewitt@bcfls.org).

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

NHG Newsletter Co-Editor Amy Arner will present "Three Rivers Resources." She will discuss how the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio Rivers affected the development of Western Pennsylvania. The program will be held in the Cranberry Public Library's Franklin Station meeting room. Please visit [www.cranberrygenealogy.org](http://www.cranberrygenealogy.org) for more information.

**Saturday, 31 March 2018 10:00 A.M.**  
**HEINZ HISTORY CENTER**

The center will host an African American Genealogy Workshop. Melvin Collier and Michael Williams will discuss genealogical research and how DNA can be used to further that research. Registration is required. For more information and to register, please visit [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/african-american-genealogy-workshop](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/african-american-genealogy-workshop).

**Saturday, 7 April 2018 9:00 A.M.**  
**WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY**

The WRHS Genealogical Committee is sponsoring an all-day seminar with the theme *Researching Your Ohio and Western Reserve Ancestors*. Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, will present four lectures: "The Firelands, the Connecticut Western Reserve, and the Ohio Territory;" "Ohio: the Great Land Experiment;" "Migration Trails to the Ohio;" and "German Migration Into the Ohio." The seminar will be held at the WRHS facility in Cleveland, Ohio. For more information, please visit [www.wrhs.org/research/library/genealogy/genealogical-committee](http://www.wrhs.org/research/library/genealogy/genealogical-committee).

**6-7 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](http://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 tracks, focusing on topics like DNA, ethnic groups, technology, and Ohio and the surrounding states. For more information, please visit [www.ogsconference.org](http://www.ogsconference.org).

**Sunday, 15 April 2018 2:00 P.M.**  
**BALTZER MEYER HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Tom Soltis, PhD, will present "The Spanish Lady Visits Westmoreland County." This will be a discussion about how the 1918 influenza pandemic affected Greensburg and the surrounding area. The event will be held at Baltzer Meyer's facility at 642 Baltzer Meyer Pike, Greensburg. For more information, please visit [www.baltzermeyer.pa-roots.com/Pages/index.html](http://www.baltzermeyer.pa-roots.com/Pages/index.html).

**Sunday, 15 April 2018 9:00 A.M.**  
**SOUTH HILLS GENEALOGY DAY**

The Beth El Congregation's annual Genealogy Day and Pancake Festival will feature four lectures. The lectures will include "What Does it Mean to be Scots-Irish," "Organizing for Genealogists," "Breaking Down Brick Walls," and "Terror on Knoxville Trolley." The event will be held at the congregation's facility at 1900 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh. Registration is open through April 8th. To register, please visit <http://bethelcong.org/events/south-hills-genealogy-day>.

**Monday, 16 April 2018 1:00 P.M.**  
**MOUNT LEBANON GENEALOGY  
SOCIETY**

Tammy Hepps will present "Top 10 Things I Learned About My Family from My Couch." The program will be held at Mt. Lebanon Public Library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, Pittsburgh. For more information, please visit [www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/306/Genealogy-Society](http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/306/Genealogy-Society).

**Tuesday, 17 April 2018 7:00 P.M.**  
**WESTMORELAND COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Dr. Tim Crain will present "The Irish Experience in America." The event is free for WCHS members and \$7.00 for non-members. Registrations are strongly recommended. To register, call 724-532-1935, ext. 210. The program will be held in the McCullough Room of Caritas Christi, which is part of Seton Hill University.

**Saturday, 21 April 2018 2:00 P.M.**  
**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF  
SOUTHWESTERN  
PENNSYLVANIA**

NHG's Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, will present "Deeper Analysis: Techniques for Successful Problem Solving." The program will be held at Citizens Library, 55 South College Street, Washington. For more information, please visit [www.genealogicalsocietyswpa.com](http://www.genealogicalsocietyswpa.com).

**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](http://www.oh-palam.org).

**Tuesday, 1 May 2018 6:00 P.M.**  
**BUTLER AREA LIBRARY**

The library will host "Searching with Ancestry." Come learn the basics of navigating online genealogy search via Ancestry, and discover new ways to make the most of your search results. Registration is required. To register, email Margaret at [mhewitt@bcfls.org](mailto:mhewitt@bcfls.org).

