



THE GAZETTE

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

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The Gazette Is Going Green by Jean Morrison

Beginning in 2013, the Hamilton County Genealogical Society's quarterly newsletter, *The Gazette*, will become an E-Zine, following the lead of many of our sister state and county organizations. It will be a paperless newsletter, produced and placed on the open pages of the chapter's website (HCGSOOhio.org) for chapter members and anyone who is interested in the society and its news. This change represents the chapter's commitment to keep our genealogical community apprised of chapter activities through the President's Letter, the current news from the Genealogy and Local History Department of the Public Library of Cincinnati, and Hamilton County and yet remain fiscally responsible to the chapter membership. This will also represent a sizeable cost savings in paper, print, labels, postage and returned mail. It allows the opportunity to increase the size of the *Gazette* beyond the current four pages as necessary. The new *Gazette* will include not only the President's letter and the report from the library's Genealogy and Local History Department chair, but also articles about coming events, programs and educational activities, and reports from the Tech Team and other noteworthy articles of interest to genealogists in Hamilton County and beyond. Articles about research opportunities and volunteer projects, as well as an expanded calendar will be in the *Gazette*. Hamilton County is one of very few counties with two publications, the *Gazette* and *Tracer*. We appreciate Editor, Jane Edgar's willingness to take on this new challenge with the *Gazette*. The *Tracer*, an award winning genealogical journal, will continue in its quarterly schedule print format and contain feature articles that will aid in our research, genealogical records and data, family history research resources, the calendar, and local history information of interest to us all.

After January 2013, anyone will be able to view and/or print the *Gazette* from the chapter's website at www.HCGSOOhio.org. You may access the website from your own computer at home or any public computer with internet access whether at the local library or across the country. The *Tracer* will continue to be placed on the members only pages of the website.

Irish Educational Opportunities

Family Search has recently added another video to their Learning Center for Irish researchers. The video is titled **Getting Started in Irish Genealogy** and features Marie Daly from the New England Genealogical Society. In the video Marie discusses several options for determining the place of origin for your Irish ancestors. The video is available at <https://familysearch.org/learningcenter/lesson/getting-started-in-irish-genealogy/594>. As with all Family Search videos, this video is available at no cost.

Also available at no cost are two upcoming webinars from Legacy Family Tree. Both webinars are presented by Judith Eccles Wight. The first is titled **Breaking Down Your Irish Brick Wall** and uses estate records to tease out additional information about our ancestors. The webinar will be held live on October 31, 2012 at 2:00 PM Eastern Time.

The other webinar for Irish researchers is titled **Researching Your Irish Ancestors: Beyond the Basics**. The webinar, scheduled for December 5, 2012 at 2:00 PM Eastern Time, discusses problems encountered with names and places and provides resources for overcoming these problems.

You can register for either webinar at <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/Webinars.asp>. For those who cannot attend the live session, a video of the webinar is available at no charge for about two weeks after the webinar. You do not need to be a member of the Legacy Family Tree network to view either webinar.

Coming Soon: Online Queries

Chapter board members are working on a way to put queries on the HCGS website. If you're interested, you can use the query form in the membership renewal mailing that will be arriving soon. Check the box for publishing your query either online or in the *Tracer*. More information will appear in the December *Tracer*.

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

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

New Online Catalog

On August 1, the Library went live with a new online catalog. The new catalog was selected for many reasons including a more intuitive display of results. The viewer can more easily determine the format of a resource, including whether the materials can be downloaded and viewed electronically. The new catalog is easier to place holds for circulating items and we are investigating methods to place reference items on hold, so they will be immediately available when researchers arrive at the Library. This will be of important value to genealogists, who focus primarily on reference sources. To achieve the functionality of a traditional online catalog and the Surname Index, switch to the Classic Catalog on the right side of the online catalog screen. The Surname Index is one option from the drop-down box.

