

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



%Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Volume 12, Number 10—June 2002

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Subscription: \$12 per year

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Cemetery book 3: Irene Dinning

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Editor: Donna Booth
Program: Tom Wiley & Irene Dinning
10 Issues: August—June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Elissa Scalise Powell, CGRSSM

"Why don't they have that book or that information?" is a question sometimes heard, or at least thought. It is not until one realizes that *they* is only *us* who have not gotten there yet that one understands the power of volunteers and the projects they produce.

Joining together in a society to help a project come to fruition for everyone's benefit is a good way to bring information to the public as well as create a bond of comraderie for those working on the project. This is one of the many benefits of joining your local society along with the personal benefits of attending informative meetings and receiving a great newsletter. And in these next two months at the North Hills Genealogists you get the benefit of a reduced subscription fee.

Even when you join your local society, you may not have ancestors in the area in which you live. That is why you will want to consider joining the societies in the areas in which your ancestors left records. By doing so you are supporting those societies' efforts to publish the local records and make them publicly available, whether it is in their newsletter, in book or CD form, or on the Internet. In this way we are all helping each other to find our ancestors. It reminds me of the website called Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness <<http://www.raogk.org/>> where doing what you can where you are contributes to the whole.

But what about the national societies that can bring you so much information and opportunity for learning

through annual conferences and expertly written news magazines? These also are worthy of membership. They have the resources to bring to you information from the leaders of our field through articles, books and conferences. It would be extremely beneficial to avail yourself of their offerings. One of these will be the National Genealogical Society's Annual Conference in the States to be held right here in Pittsburgh May 28-31, 2003 at the Convention center downtown. From the comments I heard at this year's conference in Milwaukee many people are looking forward to coming to Pittsburgh. And here we have it right in our own backyard! Such an opportunity should not be missed.

Other organizations that are national in scope are based on a common ethnic or nationality interest. The Palatines to America are concerned with German heritage. POINT (Pursuing Our Italian Names Together) helps with "roots in the boot." There are groups for Irish, English, Welsh, Polish, Czech, Jewish, etc. Membership in these societies will perhaps give you more information about your country of origin and how to access the records there as well as discussing all aspects of heritage.

So the next time you hear "Why don't they have a book on that?" remember that small contributions add up to the whole of genealogical knowledge.

— Elissa

CGRS is a service mark of the Board for Certification of Genealogists, used under license after periodic evaluations by the Board. <http://www.bcgcertification.org/>

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

July

Since there will not be a Newsletter in July, this issue has a listing of meetings and events for both July and August.

NHG

Tues, July 2 - 7:30 pm - NHG Board Meeting. Cafeteria, UPMC-Passavant Hospital. Everyone welcome.

Tues, July 16 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - "Locating Church Records and Preserving Them". Lynne Farr Wohleber, archivist for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh (see separate article)

Tues., August 6, 7:30 pm - NHG Board Meeting - Cafeteria UPMC-Passavant Hospital. Everyone welcome.

Tues, August 20, 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - Western PA Methodist Archives. Rev. Jeff Bobin and Betty Ann Stroup, Conference Genealogist. (see separate article)

Other Meetings/Events

Thurs, June 20 - 7:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society - "Slaps, Jokes and Pokes - The Three Stooges in Pittsburgh." Allan Becer. Meeting held at Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville.

June 22-23 - Civil War Soldiers Fair - West Park, North Side (at the Aviary). Benefits monument restoration.

Mon., June 24 - 7:00 pm - Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table. "These Were Days of Horror" - The Story of the Gettysburg Civilians During the Battle. Timothy Smith. Meeting held at The Babcock, Babcock Boulevard.

Thurs, July 4 - 10:00 am - Lawrenceville Historical Society. Wreath laying at Stephen Foster Grave in Allegheny Cemetery with 19th century music.

July 14-18 - International Roots Conference - Dearborn, Michigan. Tracing European Ancestry. Check out rootsconferenc.com for more information.

