



THE GAZETTE

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

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1, JANUARY 2010

RESEARCH AND PRESERVATION 2009

ANN HAMBRECHT & JIM DEMPSEY

The seven volunteers on the Research Committee had another busy year in 2009. They provided over forty-two hours of comprehensive research for thirty submitters. In addition, detailed marriage and death notice information on 260 ancestors was provided for 42 submitters.

The microfilming of the *Harrison News* continued steadily with thirty-three years (1884-1916) now complete. It is hoped that the final twelve years, 1871 to 1883, will be finished by the summer of 2010. The completed films are available at the Main Library downtown and at the Harrison, Ohio branch.

Previously, burial information at the Old St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery was easily accessible only from 1880 forward. After many months of effort, Jeffrey Herbert has filled in the gap from the Cemetery beginning in 1845 with our 19th cemetery book, *Old St. Joseph German Cemetery, 1845-1879* from Little Miami Books.

From 1991 to 2006, all the original records of Wesleyan Cemetery were cleaned, sorted and arranged for microfilming. Over thirty rolls of film were produced and made available through the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City. After three more years of cataloging and archiving, the original records will be permanently deposited in the Cincinnati Historical Society Library at the Cincinnati Museum Center. About 60% complete, all of the records should be there by the summer of 2010. The Board has provided a \$500 grant to the Library to assist in preservation of the records.

TRACER SURNAME INDEX 2009

JIM DEMPSEY

Rodger Crowe has volunteered to take over the difficult and tedious task of indexing the *Tracer*. Deb Cyprych and I decided to review all of the indexes from the beginning. Our goal was to add categories and reduce the physical size in order to save printing and mailing costs. With continual adjustment as the year went on, I believe we have accomplished our goal. The categories follow. You will receive the results with the February issue of the *Tracer*. Thank you Rodger!

CODE TYPE OF RECORDS REPRESENTED

- (A) after name Afro-American
- B Birth and baptisms; vital statistics
- C Clergy
- D Death, burials, cemeteries, vital statistics
- E Emigration to US
- F Families; i.e., records relating parents to children
- H Personal History; pioneers, record extractions, schools, deeds, biography
- L Lineage societies (First Families, Settlers & Builders, Early German, Irish, DAR, etc.)
- M Marriage
- N Non-USA; records of this surname in Germany, England, Ireland, etc.
- P Published books on families, authors
- Q Queries in Tracers
- S Society, club, fraternal group membership lists (if not another type)
- W Military or war related
- X Other: portraits, photography, memorial, witnesses, etc.

NEW LIBRARY PODCASTS IN 2010

PATRICIA VAN SKAIK

PROGRAMS AND PODCAST

2010 kicks off Library genealogy programs with "Finding Frances: A Genealogist's Journey Discovering the Life of Frances Ellen Watkins Harper" in celebration of Black History Month. In addition, the Library's first

podcasts will present weekly interviews on African American genealogy at www.cincinnati.library.org. In March, G&LH librarian and Irish specialist Colleen Phillips presents "Those Magnificent McNulty's." See calendar for details and call 513-369-6908 to place a reservation. 2010 is off to a great start!

President's Message

BY KENNY BÜRCK

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

Doris Thomson, a Chapter member from Georgia, has been abstracting City of Cincinnati death records for the Chapter since 2003. The Chapter has completed eight volumes that are in print and the last two volumes are almost ready for publication. Doris was working on the last year of records (1880) to be abstracted from 1878 to 1908, when I received word from her daughter that she passed away after a short illness on 3 December. Doris may have been abstracting records longer than any other out-of-town member in our Chapter's history. She had previously received a *Certificate of Appreciation* and the Chapter's *Award of Merit* for her efforts. If Doris had not agreed many years ago to the abstracting part of the project, then Kay Ryan, Marilyn Armstrong, Margie Mohr, Jean Nathan and I would probably not have contributed our part to complete the nearly ten volume set of Cincinnati death records. So all of you who have used these volumes, perhaps many times, need to be thankful to Doris for her contribution to our genealogical community. Doris also did some additional abstracting of cemetery records for Mary Remler over the years. She was also a volunteer librarian for her local LDS Family History Center in Georgia. Doris was in her 80's and was always a joy to work with. Jean Nathan and I plan to complete the job to abstract the 1880 records.

