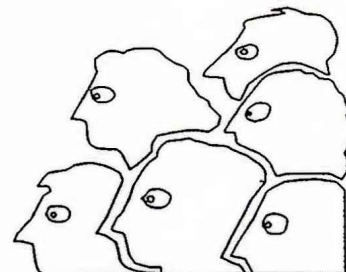




NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



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

Volume 2 - Number 10 - June 1992

President / Editor: Elissa Scalise Powell

Treasurer: Maureen Durstein

Publicity: Connie Foley

Vice President: James G. Rickey

Secretary: Margaret Sullivan

Budget/Computers: Steph Valentine

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After two years of serving as your president, this will be my last official message to you. But you will still hear my ideas as I have taken over the editorship of this newsletter. It seems a long time ago that Julia Tauson called me and said there was an organizational meeting at Connie Foley's house. The previous president, Ruth Grom wanted to formalize the group that had been meeting at Northland library for the previous several years. Jim Rickey and Maureen Durstein immediately jumped in as Vice-President and Treasurer, respectively. I figured being president couldn't be that hard, so raised my hand for that one. I have never regretted it. It has been very rewarding.

Thanks for all the support I have received, especially from Jim who provided such wonderful programs (and will continue to do so) and for our masthead and countless phone calls for field trips. Many thanks to Maureen for all her long hours of work on the newsletter, on our treasurer's books, on the surname database and on our membership lists, labels and nametags. And thanks to her husband Rick for his help in getting the newsletter looking so good. We always get such nice comments about it. Thanks to our support team of Maggie Sullivan, Ruth Grom, Connie Foley, Julia Tauson, Robin Schooley and Steph Valentine. You all contributed your ideas and helped to get things done. Special thanks to Connie who was instrumental in getting the Beginner's Packet pushed through and for the posters she placed in the library each month. Thanks also to Steph, our computer guru who showed us the way to PAF. Thanks to Robin who wrote our Readers Corner column and headed up the display case committee last year.

Congratulations are in order for our new officers:

Jim Rickey - President

Tom Wiley - Vice-President

Steph Valentine - Treasurer

Cynthia Howerter - Secretary

I would like to quote from one ballot that was submitted: "We are fortunate to have these dedicated people who are willing to give so much of their time to leading this society. Thank you."

I hope you all have enjoyed being a part of our society and remember it's never too late to turn in your newsletter surveys from last month. Our fiscal year runs from August 1 to July 31, but since we don't produce a July newsletter, **MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE NOW!** See our inside last page for the news on a special reduced (time-critical) rate!

Though we don't produce a newsletter in July, we do continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Check out "Where Genealogists Meet" for our summer schedule.

Again thanks for being supportive of your society in the past and I know you will enjoy the future meetings and newsletters just as much! I hope you find that elusive ancestor or meet some really great cousins at a family reunion. I'm heading out to Ohio in July for my maternal grandmother's mother's Hartman reunion. (Of course I did up the genealogy book and can't wait to pass it out!)

Happy Hunting, Lissa

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance, August 1991:		\$133.22
77 Memberships	\$924.00	
Donation Cans	108.10	
Beginner's Packet	255.00	
1990-91 Newsletters	39.00	
Cash received		\$1,326.10
Photocopying	\$372.52	
Postage	202.48	
Subscription *	28.00	
Speaker Compensation	75.00	
Book Donations **	113.00	
Miscellaneous ***	24.81	
Total expenses		\$815.81
Cash in bank, June 4, 1992		\$643.51

* Federation of Genealogical Societies

** Given to Northland Library. \$149.80 plus postage is the total retail value. See list in May 1992 issue of newsletter.

*** Bank Service Charge, Check Order, Parking

WHERE GENEALOGIST MEET

North Hills Genealogists:

July 21, 1992, 7 pm at Northland Library. We are looking into having a speaker from the Zelienople Historical Society. We will confirm this through our bulletin board advertising in the lower level of the library. We will also have a 'how-to research' videotape playing before and after the meeting in room #2.

August 5, 1992, 7:30 pm, Northland Library meeting room 1. Board Meeting. All are welcome.

August 18, 1992, 7 pm, Northland Library. Our speaker will be Mary Wohleber who is knowledgeable on Troy Hill, Deutschtown and Allegheny City.

