



THE GAZETTE

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

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New Cincinnati Index coming soon to our Website!

By Jean Morrison

The every name index to *Fords' History of Cincinnati*, as it is casually known, published in 1881 by husband and wife team, Henry A. Ford and Kate B. Ford will appear shortly on the open pages of Hamilton County Genealogical Society's website. <http://hcgsohio.org/>

The extraction of this material was the chapter's MADD project, completed in 2005. It is available at the main library and several local branches: PLCHC 977.177 fF699 1881.

In late 1998 the Hamilton County Genealogical Society began Make A Difference Day (MADD) projects as a way for chapter members to work together, to get to know each other better, and even to network in a face-to-face setting. The preparation of this every name index was an important addition resulting in a usable reference. A total of 33 members of the chapter participated. The original work day on a Saturday at the Hyde Park Center for Senior Adults kicked off a project that eventually took almost three years to extract names, keyboard, format, sort, and proof. When the work was completed a number of print copies and CDs were produced, and were offered free of charge to all libraries and OGS chapters in our mail exchange list.

The first project in 1998 was an indexing of the application files at the Cincinnati History Library of MOLLUS, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States. In subsequent years, working in groups, several other MADD projects were completed, including extraction of titles from the Local History Card File at PLCH, Index of maps in selected texts at the Cincinnati History Library, and an index of *Sketches and Statistics of Cincinnati*, 1851, by Charles Cist, also at the Cincinnati History Library.

Watch for an announcement this spring of the Chapter's next MADD project, creating Find-A-Grave memorials for the Civil War soldiers buried in Hamilton County. This photography project is being developed by Jane Fitzpatrick, Cemetery Chair, Amy Hartman, Pam Sattari and Jean Morrison.

More information about Cincinnati and Local History can be found on the chapter website

Surveying Land Records For Genealogical Gold!

You don't need to be a surveyor to glean genealogical gold from property records! These documents expand family lines, establish your family's migration, identify parents of wives, married names of daughters, and more. In this introduction to land research, you will learn to identify which ancestors owned property and how to use their records to further your genealogy.

This introductory session of *Surveying Land Records for Genealogical Gold* will be followed up with **four** practicum sessions which will give participants the opportunity to apply and expand on the concepts with real-world examples. The computer lab will be available after each practicum allowing participants to ask questions and apply the learning to their own research.

The four practicum programs are: **Practicum #1: Who Owned the Land and Where Are The Records?** Case studies will demonstrate identifying likely land owners and how to locate property records on-line, on microfilm or in person.

**Space in the practicums is limited so pre-register today through PLCH Online at <http://goo.gl/ZcSXSS> or call the Genealogy and Local History Department (513-369-6905) and they will complete the process for you.*

Practicum #2: Intricacies of Land Indexes. Discover different types of indexes and learn to identify land records likely to answer specific genealogical questions from the index alone. Strategies for overcoming index limitations will be explored.

**Space in the practicums is limited so pre-register today through PLCH Online at <http://goo.gl/FMG6jX> or call the Genealogy and Local History Department (513-369-6905) and they will complete the process for you.*

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Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

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

Happy New Year!

Good news for genealogy – the Library begins 2014 on solid financial footing. In November, the voters of Hamilton County approved by a resounding 80% a one mill levy to support the Library for the next ten years. During the campaign, many voters pointed to the outstanding genealogy collection as one of the valuable services offered by the Library.

To maintain the Library's status as a world class genealogy library, we continue to grow our collections and innovate. The Genealogy and Local History Department built on our collection strengths and added more than 100 books during the last quarter of 2013 focusing on Pennsylvania, Illinois and Maryland records. Once again, the Hamilton County Genealogical Society contributed to the purchase of Ohio family history materials by collecting donations from its members for the Library's Abell Trust Fund. This year's contributions exceeded \$2,500, an all-time high. Many of the donations memorialized family members or fellow genealogists. Special thanks go to the Chapter for having the foresight to establish this fund more than two decades ago and to the many who have contributed to it.

Ohio Digitization Project

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County was one of four Ohio libraries awarded a federal LSTA grant from the State Library of Ohio with matching funds from OPLIN (Ohio Public Information Network) to create a network of coordinated Digitization Hubs. Together with The Cleveland Public Library, Columbus Metropolitan Library, and Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County will serve as regional digitization centers with specialized state-of-the-art technology to digitize and archive, for online access and hardcopy reproduction, rare and culturally significant materials located in their libraries. Once established, the hubs will also serve other libraries, museums, archives, and local communities. The project promises to provide a new level of online accessibility for hard to find genealogical and local history materials. Implementation of the first phase is scheduled for completion this year. Watch for details as the project progresses.

