



# NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS



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

Volume 13, Number 3 - October, 2002

e-mail: [pioneerbook@juno.com](mailto:pioneerbook@juno.com)

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		10 Issues - August - June

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

October is Family History Month, a time to celebrate family, our history and the times we have spent together. As genealogists, every month is Family History Month as we look for information about our ancestors and learn more about ourselves in the process.

There are many ways to celebrate family. For some of us it is special holiday traditions. For others, it is the annual family reunion. Since 11 September, 2001 many people have returned to their "roots" and appreciate family more than before.

For years my mother's family had an annual family reunion at my Uncle's weekend home in Rector, PA. We all looked forward to this day together. Another big day was New Year's Eve when we celebrated our grandfather's birthday, which was New Year's Day. After the death of my uncle in 1959 and my grandfather in 1962, these gatherings fell apart. Several years ago my cousins decided they wanted to re-start the reunions. For the past three years we have gotten together for a day of reconnection. Every year we add more people and have added more generations at the reunion. This coming summer

we hope to combine our reunion with the 90th birthday celebration of our one remaining uncle.

Take this opportunity to celebrate your family and your heritage. Maybe it will be finally starting that family book or album. There are many ways to celebrate family.

Our program this month features an award-winning family website. We will see how one family celebrates their heritage. Also, take a few minutes and visit the Family History Month display on the upper level of Northland Library. Carol Inglis, one of the Adult Services librarians created the display, which will be up for the entire month of October.

With the holidays coming we will have more opportunities to collect those family stories. Don't miss out on that wonderful opportunity to add to your family's story.

## Happy Family History Month

Donna Booth

**Genealogy - The study of the history of a group, clan or family and its line of descent.**

## WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

### NHG

**Tues., Nov. 5, 2002 - 7:00 pm - NHG Board Meeting** - UPMC Passavant Hospital Cafeteria. Everyone welcome.

**Tues, Nov. 19, 2002 - 7:00 pm - Regular NHG Meeting** - Annual Round Table Discussion (see separate article)

**Sat., December 7, 2002 - NHG Christmas Social** - Fort Pitt Museum Tour and lunch at historic 1902 Tavern in Market Square (see separate article)

### Other Meetings

**Thurs., Oct. 17, 2002 - 7:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society** - 20th Anniversary Celebration. Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk Street, Lawrenceville.

**Mon., Oct. 28, 2002 - 7:00 pm - Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table** - "Custer and The Battle of Little Bighorn" - Brian C. Pohanka The Babcock, Babcock Blvd. (see article)

**Thurs. Nov. 14, 2002 - 7:00 pm - Lawrenceville Historical Society** - "The Story of Lawrenceville Native Col. Wm. Sirwell and His Role in the American Civil War. - Grant Gerlich, Curator and Ron Gancas, Asst. Director, Soliders & Sailors Memorial Hall. Canterbury Place, 310 Fisk St., Lawrenceville, PA.

**Sat., Nov9, 2002 - 10:00 am - WPGS Meeting** - Genealogy and Genetics : The Link Between Science and Family History. Mark Welchley Carnegie Lecture Hall, Oakland. (see article)

**Don't Miss Any of These Great Programs!!!!**

## NHG NOVEMBER 19 MEETING

### Round Table Discussion

#### Ask Questions, Give Answers

Our Annual November Round Table Discussion is always one of the most interesting meetings of the year. For some it is a chance to tell about their latest success -- how they achieved a real breakthrough -- a new generation added -- or an "email" cousin found. Maybe it's about this summer's family reunion that went better than you expected.

For others it is an opportunity to tap into the collective wisdom and experience of our members. Ask them how to solve that problem that has you bogged down. We all have hit a "brick-wall" or two. Some of us may have found a way over it, or, more likely, around it to continue our generalogy research.

If you have been online, tell us about that. Good or bad. What is your favorite website. We may be able to project it live for all to see.

For all, it is an evening of sharing our personal genealogy and family history activities, the common interest that brings us together each month. See you on November 19 at 7:00 pm.

## WPGS November 16 Meeting

### Genealogy & Genetics: The Link Between Science and Family History

Mark Welchley will speak on genetics and genealogy. He is a teacher in the Fox Chapel Schools, Past President of the Beaver County Genealogical Society, Past VP of Beaver County History & Landmarks Foundation, Publication Chair for the 20th Century History of Beaver County, PA. He has also written several genealogy books.

