



NHG CONFERENCE & PROJECT DETAILS

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

Written by Sue Ennis, Editor

Plans are underway to host the second Fall Conference of the North Hills Genealogists on Saturday, 24 October 2009. Consider joining a committee to be a part of this event next fall!

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, is the featured speaker for the 2009 Fall Conference. Paula is a nationally known speaker and author and has been an avid genealogist since 1977. Her presentations are educational and interesting, and she enjoys discussing genealogy.

The format for the 2009 Fall Conference will be similar to the last one. Attendees will participate in group lectures and discussions led by expert genealogical speakers and researchers. A continental breakfast and a hot lunch will again be part of the workshop experience.

Volunteers are needed to assist with the planning and organizing of the 2009 NHG Fall Conference. Committees are forming to work on speakers, programs, publicity, food, registration, and location details. Please contact any member of the NHG Board in order to volunteer to help.

Another important NHG project for 2009 is to resume work on our fourth cemetery book. Amy Prager and Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, are co-chairs of this cemetery committee. This NHG cemetery project concentrates on reading and preserving information from the cemeteries in Fox Chapel and Indiana Townships, found in

This most recent NHG cemetery project began last spring when the Dorseyville, Pine Creek, Strohm, and Walter Chapel Cemeteries were visited. NHG volunteers also visited Lakewood, and read stones at Blue Run, McCorkle, Mason/Robinson-Reed, Quinette, and Lefever Cemeteries. To date, five cemeteries have been read and recorded.

This spring six additional cemeteries in the Indiana Township and Fox Chapel areas will be read to preserve the information. Amy and Elissa will be setting up dates for volunteers to meet and read cemeteries throughout the spring and summer. If you would like to help with this project, please send an e-mail stating your interest to Amy Prager at Cemetery@NorthHillsGenealogists.org. You will receive e-mail notification of upcoming dates and times for the cemetery readings.

FEBRUARY 2009	What's Inside
NHG 2009 Fall Conference	51
NHG Cemetery Project	51
NHG - Who We Are	52
President's Corner	52-53
NHG Program Descriptions	53-54
Where Genealogists Meet	55-56
Conferences and Seminars	56
Library of Congress News	57
WPGS Spring Seminar	58
Genealogy Classes from WPGS	59
Upcoming NHG Programs	60

NHG BOARD MEMBERS 2008-2009

President:	Dave Williams
Vice - President:	Al Hartman
Treasurer:	Reed Powell
Secretary:	Kathy White
Past President:	Maureen Durstein
Membership:	Amy Arner
Publicity:	Gary Schlemmer
Book Marketing:	Elissa Powell, CG
Cemetery Chairs:	Amy Prager Elissa Powell, CG
Programs Chair:	Mary Dzurichko
Newsletter Editor:	Sue Ennis

For information:

INFO@NorthHillsGenealogists.org

WHO WE ARE NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

We are a group of genealogy enthusiasts who meet on a regular basis to assist one another in establishing our family histories. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month, except December, at the Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Road, McCandless Township in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, PA. Tip Time begins at 6:45 P.M., and our general meeting commences at 7:00 P.M. Meetings are free and open to the public.

We publish a newsletter ten times a year for a nominal membership fee of \$15.00 annually. The subscription year runs from August to June, but anyone wishing to join the North Hills Genealogists mid-year will receive back issues of the newsletter for that membership year. Previous years' newsletters are also available for purchase, each containing helpful hints for beginners and for experienced genealogists.

The North Hills Genealogists Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Conference Room of the Northland Public Library. The Board meeting is open to all members of the North Hills Genealogists organization. Consider joining us this year!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In last month's newsletter I mentioned a rural neighborhood called Wales in Erie County, PA. This is the area where my Williams family ancestors settled when they came to this country in the 1830s, and I committed to elaborating on this in the future. While realizing that the bulk of the NHG readership resides in southwestern Pennsylvania, this is a story that undoubtedly could be put together about many early communities. Besides, there are a number of ties that unite all western Pennsylvanians. Think Steelers!

The neighborhood encompasses portions of four townships in eastern Erie County, roughly encompassing the four corners area of Greene, Greenfield, Harborcreek and Venango Townships. Two creeks help define the area. The headwaters of Sixmile Creek (alternately spelled Six-Mile and Six Mile) are in Greene Township and flow northward into Lake Erie. The southern border of the area is somewhat loosely defined as French Creek, which flows southward to join the Allegheny River at Franklin, PA. Thus, it is a watershed area, draining water that can end up in the northern Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico.

