

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



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

Volume 13, Number 4 - November/December, 2002 e-mail: pioneerbook@juno.com

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Subscription: \$12 per year	Mailings: Lois & Bill Daviess	Program: Tom Wiley
10 Issues - August - June		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The weather is starting to change and it looks like winter is going to be here soon. With the onset of colder weather, it is a great time to spend those long, cold evenings going through our family files and getting them organized (Ugh!) I don't know about you, but it seems I need to start a new type of filing system every few years. It's also a good time to re-look at the records we had previously found and have not looked at for some time. We might see something we missed the first time, or something that now fits with some newer information we have found. I know I did this recently with one of my lines and was pleasantly surprised.

There are several holidays coming up in the next two months or so - Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years. What a great time to reconnect with our families. Have you considered writing down some of your family traditions to include in your family tree information? You could include the types of food you always eat at these functions, the types of get-togethers you have or any number of things.

North Hills Genealogists will be having our annual Christmas Social on Saturday, December 7. We will start with a tour of the Fort Pitt

Museum and then have lunch at the historic 1902 Tavern in Market Square. Checkout the article on page 34 for more details. There is a map on page 39 or pick one up at the meeting. We are lucky because there is free parking at a number of parking garages during the holidays. Remember the deadline for registration is November 25 so don't wait. We hope to see everyone there to learn more about how Pittsburgh was a part of the history of the US and to share a day of holiday cheer and socialization with each other.

We won't have a regular meeting in December, nor will there be a newsletter. We will meet again in January with a new set of programs for 2003. We hope to see you all at those meetings.

On behalf of the Board of North Hills Genealogists, I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

See you in 2003.

Donna

Next meeting - Tuesday, January 21, 2003

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

All meetings are free unless otherwise noted

Tues., January 7, 2003 - 7:00 pm - NHG Board Meeting - UPMC Passavant cafeteria. Everyone welcome.

Sat., December 7, 2002 - NHG Christmas Social - Tour of Fort Pitt Museum and lunch at the historic 1902 Tavern in Market Square. See article on page 34 and map on page 39.

Tues, January 21, 2003 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - Demonstration of New Online Database Soon to Be Available at Northland. - Presenter: Amy Steele, Adult Services Librarian, Northland Library. (see article)

Sat., February 8, 2003 - Trolley Tour Following the Route of the Harmony Short Line - sponsored by NHG and The Allegheny City Society. See article.

Tues., February 18, 2003 - Regular NHG Meeting - "Using Public Library Resources to Find Family History and Genealogy Information." Presenter: Leslie Dunn, Head of Technical Services, Shaler North Hills Library.

Other Meetings/Events

Fri., November 22, 2002 - Northland Public Library, 3-4 pm - Learn to Search Ellis Island Records Online -- Computer Class. (see article)

Mon., November 25, 2002 - 7:00 pm - The Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - "Two Pennsylvania Brothers Go To War". Lou D'Angelo. The Babcock, Babcock Blvd., North Hills.

Dec. 13, 14, 15, 2002 - Allegheny West Christmas House Tour - Call 412-323-8884 for ticket and reservation information.

Mon., December 16, 2002 - 7:00 pm - The Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - "Captain Aaron Overhold, Mennonite Cavalry Soldier" - Rod Sturtz. the Babcock, Babcock Boulevard, North Hills.

Sat., January 11, 2003 - 10:00 am - WPGS Meeting - Carnegie Lecture Hall - Oakland.

NHG JANUARY 21, 2003 MEETING

The January 21 meeting of the North Hills Genealogists will be a demonstration of "Heritage Quest Online." This new subscription database, soon to be available at Northland Public Library, is a full-image gateway to census data, family records and histories.

Through Heritage Quest Online you will have access to census images of every extant U. S. Federal Census (all states) as well as tens of thousands of books from the UMI Genealogy and Local History Collection.

Amy Steele, Adult Services Librarian at Northland will be presenting this demonstration.