August 15 - 31: We will have a display in Northland Library's lower level showcases. Please call Elissa Powell (935-6961) if you can lend items to be displayed or can help with making an attractive arrangement.

September 21, 1992, 7 pm, Northland Library. Shirley Iscrupe of Southwest Pennsylvania Genealogical Services in Laughlintown, PA will speak and bring her many fine books for sale.

October 20, 1992, 7 pm, Northland Library. Pat Power will speak on Irish Research.

The *Beaver County Genealogical Society* is planning a Heritage Quest Road Show on **Monday, 22 June** at 6:30 pm at the Alexander Hall, Geneva College, Beaver Falls, PA 15010. Managing Editor of Heritage Quest, Leland Meitzler will speak and books will be sold. They will also have refreshments, prizes, etc. \$5 at the door. Contact Elissa Powell (935-6961) for more info.

PENNSYLVANIA LAND RECORDS

The following is taken from a brochure pulished by the Bureau of Land Records:

The Bureau of Land Records has existed continuously since 1682, when created by William Penn. It is the Land Office of the Commonwealth, containing documents relating to State boundaries; the original records of lands granted by William Penn and the Commonwealth, and the deeds for presently owned Commonwealth lands.

The most frequently requested documents are those related to land transactions; warrants, surveys and patents. The Bureau also prepares Warrantee Township Tract Maps for each township in each county...Nineteen counties have been completed. These maps locate each original land conveyance from William Penn or the Commonwealth, with identifying information for Warrant, Survey and Patent.

Some of the documents available...

1. Application. A request for a warrant to have a survey made.
2. Warrant. The authority to survey a tract of land.
3. Survey. A sketch of a tract of land surveyed pursuant to the issuance of a warrant.
4. Resurvey. The physical act of retracing the original survey for purposes of determining boundaries or content of a tract of land.
5. Patent. The official documents passing title to land out of the Commonwealth.
6. Search. Investigating and correlating the request to the many thousands of records on file in the department.
7. Connected Draft. A group of tracts lying contiguous to each other.
8. Warrantee Township Map. (See above)
9. Donation Lands. Lands in the western part of the Commonwealth given to members of the Pennsylvania Line... as payment for service in the Revolutionary War.
10. Depreciation Lands. Certificates issued to troops of Pennsylvania entitling them to purchase land in the western part of the Commonwealth because of the depreciation of their salary due to inflation.
11. The Lien Docket. A list of the names of warranttees...who did not pursue their warrants by paying the initial purchase price... title still remains in the Commonwealth.
12. East Side Applications. Application for land on the east side of the Susquehanna.
13. West Side Applications. Application for land on the west side of the Susquehanna.

NOTE: The Bureau of Land Records now falls under the Bureau of Realty Transfer Tax., Pennsylvania Dept. of Revenue, 6th floor, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg, PA 17125. Phone is (717) 783-8104.

Other Contacts from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone Directory, July 1991:

History and Museum Commission, Box 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17108-1026. For information, call (717) 787-3362.

Bureau of Archives and History: general information: (717) 783-3281

Division of History, Reference Library: (717) 783-9898

Division of Archives and Manuscripts: Reference: (717) 783-2669; Search Room: (717) 787-2701; Land Office: (717) 783-9884

BOOK REVIEW: COMPUTER GENEALOGY

by Jack Sanders on Internet

Little has done more to revolutionize the art and science of genealogy than the personal computer. These small machines have made it possible to compile, organize and publish huge amounts of information with relatively little effort, cutting drudgery and leaving us time to pursue research. They can help us write letters to sources, scan through millions of pieces of data for information, and churn out in minutes charts and tables that would have taken the esteemed Donald Lines Jacobus weeks to prepare.

But despite the spread of the PC to millions of American homes in the past decade, many people still do not know the power and utility of this sometimes imposing tool. Thus, a book like "Computer Genealogy," just published in a second edition by Ancestry Inc. and edited by Richard A. Pence, is a much needed guide for those groping their way into the world of computers and genealogy.

The first edition of Computer Genealogy came out in 1985, only four years after IBM introduced the now-venerable PC. Since then countless changes have been made in computers and computing -- it is a fact of publishing life that any book about the world of computers has a short publishing life span, simply because of the rapidity of change within the field. But this edition is about as up-to-date as possible -- with information reflecting technology and prices true just this summer.

