



THE GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME XXII, ISSUE 4, OCTOBER 2008

ROLL CALL: NEW SITES AND SOURCES FOR MILITARY RECORDS & RESEARCH 35TH ANNIVERSARY LECTURE SERIES CONTINUES

BY JEAN MORRISON

Most of us have found in our genealogy and family history research that we have a relative, or perhaps many, who have responded to our nation's call to arms. Every day new sources become available to research these service men and women. And who better to bring us up to date on the valuable resources that are out there than **Curt Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF, Manager of the Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne IN.** Talking about military records and resources has long been a favorite of Curt's, and the exceptional collection he manages at The Genealogy Center in Ft. Wayne is witness to that. On November 8th at 10 am the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will co-sponsor the annual Veterans Day Program and feature Curt Witcher as our speaker. This year we will celebrate on the Saturday prior to Veterans Day. You won't want to miss this exceptional educational program that will enhance your research of ancestors with military service. It will be held in the Huenefeld Room, History and Genealogy Department of the Main Library.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FROM HOME MADD TAKES A TURN...

Ever wish that you could make a difference without leaving home? Now you can! The next step in our work on the Local History Card File will be checking the text and reference book titles from a provided list with the PLCH online catalog. And yes – if you wish, you can do it in your 'jammies or even at midnight! We will NOT all meet together on November 1 as previously announced and published. We still need the help of 12 willing genealogists who can work at their computer from home, the Main Library or a terminal at their branch library. Call Jean Morrison to volunteer (513-232-1827). Please leave your name and phone number. We will begin distributing your worksheets after October 20. You'll have plenty of time to complete and submit them.

TRACER ARTICLES AND SURNAMEN INDEX UPDATE

BY JIM DEMPSEY

The Society has published its quarterly journal, *The Tracer*, for 29 years. Up to now, there has been no article index to all the issues published. Many of these articles contain extensive extractions of vital or other records which are not available anywhere else. An index has been compiled that covers 1979 through August 2008. This index will be published in stages in *The Tracer*, beginning in November. To facilitate usage by genealogists, the articles are listed in the following categories:

African-American, Baptism records, Bibliography, Biography, Birth records, Case Studies, Cemetery Deeds, Cemeteries, Census Aids, Protestant Churches, Catholic Churches, German Protestant Churches, Civil War, Computers, Deaths - obituaries and notices, Deaths - Burials, Deeds, Events, Families, Deutsche Pionier Verein, Germans in America, Germany, Immigration, Irish, Jewish, Library Guides, Lineage Societies, Maps, Marriages, Members, Military, Photography, Pioneers, Research Guides, Record Extractions, Schools, Sources, Towns, and Vital Statistics.

At the same time that *The Tracer* is mailed, a copy of the index will be available on the Research Aids page on our website: www.hcgsohio.org/researchaids.shtml.

If an article or information would be of help to you, order a back issue of *The Tracer* at www.hcgsohio.org/publications.shtml or a "look-up" of the article through the Research Committee at www.hcgsohio.org/research.shtml.

Surname indexes have been produced every year. Last year, the years 1990-2005 were consolidated and put on our website at www.hcgsohio.org/tracernames.shtml. I am in the process of assembling the surname indexes for 1979 to 1990. Because they were done differently, at first they will be separate until I can merge all together into one alphabetical file. Hopefully the earlier years will be on the website by December 2008.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Ann Hambrecht, chairperson of the Research Committee, has asked for volunteers to help with the overwhelming number of requests the committee is receiving.

The committee works from a set group of books that have been published by the Chapter. Full sets of these books are available at the Main Library as well as four branch libraries: Anderson, North Central, Green Twp., and Madeira. The researcher does not need to be well versed in Hamilton Co. research. One or two research requests per month is all that we ask. To volunteer or get more information, call 513-793-1886

FIRST FAMILIES OF HAMILTON COUNTY ALSO KNOWN AS FFHC

BY MARY THOLKING

*Like to learn about history or solve mysteries, especially your own?

