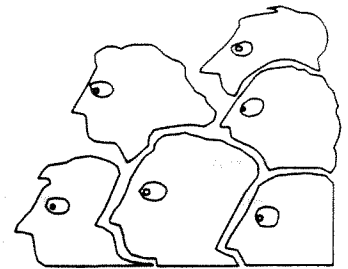




NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS NEWSLETTER



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

Volume 4 - Number 8 - April 1994

President: Virginia Skander
Vice President: Tom Wiley
Cor. Secretary: Gwen Glasbergen

Treasurer: Steph Valentine
Rec. Secretary: Keith Kerr
Subscription: \$12.00 per year
10 Issues from August to June

Publicity: Gwen Glasbergen
Connie Foley
Editor: Marcia Coleman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone. Spring is upon us and it's time to do some traveling. A field trip is being scheduled for the end of April to the Western Reserve Library in Cleveland, Ohio. A sign-up sheet is available at the freebee table and also attached to this newsletter. Make sure you sign up before the end of the month. Call Keith Kerr at 1-800-544-1180 or 766-3029.

Election time is here, and everyone who was interested in running for office were asked to submit a paragraph about themselves for the newsletter, which you will find in this edition. Voting will take place in May and new officers will be announced in June to take office in August.

Welcome to our new members: Joyce Purdue and Grace Crooks. Glad to have you aboard.

Our next Board meeting will be Monday, May 2, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in meeting room #2. All are welcome to attend. We urge members to get involved in their club.

We're looking forward to having Mary Wohleber at our May meeting speaking on Troy Hill, and Laddie Warren in June on Publishing Your Genealogy. Don't forget to take advantage of the WPGS store at the April meeting with all their genealogy goodies.

Hope to see you there. Ginny

NHG OFFICER CANDIDATE INFORMATION

VIRGINIA SKANDER, Hi Everyone. It's been a real pleasure and very rewarding serving as your President for the past year. I will be running for that office again this year. For those of you who are new and don't know me very well, I've been involved in genealogy for about four years. I've learned so much more about genealogy since joining the North Hills Genealogists than I would have learned on my own, and I credit my getting involved with the running of the Club as well as getting to know other members with the success I've been having in tracing my roots. I hope everyone has been satisfied with the way I have conducted myself as your President for the past year, and hope you would like to see me continue as your President for another year. Thank you for your votes of confidence.

KEITH M. KERR, Candidate for Treasurer, currently Secretary of the North Hills Genealogists, lives with his family in Avalon. A 1968 graduate of Ohio University, with a degree in history, Keith has been a member of the NHGS since he attended his first meeting over four years ago. As Secretary and Board member, Keith has sought to promote and strengthen the gains made by the NHGS over the recent years. As a member of the Book Committee, he has attempted to select and recommend works to be purchased that would benefit both the Northland Library and our organization. Keith is seeking the office of Treasurer to continue his service to the club.

WHERE GENEALOGIST MEET

Thursday, May 2 at 7:30 pm - **NHG Board meeting** in meeting room #2 at Northland Library. All NHG members are always welcome at all Board meetings.

Saturday, April 23, at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm - **W.P.G.S. Class** at 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Program: Suzanne Johnston on "Census Records, Military Records and Pension Records." Cost \$8.00.

Saturday, April 30, at 9:30 am - **Tour of Western Reserve Library** in Cleveland. See April Field Trip article on page 78.

Saturday, April 30, at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm - **W.P.G.S. Class** at 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Program: Helen Harriss on "Church and Cemetery Records" and Eden Harriss on "Archival Preservation." Cost \$8.00.

Saturday, May 7, at 10:00 am to 1:00 pm - **W.P.G.S. Class** at 4338 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Program: Leslie Dunn on "Passenger Lists, Naturalization and Vital Records." Cost \$8.00.

Saturday, May 14 at 10:00 am to 4:00 pm - **Advanced Workshop** at the Carnegie Library. Taught by Marilyn Holt. Lunch noon to 1:00 pm. Carnegie members \$27, nonmembers \$39. For more information call 622-3288.

