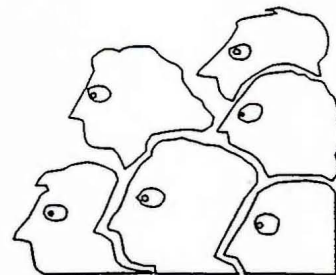




NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



c/o Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15237-5455

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President: Elissa Scalise Powell
Vice President/Programs: Jim Rickey
Treasurer/Editor: Maureen Durstein

Secretary: Maggie Sullivan
Budget/Computers: Steph Valentine
Publicity: Connie Foley

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Spring has sprung, the flowers have 'riz', I wonder where my ancestor is? If you share this sentiment, then check out the last two Saturday classes at WPGS. For details, see 'Where Genealogists Meet' column.

There were six of us who went to the Slippery Rock Heritage Association Workshop in March. Along with several interesting topics and speakers, they had a scrumptious lunch and door prizes were awarded. JoAnne and Bob Jarvis won research booklets of Nebraska donated by the Nebraska Genealogical Society and a corn-husk doll. A set of books entitled "Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research in Pennsylvania" donated by the Hoenstine Rental Library was won by Elissa Powell. Not a bad day!

As we look forward to summer, mark on your calendars the third Tuesday of each month for our meetings at Northland Library. We do meet right through the summer. In August we will start our third year of publishing the newsletter since our newsletter years run from August through June.

Our nominating committee of Robin Schooley, Verna Swint and Julia Tauson have come up with a slate of officers for the 1992-1993 year. Many thanks to our committee's fine work and to those of you who have volunteered your services: Jim Rickey, Steph Valentine, Cynthia Howerter, Tom Wiley. Anyone who has a desire to run for an office can still contact the nominating committee until May 11.

Happy Hunting, Lissa

BEGINNER'S CORNER

CENSUS SENSE
by Clifford Sayre

If you know the names of your grandparents and where they were born or raised the Federal Decennial Census (1790-1920) can be very helpful in "pushing the generations back". Start with 1910 and work back (1920 is available in some places now). Many, but not all, states are indexed for 1910. All states are indexed for 1920, 1900 and 1880... oops, what happened to 1890? Well, most of 1890 was destroyed and has been replaced by the results of a special veteran's census. The indexing scheme is called SOUNDINDEX which you can find explained in a chapter about the census in a genealogy book. There are printed indexes for each state in 1850, many states in 1860, and some in 1870.

The censuses for 1850 to current list all family members by name plus a variety of information about family members. The later the census (except 1890), the more kinds of information such as age, state where born, states where parents born, occupation, relationships, etc. Find a good book and read the details of what you can find. The rolls of census microfilm can be found in Family History Centers; many libraries have film for the local area or state including Carnegie Library which has all of Pennsylvania; local genealogical societies or history societies or other libraries have or can borrow the microfilms. The National Archives or Branch Archives also have the census as well as other useful Federal records on microfilm.

If you deal with an unindexed census you will need to know what county your ancestor was in and what township within the county, otherwise you may have to churn through the whole county. Remember to record some of the names of neighbors... they may be your cousins then, or later. Some (mis)spelling of names and nicknames have a bearing on how successful your search will be.

Pre-1850 censuses only list the Heads of Families with some kind of head count for age and sex of other family members. There are printed indexes for the pre-1850 censuses, usually by state. The Accelerated Index System (AIS) is an index on microfiche which covers the whole US or large groups of states up to about 1850. It is a good way to find an ancestor if you don't know where he was... if he wasn't named John SMITH or Frank BROWN.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

The Western PA Genealogical Society will have their next meeting on Thursday, May 14 at 8 PM on "Archival Preservation." Their June 11 meeting will be on "Genes and Genealogy." Both will be held at the Historical Society building at 4338 Bigelow Blvd. See Elissa Powell if you need a ride.

The Western PA Genealogical Society's Spring education series continues on Saturday, 25 Apr at 10 AM until 1 PM on Census, Church & Cemetery Records and on 2 May on Passenger Lists, Naturalizations, & Vital Records. Each class is \$8 unless you've already signed up for the whole series.

The Genealogical Society of Southwestern PA holds their meetings at Citizens Library, 55 South College St., Washington, PA from September through May on the second Sunday of the month at 2 PM. Their meetings are elsewhere in June and July with no meeting in August. Dues for their quarterly publication is \$7 if paid by 15 January, \$8 if paid after for that calendar year.

