

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



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

Volume 13, Number 1 - August, 2002

e-mail: pioneerbook@juno.com

President: Donna Booth	Vice President: Kay Santa	Secretary: Sylvan Kretz
Treasurer: Reed Powell	Membership: Steph Valentine	Liaison: Elissa Powell
Cemetery Project: Jo Henderson & Irene Dinning	Publicity: Gary Schlemmer	Program: Tom Wiley
	Mailings: Lois & Bill Daviess	Editor: Donna Booth
Subscription: \$12 per year		10 Issues - August - June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to a new year at North Hills Genealogists. We have some great programs planned for this year and I know you will want to be at all our meetings.

I am happy to be serving as your President for this year and I look forward to meeting all of you as the year goes along. I will also be continuing as Newsletter Editor so you will have "one-stop-shopping" for passing along information to the other members of the group.

I hope everyone had a great summer and had the opportunity to do some research. Or, maybe you attended a family reunion and gathered more family information. As unofficial "family historian" I try to find some new information for our reunion each year. This year it was information from wills and the 1930 census. I recently talked to a new NHG member who told me about an exciting research vacation to New England she and her husband took. She has promised to write an article about their trip.

I've appreciated all the help you have given me by sending articles and websites for the newsletter and hope you will continue to do so

this year. You can give them to me at the meeting, by mail to the address above or by e-mail at DJBooth@worldnet.att.net.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2002-2003, this is the last newsletter you will receive. So -- pick up a renewal form today or send a check for \$12 to the address on the masthead. You won't want to miss the notices about upcoming events and the articles and stories in each month's newsletter.

I think you will find that there are some exciting meetings and events coming up in August and September. Check out the information on them later in the newsletter.

The events of the last year have shown us just how important family is and as genealogists, we have the opportunity to trace our roots and record our family history for future generations.

I look forward to getting to know more of you during the coming year. I am anxious to learn what you would like to see the group do this year.

This is YOUR club and your help is needed to keep it a vibrant organization.

Donna Booth

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Tuesday, September 3 - 7:00 pm - NHG Board Meeting - UPMC Passavant Hospital cafeteria. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday, September 14 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting - Carpatho-Rusyn Genealogy - Historically-Pittsburgh-North Hills. John Righetti, President of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society (see separate article)

Other Meetings/Events

Sunday, August 25 - 1:00 - 3:00 pm - Book Signing, "The History of the Allegheny City Fire Department" by Mary Wohleber. (see separate article)

Thursday, September 12 - 7:00 pm - WPGS Meeting - "Beyond Wills and Deeds" - Jean Morris. Carnegie Lecture Hall. free and open to the public

Friday, September 13 - 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society - "Lawrenceville Then and Now". Held at Emma's Coffee Emporium, Butler Street (see separate article) free and open to the public

Sunday, September 15 - 2:00 - 3:00 pm - Tribute to the victims of the Allegheny Arsenal Explosion of September 17, 1862. Allegheny Cemetery's Mausoleum.

Thursday, September 19 - 7:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society - Jim Wudarczyk - "Stories of Allegheny Cemetery". Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville. free and open to the public

Monday, September 23 - 7:00 pm - Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - "Preserving the Land, Preserving the Stories: Central

Virginia Battlefield Trust & and Its Fight to Save America's Sacred Soil" - Mike Stevens. The Babcock, Babcock Boulevard. free and open to the public.

Second Sunday of each month - Davis Camp, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Soldiers & Sailors Military Museum and Memorial. For information contact: Ron Gancas at 412-621-4253, ext. 205 or ron@soldiersandsailorshall.org

BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS 2002-2003

President	Donna Booth
Vice President	Kay Santa
Secretary	Sylvan Kretz
Treasurer	Reed Powell
Cemetery Books	Jo Henderson, Irene Dinning, Ginny Skander
Program	Tom Wiley & Irene Dinning
Publicity	Gary Schlemmer
Mailings	Bill & Lois Daviess
Membership	Steph Valentine
Liaison	Lissa Powell

Thanks to Lissa Powell for her hard work as President last year.

