

Penn in Hand

Vol. XX, No. 4 – December 1999

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

OCTOBER MEETING

Christine Friend of the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Historical Research Center spoke at GSP's meeting on 21 Oct 1999 about Roman Catholic records in the Philadelphia Archdiocese, which includes parishes in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties.

Friend explained that policies concerning research in Catholic records are set by individual archdioceses and dioceses of the church, and that the Philadelphia Archdiocese has a relatively restrictive policy because "sacramental registers," including baptismal and marriage records, are considered confidential.

The PAHRC has copies of the sacramental registers dating up to 1900 from Archdiocese parishes. Records after 1900 remain in the hands of individual parishes, which set the policies for access to the sacramental registers and other documents. Death or burial records, when they exist, are in the hands of individual parishes for all time periods.

The first Roman Catholic parishes in Philadelphia are Old St. Joseph's (founded 1733), Old St. Mary's (begun 1763, though no records exist for it before the 1830s), Holy Trinity (German national parish founded 1788) and St. Augustine (begun 1796). Friend stressed

that PAHRC has records only for churches within the current boundaries of the Archdiocese with the exception of two parishes in present-day Berks County: Goshenhoppen in Bally and St. Paul's in Union Township.

Open to public for research by appointment at PAHRC are copies of Catholic newspapers and parish histories. The PAHRC also houses the collection of the American Catholic Historical Society of letters and other documents.

Research requests to PAHRC must be made in writing using a form developed by the center. Since the records are arranged by parish, that name must be known. Friend recommends using city directories to locate the individual's residence as the key to establishing which parish the individual's family would have attended.

The cost to have the sacramental registers searched is \$15 for an initial one-hour search and correspondence and \$10 for additional hours of research. For copies of the form, write to PAHRC, 100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA 19096-3001; or go to the PAHRC Web site at <http://www.rc.net/philadelphia/pahrc/pahrcgeneology.html>

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

The Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies, which was founded in 1971 and specializes in American immigrant experiences and cultural traditions, was the site of November's GSP program. The institute, located at 18 S. Seventh St., Philadelphia, has a museum of cultural materials with more than 60 ethnic groups represented in addition to library holdings that include 60,000 volumes, 6,000 serial titles, and 6,000 reels of microfilm.

The GSP group heard a presentation from Balch Director of Programs Robert Tayback and Education Services Coordinator Joan Fiorile before moving to

the library for research. Because research time was more limited than anticipated, those who attended the meeting received a pass for a free admission to the institute's library. The library includes such items as ethnic newspapers and manuscripts relating to mutual aid societies and families. The Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center is also housed at the Balch. Hours for the library currently are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

More details on the Balch are available at the institute's Web site, <http://www.balchinstitute.org>, which includes the institute's online catalog EMILY.

GSP RESEARCH ROOM, 1305 Locust St., 2nd Floor, Philadelphia, PA

**HOURS: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Wednesday; and
10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on the 2nd Saturday of each month.**

HSP LIBRARY, 1300 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA

HOURS: 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday to Saturday; and 2 to 8:45 p.m. Wednesday



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DECEMBER MEETING

Susan S. Koelble and Kathryn M. Donovan gave talks on two aspects of Irish research at the 9 Dec 1999 meeting of GSP, which had originally been scheduled for 19 Sep 1999 but postponed when Hurricane Floyd played havoc with the area.

Koelble's talk was "Using American Records to Locate Your Irish Ancestor." She analyzed a number of types of records and their impact on Irish-American genealogy.

Koelble noted that there were some Irish in the very earliest settlers of Philadelphia, including some Quakers, servants of Quakers, and convicts.

In researching Irish ancestors, Koelble said that U.S. Census returns may yield surprising results since Irish fathers often were involved in jobs away from the residence of the family. She also noted that individuals marked "servants" in a household really might be relatives.

Among Koelble's tips for researchers was that the notation, primarily found in passenger lists and naturalization records, "English Irish" is a tipoff that the individual was from Northern Ireland rather than the Republic of Ireland since no self-respecting Roman Catholic Irishman would have allowed "English" anything to designate him.