Nearly a third of the book, which has a dozen authors under editor Pence, is devoted to introducing the reader to the world of computers. It begins with a basic discussion of the computer, aimed at those who may be buying a computer -- or using it for the first time -- for genealogy. It's also interesting fare for experienced computerists who haven't really thought about how the inside "works." The authors run through the features of MS-DOS machines, Macintoshes, and other types of computers, and offer a chapter on how to pick one for your genealogical -- and other -- use. Essential general-use software is also described.

The book starts moving into the realm of genealogy when it addresses telecommunications, explaining modems and the world of sources that they open to the genealogist. There's a lot of essential information there, but I had hoped for more about the world of private bulletin boards -- those that carry these messages -- and perhaps even a list of the major genealogy boards. Apparently because so many bulletin boards come and go over the years, the book sticks to details on the big commercial services, such as Prodigy, CompuServe, and GEnie, and mentions others in passing.

Assuming you have and know how to run a computer, genealogy software is the next big step. Here the book guides the reader through features offered by most programs (and some special to a few) and even provides a handy chart to use in doing your own evaluation of different products.

If the book has a weakness, it is in covering software. The appendix provides fairly detailed descriptions, even illustrations, of several commercial packages (PAF, Roots III, Everyone's Family Tree, and Family Roots). However, splendid shareware packages such as Brother's Keeper, Family Tree Journal, Family Ties, Family Edge, and Family History System are given only passing mention. Many of these programs represent the biggest bargains in genealogy, and deserve more coverage. Perhaps the editor felt that since shareware can be tried out free, and commercial programs can't, readers have a greater need for information on the commercial programs. However, many people don't have the time to find and try out the dozen or so shareware programs available, and would have found more coverage of shareware of benefit.

The same is true of the increasing number of accessory programs that programmers have been turning out in shareware and freeware. It would have been nice to see a list of these, along with brief descriptions of what they do.

"Computer Genealogy" goes on to offer suggestions on how to computerize your data and to use databases to do research. There's also an excellent chapter on compiling your information into a family history, and some of the commercial programs and equipment to help you do this. There's even a chapter that warns that computers do little to assure scholarship -- that honest, accurate and well-cited data is still the job of the human researcher.

The book is extensively backed with notes on sources of books and software, and contains a full index and handy glossary.

No better introduction to the world of computer genealogy can be found, and everyone -- even experienced computer users and veteran computer genealogists -- can learn new techniques from its chapters.

The 258-page paperback is available from Ancestry at Box 476, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84110, and probably from better bookstores. Price is \$12.95 (plus \$2.50 shipping and handling). Try calling 1-800-531-1790, Ancestry's order number, for information.

LAWS OF GENEALOGY: The real find of a day of research always appears just before closing time, when copy services are no longer available.

GLEANINGS FROM OTHER NEWSLETTERS

From "Jots From the Point", June 1992 issue of the WPGS newsletter:

Help Still Needed. The Publications Committee still needs volunteers with IBM compatible computers and a Word Perfect program to enter information from photocopies. We will provide the copies and disks. This is a good way for out-of-town members to participate. Locally, we need people to read microfilm and people willing to enter the information on IBM compatible computers. We will supply that program. No computer? Maybe you can proofread! You will find good information in the books which will be formed from the above organization of material. The more who help, the sooner the books will be available. If you are interested, contact G. Jean Gregord, C.G.R.S., 123 Keifer Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15241-1335.

[Ed. Note: There's no reason the North Hills Genealogists can't volunteer some help - you don't have to be a WPGS member to give some time!]

From "Mahoning Meanderings", June 1992 issue of the Mahoning County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society:

Computers. In response to our article in last month's MEANDERINGS about buying a computer ... we received the following from DeWayne McCarty:

"I would like to comment on the advice in your 'Computers' article. I have worked in the computer field for 25 years and have some expertise.

Currently the prices of microprocessors are dropping very rapidly. ... In my opinion, the purchase of a computer with a 286 microprocessor should be a last resort. The 286 microprocessor is now considered the low end of the line and is being phased out of production of the newer computers. The 386 and 486 families are in most all new computers. The 586 family will be introduced soon. In general the only 286 machines on the market are those being closed out. Purchase price of a 286 should be less than \$1,000. You can now purchase a 386 machine for around \$1,200 - \$1,500.