The families that settled this area came primarily from the country of Wales, thus giving the settlement its ethnic name. These immigrants bore surnames such as Davis, Evans, Morgan, and Owen and those of my own ancestors – Williams and Jones. Since the Williams and Jones families ended up in Greene Township, I tend to think of that as the heart of the neighborhood of Wales. As mentioned in a previous column, Greene Township was originally known Beaverdam Township. It was renamed in late 1840 in honor of the Revolutionary War hero General Nathaniel Greene. Researchers must be careful in checking such things as deeds and tax records (and the 1840 Census) to look under Beaverdam.

(continued on page 53)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(continued from page 52)

The Post Office for this region was known as Boscobel, which is believed to come from the Italian phrase "bosco bella" meaning "in the midst of fair woods". This happened to be the name of a mansion, which played a role in English history. While fleeing for his life near the end of the English Civil War, King Charles II is said to have hidden in an oak tree on the grounds of Boscobel House. How the name got transferred to a post office in Erie County has never been determined. The structure is still standing, although not in use.

The Wales Presbyterian Church, now known as the East Greene Presbyterian Church, was founded in 1849. The original handwritten records of the organizational meeting and subsequent church sessions are still kept in the Church office. Some of the sessions were held entirely in the Welsh language. The Welsh Cemetery, a separately chartered entity, is a large cemetery located to the north and west of the church. Fittingly enough, they are both located on Wales Road.

My Williams and Jones relatives settled in farms strung out along a valley formed by the above-mentioned Sixmile Creek. Some of the structures from those farms are still in place, such as the barn of my distant uncle's mentioned in January's column. They provide a very satisfying link to my family's past. Knowing the history of the community of your ancestors can provide a "feel" for them, which can be invaluable.

~ Dave

DATES FOR 2009 NHG MEETINGS

Tuesday, 17 March 2009

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

Tuesday, 19 May 2009

Tuesday, 16 June 2009

Tuesday, 21 July 2009

www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

NHG UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Tuesday, 17 February 2009

DATING PHOTOGRAPHS

Mary Dzurichko, NHG programs chair, will present a program about dating photographs, providing guidance and resources to assist you in your efforts. If you have a photo that has you stumped, please bring it to the February NHG Meeting, and we will try to help with as many as time permits. If possible, bring the photo in an electronic format, CD or thumb drive, so that it is easily viewed by all who attend the meeting. Mary is a member of NHG, WPGS, and the Mercer County Genealogical Society and has been involved with family research for eight years. Her father was a photographer, so she is archiving the thousands of photos and negatives found in his darkroom.

Tuesday, 17 March 2009

HOW TO USE THE FAMILYSEARCH WEB SITE

The March meeting of the NHG will feature Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, offering an overview of the tools and methods for most effectively using the FamilySearch web site. This site is a family history web site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, which provides its resources free of charge to the public. Come and learn what genealogical treasures can be discovered for your family research.

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

GERMAN GENEALOGY, PART 1

NHG member Ed Heinlein will conduct the first of two interactive classes, which will focus on Germany's history and geography. We will learn of its relevance to those with German ancestors and those whose ancestors may have traveled through Germany and emigrated from its ports. As a retired German teacher, Ed brings a wealth of knowledge and dynamic teaching skills, promising an interesting and enriching program.

February 2009

Vol. 19 - No. 6: Page 53

NHG UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Tuesday, 19 May 2009

GERMAN GENEALOGY, PART 2

Ed Heinlein, NHG member, will present his second interactive class, this one dealing with Germany's language and how it is used in genealogical research. German is often found on official documents, and this class should benefit those with ancestors from throughout Europe. Ed will provide research aids at this program, as well as introducing techniques for solving linguistic problems and helpful for any language barrier in genealogical research.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

18 FEBRUARY 2009 7:00 P.M.
BEAVER COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The monthly meeting of the Beaver County Genealogical Society is Wednesday, 18 February 2009 at the Mormon Family History Center, 114 Church Drive, Monaca, PA. This month's topic is "Veteran Reserve Corps of the Civil War" presented by re-enactor Rob Wehr. Everyone with an interest in genealogy or history is welcome! Each meeting is conducted as a workshop. For more information about the Beaver County Genealogical Society, visit the BCG Society's web site at: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~pabecgs/> or call (724) 847-9253.