Beaver County Genealogical Society will have a Conference on 22 June 1992. For more information write to: Historical Research Center, Carnegie Free Library, Beaver Falls, PA 15010.

NEWS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

Following is an excerpt from the latest NEWS OF THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY, 35 North West Temple Street, Salt Lake City UT 84150 Vol 3, No. 3 Fall 1991

ANCESTRAL FILE UPDATE: The following items are responses to some of the most common Ancestral File questions:

SOURCES: We encourage but do not require you to include sources or footnotes when you send us genealogical information. We are planning to include source citations in future releases of Ancestral File.

ACCURACY: The latest edition of Ancestral File allows you to make corrections to information in the file. This may be done while you use the file, and requires you to give your name, address, and the source of your data. This process records information on a diskette that you send to the Ancestral File Operation Unit. Additional details are in Ancestral File screen messages, or in "Correcting Information in Ancestral File."

ACCESS: To help reduce the need for more computers, we are distributing more systems. As of September 1991, almost 1,400 systems have been sent to over 900 family history centers in the United States and Canada. In Salt Lake City, construction of the FamilySearch Center at the former Hotel Utah is on schedule for its 1993 opening. The center will feature 150 FamilySearch stations as well as compiled family histories on microfilm. The aim of the new center will be to provide patrons with the best sources for reviewing what has already been compiled on their family lines and to help them easily and quickly find that information.

DESCENDANCY CHARTS: You can now view up to five generations of a person's descendants in Ancestral File. You may print the chart, but downloading the information to diskette is not yet possible.

ANCESTRAL FILE CONTRIBUTIONS -- NEW HIGHS: Ancestral File continues to grow at an accelerating pace. The genealogical community has contributed family history information to Ancestral File on over "one million deceased persons in each of the past two months." We are very grateful for the trust and confidence this level of contribution represents.

BUILDING THE FILE: Ancestral File depends on the voluntary contributions of genealogists and genealogical organizations. We encourage everyone to contribute information by following the instructions in "Contributing Information to Ancestral File."

While most of the file will come from individuals and organizations not affiliated with the Family History Department or the Genealogical Society of Utah, we will continue to do our part. In addition to maintaining the file and manufacturing and distributing the database on compact disc, we are adding some of the more complex research work to the file.

Our Medieval Unit continues to add carefully verified names from pre - 1500 pedigrees and is considering adding more information from certain other sources. We encourage any who are considering contributing information from the pre - 1500 era to first contact the Medieval Families Unit here.

FAMILYSEARCH USER GROUPS: Many people wish to contribute to Ancestral File but face difficulties such as ---

- **No access to a computer or inability to use one.
- **Not enough time to complete research and data entry.
- **No access to Ancestral File - compatible software.
- **Not enough time to learn genealogical software.
- **Poorly organized records.

FamilySearch user groups could help overcome many of these barriers. Services they could provide include ---

- **Sharing computers and Ancestral File - compatible software.
- **Monthly meetings that offer problem - solving discussions or help members organize their research.
- **Encouraging youth groups, such as Boy or Girl Scouts, to help computerize records for people who cannot do it.

ANCESTRAL FILE COMPATIBLE SOFTWARE: Here is a complete list of Ancestral File - compatible software packages. Also included are the addresses of the companies who produce them. Please keep in mind that some of these software packages require you to use an additional utility program to prepare your information for contribution to Ancestral File.

***BROTHER'S KEEPER** Brother's Keeper, 6907 Childsdale Road, Rockford MI 49341 ***DIGSEN** Foreningen DIS, Arenprisivagen 111, S - 590 62 Linghem, Sweden

***EVERYONE'S FAMILY TREE** The Dollarhide Systems, Inc. 203 West Holly Street - M4, Bellingham WA 98225 Ph 206-671-3808

***FAMILY ROOTS(TM)** Quinsept, Inc., P.O. Box 216, Lexington MA 02173 617-641- 2930

***FAMILY TIES** Computer Services, 1050 East 800 South, Provo UT 84601 801-377- 2100

***FAMILY TREE MAKER (TM) EXCHANGE UTILITY** Banner Blue Software Inc., P.O. Box 7865, Fremont CA 94537 415-794-6850

***FAMILY TREE PRINT UTILITY** Common Sense Software, 2068 Trailwood Drive, Cincinnati OH 45230 513-841-7099

***GENERATION GAP** Flying Pigs Software, P.O. Box 688, St. George UT 84771 801- 628-5713

***GRIOT ALTERNATIVE** Thierry Pertuy, 28 Ave. France - Lanord, Villers - les - Nancy 54600, France 338-328-7207

***PERSONAL ANCESTRAL FILE(R)** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter - day Saints, Ancestral File Operations, 50 East North Temple Street, Salt Lake City UT 84150 801-240-2585