Electronic Resources Update

Genealogists are among the Library's heaviest users of the subscription research databases, free to Library card holders. In 2013, five of the top six databases used by PLCH customers have

direct genealogical applications, including *Reference USA*, *Proquest Historic Newspapers* for the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, *Ancestry Library Edition*, *Fold3* and *HeritageQuest*. Logins to Proquest Historic Newspapers for the *Cincinnati Enquirer* reached nearly 200,000 last year. To take advantage of these valuable resources, go to the Library's homepage, <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/>, select Research & Homework, Research Databases, and then select Genealogy.

Becoming a Genealogy Specialist

This winter/spring, the Library and Chapter will co-sponsor programs designed to take genealogists to the next level, beginning with "Using DNA to Enhance Your Genealogy" on January 25. During Black History Month in February, the three part series entitled "Where We Stayed: From Bondage to Property Ownership" honors the lives and journeys of African Americans with a focus on where they lived. The programs will also present family history research strategies. Mid-March begins a program and three-part series of practicums (registration required) with a hands-on, case study approach to land records. See "Events" on the Chapter's webpage, <http://hcgsohio.org/>, or call the Genealogy & Local History Department at 369-6905 for more information or to register for the practicums.

Italianate Architecture

The Joseph S. Stern, Jr. Cincinnati Room exhibit, *Revived Italian Architecture: From Classical Inspiration to Modernity*, may have nothing to do with your ancestors unless they settled in Northern Kentucky, Over-the-Rhine, or in hundreds of American cities and towns during the colonial period or the 19th century, which experienced a revival of Italianate architecture. Displayed in conjunction with a traveling exhibit from Italy in the Main Library Atrium, *Andrea Palladio 500 Years*, the Cincinnati Room exhibits features rare books from the Library's collection dating back to the 1600s, interspersed with photographs of local buildings, from modest to grand, inspired by the Italian Renaissance architects. The exhibit runs January 31-April 30.

New Year's Resolution

Resolving to break through some of those brick walls this year? The Library can help. Launched last October, Tuesday afternoon individual sessions were an immediate hit. Their popularity continues to grow. To schedule a free, individualized, half-hour consultation with a librarian, call the Genealogy and Local History Department at 369-6905.

President's Message

BY JEFF HERBERT

As we conclude 2013 and celebrating our 40th anniversary as a Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society, I want to review some of our accomplishments in 2013 and look ahead to our plans for 2014.

We hosted a very successful OGS convention in April, and rolled out four new publications covering new avenues of Hamilton County research. Our annual Heritage luncheon celebrated the induction of 17 new members to document Hamilton County First Families, Settlers and Builders and Century Family ancestors, and in November we introduced our new website with new on-line databases, and which also prepares us for many new research tools in 2014 and beyond.

One of the biggest benefits of chapter membership is the opportunity to contribute and participate in larger projects that an individual alone could not accomplish. Some recent examples are the many cemetery series books that the chapter has published over the years due to thousands of hours of volunteer and member help, and the conventions that we have been able to host and learn from in the past two years. Another recent initiative that the board voted to support is the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions fund. The chapter will match dollar for dollar any donations made to this fund up to \$1812 maximum in 2014. We are using our chapter funds to help this larger nationwide effort to preserve and digitize these valuable and historic records. This is another example of a larger effort where we as individuals could do nothing, but working together with other members and chapters, we can preserve and make available millions of pages of pension records to future researchers. I hope you will consider participating in this effort, and see the separate article in this issue of the Gazette. It is also our final 40th anniversary initiative as we close out 2013, and celebrate a fabulous year.

In 2014, there is much more in store for our members. We will continually be adding more content to our new website as new data becomes available, so please check often. There are terrific programs planned in January on DNA research, in March on land records, and then our spring seminar in April with Michael Lacopo, so please check the chapter calendar and make sure you keep these dates on your calendar. There will also be a new publication in 1Q 2014 which will be of particular interest to researchers interested in early 19th century southwestern Ohio ancestors. Current plans are to debut this at our spring seminar.

