

# Penn in Hand

Vol. XXI, No. 2 – June 2000

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

## SOCIETY MOVES TO SINGLE MEMBERSHIP YEAR

**T**HE GENEALOGICAL Society of Pennsylvania is moving from a system of monthly renewals to a single membership year of 1 July to 30 June in an effort to streamline bookkeeping and accounting procedures.

The July-to-June year begins immediately for new members of GSP.

Those who are renewing their memberships during the next 12 months will receive a dues notice before their normal renewal month. They will be given the option of:

- Renewing membership at the regular rate for the "short year" through 30 June 2001; or
- Renewing membership at a bargain rate for "long year" that runs through 30 June 2002.

No matter when in the year someone joins GSP, the new members will receive all of the year's benefit-of-member publications (such as *Penn in Hand* and *The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*).

In consideration of the fact that many new members are brought in at spring conferences attended by GSP, new members joining between 1 March and 30 June will be allowed to credit their dues either to the "old" or "new" membership years.

In either case, the new member will receive immediate Research Room privileges (and HSP Library privileges, if they apply to his or her membership); essentially, the member will choose either the old or new year's publications.

## GSP, HSP AGREE TO RENEWAL OF CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

**G**SP EXECUTIVE Director James M. Beidler and Historical Society of Pennsylvania President David Moltke-Hansen recently reached agreement on the details of a renewal of GSP's corporate membership with HSP.

The agreement guarantees that certain classifications of GSP membership will continue to have access to the genealogical collections housed in the HSP library that were built by a century of GSP volunteer work.

"We're happy that the new agreement will allow GSP to continue to offer this benefit to those of our members who desire it," Beidler said.

Moltke-Hansen was also pleased by the renewal of the agreement. "The historical society is glad for this opportunity to continue a long-term relationship with a key ally in preservation and promotion of interest in family history in Pennsylvania," Moltke-Hansen said. The historical society "is continuing to enhance its service to the genealogical community and invites the suggestions of Genealogical Society members." Moltke-Hansen can be contacted by letter at HSP or by e-mail at [pres@hsp.org](mailto:pres@hsp.org).

Beidler and Moltke-Hansen are also looking at other ways in which the two societies can work together for the benefit of genealogists.

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**GSP RESEARCH ROOM, 1305 Locust St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Philadelphia, PA**

**HOURS: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Wednesday; and  
(beginning in July) EVERY Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

**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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James M. Beidler, Editor

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## ANNUAL MEETING

GSP President **Herbert L. Zearfoss** and Executive Director **James M. Beidler** gave the major presentations at the Annual Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania was held on 23 March.

Zearfoss reviewed the society's accomplishments during the past 12 months, which included several new publications, a number of well-received programs, and completion of additional volunteer projects. Zearfoss also formally introduced Beidler, who was hired by the GSP Board of Directors in October 1999.

Beidler gave a talk on "Genealogy's Lighter Side" in which he related a number of humorous an-

ecdotes and personalities that he has encountered in his 15 years as a genealogist.

GSP Treasurer **Lewis L. Neilson Jr.** gave the Treasurer's report, which was filed for audit.

Nominating Committee member **Kay Freilich** read the report of the committee, which was chaired by **Kelley Green Blake**. Names of the officers appear on the lower left side of this page. Directors elected were: **Dr. Robert J. Gill** (for a term ending 2001); **David M. Adams** (for a term ending 2002); and **John A. Baird Jr., Kathryn Donovan, Richard W. Palmer, and Jonathan Stayer** (all for terms ending 2003).

## MAY PROGRAM

The GSP program for May was a day at the Adams Family Research Center, 742 Centre Ave., Reading.

The center's director, **David M. Adams**, is currently a member of the GSP Board of Directors. He lived in California for many years, during which time he methodically built an extensive library of church, cemetery and many other records to enable him to pursue research at a distance.

