



# THE GAZETTE

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

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## Hidden Treasures

Bev Breitenstein

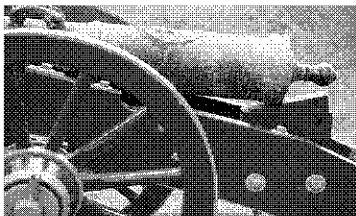
The Chapter will be searching for "Hidden Treasures at [Familysearch.org](http://Familysearch.org)" at our September Chapter meeting. Ms. Dana Palmer, CG, is a teacher, lecturer, author and professional genealogist who will be presenting a program to learn about helpful resources at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) including extracted IGI records, FHLC, batch searches, research guides, pilot site, labs and wiki. Dana Palmer, is a frequent guest lecturer at various genealogical societies and the Family History Jamboree. She is President of the Warren County Genealogical Society, and WCGS web designer & webmaster. Some of her areas of expertise are: cemetery research, technology, digital images & scrapbooks, and U.S., U.K., and Denmark records.

Join us at the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library, 800 Vine Street, in the 3rd Floor Tower Room on Saturday, September 25, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. for what will surely be an interesting and informative update about one of genealogy's most popular web sites.

## Researching War of 1812 Veteran's Information

Have you come to a brick wall when researching War of 1812 Veterans' information? Many researchers are frustrated that they cannot find their ancestors' military papers for this time period. It is not that the records don't exist; it is because their ancestors did not qualify for certain benefits. Our speaker for the November Chapter meeting, Mr. Eric E. Johnson, will help you determine which type of benefits your ancestor was entitled to receive and where you can find them.

Eric E. Johnson is a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, an OGS trustee in charge of publications, a member of the General Society of the War of 1812 and the editor of the society's newsletter, "The 1812 War Cry". He has presented a program entitled, "The Battle of Marblehead Peninsula", at the Eighth National War of 1812 Symposium in Baltimore, MD and to the OGS Fall Seminar in Sidney, OH as well as at the OGS 2010 Annual Conference this past April.



## War of 1812 Veteran Info (cont'd)

Please join us at the Cincinnati and Hamilton County Public Library, 800 Vine Street on Saturday, November 6, 2010 for an enjoyable morning of honoring some of our earliest Veterans. Our program will be presented in the Genealogy and History Department on the 3rd Floor at 11:00 a.m. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to hear this nationally renowned and respected speaker!

## First Families Meet Settlers and Builders for Lunch October 9

Our Chapter offers many terrific programs and seminars each year. Another wonderful event is the *First Families of Hamilton County and Settlers and Builders of Hamilton County Awards Luncheon!* This event is open to members and non-members alike, so come, bring a friend and enjoy a wonderful meal and informative program on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Cloverbrook County Club. Parking is free and handicap access to the dining room is available. Walter Langsam will present a thirty minute lecture on Cincinnati Architecture Before 1830. Complete your application this year into one or both of our lineage groups! The application forms are available on the chapter website at <http://hcgsohio.org/>. The luncheon registration for can be found in the August Tracer and the website.

## Seeking HCGS Volunteers

The HCGS is maintaining a listing of members and non-member spouses who are welcome to register and participate on various volunteer projects. Sometimes this involves computer work from your own home, sometimes it's work performed at the main library or one of the branches, or it may involve worksheets provided to you. None of the projects will be a burden and we do not anticipate any of the projects will require immediate completion. These periodic projects are designed to enhance the availability of information on our Hamilton County ancestors. You can say no to a project without guilt if you are busy or do not wish to participate at the time, or simply ask to have your name removed if you so choose. Please call and put your name and e-mail/phone number on the list to Jean Morrison, 513-232-1827 or [morrij3@cinci.rr.com](mailto:morrij3@cinci.rr.com).

# Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

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

## Who Do You Think You Are?

No one has to tell genealogists that family history research is exciting. But NBC's television program "*Who Do You Think You Are?*" helped spread the word to millions of viewers. The show was so popular that it garnered higher ratings the first week than "Ghost Whisper," and took the time slot away from CBS for the first time since 2006. It is no surprise that NBC renewed the show for a second season.

To stay in the WDYTUA mood between seasons, you can re-watch or catch the shows you missed (if did not save to DVR) at <http://www.nbc.com/who-do-you-think-you-are/video/>.

Who Do You Think You Are?

Returns Friday, August 13th  
on NBC - 8/7c

You can also check out the companion book to the series, *Who Do You Think You Are? The Essential Guide to Tracing Family History* by Megan Smolenyak, packed with research tips and examples from the series. Of course, the best way to keep engaged is by doing research with online sources and visiting the Genealogy & Local History Department (G&LH).