***ROOTS III(TM) COMMSOFT**, Inc., 2257 Old Middlefield, Mountain View CA 94043 415-967-1900

***SESAME(TM) COMMSOFT**, Inc., 2257 Old Middlefield, Mountain View CA 94043

FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

by Clifford Sayre

Some of the most useful locations for doing genealogical research are the libraries sponsored by the Mormons, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS). The main library, Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City (SLC) has many books and records for family research. In addition, many books and records have been placed on microfilm or microfiche. The book "The Library", edited by Johni Cerny & Wendy Elliott, published by Ancestry, SLC, 1988 (ISBN 0-916489-21-3) gives an excellent and detailed description of the FHL and how to use the resources.

Many LDS Churches have Family History Centers (FHCs) for their members (and others) to do genealogical research. Some of the FHCs are very small with only a couple of fiche/film readers. Other FHCs have books and files, permanent selections of films & fiche and perhaps a dozen film/fiche readers plus photocopy machines for the films/fiche. Patrons can order films and fiche (but not books) from the FHL. The FHLC, Family History Library Catalog, is also on fiche, a copy at each FHC. The FHCs are staffed by volunteers, so that the amount of assistance that they can give varies greatly depending on the facility and the amount of training or background that they have. Some FHCs give courses in introductory genealogy or how to use the FHL/FHC facilities.

Some of the FHCs have computers that have additional research sources called "Family Search" on CD-ROMs: the International Genealogical Index (IGI), FHLC, Ancestral File, Social Security Death Index (SSDI). The IGI is an index of birth and marriage data about ancestors of church members and data extracted from vital records (VRs), marriage and birth records. The Ancestral File is linked family data, primarily from church members, although the FHL is soliciting additional input.

There is a modest charge for renting microfilms and microfiche from the FHL at SLC. There is no charge for using the FHC facilities (other than copying charges).

1920 ALLEGHENY COUNTY CENSUS AVAILABLE

The McKeesport Heritage Center, which has census data for all of Allegheny County including the 1920 Census, is open to the public Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and by appointment. Phone 678-1832. Microfilm machine users must pay the \$12 fee to become members.

BUTLER COUNTY LIBRARY

courtesy of Dina Barkley

The Butler County Library in Butler is just a few blocks from the courthouse. It has a Genealogy room and is open Monday through Thursday 9 AM to 9 PM and Friday and Saturday from 9 AM to 5 PM. On Monday and Tuesday they open at 8:30 AM.

Their collection includes:

Four county histories: 1883 surname index; 1895 biographical & surname index; 1909 every name index; 1927 every name index.

Five volumes of cemetery books with surname indexes. Also, a list of ones not in the cemetery books.

Family histories.

Census for 1790 to 1910, Indexes 1790 to 1870.

Newspapers: (some dates & periods are missing; some obituaries and marriages indexed) Butler Citizen 1876-1919; Butler County Record 1888-1890; Butler County Whig 1846-1851; Butler Sentinel 1826-1830; Butler Times 1907-1912; Democratic Herald 1883-1894; Millerstown Herald 1883-1889; Oilman's Journal 1872-1878; Butler Eagle 1870-1991.

File folders of families someone has done or donated. Full set of the Pennsylvania Archives.

In addition they have material on the following counties: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Clarion, Clearfield, Cumberland, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lehigh, Mercer, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Somerset, Venango, Washington, Westmoreland, York.

They have material on the following States, either histories or International Genealogical Indexes (IGI) from the Family History Department in Salt Lake City: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

They also have either records or IGI on the following countries: Channel Islands, Ireland, Canada, Kobenhavn (Denmark), Durham (England), Huntington (Eng), Northumberland (Eng), Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, France, Italy, U.S.S.R., Germany.

PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGISTS

The address for the organization that certifies professional genealogist is:

BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF GENEALOGISTS

POST OFFICE BOX 19165

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036-0165

The Board for Certification of Genealogists was founded in June 1964 for the purpose of formulating standards of professional genealogical research, establishing a register of persons who are qualified to do such work, and providing to libraries, archival institutions, societies and individuals lists of those who have passed the required examination and have been certified by the Board. The Board is incorporated in the District of Columbia.

