



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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

NHG NEWS

Register for March Meeting

Remember that you need to register to attend the March meeting. The registration options for both in-person and virtual attendance are listed at <http://register.NorthHillsGenealogists.org>. NHG's own Elissa Powell and Sue Ennis will present a program about genealogy software.

CranFest

NHG will have a table at CranFest. This folk and food festival will be held at the Cranberry Township Municipal Center on Saturday, 6 April from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. In addition to entertainment, the Cranberry Public Library will have an open house and various community organizations will have tables with information. Please stop by and visit us!

Photos Needed for May Meeting

The Program Committee is still seeking some photos for our May meeting. Our speaker will be Maureen Taylor, The Photo Detective, via webinar. She'll be entertaining us with a "Photo Detective Roadshow," in which she'll provide new clues about photos which you might be having trouble identifying. If you are interested in having clues about your photo unveiled in front of the audience, please submit no more than two photos per member to programs@northhillsgenealogists.org. The committee will select the photos at random and inform you in advance of the event if your photos were selected. We request that you be able to be present for the May meeting if your submission is selected.

Taylor has written a number of books about how to identify people in old photographs. NHG has

donated copies of most of the books to Northland Public Library.

Research Workshop Announced for 30 March

Plan to set aside time to attend the third NHG *Genealogy Research Workshops for Novices!* It will be held on Saturday, 30 March 2019 at Northland Public Library in the meeting room from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Each of these workshops is independent of the others, so feel free to attend some or all of them. This month's workshop will feature NHG member Carole Ashbridge as the instructor for the mini-lesson; after the lesson, the workshop is set up for participants to experience dedicated research time. NHG volunteers participate by supporting individuals and answering questions in a collaborative environment. The *Genealogy Research Workshops for Novices* have proven to be fun with participants practicing good research strategies and overcoming brick walls. These workshops are member-only events. To register for the free workshop, send your name, email address, and phone number to Education@NorthHillsGenealogists.org. You will receive a

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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.

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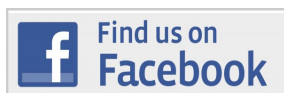
Editor@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

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, Pennsylvania, and Writing. Meeting information is on our website.

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



NHG MEMBER BENEFITS

NHG has published three books of cemetery transcriptions. Two of those, *Pioneer Cemeteries of Franklin Park Borough & Marshall Township* and *Pioneer Cemeteries of Pine & Richland Townships* are still for sale. Members get a discount on purchasing the books. The indexes for both books are on our website. See www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org/cpage.php?pt=15 for details.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

A ship's passenger list can supply a tremendous amount of information about your ancestors who traveled overseas. Until 1954 most of our ancestors came to America by ship. Each of those ships had a passenger list, sometimes referred to as a cargo manifest, which recorded various amounts of information about each passenger on board. This column is going to chronicle the steps leading to my finding and deciphering a passenger list for one branch of my family. Had I known at the start what I know now, I would be ten years ahead on my research! Hopefully, I can pass some of the lessons learned along to you.

After searching half-heartedly for years for the passenger list, my brother Tim and I simultaneously stumbled onto a "possible" list at the Blasco Library in Erie, Pennsylvania, in 2009. He was searching on the library's computer, and I was searching books; then we both called out to each other. It was only a "possible" list, because while it appeared to start with my great-great-great-grandparents David and Jane Jones, the remainder of the names in the group of interest were—naturally—covered with an ink smear.

Since both the book and the computer image were inconclusive, we took a trip to the National Archives in Washington, DC. At the archives, the appropriate microfilm was copied and studied at various configurations. But the ink smear refused to give up its secrets, and the remainder of the list below my great-great-great-grandparents remained a mystery. Then we put the whole search aside for a number of years!

So we now fast forward to the January/February 2018 issue of *Smithsonian*. It contained an article

about a project researching ancient texts at St. Catherine's Library in Egypt. St. Catherine's is the world's oldest continuously operating library, dating from the sixth century AD. The project involved researching manuscripts from that era.

Since supplies of parchment were limited and expensive in that era, it was a common practice to scrape the writing from older manuscripts and reuse them. The resulting parchment is called a palimpsest, that is, a manuscript containing an "undertext". It was found that by using a process called multispectral imaging—photographing the manuscript under different lighting conditions—the "undertext" would be highlighted.