## New to the Collection

Each spring after attending the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) conference and viewing materials for sale, we purchase Ohio genealogical materials with the Abell Fund, established and supported by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society. This year's purchases came from nearly 20 counties and included local histories, obituaries, land ownership atlases, church and cemetery records, and birth and death records. Look for complete listings of new acquisitions in the upcoming issue of *The Tracer*.

We received a donation of 40 volumes of annual reports for the "Common Schools of Cincinnati," also known as the Cincinnati Board of Education. With this addition, our collection dating back to 1833 has uninterrupted coverage for the years 1852-1917. These reports provide a vivid picture of the educational experience of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century Cincinnati ancestors. The schools, their location and the geographic areas they drew from are described, including the number of rooms, and square feet per pupil, size of the playground, the curriculum (including sample tests and foreign language instruction), and cost of tuition (schools were not free). All teachers, administrators, and trustees are listed, along with their addresses and annual salaries.

## Non-Population Census Schedules Online and on Microfilm

Ancestry Library Edition, has updated their census records to include federal mortality records for Ohio and most other states. Free access to these records is available on all Library computers and also from your laptop at any Library location, following these steps:

Click on "Databases" in the "Research and Homework Section," top left of the Library's homepage, [www.cincinnati-library.org](http://www.cincinnati-library.org). Click on **Genealogy**, Select **Ancestry Library Edition**, then **US Census Collection** (scroll down list to **Mortality Schedules**).

The Genealogy and Local History Department also has the complete microfilm set of federal mortality census records. Many researchers use the film when they are unable to locate an ancestor through online indexing or they wish to produce a customized printout.

## Make A Difference Project

During Phase 1 of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society's last "Make A Difference Project," Chapter members identified all book and periodical titles listed on the thousands of cards in G&LH's Local History Index. Created more than 70 years ago, the Local History Index covers over 200 books and magazines with publication dates back to the 1800s. As a follow up, Chapter Board and Committee members began work on Phase 2, checking the Library's online catalog to verify the location of books cited in the index. Books shelved in former subject departments will be transferred to the Genealogy and Local History Department, so a complete set of all works from the index will be available in one location.

A growing number of books in the Local History Index, including *They Built A City* and *A History of Inns and Hotels in Cincinnati*, are also available online through the Library's Virtual Library, accessed through the left side of the Library's homepage, [www.cincinnati-library.org](http://www.cincinnati-library.org). Once inside the Virtual Library, click on "Downloadable Old and Rare Books." The Virtual Library supports full-text searching, and downloading and printing of selected pages or entire works.

The Local History Index is a genealogical goldmine, full of names and organizational histories. Consult it on your next visit to the Main Library or call (513-369-6905) or email ([history@cincinnati-library.org](mailto:history@cincinnati-library.org)) the Genealogy and Local History Department for a look-up.

## October is Family History Month

October is Family History Month. Watch for month long activities to broaden research skills and connect with other genealogists, beginning with the **Kick-Off** event on **October 2**, programs, tours, computer labs, and research specialists. The fourth G&LH **Lock-in** will take place on **October 23**. Consult the Hamilton County Genealogical Society calendar or contact the Genealogy and Local History Department as October approaches for more details.

# President's Message

BY KENNY BURCK

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

The Chapter had a great Spring Seminar. The seminar evaluations by the attendees overwhelmingly indicated the speaker, topics and facility met expectations. The Education Committee under Director, Karen Everett is already making plans to return to the Winton Woods Mill Race Lodge again in April 2011 and a speaker has already been contracted and we are in the process of selecting topics. I hope many of you will be able to attend this annual event.

I was so pleased that again one of our members has been selected to win the coveted *Griffin Yeatman Award* from the Hamilton County Recorder's Office. Member, William Graver earned the first award, followed by Jeffrey G. Herbert in 1999, Mary H. Remler in 2008 and now James G. Dempsey in 2010. Hamilton County Recorder, Wayne Coates stated that the competition was significant but Jim's contributions to preserving Hamilton County records over many years made him the hands-down winner for 2010. The award was presented to Jim at the September 2010 Chapter Board meeting by Mr. Coates and long-time Recorder's Office employee Dave Pittinger (a friend to all genealogists). See the details of Jim winning this award in the next *Tracer*.

Several members have taken advantage of our new Chapter e-membership in 2010 to either save money, save trees, or just liked the new format to receive their Chapter publications. This option was offered in October 2009 but proved confusing to some members so we will attempt to rework the presentation of the offer in October 2010 when we again send out the membership renewals for next year. It is good to have a choice.