Because there have been some delays to complete the last two volumes of *Index to Cincinnati, Ohio, Death Records 1878-1881* and *1897-1899*, I made up two "almost completed" copies for these years (except for the year 1880 which has not yet been abstracted). I placed one copy of each volume in white three-ring notebooks in the downtown public library on the reference desk and at the LDS Family History Center in Norwood. So please refer to them until the final volumes are completed. If you live out of the Cincinnati area, you may email me with a request to check a name for these time periods.

In 2009 we did not complete our 2008 Make-A-Difference project to identify the sources used in the Local History Index Card Catalog. This is the large oak cabinet with more than 100 plus drawers located in the Local History and Genealogy Department of the downtown public library. Our Chapter did meet in groups three times in 2008 to identify the sources used, but we then needed to find the locations of all of these sources which could be

anywhere within the library. The sources could possibly be re-catalogued to a single nearby location for easy access to the large oak cabinet. This way, if you found an ancestor or person of interest, you would have quick access to the information. We also found a great book on early Columbia Township (Hamilton County, OH) settlers that has not been indexed and that will soon be another Make-A-Difference project that we should be able to complete in short order. We also came up with yet another soon to be announced project that should help all of us with our Hamilton County research. Stand-by for these opportunities.

For several years, a group of Hamilton County Chapter members have gone to Salt Lake City in January for a research trip. It has been communicated by word-of-mouth and various members have participated. Most everyone has booked their own flights and hotels (with our suggestions) but most arrived and departed on the same dates. These are great trips with many ancestors found throughout the years. If you would like the details for a possible trip in 2011, let me know on my email. There are only six or seven going in January 2010, although more have attended in previous years. I imagine many would like to go sometime and your comfort level might be eased if you went with experienced regulars to Salt Lake City. Our Chapter has taken trips twice to the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana and many members have traveled to Ft. Wayne to do research. The new Ohio Genealogical Society Library in Mansfield will be opening about July 2010 and I hope to have a Chapter trip soon after it is open. It is a 2½ hour (or a little more) trip and we would probably spend one night in a nearby motel. This is what we have done when going to Ft. Wayne. Our trips to Salt Lake City are usually seven or eight days.

Now that winter is here, it's time to start planning which spring or summer genealogy road trip you might go on or which cemetery you plan to visit. Happy hunting!

DUES ARE DUE! PLEASE RENEW!

This is just a gentle reminder that dues for 2009 are due. If they aren't paid, this will be your last Hamilton County publication. Your membership supports the work we are doing in Hamilton County for you and your ancestors!

THE GAZETTE

Editor
Jennifer Hershberger

Content Editor
Susan Bock

Published Quarterly

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www.hcgsohio.org

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

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

THANK YOU - LIBRARY TAX LEVY PASSES

The Library owes the voters of Hamilton County and the Hamilton County Genealogical Society a giant thank you. Ballot Issue 7 passed by an impressive 72%, showing overwhelming support for the Library. The levy's passage allows the Library to hold the position as one of the nation's top-ranked genealogy collections as it continues to grow and develop.

GIFTS

Funds from the library levy will not be available until 2010. Due to the huge shortfalls in 2009 from decreases in State of Ohio funding, the Library was forced to use a large percentage of its budget for operations. Fortunately, the Chapter came to the rescue, asking Genealogy and Local History (G&LH) for a wish list of books. The Society then purchased and donated the books to the Library. Together with purchases from the Abell Fund, also supported by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, G&LH was able to stay on track with its goal to purchase every recent Ohio genealogy book published.

Individuals also generously contributed books to the Library. Donations included family histories and yearbooks from Villa Madonna (Covington), Woodward High School, Xavier University and Cincinnati Country Day School. These materials greatly enhance the collection and are seldom available commercially. To donate a family history or yearbook, contact Chris Smith at 513-665-3340 or chris.smith@cincinnati.library.org.