Another item that should be considered, if there are any plans to run Windows program on a computer, a 386 system with a minimum of 4 meg (million bytes) of RAM [random access memory] and 60 to 80 meg (million bytes) of hard disk storage. Most Windows programs will require 3 to 13 meg of hard disk space. For instance, MS Word or WordPerfect for Windows, require about 13 meg of hard disk space. These Windows programs are all graphics based, very powerful, and very productive."

CALCULATING DATES

by Roland Roy on Internet

It is generally well known that the "standard" calendar year of 365 days differs from the "solar" year by an amount that makes it necessary to insert extra days occasionally (as a 29th day in the month of February) to get back in synch with the sun. The "modern" rule for determining leap years has been used in English speaking countries since 1752. (It was used even earlier than that in other enlightened areas of the world...in fact the new calendar is called a "Gregorian" calendar after Pope Gregory XIII who requested that Catholic countries begin using it in 1582.)

This rule may be stated as follows: A given year will be a leap year if it is evenly divisible by 4 UNLESS the year ends in "00" in which case it is NOT a leap year UNLESS it is divisible by 400 in which case it IS a leap year. Prior to the establishment of this leap rule, most of the Western world employed a rule which was just the first line in the above statement, that is every fourth year was a leap year. The effect of using this simplified rule over a long period of time was that the planting season, which is determined by the sun, would creep a calendar day earlier every 133 years or so. By the Spring of 1752 people were having to plant their potatoes the day after Groundhog Day instead of Valentine Day. Therefore to correct the situation all English subjects were asked to go to bed the evening of 02 SEP 1752, get up the next morning on 14 SEP 1752, and from that day forward use the new leap year rule for constructing calendars.

Today this calendar change is just a curiosity for most of us, but to people of that day and genealogists today who have to deal with dates both before and after this adjustment it is a problem which has been recognised by labeling dates based upon the old leap rule as "old style" dates and designating those following the new rule as "new style" dates. Another distinction between some old and new style dates: Prior to the implementation of the new leap rule, the first day of the new year was considered variously as Jan 1, Mar 1 and Mar 25 (e.g. according to some, 25 MAR 1645 was the day after 24 MAR 1644). This left some ambiguity concerning the year for such dates as: 11 FEB 1732 OS. Therefore the custom was developed of using "double dating" to take note of the fact that this discrepancy had been considered. The above date might then be written: 11 FEB 1731/2 OS. For example, suppose it is known that a person was born on Saturday, 30 JAN 1691 OS, but it is not known which new year rule was in effect. 30 JAN 1691 OS is a Friday but 30 JAN 1692 OS is a Saturday. Therefore the correct double-dating would be: 30 JAN 1691/2 OS and the person who originally recorded the date was apparently using something other than JAN 1 as the date for the beginning of the new year.

SOCIETIES SURVEY

In last month's issue we asked you to send us the names of the Genealogical Societies and periodicals to which you subscribe. This sprang from a coincidence that your President and Vice-President just happen to be interested in Monmouth County, NJ and shared information back and forth, finding it very beneficial. So please submit your society names and a way to contact you to our address at Northland Library. If you see something here of interest, contact the submitter and make arrangements to get together!

Ron Hodill, 15 Orchard St., Apt. 2, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.
Phone: (201) 680-4958
Palatines to America, Columbus, OH
Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Pittsburgh
The German Research Association, San Diego, CA

Karen S. Boyer, 106 Idaway Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15237
Illiana Genealogy Association, Danville, Illinois

Maureen Durstein, 1846 Concord Dr, Pittsburgh, PA 15101
Irish Family History Society, published in Ireland

Jim Rickey, 404 Nelson Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15214
Anne Arundel (MD) Genealogical Society, Pasadena, MD
Snyder County (PA) Historical Society, Middleburg, PA
Prince George's County Genealogical Society, Bowie, MD
Monmouth County Historical Association, Freehold, NJ
Centre County Genealogical Society, State College, PA
Genealogical Society of Southwestern PA, Washington, PA

