



THE GAZETTE

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

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Hamilton County Recorder's Office

Record Access Update

By Jim Dempsey

The August 2011 issue of *The Tracer* described a joint effort with the Hamilton County Recorder's Office to scan historical (before 1900) indexes so that they could be put online. Several of these are now ready to be tested :

Cemeteries
Veterans Discharges
Organizations
Partnerships
Miscellaneous.

Page 102 in the November 2011 *Tracer* has list the types of records found in the miscellaneous index. You can go to the Recorder's Office or the Cincinnati History Library at the Museum Center to see the microfilms with these records.

However, so that I can get feedback on these web pages and indexes, beginning August 1st, I am offering a limited, 5 week **FREE** offer! Only to Society members! I would like any member to look at these test web pages and the index images listed above that you are interested in. Go to this page and select the index(es) you wish to look at.

<http://www.hcgsohio.org/rotest/miscgroups.html>

Send an e-mail to me at jgnl-dempsey@att.net with your comments regarding the index pages. If anything does not work or if you find someone/something of interest, let me know and I will get copies of the record pages for you. I will plan on going to the recorder's office on August 9th, with your emails, before my vacation. Those sent from Aug. 10th to Sept. 4th, I will get when I return. Send me the name of the index, the volume and page number and your USPS address. I will try to get as many as I can sent out on August 10th and September 6th .

You will note that some of the help files and indexes are not complete at this time. I hope to have all ready sometime in September. See our Blog at hcgsohio.blogspot.com for updates.

Irish Lives Remembered

By Mary Ann Faloon

Eileen Munnelly has started a new digital publication dedicated to Irish research and genealogy that is available online at no charge. The magazine is titled *Irish Lives Remembered Genealogy Magazine* and is available at:

www.irishlivesremembered.com.

The first issue was published in June and focused on sources in County Cork along with other interesting stories about people and resources. The July issue highlighted Counties Kerry and Kilkenny. Featuring contributors such as Kevin McCormack and Megan Smolenyak, with Michael Munnelly as Designer and Production Manager, the magazine promises varied information about resources and places of interest.

Eileen sums up the focus of the magazine best in her opening statement, "Aimed at sharing many Irish resources available to people researching their Irish heritage. Our publication has been created with something for everyone looking into their Irish heritage, be they a keen genealogy enthusiast, a beginner or simply interested in Irish heritage."

It's a Small World

By Linda Dietrich

How many times has it happened to you? Far from home, you meet someone from your hometown, or your alma mater, or even a member of your family. We call it coincidence, but many people, especially genealogists, believe in the "six degrees of separation" theory.

On October 6, 2012, the Hamilton County Genealogical Society will present a program centered on two Cincinnati ladies and the impact they and their ancestors have had on their hometown. From German immigrants to Irish saloon keepers, the families of these two ladies tell us much of Cincinnati's heritage, the rise and decline of Over-The-Rhine, and demonstrate what a small world it is, after all!

Continued on page 3

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BY Patricia Moseley Van Skaik, Manager,
GENEALOGY and Local History Department

Staycation

Given gas prices and other economic or time constraints, many people are taking "staycations" and rediscovering the treasures in their own backyards. This spring, when the National Genealogical Society held its annual conference in Cincinnati, one of the big draws was the Genealogy and Local History Department (G&LH) at the Public Library. Many local genealogists saw the Cincinnati Library through fresh eyes as out-of-town attendees were in awe of the Library's collections and services, using over 10,000 volumes. If you live in or near the Greater Cincinnati area, take advantage of the luxury of having one of the nation's top genealogy libraries nearby and join those that travel many miles to use our resources.

Electronic Resources

Recognizing that genealogy research is a 24/7 venture, the Library continues to expand its access to electronic resources. This summer the Library added three high demand online collections: **Fold3**, **Proquest Historic Newspapers**, and **19th Century U.S. Newspapers**. All are available for home use with a Cincinnati Library card.