Sunday, May 15, at 2:00 pm - **Genealogical Society of South Western Pennsylvania** at the Citizens City Library, 55 South College St., Washington, PA. Speaker will be Frank Zabrosky on "Records Available at the Hillman Library in Oakland".

May 15-31, - **Genealogy Display** by NHG at Northland Library.

Tuesday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m., - **NHG regular meeting** at the Northland Library. Program: Mary Wohleber will speak on "Troy Hill."

Wednesday through Saturday, June 1-4, - **National Genealogical Society Conference** in Houston Texas. For more information write to 1994 NGS Conference, 4527 17th St. N., Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

Saturday, June 11 at 8:00am to 3:30 pm - **Slippery Rock**

Heritage Association Conference at the Union Building, Slippery Rock University. There will be speakers, vendors and door prizes.

Tuesday, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. - **NHG regular meeting** at the Northland Library. Program: Laddie Warren on "Publishing Your Gemology".

Friday and Saturday, July 22 and July 23 - **WPGS Two Day Seminar**. See article on page 76 for details.

October 12-15 in Richmond, VA - **Three Day Conference** hosted by the Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City, UT 84110.

PALATINES TO AMERICA 1994 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Palatines to America group announces the 1994 National Conference to be held on the Evensdale Campus of West Virginia University in Morgantown West Virginia on June 16, 17, & 18, emphasizing "Come Back to West Virginia." The speaker will be Henry Z. Jones, Jr., FASG, the author of *The Palatine Families of New York, 1710 and More Palatine Families*.

For more information contact: Palatines to America, Capital University, PO Box 101P, Columbus, OH 43209-2394.

Elissa Powell is going to this conference and is looking for a female roommate. For information about carpooling call Elissa at 935-6961.

SLIPPERY ROCK HERITAGE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

On Saturday, June 11th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. there will be a conference at Slippery Rock University in the Union Building. There will be speakers, vendors and door prizes.

Elissa and some of our other members will be there selling our Beginners Packet. Look for more information on this event in the next newsletter.

QUERIES

Researching the name **PAZERSKI**. Send information to: Barb Gierl, 5904 Elgin St., Pittsburgh, PA 15206. Phone # 362-7110.

Researching the name Simon **TAYLOR**. Who was divorced from his wife Alice in Mah. Co. in Sep. 1869. At that time he was in New Brighton, Beaver Co., PA. What happened to him? Send information to: Celeste L. Oden, 6583, Miller Dr., North Ridge, OH 44039-3329.

BEGINNERS CORNER

Question: What is the Federation of Genealogical Societies?

Answer: Founded in 1976, the Federation of Genealogical Societies is a non-profit organization comprised of nearly 300 genealogical/historical societies and libraries, ultimately representing over 100,000 individual genealogists. The Federation is the collective voice of genealogical and historical organizations at the national level. It is actively involved in efforts to represent and protect societies, to coordinate and facilitate their activities, and to monitor events that are critical to the future of genealogy.

The entire field of genealogy reaps many benefits from the Federation. Some of the benefits include: Protection of records through the Records Preservation and Access Committee (joint FGS/NGS effort); Active coalition monitoring and influencing political appointments such as the National Archivist; Assistance at the state level in affecting legislative change advantageous to genealogists; Representation on the National Coordinating Committee for the Promotion of History, the Advisory Board for Genealogical Exchange with Russia, and the Genealogical Coordinating Committee; Custodianship of the GCC-NARA Gift Fund financing microfilming projects within the National Archives; Recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of genealogy with an annual awards program; and Liaison between genealogists and related professionals (historians, librarians, archivists).

Societies gain many benefits from the Federation including: In-depth society management workshops at the

annual Federation conferences; Lists of speakers and exhibitors to facilitate seminar planning; Discounts on all FGS publications including the *Organizational Handbook*; Society Strategy papers offering practical, proven techniques for successful society management; Office support functions (mailing list maintenance, etc.) to member societies; and Assistance in establishing new societies or in developing existing societies.