Given the commonness of many Irish names, Koelble said researchers should look for anything that will differentiate families such as an occupation, a family member with an unusual name, longtime residence at a single place.

Koelble also cautioned that Irish researchers should not assume

that all Irish ancestors were Catholic. Even if your family is now Catholic, that does not mean they always were.

Donovan's presentation was titled "Griffith's Valuation at the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania." GSP's Research Room is the only one in the area with access to the full Griffith's Valuation on microfiche.

Donovan described Griffith's Valuation as a census substitute for Ireland in the mid-19th century, an era in which censuses were either not taken in Ireland or have not survived. The purpose of the valuation was to determine the amount of tax owed to support the poor by each part of Ireland. Since the tax was paid by the occupier of the land rather than the owner, the head of household names are the ones listed in the valuation.

In addition to its use as a census substitute, the valuation can be used to help identify other family members (by paying attention to those listed as near neighbors), determine economic standing (since the value of property is listed), and identify an ancestor's townland or town (which is needed to identify the civil parish for further research).

Donovan also noted that GSP has a copy of CD-ROM with an every name index to the valuation; this CD does have a number of defects and Donovan urged that it be used only as a starting point.

Another aid to the valuation is the Irish householders index, which lists only surnames but goes down to the level of the civil parish and therefore is more useful for less common Irish names.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Longtime GSP volunteer **Robert E. O'Connor's** 80th birthday was cause for a celebration at McGillins Old Ale house on Drury Street organized by fellow volunteer Tim Coyne. McGillins, which claims to be Philadelphia's oldest Irish pub, was a fitting place to honor Bob.

Many thanks also to **Tim**

Coyne for supplying GSP's volunteer lunch room with a microwave oven.

Herb Hart and **Trudy Slaven, Frances Smith** have completed the indexing of the Dunkerly Collection, which consists of 20th century obituaries, death notices, and tombstone inscriptions, for use in the GSP Research Room.

NEWS OF OTHER SOCIETIES AND AGENCIES

David Moltke-Hansen took office Sept. 1 as President and CEO of the **Historical Society of Pennsylvania**, 1300 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19107. Moltke-Hansen has appointed committees from his staff to continue the process of moving from a hybrid museum/library to a special collections library. The new president was previously director of the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has a Ph.D. pending from the University of South Carolina.

The recently formed **Woodlands Trust** for Historic Preservation is working to preserve and renovate the buildings at **Woodlands Cemetery**, and also to improve the state of monuments and the landscape. The trust would like to re-establish contact with descendants of those buried in this historical rural cemetery. "We would greatly appreciate descendants sending us their names and addresses and names and relationships of ancestors buried in your family lot or lots." Please send information to: The Woodlands Trust for Historic Preservation, 4000 Woodland Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

The **Mifflin County Historical Society's** September program was "The Spirit of the Western Frontier" presented by award-winning historical interpreter **Richard Pawling** of History Alive! The event took place at McVeytown's Fire Hall. Pawling portrayed Pennsylvania German frontiersman Christopher "Stoffel" Stump, a friend of Conrad Weiser in the mid-1700s.

Becky Crum has been named the first executive director of the **Venango County Historical Society**. She has a master's degree from Duquesne University and plans to concentrate on educational programming and increasing public awareness of her society throughout the county. The society's address is PO Box 101, Franklin, PA 16323.

The **South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society's** *Our Name's the Game* newsletter for November 1999 (Vol. 25, No. 4) features an article about an original German passport dated 9 Oct 1703 that is in the hands of the **Historical Society of York County**. The passport vouches for the character of John Simon Getz of Bosenheim, Germany. For more information, write to *Our Name's the Game*, SCPGS Inc., PO Box 1824, York, PA 17405-1824.

Rachel Rodgers, museum curator of the **Cape May County Historical & Genealogical Society**, has taken on the additional role of Executive Director of the Division of Culture and Heritage. The Cape May society is located at 504 Route 9 North, Cape May

Courthouse, NJ 08210-3070.