CENSUS, CENSUS AND MORE CENSUS

April 2012, the release date for the 1940 census, is approaching. So far, there are no plans to make microfilm copies available for sale to libraries. According to the National Archives' website, <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/census/1940/index.html>, digital images will be available on the release date, April 1. (The site also has a countdown clock, the genealogists' equivalent to "shopping days until Christmas".) As was the case with the 1930 census, indexing will not be immediately available.

However, access to the records will be possible using a household-by-household approach if the enumeration district number is known. The National Archives site listed above links to the One-Step calculator for identifying 1940 enumeration districts. Using the calculator, which is already active, researchers can be ready to search the records as soon as they are released in 2012. For assistance with the One Step, contact the Genealogy and Local History Department at 513-369-6905.

Interested in an up close look at the expectations of the 1940 census enumerator? Take a look at the 1940 training film, <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/census/1940/videos.html#video1>, also from the National Archives. Besides giving details on the data gathered, the video provides an informative look at life in the in the midst of the Great Depression and a glimpse at how much the nation changed from 1930 to 1940.

One disadvantage of federal census records is that they are only compiled every ten years. Some states, however, conducted state census surveys in "off years," those not ending in "0." These records fill in gaps between federal census years. To add another layer of comprehensiveness, the Library has acquired microfilm copies of mid-nineteenth century through early twentieth century state census records from the following states: Colorado, Florida, Minnesota, Nebraska and North Dakota.

Finally, on April 1, 2010 the government will conduct its 21st decennial census. Genealogists know the value of being counted. Spread the word! Look for the official survey from the United States Census Bureau in the mail by mid-March and also for information at your local library. There is even the opportunity to be on "the other end" of census records by working for the Census Bureau. For more information, go to www.2010censusjobs.gov.

SANBORN MAPS ONLINE

In 2009 the Library was awarded a LSTA (Library Services and Technology Act) Grant to purchase a Hasselblad H3DII-39MS Digital Camera. With this camera the Library expanded its digitizing capabilities from a maximum of 180 square inches to large maps and prints. Using the new equipment, the Library has scanned and posted copies of the first three volumes of Cincinnati Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, http://virtuallibrary.cincinnati.library.org/VirtualLibrary/vl_Maps.aspx. These high-resolution images can be downloaded, are clearer than viewed by the naked eye, and provide a visual representation of ancestors' neighborhoods.



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

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| FIRST SATURDAY, EVERY MONTH, 10 AM | ORIENTATION AND TOUR OF GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT | LIBRARIANS | GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY DEPT. MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET |
| SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13 2 PM | <i>FINDING FRANCES: A GENEALOGISTS JOURNEY DISCOVERING THE LIFE OF FRANCES ELLEN WATKINS HARPER</i> (See insert for details) | MARILYN ARMSTRONG | HUENEFELD TOWER ROOM, MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI |
| SATURDAY, MARCH 27 11 AM | <i>THOSE MAGNIFICENT McNULTYS</i> (IRISH GENEALOGY 101) (See insert for details) | COLLEEN PHILLIPS LOCAL HISTORY REFERENCE LIBRARIAN | HUENEFELD TOWER ROOM, MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET, CINCINNATI |
| THURSDAY - SATURDAY APRIL 22-24 | OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY'S CONFERENCE: <i>GUIDING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE PAST</i> | 50+ Programs Nationally Known Speakers | Seagate Convention Center Toledo |
| SATURDAY, APRIL 17 | ANNUAL CHAPTER SEMINAR 1. TEASING THE SILENT WOMAN FROM THE SHADOWS OF HISTORY 2. TAXES: MILK THEM FOR ALL THEY'RE WORTH 3. USING ALL THE CENSUS DATA 4. BORN IN VIRGINIA: HOW DO I FIND HIM (See insert for details and registration) | Barbara Vines Little | Mill Race Banquet Center At Mill Golf Course in Winton Woods Park 1515 West Sharon Road |