



THE GAZETTE

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

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Publishing Family History & Photos

By *Bev Breitenstein*

You've gathered and collected family facts for years. You have dozens of photos of grandparents, great-grandparents, and cousins and other relatives. How can you put this information together for safekeeping and share with current family members? Why not try publishing your own Family History!

At our May 2011 Chapter Meeting, our President, Kenny Burck, will present his experiences pertaining to publishing his own family history book and Barbara Gargiolo, owner of Little Miami Books in Milford, OH will share with us the publishing side of this endeavor. If you have considered this idea but didn't know where to start, join us for a fun and educational morning.

Saturday, May 21, 2011, 11:00 a.m. Third Floor Study area. Main Library. *No Reservation Required*

Volunteers Needed—Probate Court Project

By *Jim Dempsey*

In January, Judge Cissell, of the Hamilton County Probate Court, asked me to assess which of their historical records are of most interest to historians and genealogists. They are already in the process of digitizing guardianship and administration application records which will be very helpful. So far I have reviewed 13 inventory books and 24 account books with records before the 1884 court house fire. I estimate 3,500 inventories and 8,700 accounts either survived or were recreated after the fire. The Judge has approved my request that they digitize these 37 books over the next year.

I offered to manage a simultaneous Chapter project to have volunteers transcribe the indexes, about 200-500 names, from each book. After all are transcribed, the names will be sorted into a master index of pre-1884 inventory and accounts. Then the index and page images will be added to their website.

So how do you help? I will email you the A-Z page images. You just type the names and pages numbers into an Excel spreadsheet or Word table and return to me. I will also need volunteers to read through the volume to verify the spelling and page numbers in the index.

Volunteers Needed-Probate Court Project (Cont'd)

Please "adopt" a volume! Help us assist those with Hamilton County ancestors who died or were orphaned before 1884. For more information, email me at jgnd-dempsey@att.net or call me at 513-793-7313.

Hamilton Co. Probates 1791-1837

Reissued on CD

By *Jim Dempsey*

Researchers will now have every word searchable resource for family and local history data in the Hamilton County Probate records up to 1837. From 1977 to 1985, the Chapter published abstracts of the only remaining probate records from 1791 through 1837. In 2003, it was decided to reprint those volumes. However, because the pages were reformatted, all new indexes would have been required. Since Adobe Acrobat provides every word searches, it was decided to re-issue the records on CD.

The original books, now at University of Cincinnati archives, are also available online at www.probatect.org, labeled as Journal Entries, under Archives. But the online indexes are incomplete and some hard to read. In most cases, the significant information was included but additional property information is in the original, so the online pages should also be reviewed.

For detailed contents, see the revised introduction at www.hcgsohio.org under **RESEARCH AIDS**. The CD price is \$15. Either use the order form from the web site www.hcgsohio.org, on **PUBLICATIONS** page, or send a request with your name, address, and number of CDs desired to: Secretary, HCGS, PO Box 15085, Cincinnati OH 45215 with your check made out to HCCOGS.

Heritage Day Luncheon October 22, 2011

By *Karen Klaene*

Plan on attending the *Heritage Day Luncheon*, Saturday, October 22, 2011 at the *Clovernook County Club* in North College Hill. *First Families of Hamilton County* is uniting with *Settlers and Builders*, and *Century Lineage* groups to honor our ancestors at this annual event. All members and guests are welcomed! The reservation form will be included in the August issue of the Tracer!

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

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

Explore Cincinnati's 1848 Riverfront Panorama

After more than 60 years in closed storage, the original photograph of Cincinnati's mid-nineteenth century riverfront will go on permanent display in the Library's Cincinnati Room. A cultural and artistic masterpiece, the Cincinnati Panorama by Charles Fontayne and William S. Porter is also a genealogical treasure. Imbedded in the Panorama are the stories of thousands who lived and worked in Cincinnati.

