

40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



# THE GAZETTE

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

VOLUME 27, ISSUE 2, APRIL 2013

**Please donate unwanted Genealogy  
books and periodicals**  
By Margie Mohr

Do you remember when we concentrated our research efforts using books to find treasures of information on the printed page? We can help current and future researchers by participating in the Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Project. Members are being asked to check their book collections and donate any items they do not want to keep to the Ohio Genealogical Society Samuel D. Isaly Library. Researchers cannot rely entirely on the internet for their sources, so the Chapter is supporting the OGS repository. Hardcover and paper back books, periodicals relating to genealogy and history, and Ohio yearbooks are requested. Please bring your donation to The Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference April 25-27. The volunteers at the Chapter booth in the exhibit area will take the donations or bring them to the Chapter meeting May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Hue-nefeld Room, at the Main Library. The other alternative is to contact us through the web site: [www.hcgsOhio.org](http://www.hcgsOhio.org) or by Voice Mail: 513 956-7078. We can make arrangements to pick up your materials if you cannot bring them to us!

Thank you for your support!

**Heritage Luncheon/Anniversary Party**  
By Gail Burkholz

This fall we will have our annual Heritage Luncheon along with our Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday party. It will be on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup> at Clovernook Country Club. It's also the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Morgan's Raid through this area during the Civil War. Our speaker will give us lots of information about our local history at that time.

We hope you are working on your application for one of our lineage groups. If you have any questions contact us through our website, [hcgsOhio.org](http://hcgsOhio.org), or stop by our Chapter booth at the Ohio Genealogical Society Conference April 25-27.

*Please save the date - more information will follow.*

*Come help us celebrate. Everyone is welcome!*

**Looking for Morgan's Raiders Stories**  
By Gail Burkholz

Did any of your ancestors come in contact with a Morgan's Raider? We're looking for family stories about the local contacts made during that time.

Please submit your story to: Gail Burkholz at [gailathome@zoomtown.com](mailto:gailathome@zoomtown.com). *Please put Morgan's Raiders in the subject line so I make sure to read it.*

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

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

### Thanks to Hamilton County Genealogical Society

It's hard to imagine a stronger partnership than that between the Hamilton County Genealogical Society and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. The Genealogy & Local History Department (G&LH) is very grateful to the Chapter's role in the department's continued success in offering the latest and best family history resources. More than 20 years ago, when Library funding was strong, the Chapter had the foresight to plan for the future, establishing the J. Richard Abell Trust Fund. Each year G&LH uses interest from the fund to purchase Ohio-related genealogy materials. This year's donations from the Chapter reached their highest level to date, \$2098.

In addition to the Abell Fund, the Chapter purchased \$1,000 worth of items from the Library's "wish list" and donated them to the Library, allowing us to expand our selection of circulating how-to books from German to Canadian research, and fill in gaps in the set *German Immigrants in Church Records*. The Chapter also co-sponsored a dynamic series of lectures and mini-seminars in early 2013, including a technology seminar on electronic newspapers, a three-part African American genealogy series, and an Irish research symposium.

### Digital Content Creation

The Genealogy and Local History Department is in the "content creation" business. Working closely with the Library's Digital Services Department, G&LH selected images and wrote local history narratives posted on social media platforms Facebook, History Pin and YouTube. G&LH partnered with Fox19 to create a Cincinnati history timeline on their Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/FOX19Cincinnati>. We developed content for *The Abolitionist Map of America*, <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/interactive-map/abolitionists-map/> in cooperation with PBS' miniseries *The Abolitionist*. The interactive map is also available as an iPhone App. On the Library's YouTube site, we feature a Cincinnati Room treasure, John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gozLgMAq38>. Look for genealogy-specific social media content to come.

### Newspaper Death Notices

Like all genealogical research, newspaper research is not an either/or (full-text OCR scanned records, indexed records or original paper) proposition, but an and/also one. Early 20<sup>th</sup> century *Enquirer* articles and death notices are now available full

-text through the Library's website from the research database ProQuest Historical Newspapers. In addition, G&LH has added *Enquirer* death notices to Newsdex, the Library's in-house newspaper index, for the years 1900-1909 and continue to move forward. Digital microfilm machines are now available in the Main Library's Magazines & Newspapers Department for browsing and customized scans. Remotely, the Information & Reference Department can search newspaper death notices and send scans via email at no charge if a date of death is provided. To submit a request, click on "Services" on the Library's homepage, [www.cincinnati.library.org](http://www.cincinnati.library.org).