As I read the article I thought "If multispectral imaging can work on a 1,500 year-old parchment text, shouldn't it work on a 185 year-old passenger list?"

The next step was to find the original copy of the passenger list. Since David and Jane arrived in 1832, the list would have been called a customs passenger list. It was designated that because until 1891 the United States Bureau of Customs had responsibility for collecting and storing them. While some passenger lists were photographed, microfilmed, and discarded, the originals of the customs lists were retained. Finding where they were stored proved complex.

According to John Colletta's book *They Came in Ships*, the originals were stored at the Temple-Balch Institute in Philadelphia. But I had a copy of the book that was published in 1993. An exchange of emails with the institute found that it had been disbanded, and its collections had been scattered to various other institutions. Individuals with knowledge of the institute could not say where the collections ended up. For the next few months, I consulted all known experts of passenger lists and there seemed to be confusion as to their final resting spot.

Finally, we consulted THE expert. The question was posed to Google: "Where are the original copies of the customs passenger lists from 1832 for the Port of New York stored?" Back came the answer in one one-hundredth of a second: "In

the New York City offices of the National Archives".

I immediately sent to the offices asking if they had the original and, if so, did they have multispectral imaging capabilities to read the text below the offending ink blot. The initial correspondence was somewhat discouraging. The first reply was "there is no access to the originals". But with continued correspondence it turned out that staff access was possible and—while they did not have multispectral imaging capabilities—a high resolution scan of the documents would be attempted.

In November 2018, the scan was attempted, and it worked!! All of the "undertext" below the ink spot became completely readable. It mostly confirmed what we hoped it would in terms of names on the list, but as in all things it did open up a few new mysteries:

- Who is Enoch Jones? His name was in my group on the list, and I had never heard about him before.
- Who is Gainor, aged 4 years? She was the last name in the group and there was a ditto mark after her name, which would indicate she was a Williams. But after the ditto marks, there was an "M", which might indicate she was a member of the next family on the list.

We will now move forward with more research.

In closing, I should mention that the offices and staff of the New York City National Archives could not have been more cooperative in this project. They offered suggestions and were even somewhat reticent about having to charge me \$20.00 for the scans. It was a bargain at any price!

~ Dave

NHG NEWS **(continued from page 61)**

brief confirmation notice upon receipt of your emailed interest in the program.

Publicity Table Chair Needed

We are looking for a volunteer or two to coordinate our presence at local events. The duties include working with other organizations

to obtain space, recruiting volunteers to help at the tables, maintaining a box of supplies for these efforts, and attending NHG's monthly board meetings. If you want more information or are interested in serving in this role, see Dave Williams at a meeting or email him at daimaenan@gmail.com.

Officer Nominations

NHG's Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to run for our four officer positions in this year's election. Our officers are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Each office has specific responsibilities, plus officers need to attend our board meetings, which are held the first Tuesday of each month at Northland Public Library. If you are interested in learning more, please see Dave Egelston, Al Hartman, or Sue O'Connor at a meeting or send an email to Info@NorthHillsGenealogists.org.

NEW FEATURES FOR DATABASES PUBLICIZED AT ROOTSTECH

Both *FamilySearch* (free access) and *Ancestry.com* (paid subscription access) publicized enhanced database features for genealogical researchers during RootsTech 2019. With Ancestry, subscribers can use any of the three beta features, which are in the testing phase, by enabling one or all at www.ancestry.com/BETA. To do so, simply read the brief description and then click on the button labeled "Enable" under each feature.

MyTree Tags offers a way to add a clarification about individuals on your Ancestry Family Tree. A variety of tags are offered along with the option to create customized tags. During a Facebook Live session, Crista Cowan compared MyTree Tags to using sticky notes on a published family tree. The goal of using the tags is to remind yourself about verified information such as "adoptive line" or "never married." The tags will appear when other researchers access your tree online; this is a feature to help us discern the quality of an Ancestry tree.

Another beta feature on *Ancestry.com* is "New and Improved DNA Matches", which allows you to color code DNA cousin matches to specific branches of your family.

The last beta feature will be systematically rolled out to anyone with an Ancestry DNA account. Called "Thru Lines", this is a graphic organizer that will draw a vertical, lined path from the subscriber and the cousin match to indicate the common ancestor. For more details, please refer to www.ancestry.com/product/new-release.

FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org) also provided details about some new enhancements to their website. Bundled under the heading "Discovery Experiences", the additional elements are "Record My Story", "All About Me", and "Picture My Heritage". In "Record My Story", text or audio memories can be recorded and added to family member profiles. Once recorded, the content can also be downloaded to genealogical software or other locations. "All About Me" provides information about name studies, the events of a birth year, and tidbits of social history from a specific time. Finally, "Picture My Heritage" is a *FamilySearch* tool that is fun and insightful! Add a custom photo of an individual or yourself and enhance your portion of the family tree.

A fantastic labeling feature just added to *FamilySearch* will "give users the ability to record other relationships to an ancestor beyond immediate family members, when applicable, such as friends, associates, and neighbors", known to researchers as the FAN club. This might include witnesses to deeds or baptismal sponsors, for example. Finally, "FamilySearch Memories" will now allow for audio recordings to be included, such as a relative playing an instrument. Previously, FamilySearch Memories just offered a vehicle for preserving, recording, and sharing photos, documents, and text stories. With the new option, descendants will be able to hear the voice of the family member who is actually telling the story.

All of these options give an updated way to add information and to preserve aspects of genealogical research.

ROOTSTECH LIVE-STREAMED SESSIONS ADDED TO VIDEO ARCHIVE

If you were interested in the live-streamed sessions from RootsTech 2019, held 27 February

-2 March, but missed viewing them, you still may do so. The 2019 taped sessions as well as the keynote and general sessions have been added to the RootsTech Video Archive along with the taped workshops from RootsTech 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018. All can be accessed and viewed at www.rootstech.org/video-archive. Certain years also offer other categories of videos. To navigate directly to the RootsTech sessions from 2019, use this link: www.rootstech.org/category/2019-rootstech-sessions. Browse the workshop titles, keeping in mind the advantage of educating yourself about genealogical research methods, record groups, and genetic genealogy from knowledgeable speakers.

ANCESTRY.COM UPDATES PA BIRTH AND NY MARRIAGE COLLECTIONS

At the beginning of March, *Ancestry.com* announced changes to two key collections: *Pennsylvania, Birth Certificates, 1906–1911* and *New York State, Marriage Index, 1881–1967*. These collections have been targeted for additional records on an ongoing basis and are currently indexed and available online.

Images for all birth certificates for the year 1911 from Pennsylvania were added to the collection *Pennsylvania, Birth Certificates, 1906–1911*. There are various forms of the PA birth certificate, but the data recorded on the forms consistently includes: “the child’s name, birth date, gender, legitimacy, multiple births; the father’s name, race, age, residence, birthplace, and occupation; and the mother’s name, maiden name, race, age, residence, birthplace, and occupation,” according to the updated collection summary on *Ancestry.com*.

The *New York State, Marriage Index, 1881–1967* is a collection for obtaining the marriage certificate number from the indices for ordering a copy of the original marriage certificates. Information offered through this index collection includes the given name up to six characters, the marriage date and place, and that helpful marriage certificate number. Using that number, researchers may go to the NY State Department of Health (www.health.ny.gov/vital_records) and from there order a copy of the original marriage record.

The additions to these two collections serve to remind us to systematically redo searches that had not produced results in the past, as new digital images are added throughout the year to many record groups.

RECORDS SPOTLIGHT: DEEDS

By David Egelston, NHG Member

A deed is used to transfer title to real property, i.e., land or other real estate, as opposed to personal property. Deeds are now required to be registered by the county in which the property is located, although this was not always so. Generally county offices have the jurisdiction for the recording of deeds, except for Connecticut, Vermont, and Rhode Island, which keep deeds in the town records (akin to townships in Pennsylvania). State law defines what information must be included in a deed, so the structure of a deed may differ from state to state.

The county deed books are the documents of record, not the deeds themselves. Be aware that the date the deed is recorded can be days, months, or years after the actual transaction took place (the date that the deed was signed). It is important to note both dates when abstracting deeds. Registered deeds appear in deed books chronologically in the order they were recorded, not when they were executed. Deed books are copies of the original documents, written or typed by the clerk. The signatures are not original. The original documents with the signatures were kept by the people buying and selling the property.

Why Are Deeds Important?

Deed books are among the first official records established when a county is formed. They are more complete and accurate than many other early records because the county officials needed to know who was going to pay the property taxes. People were required to establish ownership before any subsequent transfer of property. Deeds, along with early tax records, probate records, and church records (depending on the denomination), may be the only clues to a family’s whereabouts in colonial times.