A highlight of the **Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center**, 18 S. Seventh St., Philadelphia, PA 19106, Internet Web site is an online exhibit titled "The Fruits of her Hands: Jewish Women and Social Welfare, 1819-1920," which focuses on histories of several Philadelphia social welfare organizations and significant archival collections. The Web site can be found at the URL, www.libertynet.org/pjac.

The **Central Jersey Genealogy Club** has changed its meeting site to Hamilton Library, White Horse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ, due to a growing membership. For more information, write to the club at PO Box 9903, Hamilton, NJ 08650-1903.

The **Swedish Colonial Society** has gone online in the last few months with an Internet Web site at the URL, www.ColonialSwedes.org. The site was designed and programmed by Councillor Ronald Hendrickson. For more information about the society, write to 916 S. Swanson St., Philadelphia, PA 19147.

The **Fayette County Genealogical Society's** *Families of Fayette County* newsletter for October 1999 (Vol. 5, Issue 4) features material on Quakers in the county, including material from Terry A. Necciai entitled "Some Sources on Brownsville Area Quaker History" and a listing of Quaker removal certificates from Frederick County, VA, to Redstone and Westland Monthly Meetings. The society's address is 24 Jefferson St., Uniontown, PA 15401-3602.

Among the articles in the October 1999 (Vol. XXVII, No. 4) edition of *Keyhole*, the quarterly published by the **Genealogical Society of Southwestern PA**, is a review of the regional conference the group held with the Carpatho-Rusyn Society. The society's address is PO Box 894, Washington, PA 15301-0894. It has a Web site at www.cobweb.net/gssp.

The **Perry Historians** group's November 1999 newsletter (Vol. 24, No. 6) contains a list of Millers-town lot owners from 1799 and a listing of marriages and births taken from *The Perry Forester* newspaper from the year 1824. For more information about the group, write to The Perry Historians, PO Box 73, Newport, PA 17074-0073; or phone, (717) 582-4896.

The **Centre County Genealogical Society reports** in the *Centre Penn* for December 1999 (Vol. 24, No. 6) on updates to its member surname file and also has an extract called the "Family of Michael and Elizabeth (Kleinfelter) Homan." The society's address is PO Box 1135, State College, PA 16804.

INFORMATION WANTED

With this issue of the *Penn in Hand* newsletter, we will print the "Information Wanted" queries that previously appeared in the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*. We also plan shortly to begin posting all queries on our Internet site. Here are the new "Information Wanted" rules: 1. Members may submit any number of queries during their membership year. 2. A strict rule on word count also has been eliminated; as a guideline, we'd like to keep all queries to 75 words or less. You may include all the information you need to make your request as clear as possible but we will, of course, retain the right to edit where necessary. All member queries are free; we will no longer accept queries from nonmembers.

SULLIVAN: Seeking any information on Joseph John Sullivan, his parents and/or siblings (b. ca. 1887, Philadelphia, Pa.). Worked at Wanamaker's (Philadelphia, Pa) and E. I. DuPont Chemical (Charleston, W. VA) as a pipefitter. Parents born in Ireland. Of his siblings, one sister, a school teacher, one brother in Navy. Last seen leaving Charleston, W. VA. 1934-35 for Norfolk, VA. seeking employment. He was the father of Joseph John Sullivan, Jr., (b. 1929 Charleston, W. Va.)-Mother Rebecca Harkins, (b.31, Oct.1900, d. January, 1960).

Dianne Sullivan, P. O. Box 7876, Bonney Lake, WA., 98390-9884; E-mail:bodhikennel@worldnet.att.net

BANKSON / ASH: Seeking information on children of John Palmer Bankson (b.5 Dec. 1834); d.27 Dec 1876) who married Anna Christine Ash (4 Feb. 1857). Children: Lloyd, Kate Sword Bankson, Agnes Means, John Palmer, Ethel Harper Balderson, Alice Morgan Roach. They lived in Philadelphia and Ardmore, PA.

Jill Abraham, 2950 McGee Way, Olney, Md., 20832-1460.

WOLLERTON: James Wollerton (b. 18 Jan. 1789; d. 2 Mar 1850) Chester, Co., PA married Charity Ann (b. 9 M.ch, 1794) need her maiden name. Only two known children: Ann N. Wollerton (b. 1819), married Benjamin Morton; Penrose Wollerton (b. ca 1829), married Tomazine H. Morton.

