



NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS

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President: Steph Valentine	Vice President: Laura Kunig	Secretary: Sylvan Kretz
Treasurer: Reed Powell	Membership: Steph Valentine	Editor: Donna Booth
Cemetery Project: Jo Henderson & Irene Dinning	Publicity: Gary Schlemmer	Program: Laura Kunig
	10 issues - August-June	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the final issue of our fiscal year. In the back of this issue is a renewal form. If you wish to receive your newsletter or announcements via E-Mail, please check the appropriate box and include your E-Mail address. With the increase of postage and cost of reproduction, newsletters via E-Mail helps us keep our dues stable. In voting for the new slate of officers, I trust you noted that we had two candidates for vice president and voted for only one. We are always looking for suggestions for our monthly meetings. Please give me or any board member your suggestions.

I had a nice visit with my father this past month. Montana is called Big Sky Country for a reason. To put Montana in perspective, Allegheny County has a larger population than Montana. He had a few outdoor physical chores for me to accomplish, which I was happy to do. I got pretty good at splitting wood and replacing fence posts.

We then spent a bunch of time going over 'stuff.' You know what "stuff" is, right? It is the miscellaneous material that one accumulates over time. This is stuff that means something to you, otherwise, you wouldn't have kept it. It can be dolls, pictures, certificates, newspaper clippings, a tie clip, medals, an old uniform, etc. However, this stuff is important to you. And unless that information is passed on, your stuff is just trash when you're gone. So my father and I went over some boxes of stuff he accumulated over the years from his high school days up to his move to Montana from Connecticut. It gave me a greater understanding of him. He still has the boxes, but now, I know what it means and I can pass that information on to my siblings and their kids.

It got me thinking about all the stuff I've accumulated. As I am childless, I need to ensure that it gets to my siblings where they can share it with their children. By scanning old pictures and burning CDs, I've been working in that direction. But there is more that I need to do. I also need to ensure that all my genealogical research is passed on. Besides giving copies to relatives, the best way is to donate it to a library or genealogical society where it will be accessible to all.

Our third cemetery book project is nearing the home stretch. The current group of cemeteries have been read twice, information entered into a computer, the data cross-checked and referenced. I'd like to thank Jo Henderson and Irene Dinning for all the hard work on our third book.

Steph

WHERE GENEALOGISTS MEET

Note: Since this is the last newsletter of the membership year, we are including events for July & August. The August newsletter will have events for September.

Tues, July 18, 2006 – 7:00 pm – Regular NHG Meeting – Long Distance Genealogical Topics – Christine Crawford-Oppheimer (see write-up)

Tues., August 15 – 7:00 pm – Regular NHG Meeting – Moving Day 1800 – Violet Covert (see write up)

OTHER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Monday, June 26, 2006 – 7:00 pm – Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table – “Food for the Troops: The United States Christian Commission in Pittsburgh” – Ruth McCartan (see write-up) Sieb’s Pub, Babcock Meeting Room, Babcock Boulevard, North Hills.

July, 2006

Sat., July 1., 2006 – 12:00 – 5:00 pm – Stephen Foster Music & Heritage Festival (Doo Dah Days) – Lawrenceville Historical Society - Held at Allegheny Cemetery, Lawrenceville (see write-up)

July 14-15, 2006 – Roots in the Boot – American-Italian Family History and Cultural Conference – University of Pittsburgh – www.rootsintheboot.org

Sat., July 15, 2006 10:00 am – Cranberry Genealogical – Funeral Home Records – Pat Boylan, Glenn-Kidoo Funeral Home – Cranberry Municipal Building

Thurs., July 20, 2006, 7:00 pm – Lawrenceville Historical Society – History of Lawrenceville’s 10th Ward – James Wudarczyk. Canterbury Place, Fisk Street, Lawrenceville.

Mon., July 24, 2006, 7:00 pm – Greater Pittsburgh Civil War Round Table - “Stannard’s Vermont Brigade at Gettysburg”, Dr. Charlie Fennell

August, 2006

Sat., August 19, 2006 – Cranberry Genealogical Society – Using Personal Ancestral File – Don Halper.