Elissa Powell, (412) 935-6961
National Genealogical Society, Arlington, VA
Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, Pittsburgh
Ohio Genealogical Society, Mansfield, OH
Medina County, Ohio Genealogical Society, Medina, OH
Mahoning County Chapter of OGS, Canfield, OH
Summit County, Ohio Genealogical Society, Akron, OH
Palatines to America, PA Chapter, Strasburg, PA
Palatines to America, OH Chapter, Columbus, OH
Mercer County, PA Genealogical Society, Sharon, PA
Erie County, PA Genealogical Society, Erie, PA
Southwest PA Genealogical Society, Washington, PA
"Genealogical Helper" by Everton Publishing
"National Queries Forum", Santa Cruz, CA
"Heritage Quest", Orting, WA
"Ancestry Newsletter" by Ancestry, Salt Lake City, UT
"Genealogical Computing" by Ancestry, Salt Lake City, UT
"P.O.I.N.T.ers", (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together)
"Powell Paths", Cottage Grove, OR

QUAKER DATES

by Tom Lincoln on Internet

You are probably familiar with the change from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar in 1752/53. (See accompanying article.) Because of the Quaker custom of not using standard names for months there is some modern confusion when referring to pre-1752 Quaker records. The following table should be of assistance.

OLD STYLE (Before 1753 the year began in March.)	QUAKER	NEW STYLE (After 1 Jan 1753)
March	1st Month	January
April	2nd Month	February
May	3rd Month	March
June	4th Month	April
July	5th Month	May
August	6th Month	June
September	7th Month	July
October	8th Month	August
November	9th Month	September
December	10th Month	October
January	11th Month	November
February	12th Month	December

So using the above the Quaker date 11,7,1689 would be September 11, 1689 Old Style or 11 Sep 1689, O.S.

EDITORS NOTE: It is always best in genealogy to write your dates as DD MMM YYYY. It provides the least confusion.

NEW JERSEY VITAL RECORDS

by Sherri Chasin Calvo on Internet

Many reports we are hearing say that New Jersey will not processed requests for birth and death records for genealogical purposes. One possible way around this is a service called VITAL CHECK. The phone number is (609) 633-2860 and they take Visa and Master Card. Be prepared to give the exact information that you would like searched, including maiden name of mother of the subject. Another approach is to order the microfilms through the LDS Family History Library.

ILLINOIS SOURCES

For published histories and genealogies, D.A.R. records, cemetery records, newspapers on microfilm, and obituaries contact: Illinois State Historical Library

Old State Capitol
Springfield, Illinois 62701

Phone is (217) 782-4830

ON MY BOOKSHELF

Members are invited to send in a catalog of their genealogy library for publication in the newsletter. If you see something of interest, please contact the owner.

Following is Jim Rickey's bookshelf:

Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives, pub. by National Archives Trust Fund Board, 1985

Abstracts of Land Records, Anne Arundel Co., Md., 1662-1703, pub. by Anne Arundel Genealogical Society

The Land Records of Prince George's Co., Md., 1710-1717, by Elise Greenup Jourdan, pub. by Family Line Publications

Index to the Probate Records of Prince George's Co., Md., 1696-1900, pub. by Prince George's Co. Genealogical Society, 1988

A Bibliography of Published Genealogical Source Records, Prince George's Co., Md., pub. by Prince George's Co. Genealogical Society, 1986

The Cemeteries of Penn Township, Centre Co., Pa., pub. by Centre Co. Genealogical Society, 1988

Atlas of Union & Snyder Counties, Pa., 1868 (reprint- 1975)

Unpuzzling Your Past, A Basic Guide to Genealogy, by Emily Anne Croom, 1989, pub. by Betterway Publications

Guide to Family History Sources in the New Jersey State Archives, pub. by Division of Archives and Records Management, N.J. Dept. of State, 1990

Maryland and Virginia Colonials, Genealogies of Some Colonial Families, by Sharon J. Doliente, 1991, pub. by Genealogical Publishing Co.

Listing of Inhabitants in 1779, York Co., Pa., 1983, by William Iscrupe, pub. by Southwest Pa. Genealogical Services

A Genealogical Research Guide for England, 1983, pub. by Genealogical Dept. of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

A Genealogical Research Guide for Ireland, 1984, op. cit.

LAWS OF GENEALOGY

The availability of information is inversely proportional to the cost of copying it.

Information Source	Copy Cost	Availability of books
Genealogical Soc.	\$0.25	Instant (open stacks)
State Library	.20	5 mins. for clerk to bring
Public Library	.10	30 mins. for clerk to bring
Drugstore	.05	None

DEAD ENDS

The origin of the term "living room" has its beginning in the early part of this century. The room used to be called the parlor/parlour, and it was the room reserved for "laying out" a person after they died. This was back in the days when such things were handled by the family (hence the term funeral parlor, when death started to be handled by those outside the family). The editors of the Ladies Home Journal Magazine, ca. 1910, thought that the word parlor conjured up images of death, and refused to publish any stories or articles that mentioned the word. They suggested that the term living room be used instead, (the opposite of "death room").

