

REGISTRATION
Spring 2022 Conference

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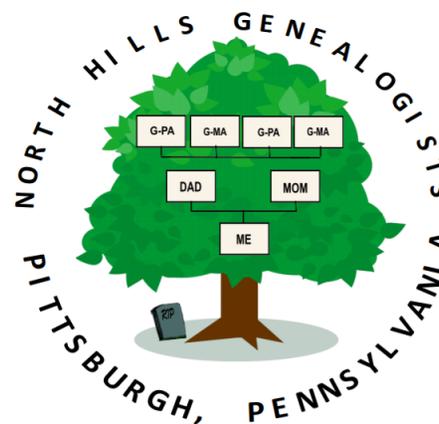
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North Hills Genealogists



**Discover Your Roots,
Discover Yourself:
*A Virtual Family History
Conference***

Saturday, April 9, 2022

Featuring
Rich Venezia

North Hills Genealogists' VIRTUAL Conference!

Join us on **Saturday, April 9, 2022**, from the comfort of your own home while you attend a **LIVE** (not recorded) day-long genealogy conference featuring **Rich Venezia**.

Our virtual conference will be presented via **Zoom**. There will be **DOOR PRIZES** awarded throughout the day.

Attendees will receive an email about a week before the conference with a link to the Zoom meeting as well as an electronic copy of the syllabus. If you have any questions, please email conference@northhillsgenealogists.org.

Rich Venezia, is a New Jersey native who now calls Pennsylvania home. He founded Rich Roots Genealogy in 2013. He was a member of the research team of *Genealogy Roadshow* (PBS) for two seasons, and also consulted on *Follow Your Past* (Travel Channel). He is an expert in the research of 20th-century immigrant ancestors, especially underutilized record sources and federal records. He also specializes in Italian and Irish research. Additionally, he assists clients with dual citizenship applications for Ireland and Italy, and is a proud Italian dual citizen. He holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University. He lectures nationwide, and spoke about "How to Grow Empathy From Uncovering Your Roots" at TEDx Pittsburgh 2017.



Saturday, April 9, 2022

8:00am EDT - Zoom meeting will be available for networking

8:45am EDT - Opening remarks

Discovering Your Immigrant's Origins

Pin down your elusive immigrant ancestor's place of origin using some well-known – and lesser known – record sets, ideas, and techniques. This presentation delves into various and diverse records that are found stateside so as to narrow down that search, as well as ideas for when the paper trail continually runs cold. The main suspects will be discussed, as will numerous lesser-known and lesser-used records. Many of these record sets are also rich with genealogical details, and can help contextualize and fill in our ancestors' lives here in the United States.

Immigration & Naturalization Laws Throughout U. S. History

Learn about America's immigration and naturalization laws in this overview, from 1790 – the present. Since the founding of the nation, naturalization and immigration laws have dictated who was able to immigrate, become citizens, and have all the rights and privileges therein. Understanding the complex history of these laws gives us a better understanding of the lives and times of our ancestors, and can help us theorize what records we might find. Moreover, it may answer questions regarding why an immigrant never naturalized, or why an ancestor arrived at one time over another.

~~~~ **45-Minute Break for Lunch** ~~~~

### **Board of Special Inquiry Records: Few and Far-Between**

Family story about a detention at Ellis Island? "BSI" notation on a ship manifest? Learn what few records still exist that detail an immigrant's questioning before a Board of Special Inquiry, and their possible subsequent exclusion, appeal, or detention. Records of the Boards of Special Inquiry are still extant for various years in the ports of San Francisco, San Pedro, Honolulu, and Philadelphia, as well as along the Southern Border. Records of cases that were appealed to the Central Office in Washington, D. C., may also be found. These remaining records will be examined to discover what stories they tell about individuals held for questioning.

### **Military Records and Immigrant Ancestors**

Draft cards, service records, pensions, registrations... when an immigrant ancestor fought for the American military or interacted with the Selective Service System, the records left behind are numerous and enlightening. These records may not only reveal a place of origin, but could greatly help to contextualize an ancestor's life and times. This lecture focuses on immigrants within these record groups, but well over half of the record groups covered also relate to non-immigrants.

### **Question & Answer Session until 4pm EDT**

The conference will conclude with a Q & A from questions submitted by attendees.