Other Events

Thurs., Sept. 28, 2006, 1:00 – 3:45 pm – Philadelphia Area and Great Lakes Chapters of Assoc. of Professional Genealogists – Free Brick Wall Consultations - Held at Carnegie Library, Oakland, Third Floor Conf. Room – First Come, first served. Bring pedigree chart and family group sheets and list of resources already researched. Contact Amy E. K. Arner at Amy@ArnerResearch.com

Sept. 29-30, 2006 – PA Genealogy Conference – Sheraton Station Square. See www.pagenealogyconference.com for more information and registration form.

Saturday, December 2, 2006 – NHG CHRISTMAS SOCIAL – Tour of remodeled Ft. Pitt Museum and lunch at Spaghetti Warehouse. (see menu on page 86 - reservation form in future newsletters) SAVE THIS DATE!!!

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
JULY 18, 2006 – 7:00 pm
LONG DISTANCE GENEALOGY
Christine Crawford-Oppenhimer

If you are *here*, and your ancestors were *there*, how do you access information about them without traveling? Attendees will learn strategies and tools for researching all aspects of ancestors who lived in a distant location.

Christine Crawford-Oppenhimer, MLS, has been doing genealogical research since 1979, and has been Vice President for Programs and Vice President for Publicity for the Dutchess County [New York] Genealogical Society since 1988. She is a member of several genealogical and professional societies, including the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the National Genealogical Society, and state and local societies. Her training as a librarian is useful to her not only in her day job as reference librarian and archivist at the Culinary Institute of America, but also in her second profession as a genealogist.

Ms. Crawford-Oppenhimer's book, *Long Distance Genealogy: Researching Your Family History from Home*, was published by Betterway Books in 2000. Articles she has written have appeared in, the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, the *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Quarterly*, and *Family Tree Magazine*. She writes a column for the *Armstrong County [PA] Genealogy Club Quarterly*.

Ms. Crawford-Oppenhimer has spoken on topics as varied as basic genealogy, long-distance genealogy, family health history and the published *Pennsylvania Archives*. Most of her talks include discussions of both print and Internet supporting materials. She lives in Dutchess County, New York with her husband and five cats.

NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
AUGUST 15, 2006 – 7:00 PM
MOVING DAY 1800
Violet Covert

This program will focus on Violet's book "Map of Butler County 1858" and its contents. It is the first time in the 147 year history of the map that the information is available to the public in written form. She will feature a diary, which will tie in the settlement of the pioneer families with the family names which appear on the 1858 map. The account of one family's travels certainly opens our "Minds Eye" to appreciate our heritage.

**STEPHEN FOSTER MUSIC & HERITAGE FESTIVAL
DOO DAH DAYS**

SAT. JULY 1, 2006 12:00 – 5:00 pm

**Allegheny Cemetery
Lawrenceville Historical Society**

The Lawrenceville Historical Society, Allegheny Cemetery and WDUQ are excited to present the inaugural Stephen Foster Music & Heritage Festival (Doo Dah Days). Doo Dah Days is an event that will celebrate the life and music of one of the most influential song writers in America's history, while helping draw attention to the history of Pittsburgh B.C. (Before Carnegie).

Stephen Foster was born on July 4, 1826 on his family's estate in Lawrenceville. Today he is considered the founder of "Pop Music."

In celebration of Foster's birthday, Doo Dah Days will take place on Saturday, July 1, 2006 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm in Allegheny Cemetery. There will be folk bands (4) educational trolley tours of the Cemetery (including Foster's grave), costumed re-enactors, food vendors, etc.

Parking is available at the Teamster's lot off Butler Street (47th Street). Check out the website at www.doodahdays.com.

GREATER PITTSBURGH CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Monday, June 26, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

**FOOD FOR THE TROOPS: THE UNITED STATES CHRISTIAN
COMMISSION IN PITTSBURGH**

Ruth McCartan

The year was 1861. The voice of a young boy drifted across the train station: "Here comes the troop train, here come our boys, get the food ready!" The women of the Pittsburgh Subsistence Committee were ready with warm food and coffee for the traveling soldiers on their way to war.