In many larger Victorian homes, you will find a small nook built into hallways and staircases where there seems not to be any need for one. These are called "coffin nooks" and they were put there specifically to allow a coffin to be carried up/down stairs and hallways without getting into major problems (such as having to stand it up on end - very undignified). After the 1940's or so, you normally found a telephone sitting on a desk in them.

In North America especially, it was a booming business for the local photographer to take pictures of the deceased. These pictures were required for the families back in the old country. There was often a need to prove that an individual had indeed died. The photograph was also a way to bring the coffin back "home".

Mortuary cards might also have a picture of the deceased when s/he was alive along with a poem or Bible passage and his or her vital statistics. These often would be kept by family members as a remembrance, especially as an aid in praying for the dearly departed.

One hundred and ten years ago, Jesse James (1847 - 1882), the cold-blooded killer, who robbed banks and trains, was shot in the head by a member of his own gang who wanted the reward; the gun had been a gift from Jesse to the killer. He is buried in Mt. Oliver Cemetery, Kearney, Missouri.

For more information about death customs and post-mortem photographs, check your bookstore for:

"Sleeping Beauty: Memorial Photography in America" edited by Stanley Burns, published by Twelve Trees Press.

For more information on where the famous are buried, see "Dead Ends: An Irreverent Field Guide to the Graves of the Famous" by David Cross & Robert Bent, published by Plume, a division of Penguin books, 1991.

Fourteenth Census Of The United States (1920 Census)

State _____ County _____ Township or other Division of County _____ Surname: _____
 Enumeration Date _____ Roll _____ Sheet _____ Dist. _____ Soundex: _____

Line	PLACE OF ABODE				NAME of each person whose place of abode on January 1, 1920 was in this family. Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Include every person living on January 1, 1920. Omit children born since January 1, 1920.	RELATION Relationship of the person to the head of the family.	TENURE		PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				CITIZENSHIP			EDUCATION		
	Street, Ave., Road, etc.	House number city or town	Number of dwelling house	Number of family			Owned or rented	Owned free or mortgaged	Sex	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Whether single married, widowed, or divorced	Year of immigration to U.S.	Naturalized or Alien	Year of Naturalization	Attended school any time since Sept. 1, 1919	Whether able to read	Whether able to write
1																		
2																		
3																		
4																		
5																		
6																		
7																		
8																		

Line	NATIVITY AND MOTHER TONGUE Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States, give the state or territory. If of foreign birth, give the place of birth and, in addition, the mother tongue.						Whether able to speak English	OCCUPATION		Employer, salary or wage worker or working on own account	Number of farm schedule
	Person		Father		Mother			Trade or profession of, or particular kind of work done by person, as spinner, salesman, laborer, etc.	General nature of industry, business, or establishment in which person works, as cotton mill, dry goods store, farm, etc.		
	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue					
1											
2											
3											
4											
5											
6											
7											
8											

Regional Collections

The library of the Western Reserve Historical Society is the largest American history research center in northern Ohio. Its holdings consist of 233,000 books; 25,000 volumes of newspapers; 27,500 rolls of microfilm; 150,000 prints and photographs; and more than 3,000 collections of manuscripts and archives which comprise more than five million items. The library is the principal repository for histories, records, and papers relating to the growth and development of Cleveland and that portion of northeastern Ohio once known as the Western Reserve of Connecticut.

One of the library's principal strengths is its manuscript collections which touch upon every aspect of Ohio's history. Specifically, these collections relate to architecture, education, charity and social welfare, farming, immigration, law, politics, and transportation. Among the individuals represented here are abolitionists, ministers, lawyers and jurists, industrialists, journalists, and political leaders, including three Ohio governors, six United States Senators, seven United States Representatives, and two Ohio-born presidents, James A. Garfield and William McKinley.

Since 1965, the library has developed a number of programs which recognize important aspects of this community's history and which have as their objective the preservation of scholarly research materials generated by individuals and organizations. These include the following:

Black History Archives — focusing on the contributions of blacks in all fields of endeavor dating back to 1796.