## QUERIES

Compiled and edited by Sylvan Kretz, Query Editor

**SIMON, Abraham** - McKeesport or North Side, Pittsburgh (1879-1936), **Joseph and Nora** - Mt. Washington or North Side, Pittsburgh (1886-1958), **LAHOOD, Anna** - Mt. Washington (1906-1986), **WEISS, Frank, SCHRANNER, Simon** - Allegheny City, PA. **Contact: Joan Weiss, 8396 Knollwood Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101**

**McGEAGH, GRUBB** - McCandless Township, PA. **Contact: Robert Westbury, 4012 Comanche Road, Calgary, Alberta, T2L - ON8 Canada**

**BECKER, FREDERICK, WELLER** - Allegheny City, PA. **Contact: Virginia Kryl, 236 Columbia Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15229-1623**

**PLANTS/PLANTZ, STUMPF, STOLLAR, HAINES, HOSTUTLER, WHITLATCH, OWEN, KEENER** - All from Green County, PA or Northern W. VA. **Contact: Mildred McElhinny, 755 Brownsdale Road, Evans City, PA 16033**

**FUCHS** - Lawrenceville, PA. **STALEY** - Indiana Township, Allegheny Co., PA. **Contact: Joyce Purdue, 4107 St. Thomas Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044-9725**

**HIGBEE, JONES, CRAIG, MULLEN, GERKIN, GORDON, ZINCK, STEFANKO** - All Allegheny County, PA. **Contact: Barbara Schmitt, 4022 Cook Road, Gibsonia, PA 15044-9656**

**JARVIS** - Ireland, VA and Forward Twp., PA; **STARKEY** - NJ, Clarksburg, Harrison County, WV; **LOWTHER** - England, Ireland, PA, OH, WV. **Contact: JoAnn & Robert Jarvis, 4129 Surrey Drive, Allison Park, PA 15101-3030**

Send Queries to the attention of the Query Editor at the address on the front page.

## INTERNATIONAL GENEALOGICAL INDEX UPDATED

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FamilySearch.org's International Genealogical Index (IGI) is now better than ever. The new, updated version of this online database has more names and displays the information source for an individual's records. Also, as new information is gathered, it will be added to the online index (but no updates are planned for IGI on compact disc). A small number of individuals are now linked into families and can be viewed on pedigree charts. Family group records and pedigree charts are downloadable, and the number of individuals linked into families is expected to increase over time. This new version reveals events contained in original user submissions and allows events to be used as search criteria. Given names, surnames, states and regions are other search criteria.

Check out the updated version of IGI at:

<http://www.familysearch.org>.

## GREATER PITTSBURGH CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE MEETING

October 28, 2002

"Custer and the Battle of Little Bighorn"

In his slide program, Brian Pohanka will discuss a wide variety of aspects of the fascinating and much debated Battle of Little Bighorn, including the personalities; tactical theories; and "then and now" photographic comparisons of the field.

Brian Pohanka is a military historian, author, lecturer and consultant. He is active in Civil War Battlefield Preservation. He served as an historical advisor for the movies: "Glory"; "Gettysburg"; the soon to be released "Gods and Generals" and the upcoming "Cold Mountain".

**NHG CHRISTMAS SOCIAL**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2002**

**Fort Pitt Museum Tour**  
**Lunch at historic 1902 Tavern**

The NHG Christmas Social will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2002 in downtown Pittsburgh. We will begin at the Fort Pitt Museum at 10:00 am with a tour of the current displays and exhibits plus a presentation by a re-enactor in period costume.

About noon we will walk a few blocks to Market Square to have lunch at the historic 1902 Tavern located at 24 Market Square. There we will each order directly from their regular menu and pay by couples or individuals as appropriate.

**Reservations**

There will be a \$5 per person charge for admission to the Fort Pitt Museum and period presentation. This will be payable in advance by completing and returning the reservation form. A form is included in the newsletter on page 29 or pick up a copy at the October or November meetings.

Reservations with accompanying check to pay for the museum tour may be turned in at the October or November meeting or mailed to NHG at the address on the front. PLEASE MARK THE ENVELOPE: CHRISTMAS SOCIAL. Reservations must be received at Northland Library no later than November 25. No refunds will be made after December 1.

**Maps of Downtown Pittsburgh**

Two maps of downtown Pittsburgh will be provided to those who register for the event. One will be a pictorial guide to downtown parking provided by the Pittsburgh Downtown

Partnership. The other will be a 15" x 21" birdseye view map of the triangle published by the Greater Pittsburgh Convention and Visitors Bureau. This latter map shows both the Fort Pitt Museum and Market Square.