Dorcas M. Hobbs, P. O. Box 337, Shelbyville, Ky., 40066

MORTON: Seeking descendants of Joshua Morton (b. 13 Jan 1791, d. 2 Feb 1872), East Fallowfield, Chester Co., PA Wife - Ann Livezy (b ca 1796; d. Nov. 1880) Chester Co., PA. Children: Benjamin ; Elmira; Ann; Elizabeth; Alice; Tomazine H.; Mary E; Townsend?; Hannah F. L.; and Richard Joshua?

Dorcas M. Hobbs, P. O. Box 337, Shelbyville, Ky., 40066

BAY: Susannah (b. ca 1771, d. between 1850 and 1860). Living with William and Mary Ely in 1850 in Union Township, Luzerne County, also present with that family are William and Henry Bay (29 and 19 years old).

Elizabeth Kelley, 318 Zecca Dr., Gallup NM., 87301

DERR: Seeking information on Christian Derr (Darr-Dorr) (b. ca 1744) lived in Berks Co., Rev. War Soldier, m. Magdalena Smelchner (Smeltzer). Died 1824 Union Co. Children born ca. 1770-1785: Elias: Samuel: Henry (lived in Schellsburg, Bedford Co., spelled name Darr); Susan (m Egbert & Kline)

Lorraine Darr, P. O. #2045, Apple Valley, CA 92307. E-mail: raindarr@aol.com

GREENLAW: Seek information on daughters of Rev. Alexander Greenlaw, pastor of Canton Church of Christ 1868-70. Arrived Bradford County, PA in 1860's. Dates of marriages/spouses for Ada (b.1854), Carrie (b.1856), and Mina (b.1858); son, Frank Alexander. Also, when/where did Rev. Greenlaw and wife Cornelia die? May have moved to Williamsport.

Janis Greenlaw Seaton, 13960 Bradbury Way, Etiwanda, Ca., 91739

BEACHELL / BEACHLEY / BEACHTELL / BICKLE: In researching the Pa. Archives Revolutionary War Soldiers, I found a Christian Beachley as Supt. Of wheelwrights employed by Col. Benj. Flowers, General Military Stores, Dept of Artillery Artificers. This could possibly be my Beachel. Cannot find any more information. Need more information on Col. Benj. Flowers, bur. Philadelphia, Page 33) He may have married a Sarah Pickle (possibly Beachel). Who were her parents? There is also a Lt. Christian Beackley (1777); a John Beacher; a John Beachtell; a Beaky listed as Rev. War soldiers; but cannot find anything else on these men. Is there any connection with a Jacob Bickle serving Rev. War in Lancaster, Pa and living in 1820 Union Co., PA, near my Beachels? There is also a Tobias Bickle and children living in Penn Township, Union Co. Pa. about the same time. Are these some of my Beachel/Bickle? Would appreciate any help, especially how to obtain Rev. War Soldiers, etc.

UPCOMING GSP PROGRAMS

The GSP Program Committee has several offerings planned for spring and summer of 2000:

1 p.m. 23 March at GSP -- Annual Meeting: GSP Executive Director James M. Beidler will present a talk entitled "Genealogy's Lighter Side."

6 p.m. 12 April at GSP -- Informal Discussion Group: Bring your problems and a brown bag supper. Beverages will be provided.

20 May in Reading, PA -- Tour of the Adams Family Research Center: GSP member David S. Adams' extensive genealogical collection will be made available to program attendees. Details on time and transportation will be forthcoming.

19 to 23 June at GSP and Philadelphia research sites -- Summer Camp for Family Historians: A separate brochure will be mailed shortly.

LDS INTERNET UPDATE

IT has been less than a year since Internet genealogy took a quantum leap forward with the online arrival of information from the vast collection of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

And yet so much more has become available at the LDS site in the relatively short time since it was unveiled that it is worthy of updating.

Probably the most important upgrade of the LDS Internet site – called FamilySearch Internet Genealogy Service, and found at the URL www.familysearch.org – is the addition of more parts of the world to the online version of the International Genealogical Index.