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, fewer families are purchasing death notices from local papers and access to those notices is often blocked through pay-walls. However, funeral home listings in the papers provide basic information including: age, date of death, residence, as well as the date, time and place of funeral service. Beginning with 2013, G&LH is adding both death notices and listings from funeral directories to Newsdex. The latter often fills in the gaps of those omitted in death notices. Indexing the funeral directories reflects the role of genealogy and history librarians, who look to both the future and the past, and falls into the "What will our grandchildren/future researchers wish we had done?" category.

### Extended Library Hours—Ohio Genealogical Society

Later this month, the Ohio Genealogical Society's annual conference comes to Cincinnati. On April 25, the Genealogy and Local History Department and Magazines and Newspapers Department will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. to conference badge holders. Unlike the usual lock-ins, there will be in and out privileges, so arriving at 6:30 is not mandatory. Join the festivities on April 25, or if you are lucky enough to live in the greater Cincinnati area, visit the Library any time before or after the conference for more individualized service.

### Happy Anniversary to Me!

In early April, I celebrate 20 years as Manager of the Genealogy and Local History Department, formerly known as the History Department. I had the good fortune to have a wonderful predecessor and mentor, Richard Abell, and have a fantastic staff—some also dating back 20+ years with more of the best and brightest joining along the way. Most importantly, I could not have asked for a better group of customers and friends to work with over the years. Thank you! Stop by the Library in April and say "Happy Anniversary."

# President's Message

BY JEFF HERBERT

When we think of March, we think of March Madness. For some of us it means basketball, but if you are interested in genealogy in Hamilton County, the term fits also. We are 3 months into celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year as a society and it has been a busy start to the year, but there is much, much more to come. Things are moving forward at a hectic pace.

Our speaker programs in January, February and March have been some of the best in recent memory, and on topics of interest to everyone from using newspapers for research, getting the most out of obituary notices, cluster genealogy, and Irish research, which also includes tips for Scots-Irish research for those of us who have early colonial ancestors. We also tried something new with our March program - to record it as a web-cast for our remote members. More to come on this as we continue to work the bugs out.

The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) convention is right around the corner and will take place in the Millennium Hotel in downtown Cincinnati from Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. The theme this year will be "Expanding your Ancestry Through Technology", with several tracks focused on using new technology to aid research, as well as tracts on German, Irish, African-American, DNA, and military research. The program and registration booklet is available at [www.ogs.org](http://www.ogs.org).

The chapter will have a booth in the exhibit hall, which is free and open to the public, so stop by, introduce yourself, and check out what is new. We plan on debuting three new exciting publications plus an updated 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the Guide at the convention.

- *An Index of Death and Marriage Notices in the Cincinnati Enquirer 1818 – 1869*
- *Hamilton County, Ohio - Index of Lesser Known German Resources*
- *Hamilton County, Ohio, Burial Records, Volume 21, Symmes Township Cemetery Index, 1800s-2012*
- *A Guide to Genealogical Resources in Cincinnati & Hamilton County, Ohio, 7th Edition*

I know you will want to be the first to check out and buy these new resources. A visit to our booth is also a good way to get to know fellow Hamilton County researchers, chapter and board members. It is sure to be three informative and exciting days, and I'm looking forward to meeting you there. Be sure to also stop by on Friday afternoon at 5:30PM in the Portico conference room on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for the meet and greet session, and

our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

In February the board spent several extra sessions previewing and planning for a new and improved website with additional on-line content and improved functionality and flexibility. We have approved this step forward, and are now working to lay out the new site and migrate the data. We will still keep the same familiar URL at [www.hcgsohio.org](http://www.hcgsohio.org) but it will have a new look and feel when we go live later this year. There is a lot more to come, so look for additional details in the coming weeks and months in both the *Gazette* and the *Tracer*.