Since he took up residence in Berks County, he has begun restoring

a 19<sup>th</sup>-century mansion, which serves as his home and library.

Adams had on hand a number of members of the Berks County Genealogical Society who assisted those attending. About three dozen people researched at the mansion during the program on 20 May.

Adams' library is open to the public by appointment only for a charge of \$10 for four hours. To reserve a time at the library or for a further description of its holdings, call (610) 373-7590.

## BONUS FROM FGS

GSP members as of the beginning of this year are receiving a free one-year subscription to *Forum*, the quarterly publication of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. The spring issue appeared in members' mailboxes in April.

An organization of societies, FGS aims to serve the needs of member societies, provide products and services to improve organizational management, and marshal the resources and national efforts of historical and genealogical societies. More than 500 genealogical and historical societies and family associations are FGS members.

The subscription for GSP members is part of a promotion to increase circulation.

Naturally the hope is that many members will renew their subscriptions at the end of the year. Members will also receive the registration booklet for the 2001 FGS Conference in Davenport, Iowa, in September 2000. The GSP mailing list will not be used for any other purposes nor shared with any other organization.

Subscription price for members of an FGS member society such as GSP is \$11 a year. The final issue of each subscription will include a renewal notice.

## NEWS OF OTHER SOCIETIES AND AGENCIES

The Chester County Historical Society has completed a project to make the public and private school records in its library available to researchers. The project, funded by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, inventoried, arranged, and described the records, which include school board minute books, yearbooks, and many other records and materials. The society is located at 225 N. High St., West Chester, PA. More information: (610) 692-4066, ext. 220.

A large increase in fees for National Archives documents has been proposed, including the quadrupling of the price of a military pension file if ordered by mail. The fee for obtaining a military pension file would go from \$10 to \$40 under the proposal. The major

justification for this increase is that instead of the most genealogically useful documents from the pension file being selected to be sent to researchers, they plan to send the entire file, which averages 105 documents. Many such files include duplicated information.

The National Archives is taking comments on the proposed changes until 26 June. Genealogists may wish to ask for the choice of a partial or full file. The proposed fee schedule can be found on the Internet at: [www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fedreg/a000425c.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/a000425c.html).

To submit comments about the fee proposal, write to the Regulation Comment Desk (NPLN), Room 4100 National Archives at College Park, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001 or fax comments to (301) 713-7270.

## FAMILY REUNIONS

The 11<sup>th</sup> Leininger Reunion celebrating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Joh. Jacob and Elisabeth Leininger. Reunion will meet at Mohn's Memorial Church near Gouglersville, PA, on Saturday, 11 Aug. Map and information: Thomas H. Leininger, 269 Church Road, Mohnton, PA 19540; phone (610) 777-5576.

The Keefer Family Reunion will be held from 9 to 11 Jun in Chambersburg, PA, because there are many descendants from Franklin County families. Special arrangements have been made for a tour of the Keefer Cemetery inside the Letterkenny Army Depot. For more information, contact Tom Durkin, 1949 Barton Hill Road, Reston, VA 20191; e-mail: [Tdurkin1@CompuServe.com](mailto:Tdurkin1@CompuServe.com).

The "Home Again - Brady Reunion 2000" will be held 30 Jun to 2 Jul at the Old Brady Homestead in Shippensburg, PA. The reunion is targeted to all descendants of Hugh Brady (born 1709) and wife Hannah McCormick. For more information, contact Donna Cuillard, Reunion Chair, 6273 Anastasia Ave., Simi Valley, CA 93063; e-mail: [dcuillard@aol.com](mailto:dcuillard@aol.com).

The Womelsdorf Family Association will hold its annual meeting in the Ashland / Beaver Dam, VA, area from 4 to 6 Aug. More information from the association at 507 Jefferson St., Decorah, IA 52101-1711; or e-mail President George van Arsdale at [GsFirebird@aol.com](mailto:GsFirebird@aol.com).