In early 2014 we will be starting our cemetery project for Hamilton County Civil War Veterans' burial sites. This will be a major new initiative and resource for remote researchers, so watch for more information as this begins next year. There are also a few more pleasant surprises for our members next year that are currently in the works, so I know that our 41st year will be a fruitful one for your research of Hamilton County ancestors.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the board of directors for a terrific year. There were so many events and new initiatives for our 40th anniversary celebrations, and it gave me new energy to work on my own personal research. I hope you had the same experience, and agree that we are a very active society and continue to provide valuable benefits to all our members and researchers alike. We will continue to innovate and try new things in 2014 to make our chapter an even better value to our members and Hamilton County researchers.

If you haven't renewed your membership for 2014, I encourage you to do so. You'll find it well worth the money spent. If you are not a member, I invite you to join us and enjoy all the valuable information in the members-only area of the website as well as our award-winning quarterly newsletter, *The Tracer*.

Our regular board meetings continue on the 3rd Thursday of each month. All chapter members are welcome to attend.

Surveying Land Records Programs continued from page 1

Practicum #3: Reading and Interpreting Deeds. Several deeds will be reviewed to familiarize participants with deed terminology and structure. Learn how to eliminate 'boilerplate,' and extract family relationships from deeds even when they are not directly stated.

**Space in the practicums is limited so pre-register today through PLCH Online at <http://goo.gl/8wNwK> or call the Genealogy and Local History Department (513-369-6905) and they will complete the process for you.*

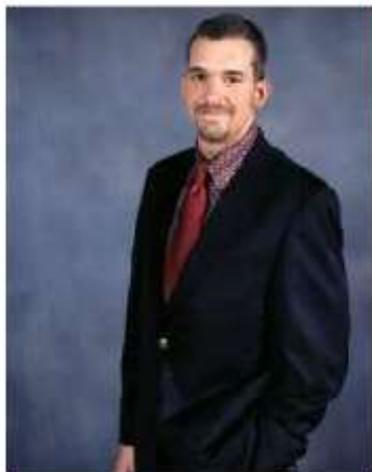
Practicum #4: Introduction to Property Maps: This practicum begins with a brief introduction to the myriad ways to create or find property maps. Using the land description on deeds, participants will use online resources to locate a period map of the property or find it on Google Earth.

**Space in the practicums is limited so pre-register today through PLCH Online at <http://goo.gl/hMXtn6> or call the Genealogy and Local History Department (513-369-6905) and they will complete the process for you.*

Liz Stratton is the presenter for Surveying Land Records and all four Practicum programs.

****You will need to register for each session you plan to attend. If you register online, please use the correct online codes that are associated with the classes.***

To view dates, times and place of these events, please go to page 6 of the Gazette or go to the PLCH [calendar](#).



Hamilton, Butler, Clermont, Warren
Genealogical Societies present

ANNUAL SEMINAR: MICHAEL LACOPO

MILL RACE BANQUET CENTER
APRIL 12, 2014
8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Join us for a day of learning new techniques from Michael Lacopo, a nationally known expert who will speak on German and methodology topics.

Michael has lectured internationally and written numerous articles for periodicals and journals. A small animal veterinarian and self-described "all-American mutt," he takes a scientific approach to his research as he does to his profession. Michael spoke at the OGS Conference in 2013 and was rated by attendees with the highest marks.

Members of the Butler, Clermont and Warren County societies may pay the Hamilton County Genealogical Society member rate for this seminar.

SEMINAR TOPICS

Overcoming Brick Walls in German-American Research, Part 1:

18th Century Germans in Pennsylvania

Overcoming Brick Walls in German-American Research, Part 2:

Later German Immigrants

Deconstructing Your Family Tree:
Re-evaluating the Evidence

Incorporating Social History into
Your Research

Genealogy vendors will be onsite.

ACCESSIBLE, AMPLE PARKING

Mill Race Banquet Center
at Mill Golf Course in Winton Woods Park
1515 West Sharon Road
(West from Winton Road)
513-825-6467

Reservations are required by April 1, 2014.
Pay online at <http://hcgsohio.org/forsale.php>
or mail a check with the form below.

Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State and Zip: _____

Additional names of those attending: _____

Registration includes continental breakfast, lunch, and handouts.