Thanks also to Jean Taylor who has served as Treasurer for the past two years.

Volunteer to help with any of the committees. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

NHG September 17 Meeting

Carpatho-Rusyn Genealogy Historically-Pittsburgh-North Hills

Our speaker for the September 17 meeting is John Righetti, President of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society that is located at 125 Westland Drive in Pittsburgh 15217.

According to John, a Rusyn on his mother's side, there are about 60,000 Carpatho-Rusyn descendants in Western Pennsylvania and many are not sure of their true ethnic heritage. One of the purposes of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society is to help these people and others interested in this nationality group to understand who they are and from where they originated.

At one time they were a majority nationality in the villages of the central Carpathian Mountains in Eastern Europe. Their Rusyn homeland was at the crossroads of the current countries of Ukraine, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland. They had a distinct language and culture and their religion was Greek Catholic. They were ruled by kings and repeatedly subjected to occupation, domination, and persecution by foreign invaders. They were ultimately separated from their land and dispersed to neighboring countries.

Many people have thought that their ancestors were "Russian" only to find out years later that they were "Rusyn". Such was the case with John's maternal grandfather. To further confuse matters, in this country many Greek Catholic Churches were rejected by American Roman Catholic authorities. As a result they joined the Russian Orthodox Church. The largest Rusyn Orthodox diocese in this area is known as the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese. It is in Johnstown.

This confusion is why John and other members of the Society want to help people understand what

is meant by Carpatho-Rusyn. And, in particular, they want to help folks that have reason to believe that this may be a part of their heritage to connect with that heritage.

Much information can be found on the Society's website: www.carpathorusynsociety.org. Their email address is proudrusyn@excite.com. Another website to check is www.carpatho-rusyn.org.

The Carpatho-Rusyn Society has available two reference books written by Paul R. Magoesi. One, a good resource for genealogy is *Our People: The Carpatho-Rusyn and their Descendants in North America*. The other text is *The Carpatho-Rusyn Americans*.

A local Rusyn of note was Andy Warhol. His parents were Andrej and Julia Warhola. The Fifth Rusyn Celebration was held at the Andy Warhol Museum on the North Side on July 13 and a Rusyn Food Festival was held August 8-10 at the St. John's Orthodox Church in Ambridge. This coming November, from the 21st through the 24th, the American Association for Advancement of Slavic Studies will meet in Downtown Pittsburgh at the Pittsburgh Hilton.

LOCAL LDS LIBRARIES

Powells Lane, Wintersville, OH
740-264-6190

365 Saw Mill Run Rd, Meridan, PA
724-482-2129

525 Fairway Drive, Washington, PA
724-222-9474

1580 Old Route 119 North, Indiana, PA
724-349-1337

247 Friendship Road, Beaver, PA
724-774-3670

BOOK SIGNING

Mary Wohleber, Troy Hill and North Side historian, has published a new book entitled "*The History of the Allegheny City Fire Department*." The book traces the history of the Department from 1829 when the Borough Council purchased two engines and hose carriers that were manned by volunteers, through the organization of a paid Fire Bureau that ended with the annexation of Allegheny City by the City of Pittsburgh. Using historic records and other sources, Mary listed every fireman who served the City of Allegheny. Also the types of equipment that was used is documented. The major fires that plagued Allegheny City are recounted. The book has a number of hard-to-find photos of the Allegheny City Firehouses, many of which have been razed.

As part of the celebration of the publication, the Allegheny City Society along with the firefighters from Station No. 39 (Troy Hill - by Billy's Bistro) have planned a booksigning by Mary, scheduled for August 25, 2002 at the Troy Hill Fire House. The hours are 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Mary will speak about the book and her research at 1:30 pm. Reservations are not necessary for the event, however, seating will be limited to the first 50 people to attend. The limited printing of 300 copies will be numbered and signed by Mary. The cost per book is \$19.95 plus tax.

Let's show support for Mary's valuable contribution to local and family history! For more information or to order the book, contact The Allegheny City Society at 412-322-8807.