Individuals reap the following benefits from the Federation: Computerized index all all Civil War soldiers, currently being data-entered by hundreds of volunteers; Efficiently run societies which free members and officers to concentrate on genealogy; Discounts on FGS *Forum*, the quarterly journal providing up-to-date news on the genealogical world; Educational and networking opportunities at annual Federation conferences; Information on threatened (or accomplished) records closures; Benefits gained by societies and the field of genealogy ultimately benefit individual genealogists; and Collective voice protecting and promoting the interests of genealogists.

The above information came from The Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-3385.

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON FGS FORUM

Since our society belongs to the Federation of Genealogical Societies, all of our members are entitled to a 40% discount on the quarterly publications, *FGS Forum*. Subscriptions normally cost \$15.00, but our members pay only \$9.00 annually. Our President and our FGS Delegate each receive a copy as a benefit of our society's membership so if you have not seen *Forum*, ask the about it.

Forum contains a wealth of information that will advance your personal genealogical research as well as keep you abreast of the latest developments in the genealogical community.

To subscribe for the calendar year 1994, send a check for \$9.00 (payable to *FGS Forum*) to *FGS Forum*, P.O. Box 3385, Salt Lake City, UT 84110-3385.

BOOK REVIEW GERMAN IMMIGRANTS

by Jack Sanders on Internet

Researchers looking for German ancestors who may have arrived here after the Civil War have another "catalogue" of immigrants to check out.

"German Immigrants: Lists of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York, 1868-71", is the fourth in a series of passenger list compilations by Marion Wolfert, starting with 1847 and now running up to 1871.

Mostly based on reconstructed records — for Bremen's passenger records were destroyed in the war, the book uses U.S. records of arrival, rather than German records of departure, as culled from the national Archives' massive collections.

The book gives the name (arranged alphabetical by surname), the age, the place of residence (usually Germany), and the source of the information.

The book is a must for any library that wishes to be a data source on German immigrants, and for serious researchers into German ancestry. If your library doesn't have this series and your community has many German immigrants, ask the acquisition librarian to order a set. Copies of volume 4 should be at better libraries or may be ordered from Genealogical Publishing Company, Dept. SM, 1001 North Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD, 21202-3897 (1-800-296-6687), at \$25.00 plus \$3.00 postage and handling. Previous volumes in the series are also available, at slightly smaller prices, covering 1847-54 (vol. 1), 1855-62 (vol. 2) and 1863-67 (vol. 3).

PITTSBURGH'S RELIGION HIT LOW SPOT EARLY

By Stacy Niedecker; North Hills News Record,
Saturday, March 5, 1994

Things didn't look all that promising for organized religion in Pittsburgh early on. Even though the area's first church predated the construction of Fort Pitt.

The Rev. Denys **Baron** celebrated a Roman Catholic Mass in 1754, when the French occupied Fort Duquesne. And the first chapel, "The Assumption of the Most Blessed Virgin at the Beautiful River" performed 15 baptisms and 42 burials before the English drove out the

French in 1756, according to Laura Frey's 1955 book, "The Land in the Fork."

But when the English took over Fort Pitt and the village that was growing up around it didn't seem to have much spiritual leadership other than a few Army chaplains.

By 1761, a schoolmaster doubled as a minister and performed nondenominational services. The unnamed teacher gave "the soberer sort of people who formed a congregation of different principals and behave rather gravely," resident James **Kenny** wrote in a 1761 journal. Kenny was not a churchgoer, but "on occasion, ye children are also brought to church as they call it," he wrote.

The area was a frontier, and it just didn't have much of a reputation for piety. Early visitors were more likely to praise the nobility of the American Indians than the religious values of the European settlers.

Arthur **Lee**, a Virginia man who visited the area in the 1760's wrote in his journal. "There are in town, four attorneys, two doctors and not a priest of any persuasion, nor church nor chapel; so that they are likely to be damned without the benefit of clergy. The place I believe will never be considerable."