**2-5 May 2018**  
**NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

The theme for this year's conference is *Paths to Your Past*. The event will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. It will feature more than 175 lectures by more than seventy-five lecturers, several of whom have spoken at NHG's annual conference. For more information and to register, please visit <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>.

**Saturday, 19 May 2018 9:30 A.M.**  
**CENTRE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

This year's seminar will feature Judy G. Russell, also known as the Legal Genealogist. She will present four lectures: "Courting Pennsylvania: The Courts of the Keystone State," "When Worlds Collide: Resolving Conflicts in Genealogical Records," "Don't Forget the Ladies: A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law," and "No Person Shall . . . Gallop Horses in the Streets: Using Court Records to Tell the Story of Our Ancestors' Lives." The event will be held at the Foxdale Village Auditorium in State College. More information is available at [www.centrecountygenealogy.org](http://www.centrecountygenealogy.org).

**9-10 June 2018**  
**FORT PITT MUSEUM**

Join the museum for "Artillery and Artificers." Learn about eighteenth century artillery and the trades that made it possible. See [www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events](http://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events) for more details.

**13-16 June 2018**  
**PALATINES TO AMERICA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE**



This year's conference will feature John Philip Colletta, PhD, and Baerbel Johnson as the main lecturers, with six other people also presenting lectures. The event will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Buffalo, New York. On 13 and 14 June there will be optional field trips to repositories and museums in Buffalo. For more information, including a registration form, please visit [www.palam.org](http://www.palam.org).

**23–24 June 2018**  
**WESTMORELAND COUNTY**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

WCHS is planning its annual Frontier Court for June. This event features court case reenactments, military, encampments, musket fire demonstrations, and more. Watch [www.westmorelandhistory.org](http://www.westmorelandhistory.org) for more details.

**24–29 June 2018**  
**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**  
**INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH**

Registration for GRIP is open. 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](http://www.gripitt.org) for more information.

**Tuesday, 26 June 2018 6:00 P.M.**  
**BUTLER AREA LIBRARY**

The library will host “Digging Deep with Wills and Estates.” Wills and estates can often hold vital clues to the names of family members, death dates, land transfers, and more. We will explore the different kinds of paperwork found in estates, learn to navigate through these records, and see examples of genealogical brick walls solved using these records. Registration is required. To register, email Margaret at [mhewitt@bcfls.org](mailto:mhewitt@bcfls.org).

**22–27 July 2018**  
**GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

**INSTITUTE OF PITTSBURGH**

Registration for GRIP is open. 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](http://www.gripitt.org) for more information.

**Saturday, 28 July 2018 9:30 A.M.**  
**AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC**  
**LIBRARY**

The library will host an all-day seminar about genetic genealogy. CeCe Moore will present “The Power of DNA: Genetic Genealogy Basics,” “Who Am I: Exploring Ethnicity Estimates,” “I Have My Results, Now What?,” and “Breaking through Genealogical Brick Walls with DNA.” The program is free and open to the public, however registration is required. To register, call 330-643-9030 or email [speccollections@akronlibrary.org](mailto:speccollections@akronlibrary.org). The event will be held at the main library, 60 South High Street, Akron, Ohio.

**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](http://www.hsp.org/calendar/researching-family-pennsylvania-2018).

**22–25 August 2018**  
**FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL**  
**SOCIETIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Details are being finalized for this year's conference, which will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Watch [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for updates.

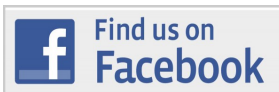
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## UPCOMING NHG PROGRAMS

### **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.

### **Tuesday, 17 April 2018** **Semi-Annual Roundtable**

Due to popular demand, we are adding another round table discussion this year. This program has proven to be a

successful combination of information, guidance, and cousin-finding for those attending. Join us for an evening of sharing questions, answers, and helpful hints among all attendees. You can pose your own questions or just sit back and listen. Remember, no question is too basic or obscure. We look forward to seeing you during this terrific information exchange!

### **Tuesday, 15 May 2018** **Using a Family History Center**

*Ryan Henrie*

Henrie, Director of the Cranberry Family History Center (FHC), will present the top reasons to visit a FHC. He will also discuss why you should research and have a tree on both Ancestry and FamilySearch, answer questions about this period of conversion from microfilm to digital images, and walk through some examples of how to use three tools to discover the surnames of women.