Ruth McCartan, a round table member, will talk this month about the United States Christian Commission (USCC) in Pittsburgh. If the United States Sanitary Commission was Lincoln's fifth-wheel, the Christian Commission was the sixth-wheel and the one that leveled the Civil War Relief Wagon.

Meeting held at Sieb's Pub, Babcock Meeting Room, Babcock Boulevard, North Hills.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are still needed to help with the WPGS/GSP PA Genealogy Conference (September 29-30, 2006). There are a variety of volunteer jobs available. Here is your chance to be on the "in" without a lot of work. Some of the jobs are working at the registration desk, helping speakers, monitor rooms or assisting vendors.

If you can help with the conference, please send an email to Lesle Dunn, Conference Volunteer Coordinator at Dunnl@einetwork.net. In the subject line please use: [PA Conference] Volunteering. This way your email won't be deleted as SPAM. Be sure to include your name, what you are volunteering for and your email. Lesle will get back to you. Thanks.

PLANNING A TRIP TO THE 'HOMELAND'?

If you are planning a trip to the 'homeland' this summer (or fall, etc.) or even planning a trip to Canada, Mexico or a cruise to the islands, you need to check out the new requirements for having a passport. In the past you could normally enter and leave one of these countries if you had proof of US citizenship.

The rules have/are changing. You will be required to have a U. S. Passport to visit these places.

So, if you are planning a trip outside the confines of the United States, you will need to have a passport. You can go to the U. S. Department of State website (www.travel.state.gov) to read the requirements for applying for a passport and printing an application. Remember, it will take awhile for this to be processed, so give yourself enough time to get it. Happy travel!

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER OF RESEARCHING



SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS

A heaping portion of pasta topped with homemade tomato sauce and three hand-rolled meatballs.

INCREDIBLE 15-LAYER LASAGNA

Lasagna noodles baked with layers of meat sauce, a blend of cheeses, herbs, spices and topped with our famous meat sauce.

FETTUCCHINI ALFREDO

Fettuccini noodles in Alfredo sauce, romano cheese and a hint of garlic.

FOUR CHEESE MANICOTTI

Three pasta tubes filled with a blend of cheeses. Topped with tomato and Alfredo sauces.

GRILLED CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD

Fresh and crispy romaine lettuce delicately tossed with our unique Caesar dressing. The creation is completed with croutons, romano cheese and our delectable grilled chicken.

PITTSBURGH NEARS THE CENTENNIAL OF ITS ANNEXATION OF ALLEGHENY CITY

The following information was found in an article in the *Tribune-Review* on June 11, 2006 by David M. Brown

Most of us are familiar with the section of Pittsburgh called the North Side and many of us also know this area was once known as Allegheny City (often called Old Allegheny).

Allegheny City was incorporated as a borough in 1828 with a population of about 1,000. By 1840 the population had grown to 10,000 when it was designated as a city. By the time of its annexation by the City of Pittsburgh the population had grown to nearly 150,000.

Allegheny City was comprised of 8 square miles. This area was very appealing to Pittsburgh because Pittsburgh needed room for industrial expansion and more residential neighborhoods. As a result an effort was started to annex Allegheny City into the City of Pittsburgh. The following is a timeline of events.

1906

January 15 – A special session of the State Legislature convenes to consider annexation.

January 16 – The Greater Pittsburgh Act, providing for referendum votes in Pittsburgh and Allegheny City on the consolidation issue was introduced in the House of Representatives

January 24 – Bill passes in the House.

February 1 – Greater Pittsburgh Act introduced in the Senate and amended the next day.

February 7 – The bill passes in a joint session, with Allegheny City members of the Legislature opposing it. The governor signs it that same day.

May 25 – Mass meetings in support of annexation held in Schenley Park and other Pittsburgh locations. Also in May, thousands join rallies in Allegheny City to oppose it.

June 12 – Citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny City vote on the issue. In Pittsburgh 31,117 voters support the merger and 5,323 voters oppose it. In Allegheny City the vote is 13,307 against consolidation and 6,747 for it. Combined votes: 37,864 voted yes and 17,730 voted no.