Deeds typically include the seller (grantor), the buyer (grantee), where each resided at the time of

sale, a legal description of the property (including acreage), the sale price, and sometimes a history of property ownership. Often the description of the property lists the neighboring property owners, who could be relatives. In some places and time periods the first name of the spouse of the seller is also listed. A deed is sometimes called a warranty deed since the deed describes how the seller warrants the property to the buyer in case there are issues with liens or ownership later on.

Deeds can establish where a family resided and when they lived there. If the same person sold the land that he or she bought or inherited, one knows that the person was alive at the time of sale. On the other hand, if an heir sold the land, one knows otherwise.

Sometimes a deed took the place of a will or was used to distribute property in lieu of probate. These deeds of partition can be especially helpful to genealogists because they usually list by name and relationship the persons inheriting the divided land. A parent may have sold or given land to the children or to brothers or sisters. Brothers and sisters may all have signed a deed giving up, or “quitting”, their claim to property received from their parents. This quitclaim deed is intended to release any land or interest in favor of someone else, such as an heir who is thereby granted clear legal possession of the property in question. Quitclaim deeds are especially useful in tracing family lineage.

An example of a deed of partition comes from John Boggs. In 1776 John died intestate, leaving his widow Margaret and son Joseph to administer his estate in Nottingham Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.¹ In 1778 the family documented the distribution of John’s property in a pair of deeds, dividing the property into two parts and deeding it to sons Alexander and Joseph.² Each deed names all ten of John and Margaret’s children, their spouses, and where they lived as of 1778. No other document has been found that connects these people together.

County deed books sometimes contain information other than property transfers, especially early deed books. These might include transfers of other kinds of property (slaves or

livestock, for instance), mortgages, leases, settlement of debts, etc. Occasionally researchers find contracts recorded in deed books. These might include marriage contracts or agreements of sale. Deeds may refer to other documents such as wills, competency proceedings, or guardianships for minor children that contain other valuable genealogical information.

Patents

A patent represents the first sale of land by the government or government chartered agency to an individual. They are generally not recorded in county deed books. If your ancestor was an early resident of a public land records state, and you find that resident sold land but cannot find when the land was purchased in that county or a parent county, then that resident may have obtained that land through a patent. See www.FamilySearch.org/wiki/en/Land_Patent_Search.

Descriptions of Land (Survey Methods)

Land in the original thirteen colonies, plus Maine, Vermont, Tennessee, Kentucky, Texas, West Virginia, and Hawaii was initially controlled by the state governments. The land was surveyed using what is called “metes and bounds.” The deed would describe, based on a previous survey, a starting point for the property. In many cases this point would be a corner of someone else’s property, and would be described as, for example, “beginning at the stump of a white oak tree”. Using compass directions the deed would describe the distance and direction to the next corner of the property. This process was repeated until the description made its way around the entire boundary of the parcel, returning to the beginning point.

For those like me who enjoy using a protractor and straight edge, it is fun to plot those properties (the technical term is *platting*). For others, there is deed mapping software (see sources below). Platting is actually a serious genealogical exercise. By plotting your ancestors’ land and the landowners around them, you are finding friends and neighbors, for sure, and often relatives and in-laws. Many times these friends, neighbors, and relatives migrated elsewhere together, which helps you pin down their places of origin.

Thirty states are public land records states, in which the federal government surveyed and initially sold the land. In almost all these cases the land was surveyed and described as part of the Public Lands Survey System, which divided the land into sections based on a township and range grid using rectangular surveys measured from a standard meridian. A township consists of thirty-six numbered sections of one square mile each. The descriptions of land recorded in these deeds typically begin from a corner of a standard grid. See www.glorerecords.blm.gov/default.aspx. Platting these deeds is easier.

Finding Deeds

In Pennsylvania deeds are found in the Register of Deeds office in each county. Other states call the office something different, such as County Recorder or County Clerk. Be sure to first determine the county covering the land *at the time the deed was made*. That may be a different place from when the property was sold. My great-great-great-great-great-grandfather bought land in Connecticut and sold it in New York after the boundary between the two changed. If you are dealing with early deeds, it is more likely than not that county and township lines have changed. Visiting a county recorder's office is a great excuse for a field trip, but quite embarrassing if you show up in Greensburg, Westmoreland County, but need to be in Bedford! Fortunately, many counties have deed information online.