The Overholser Family Association has scheduled its 91<sup>st</sup> annual reunions for 19 Aug at the Terre Hill Community Center, Terre Hill, PA. More information from the group at 313 Henry Lane, Wallingford, PA 19086.

The Griesemer Family Association has a special reunion planned for its 69<sup>th</sup> annual get-together, set from 26 to 27 Aug. The group expects to dedicate on 26 Aug a memorial marker to immigrant ancestor John Valentine Griesemer at New Goshenhoppen United Church of Christ in Montgomery County, view another family memorial at Salem UCC Church Cemetery in Oley, Berks County, and finish the day with a dinner in Boyertown. The reunion will be held 27 Aug at Mohnton Memorial Park. For more information, contact association President Walter A. Griesemer, 11 Knollwood Drive, RD 5, Sinking Spring, PA 19608-9738.

## Annual Fund Raising

**FRIENDS – \$100 and above**  
J. William Ditter Jr.  
Walter B. Gallagher  
Lani MacAniff,

**SUPPORTERS – \$50 and above**  
James M. Beidler  
Jack W. Cullin

David Moltke-Hansen

**OTHERS – up to \$50**  
Mr. Joseph E. Compton  
Lois & Tom Fagan,  
Marjory Payne  
Douglas A. Wenny  
Larry L. Wood  
John McCorkell

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

Projects completed by GSP volunteers recently have included the indexing of the incomplete listing of Laurel Hill Cemetery inscriptions originally compiled by Edwin S. Dunkerley. Sue Wiley and Bob O Connor did the indexing.

The baptisms of Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Congregation, Palmerton, PA, from 1848 to 1995 have been indexed by Frances Smith and Sue Wiley.

A big "thank you" to the volunteers for their efforts to make these records accessible to researchers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**10 Jun - South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society:** Genealogy conference featuring talks by Annette K. Burgert and the Rev. Frederick S. Weiser, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., York County Heritage Trust museum and library building, 250 E. Market St., York, PA. More information: call (717) 848-1587.

**17 Jun - Genealogy Fair** hosted by the Wayne County Historical Society and co-sponsored by more than a dozen genealogical and historical groups from the northeast Pennsylvania. Presenters include Susan Bennett-Dyson of Susquehanna County Historical Society, Joe Bryer of the Genealogical Research Society of Northeastern PA, Wayne County historian Richard O. Eldred, and Peter Osbone of the Minisink Valley Historical Society. Fair runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church, Honesdale, PA. More information: Wayne County Historical Society, PO Box 446, Honesdale, PA 18431; (570) 253-3240; e-mail: wchspa@ptd.net.

**19 to 21 June - Palatines to America:** National Conference, hosted by the Pennsylvania Chapter, Harrisburg East Holiday Inn, Harrisburg, PA. Speakers, vendors, and 25th anniversary banquet. More information: PO Box 280, Strasburg, PA 17579-0280; or phone (717) 687-8234.

**11 Jul - Old York Road Genealogical Society:** Brian D. McHugh on problems of Polish and Eastern European genealogy, 7 p.m., Abington Free Library, 1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001.

**20-22 Jul - Allen County (IN) Public Library: Millennium Conference.** Ninety-plus lectures on genealogy and many vendors. More information: Postcard to Millennium Conference c/o Historical Genealogy Department, Allen County Public Library, PO Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270.

**8 Aug - Old York Road Genealogical Society:** Latest computer aids and Internet sources explained by Case Zwart, 7 p.m., Abington Free Library, 1030 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001.

**12 Aug - Genealogical Computing Association of PA (GenCAP):** Internet for Genealogists focusing on Mormon Church databases, PAGenWeb project, and commercial vendors; 10 a.m., Windsor Room, Radnor Township Memorial Library, 114 W. Wayne Ave., Wayne, PA 19087-0409.