It wasn't until 1773 that a group formed any kind of organization. And only in 1785 did the Rev. Samuel **Barr** arrive to serve as a pastor of the first Presbyterian congregation.

That was the beginning of the turnaround. But "the majority were more inclined to interest themselves in horse racing rather than contribute to the building the church," noted John **Wilkins**.

By 1816, Pittsburgh had 8 churches representing seven denominations — Episcopal, Catholic, Seceder, Covenanter, Methodist and German Lutheran, according to Lorant's book, "Pittsburgh: The Story of an American City."

The Bethel African Methodist Church, the first black church west of the Allegheny Mountains, was formed in 1827. The Catholic population grew large enough to support a diocese in 1843, and the Rev. Michael **O'Connor** served as its first bishop.

The Rodef Shalom Temple, the city's oldest Jewish congregation, had its start with a society formed in 1846.

THE SURNAMES OF PITTSBURGH LARIMER AVENUE & WILLIAM LARIMER, Jr.

by Hax McCollough

From the Quarterly Newsletter of the Historical Society
of Western Pennsylvania - Winter 1994, Vol. 2, No. 4

One of 19th-century Pittsburgh's most handsome, charismatic, and colorful characters was General William **LARIMER** Jr. (1809-1875). As a boy, he and his parents, William, Sr., and Anne, lived prosperously in "Mansion Farms," North Huntingdon Township, where prominent people such as William Henry **Harrison** and Aaron **Burr** often visited.

William, Jr., became so well known that an avenue in East Liberty, a township in Somerset County, a street in Denver, a county in Colorado, and a fort in Arkansas now honor his name. His personal magnetism, generosity, and handsome, military bearing earned him respect and adulation. His friends included journalist Horace **Greeley** and the liberator of Texas, Sam **Houston**. His daughter, Rachel, married James Ross **MELLON** son of Judge Thomas Mellon and brother of the famous statesman, and art collector Andrew W. Mellon.

General William Larimer was a promoter, a soldier, a railroad builder, a federal judge, a hotel proprietor, a banker, and a superb public speaker. He owned a Conestoga wagon company whose "ships of inland commerce" hauled freight from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. He was also active in a wholesale grocery business, the anti-slavery movement, temperance, politics, and the Presbyterian Church. Larimer left Pittsburgh in 1855 after a number of sudden business reversals to settle in Omaha, Nebraska, and later in Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is buried. He became one of the founders of the Republican Party of Nebraska and the city of Denver. He raised the Third Regiment of Colorado Volunteers which he commanded with distinction during the Civil War.

Today's "Avenue" in East Liberty crosses Washington Boulevard over the giant, concrete Larimer Avenue Bridge, so effectively captured in art in 1932 by Pittsburgh's now-famous self-taught painter John **KANE** (1860-1934). Larimer Avenue was once a quiet lane leading from Frankstown Road (at Penn Circle) to the Larimer estate. The house there was described by his grandson, William Larimer Mellon, as big and comfortable, and "it stood well back from the street in a

yard filled with fruit tress, grape arbors and flower gardens."

JOSIAH THOMPSON JOURNALS INDEXED AND TRANSCRIBED

From the Quarterly Newsletter of the Historical Society
of Western Pennsylvania - Winter 1994, Vol. 2, No. 4

Cheralynn **Wilson** of New Mexico, a descendant of Fayette County banker and coal baron Josiah Van Kirk **THOMPSON**, has transcribed and indexed 28 volumes of his journals on computer which are now available in the HSWP library. The journals were originally donated to HSWP by Mrs. Rollin C. **Smith**. Born in 1854, Thompson chronicled his daily activities, providing an intimate account of life in Uniontown and the Pittsburgh area from 1895 to 1906 and 1919 to 1932 interspersed with information about the **CARRUTHERS**, **ELLIOTT**, **HUNTER**, **JACK**, **WILSON**, and **ROTHEMEL** families.