COMPUTER CLASS AT NORTHLAND LIBRARY

Learn to Search Ellis Island Records Online

A computer class to teach you how to search the Ellis Island database online is being offered at Northland Public Library on Friday, November 22 from 3-4 pm. This database covers passengers arriving at New York City during the years 1892 - 1924.

To participate in this class you must have an existing e-mail account and basic computer skills. To register call the Computer Center at Northland at 412-366-8100 and request "Searching the Ellis Island Passenger Records Online."

QUERIES

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor

POLAND - OH, WV, PA, NJ and Germany;
ERVIN, DEMORY, OH, WV; **SNYDER, CHESSE**,
OH and PA; **BALLARD**, OH and England;
CHARLTON, PA and Ireland; **BELSINGER**, PA
and Germany; **JONES, WHEALER**,
CHERRYHOLMES, LLOYD, WARD, GERMAN,
WALLACE/WALLICE, all Ohio; **WILKINSON**,
CUSTER, YONKER, STILLWELL, EMPFIELD,
WAGNER, STRAYER, REAM, JOHNSON,
SHEPARD, all PA; **DAVIS, MARTIN**, WV.
Contact: *Don Poland, 8228 Post Road, Allison
Park, PA 15101*

HOGUE - Allegheny Co., PA; **WILL**, PA and OH;
AUMACK - NJ, NY and Allegheny City, PA;
PEIFER, CRAMER/KRAEMER, Allegheny City,
PA; **Mac/McDONALD** - Allegheny City, PA and
Glasgow, Scotland; **SIEMERS**, Hanover,
Germany. Contact: *John & Betty Hoge, 8419
Forest Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4615.*

ENNIS - Bradford and Wyoming Co., PA;
METCLAF, Columbia Co., PA; **JONES**,
WILLIAMS - Luzerne Co., PA; **SNOVER**,
Wyoming Co., PA; **MASON**, lower New York
State. Contact: *Sue Ennis, 206 Pennsylvania
Avenue, Zelienople, PA 16063-21349.*

SUGGESTIONS WANTED

You may have read that Northland Library will be undergoing renovations in the near future. We have been advised that there may be problems with obtaining meeting rooms during that time.

If you know of any meeting rooms that we could possibly use in the event we cannot use the one at Northland, please let us know. Hopefully it will be at no cost, as Northland is, or a minimal charge.

SCAM ALERT

Another genealogy scam is on the Internet. The title of the e-mail you may receive is "Find Your Family Quickly and Easily! With Billions of Records FREE!" This is the same group that keeps coming up with the same old sites with a new name. We have told you about them in the past. This group is run by a group of college students in Iowa. They have been shut down numerous times, but keep coming back with a new name. They are currently being investigated by the university whose ISP they are using for this scam. Advice - stick with the well-known databases such as RootsWeb, FamilySearch, etc. and avoid any of these "pay" sites. These sites normally are just made up of links to other sites on the Internet - ones you can use for free! BUYER BEWARE!

PIONEER CEMETERIES - VOL. II

The Cemetery Book Committee is finalizing the arrangements for publication of the second volume of the Pioneer Cemeteries books. Vol. II covers Pioneer Cemeteries in Pine and Richland Townships. If you bought Vol. I - Pioneer Cemeteries of Hampton Township, you won't want to miss out on Vol. II.

Watch for announcements in future newsletters on publication data and pre-publication purchase.

BEGINNER'S PACKET

The updated NHG Beginner's Packet is now available. This new edition contains more information on where to find records here in PA and other places. The cost is \$7:00. Pick one up at the meetings.

NO NEWSLETTER NEXT MONTH

NHG CHRISTMAS SOCIAL
Saturday, December 7, 2002
10:00 am

**Tour of Fort Pitt Museum and lunch at the
historic 1902 Tavern**

The NHG Christmas Social will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2002 at 10:00 am. It will include a tour of the Fort Pitt Museum with a personal presentation by a re-enactor in period costume and lunch at the historic 1902 Tavern in Market Square. The cost for the tour is \$5.00 per person. We will meet at the museum at 9:45 am. Reservations must be received by Monday, November 25, 2002. Pick up a reservation form at the meeting or send your check, along with the names of those attending, to NHG at the address on the front.