**17 Aug - Berks County Genealogical Society:** Jane Adams Clarke on "Research in the City/County of Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m., society library, 3618 Kutztown Road, Laureldale, PA.

**6 to 9 Sep - Federation of Genealogical Societies:** "A World of Records" National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT. More information: FGS Business Office, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940.

**28 Oct - Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society:** Fall meeting with speaker Trudy Schenk, A.G.; Best Western, Leesburg, VA.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

Annette K. Bugert, FASG, FGSP, is accepting pre-publication orders for her new volume, *Palatine Origins of Some Pennsylvania Pioneers*, until 30 June. This book brings together information from some of Burgert's out-of-print early monographs tracing 18<sup>th</sup> century immigrants from 10 villages in the Vorder Pfalz with additional immigrants from those villages and immigrants from 20 new villages. Prepublication orders of *Palatine Origins* cost \$40 postpaid (PA residents please add 6 percent sales tax). To order, write to AKB Publications, 691 Weavertown Road, Myerstown, PA 17067.

GSP member Roy H. Wampler has published a family genealogy entitled *A Wampler Family History, with Allied Families of Kemper, Zumbrum, Angel, Carumer, Mayer and Ruhlman*. Two brothers, Hans Peter and Johann Christian Wampler, who immigrated to Pennsylvania in the 1740s established the American branch of the family. The hardbound book is 444 pages

and has an every name index. Copies are available for \$49 postpaid from Wampler, 4620 N. Park Ave. #1006E, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-4560.

*Descendants of Joh. Matthias and Susanna Barbara (Lauer) Theiss, Deiss, Tice, Dice* by Jack Akerboom is being published by Masthof Press, 220 Mill Road, Morgantown, PA 19543-9701. The immigrant lived in what's now Lebanon County. The two-volume book costs \$70 per set with \$6 shipping. PA residents should add \$4.20 in sales tax.

Sue Kohl Soulliard has written the *Kohl (Cole) Family History*. The hardbound book includes stories, maps, tavern petitions, taufscheins, and 100-plus photographs. To order, send \$37 (plus \$4 shipping handling and 6 percent sales tax if residing in PA) to Sue Kohl Soulliard, Attn: Research Desk, PO Box 148, Narvon, PA 17555.

## TAX RECORDS AND THEIR COUSINS, THE PA SEPTENNIAL CENSUS

**W**HILE the reaction to taxes in the present usually evokes emotions ranging from just this side of scorn, genealogists are always happy when their ancestors appear on tax lists since these documents almost always pinpoint the township, borough or city of residence. Once such residence is determined, it can be used by the researcher to make a decision on what other records (such as the registers of a particular area's churches) logically should be consulted.

### Tax lists

Tax records are usually found in county tax assessors' offices in Pennsylvania. In many instances, early lists have been transcribed or microfilmed and can be found at county historical societies. The State Archives also has a respectable set of microfilms of tax lists from the state's counties. A number of state lists from the Colonial era were transcribed in the Third Series of the published *Pennsylvania Archives*. This series along with a number of other tax list transcriptions are found in the GSP Research Room.

An important item to remember is that tax lists reflect the county and municipal makeup as of the date of the list; for example, tax lists for the area that is now Lebanon County before 1813 will be found at the Dauphin County Courthouse since nearly all of Lebanon County was part of Dauphin from 1785 to 1813. An additional caveat is that townships from areas of a county later erected into new counties sometimes are ignored in published transcriptions of records.

Tax lists can be very helpful in establishing the comings and goings of individuals. When someone "disappears" from a particular township's list, it ordinarily means the person either died or moved elsewhere. Lists vary greatly in the amount of information given – sometimes just the name and a tax rate; other times with occupations, approximate land acreages and numbers of sheep, cows, and horned cattle.

The Colonial and early 19<sup>th</sup> century lists were usually divided into several lists – one of property owners, usually dubbed "freeholders"; another of married renters heading households, called "inmates"; and a "single freemen" list composed of unmarried men (usually age 21 and above). At times the best proof of an individual's marriage may be when the groom moves from "single freeman" to "inmate."