CIVIL WAR MEDALS

From *The Family Tree* Vol. V, Number 1
February/March 1994

Unclaimed medals for soldiers from other states who fought in West Virginia regiments during the Civil War are still stored in the small cardboard boxes in which they arrived from New York in 1966. The West Virginia Department of Culture and History will award the medals to heirs who can provide documentation establishing a line of descent from the Union Army veteran. A list of veterans, as well as further details, appears in *West Virginia History*, Vol. 45.

Contact the Department of Culture and History, Cultural Center, Capitol Complex, Charleston, WV 25305.

EVERY TOM, DICK AND HARRY

Early English registers of male names show that John, William, Thomas, Richard, and Robert accounted for eighty percent of the given first names.

WPGS TWO DAY SEMINAR

July 22 and July 23

University of Pittsburgh Campus, Lawrence Hall,
3942 Forbes Avenue, Oakland

The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society offers a two-day Seminar for Genealogists at all levels to learn, to make new contacts, and to share time with old friends as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary. The seminar, *Pittsburgh, The First Gateway To The West*, will be held on July 22 and 23. Nationally known author and speaker John J Newman, Director of Records Management of the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana, an expert on naturalizations will be featured, as well as PA Historical & Museum Commission, National Register Assistant, and Project Liaison for the Whiskey Rebellion Bicentennial BOD, Jerry A. Clouse who has just compiled a volume on The Whiskey Rebellion.

Speakers and topics on Friday July 22 include: Helen Harriss C.G. "**Pittsburgh, The Ohio River, And Its People**"; Marilyn Holt "**Beginning Genealogical Research In Western Pennsylvania**"; Lynn Griffin "**Using Allegheny County Court Records In Your Research**"; Audrey Iacone, HSWP, Frank Zabrosky, Un. of PGH, and Marilyn Holt, Carnegie Library "**Library Resources For Genealogical Research in W. PA**"; Ron Hayes & Dorothy Stenzel "**Research In Prison Records**" and "**Research In State Psychiatric Facility Records**"; Joel Fishman, Ph.D. "**Accessing Allegheny Court Records**"; Carolyn Schumacher, "**Preservation Of Family History Materials**"; Jean S. Morris "**Mapping Your Way Across Pennsylvania**";

Speakers and Topics on Saturday July 23 include: John J. Newman "**Westward Western PA Ho! Migrations Patterns To The Midwest**"; Jerry Clouse "**Who Were The Participants In The Whiskey Rebellion of 1794**"; Ann Hoover "**Old Indian Trails Of Pennsylvania**"; Dr. Reid W. Stewart "**Early Western Pennsylvania Immigrants: The Scotch-Irish**"; Jean Gregord C.G.R.S. "**Early Western Pennsylvania Immigrants: The Germans**"; Jean Vincent "**Adoption Research In Pennsylvania**"; Reed Powell "**Computerizing Your Genealogical Material**"; John J. Newman "**Know Before You Go: Research Potentials and Procedures For Western Pennsylvania Descendants in the Midwest**".

July 22 Evening: Three Rivers Riverboat Buffet Dinner Cruise.

On Friday and Saturday you will be able to enjoy vendor sales exhibits. Genealogical and Historical Societies will be selling their books. There will be several local and national book sellers as well. The WPGS publications table and the WPGS store will also be there.

W.P.G.S. Conference Prices are \$60.00 for 2-day registration which includes all lectures and 2 box lunches; \$30.00 for 1-day registration which includes all lectures and 1 box lunch; \$38.50 for Friday evening Buffet Dinner Cruise; \$4.00 Bus transportation to Dinner Cruise.

Advance Registration due July 1, 1994. For information and/or registration for the Seminar or the Cruise call Suzanne Johnson 412-486-3904 or write to her at 4413 Birchwood Lane, Allison Park, PA 15101.

GENEALOGY INSTITUTE 1994

A Series of Genealogical Seminars at The Western Reserve Historical Society Sponsored by the Genealogical Committee.

May 7 AFRO-AMERICAN RESEARCH — Slave Schedules, Freedman's Bureau, Manumissions, Bills of Plantation Records, Native American Records.