25 FEBRUARY 2009 7:00 P.M.
CRANBERRY GENEALOGY CLUB

This month's meeting of the Cranberry Genealogy Club will be held on Wednesday, 25 February 2009. The Cranberry Genealogy Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month throughout the year in the Public Library Conference Room at the Cranberry Township Municipal Building, 2525 Rochester Road. For detailed information, visit their website at <http://www.cranberrygenealogy.org>. These meetings are free and open to the public.

1-7 MARCH 2009

MARCH MADNESS GENEALOGY STYLE

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

During 1-7 March 2009, the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, IN is hosting a week of events to "rev up your genealogical research!" Contact the Genealogy Center at (260) 421-1225 or visit <http://www.ACPL.Info/Genealogy>. The week's events include:

Sunday, 1 March at 1:00 P.M. - *Southern Lore* with Melissa Shimkus.

Monday, 2 March at 2:00 P.M. - *Family Search Labs* with Don Litzer.

Tuesday, 3 March at 10:00 A.M. - *Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-42* with Cynthia Theusch.

Wednesday, 4 March from 10 A.M. – 4 P.M.
Daughters of the American Revolution: Assistance for Membership with DAR members.

Thursday, 5 March at 2:00 P.M. - *Evaluating Published Family Histories* with John Beatty.

Friday, 6 March at 10:00 A.M. - *Tech Time* with Delia Cothrun Bourne.

Saturday, 7 March at 10:00 A.M. - *Using Flickr to Document Your Genealogy* with Sara Paralita.

13-14 MARCH, 2009

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, IN, announces *Irish and Scots-Irish Genealogy, Part 1*, conducted by Steven W. Myers, M.L.S. The fee of \$50 payable to "ACPL Foundation" will reserve your place. Six one-hour sessions will be presented with assisted research and consultations. For more information, go to their web site at: <http://www.ACPL.Info/Genealogy>.

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

14 MARCH 2009 10 A.M. – 12 Noon WPGS

The March meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society will feature Leonard C. Marraccini presenting “History of the U.S. Bureau of Mines in Western Pennsylvania.”

For most of the 20th century, the U.S. Bureau of Mines (USBM) was the primary U.S. Government agency conducting scientific research and disseminating information on the extraction, processing, use, and conservation of mineral resources. From 1910 through 1995, employees of the U.S. Bureau of Mines provided information to many people and organizations throughout the world. Its Pittsburgh Research Center will be the subject of this talk by Leonard Marraccini, an employee of the U.S. Bureau of Mines and the Mine Safety and Health Administration for more than 30 years.

WPGS meets monthly at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Oakland from 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 noon. This meeting is FREE and open to the public, and reservations are not required. There is \$5 parking nearby at the Carnegie Library. For more information, visit WPGS on the web at: <http://www.wpgs.org>.

21 MARCH 2009 1:00 P.M. FAYETTE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF PA

The next meeting of the Fayette County Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania will be on Saturday, 21 March 2009 at 1:00 P.M. at the Uniontown Public Library. For more detailed information, go to: <http://www.fcgsa.org>.

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF WPGS

21 April 2009 – Spring Seminar
9 May 2009 – TBA
13 June 2009 – TBA

www.NorthHillsGenealogists.org

21 APRIL 2009

WPGS SPRING SEMINAR

The annual Spring Seminar of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society is a wonderful educational and networking opportunity every year. This year, Alumni Distinguished Professor George K. Schweitzer, Ph.D., will be the guest lecturer, speaking on the following topics:

Military Genealogical Research

Tracing Ancestors Back Across the Atlantic

Pennsylvania Genealogical Research

Dr. George K. Schweitzer is Alumni Distinguished Professor at the University of Tennessee and holds BA, MS, and Ph.D. degrees in Chemistry, an MA in the History of Religion, a Ph.D. in History of Science, and an Sc.D. in Philosophy of Science. He is Phi Beta Kappa and is listed in *Who's Who in America*. He has authored 220 publications, including 19 genealogical guidebooks. Professor Schweitzer uses historical reenactment to teach genealogy and has traced many of his ancestral lines back to the early 1500s. He has lectured to over 200 genealogical and historical societies in the U.S., Canada, England, and Germany. Find out more about Dr. Schweitzer at his website: <http://www.gensources.com>.

Registration price for the WPGS Spring Seminar includes all lectures and a hot buffet lunch. The fee is \$40 per person for WPGS and WQED Members, and \$45 per person for nonmembers. For more information and/or to register: <http://www.wpgs.org> or go to page 58.