### 'Window Tax'

A very specific record known as the 1798 U.S. Direct Tax, nicknamed the "window" or "glass" tax be-

cause the levy was based on the number of windows in a house, is a boon to Pennsylvania genealogists. The window tax lists that survive for the state give specific dimensions and building materials used in the homes of the time and therefore can assist in determining whether an ancestor's home dates to this time period. The lists also show acreages, the name of an adjoining property owner, and other information about the real estate of the time.

GSP's Research Room currently has copies of the window tax microfilm for Allegheny, Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Huntingdon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Somerset, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, and York. Some counties' records have only partially survived. Window tax records for Philadelphia can be found in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania Library.

### Septennial Census

A final record, the so-called Pennsylvania Septennial Census, was taken from 1779 to 1863 and bears the name of census but looks more like a tax list. These records – relatively few of which have survived – were generated to enumerate taxpayers for the purpose of determining representation in the state legislature.

The septennial census returns usually list only the names and occupations of taxables. Ironically, data concerning slaves is sometimes more detailed in the returns that have survived. The septennial census returns that are available to researchers are the following: Adams, 1800; Allegheny, 1800; Armstrong, 1800; Bedford, 1779, 1786, 1800; Berks, 1779 to 1800; Bucks, 1786, 1800; Centre, 1800; Chester, 1779, 1786, 1800; Columbia, 1821; Cumberland, 1793, 1800; Dauphin, 1786, 1800, 1807; Delaware, 1793, 1700; Fayette, 1786, 1800; Franklin, 1786, 1800 to 1842; Greene, 1800; Huntingdon, 1800, 1821; Lancaster, 1779 to 1800; Luzerne, 1800; Lycoming, 1800; Mifflin, 1800, 1821; Montgomery, 1786 to 1807, 1842; Northampton, 1786, 1800; Northumberland, 1800; Philadelphia, 1793, 1800, 1863; Somerset, 1800; Washington, 1786, 1800; Wayne, 1800; Westmoreland, 1786, 1800; Wyoming, 1849; and York, 1786 to 1807.

Septennial census returns can be found at the Pennsylvania State Archives, Third and Forster streets, Harrisburg. Mailing address is PO Box 1026, Harrisburg, PA 17107-1026. Its Web site is found at the URL, [www.phmc.state.pa.us](http://www.phmc.state.pa.us) (Then click on Pennsylvania State Archives).

## INFORMATION WANTED

Here are the "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.

**BAKER/BARGER:** Searching for the parents of Ambrose Baker and Mary Ann Barger who were m 5 March 1849, by the Rev. John Street, City Missionary. Children: Rachel, b 13 Jan 1851, Ambrose Jr., b 12 March 1853, and Henry b 6 July 1861. Ambrose was killed in Petersburg, VA, 30 Sept 1864.

*Joy A. Firtell, 4304 East Third Avenue, Napa, CA 94558*

**BEAGLE:** Seeking information about Frederick, John Michael, and George. Three brothers who came to America from Germany ca. 1839. They settled in Columbia County, PA. Frederick married Katherine Hiembach ca. 1852. Frederick and Katherine 12 children. John brought his wife Anna Margaret with him from Germany.

*Anna Parker, 1810 E. Letterly St., Philadelphia, PA 19125*

**CAROLUS / CAROLIS:** Seeking information on parents of Emanuel Carolus / Carolis, born 25 Aug 1817, Lancaster County, PA. He m Elizabeth Rexroth 9 Sep 1841 and moved to Ohio about 1847.

*Ray Coyle, PO Box 1321, Modesto, CA 95353-1321*

**CATHAY:** John Cathay, died February, 1742-43 in Lancaster Co., PA. John married Ann. Children: Jean Alexander, George, Mrs. Trindall, Mrs. Graham, and Eleanor. John Cathay was a brother to James of North Carolina.