June 4 CONTRIBUTING TO CORRECTING FAMILY SEARCH — Accuracy In/Garbage Out.

July 2 SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AT WRHS — Manuscripts, Draper, Shaker, Civil War, Holbrook, Baldwin, AGBI. Corbin.

Aug 6 CLUES TO CENSUS RESEARCH — Sounder/Miracode; Enumeration Districts; U.S. Census Key; Other Census Schedules.

Sept 10 EVERYTHING THAT'S FIT TO PRINT — Newspapers, Periodicals, County Histories, Genealogies.

Oct 1 OBTAINING BMDs in CIVIL & RELIGIOUS RECORDS — Membership Roll, Births, Marriages, Deaths, Baptisms/Christenings, etc.

Nov 5 POTPOURRI of RESEARCHING TIPS — WRHS Card Catalogs, County Courthouses, Researching in Pennsylvania, Researching in New York.

Western Reserve Historical Society Library Hassler Room: 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Fee: \$10.00 per person per session. Make a check payable to WRHS Gen. Comm. and mail it with your course requests to Jeannette Grosvenor 12860 Mayfield Road, Lot 56 Chardon, Ohio 44024-8936.

CEMETERY RESEARCH

from Mahoning Meanderings

Nov. 1993, Vol. 17, No 9

Sooner or later, you will need to visit a cemetery to further your research. Whether it's a large inner-city one or a small family plot out in the country, we cannot stress too strongly - never go alone! Unfortunately there are 'crazies' everywhere now-a-days and you must be careful. If you have a purse, lock it in the trunk and carry your keys with you. When you arrive, if there are neighbors, be sure and let them know who you are and why you are there. Carry your genealogical ID card with you - from your local Chapter or the Ohio Genealogical Society.

One last thing - "Leaves of three - leave it be," it may be poison oak or ivy, so be careful.

Following are the materials that will make your cemetery research easier and more productive. As with any job the 'tools of the trade' are important.

A basket, with a strong handle, is convenient for carrying the following items:

Aluminum foil - for stone 'rubblings'.

Apron- to carry your chalk, eraser, pencils and car keys.

Binoculars - for 'scanning' a large cemetery - may save you many steps.

Brush - not wire - to clean off leaves, dirt, etc.

Bug 'bomb' - to keep away the 'critters'.

Camera - if this will be your only visit to this cemetery, you'll want pictures of 'your' stones.

Chalk - LOTS of chalk!

Clipboard - with a rubber band - absolutely necessary on a windy day.

Crowbar or pry - this can be a small one, you may need to 'dislodge' a partly buried stone.

Felt eraser - as in blackboard eraser.

Hats & sunscreen - to protect you from sunburn.

Jug of water - to wash the stone if it's flat and overgrown with sod.

Long metal rod - to 'probe' for buried stones.

Notebook paper - the lines make for neater notes.

Pencils - lots of pencils - in case you break the points as you work.

Rags or paper towels - to wipe off the stone you've washed.

Trowel - to remove sod from stones that are partially buried.

Wet washcloths - for your hands and face - very refreshing on a hot day.

Work gloves - to protect your hands.

'Zip' bags - to leave note [held down by a stone] on a grave that shows signs of care. You may find a lost cousin who has the family Bible you've been looking for.

If it's a nice day, take your lunch and enjoy the peace and quiet only a cemetery can offer. Last, but most important, leave the cemetery and the stones as you found them. Don't litter. Remember, this is the final resting place of your family, treat it with respect.

Thanks to Margaret Miller Simon for all her help, suggestions, etc.

Loretta Franklin Houk & Virginia Franklin Jones

LET'S READ THE CEMETERIES IN THE NORTH HILLS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN READ BEFORE

After reading the above article on cemetery research, maybe you have gotten the urge to get out on a nice day and spend a few hours in a cemetery.

As an organization we would like to read the North Hills Cemeteries that have not been read before. We will need volunteers to do the work and to help organize the material. W.P.G.S. can help us determine which cemeteries still need to be read and how to organize and record our data. If you are interested in this project please contact Ginny or any Board member.