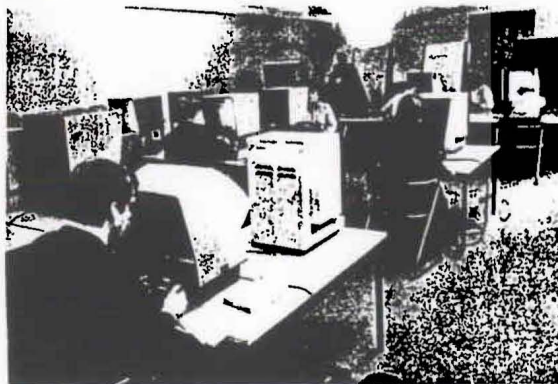
Ethnic Archives — including the immigration experiences of the more than eighty ethnic groups represented in the Greater Cleveland area.

Jewish History Archives — focusing on the history of this community since 1839.

Ohio Labor History Archives — emphasizing the role of unions in the development of the state, and undertaken in cooperation with other Ohio archival institutions.

Urban Archives — encompassing civic affairs, cultural activities, religion and business.

Microform Room



Genealogy Collections

The Society was one of the first institutions in America to formally express an interest in genealogy. Its sphere of interest extends from New England to Georgia and west to the Mississippi River; however, major sources for other states are collected. Among the library's genealogical holdings are the following:

Family Histories — more than fifteen thousand genealogies in book, pamphlet, and manuscript form, and numerous publications of family associations.

Federal Records — all available federal census schedules on microfilm from 1790 to 1900, and the 1910 census for Ohio and Pennsylvania; the 1880 Soundex for all states; the 1900 Soundex for Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, and West Virginia; the 1910 Miracode for Ohio and West Virginia; passenger lists for New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Baltimore.

Compiled Records — Massachusetts Vital Records, Torrey's New England Marriages prior to 1700, Corbin Collection of New England records, Charles R. Hale's Connecticut State Vital Records, genealogical notices from the Boston Transcript 1896-1941, Pennsylvania State Archives, Henry Baldwin's collection of Ohio and Pennsylvania genealogical data, and the Lyman C. Draper Collection.



Reading Room

Indexes — International Genealogical Index (IGI), American Genealogical-Biographical Index, Periodical Source Index, Filby's Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, Indiana Biographical Index, Barbour Index to Connecticut records, Ohio Surname Index to county histories, and Cleveland Necrology File 1850-1975.

Military Records — Revolutionary War Pension Application and Bounty Land Files and the index to War of 1812 pension applications on microfilm, Revolutionary War and War of 1812 rosters for most states, numerous Civil War state rosters and regimental histories, rosters of Ohio soldiers in the Spanish-American War and World War I, and compiled records of more than 50,000 World War I veterans in Cuyahoga County.



Rare Book Room

Special Collections

The library holds many special collections originally amassed by trustees and friends of the Society. Foremost among these are the Wallace Hugh Cathcart Collection of Shaker Literature and Manuscripts, the largest in existence covering the nineteen Shaker communities in the northeastern United States and including a membership file of more than 16,000 Shakers; the William Pendleton Palmer Civil War Collection, including books, manuscripts, official records, and photographs concerning Union and Confederate forces; the Charles Candee Baldwin Collection of Maps and Atlases, with special emphasis on North America; and the David Z. Norton Napoleon Collection.

In addition, the library holds extensive collections relating to American almanacs, the anti-slavery movement, costumes, early photographic media, Ohio imprints, numismatics and philately, political campaigns, travel and exploration of North America, United States Presidents, and a complete set of manuscripts of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence.

As a charter member (1970) of the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers, the library is the repository for non-current local government records of historical research value for seven counties.

The auto/aviation collection is one of the largest in the country. It consists of books, shop manuals, sales literature, periodicals, photographs and other sources useful to historians as well as individuals interested in restoring historic vehicles.

Reference Aids

The library maintains several card catalogs to facilitate access to its collections. In addition to the Main Catalog, there are separate catalogs for genealogies, local histories, newspapers, maps and atlases, periodicals, and manuscripts. More than five hundred finding aids to individual manuscript collections are available. Several separate guides have been published by the Society: *A Guide to Manuscripts and Archives* (1972), *A Guide to Shaker Manuscripts* (1974), *A Guide to Jewish History Sources* (1983), and *A Guide to Major Manuscript Collections Acquired Since 1970* (1987).