July 22 - 7:00 pm - The Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table. *The Civil War Generalship of Philip H. Sheridan.* Eric Wittenberg. The Babcock, Babcock Boulevard.

August

Sat. August 3 - Sunday, August 4 - Commemorate the 239th Anniversary of the Battle of Bushy Run - 1763 French & Indian War. Call 724-527-5584 or visit the website at: www.bushyrunbattlefield.com for more information.

Thurs, August 22 - 7:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society — the program is currently being finalized. More information later.

Future Events

Sun., Sept. 15 - 2:00 - Tribute to the 78 victims of the Arsenal explosion who died September 17, 1862. Musical salute and wreath laying ceremony at the monument.

Pick up one of the handouts on the back table so you have a handy list of all these events.

Have a good summer full of rest, relaxation and RESEARCHING!!!!

QUERIES

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor

SWINT, GSCHWIND, BRODBECK, BENDER and HOUSE; all German speaking. **THOMAS**; German speaking from Alsace Lorraine and Old Allegheny City. Also, **WITTMER, HARTMAN, COSLETT, MORGAN, HOPKINS** all of Old Allegheny City. **CROW(E), HAYS, LESLIE, POLLOCK**, all of Butler Co., **MERRIMAN** (Allegheny & Beaver Co.'s), **BARWELL** (Mercer & Allegheny Co.'s), **HOTCHKISS** (Mercer Co.), **HOPSON, DAWSON, ZIN, DEVLIN**. Contact: **Melinda Merriman Marn, 721 Sycamore Drive, Euclid, OH 44132**

KOTCHEY/GOTZHI, Bohemia. Contact: **Eileen Kotchey, 3934 Summers Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101-3143**.

KANTOR, Mary, mother of **Joseph, John** and **Julius**. **STRBA/STREBA**. Contact: **Conrad E. Slanina, 6624 Church Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15202**.

McADAMS FAMILY, McADAMS, Dr. Edward Calvin, WAKEFIELD Dr. John G., Frankstown Road vicinity, Allegheny Co., PA. Contact: **Kelley Selcher, e-mail selcher@localnet.com**.

McPHEETERS, William, b. 1825 in Pittsburgh, PA, m. to **WILBUR, Sylvia**. Contact: **Diana Chapman, e-mail: Z69FLUID@aol.com**

MEISE, RICE/REISS, Joseph, possibly brother of **RICE, George**, 1860/70 Census, South Pittsburgh. Contact: **Charles Rice, 5832 State Route 167, Little Falls, NY. e-mail: dadrice@hotmail.com**

ORR, William, married to **REDMAN, Mary**, Waynesburg, Greene County, PA. c 1800. Contact: **Frank J. Orr, 2091 Fir Drive, Thornton, CO 80229-4160**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

North Hills Genealogists - 93 - June, 2002 (Vol. 12, #10)

A ballot for the election of new Board officers is included on Page 9 of the Newsletter, or you can use one of the ballots on the back table and drop it in the box at the meeting. If you mail in your ballot, remember it **must** be received by July 1. **PLEASE MARK THE ENVELOPE "BALLOT"**.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's that time of year. Renewal time. Your dues let us publish the monthly newsletter and our series of Pioneer Cemeteries books. If you renew before July 31 the cost is \$10. After that it is \$12. A renewal form is on page 9 and there are forms available on the back table if you prefer not to tear apart your newsletter. **If you mail your renewal, please mark the envelope "MEMBERSHIP."**

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL SURVEY

Have you completed and returned the Christmas Social survey? If not, pick one up on the back table and give us your suggestions. We want the Social to be a special day for everyone.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS?

As you probably know, the cost of first class postage goes up 3 cents this month. Because of this it is very important that you keep us updated on your correct address during the year. It costs the club money to mail the newsletter and when they are returned that is money lost. If your address changes (or your phone number), please put us on your "notify" list.