For additional information you may check out these websites: [www.fortpittmuseum.com](http://www.fortpittmuseum.com) and [www.visitpittsburgh.com](http://www.visitpittsburgh.com). Color maps are also available from <http://www.mapquest.com>. For destination enter: 24 Market Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

**ABOUT THE FORT PIT MUSEUM**

The Fort Pitt Museum is located in downtown Pittsburgh in Point State Park where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers join to form the Ohio River. It is housed in the Monongahela Bastion, one of three recreated 18th century defensive earthworks.

We will see the results of the recently completed major renovation and expansion of the building and exhibit space. And, we will learn about the plans to transform Fort Pitt into a state of the art historic site and museum with new interactive exhibits and educational programs.

Our tour of the current exhibits will begin at the scale model of Fort Pitt as it appeared in 1765 and will include the North American Exhibit and Trader's Cabin. The commentary will emphasize the French and Indian War, Pontiac's War and the frontier history of the colonial period in Western PA. This will help provide an understanding of the colonial development of Western Pa and the founding of Pittsburgh - American's first "Gateway to the West."

(continued on next page)

## 1902 Landmark Tavern

The 1902 Landmark Tavern is located at 24 Market Square, a few blocks from the Fort Pitt Museum and is promoted as "Pittsburgh's Premier Chop House." It was originally established as the Dimling Brothers Bar and Grill.

The liquor license issued to the early tavern was the eighth issued by the State of Pennsylvania.

According to the present owners, "Painstaking care has been taken to bring back the original tiles, replace the brass and woodwork dating back to the turn of the century. Working from old photographs, craftsmen have restored the tile patterns, brass work and tin ceiling as closely as possible. The original bar no longer existed, so a search began for a similar style. Eventually an authentic 19th century bar was located in an old hotel in South Fork, PA. It was purchased, dismantled, and shipped to Pittsburgh where it has been refinished to add to the authentic flavor of the Tavern."

They also state that the exterior of the Tavern has been restored to its original architecture.

See article starting on Page 26 about the history of Fort Pitt and the Blockhouse.

## TYPING FOREIGN CHARACTERS

Submitted by Betty Hoge

Hold down the ALT key and use the number keypad. Ex: ALT128 = Ç

ALT128 = Ç	ALT150 = û
ALT129 = ù	ALT151 = ù
ALT130 = é	ALT152 = ý
ALT131 = â	ALT153 = ð
ALT132 = ä	ALT154 = Ů
ALT133 = à	ALT155 = ø
ALT134 = á	ALT156 = ž
ALT135 = ç	ALT157 = ƒ
ALT136 = ê	ALT159 = f
ALT137 = ë	ALT160 = á
ALT138 = è	ALT161 = í
ALT139 = ï	ALT162 = ó
ALT140 = î	ALT163 = ů
ALT141 = ï	ALT164 = ñ
ALT142 = Ä	ALT165 = Ñ
ALT143 = Å	ALT166 = *
ALT144 = É	ALT167 = °
ALT145 = æ	ALT168 = ç
ALT146 = œ	ALT225 = ß
ALT147 = ô	ALT0216 = ?
ALT148 = õ	ALT0248 = ø
ALT149 = ò	

## GENEALOGY CLASSES

Beginning Genealogy Class – Cranberry Campus, Butler Community College - next to Cranberry Post Office next to Costco. Five Saturdays, October 26 through November 23, 9 am to noon. Call 724-772-5520 to register for course NPERS 109-C02.

Genealogy On-Line Class - North Campus Allegheny Community College - 4 Sundays, October 27, November 3, November 17 and November 24 from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Call 412-237-2670 or 724-325-6626 to register.

## National Genealogical Society 100th Anniversary Conference

Pittsburgh, PA

May 28-31, 2003

Mark your calendar so you don't miss this exciting conference. This will be the last NGS conference on the East Coast for at least seven years.