WESTERN RESERVE LIBRARY

CENSUS FACTS AND FUNNIES

The 1920 Census is a bit different than the others. The Soundex is done differently as well. Single entries (people who live alone or were enumerated with another family) have blue soundex cards. These cards are not easy to read sometimes but very easy to spot. The families are done on white cards as before. If the person immigrated, then the year of naturalization is given. Some entries give the actual town and language they spoke, not the country. But one can find the country by the language.

The census taker knocked on the door of a backwoods shack. An old-timer came out, asking what he wanted. "The president has sent us across the country to find out how many people live in the United States."

"I'm sorry you came all the way out here to ask me," said the hillbilly, "Cause I ain't got the faintest idea."

An 1850 census enumerator in rural Ohio had completed most of his territory and among the large farm families there were two families who had twin children, and they were dutifully identified on his report. Then came a dilemma ... a family with three children born on the same day. The poor enumerator was apparently unfamiliar with the word 'triplets'. He had to show his entry of three children of the same age was not an error, so what to do? Somehow, one can sense his feeling of accomplishment with the solution because he followed his entry with a big exclamation point: "Three Twins!"

A census page that was photocopied and found on the Allen County Public Library's genealogy bulletin board:

In the age column, the census taker had made a footnote entry, "The old bag wouldn't answer."

LAST NEWSLETTER

Since our fiscal year runs from August 1 to July 31 of the next year, your membership subscription dues are now due. The board has voted to allow for a discounted rate of \$10 for dues paid before August 1. It will be \$12 after August 1. Please send your check made out to 'North Hills Genealogists' to our address at Northland library. This will be your last newsletter for this fiscal year.

Benefits of membership:

- > 10 great newsletters per year (no July nor December)
- > Free queries
- > Only members and their spouses can go on field trips
- > Free, limited research help
- > Ability to get good speakers for our meetings
- > Ability to donate books to the Northland Library for everyone's use.
- > "FORUM" quarterly publication from Federation of Genealogical Societies (If you haven't received yours yet [Winter 1991/Spring 1992 Double issue], please contact Elissa Powell.) Look for our name on the back page under 'New FGS Member Societies'.

WESTERN RESERVE LIBRARY, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Our last field trip of this fiscal year is on Saturday, June 27, 1992 to the Western Reserve Library. Jim Rickey will be calling those who signed up in order to make car-pool arrangements. If you find that you are unable to make it, please do let us know. We should leave this area by 7 AM in order to be there at 9:30 AM. Drivers can get a map from Jim or Elissa. We can make a convoy, if that would be desirable. Lunch is brown bag in their lounge or you can go out. Dinner will be in a restaurant on the way back, after the library closes at 5 PM. It is a good time to share your successes and failures of the day!



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS 1992 - 1993 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please make check payable to North Hills Genealogists. Before July 31, 1992 = \$10. After August 1, 1992 = \$12

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

QUERY or COMMENT? _____

PRESERVATION TIPS

Presented at the Western PA Genealogical Society's May meeting was the topic of preservation of papers and photos. Below are a few tips that came out:

DO NOT USE:

Staples, pins, tape or glue

Magnetic albums

Polyvinyl Chloride type plastics - the chloride eats the paper

Rubber bands

Pen

Glassine envelopes

Bright lights (natural or artificial)

DO NOT STORE in car trunk or glove-box.

DO USE:

Mylar encapsulation by taking two pieces of mylar larger than the paper and placing double sided tape around the edges to make a closed container. Leave a small part

untaped for 'breathing'.

Mylar dust covers for bibles so that the leather doesn't rub off in your hands.

Photocopy newspaper clippings onto acid-free paper. The way to preserve whole newspapers is to microfilm them.

Keep paper in a constant temperature and humidity and in the dark away from other acidic items.

Label photos with acid-free paper place in the same folder with the photo.

Use albums that have acid-free paper cut with slits for the four corners of the photos.

Place photos in an acidfree folder in an acidfree vertical box.

Place items in paper boxes on metal shelves.

Keep negatives in a different building or safe-deposit box than the photos.

NEXT MEETINGS: TUESDAY, JULY 21 & TUESDAY, AUGUST 18 at NORTHLAND; DUES DUE!

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

c/o Northland Public Library

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237-5455