*Did you have ancestors in Hamilton County OHIO before December 31, 1820? Please remember the county was much larger in the late 1700's and early 1800's and included several other Ohio counties and even part of Indiana at one time.

*FFHC is seeking new members for 2009 and the future who can connect their descent from an ancestor who is proven to be one of those ancestors who ventured to Hamilton County.

*Check our website at www.hcgsohio.org and click on First Families on the left group of choices. You can view ancestors already submitted and find an application.

*You can also contact us by letter at FFHC Hamilton County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 15865 Cincinnati, Ohio 45215-0865 or leave a message at 513-956-7078.

Your FFHC Committee looks forward to hearing from you.

President's Message

BY KENNY BÜRCK

*(Kenny's contact information...Home: 513-851-9549,
Email: kburck@juno.com)*

After the summer off with no Chapter Board meetings in July or August, the Board met in September and is back to work for our members. The Membership Committee is meeting in October to prepare the annual membership packet, so be looking for that to arrive in your mailbox in late October. We do not plan to include the slip of paper asking if you want to sign up as a paid researcher for 2009. Therefore, if you want to "hang out your shingle" to do Hamilton County research for others, you will have to notify Kenny Burck at kburck@juno.com before February 2, 2009 when a new list will be prepared and the information placed on the Chapter website. The cost is \$5.00. I would need your contact information and up to a 40-word description of your advertisement of why someone would want to hire you to do local research. We currently have nine researchers on our list.

Jeff Herbert, our Chapter Vice-President and editor of MANY Hamilton County genealogical publications, recently transferred with the General Electric Company to the area around Houston, TX. He is still working on several Hamilton County-related projects but we will miss seeing him on a regular basis. He was also a dedicated volunteer at the Norwood Family History Center. Jeff's latest compilation is now available for sale. It was accomplished with the help of several Chapter volunteers. The large book has a title something like St. Joseph New Cemetery, 1850-1894 which is predominately Irish Catholic but many west side Cincinnatians are also buried there.

By the time you read this message our annual First Families and Settlers and Builders of Hamilton County luncheon will have been held. We had some new First Families applications accepted and at least seven new Settlers and Builders and two supplemental applications accepted. The next deadline for both lineage societies is August 31, 2009. If you are eligible for membership in either group, I hope you check out the application process on the Chapter website and complete the documentation for your ancestors in 2009.

THE GAZETTE

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HAMILTON COUNTY CHAPTER
Celebrating 35 Years!

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BY PATRICIA VAN SKAIK, MANAGER,
GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Family History Month

In celebration of October's official designation of Family History Month, the Public Library is offering a wide range of activities. On October 17, the Genealogy and Local History (G&LH) Department conducts its first lock-in as part of its Genealogy Weekend Extravaganza. (**Reservations required for lock-in**, call 513-369-6908 to make a reservation.) On Saturday, October 18, the Library presents the Family History Fair on the third floor of the Main Library, adjacent to the new Genealogy and Local History Department. Both events provide an excellent opportunity for genealogists to do what they do best, research and exchange information. In October, G&LH and the Hamilton County Genealogical Society are also co-sponsoring classes at branch libraries. (See calendar for details.)

Genealogists have an added incentive to come to the Library in October. Visit the Genealogy and Local History Department and sign-up for a *Genealogy VIP* card. Keep the card with you for easy access to the Department's email address and phone number. Register to receive email alerts for genealogy programs and use the card to obtain discounts at nearby restaurants listed on the back of the card. Holders of the *Genealogy VIP* card also receive discounts on Chapter publication and memberships. In addition, three hours of genealogy research completed before October 25 qualify as the equivalent of reading one book in the Library's *Be a Friend of Books* contest. For additional rewards, fill out the entry forms for this program, which are also available at the G&LH desk.

WiFi

Genealogy research at the Library gets easier for those owning laptops or mobile devices with wireless access to the Internet, as the Main Library rolls out its free WiFi service. Even though many genealogists check the online catalog at home before coming to the Library, once there, most researchers find additional sources they wish to check online. As of October 16, check the online catalog and log onto research databases, courtesy of the Library, from your

own laptop. For those without wireless laptops, take advantage of the Library's computer registration software to reduce wait time for a computer with Internet connections. Ask at the desk for details.