At the present time researchers are divided into six classifications: Certified Genealogical Record Searchers, Certified American Lineage Specialists, Certified American Indian Lineage Specialists, Certified Genealogists, Certified Genealogical Lecturers and Certified Genealogical Instructors. Applicants for certification are accepted not only from the United States and Canada but from all areas of the world. Certification is granted upon the presentation of evidence of expertise in the specific category of certification. Those desiring to undertake research only in the United States may select up to four states (in addition to their state of residence) under which they wish to be listed. Anyone living at a distance from an area designated must, however, satisfy the Board as to the accessibility of such records to him or her (and in instances where the accessible records are microform copies, must also show an awareness and understanding of other pertinent records not available in microcopy).

A Certified Genealogical Record Searcher (C.G.R.S.) is one who searches original and published records, has an understanding of all sources of a genealogical nature relating to the areas in which he works, and provides detailed information concerning the contents of the records examined, but is not certified to construct a pedigree or to prepare a family history.

A Certified American Lineage Specialist (C.A.L.S.) is one who prepares a single line of descent and is competent to determine the authenticity of evidence and acceptability of original source material and compiled printed material. "American" in this category is not limited in meaning to the United States.

A Certified American Indian Lineage Specialist (C.A.I.L.S.) is one who shows competence in work in the specific records (such as tribal records, etc.) dealing with this category. "American" is not limited in meaning to the United States.

A Certified Genealogist (C.G.) is one who not only conducts research among primary sources and studies secondary works but also works to solve genealogical problems and constructs genealogies of families based upon his investigations of the sources and careful analysis of the evidence.

A Certified Genealogical Lecturer (G.C.L.) is one who lectures on specific genealogical topics. Requirements for certification in this category include the requirements for C.G.R.S. certification.

A Certified Genealogical Instructor (C.G.I.) is one who provides instruction in all aspects of genealogical research techniques and sources. Requirements for certification in this category include the requirements for C.G. certification. A person desiring certification fills out a preliminary application stating that he is applying for certification, designating the category in which he intends to apply, with a check or money order for \$10.00 payable to the Board for Certification of Genealogists. Upon the receipt of the preliminary application, a pamphlet listing the requirements in all categories will be provided. After reviewing these requirements, the applicant may amend the original tentative selection of a category without further notification to the Board.

The formal application for certification with submission of information fulfilling the requirements for the category selected must be returned to the Board for judging within three years of the date of the preliminary application to prevent forfeiture of the preliminary fee.

The formal application asks for general information about the applicant's education, genealogical research experience and training in the field of genealogy, as well as detailed information about the genealogical work of the applicant, types of records used, and the places in which the applicant conducts his research. To demonstrate his ability and knowledge the applicant submits copies of reports made to clients and other examples of research. (Those who do not intend to engage in professional work may substitute evidence relating to the investigation of problems in lieu of client reports, but in such cases, if certified, will not be listed on the Board's Roster as willing to accept clients.)

A C.G.R.S. is expected to demonstrate ability to prepare full, properly documented abstracts of records. A C.A.L.S. is expected to submit examples of lineages prepared for others for membership in hereditary lineage societies with copies of the documentation cited therein. A C.G. is expected to submit a fully documented account of three generations of the descendants of a couple in all branches (which, if concerning the family of the applicant or an immediate relative, will relate to generations about which the applicant could have no personal knowledge). C.G.L. and C.G.I. are expect-

ed to submit tape recordings or lectures as well as outlines so that ability to communicate as well as knowledge of the subject can be judged.

The remaining fee (\$75.00 for C.G.R.S.; \$100.00 for C.A.L.S., C.A.I.L.S. and C.G.L.; \$125 for C.G. and C.G.I.) should be included with the formal application and is NOT refundable.

The formal application and enclosed examples of work are carefully examined by at least three judges selected by the Board. The judges are themselves all certified by this Board and are expert in many areas of genealogical research. Each application is examined by one or more Certified Genealogists. Other judges may be certified in the category applied for or be familiar with the geographical area represented by the application. The identity of the judges is kept secret in order to insure full and impartial consideration of the applicant's work and no judge is informed of the evaluation made by any other judge.

In cases where it is necessary for a judge to ask additional questions or to request submission of more detailed examples of genealogical work, the Board's office handles the correspondence. In most instance, however, the applicant should expect that the information submitted initially will be the full information upon which each judge bases his decision. Care should be taken to insure that the materials submitted reflect fully the applicant's abilities. Succinct but thorough presentations are encouraged; excessively bulky submissions may indicate to the judges a lack of selectivity of judgment on the part of the applicant, while too brief submissions may not afford the judges sufficient evidence of competence.