## 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](mailto:DJBooth@worldnet.att.net).**

Methodist Church Archive Information  
[gcah.org/Searching.htm](http://gcah.org/Searching.htm)

German Map  
[library.ucla.edu/yrl/reference/maps/blaeu/nameindex-country.htm](http://library.ucla.edu/yrl/reference/maps/blaeu/nameindex-country.htm)

Setting up a family e-mail newsletter  
[familytreemagazine.com/ancestornews/current.html](http://familytreemagazine.com/ancestornews/current.html)  
[yahogroups.com](http://yahogroups.com)

[tpica.com](http://tpica.com)

Genealogy Tips and Guides for Beginners  
[genealogicaljourneys.com/tips.htm](http://genealogicaljourneys.com/tips.htm)

Allegheny County Cemeteries  
This site contains readings of various cemeteries done by people and submitted to this site for posting

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~njm1/tombs.htm>

## A HISTORY OF THE POINT

(from the Fort Pitt Museum website)

The Fort Pitt Museum is located in a re-created eighteenth century bastion of the famous British fort on the forks of the Ohio River in Point State Park, Pittsburgh. On this point the British and French erected the fortifications that protected their claims to the early West and the Indian trade. The exhibits recount the struggle that exploded into the French and Indian War and develop the story to the founding of Pittsburgh.

The area known today as Point State Park was extremely valuable in the mid-1700's. For the French, the Ohio River represented the only way to connect their colonies in New France (present day Canada) to their colonies in Louisiana. By controlling the Ohio River, the English would be able to expand their Colonial power beyond the Appalachian Mountains. During the French and Indian War, both colonial powers were willing to sacrifice human lives and enormous amounts of money for the control of this valuable piece of land. Caught in the middle between two of Europe's most powerful nations, Native Americans strove to preserve the culture and the lands they knew.

In April 1754, a force of 500 French troops and Native Americans overwhelmed a small Colonial garrison at Fort Prince George, taking the point without a single shot being fired. Afterwards, the French began construction of Fort Duquesne. On May 28, 1754, a small group of Colonial troops led by Major George Washington, fired on a group of French soldiers in an event known as the Jumonville Affair. In retaliation, 900 French and Indian soldiers attacked Fort Necessity, forcing Washington to surrender on July 4th, 1754. General Edwin Braddock led the first direct attack on Fort Duquesne; the attack ended at the Battle of the Monongahela where two-thirds of Braddock's 1,500 troops were killed or wounded in a devastating defeat.

Colonial soldiers led by General John Forbes reclaimed the Point once and for all for the British Empire on November 25, 1758.

Once General Forbes secured the Point, he renamed Fort Duquesne, in honor of the Prime Minister of England, William Pitt. Fort Pitt, as it was named, became one of the largest English strongholds in North America. Though never attacked by the French, Native American forces from May 27 to August 9, 1763 besieged Fort Pitt. Only Fort Pitt, Fort Ligonier and a handful of other outposts on the frontier successfully withstood the Native American attacks during the conflict known as Pontiac's War. Colonel Henry Bouquet led British troops in a victory over Native American forces in the Battle of Bushy Run, thereby lifting the siege on Fort Pitt.

After years of only being a garrison town, the city of Pittsburgh began to develop by 1790. With frontier expansion booming, Pittsburgh became the gateway to the west during the eighteenth century. Because of the discovery of valuable natural resources in the area and reliable river passages, Pittsburgh's industry and commerce exploded in the nineteenth century. Gristmills, printing shops, glassworks, and the iron industry flourished in the Pittsburgh area. Since Pittsburgh was and is an ideal location for river travel on the forks of the Ohio, millions of people heading west traveled through the area. With heavy river traffic, accessible natural resources, and diverse commerce and industry, Pittsburgh truly was the "Workshop of the World."

### **The Blockhouse**

The only structure that stands as a reminder of Fort Pitt is Pittsburgh's oldest building, Bouquet's Blockhouse. Not only is the building the oldest building Pittsburgh has to offer, but the building is the oldest authenticated structure west of the mountains. Dated to 1764, it served as a retreat from the invading forces. Today the

blockhouse still stands as a final link to the original 18 acres that became the city of Pittsburgh. The Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) administer the Blockhouse.

### **Fort Pitt Museum**

Housed in the Monongahela Bastion, one of the three recreated defensive earthworks in Point State Park, Fort Pitt Museum offers a wide variety of exhibits and dioramas that cover from the early French expeditions into this region, to the beginning of Pittsburgh's industrial age. Visitors can explore the inside of a fur trader's cabin or see the uncomfortable surroundings that a soldier's barracks can offer while they learn about life at a frontier outpost during the colonial period. The 16 foot wide well in the center of the William Pitt Memorial Hall contains a model of Fort Pitt.