NO NEWSLETTER IN JULY

ARCHIVES SERVICE CENTER MOVES TO A NEW HOME

The Archives Service Center (also known as AIS) has reopened at its new, improved facility. The new address is 7500 Thomas Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15208. Their hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. It is recommended that you call before going to make sure they are open, since they are part of Pitt. Their phone is: 412/244-7091.

Directions to the new location: Take Penn Avenue toward Wilkinsburg. Go approximately 5 lights from the intersection of Fifth Avenue/Penn Avenue/Washington Boulevard. Go past Clayton. Turn LEFT at the 6th light onto North Braddock Avenue. Go 2 blocks and turn LEFT onto Thomas Boulevard. The Archives is the last building on the RIGHT. The main entrance is across from the front lot on the right. Take the elevator to the second floor and follow the signs.

If you've never gone here and your family lived in Pittsburgh and went to a church here, you really should check it out.

THANK YOU

I want to thank all the wonderful volunteers who have worked with me on the cemetery reading project over the past ten years while I was Chairwoman of the Committee. Our second book is just about ready to go to the printer, thanks to all the time and effort all of you gave toward that end. Neither freezing cold nor blazing sun, and sometimes even rain, ever stopped our progress because of the dedication of our wonderful volunteers.

Thanks to all of you, North Hills Genealogists will have two books to our credit that we can boast about. As I write this, Lisa Powell is working on the histories to go into our second book. As soon

as that is finished, I will complete the indexing, and then it will be just a matter of what photos, maps, and other documents we want to include in the book. Lisa will scan them in, we will print out a ready copy for printing and Lisa will do the negotiating with the publisher. Once printed, more volunteer work will be involved in distributing the book for publicity and sales. Gary Schlemmer played a major role in the sale of our first book, and I hope he will do the same for the second one. Books were put in local stores, at the Depreciation Lands Museum Shop, displayed at various genealogy functions, distributed to various genealogy magazines for review and even advertised on E-Bay.

After the publication of "Pioneer Cemeteries of Hampton Township", word was put out that our next book would be "Pioneer Cemeteries of Pine and Richland Townships." We honestly received orders for the second book before we actually started reading the cemeteries for it. So, we are expecting a very good response to the sale of our next book. Thanks to all of you, North Hills Genealogists is a little better known in the genealogy community because of our contribution to preserving a bit of history.

I'm sure our new Cemetery Reading Committee Chairwomen, Irene Dinning and Carol Jo Henderson, will be able to count on all the wonderful volunteers who helped me in the past to go to bat for them. As a matter of fact, a lot of you have already been working with them reading the first two cemeteries for the next book. My sincerest best wishes to Irene and Carol Jo on the continuing success of the Cemetery Reading Committee projects. They are very dedicated and excited about taking over the Committee, and I can see that we will have another great book in the works before long. Again, thanks to all my great volunteers.

Virginia Skander Mann
(or just plan "Ginny")

NHG JULY 16 MEETING

LOCATING CHURCH RECORDS AND PRESERVING THEM

Research for genealogists is fraught with interesting perils. On the one hand are the frustrations of locating documentation on ancestors and, on the other, how to preserve those found documents, as well as any originals in their safekeeping that have been passed down from generation to generation. Focusing on these issues, Lynne Wohleber will talk about church records, the pluses and minuses of their use for generalists – and discuss simple Do's and Don'ts of preservation, where to get materials and how to ensure longevity of historic treasures. In addition to a simple hands-on project, there will be Q&A time at the end of her presentation.