Successful applicants in each category are entitled to place the initials designating that category (C.G.R.S., C.A.L.S., C.A.I.L.S., C.G., C.G.L., C.G.I.) after their names and to use the appropriate insignia on business cards and stationery. Use of the insignia and appropriate initials is limited to the period of time for which certification is granted by the Board. The use of the insignia in advertisements and publications is not permitted, although the initials designating the appropriate category of certification may be used in both.

Certification is granted for a five year period only and must be renewed with submission of information relating to continuing activities in the genealogical field. This requirement is essential to insure that each person certified by the Board continues to do work meeting the Board's standards of acceptability.

RELATIONSHIPS

By Richard Pence

The most important book I read in college was the smallest: "How to Lie With Statistics." (Part of my course in Logic.)

There was a provocative discussion of theoretical ancestry in a rather lengthy and irreverent article on genealogy in "The New Yorker" several summers back. It included an interesting thesis which I hope I can state clearly: At some given moment the number of ancestors a person could have will exceed the total population of the time. From that point backward, there are not enough people to sustain normal concepts of ancestry (e.g., that each child has two parents)!

For argument's sake (and trusting my quick calculations to be accurate), a given person would have more than 500 million ancestors after 29 generations. Let's assume an average generation span of about 30 years. That puts the time frame for 29 generations back at about 1100 A.D. My trusty "World Almanac" says that the estimated population of the entire world was only 510 million in 1650 A.D. So some time between 1100 A.D. and 1650 A.D., the normal "inverted pyramid" of our ancestor charts flipped over to become a "regular right-side-up-pyramid" - there were fewer potential ancestors than there were places for them on the ancestor charts! At that time, then, we all had common ancestors!

Now then, this means that each of us HAS to be related AT LEAST as close as 27th cousin. (I will understand, however, if you disavow this and refuse to admit any relationship to me! [I reserve the same right].)

I have another thought along these same lines. I read in the newspaper not long ago that half of the people in the U.S. today could trace their ancestry to someone who came through Ellis Island. I also read much earlier, in a genealogical publication, that half of the people in the U.S. could trace their ancestry to at least one of the early settlers of Colonial New England. Since two halves obviously make a whole, that would cover everybody! (See, sometimes even complex problems have simple solutions.)

Remember - I started out by telling you I know how to lie with statistics.

<And for goodness sake, don't anyone take any of this seriously!>

The next NHG Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7, 1992 at 7:30 p.m. in Meeting Room 2 at Northland Public Library. PLEASE come and give us your ideas!

BOOK REVIEW:

MARYLAND & VIRGINIA COLONIALS

By Jack Sanders

Researchers with colonial roots in Maryland or Virginia should be lucky enough to be descended from one of the families researched by Sharon J. Doliente, whose 1,313 page tome, "Maryland and Virginia Colonials: Genealogies of Some Colonial Families" has just been issued by Genealogical Publishing Company.

This is no skimpy collection of sterile data. The major families are traced from the colonial antecedents right down to descendants born in the 1980s. Over 23,000 people are cataloged here, probably from every state in the Union + and indexed, not only by name, but by place.

The material included in the book is extensive. Complete wills, estate inventories, texts of significant deeds, indentures, grants, newspaper articles, and other interesting sources are there, along with the usual vitals, sources, and bibliography (where does someone find the time to do such painstaking and extensive research?). The book is also illustrated with more than 150 photos people and paintings, some coats of arms, pages from Bible records, family antiques, houses, and other interesting items.

Major surnames covered are: Bacon, Beall, Beasley, Cheney, Duckett, Dunbar, Ellyson, Elmore, Graves, Heydon, Howard, Jacob, Morris, Nuthall, Odell, Pearce, Reeder, Ridgley, Prather, Sprigg, Wesson, Williams, and uncountable collateral kin.

The book is very readable and is not without a sense of humor, too. For example, in a discussion of the offspring of Robert Beasley (ca. 1736-1791), the author notes that "not one, but two of their children were called Easley -- ghastly, with Beasley!" (Actually, one son was Robert Easley Beasley and the other, just plain Easley Beasley!) A driving force for Ms. Doliente was straightening out mistakes and myths in previously published material on some of these families. "I had the compelling urge to correct the often serious errors which have crept into various family histories over the years," she says in her introduction. But she also wanted "to share the data and to inform and entertain descendants who know little or nothing of these ancestors. And I hoped to spare them the enormous amount of research necessary in compiling their family history, as well as the incredible amount of time and money which are equally necessary."