June 16 – Citizens of Allegheny City file and appeal to state Superior Court challenging the legality of the act.

November 19 – State Superior Court declares Greater Pittsburgh Act constitutional.

1907

March 11 – State Supreme Court sustains the Greater Pittsburgh Act.

November 18 – United States Supreme Court sustains the Greater Pittsburgh Act.

December 9 – Allegheny City officially ceases to exist.

To commemorate this event, North Side resident Lisa Miles (member of Allegheny City Society) is writing a history of Allegheny City. The book is titled "Resurrecting Allegheny City: The Land, Structures & People of Pittsburgh's North Side." The book is sponsored by the History & Landmarks Foundation and paid for by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission and the Buhl Foundation.

Allegheny City was the location of two institutions of higher learning – the Allegheny Theological Seminary and Western University of Pennsylvania, the forerunner of the University of Pittsburgh. It had a paid fire department and police force. For recreation there was Exposition Park, home of baseball's first World Series between the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Boston American League Baseball Club (Boston Red Sox) in 1903. There was a diversified base of manufacturing and the thriving business community produced goods and services. Many prominent citizens lived in Allegheny City on what was once known as Millionaires Row (in the area where CCAC now stands). Many of the citizens fought long and hard to retain its own identity and autonomy after nearly a century of growth and development. Unfortunately, they lost the battle.

RESEARCHING IRISH ANCESTORS

At a recent WPGS meeting, the speakers from the Ulster Historical Foundation provided a list of website to use when researching Irish ancestor. The following are a few of those sites.

National Library of Ireland (Dublin) www.nli.ie
General Register Office (Dublin) www.goireland.ie
General Register Office (Belfast) www.groni.gov.uk
Catholic Church in Ireland (Dublin) www.catholicireland.net
Methodist Church in Ireland (Belfast) www.irishmethodist.org
The Representative Body of the Church of Ireland email library@ireland.anglican.org.
Linenhall Library www.linenhall.com
Public Record Office of Northern Ireland www.proni.gov.uk
National Archives www.nationalarchives.ie
Banbridge Genealogy Services www.banbridgegenealogy.com
Origins www.origins.net
Northern Ireland GenWeb www.rootsweb.com/~nirwgw
Genealogy Society of Ireland www.gensocireland.org
Scotland, Scandinavia & Northern Europe 1580-1707 [www.st-andrews.ac.uk.history/ssne](http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/history/ssne)
Catholic Hierarchy www.catholic.hierarchy.org
Tyrone genealogy <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~cotyroneireland/index1.html>
Donegal genealogy <http://members.aol.com/lochlan2/donsource.htm>
Ulster Historical Foundation (Belfast) www.ancestryireland.com www.historyfromheadstones.com
Miscellaneous census material <http://www.censusfinder.com/irish-census-records2.htm>
Commonwealth War Graves Commission www.cwgc.org
General Registry Office for Scotland www.origins.net

If you have heard that no records are available prior to 1922 (because of a large fire) that is not true. Some of the records that were destroyed were also at other repositories. For those that were not, there are other records that can be used to reconstruct the information. Too many people give up when they hear that the 1922 fire occurred. Don't do that. There are many good sources available. Check out these websites to find some of them..

**NORTH HILLS GENEALOGISTS
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2006-2007
\$15.00**

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Send this form with a check for \$15.00 made out to North Hills Genealogists at the address on the front.

**BALLOT – BOARD ELECTIONS 2006-2007
Vote for ONE for each position**

PRESIDENT:

Maureen Dimond Durstein, MLIS _____

VICE PRESIDENT:

Amy E. K. Arner _____

Patrick Danahey _____

SECRETARY:

Sylvan Kretz _____

TREASURER:

Reed B. Powell _____

All ballots must be received by July 1, 2006. Results will be announced at the July meeting. Send to the address on the front.

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INGOMAR, PA 15127**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

JULY 18, 2006 – 7:00 P.M.

**LONG DISTANCE GENEALOGICAL TOPICS
Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer**

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.

NEWSLETTER

There will NOT be a newsletter in July. The next issue will be in August, 2006. Any information for that newsletter must be received no later than AUGUST 4.

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