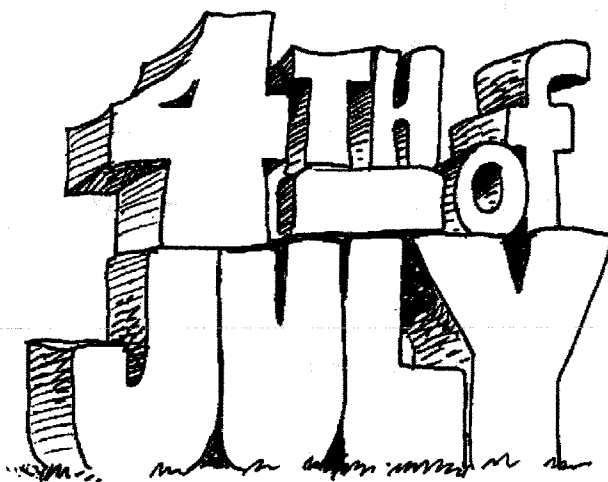
Lynne Farr Wohleber has been archivist for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh since 1989. Having received an AB in Art from Allegheny College, Meadville, PA, she returned to academia in 1990 to earn a Masters of Library Science with emphasis in archival management from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of the Society of American Archivists (SAA); Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC); National Episcopal Historians and Archivists (NEHA); Historical Society of the Episcopal Church; and Curators, Archivists and Records Professionals of Western Pennsylvania. A member of Beta Phi Mu Library & Information Science Honor Society, she has been listed in Marquis' *"Who's Who in the East"*, *"Who's Who in the World"*, *"Who's Who of American Women"* and *"Who's Who in America."*

Lynne has been active as a consultant to several churches in the Pittsburgh area, as well as the diocese of Albany, NY, for setting up on-site archives. In 1995, she conducted a workshop on

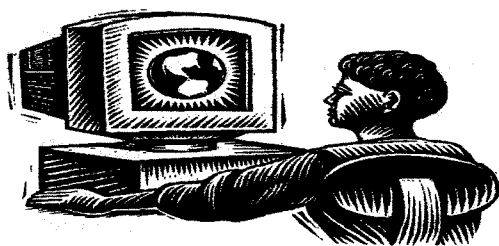
"Building Archives" for Episcopal parish historians which reached 46 participants from 23 of the 74 churches in the Pittsburgh diocese. Since that time she has conducted similar workshops for the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and the Diocese of Pittsburgh, as well as preservation lectures for the Episcopal Church Women of Pittsburgh and Diocese of Northwest Pennsylvania. She has compiled a brief history of the Brotherhood of St. Barbabas and has presented conference papers at National Episcopal Historians and Archivists and Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference on "Writing Diocesan History" and "Documenting Daily Archival Practices" respectively. She currently serves as treasurer of NEHA and is author of the prototype for their archival preservation mini-workshop.

Here's a good opportunity to learn how to preserve those wonderful old family documents. Don't miss this meeting!!!!

**This year, more than ever, we have reason to
celebrate the hard-won freedom our ancestors**



**strived so hard to guarantee us. On this
holiday, fly your flag proudly and take a few
minutes to say "thank you" to your ancestors
for giving you this opportunity to live in
freedom.**



WEB WANDERINGS

(Note: all start with <http://www> unless otherwise noted)

Do you have a favorite website? Is there a specific place you would like to find a website for? If so, please send a note to the editor at the address on the front or by e-mail at DJBooth@worldnet.att.net.

National Archives Launches new Website
NARA has launched a new website. The enhanced site will have improved navigation, better graphics and layouts, and new features such as printer-friendly pages, news and event notices., drop-down boxes to directly access key pages, a site index and an FAQ page. It will also have improved accessibility for people with visual, auditory and motor impairments. Check out the new site at:

archives.gov

Manuscripts at the PA Archives and also some
Railroad Items

phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/mg/index.htm

Locating local newspapers
newspapers.com

Repositories of Primary Sources World Wide
Hundreds of links!!!
**[uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.
Repositories.html](http://uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html)**

The following is from WPGS

The Members and Board of Directors of The Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society invite you to attend the One Hundredth Anniversary Conference of the founding of the National Genealogical Society.

On May 28-31, 2003, we will meet in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to celebrate the NGS and their one hundred years of providing education, support, and guidance to family historians.

Costs associated with attending the conference, class schedules and other details will be publicized later.