*Mrs. Cheryl Knowles, 979 Simon Lane, Chillicothe, OH. 45601-2161*

**COMPTON:** Seek information on Robert Compton, b 12 Dec. 1793 in London, England. Served as a Baptist Minister in PA, MD and NJ. Died 11 July 1869 in PA. Wife, Anna M. (1800-1898) born in MD and died in PA. Three sons. Joseph Henry Compton born in 1830 in Philadelphia, served in the Civil War.

*Joseph E. Compton, 2903 E. Eisenhower Pkwy, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.*

**DAVIS/PETERSON:** In 1870 my great-grandfather, John Davis, was 51 years old. His wife, Adda (Peterson) Davis was 44. Sons: Conner or Calvin 22, Winfield 20, John F. 14, and Benjamin, 12. Also daughters Mary 17, Sarah 9, and young Adda, 6. They lived in Licking Township in Clarion County with the Post Office being Curtisville in Western PA. My grandfather, John F. (age14) moved out to the Pacific NW after he had raised his family for some time in Hamilton, PA. It appears that some of the siblings may have populated this west-

ern part of PA.

*Dorothy Davis Collings, 10303-12th Ave. NW, Seattle, WA 98177*

**DeHAVEN/HULTZ/ROBERTS:** Seeking parents and siblings of John R. DeHaven, b 1812 Montgomery or Philadelphia Co. Died January 1888, Philadelphia. Is he the John DeHaven born to Mary Roberts and ? DeHaven listed on a Boehm Church document? Need parents', siblings, and death date of John's first wife Gerthuda Hultz, b 1812-14, New Jersey. Place? Died 1856-1868 Philadelphia.

*Delores Sutter Torr, 905 Old Bethlehem Road, Quakertown, PA 18951-5407*

**EDELMAN(N):** Seeking information on the parents and siblings of Johannes (John) Edelman, b 10 April 1778, d 12 July 1868, m Magdalena Fried in New Hanover Lutheran Church, PA, Sept 1799.

*Corrine R. Edelman, 922 Monte Vista Drive, West Chester, PA 19380-6030.*

**GILBERT/PEARSON:** 2d In 1703-04 women's minutes of Falls Monthly Meeting speaks of "Deborow Pearson (sic) marrying disorderly. This woman, Deborah, is probably the daughter of Edward and Sarah Burgis Pearson. Spruance Library Darrow MSS state that Deborah m Thomas Gilbert and settled near Holicong, Buckingham Twp.; nearby brothers & sisters, Pearson & Bye.

*John W. Pearson, PO Box 6554, Altadena, CA 91003-6554*

**HARTRANFT/KANE/KIDD:** Looking for parents of George, Eliza (who married George Kane and lived in Philadelphia), and William (b 1814 in Philadelphia) Hartranft. William married Margaret A. Kidd in 1837 and lived in Salem County, New Jersey. William and Margaret had 11 children: Charles, Henry, Louisa, Joseph, John, Sarah Jane, William, Isaac, Josiah, Anna, Louis.

*Sheryl Sylester, 600 Moores Lane, New Castle, DE 19720*

**HOLT/WINDERS:** Seeking information on family of Enoch T. Holt, b ca. 1830 in Baltimore, MD, the son of Enoch and Elizabeth Holt. He married Sarah Ann, daughter of Joseph and Alice Winders, at Pittsburgh in 1854. Their children were Sarah, Alice, Joseph, Nancy, Marion, James Olive m Emma Cummings, Enoch, Lettie m Murray Muir Henry and Bichri m Edna Rhodes.