Fort Pitt Museum interprets for citizens and visitors the strategic importance of the "Forks of the Ohio" during the French and Indian War period in which British, Colonial, French and Native American forces struggled for control of North America, and during the subsequent founding and development of the city of Pittsburgh.

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## **FAMILY HISTORY MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION OFFER**

There is still time to take advantage of the FAMILY HISTORY MAGAZINE subscription offer and help NHG at the same time. For every subscription of \$28.95, NHG keeps \$8.95. This money will be a huge help to our treasury. See the form on page 29. Make check payable to: "North Hills Genealogists". Subscribe to a good genealogical magazine and help NHG at the same time.



# **STANDARDS FOR SOUND GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

## **Recommended by the National Genealogical Society**

Used with the permission of the National Genealogical Society

Remembering always that they are engaged in a quest for truth, family history researchers consistently:

- \* Record the source for each item of information they collect.
- \* Test every hypothesis or theory against credible evidence, and reject those that are not supported by the evidence.
- \* Seek original records, or reproduced images of them when there is reasonable assurance they have not been altered, as the basis for their research conclusions.
- \* Use compilations, communications and published works, whether paper or electronic, primarily for their value as guides to locating the original records, or as contributions to the critical analysis of the evidence discussed in them.
- \* State something as a fact only when it is supported by convincing evidence, and identify the evidence when communicating the fact to others.
- \* Limit with words like "probable" or "possible" any statement that is based on less than convincing evidence, and state the reasons for concluding that it is probably or possible.
- \* Avoid misleading other researchers by either intentionally or carelessly distributing or publishing inaccurate information.
- \* State carefully and honestly the results of their own research, and acknowledge all use of other researchers' work.

\* Recognize the collegial nature of genealogical research by making their work available to others through publications, or by placing copies in appropriate libraries or repositories, and by welcoming critical comment.

\* Consider with open minds new evidence or the comments of others on their work and the conclusions they have reached.

## **PHOTO ARCHIVES VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT**

The Photo Archives committee of WPGS has asked North Hills Genealogists for any volunteers who would like to work on this project on Mondays or Fridays. The committee is doing nothing less than cataloging the thousands of photographs taken by Allegheny County since "the camera was invented." The work is easy but very interesting; you never know what is going to crop up (no pun intended). If you are interested, email Jo Henderson at [chens4th@aol.com](mailto:chens4th@aol.com)

## **NHG MEMBERS INVITED TO "OLD RECORDS" TOUR**

Save Wednesday, November 6 from 9 am to 12 noon to tour the Allegheny County Records Warehouse on the North Side. This is part of a project to save the 65,000 boxes of documents which constitute the County's priceless written history. More details on logistics. If you are interested, e-mail Jo Henderson at [chens4th@aol.com](mailto:chens4th@aol.com).



## **FAMILY HISTORY MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION**

**Please Print**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP+4** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FORMS & MONEY DUE NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 18, 2002.**

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### **RESERVATION FORM**

**NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS  
CHRISTMAS SOCIAL  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2002**

**I/We will be attending the Christmas Social on December 7, 2002. Enclosed please find \$5.00 per person for the Fort Pitt Museum Tour.**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservation due no later than November 25, 2002. No refunds after December 1. Mail reservation with payment to NHG at the address on the front. Please mark envelope CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.**

# **NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS**

**C/O Northland Public Library**

**300 Cumberland Road**

**Pittsburgh, PA 15237**

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

### **DATED MATERIAL**

**NOVEMBER 19, 2002**

**ANNUAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

**7:00 PM**

**ASK QUESTIONS, GIVE ANSWERS**

#### **GERMAN TRANSLATIONS**

The following notice was on various e-mail lists

We are pleased to announce the availability of a new group of volunteers who will transcribe records written in the Old German script, including entries in Latin. There is no fee for this service. The URL for the transcription site is:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/transcribe>

Just click on one of the spots that read "Join This Group" and you'll be able to post a scan of your record to be transcribed. If fellow listmembers would like to volunteer to help others with their transcriptions, we would welcome you, also.

Donat, Moderator of Transcribe Group

Lynn, Assistant to Moderator

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.

#### **E-MAIL MEETING NOTIFICATION**

To receive an e-mail notification of NHG meetings and events, as well as other meetings, send a request to [pioneerbook@juno.com](mailto:pioneerbook@juno.com).

Note: We do NOT sell or give our e-mail list to other groups.