Collection Update

Each year, the Genealogy and Local History Department purchases Ohio materials using funds from the J. Richard Abell Trust Fund, established and supported by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society. We place orders in April after library employees attend the Ohio Genealogical Society Conference, where they identify and review materials. This year's orders have begun to arrive, covering 14 counties across the state.

When the Library's Inland Rivers Collection is mentioned, most people think of steamboats. Not genealogists—they know how to find hidden genealogy resources. Increasingly genealogists are turning to the Library's premier river collection. Recently, a researcher uncovered 40 years of information about an elusive ancestor, a steamboat engineer, using the *Proceedings of the Central Freight Authority, Chicago and Ohio River*.

Tri-State Germans in the Civil War by Linda Dietrich

In honor of Veterans Day and commemorating the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War, the Hamilton County Genealogical Society will present a program by Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann titled **Tri-State Germans in the Civil War**.

German-Americans played an important role in the Civil War.

Electronic Resources

Genealogy databases lead the pack of the Library's electronic reference sources. Of the databases available for free home use through the Library's website, *HeritageQuest* is one of the top performers, generating more hits than many of the Library's other electronic resources combined. We used this data to support the decision to subscribe to *Proquest Historical Newspapers (Cincinnati Enquirer)* and *Fold3* (military records). Rolled out in July, *Fold3* matched *HeritageQuest's* usage within a month. In September Proquest's *Cincinnati Enquirer* pulled ahead with a dramatic lead attracting ten times the number of hits as the previous month and taking a place as the Library's leading electronic resource for any subject. To visit the Library's electronic genealogy resources, go to the Library's website, www.cincinnati.library.org and click on "Research and Homework."

Steamboat Photography Exhibition

The *Cincinnati Panorama of 1848*, the oldest photograph of an American city, is also the oldest photograph of a steamboat—in fact, dozens of them. *Steamboats Through an Early Lens*, on display in the Cincinnati Room of the Main Library through November 11, captures the first 100 years of steamboat photography, including luxury cruises, disasters and the impact of the steamboat trade on 19th century Cincinnati life. The exhibition links the boats to the people that lived here through portraits, family stories, census records, city directories, passenger lists and maps. Don't miss this exhibit when visiting the Main Library during October, Family History Month, or early November.

Programs

During Family History Month the Library co-sponsors a number of events with the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, including "A Day with the Experts" on October 6 and four introductory genealogy classes at branch libraries, a perfect way to brush up on fundamentals or a place to direct a new genealogist. On November 17, Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann will present *Tri-State Germans in the Civil War*. Co-sponsored by the Chapter, the lecture will take place at the Main Library. See Chapter calendar for program details.

German regiments were dubbed the "Dutch devils" by the Confederates and Robert E. Lee was reported to have said, "Take the Dutch out of the Union Army and we could whip the Yankees easily." Dr. Tolzmann will explore the contributions made by area German-Americans to the Union cause. He recently published a translation from German of Gustav Tafel's *The Cincinnati Germans in the Civil War* (Little Miami Pub. Co.), providing it with additional supplements with information he uncovered dealing with Germans from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana in the Civil War.

Continued on page 3

President's Message

BY JEFF HERBERT

Over the summer months we have been working hard planning for our future, and the 40th anniversary of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society in 2013. It is an exciting time for us to look back at what we have collectively accomplished as a chapter over the past 40 years, and also look ahead to the future. We will be hosting the Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) state-wide convention here in Cincinnati next April, so be sure to mark your calendar and plan to attend. In addition, we are planning several new publications next year that will be of benefit to many researchers working on Hamilton County ancestors, so please continue to look for updates in the *Gazette* as these new books come to print. Also, our Technology Group is off to a great and energetic start with several interesting programs already scheduled for October and the coming months, with much more planned in 2013.

Usually over the summer, the board takes some time off for vacations and to do some personal research. This year, however, we actually met more often in order to update our standing rules and spend some time on long-term planning. One item that we discussed in detail was our cost structure and the increasing pressures on cost. Our current dues are one of the lowest compared to other chapters, but we face the same challenges that you face with increased costs. You will see in upcoming issues of the *Gazette* and *Tracer* that we will be implementing some changes in 2013 in order to better manage our costs, and still deliver the same level of quality programming and research standards that you are accustomed to. As these changes take effect next year, please feel free to give us feedback via the chapter's voice mail or the website.