When FamilySearch debuted in spring of 1999, only IGI records from the British Isles, North America, and Finland were on the site. Now the following nations and regions have been added: Germany, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Continental Europe, Southwest Europe, Mexico, South America, Central America, Asia, Africa, Southwest Pacific, Ocean Islands, and Caribbean Islands.

The search capabilities of the FamilySearch program have also been increased, to wit:

- Users can now use an event, year, or range of years, and a place to refine the search.
- Exact spellings of an ancestor's name, including the middle name, can now be searched.
- It's easier to search for children of the same parents. Only the father's first and last name and the mother's given name.
- A search can be limited to a certain batch or film number. This makes finding relatives in the same batch or film easier.
- More search results are shown at a time. Up

to 200 results will be shown on the first page. Click *Next* to see more.

- A GEDCOM file from Ancestral File or the International Genealogical Index.
- Results from the International Genealogical Index are linked to the Family History Library Catalog to provide source information.

These last two items bear further explanation. Ancestral File, a database of more than 35 million names organized into families and pedigrees, should be used cautiously by genealogists since the documentation varies by the amount of care used by person submitting the information.

Linking the IGI to the FHLC, on the other hand, is a great convenience for researchers, since the catalog describes the more than 2 million rolls of microfilm and hundreds of thousands of books and maps in the LDS system, which are rentable to local Family History Centers. Since the roll-out of FamilySearch, more than 43,000 new and updated titles have been added to the Family History Library Catalog, and searches of it have been made easier.

Another new Mormon product is the Pedigree Resource File, a new lineage-linked database on compact disc. It contains family history records that individuals have submitted through the FamilySearch service. The family information is organized in family groups and pedigrees and may include notes and sources. The first set contains five discs and an index. Each disc has about 1.1 million names.