*Michael A. Ports, 754 McHenry St., Baltimore, MD 21230*

## INFORMATION WANTED

**HUTCHINSON/RUPLEY:** Would like information on James Hutchison b 7 Dec. 1807 in Cumberland Co. PA. Parents not known, the location not known. Moved to Mansfield, OH, year unknown. Married Catherine Rupley, 22 May 1838 at Mansfield. Children are Mary Ann, Amanda, John (our ancestor), Samuel, Gilbert, Eliza, George, Susan, David, Alsinda, Alminda, Albert. *Ina R. Hutchison, 22286 Co. Rd. M, West Unity, OH 43570-9778*

**JENKINS:** Seek information on Trevis Jackson, b 20 Mar 1808 and d 1850 in NJ. Son Arron Jenkins b 22 Sep 1840 and d 1913. Father believed to be George Jenkins who died in NJ.

*Joseph E. Compton, 2903 E. Eisenhower Pkwy, Ann Arbor, MI 48108.*

**LONG/EVANS:** Seeking any information on a James A. Long b October 1867 in Philadelphia. Father also believed to be a James Long. Lived at Rear 911 Manilla St. at the time of his m to Katherine Evans. Listed occupation as blacksmith. Married 27 Nov 1889. Reported to have served in the Spanish-American War. James and Kate had 2 children, Isabel, b 15 Dec 1890, and Johnny (bp 7 Nov 1892). James reportedly d shortly after war. *Harold Bauer, 1201 S. First St., Springfield, IL 627604*

**McCULLOUGH/HUGHES:** My ancestor is William James McCullough, b 28 Oct. 1832 in PA. He married Rachel Hughes, 7 Nov 1858 in Hancock County, Illinois. She was b 25 Aug. 1833 in PA. Would love to find out parents of William and Rachel (her mother may have been a Rachel?).

*Challis McCullough, 1878 Clara Ave., Fortuna, CA 95540*

**NUNAN:** Researching the name Nunan and would appreciate any information on all Nunans in the Philadelphia and Delaware County areas.

*Ruth A. Yobs, 207 Drexel Road, Tobyhanna, PA 18466; e-mail: ruthyobs@ptdprolog.net*

**PALMER:** Seek ancestors/siblings of Richard and Hannah Palmer, Philadelphia. Richard b abt. 1770, m 14 Aug, 1790, d 30 Sept 1818. Son Amos, b 13 Nov 1791, m Nov. 12, 185? to Catherine Vogel. Other ch also.

*Elizabeth W.(Mrs. Harold L.) Claxton, 10805 N. 9th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85050*

**SANDO:** Looking for descendants of Michael Sando, b 1818, Devon, England. William Sando, b 1825, Eliza Sando, b 1821, Susan Sando, b 1827, all born Kenwyn, Cornwall, England. Three children b Minersville, PA, Jane, b 1831, Alice, b 1834, Joseph William, b 1835. All are children of Michael and Jane Gould Sando of Coal Castle, PA.

*Anne Groome, 5 Nichols Road, Convent Station, NJ 07960-4609; e-mail: annegroome@compuserve.com*

**SCOGGIN(S)/PIERCE/MCCASLIN/REED/KENT/ROTCHFORD/CULEN/VANCULEN:** Interested in John Scoggin, b 1723 New Castle Co., De. Wife was Mary; what was her maiden name? They sold land in New Castle Co. In 1752 and may have moved west into PA. Believe he had connections to the surnames listed above, probably in the New Castle area. Would like to hear from others researching these surnames.

*(Miss) Margaret B. Scoggins, PO Box 473, Poplar Bluff, MO 63902-0473*

**SIMONTON/SMITH:** Need info and records: Theophilus Simonton & wife, Mary Smith (brother Archibald Smith d DE, 1729). They lived in Conestoga Manor, Lancaster Co. PA abt. 1729; and their son, Theophilus (II) d abt. 1750, wife \_\_\_\_ Frame? This was time when Wm Penn's grandsons did not issue land titles. Also wish to exchange info on Simontons in PA, MD, DE, NJ, NY; also any Frames in this area.