Start with the FamilySearch catalog (www.FamilySearch.org/search/catalog/search) to see what is digitized. Also do a general Internet search using a phrase such as "Allegheny County, PA, Deeds" to see what other sites, including official county sites, may have information.

If you go to the recorder's office in person, you will need to know what system is used to access deeds. Some counties use a simple indexing scheme; other counties have more complex indexes, such as the Russell Index used in Allegheny County. Rather than wasting research time trying to figure that out at the courthouse, it is better to know before you go what system you will be using and to familiarize yourself with it. See Christine Rose's book *Courthouse*

Indexes Illustrated describes the variety of indexes used. Sometimes you will be really lucky and all deeds will be on a computer in the courthouse office. Armstrong County uses this approach and it is the one of the best for accessibility and ease of use. Courthouse personnel are generally very helpful if you have questions and are polite, but of course you must do the research yourself. The office will have rules for copying documents. Expect to pay for copies. The price per page will vary by county.

Sources

For a general introduction to deeds, see the *FamilySearch Wiki* entry www.FamilySearch.org/wiki/en/United_States_Deeds. Also check the *FamilySearch Wiki* for each state and county of interest for general land records information.

For more detailed information about land in general and historical practices see the DeedMapper reference site at www.directlinesoftware.com/land_record_reference.

A good description of the Public Land Survey System is online at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_Land_Survey_System.

Reference Books

Hone, E. Wade, *Land & Property Research in the United States*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1997.

Rose, Christine. *Courthouse Indexes Illustrated*. San Jose, CA: C R Publications, 2006.

Deed Mapping Software

DeedMapper: www.directlinesoftware.com

Metes and Bounds: www.tabberer.com/sandyknoll/more/metesandbounds/metes.html

Notes

¹ "Chester County, PA, Estate Papers, 1714–1838," No. 3015, Ancestry.com.

² Chester County, PA, Deed Book, Volume V, pages 110 and 113.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

**Monday, 25 March 2019 10:30 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. The library's address is 227 South High Street, Zelenople, 16063. For more information, please visit www.zelenoplelibrary.org.

Wednesday, 27 March 2019 6:30 P.M.
CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB

Cranberry will welcome NHG's Rich Venezia. He will present "The Aliens are Coming: USCIS Record Sets." The meeting will be held in the Cranberry Public Library's Franklin Station Meeting Room. The meeting is free and open to the public. More information is available at www.cranberrygenealogy.org.

3-6 April 2019
NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL
GENEALOGICAL CONSORTIUM

The theme for this year's conference is *Family—A Link to the Past & a Bridge to the Future*. The conference will be held in Manchester, New Hampshire. More information is available at www.nergc.org/2019-conference.

5-6 April 2019
FAIRFAX GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

Registration is open for the Fairfax Genealogical Society's annual conference. The featured speakers will be Diahan Southard and J. Mark Lowe, CG. The event will be held at the Reston Sheraton in Reston, Virginia. More information is available at www.fxgs.org.

Tuesday, 9 April 2019 6:00 P.M.
CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC
LIBRARY

NHG Newsletter Co-Editor Susan Ennis will host a workshop focused on improving genealogical research skills. There will be a demonstration followed by hands-on practice using the library's resources. Please bring your

own laptop or tablet computer to use. The program is free, but registration is required. Please visit www.cranberrytownship.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=14401&month=2&year=2019&day=12&calType=0 to register.

Tuesday, 9 April 2019 7:00 P.M.
CORNERSTONE GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

Mark Fox will present "The History of Waynesburg's Baptist Church" during Cornerstone's next meeting. The program will be held at Cornerstone's facility in the First Greene County Courthouse Annex, 144 East Greene Street, Waynesburg, 15370. Please visit www.cornerstonegenealogy.com for more information.

Saturday, 13 April 2019 11:00 A.M.
FORT PITT MUSEUM

Author and historian Patrick Spero will discuss his new book, *Frontier Rebels: The Fight for Independence in the American West, 1765-1776*. Registration is required. For more information and to register, visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/frontier-rebellion-fight-independence-american-west.

Monday, 15 April 2019 1:00 P.M.
MT. LEBANON GENEALOGY
SOCIETY

Helen Shimek will talk about using DNA in genealogy research. She leads the Erie Society for Genealogical Research's DNA special interest group. The meeting will be held in one of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library's lower level conference rooms. The library's address is 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard, 15228. The meeting is free and open to the public. More information is available at www.mtlebanonlibrary.org/306/Genealogy-Society.