Fold3 is the premiere electronic resource for military records. It also has a popular array of non-military records, including: city directories; 1860 and 1930 census records, noted for their clarity; and newspapers with good coverage of small Kentucky papers. In addition, Fold3 is rapidly adding content to its approximately 93,000,000 records. Proquest Historic Newspapers features the *Cincinnati Enquirer* from 1841-1922 and joins 19th Century US Newspapers which spans urban and rural areas across the nation to provide full-text coverage. Already several genealogists have reported that these resources have helped them break through "brick walls."

Since the beginning of the year, the Virtual Library has added the series, *Illustrated Business Directory and Picturesque Cincinnati* from 1881-1902, to the City Directories collection, http://virtuallibrary.cincinnati.org/virtuallibrary/vl_CityDir.aspx. These directories are an outstanding source for portraits of Cincinnatians and illustrations of Cincinnati businesses and scenes.

1940 Census

Researchers conducting 1940 census research may run into a few obstacles with or without a surname index. Without a surname

index or if the surname is incorrectly indexed, access to the records requires a geographic approach using an enumeration district. Online guides to enumeration districts can be inconsistent or omit certain areas. To address these issues, the Genealogy and Local History Department created a 62 page, fully comprehensive, atlas to the 483 enumeration districts in Hamilton County. Contact the Library at 369-6905 or history@cincinnati.org for an enumeration district search from this atlas.

Digital records are not always perfect. Electronic records can occur out of order, miss pages or be of inferior quality, making them unreadable. Microfilm records are easier to browse than loading individual pages online and often have better clarity. The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is the only public library in the nation to acquire microfilm copies of 1940 census records for the entire state of Ohio. This set can be browsed with ease on the new digital microfilm machines.

Library Leadership and Honors

In addition to accolades from National Genealogical Society attendees, the Library was recently the recipient of several prestigious honors. Nominated by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, the Hamilton County Recorder's Office awarded me with the Griffin Yeatman Award for the "preservation of Hamilton County, Ohio history." I am deeply honored to receive this award and grateful to the Chapter for its nomination. On June 24, the Ohio River Valley Chapter of the Victorian Society in America presented the Genealogy and Local History Department with the "We Are Much Pleased" Award in appreciation of the "My Cincinnati House" lecture series. Kudos go librarian Jeanne Strauss DeGroote for coordinating this series. The counts are in-- Cincinnati's Main Library is the busiest central library in the nation. The fact that Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana ranked #2 suggests that genealogists play an important role in generating this statistic.

Save the Dates

Look for a wide variety of programs to celebrate Family History Month. Experts' Day kicks off the month on October 6. This year's theme is the Civil War with a technology focus in the morning program by Liz Stratton. In the afternoon, Civil War expert Mike Rhein will discuss the famous Cincinnati Civil War General William Haines Lytle. Experts Day is also a great way to break through brick walls with free consultations with genealogy specialists. The Library wraps up Family History Month on October 27 with a lock-in, where space is limited and reservations are required. Call 513-369-6905 to register or register online at <http://programs.cincinnati.org/evanced/lib/eventcalendar.asp>. For additional programs, consult the Chapter's web calendar, <http://hcgsohio.org/calendar2010.shtml>, as October approaches.

President's Message

BY JEFF HERBERT

In May we hosted the 2012 National Genealogy Conference (NGS) convention here in Cincinnati. It was 4 days of great lectures, exhibits, luncheons, and networking, as well as lots of fun. Just to recap, there were almost 2200 attendees at the convention, the vendor space was completely sold out, and we added 30 new members to our chapter. For the public library is was also a successful and busy week, with over 400 patrons taking advantage of the Thursday evening lock-in, and the staff reported that they reshelfed over 10,000 books during the week of the convention.

It was our second national convention in 14 years; the previous one was FGS in 1998, which was also held in the Duke Energy Convention Center. If you missed the NGS convention or attended and had a great time, keep the upcoming OGS convention on your calendars for next April. It will be held at the Millennium Hotel in downtown Cincinnati, right across from the Duke Energy Convention Center.