2009 NATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

13-16 May 2009 Raleigh, North Carolina
National Genealogical Society Conference in the States-“The Building of a Nation: From Roanoke to the West.” Registration is now open. For more information or to obtain a registration booklet including all planned sessions, visit <http://www.ngsgenalogy.org>.

February 2009

Vol. 19 - No. 6: Page 55

2009 NATIONAL CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

14-19 June 2009 **Birmingham, Alabama**

The Samford *Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR)* provides an educational forum for the discovery, critical evaluation, and use of genealogical sources and methodology through a week of intensive study led by nationally prominent genealogical educators. Students may choose one of the offered courses that range from a course for beginners to courses on specialized topics.

The institute is academically and professionally oriented and is co-sponsored by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. The faculty is composed of outstanding nationally known genealogy educators, including NHG member Elissa Scalise Powell, CG. Begun in 1962, the institute regularly enrolls over 200 students from around the country.

For more information, go to: <http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/> or contact the IGHR Director, Della H. Darby, at ighr@samford.edu or call (205) 726-IGHR (4447). This program is held at Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35229.

2009 PALATINES CONFERENCE

Final plans for the 2009 National Palatines to America Conference have been completed. This year's conference, where you can "Research with the Experts," will be 18-20 June 2009 at the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Accommodations for this conference will be at the Clarion Hotel in downtown Ft. Wayne. To find out detailed information about the 2009 National Palatines to America Conference, go to the event's web site: <http://palamnationalconference.org/registration>.

20-31 JULY 2009

Moravian Archives, Bethlehem, PA

The Moravian Archives in Bethlehem, PA is offering a two-week course in reading German

script to be held 20-31 July 2009. Upon completion of the course, participants will be able to read and transcribe 17th-20th century texts written in German script; Medieval texts will not be studied. Participants will be able to identify abbreviations used in 17th- and 18th-century texts and will know where to reference less frequently used ones. You will also learn about different calendar and dating systems used throughout the centuries.

This intensive course on learning to read German script is now in its 39th year and is the only course of its kind in the country. Former participants include more than 400 college professors, graduate students, genealogists, curators, archivists and hobbyists from various backgrounds. They represent such academic fields as history and German, American studies, musicology, religion, anthropology, art history, sociology, genealogy, technology and other subjects.

The course fee is \$535.00 but does not include housing. The number of participants is limited to 15. For more information, go to <http://www.moravianchurcharchives.org/german-script.php>. You can also contact them at:

The Moravian Archives

41 W. Locust Street

Bethlehem, PA 18018

tel. 610-866-3255

info@moravianchurcharchives.org.

2-5 September 2009 **Little Rock, Arkansas**

The annual Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference *Passages Through Time* will be held at the Little Rock Statehouse Convention Center, Little Rock, Arkansas. For more information, visit the site at <http://www.fgs.org/conferences/index.php>.

There is also a conference blog with insight for first-time attendees on the web at <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org/>. This blog is maintained by FGS and offers weekly updates about the upcoming national conference, including specific program and session details.

FGS CALLS FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS FOR 2010

Press Release

February 5, 2009

The Federation of Genealogical Societies has announced plans for its 2010 Annual Conference, "Rediscovering America's First Frontier." □ This event will be held at the Knoxville Convention Center, Knoxville, Tennessee on 18-21 August, 2010.

FGS is now soliciting requests for lecture proposals for this conference. The deadline for proposal submission is 1 May 2009. Lecture topics that focus on the historic and cultural roots of Tennessee and Kentucky as well as the in and out migrations of Tennessee and Kentucky are encouraged. Suggested subject areas include (not to the exclusion of others):

- Basic research topics
- Methodology
- Archives/Libraries
- Record types (military, land, probate, tax, etc.)
- Society management
- Research Repositories
- Ethnic records
- Technology
- Religious records.

Submissions about original genealogical topics are requested, but relevant historic topics of interest to researchers are encouraged. One may submit any number of proposals. While most sessions are expected to follow the usual one-hour lecture format, the program committee will consider proposals for longer workshops. Sponsored lecture proposals are welcomed, but please contact the Program Chair for details.