Collection Development

Photographs greatly enhance the understanding and appreciation of our ancestors' lives. The Library has begun to purchase photo books from the "Image of America" series from Arcadia Publishing for all parts of the United States. Due to space constraints, some may be shelved in the closed stacks. Ask at the G&LH desk or check the online catalog, www.cincinnati.library.org, under "Image of America" for a complete listing or search by city or town for a focused search. Unlike standard genealogy books, these books are not cataloged by county name.

German Genealogy

We have recently received gift books on German genealogy and have made it a collection goal to increase this collection. We welcome gifts or suggestions for items to purchase. To recommend a book or publisher or to donate a book, contact us at history@cincinnati.library.org.

Virtual Library

Cincinnati City Directories spanning the years 1819 through 1894 have now been loaded on the Virtual Library. To access this collection, go to the Library's website, click on the purple spot for "Virtual Library" on the right side of the page, click on "Browse Virtual Library", and then click on "Downloadable City Directories." In keeping with our German genealogy emphasis, we have scanned *Der Deutscher Pionier*. It is currently in production. Watch for its appearance in the Virtual Library under "Downloadable Old and Rare Books."

November at the Library

In November, the Library and the Chapter join forces in honor of Veterans Day and this year to celebrate Hamilton County Genealogical Society's 35th anniversary with Curt Witcher's program, "Veterans Celebration: New Sites and Sources for Military Records and Research." (See calendar for details.) The following week, on November 15, the Library presents live jazz in the Atrium at 2 p.m. Research your family history with great background music or take a break and enjoy the live band.

Holiday Gifts

Planning on compiling a family history to give as a holiday gift? Come to the Library to view sources not posted on the Internet, such as non-digitized transcripts and abstracts, and land ownership maps. Consider donating a copy to the Library, so anyone in the world can view its index online. Contact the Genealogy and Local History Department for our compiled family history guidelines.



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Complete calendar available at: <http://hcgsohio.org/calendar2008.shtml>

First Saturday, every month, 10 am	INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY and tour of Genealogy & Local History Dept.	Librarians	Genealogy & Local History Dept. Main Library, 800 Vine Street
October 17, Friday, 6:30 - 11:30 pm	Family History Fair Lock-in Conduct research after hours in the Genealogy and Local History Department	SPACE is LIMITED - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED	Main Library 800 Vine Street, 513-369-6905 Co-sponsored by HCGS & PLCH
October 18, Saturday, 11 am - 4 pm	Genealogy and Family History Fair	Speakers and exhibits	Genealogy and Local History Dept. Main Library, 800 Vine Street
October 20, Monday, 6 pm	<i>Tips and Techniques for Genealogists</i>	Karen Everett	Hyde Park Branch Library 2747 Erie Avenue 513-369-4456
October 28, Tuesday, 6pm	<i>Tips and Techniques for Genealogists</i>	Karen Everett	Norwood Branch Library, 4325 Montgomery Road, 513-369-6037
October 28, Tuesday, 6 pm	German Genealogy at Congenealogy meeting	Bob Rau	Mary Ann Mongan Public Library 5th and Scott Streets, Covington
October 30, Thursday, 7 pm	<i>Tracing Your German Ancestors</i>	Kenny Burck	Mary Ann Mongan Public Library 5th and Scott Streets, Covington
November 8, Saturday, Veteran's Day program, 10 am	HCGS 35th Anniversary Series: "ROLL CALL: NEW SITES AND SOURCES FOR MILITARY RECORDS & RESEARCH"	Curt Witcher, Director, Genealogy Center, Allen Co. Indiana library	Main Library 800 Vine Street, Huenefeld Room, Cincinnati 513-369-6905 Co-sponsored by HCGS & PLCH

Gazette Deadline: December 27, 2008

Tracer Deadline: December 30, 2008