Remember the deadline of August 31, 2010 for the Chapter to receive applications for our two lineage societies, First Families of Hamilton County (FFHC) and Settlers & Builders of Hamilton County (S&BHC). There is still time to complete your work and honor your ancestors this year at the October 9th luncheon. The location for the event will be the Clovernook Country Club in North College Hill. Look for the flyer for this event in upcoming publications. You do **NOT** have to be an applicant or a member of FFHC or S&BHC or a member of the Chapter to attend this event. I have attended this event every year (except one year when I was on a research trip in Germany) since 1988 and have always found it to be inspiring and gratifying.

Some members still cannot apply for First Families of Hamilton County as their ancestors were not here by December 31, 1820. Still others cannot apply for Settlers & Builders of Hamilton County as their ancestors were not here by December 31, 1860. Now here is a new opportunity to join a Hamilton

County lineage society named *Century Families of Hamilton County*. If you have an ancestor who lived in Hamilton County, OH between January 1, 1861 and 100 years ago, hopefully you will be able to fill out an application form and send the appropriate documentation and you will be accepted into this new society. What we need to get started are one or two (or more) Chapter members to come forward and join our already well-in-place *First Families/Settlers & Builders Committee* and work with this new group. This committee of about eight existing members has been working for years to successfully review FFHC & S&BHC applications and then hold our annual luncheon to honor all the ancestors and applicants. A *Century Families of Hamilton County* application would need to be designed (similar to our other lineage societies) and a new medal ordered and we could begin receiving applications soon thereafter. Come and join our team and we can begin a chance for applicants with later immigrants or families migrating to our County after 1860 to 1910 become a part of a lineage society. Call me to volunteer. On the job training provided, no experience necessary.

Chapter member, Jean Nathan and I have completed the abstraction process of Cincinnati Deaths for 1878 to 1881. We are tweaking the database and completing the introduction and hope to publish the book this year. Also, the St. John Catholic Cemetery book has gone to the printer and will be available soon.

With the new state-of-the-art Ohio Genealogical Society Library opening July 23, 2010, we want to give Chapter members the opportunity to see the Library and have two days to attempt to locate some new ancestors. A Chapter trip is planned for November 2010. We will go by car pool on Thursday, November 4th from various pick up points (depending on who is driving and where groups can meet to be picked up) about 7:00 a.m. (car pools times can vary) and drive less than 3 hours to the library for the day. We will stay at nearby motel (within ½ mile) in Bellville, OH and eat at a nearby Amish-style restaurant and return the library on Friday at 9:00 a.m. on November 5th and leave to come home about 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. and arrive back in the Cincinnati area about 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. I will pick the motel in July when I attend the Library's grand opening and then determine the price for transportation and the motel. You can share a room (if it works out) for a cheaper price or stay in a room by yourself for a higher price. The Chapter has had two successful trips to the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, IN and this should work out to be another great trip. Call Kenny Burck now at 513-851-9549 to get on the list to go and indicate if you want to be a driver and how many can ride in your vehicle (and go for free) or if you want to be a rider.

A Salt Lake City, Utah trip is also being planned for January 2011. Stand by for details.

This is Jane Edgar's first edition as our new *Gazette* Editor. Thanks to Jane for her efforts. Summer is here and it's time to get out in a cemetery or plan a genealogy road trip. Happy Hunting!



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THURSDAY, AUGUST 31	First Family of Hamilton County and Settlers & Builders of Hamilton County	DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS	APPLICATIONS AT: <b>www.hcgsohio.org</b>
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25	HIDDEN TREASURES AT: <b>www.familysearch.org</b>	DANA PALMER	MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET 3RD FL, TOWER RM, 11:00 AM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2	<b>FAMILY HISTORY FAIR: A DAY WITH THE EXPERTS—PROGRAMS, DEPT TOURS AND BOOTHS TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS</b>	STAFFED WITH THE EXPERTS	MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET 10:00 AM TIL 4:00 PM (BOOTHS FROM 11 TIL 1 ONLY)
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9	First Family and Settlers & Builders Luncheon—11:15 am	WALTER LANGSAM	CLOVERNOOK COUNTRY CLUB NORTH COLLEGE HILL
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6	RESEARCHING WAR OF 1812 VETERAN'S INFORMATION	ERIC E. JOHNSON	MAIN LIBRARY, 800 VINE STREET 3RD FL, 11:00 AM

Chapter Website  
<http://hcgsohio.org/>

Please see our complete calendar listing at:  
<http://hcgsohio.org/calendar2008.shtml>

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