As always, our regular board meetings occur on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month, and all members are welcome to attend. Ask any board member for more information on the meeting

## Probate Court Journals—Update

By Jim Dempsey

The preliminary indexes for the Hamilton County Probate Court probate journal volumes 13, 25, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39 have been typed and sorted. These cover a period from 1858 to 1870. Last year I did not release the index to the accounts and inventories until every page had been checked. However, since I have over 7,000 names already and the page images are now online at FamilySearch.org, I have decided to post the journals index as is.

Additionally, these volumes cover 1000 probate accounts, 400 inventories, 750 naturalization or citizenship entries and 300 inquests. Since these journals cover years where accounts, inventories and naturalization records have not survived, I wanted to make them available as soon as possible

Researchers need to understand that the early probate indexes reviewed so far have been incomplete so if you don't find an ancestral name now, check back in the future. As additional volumes are completed and names and pages are verified, I will update the online index. Please refer to The Tracer, December 2012 issue, page 116 for the online location of each volume.

I hope to have the index on our website by mid April. It will be with the accounts and inventory index on [www.hcgsohio.org/probate.shtml](http://www.hcgsohio.org/probate.shtml), our Hamilton County Probate Court web page. A PDF file of the online page image location list will also be available on that web page. Once all the journals indexes are complete and verified, they will be merged with the accounts and inventories.

## Publication News

By Barbara Gargiulo

The chapter will be offering three new publications plus the 7<sup>th</sup> edition (also known as our special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition) of the Hamilton County Guide. We will debut these publications at the upcoming OGS convention April 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>. However, here are some additional details and a sneak peak for our members and researchers.

### ***A Guide to Genealogical Resources in Cincinnati & Hamilton County, Ohio, 7th Edition***

By Connie Christman and Kenny Burck

For those that have used this valuable resource before, you know what a huge benefit it is to have local resources and contacts in one booklet. This special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition contains updated information, new resources, as well as additional maps to help Hamilton County researchers.

### ***Hamilton County, Ohio: Index of Lesser Known German Resources***

Indexed by Marilyn Armstrong, Beverly Breitenstein,  
and Jeff Herbert

This work is a combination of five separate German resources for Hamilton County researchers that have been previously not extensively used. The first section contains membership lists for the Cincinnati Turner Society, which includes member's date and place of birth. The second is a descriptive roster of members of the Civil War Ohio 9<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Infantry Regiment, which consisted almost entirely of Hamilton County German emigrants, and lists their date and place of birth, as well as a physical description of each soldier. The last three resources are histories of Cincinnati and Hamilton County published in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in German, and focus on the early pioneers in this area and their contribution to building the city. Most contain short biographies of the person along with their date and place of birth in Germany.

### ***An Index of Death and Marriage Notices in the Cincinnati Enquirer 1818 – 1869***

Indexed by Jeff Herbert

This new index is sure to be of benefit to the researcher working on early Hamilton County ancestors, as well as those living in the surrounding counties. While the *Cincinnati Enquirer* formally started publication until its present

title in 1841, its predecessor began in 1818 as the *Cincinnati Advertiser*, and contains valuable information for early settlers in the entire region. This index contains death notices, obituaries, marriage notices, and other miscellaneous notices. The last category includes divorce and abandonment notices, notices for lost horses and cows, notices for runaway apprentices, and even notices of bankruptcies.

### ***Hamilton County, Ohio, Burial Records, Volume 21, Symmes Township Cemetery Index, 1800s-2012***

This is the latest edition of our Hamilton County cemetery series. It contains readings and extractions from cemeteries located in Symmes Township in the northeastern portion of Hamilton County. The main index includes names of persons buried in Union, Kerr, and Camp Denison (Waldschmidt) Cemeteries. Included in the introduction are names of persons buried in private cemeteries in Symmes Township. These include Bell Cemetery, the Bridal Path Burial Site, the Evergreen Cemetery (Buckingham family burials), and Spooky Hollow Cemetery (Rude family).

Many thanks to all who worked very hard on these four new resources for Hamilton County researchers. We are sure you will find them of benefit to your research. If you are not able to stop by personally at the OGS convention, please be sure to check our website <http://hegsohio.org/> as well as Little Miami Publishing <http://www.littlemiamibooks.com/> for more details on how to order these new publications.



## Ohio Law Proposed to Allow Access to Adoption Files

An article in the Akron Beacon Journal on March 25, 2013, provides hope for Ohioans who were adopted between January 1, 1964 and September 18, 1996, that they may be able to access their adoption records. This legislation would affect up to 400,000 adoptees from that time period.