Finally, the FamilySearch service has already generated more than 88,000 of what it calls "Collaboration Lists," which are electronic mailing lists created by registered users of the FamilySearch service.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 28 to 29 Jan 2000 - GENTECH 2000: "Bridging the Centuries: Bringing Genealogy and Technology Together,"** San Diego (CA) Concourse Convention Center. Conference hosted by the San Diego Genealogical Society. More information: www.gentech.org/2000home.htm.
- 3 Feb - Centre County Genealogical Society:** Bruce Teeple of Aaronsburg Museum will speak on "The Role of Values in Genealogical Research," 7:30 p.m., LDS Chapel, State College.
- 8 Feb - Old York Road Genealogical Society:** 90th anniversary of Boy Scouts celebrated by Lynne and Warren Friedel and Ken Hayes. See if you could earn the Scout genealogy merit badge. 7 p.m., Abington Free Library, 1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001.
- 17 Feb - Berks County Genealogical Society:** Rev. Philip Smith of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stouchsburg relates the story of Regina Leininger's return home from Indian captivity, 7:30 p.m., society library, 3618 Kutztown Road, Laureldale, PA 19605.
- 2 Mar - Centre County Genealogical Society and Centre County Historical Society:** Joint meeting to celebrate the bicentennial of the county, 2 p.m., Centre Furnace Mansion, 1001 E. College Ave., State College.
- 14 Mar - Old York Road Genealogical Society:** David Fowler of the American Revolution Director David J. Fowler gives an overview of the library, 7 p.m., Abington Free Library, 1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001.
- 16 Mar - Berks County Genealogical Society:** Barry Adams continues his May 1999 program called "Civil War Veterans Inventory of Berks County," 7:30 p.m., society library, 3618 Kutztown Road, Laureldale, PA 19605.
- 16 Mar - Mercer County Genealogical Society:** Vonda Minner will discuss her recently published book *History of Mercer County Agriculture*. Information: PO Box 812, Sharon, PA 16146-0812.
- 18 Mar - Pennsylvania German Studies Program:** Annual Festival, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Lebanon Campus, Harrisburg Area Community College, 731 Cumberland St., Lebanon, PA 17042. Crafts, vendors, theater, songs, and speakers, including GSP Executive Director James M. Beidler on "Pennsylvania German Roots, Online and Off."
- 24 to 25 Mar - Lancaster County Historical Society and Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society:** 21st Annual Lancaster Family History Conference. 24 Mar is a guided bus tour for genealogical research in Philadelphia, highlighting GSP and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. 25 Mar consists of: a keynote address by the Rev. Frederick S. Weiser; lectures and workshops; research consultations; exhibitors and vendors. Fees and information: Lancaster Mennonite Historical Society, Lola M. Lehman, 2215 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602-1499; phone, (717) 393-9745.
- 25 Mar - Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center:** Freyohrfescht (Spring Fest) celebrating groundbreaking, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Schedule to include: Early farm machinery demonstrations, music; children's activities; speakers on southeast Pennsylvania history. Information: 105 Seminary Ave., Pennsburg, PA 18073-1898; phone, (215) 679-3103.
- 4 Apr - Westmoreland County Historical Society:** Kutztown University History Professor Robert M. Blackson on "The Southwest Pennsylvania Railway," 7:30 p.m., Greensburg Garden and Civic Center.
- 15 Apr - Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society:** Spring Seminar with guest speaker James L. Hansen, F.A.S.G., 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Holiday Inn, Greentree, PA. Fee: \$30 for WPGS members, \$35 for nonmembers. More information: WPGS Spring Seminar, 124 Brandywine Drive, McMurray, PA 15317-3600; or phone (412) 687-6811.
- 20 May - Cumberland County Historical Society:** Genealogy Fair celebrating the 250th anniversary of Cumberland County, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 21 N. Pitt St., Carlisle, PA 17013. Speakers and vendors. Fee: \$18 for Cumberland County Historical members, \$20 for nonmembers. Information: (717) 249-7610.
- 20 May - Westmoreland County Historical Society:** 5th Annual Civil War Conference. Information: 951 Old Salem Road, Greensburg, PA 15601.
- 31 May to 3 Jun - National Genealogical Society:** Conference in the States, hosted by New England Regional Conference, Providence, RI. More information: NGS, 4527 17th St. N., Arlington, VA 22207-2399.
- 19 to 21 June - Palatines to America:** National Conference, hosted by the Pennsylvania Chapter, Harrisburg East Holiday Inn, Harrisburg, PA. Speakers will be Annette K. Burgert, Heinz Hosch, John T. Humphrey, and Henry Z. "Hank" Jones; other features are a 25th anniversary banquet and a large book vendor area. More information: PO Box 280, Strasburg, PA 17579-0280; or phone (717) 687-8234.
- 13 to 16 Sep - Federation of Genealogical Societies:** National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. More information: FGS Business Office, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940.

GSP RESEARCH ROOM

Highlights of new accessions to the GSP Research Room include:

IRELAND

A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland. 1986. By Brian Mitchell. 123 pages. Donated by Robert E. O'Connor.

General Alphabetical Index to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland, based on the Census of Ireland for the year 1851. 1984 reprint of 1861. Donated by Kathryn Donovan and Trudy Slaven.

Irish Records: Sources for Family & Local History. 1988. By James G. Ryan. 562 pages. Index. Donated by Kathryn M. Donovan.

CHESTER COUNTY

Prosperity and Progress: Concord Township, Pennsylvania, 1683-1983 - Volume 1, The Colonial Legacy. 1983. By Robert P. Case. 339 pages. Index. Donated by Virginia L.M. DeNenno.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY

Genealogical Abstracts of Orphans Court Records, Northampton County, Pennsylvania: Volumes 6-8, 1795-1815. 1999. By Candace E. Anderson. 525 pages. Index.

Genealogical Abstracts of Orphans Court Records, Northampton County, Pennsylvania: Volumes A-E, 1752-1795. 1998. By Candace E. Anderson. 298 pages. Index.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY

German Lutheran Cemetery (A Selection of Tombstone Inscriptions Sections A, B, C, & E), also Mt. Vernon Cemetery (A Selection of Tombstone Inscriptions). Compiled by J.E.S. Nagle and Edwin S. Dunkerly. Index by Frances S. Smith.

Greenwood Cemetery (Knights of Pythias): Newspaper Death Notices, Tombstone Inscriptions. Extracted by Edwin S. Dunkerly. Index by Bob O'Connor. Typing by Frances Smith.