The lunch this year will be different from past years. Everyone will be able to order directly from the menu at the 1902 Tavern.

Parking for December 7 Social

Free holiday parking is offered at eight downtown Pittsburgh parking garages beginning November 22 until December 31, 2002. The free parking is available after 4 pm Monday - Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday.

The most convenient garages to Market Square and the Fort Pitt Museum are on Third Avenue, Wood & Blvd. of the Allies and Fort Duquesne & Sixth. The other Pittsburgh Parking Authority garages offering this service are: First Avenue, Ninth & Penn, Smithfield & Liberty, Mellon Square and the garage at Lazarus. For information: call 412-566-4199 or visit: <http://www.downtownpittsburgh.com> or <http://www.pittsburghparking.com>.

See the map on page 39.

**TROLLEY TOUR FOLLOWING THE
ROUTE OF THE HARMONY SHORT
LINE**

Saturday, February 8, 2002

NHG, in conjunction with The Allegheny City Society, is sponsoring a guided trolley tour following the route of the Harmony Short Line, which was in existence from 1908 to 1930 and ran from Pittsburgh to Butler.

Starting from the Boggs Mansion on North Avenue (North Side) at around 9:30 am for coffee and light refreshments and a tour of the mansion and carriage house of Russell Boggs, founder of the Line, we will head north. The trolley will follow the short line route north through the North Hills to Ellwood City and Zelienople, with stops at various points of interest along the way.

Included in the cost of the tour will be lunch at a restaurant on the route north. The price of the tour will be \$45 for members of NHG and ACS and \$50 for non-members. Members of both groups will have priority on reservations.

On February 6, 2003 the Director of the Trolley Museum is scheduled to present a talk about the history of the Harmony Short Line at Northland Library.

A letter with all the details will be mailed to members of both NHG and ACS. Watch for this in the mail. The Harmony Short Line opened up the northern section of Allegheny County for new housing, recreation and economic development.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about the history of the North Hills area.

HERALDS' VISITATIONS OF ENGLAND

Sherry Irvine, CGRS, FSA (*Ancestry Daily News*, copyright 1998-2002, MyFamily.com Inc.)

The heralds' visitation were enquiries carried out during the 1500s and 1600s under the authority of the Royal Commissions by Kings of Arms or their deputies. The purpose was to verify the validity of claims to arms and gentility; evidence was received and pedigrees, of varying detail, were prepared.

The sheriff of each county made a list of the nobles, knights and gentlemen who were subsequently visited by or summoned before the heralds to prove their entitlement (by grant or long use). Some evidence was oral tradition; while other evidence was derived from church monuments and documents – much information was submitted. All surviving visitation records are held by the College of Heralds in London.

The visitation began in the reign of Henry VIII and continued at intervals for more than a century – the last one was in 1686. Claims and pedigrees were examined, then authenticated or not as the case may be. Authenticated pedigrees were signed by the representatives of the family and retained by the College of Arms. Some failed to prove their claim, some made no claim to arms or gentility – and all of those not authenticated were published as lists of "disclaimers."

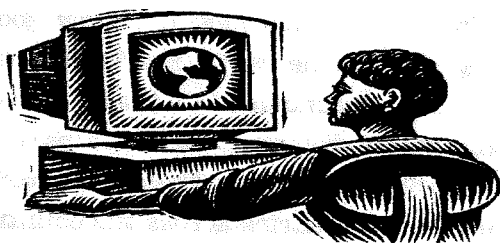
The making of false pedigrees goes back a long way – in fact to the times being discussed here and before. The age of Elizabeth had a reputation as a time of pedigree fiction. There was a market for what Anthony Wagner calls in "English Genealogy" (1972) 'deplorable concoctions' because there were many new families coming into wealth and prominence, and proving ancient blood was a matter of prestige. Fortunately this interest generated just as much concern for recording accurate pedigrees.