*Jaelyn K. Helmke, 209 Henderson Street, San Antonio, TX 78209-4639; e-mail: helmke@juno.com*

**STOKOR/DOMINIC/TOMLINSON:** Seeking information about Charles B. Stoker, in 1880 found in Bucks County, PA, m Eliza A. Dominic in Johnsville, Bucks County, on 31 Jan 1875. Eliza d in May 1887. Charles remarried H. Lizza Tomlinson 18 Mar 1895. Charles d 28 Nov 1911. Charles and Eliza had 7 children. Looking for anything on the children of Charles and Eliza, and anything about where Charles, Eliza, and H. Lizza Tomlinson came from.

*Anna Parker, 1810 E. Letterly St., Philadelphia, PA 19125*

**SUTERS/SUTTERS/ACHS:** Seeking m and d dates for James Suters, b Dec 1853, NJ. Place? Suters original spelling. Seeking death date of James, first wife Sarah Achs, b 1853 PA. Was it Philadelphia? Died 1871-1884 Philadelphia.

*Delores Sutter Torr, 905 Old Bethlehem Road, Quakertown, PA 18951-5407*

**WOLF/GREENHOUGH:** The 1850 Census for Franklin Township, Summit Co., OH, has the following family listed on page 122 in dwelling 2904 as family 2927: John Wolf, age 43, farmer, b PA; Mary Wolf, age 35, b PA; Soloman Wolf, age 14, born OH; Maria Wolf, age 12, b OH; Mary Ann Wolf, age 9, b OH; Elizabeth Wolf, age 4, b OH; and William Wolf, age 1, b OH. Wife's maiden name was Greenhough. Any suggestions as to where in PA this family came from?

*Arthur E. Hutchinson, 8606 Cross Oaks Lane, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-3334; e-mail: aehutch@erols.com*

### FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Two months ago I attended a workshop in Providence, R.I., titled "To Film or to Scan" in which several experts went over the latest in microfilm and digital technology. The workshop was sponsored by the North East Document Conservation Center. I went with Tom Deahl, the president of the Genealogical Computing Association of Pennsylvania, a person of considerable technological savvy who ran the microfilming department for the Minnesota Historical Society in the 1960s. Use of microfilm and digital technology has two aspects that concern genealogists: 1) finding a media that best preserves a true-to-original copy of increasingly fragile original records; 2) making access to these documents available.

Yale University Preservation Department Head Paul Conway also showed the workshop participants that the increasingly short lifespan of the media used for documents is nothing new - from the beginning of recorded history, as the number of characters per inch that can be stored on a particular media has increased, the life of the media has decreased. CD-ROMs are already becoming passé, Conway indicated.

According to workshop microfilm expert Robert Mottice, microfilm has undergone several changes in film base material. Polyester based silver halide gelatin film is now considered the standard and is expected to last 500 years if kept under correct storage conditions.

Mottice warned that cellulose acetate film (the standard used until the mid-1970s) is being found to break down, causing the film edges to curl and a vinegar smell. Acetate film is now known to have a much more limited lifespan -- 100 years under ideal circumstances -- that makes necessary a replacement program that will include many Mormon and National Archives films.

This discussion of "vinegar syndrome" caused Tom no small amount of chagrin, since his days as Minnesota Historical's microfilm chief were during the acetate era. But Tom had no way of knowing - just as the 500-year lifespan of polyester-based films, Mottice admitted, is just an educated guess.

Probably the most important part of the workshop was the discussion of digital technology led by Conway. He talked about a study that Yale and Cornell universities cooperated on. The premise of the study was that preservation and access could be married with a "hybrid approach" of both microfilming and digitizing a given collection. What the study concluded was that if the collection was digitized first and then converted to microfilm, it offered higher quality images at a lower cost. The challenge for repositories that hold records of genealogical value is to find the funding to move forward on the twin concerns of preservation and access with such a hybrid approach.

James M. Beidler, Executive Director



Address Correction Requested

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