Odd Fellows Cemetery: An Extraction of Cemetery Interment Records (partial), 1930-1970, from the Edwin S. Dunkerly Collection. 1998. Compiled by Frances S. Smith.

St. Michael's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Germantown (now part of Philadelphia) Pennsylvania, 1741-1841: Volume 1, Baptisms. 1998. Compiled and Edited by Frederick S. Weiser and Debra D. Smith. 438 pages. Index.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Quarterly, 1974-1997; A List of Immigrants Who Applied for Naturalization Papers in the District Court of Allegheny County, PA; Lists and Indexes to City and Municipal Court Records, Allegheny County, PA. A GenQuest CD-ROM, powered by Folio. Donated by Sandra M. Hewlett.

PUBLICATIONS AND CD-ROMS

250th Anniversary Chronicles, a three-volume set of reference works on the history and future of York County, PA. The county's 250th anniversary commission is producing a set of three hardcover books and a searchable CD-ROM containing electronic versions of the books and photographs. The three-volume set is \$95 and can be ordered from: York County 250th Anniversary Commission, 1 West Marketway, 2nd Floor, Suite 203, York, PA 17401; phone, (717) 771-9584.

GSP member Robert E. Hoagland has published a limited edition family genealogy book entitled *Augustine Stilwell (1769-1842) of Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, New Jersey, and His Descendants*. The hard bound book is 117 pages and has an every name index. Copies are available for \$32 postpaid from Hoagland, 934 Caledonia St., Philadelphia, PA 19128-1128.

A CD-ROM entitled *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Quarterly, 1974-1997, and Other Select Publications* is available from that society. The other publications included are *A List of Immigrants Who Applied for Naturalization Papers in the District Courts of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and Lists and Indexes to the Legal, Court and Municipal Records of Allegheny County, PA*. The CD-ROM is \$79.95 for WPGS members and \$99.95 for nonmembers and can be ordered from the society, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080.

Here are the latest
GSP publications:

COLONIAL PHILADELPHIANS
BY HANNAH BENNER ROACH

LOST IN PENNSYLVANIA?
TRY THE PUBLISHED
PENNSYLVANIA ARCHIVES
BY CHRISTINE CRAWFORD-OPPENHEIMER

1671 CENSUS OF THE DELAWARE
BY PETER STEBBINS CRAIG

Have you ordered
your own personal copy yet?
Call, fax, or e-mail the GSP office
for details!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On Nov. 15, 1999, I officially started work as your Executive Director. I truly did not suspect when I began pursuing my own genealogy as a hobby fifteen years ago that it had any potential for turning into a full-time position.

I am a native Pennsylvanian who was born in Reading and raised in neighboring Berks County. I am a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Hofstra University on New York state's Long Island and worked for the Birmingham (Ala.) Post-Herald newspaper before spending fifteen years as an editor in various capacities for The Patriot-News of Harrisburg. In July 1998, I began a weekly newspaper column on Pennsylvania genealogy for the The Patriot-News "Roots & Branches," which I am continuing to write for them on a free-lance basis.

I began researching my roots when I helped compile a 250th anniversary history of my home church in Berks County, Bern Reformed Church. As I became more involved in the field, I edited the Journal of the Berks County Genealogical Society from 1988 to 1992 and became historian of the Daub Family Reunion in Lebanon County in 1989. As Daub family historian, I

produced a hardcover family surname history book and spearheaded the drive to honor the Daub immigrant and his wife with a memorial marker.

I also have lectured extensively on genealogy and have led research trips to the State Library and Archives in Harrisburg, the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

I look forward to meeting or communicating with as many of you as possible in the weeks and months ahead. I have many plans for GSP - including more publications, a vastly improved Web site, a "partners alliance" with other genealogical and historical societies, and a higher profile for the society in general - and those plans are designed with you, the membership, in mind. I also realize that GSP faces many challenges in the immediate future as it works to fulfill its mission of preserving genealogical materials and disseminating them, and I invite you to tell me what you like - and don't like - about the society.

James M. Beidler
Executive Director



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