And her incredible research and expenditure of time and money makes the seemingly steep \$87.50 price of this clothbound volume a bargain for anyone descended from one of these families, or for anyone otherwise interested in these founding families of the South. Copies will no doubt be available in good libraries in the South, and genealogical li-

baries anywhere, but may also be ordered from Genealogical Publishing Company, 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md., 21202-3897 (1-800-727-6687) at \$87.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

The NHG field trip to the Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, is full. Members who still wish to sign up are encouraged to do so as a waiting list is available. These members will be first on the list for the LDS field trip this fall, before sign-up is available to other members.

A tentative date for the Western Reserve Library in Cleveland, Ohio, is scheduled for Saturday, June 27. Look for further information in the May Newsletter.

MILITARY RECORDS

For those folks who are attempting to research ancestors that they believe served in the United States military should write to:

National Archives & Records Administration (NNIR)
7th & Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20408

and ask for at least two copies of the form NATF-80.

These forms are to request a records search for military or pension records. Fill one out for military records and the other for pension records. Then send these off to the address they direct you to. After weeks or months they will notify you if they did or did not find your ancestor. If they did, you can get each applicable file for \$10 each.

RICHLAND U.S.A.

The Richland Civic Club's reprint of "Richland U.S.A." is off the press and available for \$8 a copy.

The original book was written by John McKeekin and his committee in 1951 and updated once before. Eula and Elsie Poff were members of the committees for the second and third editions.

The book spans the years from 1785 to the present, chronicling growth of the township with interesting facts and pictures.

For information, call (412) 443-3928.

BOOK REVIEW:

ADDRESS BOOK FOR GERMANIC GENEALOGY

by Jack Sanders

It wouldn't surprise me if someone said that half the population of the United States has German ancestors. The waves of German immigrants that started in the 1680s and continued well into the early part of this century brought more than 6 million people to our shores, settling in such widely disparate places as New England, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Texas, and the upper Middle West. No wonder, then, that there is so much interest in German genealogy.

Many books have been published to help the roots-seeking German descendant, but few are as manifoldly handy as Ernest Thode's "Address Book for Germanic Genealogy," which just came out in its fourth edition. Anyone seriously researching German ancestry needs this book.

The 8-by-11 inch volume offers more than 200 pages of addresses, including nearly 200 North American genealogical societies and organizations, 56 archives here and 777 in Germanic countries, 175 German-American religious organizations, 112 German-American genealogical booksellers or importers, two dozen German language newspapers in North America, 64 map sources, nearly 300 foreign archives, sources of ship records, almost 400 religious archives in Germanic countries, 279 family societies and history societies in Germanic regions, European genealogical publishers, national and regional libraries, and over 250 professional genealogists here and in Europe specializing in German research.

The book also provides some simple maps of the German Empire and of German postal codes, and -- a real treat -- sample letters in German to mail to church parishes and civil registration offices, and even an "all purpose" form letter. There are also useful phrases for employing in form letters, such as "Ich habe Ihren Namen von einem Telefonverzeichnis bekommen" (I got your name from a phone book) and "Ich heiße auch NOLD. Sind wir vielleicht miteinander verwandt?" (I am also named NOLD. Are we perhaps related?)

If there's a shortcoming to the book, it is perhaps a lack of sources for some European German communities outside Germany. For example, I would have liked to have seen more sources for Germans in Slovakia -- such as the Zipsers who settled northern areas as early as the 1100s. Dr. Duncan B. Gardiner, an expert researcher in this area, author of "German Towns in Slovakia and Upper Hungary," and like Mr. Thode a resident of Ohio, is not mentioned in the book, although he is a noted researcher and available for hire. Sources for other parts of Czechoslovakia are more numerous and the book also notes the existence of the

Czechoslovak Genealogical Society in Minnesota, which has been for me one of the most helpful sources for research into Germans in Slovakia.

However, unlike some other address-list books that don't tell you where to write to add or update addresses, "Address Book for Germanic Genealogy" not only gives Mr. Thode's address, but urges you to send contributions of addresses. Such a technique encourages the most comprehensive and up-to-date data in future editions. And thus, if I think there are shortcomings, I can – and should -- contribute to their elimination.

This invaluable, 218-page paperback should be available soon in bookstores, from genealogical societies, in better libraries, or directly from Genealogical Publishing Company, Dept. SM, 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md., 21202 (1-800-727-6687). The price by mail is \$24.95 plus \$2.50 postage and handling.