Which leads to the obvious question: how good are the pedigrees of the visitations? Wagner discusses this and he concludes that a new level of scholarship was developing the latter part of the 1500s and 1600s. He states that in the early 1600s there were antiquaries across the country who had some legal training, studied documents in a scholarly manner, and firmly believed in the importance of accurate pedigrees.

On the other hand, the majority of published visitations available to us are based upon copies of varying authenticity to be found in the British Library and other places and not on the original materials (Harvey, R., "Genealogy for Librarians" 1983). Also, in some books the visitation pedigree has been supplemented with information from other sources and not always with an indication of what the other source was. Information gleaned from the volumes of heralds visitations should be supported with research in other records.

In 1996, a comprehensive guide to the contents of the visitations, by Cecil Humphrey-Smith, was published – "Armigerous Ancestors: a catalog of sources for the study of the Visitations of the Heralds in the 16th and 17th centuries with referenced lists of names," (Family History Books, 1997). The author stresses the usefulness of the records of the herald's visitations. They might provide the vital clue in establishing links at a time when there are serious problems with other sources because of the Civil War, missing records, etc.

The visitations also deal with a greater cross-section of people than may be realized. Society was mobile, socially as well as geographically, and the disclaimers of those whose pedigrees were not authenticated include all sorts of people. It may be that people were summoned before the heralds with the underlying motive of using the information for (see page 6)



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.

PA Volunteers of the Civil War
pacivilwar.com

Alphabetical Street Name Cross-Reference List
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ITWIT_CENSUS1930_FILES

Irish Link
ulsterlink.net

Photos & other Documents
honoringourancestors.com/orphanphotos.html

PA Family Bibles
geocities.com/Heartland/3955/bibles.htm

North Hills Genealogists Website
NorthHillsGenealogists.org

Old Maps of England
<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.org/~genmaps>

All the Web, All the Time
alltheweb.com

tax purposes ("Armigerous Ancestors"). This book lists every name that appears in the visitations of the 16th and 17th centuries and indicates which published volumes need to be consulted for each name.

The many volumes of visitations published by the Harleian Society, and others are widely available.

They can be found in the Family History Library and several volumes have been added recently to the Ancestry UK databases. This last resource makes it very easy to search across multiple volumes all at once. Presently seven counties (Cumberland, Devonshire, Lancaster, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Warwickshire) are available. The volumes can be browsed, one at a time and page by page, or searched by name or keyword. Be sure to download the advanced image view for best results.

LDS OFFERS FREE ONLINE ACCESS TO 1880 US AND 1881 CANADIAN CENSUS INDEXES

The LDS Church has introduced free online access to the indexes of the 1880 US and 1881 Canadian census at their website. These indexes contain over 55 million individuals and are fully searchable. The data is also available on CD-ROM from the LDS.

The 1881 Canadian census contains more than 4.3 million individuals throughout the provinces of British Columbia, Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island and Quebec; the Northwest Territories, which at that time included the current provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan; the Yukon Territory; and the Western part of the Territory of Nunavut.

Check these out at the LDS website at:

<http://www.familysearch.org>

SEEKING DESCENDANTS OF THOSE BURIED IN NEW JERSEY CEMETERY

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter; Copyright Richard

W. Eastman - October 27, 2002.

The New Jersey Turnpike Authority is seeking the descendants of those buried in a potter's field cemetery in Hudson County. The turnpike needs the land to build an interchange that will serve the Secaucus Transfer train station near Laurel Hill. The cemetery on those grounds were used by Hudson County's former poorhouse, mental hospital and penitentiary. More than 3,500 bodies may be in the ground, located behind a prison annex and under an elevated section of highway.