A week after the convention, the new board of directors for the 2012 – 2014 term met for the first time. Instead of being exhausted after hosting a national convention, the opposite was true. Everyone had lots of new ideas for research projects, educational programs, additional material for the website, as well as ideas for better utilization of technology for chapter researchers. The new board has lots of energy to lead the chapter forward over the next two years, so stay tuned for many new ideas and projects in the months to come.

With the incoming new Board in place, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Margie Mohr for all her dedication to the chapter as she takes a well-deserved break, and is leaving the Board after many years of service. I would also like to thank Kenny Burck, for all his service and tireless leadership to the chapter as president. Kenny has been a member of the board for 25+ years in multiple roles, as well as serving on the board of OGS, NGS, FGS, and the Palatinates to America organizations. We're lucky as an organization to have such an experienced and dedicated individual actively working for us, and he has published many research works for the benefit of the chapter in the past. He is still serving on the board as past-president and head of the Nominating Committee, and will be the chair for the OGS convention next spring.

The updated chapter bylaws were published in the June issue of the Tracer starting on page 53 for review by members. Most of the changes are minor updates and clarifications to some of the existing wording. The biggest change that is

being proposed is to add an eighth director to the board, whose title will be Digital Resources Director. This new position is being created to better help us as an organization to more effectively utilize new technology (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, HCGS website, etc.) and communicate better with you, our members. A vote of approval will be taken at an upcoming chapter meeting to accept these proposed changes. The next step, which the Board has already begun, will be to review and update our Policy & Procedures along with our Standing Rules.

Over the summer months, there are no scheduled board meetings, so that members have the opportunity to get some personal research completed and a chance for a little rest after the hectic spring. Our regular meetings will resume on the 3rd Thursday of September at 6:30PM. All members are welcome to attend as always.

It's a Small World Continued from page 1

Marian Dietrich will present the story of the ancestors of Sr. Lois Jean Goettke, SC, German families growing up in Price Hill. Mrs. Dietrich will demonstrate the serendipity of genealogical research and just how small a world we live in when she reveals two links between Sr. Lois and her own family! Linda Dietrich will present the story of the ancestors of Margaret Rhein, in which the tradition of saloons on every corner of the city plays out with Michael Murray's Bar at the corner of 5th and Baymiller.

The program will be presented on Saturday, October 6, 2012 at 3:00pm at the Monfort Heights Branch of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, located at 3825 West Fork Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45247, just minutes from the I-74 exit on North Bend Road. For further information, contact HCGS Program Director Linda Dietrich at linda-belle@lcs.net

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Tuesday Sept 25, 2012 7:00pm	HCGS Tech Programs "Choosing A Genealogy Software Program"	<i>HCGS Tech Team</i>	Blue Ash Branch Library 4911 Cooper Rd. Blue Ash, OH 45242
Saturday Oct 6, 2012 11:00 am	"Researching Your Civil War Ancestor Online"	Liz Stratton	Program Area, 3rd Fl. Main Library 800 Vine St.
Saturday Oct 6, 2012 12:00—2:00 pm	<i>A Day with the Experts—Family History Fair. Talk free with regional Genealogical experts about your research questions. No reservations required.</i>		Genealogy & Local History Dept, 3rd Floor, Main Library 800 Vine St.
Saturday Oct 27, 2012 7:00-8:30 pm	<i>HCGS Tech Programs (during the PLCH Lock-in) Mini programs on Family History Blogging, HCGS Google Calendar, Name Search Strategies, Genealogical Bookmarks & Google +</i>	Kathy Reed, Gail Burkholz, Liz Stratton, & Dave Bossart	Technology Rm., 3rd Fl. Main Library 800 Vine St.
Monday Oct 8, 2012 7:00 pm	<i>Falling Into Genealogy</i>	Karen Everett & Librarian from G&LH	Symmes Township Library 513-369-6001

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

Also follow us on **Facebook** (<http://www.facebook.com/HCGSOhio>) and **Blogger** (<http://hcgsohio.blogspot.com>)

Gazette Deadline: December 27, 2012

Tracer Deadline: December 27, 2012