Saturday Morning Walking Tours

The Allegheny City Society in cooperation with Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation and Alcoa Foundation sponsors a walking tour of Beech Avenue in Allegheny West every Saturday morning. Contact the Society for more information.

LAWRENCEVILLE THEN AND NOW

Sponsored by the Lawrenceville Historical Society
Friday, September 13 - 6:00 - 9:00 pm

This will be a photographic exhibit to be held at Emma's Coffee Emporium, 4407 Butler Street and will feature photos taken between the turn of the century to the 1940's coupled with "now" photos of the same structures.

Included in the evening's entertainment is an exceptionally delightful duo called **Homefront** and a wonderful storyteller/banjo player, **Jane Dickerson**. Both are well known for their ability to captivate their audiences.

The public is invited to see the photo display, partake of refreshments, talk to Civil War reenactors and listen to a night of acoustic mid-nineteenth century music.

The Lawrenceville Historical Society will celebrate it's 20th anniversary this year. The public is invited to join their celebration on Thursday, October 17, 2002. Their meetings are held at 7:00 pm at Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville.

"Our heritage is all that we know of ourselves; what we preserve of it, our only record. That record is our beacon in the darkness of time; the light that guides our steps. Conservation is the means by which we preserve it.... It is a commitment not only to the past but to the future. -- from Philip Ward in "The Nature of Conservation: A Race Against Time."

BOOK DONATION TO NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The following books were donated to Northland Public Library by North Hills Genealogists in June, 2002.

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Scottish Ancestors, by Linda Jonas and Paul Milner, Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, May 2002, Softbound.

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your English Ancestors, by Paul Milner and Linda Jonas, Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2002. Softbound.

A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your Germanic Ancestors, by S. Chris Anderson and Ernest Thode, Cincinnati OH: Betterway Books, 2002.

Your Guide to Cemetery Research, by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, Cincinnati, OH: Betterway Books, 2002. Softbound.

Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives, 3rd Edition, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 2000. Hardbound.

Guide to Cartographic Records in the National Archives, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1971. Hardbound.

A Guide to Pre-Federal Records in the National Archives, compiled by Howard H. Wehmann, revised by Benjamin L. DeWhitt, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1989. Hardbound.

The Union: A Guide to Federal Archives Relating to the Civil War, by Kenneth W. Munden and Henry Putney Beers, Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1987.

Hardbound.

CD-ROM: *PERSI 2000: Periodical Source Index* published by Ancestry in conjunction with Allen County Public Library.

THANK YOU LETTER FROM NORTHLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

The following letter was received from Northland Public Library following the donation of the above books to the Library's genealogical collection.

"Many thanks to the North Hills Genealogists for your recent contribution of the books and CD-ROM to Northland's collection. Your continuing support of Northland is truly appreciated and certainly adds to Northland's ability to provide quality public library service to the residents of our five communities.

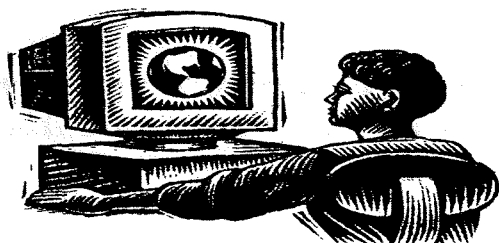
Sincerely,

Sandra A. Collins
Director

The donation of books to Northland Public Library is set out as one of the purposes of North Hills Genealogists in its Bylaws:

"To support the genealogical department of the Northland Public Library".

Northland has been a gracious "host" to NHG by providing a room to hold our meetings each month. Check out the numerous books in the genealogical section on the main floor of Northland.



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.

Records of Philadelphia, 1833

libertynet.org/~gsa/SurnamesIndex.htm

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System

itd.nps.gov/cwss

Map Collections 1544-1999

lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html

Cemetery Records online

interment.net

1930 Census Enumeration Districts

<http://1930census.archives.gov/beginSearch.asp>

English Origins

englishorigins.com

Headstone Hunter

headstonehunter.com

Topographic Maps

topozone.com

SCOTTISH ARCHIVE NETWORK

The following article is from *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and is copyright 2002 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author.