The authority will spend \$3.89 million to locate and remove the remains, transport them to a new location, and re-inter them. A memorial will also be placed at the new site. State Superior Court Judge Thomas Oliveri in Hudson County is overseeing the move.

Several weeks ago, Oliveri ordered the turnpike to run legal ads searching for relatives of the deceased. Oliveri said in September that he wants to hear from relatives of the deceased. So far, only six have come forward and only one has been confirmed as having a relative in the cemetery.

A complete list of those buried is available on the turnpike's website. If you have ancestry in or around Hudson County, you should check this list for any possible relatives.

You will need Adobe's free Acrobat viewer installed in order to read this list. You can get this by going to <http://www.adobe.com> and download the free viewer there.

www.state.nj.us/turnpike/burial%20list.pdf

Great job Judge Oliveri!!!

SURNAME CARD FILE

Have you submitted a surname card for each of your ancestors that you have found at least a name, one date and one place of residence? If not, now is the time to complete them and submit them for inclusion in the NHG Surname Card File.

Please following the directions below when completing these cards.

1. Use 3" x 5" index cards only.
2. One generation to a card - husband & wife should be on the same card if the information is known.
3. Type or block print in BLACK ink the entire card, capitalizing the SURNAME. Always place the surname first. Add birth, death and marriage date if known.
4. Children (or other data) may be placed on the back of the card.
5. No card should be submitted unless it contains (at a minimum) one name, one place and one date.
6. Make a cross index card for wife, using maiden name.
7. There is no limit to the number of cards which may be submitted. No restrictions as to the place of residence. You are NOT limited to PA.
8. Name and address of person submitting the card must be included on lower right hand corner of all cards. No address labels, please. They eventually dry up and fall off.

Be sure to check the Surname Card File and the Ancestor Chart File at the next NHG meeting.

QUICK TIP

RootsWeb Review - 23 October 2002

Robert Ragan

I was alarmed when I read a recent letter in RootsWeb Review that suggested ignoring the "symbols" when doing online searches. This is a HUGE mistake. Understanding how to use the symbols and the search process itself is critical to all genealogists. I've taught thousands how to troubleshoot their specific research problems-at-hand and craft them into paydirt on the Internet.

When you learn how to translate a problem into keywords and symbols to use in a search engine (Google, for example) the keys to the Internet are yours. Here is how it works.

The plus (+) symbol forces a key word to be INCLUDED. The staple of genealogy research is vital records - when our ancestors were born, died and married - so a search with any surname and these keywords work well: Example: +ragan+born. You can use the keyword "died" or "married" in the spot where "born" is in the above example.

The minus (-) symbol forces a keyword to be EXCLUDED. This is an extremely powerful research tool when you learn how to use it properly with the plus symbol.

What if the surname was "Morse" or "Cook"? Here are examples of searches that you might do using the symbols: +morse+married-code (the word "code" is excluded because of "morse code"). Try cook+died-food-chef (the words "food" and "chef" are excluded).

Fine Tune Your Searches

Count on doing a search from three to five times. Each time you click on the "Search" button examine the results and see if there are any

other keywords you can include or exclude. Don't worry about a large amount of results. What matters is the top 10-20 - ignore the rest and start fine tuning. This way you can find the needle in the haystack. You will be able to get the good stuff to come to the top like cream floats to the top of Grandpa's milk pail.

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS HAS A WEBSITE!

We're in the process of building our website to provide an easy way to find out about events and meetings, as well as an assortment of other information to help you in your genealogy research.

You can check it out at NorthHillsGenealogists.org and see what we've built so far.

We are very interested in your feedback and ideas on what information we should have on the site. If you have a website that you find useful in your research, and would like to share them with others, this is a great place to make that happen.

Thanks to Reed Powell for his work on the website. This website will be taking NHG into the Internet world of genealogy. Please send any ideas you have for the website to NHG. This is a "work in process" so your feedback is important.

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.