To protect the Panorama from degradation caused by environmental conditions, its silver coated plates are mounted in a state-of-the-art inner housing filled with inert argon gas and positioned under the original frame. Twenty-first century technology not only contributed to the preservation of the Panorama, but also to the understanding of the object and nineteenth century Cincinnati. A few years ago, when the Panorama was at the George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film (GEH) for conservation treatment, GEH took high-resolution digital images of the early photograph, magnifying the images up to 32 times.

The high-definition images provide another level of exploration. Two giant touch screens will take viewers closer, allowing navigation and zoom capabilities beyond what is visible to the naked eye. Drilling down on any of 30 digital portals will provide a deeper look at nineteenth century Cincinnati, complete with maps, portraits, passenger lists, city directory entries, property deeds, and marriage and baptismal records. Share the excitement and envision the genealogical possibilities as the original and its twenty-first century counterparts are unveiled on May 21 at 2:00 p.m. in the Main Library. For more information about the Panorama, go to Main Library Daguerreotype at <http://www.cincinnati.org/main/daguerreotype.html>.

Collection Notes

National rankings of the Library's genealogy collection always point to our scope, covering the entire United States and many foreign countries. Since the first of the year, we added more than 300 titles for the high demand states of Texas and Maryland. After collecting Ohio genealogies, our next highest priority is locations along migration routes to and from Cincinnati. Already, researchers with ancestors who came to Cincinnati from Maryland or migrated to Texas have made heavy use of these materials.

Virtual Library

Cincinnati City Directories are now available online for the years 1819-1928. *The Cincinnati*, University of Cincinnati's yearbook, is available for 1894-2006. See www.cincinnati.org and click on *Virtual Library* to access.

Scanners

Some of us remember bringing rolls of coins to the Library for photocopy machines. Later we brought money to load on vendacards. This method, too, may soon become outdated with the introduction of scanning equipment now available at no charge in the Library. The Genealogy and Local History Department's public scanner is located in the Cincinnati Room. Instead of photocopying pages from Library materials, we invite you to scan the documents and save to a flash drive, email or upload to your cloud account.

Thank You

The Hamilton County Genealogical Society presented the Library with a check for \$1602.00, collected from its members for the J. Richard Abell Fund. This was the largest Abell donation to date. With declining budgets and financial hard times, gifts such as these speak volumes, literally, in helping us maintain our outstanding Ohio genealogy collection and are greatly appreciated by the Library and its researchers.



Chapter Website

THE GAZETTE

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President's Message

BY KENNY BÜRCK

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

At the suggestion of member Jean Morrison, the Chapter Board has changed the name of the *First Families and Settlers & Builders Annual Luncheon*. It will now be known as the *Hamilton County Heritage Day Luncheon*. With the addition of our new *Century Families of Hamilton County lineage* society the title was getting too long, and it is a day when all of us can honor all of our ancestors. We have had several applications come in so far for *Century Families* but not so many to date for *First Families and Settlers and Builders*. The deadline is July 31st for *Century Families* and August 31st for the other groups **BUT** we will take applications at the last minute **IF** we have time. Please do not put the committee in a "crunch time situation" (if you can at all help it at all) and get your applications in early. The annual October luncheon is for **EVERYBODY** so I hope you consider attending. The *Clovernook Country Club* is beautiful and you will find the speaker and program to be very entertaining. You still have plenty of time to complete your application.

By the time you read this, the annual *Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) Conference* in Columbus, OH will be over. Several of us will have met with the *National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2012 Conference Chair*, Julie Miller who attended that event. Julie lives in Colorado but after the OGS Conference she came to Cincinnati to meet with several of the 2012 NGS Conference committee chairs at the Duke Energy Convention Center to do a walk through to plan where the registration booth and other things will be laid out. We also had another pre-planning meeting. A local committee has already planned a tour of Cincinnati (and a little of Northern Kentucky) on Tuesday before the conference, a Wednesday night dinner and tour of the Cincinnati Historical Society Museum and a Thursday night event at the downtown Public Library with extended hours. We still need volunteers for the Convention Center and special events, so if you think you may be able to help, call me and get on the list.