The Scottish Archive Network (SCAN) now has a complete index to all the registers of Scottish wills, which is available free of charge on their Website. Digital images of the wills are being made available for purchase. The digitization project is underway now and is due for completion in early 2003.

There are two search options: a simple one that searches only by first and last names, and an advanced search option that allows you to search by first and last names as well as by description (title or occupation, or place, beginning date and ending date). When the full images become available online you should be able to click on the selected names, enter a credit card number and then view the images of the original document listed. Even in today's format, the information shown can be valuable as it tells you where you can find original documents on microfilm.

The Scottish Wills team has a permanent staff of three archivists from the National Archives of Scotland (NAS) and two conservators, with 11 volunteers from the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU).

FIVE GENERATION CHARTS & SURNAME CARDS

As summer is coming to an end, now would be a good time to complete your Five Generation Charts and Surname Cards and bring them to the meeting. We maintain a file of all the cards submitted by members. Or, you might want to update the ones you have already submitted. Blank copies of the Five Generation charts are available at the meeting for 10 cents each. See any Board member to obtain copies.

OKLAHOMA VETERAN RECORDS NO LONGER PUBLIC

Reprinted with permission from *Family Tree Magazine Email*
Update, copyright 2002 F&W Publications, Inc.

Fears of identity theft have prompted another state to remove records from public view. As of July 1, Oklahoma county clerks can no longer allow genealogists and other researchers to see U.S. Department of Defense Form 214 records, which document military veterans' status and eligibility for benefits. You can only access these records if you are the veteran, the veteran's spouse or child, a guardian with power of attorney, a Department of Defense representative, a funeral director or other person authorized by the court to do so. In recent months, California, Texas and Maine have also yanked vital records from public scrutiny because of concerns about identity theft.

NGS 100th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

Barbara Guffey, WWPGS President & NHG Member

The summer has been filled with activity in the 'burg as we prepare for the NGS Conference at the David Lawrence Convention Center on May 28-31, 2003. Marilyn Holt, the Program Chair for the NGS 2003 Conference has been hard at work completing the set up of the Programs for this Conference. Diane Ragan is at work on Publicity. Alexis Olkowski and Jim Costello are working on tours and Corporate Relations. Suzie Johnson is gearing up to compile the Syllabus. Chuck Novak is beginning preparations for registration and Lissa Powell is arranging the Luncheons. What am I doing? Setting up flyers to go out to other societies. I am learning a lot about cab fares & bus routes, alerting PAT to our arriving visitors & coordinating all our efforts here in Pittsburgh. It's a lot of fun and quite a challenge! We should be in great shape by the end of August.

Now this is where you come in! We will need lots of volunteers and I was so happy that many of you gave me your name at the June NHG meeting. If you wish to volunteer to help at the NGS Conference, just e-mail your name to Audrey Iacone at iacone@carnegielibrary.org or you can give your name to your President, Donna Booth and she can give it to Audrey. See you at the Conference.

Barbara Braden Guffey, M.Ed.,
WPGS President and NGS
Local Arrangement Chairperson

P.S. It is a joy to have the following NHG members on the WPGS Board this year:

Phyllis Locke - Treasurer
Shirley Kuntz - Corresponding Secretary
Donna Booth - Recording Secretary

HAVE YOU "ATTACKED" THE 1930 CENSUS YET?

As we all know, the 72 year wait for the 1930 Census is over. Now comes the hard part! Finding our ancestors (or maybe ourselves?) in it. As has been noted before, there is virtually no index for this census. So, if you don't know exactly where your family lived, you have a big job ahead of you.

Several months ago I started identifying the addresses of my mother's family in 1930. To do this I used the 1930 City Directory for Pittsburgh. After I had done this I made a list of the various people I had found and their address.

In order to find the ED for these addresses I have found that the National Archives has a great website that allows you to put in a State, County, town name and even the street name. It will then give you all the ED's where that street is located.