Several times each year the chapter receives requests from researchers to accept their personal research files and material since their family members are not interested in their research, and they are concerned with the disposition of the material when they are gone. Unfortunately the Cincinnati Historical Library (CHL) cannot accept personal collections due to space limitations, and the chapter doesn't have the storage facilities either. One alternative that I can recommend is the chapter's lineage program to preserve and share your ancestor's pedigree and research documentation. The program lets you submit substantiation and documentation of your ancestor's in Hamilton County, and preserves it for future researchers of your family's ancestors. These completed application files have been accepted by the CHL for its permanent collection. I recently completed my application for the *Settlers and Builders* program, and in the process found a few soft spots in my research that I needed to better document. Just the process of having someone else review your documentation and assumptions can

be a big benefit to validate your research. The application for all three lineage programs is on our website through the HCGS homepage.

The fall Heritage luncheon is scheduled for Saturday, November 3rd at Clovernook Country Club. We welcome you and your guests. You don't need to be a new inductee or existing member of one of the lineage groups to attend. Reservations (and payment in advance) are required; please see the fall *Tracer* or the website for more information.

Finally, it is shaping up to be a busy fall. Please check the calendar of upcoming events in October and November. There are lots of quality programs and educational classes from now through the end of the year and into early next year that I'm sure many will find of great benefit to your research.

Our regular board meetings occur on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:00PM, and we have moved back to the Norwood Public Library on Montgomery Road. All members are welcome to attend as always.

Tri-State German (cont'd from page 3)

Don Heinrich Tolzmann is President of the German-American Citizens League of Greater Cincinnati, Curator of the German Heritage Museum, and Historian for the Covington-Cincinnati Suspension Bridge Committee. The HCGS is honored to present Dr. Tolzmann and this topical program on Saturday, November 17, 2012 at 11:00am in the Huenefeld Tower Room at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Main Branch, 800 Vine St., Cincinnati, OH 45202.

For further information about HCGS or this program, please contact Program Director, Linda Dietrich at indabelle@lcs.net

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Hamilton County Ohio Genealogical Society Gazette Vol. 26.4

October 2012

Page 4

Saturday Oct. 13, 2012 2:00 PM	<i>Locating Immigrant Ancestors in Germany</i>	Kenny Burck	N. Dearborn Public Library 25969 Dole Rd. W. Harrison, IND 47060 812-637-0777
Saturday Oct. 27, 2012 6:30-11:30pm	<i>PLCH: Genealogy Lock-In. Research after hours with other genealogists.</i> Reservation required - call 513.369.6905		Main Library, 800 Vine St. Cincinnati 2nd & 3rd floor
Saturday Oct 27, 2012 7:00-8:30 pm (during the library's lock-in)	<i>HCGS "Taste of Tech Programs", 5 mini-programs: Intro to Family History Blogging, Name Search Strategies, Creating Genealogical Bookmarks, Google + for Genealogists, & Using the HCGS Google Calendar to Get Eve</i> Reservation required - call 513.369.6905	Kathy Reed, Gail Burkholz, Liz Stratton, Dave Bossart	Main Library, 800 Vine St. Cincinnati 3rd floor, Technology Room
Saturday Nov. 17, 2012 11:00 AM	<i>Tri-State Germans in the Civil War Veterans Day Program</i>	Don H. Tolzmann	Huenefeld Tower - 3rd Floor Main Library 800 Vine St.
Saturday January 26, 2013 10am-12:45pm	<i>PLCH and HCGS Tech Programs, "Find Your Ancestors using Historical Newspaper Databases".</i>	Pat Van Skaik, Steve Headley, Kathy Reed	Main Library, 800 Vine St., Cincinnati Huenefeld Tower room, 3rd floor

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: October 27, 2012