SPOTLIGHT JACOB HODIL, REDEMPTIONER

by Ronald Hodill NHG #91027

To become a laborer at a religious sect was not in Johann Jacob Hodel's remotest dreams when he departed the German Rhineland. That he would be living and working for three years at a most popular inn located in the Delaware River valley he could never have imagined. These are the two main conditions met by my 3gr grandfather Jacob Hodil (1772-1859) when he came to America. On Nov. 10, 1793 Strassburger and Hinke¹ record he arrived in Philadelphia on the ship 'Peggy.' He was immediately recruited as a redemptioned servant.

I discover this with help of the Pennsylvania Historical Society archivist Ellen Slack. In Philadelphia their Registry of Redemptioners, Vol. 1, page 129, reports the following:

(Nov.13, 1793) "Jacob Hodel bound himself Servant to the above (Frederic Boller), by him Assigned to Serve Abraham Leweing Same Place (Bethlehem) three years, to have Customary freedoms. Lbs. 23.18.6"

With a little imagination and dogged determination I researched a connection between my Jacob and the Moravians. This was an attempt in my effort to find-out what my

1. Strassburger and Hinke, Pennsylvania German Pioneers, (Pennsylvania German Society) 1934 Vol 3, p.61.

ancestor did between arriving in Philadelphia and buying land in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania a period from 1793 to 1805. I find this connection in the indentured servant labor practice common at that part of American history. I drew a connection between the Abraham Leweing listed in the Redemptioner Register and Abraham Levering of the Moravian Brethren of Bethlehem, PA.² It is from study about the Moravians then visits to Bethlehem, PA where I uncover the news that Abraham Levering was the innkeeper of Sun Inn and very probably the same person who's mentioned in the Registry as my Jacob's 'master.' What discouraging feeling I get picturing my flesh and blood antecessor having a master other than the IRS!

Frederic Boller of whom my ancestor was initially 'bound' was an acquaintance of Abraham Levering.³ This lawyer of firm Boller Jordan may have been one of the dealers or 'soul-drivers' specializing in marketing of servants.⁴ This market existed because of explosive demand of the American labor market at that time. Demand for labor was high and few servants available. Slaves were too costly. By comparison slaves would cost nearly two to four times the cost of a servant.⁵ Workers from Germany were arriving by the boat load because of this imbalance. Many were inspired by William Penn himself who visited Germany advertising and in search for settlers for his colony. Special recruiters also earned revenues by arranging for shipment of prospective servants. These recruiters found sources of income by gathering boatloads of eager to emigrate Germans. These Germans were dissatisfied with economic affairs of their homeland.

Redemptive laborer means obtaining boat passage paying nothing at departure with agreement with the shipping company to work-off cost of passage after arriving in USA. Indentured servants are those who negotiated an arrangement before leaving. These then were already obligated or indentured to serve-out their debt with personal labor. Sometimes they knew for whom or where this might

2. Gretha Goodwin, Moravian Innkeepers at the Sun Inn Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, pub by author 1982, p.19.

3. Goodwin, 1982.

4. Karl Frederick Geiser, Ph.D., Redemptioner and Indentured servants in Colony and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, (New Haven: Tuttle, Morehouse & Taylor Co. 1902), p 54.

5. Herrick, Chesman, White Servitude in Pennsylvania: Indentured and Redemptioner Labor in State and Commonwealth, (Greenwood Co. 1970 repr.of 1926 ed.), p. 204.

occur before departure. Both groups of course traveled together. In this way immigrants could avoid dismal economic futures and achieve in long run prosperity, religious privilege, political preference and social equality.¹ These results did not come about easily of course.

Redemptioners and indentured met with much toil and hardship. Living conditions on board these passenger vessels were harsh. Death was a common visitor. This passage from Gottlieb Mittleberger tells about this peril when the system was at its worst. He arrived in the year 1750. By the time my Jacob had arrived conditions were much improved, but, this vivid account gives a story worth retelling.

"When after the long and difficult voyage, the ships finally approach land, when one gets to see the headlands for which sight of which the people on board had longed so passionately, then everyone crawls from below in order to see the land from afar. And people cry for joy, pray, and sign praises to God. The glimpse of land revives the passengers, especially those who are half-dead of illness. Their spirits however weak they had become triumph and rejoice within them. Such people are now willing to bear all ills patiently, if only they can disembark soon and step on land.