Join with us as we embark on this Voyage of Discovery! Do not be left behind as we move forward into a new arena of genealogical knowledge. You will be amazed with the depth and superior quality of instruction and delighted with the friendships and professional associations you will forge.

This conference will be held in the new convention center in Pittsburgh. Nationally known speakers will be giving talks that will be of benefit to all of us. This is a chance to take advantage of a great learning experience right in our own backyard. In addition, there will be numerous vendors offering books and supplies. So, mark this date on your calendar. We will keep you posted on registration, etc. as more information becomes available from WPGS.

WPGS will also be installing new members in First Families of Western Pennsylvania during this conference. Contact WPGS to find out how to apply for membership in this group.

SEE YOU IN 2003!!!!

NHG AUGUST MEETING

WESTERN PA METHODIST ARCHIVES

LOCATION CONTENTS ACCESS

On August 20 the subject of the North Hills Genealogist's meeting will be the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Archives, its location, its contents and its access. The speaker will be Rev. Jeff Bobin of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church along with Betty Anne Stroup, Conference Genealogist.

The archives for Methodism in Western Pennsylvania is located in the Pelletier Library on the campus of Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. Its historical documents and publications are housed specifically in the Smeltzer-Bell Research Center. In addition to a reference library, the Research Center maintains historical files on local Methodist churches and clergy, conference newspapers dating back to 1834, records of closed churches and manuscript materials relating to the United Methodist heritage.

Many of these materials are used to assist local churches in preparing church histories and anniversary celebrations and by genealogical researchers. Come to the August 20 meeting to learn more about these materials and how you can access them. Also, learn what a Conference Genealogist does.

Historical Society Formed by Western PA Methodists

The United Methodist Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania was formed one year ago to promote the awareness of the rich history of Methodism in Western Pennsylvania through research, programs and publications. The Society, headquartered at the United Methodist Center on Freedom Road in Cranberry, PA, also promotes the use of and fund raising for the

Smeltzer-Bell Research Center.

As noted in the above article about the NHG August meeting, the Research Center houses the archives for Methodism in Western Pennsylvania and is located in the Pelletier Library of Allegheny College in Meadville. This extensive collection of historical books, journals, church records and personal papers from the region will be discussed at our meeting.

Information regarding membership in the Western Pennsylvania Historical Society of Methodism is available from Rev. Jeff Bobin, phone 724-776-2300, ext. 253; 800-886-3382.

Come and learn about this wonderful source of information. If you have Methodist ancestors from this region you won't want to miss the meeting.

FIVE GENERATION CHARTS & SURNAME CARDS

As you are sitting around enjoying the nice weather, take time to complete your Five Generation Charts and Surname Cards and bring them to the meeting. Blank copies of the Five Generation charts are available at the meeting for 10 cents each. See any Board member to obtain copies.

YOUR STORY

Consider writing up one of your research stories for the newsletter. Have you found a good way to break down a brick wall? If so, share it with the other members of the club. Have you found a really interesting family story during your research? Share it with the other members of the club.

Or, have you found a new source of information that might help others? Send it along for the newsletter.

The following letter was received by the club. It is presented here for your consideration.

FIRST FLIGHT PRODUCTIONS

Every person has a history -- a heritage that defines and directs that person's character. The search for and discovery of that background can be a fascinating story, providing insight into our own family, culture, country and selves. Our TV series "ACROSS GENERATIONS" is about that search and the stories it uncovers. It is a narrated series with hour-long programs divided into two or three segments. Each show will chronicle the searches of everyday guests as they discover their heritage. The episodes will be shot in real time or dramatically recreated. In short, "ACROSS GENERATIONS" documents real family connections made by real people.

We are asking for your cooperation in the development of stories for the TV series. First Flight is currently producing the pilot for the "ACROSS GENERATIONS" series, and to complement existing stories we have already acquired, we have decided to issue a general call to genealogical and historical societies who would already be familiar with fascinating family stories. We would like to ask that anyone who is in the process or has completed a genealogical search to tell us about their experience and the fascinating stories they have discovered. Please ask your members to think about their stories, and for those with a real "wow factor", we will consider for possible inclusion as an episode segment. If chosen, the initial part of the process will involve a video interview, and the guest will be asked to appear on camera and to be identified. Should we decide to acquire the rights to a story, compensation will be negotiated.