Please include the following information in your proposal:

- *Name, address, telephone, website (if available) and e-mail address;
- *Title of each proposed presentation;
- *Brief description of presentation (up to 50 words for the registration booklet);

*Audience Level (beginning, intermediate, advanced);

*Category (Methodology, Record type, Society management);

*Outline or summary of presentation

*Audio/visual requirements for proposed presentation (**Computer technology is strongly encouraged although FGS does not provide LCD projectors, computers, or live Internet connections.**) An overhead projector will be provided if needed.

*Brief biography (50 words for the registration booklet, including speaker's name)

*Summary of recent speaking experience.

Proposals will be evaluated based upon the speaker's experience, skill, and relevance to the conference themes and audience. **Proposals must be received by 1 May 2009** by e-mail to fgsprogramchair@fgs.org. Each proposal should be sent in a separate individual single PDF or RTF document. Invitations to speak will be issued by October 2009. Speakers will receive compensation according to FGS guidelines.

Camera-ready handouts are required for each lecture or workshop presentation. Guidelines for the formatting of the syllabus content will be supplied after invitations to speak are issued with all material due 1 April 2010.

For additional information you may contact the Program Chair: □ Linda Woodward Geiger, CG, CGL, □ 10718 Big Canoe, □ Jasper, Georgia 30143, □ or call (706)268-3311. Questions can also be directed to Linda by e-mailing her at: fgsprogramchair@fgs.org.

SUBMIT AN ARTICLE FOR THE NHG NEWSLETTER!

Do you have a great idea for an upcoming issue of the NHG Newsletter? All members are welcome to submit articles for our newsletter. Attach a word document and send an e-mail to Sue Ennis at susanennis@verizon.net by the 10th of each month, if interested. Articles may be edited for content or length.

WPGS Spring Seminar

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Holiday Inn, Greentree
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Registration at 8:30 AM



Cost: **\$45** per person
\$40 per person for
WPGS members

Speaker: George K. Schweitzer, PhD

Lecture Topics:

Military Genealogical Research

Tracing Ancestors Back Across the Atlantic.

Pennsylvania Genealogical Research

Reservations required - use form below :

Name _____

Check if WPGS Member ____

Guest Name (s) _____

Check if WPGS Member ____

Address _____

Enclosed is a check or money order payable to **WPGS** in the amount of \$ _____ for
_____ persons.

Mail completed registration form no later than **April 10** to: WPGS Spring Seminar, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080. For more information, call (412) 622-3154 or visit us on the Internet at <http://www.wpgs.org>

Getting Started in Genealogy

March, 2009

Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Classes



Where: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Oakland
4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15213
When: Saturdays: March 7, 14, 21, 28
10 AM- 12 PM; 1 PM - 3 PM
Cost: \$10.00

What:

March 7- 10 AM: Getting Started in Genealogy
1 PM: Using the Federal Census

March 14-10 AM: Institutional Records

**Location morning class only: Main Library Lecture Hall*
1 PM: Courthouse Research

March 21-10 AM: Church & Cemetery Records
1 PM: Military Records

March 28-10 AM: Immigration & Naturalization Records
1 PM: Genealogy and the Internet

Lunch on Your Own—Brown Bagging Encouraged!
Questions? - Call 412-622-3154

NAME: _____ **PHONE:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

P.O. Box 304
Ingomar, PA 15127

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dated Material

UPCOMING PROGRAMS FROM NHG

Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, 17 March 2009

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY USE THE FAMILYSEARCH WEB SITE

Speaker: Elissa Scalise Powell, CG

NHG member Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, will offer an overview of the tools and methods for most effectively using the FamilySearch web site. This site provides its resources free of charge to the public and is one of the most commonly used genealogical Internet sites. Come and learn hints for successful searches on this site!

Tuesday, 21 April 2009

GERMAN GENEALOGY

Speaker: Ed Heinlein

NHG member Ed Heinlein will conduct the first of two interactive classes, which will focus upon Germany's history and geography. We will learn of its relevance to those with German ancestors and those whose ancestors may have traveled through Germany and emigrated from its ports. As a retired German teacher, Ed brings a wealth of knowledge and teaching skills, promising a set of interesting and enriching programs.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM - Tuesday, 17 February 2009

DATING OLD PHOTOGRAPHS

Speaker: Mary Dzurichko

Mary Dzurichko, NHG Programs Chair, will present a program about dating photographs, providing guidance and resources to assist you in your efforts to identify family photos. If you have a photo that has you stumped, please bring it to the meeting, and we will try to help with as many as time permits. If possible, bring the photo in an electronic format so that it is easily viewed by all.