I recently overheard a few Chapter members who are newer members of the Board discussing the unexpected benefits of volunteering to run for a Board position or join or chair a Chapter committee. They didn't know what to expect and didn't know if they had enough experience to do justice to the job. They not only felt welcomed, but were reassured by the assistance they may have needed to learn what to do. But the biggest surprise was all the information they learned about what was going on in upcoming genealogical events and learning opportunities. When I "butted in" to their conversation, they told me I needed to tell all of our members of the benefits of volunteering. I know it sounds like I made this all up, but they

were insistent that I needed to do this. While at this time we only need a Cemetery Chairperson, other opportunities always present themselves. Remember, anyone can attend Board meetings. The last few months the Board has met at the Finneytown Panera Bread restaurant and most all come early to eat first and then have the meeting. Everyone seems to like the new format. Check with any Board member or phone or email me to get the time and location. We would love to see you!

For 26 years now the Ohio Genealogical Society has held a Chapter Management Seminar at various places around the state. A few years ago it was in Batavia in Clermont County. I first went to this seminar many years ago when it was held in Highland County and two car loads from Hamilton County attended. It is primarily for current or future Chapter Board members or committee chairs, but all are invited and it is free to OGS members AND members of OGS Chapters. It is a great educational opportunity and this year it is being held at the new OGS Library in Bellville, OH. The Library will be open 3 extra hours on Friday, August 12, so you could come up on Friday with a car pool, work in the Library all day (we have a price break on 2 different hotels for Friday night), go to the free Chapter Management Seminar on Saturday, and make the easy 2½ hour ride home that night. (It may take a little longer for legal drivers.) Call me with any questions.

The 2012 OGS Conference in April was originally scheduled to occur in southwest Ohio but is being moved due to the conflict with the 2012 NGS Conference in May in Cincinnati. So in 2012 the OGS Conference will be in Cleveland, OH. In 2013 the OGS Conference will hopefully return to our neck of the woods. It was suggested that I look at the Marriott Hotel at the Fields-Ertels exit off of I-71 as it looks really big. However, we need a place with a very large area for exhibitors that can be locked at night, an area large enough for up to 150 seated guests for food events, and 6 to 7 other locations for the simultaneous sessions that will hold from 50 people (for the smaller sessions) up to 250 for the larger sessions. In 2000 and 2008 we used the hotel across from the Sharonville Convention Center. In 2004 we used the Roberts Center in Clinton County, OH but neither place worked out well. Any suggestions? I get the sense that most people do not want to go to downtown Cincinnati for a Conference.

Several members of the Board met at Lenhardt's Restaurant in Clifton for an evening of planning Chapter programs for the next year. The group ran all of our ideas past the Board at the March meeting and everyone believes we came up with some new and interesting programs for 2011/2012. Stay tuned for upcoming announcements.





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Saturday, May 7, 2011	Volunteer Workshop to benefit the Genealogy and Local History Department.	<i>Liz Stratton</i> 11:00 am	Reservation recommended Third Floor Computer Lab Main Library
Wednesday, May 11, 2011	How to Find Out Who You Are!	<i>Karen Everett</i> 7:00 pm	No reservation required <i>North Central Branch Library</i> 513-369-6068
Monday, May 16, 2011	How to Find Out Who You Are!	<i>Karen Everett</i> 6:00 pm	No reservation required <i>Deer Park Branch Library</i> 513-369-4450
Saturday, May 21, 2011	HCGS Monthly Meeting—Publishing Your Family History!	<i>Kenny Burck and Barbara Gargiulo</i> 11:00 am	No reservation required Third Floor Study Area Main Library
Tuesday, May 24, 2011	How to Find Out Who You Are!	<i>Karen Everett</i> 7:00 pm	No reservation required <i>Delhi Township Branch Library</i> 513-369-6019

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

Gazette Deadline: June 27, 2011

Tracer Deadline: June 30, 2011