But alas! Alas! When the ships finally arrive in Philadelphia after their long voyage, only those are let off who can pay for their sea freight or can give good security. The others, who lack the money to pay, have to remain on board until they are purchased, and until their purchasers can thus pry them loose from the ships. The sick in this whole process are the worst off, for the healthy and preferred are more readily paid for. The miserable people who are ill must often remain at sea in sight of their city for another two to three weeks—which in many cases causes death. Yet many of them, were they able to pay their debts and to leave the ships at once, might escape with their lives...Everyday Englishmen, Dutchmen and High-German people come from Philadelphia and other place, some from very far away, sometimes 20, 30, 40 hours journey and go on board the newly arrived vessel that has brought people from Europe, and offers them for sale. From among the healthy they pick-out those suitable for their purposes for which they require them. Then they negotiate with them as to length of the period for which they will go into service in order to pay off their passage, the whole amount of which they generally still owe."²

1. Herrick, p. 284

2. Mittleberger, Gottlieb, Journey to Pennsylvania, (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard Univ. Press 1960). edited by Handlin & Clive. pp 16, 17.

Family members would be separated and sold into service never to be heard from again. It is a system now realized as a kind of white-servitude. The affairs of these boatloads of immigrants had been far worse earlier in the eighteenth century. By year 1793 when my ancestor Jacob traveled I pray he did not have to face these hardships.

A large number of German-Americans are descendants from ancestors who achieved entry into the New World in this manner. Most often redemptioners agreed to take-on this debt for passenger fare costs without hesitation because they saw it as an advantage since they had little capital of their own. This enabled them to overcome problems associated with resettling and starting over again in a new country. More often these redemptioners were full of hope and ambition for prosperity. They were ready to forge ahead for whatever the future held for them.³

My ancestor Jacob Hodil was one of these. November, 1796 he had completed his servant contract. Moving west he was one of the first white settlers in Allegheny County.⁴ By year 1805 he owned 114 acres of land in what is now Fox Chapel Borough. Total of 453 acres he owned by year 1829 which now lie in resented day Indiana Township. He and wife Susanna (BAER) Hodil raised six sons and two daughters: Mary married DOLLAN, George married Martha GRUBBS, Samuel married Margaret GRUBBS, Jacob Jr. married Susan STROHM, Frederick married Rhoda MOORE, Henry married Ann O'Neil, Susanna married James GRUBBS, and Philip married Rachel GRUBBS from whom I am descended. These details we derived from will and property deeds of Jacob Hodil on file at the City County Building. From use of the International Genealogical Index (IGI) of the Latter Day Saints Church, I deduce Jacob came from the family of Johann George and Mari Susanna (DI-ETZ) Hodel of the Protestant Reformed Church in Erpolzheim, Rhein-Pfalz state, Germany. A brother Frederick, who followed Jacob to America is also listed there.

From combinations of data off of US Census and Frederick Hodil's Will from the Allegheny City-County Building I determine brother Frederick arrived before year 1836 with wife and family. Brother Frederick and his second wife Maria Eva KOCH had these children: Philip Jacob, Jacob Philip who married Anni MEYER, Christina who married John George PRAGER, Elizabeth who married William McMASTERS. Frederick's family settled around Harmarville, PA.

3. Herrick, p. 284

4. Cushing, Thomas, ed. History of ALlegheny County. (Chicag: W. Warner, 1989), p 154.

The Sun Inn established in 1758¹ is a whole story in itself. The Moravians operated this Inn in Bethlehem, PA which hosted a significant array of impressive historical persons from American history. Its guests included George Washington, John Hancock, the Marquis de Lafayette, Ethan Allen and John Adams who called it "the best inn I ever saw."² This building is fully restored by the Sun Inn Preservation Assoc. It is a masterpiece of restoration work displaying the eighteenth century ways. This includes tours showing living conditions, living quarters, and other facets of daily life. Restaurant is first class. Meals of gourmet caliber are served which recreate some dishes from the menu of the early Moravians of two hundred years ago.

That my ancestor Jacob lived or worked around this very building gives this Hodill of the twentieth century a thrill. Visiting the Sun Inn with all its beautiful period settings from early Americana is a trip in a time machine for me. I enjoy a kind of 'living genealogy' at the Sun Inn. The opportunity to enter into a room possibly the same one where my ancestor may have walked, gives me a moving experience.

1. Levering, Joseph Mortimer, History of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, (Bethlehem: Times Publishing Co. 1903), p 360.

2. Levering, p 360

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Tuesday, May 19th, 1992 at 7:00 pm Northland Library, Topic: History of the North Hills.

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