You will find the arrangement of the census sheets different from previous years but it can be done, it just takes a little longer. GOOD LUCK!!

EXPERT ADVICE: GATHERING FAMILY PHOTO STORIES

Reprinted with permission from Family Tree Magazine Email
Update, copyright 2002 F&W Publications, Inc.

Talking with relatives is a necessary part of any family research, but it becomes more important when photographs are involved. By showing the images to family members, you may discover the names and the stories behind the photographs.

In some cases, the older members of a family will remember stories, while in others, the younger relatives will be the most helpful. You may want to show the image you are trying to date and interpret to more than one relative. Everyone remembers an event differently. An elderly relative may remember all the names of the people in the portrait and may also tell you a story about the day the picture was taken.

One relative talked about what it had been like to travel to the city to sit for a family portrait. She recalled that she had never seen a tin ceiling before and couldn't take her eyes away from it. Her story explained why she was looking up in the family portrait. She could not provide a date for the image, but the story she told about it enriched the family history.

When showing a photograph to relatives, prepare a list of questions prior to your visit. And let the details in the image lead to other avenues of inquiry. A friend showed her much older siblings a box of family photographs in order to find out when and where they were taken. All the images were taken before she was born, so she was unfamiliar with the events and the people. During the course of the interview, the siblings began using nicknames for each other that they had used as children. The younger sibling was amazed. She was unaware of these nicknames, her siblings explained, because they had used them only to communicate between themselves. Her siblings

shared with her the origins of those nicknames and why they used them. A whole new understanding of her immediate family was uncovered in one afternoon by looking at family photographs.

Excerpted from "Uncovering Your Ancestry through Family Photographs" by Maureen Taylor. Reprinted here with permission from the publisher, Betterway Books.

NEW BOOK

Pittsburgh During the American Civil War: 1860-1865

by Arthur B. Fox, M.A.

Realizing that secondary documentation of Pittsburgh's "homefront" during the Civil War was almost non-existent, Mr. Fox took on the daunting task of uncovering primary material and wrote a book to fill this "gap" in Pittsburgh history.

Far from being a "backwater" town, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County contributed not only 25,000 troops, but military equipment and munitions for small arms and field cannons, 60% of the Union's siege, seacoast and naval cannons, iron-clad ships, in addition to forging thousands of tons of iron under government contracts.

Over 100 area companies and small businesses would procure U.S. Government contracts, including the Allegheny Arsenal and Fort Pitt Foundry. 118 Confederate prisoners of war were housed at Western Penitentiary in Allegheny City over nine months in 1863-64. Another intriguing tale involves eight unclaimed Confederate soldiers who have laid at rest in Allegheny Cemetery for the past 135 years.

This book is available from Mechling Bookbindery, 1124 Oneida Valley Rd., Rt. 38, Chicora, PA 16025-3820.

**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.

Dues _____

Donation _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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

QUERY

Please put surname in all CAPS

NAME: _____ **; ADDRESS:** _____

; E-MAIL: _____

Send to address on front -- mark envelope "Attn: Query Editor"

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

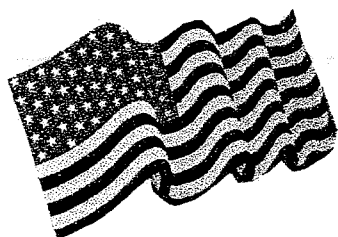
C/O Northland Public Library

300 Cumberland Road

Pittsburgh, PA 15237

FIRST CLASS MAIL

DATED MATERIAL



CARPATHO-RUSYN GENEALOGY: HISTORICALLY-PITTSBURGH-NORTH HILLS

John Righetti

September 14, 2002

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.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month, except December. They are held at Northland Public Library, Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA. The meetings start at 7:00 pm.

QUERIES

Queries are free and open to everyone. They will be published as space permits in the newsletter. The form on page 9 can be used to submit queries. Please put surnames in CAPS. When submitting a query, please mail them to NHG % Northland Public Library at the address on the front. Please mark the envelope: Attention Query Editor.