House Bill 61, which will be voted upon soon, would permit "most Ohio adoptees access to their original adoption files once they become adults" according to the Cleveland Plain Dealer. "Birth parents would have the option of providing family health information that would be released to the adoptee upon request, and could fill out a form that lets the children they gave up for adoption know if they want to be contacted and what manner of contact they would prefer" the Akron newspaper reported. Once approved, the legislation would not be effective for a year giving biological parents an opportunity to complete the contact forms.

Current adoption legislation in Ohio is full of inconsistent rules. Those adopted prior to Jan. 1, 1964, have full access to their adoption file once they become adults and pay a \$20 fee. For those adopted during the time period covered in this legislation, records can be obtained only if the adoptee convinces a judge to issue a court order. These court orders are extremely hard to obtain. Those adopted after Sept. 18, 1996, may obtain their adoption record for the \$20 fee unless their biological parents asked that the records be sealed.

Original birth certificates for adoptees, under the proposed legislation, would only be open to the adoptees or their descendants" according to the report. OGS President Sunda A. Peters said: "This bill is not perfect, but it goes a long way toward making health records available for adoptees and should make it easier for adoptees to locate birth parents. I urge all OGS Members to contact their representatives and senators in Columbus to support this legislation."

The Judiciary Committee approved House Bill 61 unanimously on March 13. The full House is expected to vote on the issue after it returns from spring break on April 8.

After that, the Senate will take up the issue in Senate Bill 23. Approval there is expected next month, says Sen. Bill Beagle, one of the Senate bill's primary sponsors and a Republican from Tipp City in Southwest Ohio.

For a list of your Ohio Representatives go to:

<http://www.ohiohouse.gov/members/member-directory>

For a list of your Ohio Senators go to:

<http://www.ohiosenate.gov/senate/members/senate-directory>

### THE GAZETTE

Editor  
Jane Edgar

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[www.hcgsohio.org](http://www.hcgsohio.org)

**April-July 2013  
Program Calendar**

Saturday, April 6, 2013 10:00 am	<i>Tour and Orientation to the Genealogy and Local History Department</i>		Meet at department desk Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Thursday-Saturday April 25-27, 2013	<i>Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference (OGC). Expanding Your Ancestry through Technology.</i>  <i>Check <a href="http://www.ogs.org">www.ogs.org</a> for information and times.</i>	<b>Choice of 85 Sessions</b>	Millennium Hotel 150 West 5th Street Cincinnati, Ohio
Monday, May 6, 2013 6:00 pm	Discover Your Family Roots with Genealogy Tips and Techniques  <i>No reservation required</i>	<b>Karen Everett and Jim Mainger</b>	Monfort Heights Branch Library 3825 West Fork Road 513-369-4472
Saturday, May 11, 2013 1:00 pm	<i>HCGS Program</i> <i>"I'll See You in Court!"</i>	<b>Pam Seavey Schaffner</b>	Huenfeld Tower Room, 3rd Floor Main Library, 800 Vine Street
Monday, May 13, 2013 6:00 pm	<i>Discover Your Family Roots with Genealogy Tips and Techniques</i>  <i>No reservation required</i>	<b>Karen Everett and Chris Smith</b>	Oakley Branch Library 4033 Gilmore Avenue 513-369-6038
Wednesday, May 15, 2013 7:00 pm	<i>Discover Your Family Roots with Genealogy Tips and Techniques</i>  <i>No reservation required</i>	<b>Karen Everett and Colleen Phillips</b>	Blue Ash Branch Library 4911 Cooper Road 513-369-6051
Sunday, May 19, 2013 2:00 pm	<i>Jewish Heritage in Cincinnati</i>  <i>No reservation required</i>	<b>Professor Carmi Neiger of Elmhurst College</b>	Genealogy and Local History Program Space, Main Library
Thursday, June 20, 2013 11:00 am	<i>Genealogy and Local History Department, an overview</i>  <i>No reservation required</i>		North College Hill Community and Senior Center
Saturday, July 6, 2013 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Database Basics</i>  <i>Reservations recommended</i>		Computer Lab, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Main Library

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>)