BRITISH ISLES GENEALOGICAL REGISTER

From *The Family Tree* Vol. V, Number 1
February/March 1994

The Federation of Family History Societies invites you to register the surnames that you are researching in the British Isles. For a form and further information send SASE to the Odham Library or write directly to: Mrs. C. McLee, 3 The Green, Kirklevington, Yarm, Cleveland TS15 9NW.

THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN YOUR HEALTH AND YOUR FAMILY TREE

Excerpts from "What's lurking in your family tree?"
by Consumers Union of US, Inc. Yonkers, NY

Knowing Your Family Health History Could Save Your Life. Did you know that someone with a mother or father who has type II diabetes is two to five times more likely to develop the disease than the general population?

Knowing that a specific disease runs in your family can save your life. It allows you to watch for early warning signs, get appropriate screening test, and change any habits that may increase your risk of disease.

For some uncommon diseases, the main cause is heredity: If your parents gave you the necessary genes, you will most likely get the disease. Such disorders include hemophilia, cystic fibrosis, sickle-cell anemia, and some cancers. Early detection can allow doctors to prevent or treat complications developing from these disorders.

Your genes also play a more subtle role in your risk for other disorders, including heart disease, diabetes, and cancer of the breast, colon, and lung.

Fortunately, many of these disease — unlike purely genetic disorders — do have risk factors you can change. People whose relatives had coronary disease or type II diabetes, for example, may lower their risk with a diet low in fat and high in carbohydrates, weight loss, and exercise.

You can help your family doctor by constructing a family tree that includes health information. You can put together a family (health) tree by digging up a few key facts on your relatives. The more you know about your family, the more useful your tree will be to you and your doctor. Information you could collect includes:

- Birth dates; major disease; and — for deceased relatives — the date of, cause of, and age at death.
- Age when any disease started. For cancer, ask whether tumors independently struck different sites.
- Conditions such as allergies, obesity, high blood cholesterol, and hypertension.
- Health habits — including alcohol and tobacco use, diet and exercise.
- Psychological or behavioral problems, including

alcoholism, suicide, and psychiatric conditions.

- Disabilities or major operations that may remind your relatives of a disease he or she had.

Depending on what the chart shows you may decide that you are at risk in certain areas and need to change your life style or be diligent in taking certain screening test.

Your interest in genealogy may have more benefits than just being a satisfying hobby. Information you learn from your genealogy research could **SAVE YOUR LIFE**.

ONE -ROOM SCHOOL HOUSE OPENS IN HAMPTON

Excerpts from an article by Roxianne Moore,
"Hampton's Window on the Past", Hampton Magazine,
April 1994

On May 21, the new Schoolhouse exhibit will open at the Depreciation Lands Museum. The Schoolhouse represents a one-room school, typical of the mid-1800s to early 1900s. The project began with a donation from Ina McCully who attended a one-room school house. Her mother, Mary Ellen McClaren, taught at Mc Elhaney School which was a local one-room schoolhouse. The notebooks in which she recorded the names of her students each year may be featured at the exhibit, Lib Hunter, Chairman of the Hampton Historical Commission said. (Who knows, maybe one of us will find a long, lost relative listed on these old school records.)

APRIL FIELD TRIP

Where: Western Reserve Historical Society Library
10825 East Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio.

When: Sat., April 30 at 9:00am (tour at 9:30 am)

Cost: \$4.00 admission.

Lunch: Bring your own or eat in the cafeteria.

Transportation: Arrange your own carpools.

Reservations: Call Keith Kerr by April 28th at
1-800-544-1180 (work) or 766-3029 (machine).

THE IMMIGRANT MOTHER

from The Highpoint Newsletter
Ohio Genealogical Newsletter
Nov. 1993, Vol. 24, No 10

For all eternity America is indebted to the Immigrant Mother, whether she was Italian, Jewish, Polish, Austrian, Hungarian, German, Scandinavian, Russian, English, Slavic, Greek, Syrian, Bulgarian, Czech, or Irish.