PITTSBURGH MADE EASY — 2002 GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN

MAP LEGEND

- A** A. J. Palumbo Center
- B** Benedum Center
- C** Byham Theater
- D** Harris Theater
- E** Heinz Field
- F** I. C. Light Amphitheater
- G** Mellon Arena
- H** O'Reilly Theater
- I** The Pittsburgh Symphony Heinz Hall
- J** PNC Park
- K** Wood Street Galleries

EVENING, WEEKEND & EVENT PARKING

- 1** \$3 and \$5 parking garages/lots
- Additional parking garages/lots, rates not guaranteed

Theater Shuttle Routes

Subway Stop

/// Indicates road closed

○ Detour information

10th Street Bypass Detour

10th Street Bypass (closed 2002)

1. From the West End Bridge, Rte 65, or Parkway West (I-279) — take the Fort Duquesne Bridge OR take the North Shore exits, go around stadiums to General Robinson Street and take Sixth, Seventh or Ninth Street Bridge.
2. From the Parkway North (I-279) — cross the Veterans Bridge (I-579), take Seventh Street exit, turn right onto Grant Street, and left onto Eleventh Street.
3. From the south — cross the Fort Pitt Bridge, take Fort Duquesne Boulevard or Liberty Avenue exits.

16th Street Bridge Detour

16th Street Bridge

(closed June 2002–April 2003)

From Rte 28 — cross the 31st Street Bridge and continue to Liberty Avenue. Turn right onto Liberty Avenue.

Parking: ① Third Avenue; ② Wood/Bld. of Allies; ③ Fort Duquesne & Sixth

Fl. Pitt Boulevard Eastbound Detour

Eastbound Fort Pitt Boulevard (closed 2002), Westbound Fort Pitt Blvd open

1. From Rte 65 or West End Circle — take Fort Duquesne Bridge, exit to Fort Duquesne Boulevard to Stanwix Street.
2. From the West End Bridge, Rte 65, or Parkway West (I-279) — take North Shore exits, go around stadiums to General Robinson Street and take Sixth, Seventh or Ninth Street Bridge.
3. From the Parkway North (I-279) — take Veterans Bridge (I-579) to Crossstown Parkway to Boulevard of the Allies to Parkway East (I-376).

Outbound Ft. Pitt Bridge and Tunnel Detour

Outbound Fort Pitt Bridge and Tunnel (closed April 6–August 31, 2002), Inbound open

1. From the north, Parkway North (I-279), Rte 655, and Rte 28W — go to the West End Circle and take Rte 515 to the Parkway West (I-279).
2. From the east — exit the Parkway East (I-376) to the Boulevard of the Allies (exit 2B), cross the Liberty Bridge, take Rte 51 to Parkway West (I-279).
3. From the east — on Parkway East (I-376) follow signs for Rte 65 and continue to West End Circle, Rte 51, and Parkway West (I-279).

OHIO RIVER

Point State Park

PITTSBURGH MUSEUM

MONONGAHELA RIVER

Station Square

West Carson St

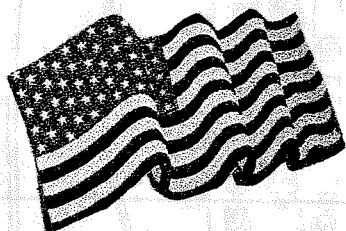
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

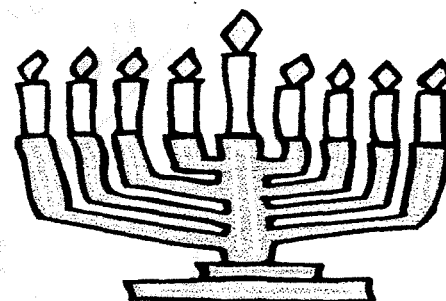


**DEMONSTRATION OF NEW ONLINE DATABASE SOON TO BE AVAILABLE AT
NORTHLAND LIBRARY
Amy Steele, Adult Services Librarian
JANUARY 21, 2003**



**Happy
Thanksgiving**

**Happy
Hanukkah**



**Merry
Christmas**