Saturday, 23 April 2019 10:00 A.M.
EVANS CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ancestry Library Edition is now available at the Evans City Public Library, 204 S. Jackson Street, Evans City. NHG Newsletter Co-Editor Susan Ennis will host a workshop that is set up to present a demonstration about genealogy

research followed by hands-on practice using the library's Ancestry database. Please bring your own laptop or tablet computer to use. Registration is recommended if you plan to attend. Call or email the library at 724-538-8695 or evanscity@bcfls.org to register.

Saturday, 27 April 2019 9:00 A.M.
MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG, will be the featured speaker at this year's MAGS conference. Topics will include German farm names, Hanoverian military records, understanding historical jurisdictions, and a case study. The conference will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton in Laurel, Maryland. Please visit www.magsgen.com for more information and to register.

Saturday, 27 April 2019 10:00 A.M.
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

The History Center and the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society are co-sponsoring an African American Genealogy Workshop. Shannon Christmas, Michael Williams, and Alona Carter will present lectures on basic genealogical research and how DNA can be used in research. For more information and to register, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/african-american-genealogy-workshop-2019.

1-4 May 2019
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Featured speakers will include David Rencher, Michael Lacopo, and Lisa Louise Cook. The early bird registration deadline is 29 March. The event will be held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Mason, Ohio. Please visit www.ogsconference.org for more information.

8-11 May 2019
NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The annual NGS conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri. The theme is *Journey of*

Discovery. Lecture tracks will focus on DNA, methodology, migration, records, and more. Registration for the conference is open. More information is online at <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org>.

Saturday, 18 May 2019 9:00 A.M.
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER

Registration is open for an Italian Genealogy Workshop. NHG's own past president Rich Venezia will present two lectures focused on Italian genealogy. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org/events/italian-genealogy-workshop-2019.

31 May-2 June 2019
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY JAMBOREE

Registration is open for the fiftieth annual Genealogy Jamboree. The event will feature more than 120 classes over the three days. It will be held at the Los Angeles Marriott in Burbank, California. For more information, please visit www.genealogyjamboree.com/jamboree-2019.

15-17 June 2019
INTERNATIONAL GERMAN GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

The theme for this year's conference is *Strike it Rich with Connections 2 Discoveries*. A preliminary schedule for the event is available, with tracks covering research, regions, DNA and technology, and history and culture. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Sacramento, California. Please visit www.iggpartner.org for more information.

22-23 June 2019
WESTMORELAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

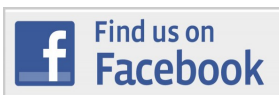
The annual Frontier Court Reenactment will feature militia encampments, eighteenth century skill demonstrations, court case reenactments, and kitchen garden talks. For more information, please visit www.westmorelandhistory.org/index.php/news-events/event-calendar/frontier-court-reenactments.



P.O. Box 169
Wexford, PA 15090

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material



UPCOMING NHG PROGRAMS

Tuesday, 19 March 2019 **Organizing Family Trees: *Reunion* and** ***RootsMagic* Genealogy Software as Tools**

Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, and Susan Ennis

Ever wonder if there is a better way to organize and work with your family history information? Want to share information with your family but are concerned about privacy? Using genealogy software to preserve your research is a great way to keep notes, add media, include citations, and produce a variety of reports. Our presenters will show you the inner workings of their favorite tools, demonstrating *Reunion* and *RootsMagic* while discussing their benefits.

Tuesday, 16 April 2019 **Semi-Annual Round Table**

NHG Members

Join us for an evening of sharing questions, answers,

and helpful hints among all attendees. This program is a combination of information, guidance, and cousin-finding for those attending. 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, 21 May 2019 **Photo Detective Roadshow**

Maureen Taylor

Have you ever wished that a photo detective could help you learn more about your pictures full of unknown people, or in a time frame you can't determine? Well, wish no more! The May meeting will be a live episode of "The Photo Detective." If you've watched *Antiques Roadshow*, then you know how this works—a virtual show and tell. This is a totally interactive event in which NHG members submit photos ahead of time and then meet virtually with Taylor, an internationally recognized expert on historic photograph identification, to learn about the specific clues she found.