Born in the old country, she usually married at a young age, the young boy with whom she worked in the fields. While still a young bride, and sometimes with a child, she remained and waited, while her man left for America, that distant land filled with promises of a better life.

The days, months, and sometimes years, passed slowly while she patiently waited for word from her husband. Finally, when the letter came with the passage fare for the long boat ride to America, she gathered up her few possessions and her children, and boarded the ship to join her husband. She found him working in the steel mills, brick yards, a farm, coal mines and on the railroad; and she found him living in a shack, shanty, railroad car, or even in a tent. But at least this was a start. A foundation for a new life, and here in America by his side, she prepared for the years ahead.

Our country was young; it needed laborers; and she gave to America five, six, or more children of her body, and of her soul. While her husband worked in the bitter cold of winter, or in the blistering heat of summer, in ditches laying sewers, and deep in the ground mining coal or iron ore, she worked from early morning to late at night, cooking at a coal stove, washing her clothes with a wash board and heating the water in a big copper tub on the same coal stove. At the same time she took care of the children, preparing breakfast, making lunches and sending them off to school.

Now the freshness of young womanhood is gone. By the flickering oil lamp she sews and irons clothes late into the night. She scrimps and saves to dress her children decently, while she wears an old dress and stays home. Her children must have an education, so that they may be respected and amount to something someday.

And then at last, when her children are grown, as her cup of joy runneth over, we see how want and deprivation and hardships have taken their toll. All worn out, her bones

aching from so many ills, she lays helplessly in her sick bed, and her children gather round her. She turns to kiss them and to bless them--and then, she is gone.

She is the unsung heroine and pioneer of America. No statue can be built high enough; no marble is precious enough, with which to sculpture a fitting memorial to the Immigrant Mother.

She, who with her breasts nurtured us, with her arms raised us, with her ideals inspired us, with her tears washed us clean, with her devotion saved us and then on the altar of love, laid out her work spent body. And from her place in Heaven, she sends down her blessing on America, for what America has offered her children in this great land.

May the people of America NEVER forget what they owe to that sweet and blessed soul, the Immigrant Mother of us all.

(From Parma Cuyahoga Newsletter, Vol. VII, April 1993/Miami Meanderings, Vol. 7 No. 5)



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

There were approximately 25,000 men from Allegheny County that served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Their names appear on bronze plaques mounted on the walls of the first floor of the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall. The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall is on Fifth Avenue in the Oakland area of Pittsburgh. It is open seven days a week and there is no admission charge.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War is an organization whose members consist of descendants of Union Veterans from Allegheny County. They meet during the evening of the second Friday of every month. They offer university scholarships to descendants of Union veterans that qualify. For more information on the scholarship or the organization. Call Richard Orr at 931-1173.

BITS AND PIECES

CLINTON COUNTY CEMETERY RECORDS

Suzanne Rice, 3136 N. 56th St., Milwaukee, WI 53216-3118 has entered all Clinton County cemetery records from Lycoming, Clinton, Centre Co. PA parishes and cemeteries on a database. It contains over 7000 entries. \$2.00 per full name or \$6 per surname. Send SASE for list and fees.

DELAYED BIRTH CERTIFICATES

These were filed many years after birth by persons not having birth records on file. In order to get a Social

Security Number it was necessary to do this. Try the 1940's birth indexes. People born as early as 1858 had to register their births. (from Ancestry, Nov. 1993)

WW WAR II VETERANS

from "The Highpoint", Jan. 1994, published by Summit Co. Chapter of Ohio Gen. Soc.)

Names of men and women who fought in WW II are being sought for inclusion in a series of walls to be built in Caen, France near the D Day landing place. Vets who were in the Battle of Europe and /or North Africa are needed. Call for application to 1-800-992-8387 or write to Wall of Liberty Committee of the Battle of Normandy Foundation, 1730 Rhodes Island Ave. N.W., Room 612, Washington D.C. 20036.

Next Meeting: TUES., MAY 17, 1994 MARY WOHLBER - TROY HILL

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

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