To learn more about First Flight Productions and to obtain a copy of their questionnaire, visit their website at:

<http://www.firstflightproductions.com>

REUNIONS AND RESEARCH

Summer is the time of vacations and family reunions. Whether you drive, fly or RV-it, it is a great time to combine vacations and research opportunities.

If you are planning a family reunion, now is the time to gather together all your information and identify what you are still missing and making a list to take to the reunion with you so you don't forget to ask all those attending the questions you have. When planning a reunion, keep in mind the different ages that will be attending, and plan things for all of them to do. Many times the "older" generation enjoy sitting around and talking. But, the younger generation may need some type of "entertainment." Try to find something they can all enjoy, while at the same time, giving them information about their ancestors.

Some of you may be planning to combine a vacation with a research trip. This could mean visiting the towns and cities where your ancestors lived; visiting cemeteries where they are buried; or visiting courthouses in those towns.

It is important to remember that not all of your family members may consider spending a day going through vital records in a courthouse or tromping through a cemetery their idea of a "great vacation" so plan activities that will be enjoyed by everyone. You may even be able to "bargain" with them for their help, by planning something special they want to do.

The May/June 2002 issue of "Heritage Quest" magazine has several great articles on planning a research vacation. You might want to check them out as you plan your vacation.

**HAVE FUN AND HAPPY (AND SUCCESSFUL)
RESEARCHING!!!!**

**NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
2002-2003**

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP+4

PHONE: _____ **(INCLUDE AREA CODE)**

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Make check payable to North Hills Genealogists. Dues are \$10 if paid before July 31, 2002 and \$12 after July 31. Membership runs from August through the following July. Members receive 10 issues of the monthly newsletter; can attend field trips and social events and take advantage of the 5 Generation Charts and Surname Card files.

Donation _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

**North Hills Genealogists
% Northland Public Library
300 Cumberland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

**BALLOT
NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
2002-2003**

PRESIDENT: Donna Booth _____ **Write In** _____

VICE PRESIDENT: Kay Santa _____ **Write In** _____

SECRETARY: Sylvan Kretz _____ **Write In** _____

TREASURER: Reed Powell _____ **Write In** _____

RETURN AT THE MEETING OR BY MAIL BY JULY 1, 2002. MARK ENVELOPE "BALLOT"

PLEASE SEND IN SEPARATE ENVELOPE FROM RENEWAL

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

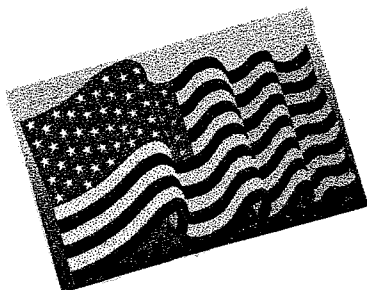
C/O Northland Public Library

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL



LOCATING CHURCH RECORDS AND PRESERVING THEM

Lynne Farr Wohleber

Tuesday, July 16, 2002 - 7:00 pm

E-MAIL MEETING NOTIFICATION

To receive e-mail notifications of future NHG meetings and events send an e-mail to the following: pioneerbook@juno.com

North Hills Genealogists is a group of people who share an interest in genealogy and meet to share their knowledge. NHG does NOT maintain a library and does NOT do research for others. An individual member may choose to handle research requests, but NHG will not be responsible for the quality of the work performed or any fees charged.

REMINDER

There will be NO newsletter in July but there WILL be a meeting.

If you have any information for the August newsletter, please send it along by the end of July. Pick up the flyer of upcoming meetings on the back tables.

Don't forget to send in your renewal so you don't miss any future issues of the newsletter.