Price: Members: \$35 Non-members: \$38

Number of registrations: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to:

The Hamilton County Chapter, OGS

Mail to: The Hamilton County Chapter, OGS

P.O. Box 15865

Cincinnati, OH 45215-0865

Annual Spring Seminar Reminder By Kenny Burck

The details of the Annual Spring Seminar with Michael Lacopo were featured in the December issue of *The Tracer*. It will be held April 12, 2014 at the Mill Race Banquet Center (on the Winton Woods Golf Course), 1515 West Sharon Road. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m.

After a two-year absence due to the NGS and OGS Conferences in the spring in Cincinnati, we again resume our tradition of offering a great national speaker and all-day venue of genealogical fun and information. Michael will speak on "Overcoming Brick Walls in German-American Research, Part 1: 18th Century Germans in Pennsylvania," **then** "Part 2: Later German Immigrants," "Deconstructing Your Family Tree: Re-evaluating the Evidence" and "Incorporating Social History into Your Research."

Most of the information in the German lectures will apply to other immigrant groups. Michael drew the highest ratings in our OGS Conference evaluations and has been a national speaker for several years.

This seminar is sponsored by the Butler, Clermont, Hamilton & Warren County Chapters of OGS and members of these chapters get the member price. The deadline to register is April 1, 2014. *Family Tree Magazine* will have a vendor table along with some of our local chapters. **We only have spaces for about 120 seminar attendees so get your registrations in early.** Registration includes a continental breakfast, buffet deli lunch and handouts.

You should not have to travel through Winton Woods Park to get to the Banquet Center. The major highways of I-275 to south on Winton Road (Exit 39 - Greenhills/Forest Park to right on Sharon Road) or the Reagan Cross-County Highway (going west exit Galbraith Road to Winton Road and go north and left on Sharon Road, or going east exit Winton Road North and left on Sharon Road leads directly to the facility). **BUT** if you do not have a Hamilton County Park sticker on your windshield and do go through a park checkpoint, we have obtained a park permit for the event. You should tell anyone who asks that we have a one-day park permit in the name of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society for April 12, 2014, and you should **not** pay any fee on that day unless you want to purchase an annual park sticker for about \$10.00.

If you received your December Tracer you can use the form on page 127 to send in your registration or print the form that is on page 4 of The Gazette.

If you are lost on April 12, please don't hesitate to call me at 513-260-0238 for directions or phone the facility at 513-825-6467. I know you will enjoy Michael Lacopo and learn much from him. Hope to see you in April!

Preserve the Pensions: \$45 Donation becomes \$180! By Jeff Herbert

As we conclude our 40th anniversary celebration, the Board recently agreed to kick off one more important activity and finish the year with a bang by participating in the FGS initiative to preserve and digitize the War of 1812 pension files and papers at the National Archives. Now we need your help to reach our goal.

These vital records are part of our national history and contain critical clues and information for our early ancestors in the first half of the 19th century. The papers are now close to 200 years old and many are deteriorating due to handling and age. They have not been microfilmed.



The National Archives reports that these pension and service files are some of the most heavily requested for research purposes. If these files—available in no other format—are not digitized and preserved, they will be in danger of being unusable within a generation.

There are over 7.2 million images in the 180,000 War of 1812 files. As these documents are digitized, they are being made available to researchers at no cost on Fold3, www.fold3.com. To date, 866,844 images have been digitized and put online, approximately 12% of the total.

One third of the total funds needed to complete this project have already been raised. The cost to digitize and process each page is approximately 45 cents, so a \$45 donation will digitize and preserve 100 pages.

However, two organizations make it possible to quadruple the value of your gift.

The Hamilton County Genealogical Society will match each dollar contributed to this effort 100% up to a limit of \$1812. Your donation will be doubled, and the Chapter will forward it to **Ancestry.com**, which **has also agreed to match dollar for dollar** all contributions to this project.

Your contribution will then have four times the impact and help to ensure these records are preserved and available for you as well as future researchers. Your \$45 donation will digitize and preserve 400 pages!

Please send your check to the Hamilton County Genealogical Society (for any amount you choose) and indicate that the donation is for the War of 1812 pensions, or use the Paypal option on our website, www.hcgsOhio.org.

For more information on this initiative, visit the Preserve the Pensions website, www.preservethepensions.org.

**January-May 2014
Program Calendar**

Saturday, January 4 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Websites: An Introduction</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Third floor, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, January 25 10:00 am—1:00 pm	<i>HCGS Program</i> <i>“Using DNA to Enhance Your Genealogy”</i>	<i>Kathy Reed</i>	Third floor, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Monday, January 27 7:00 pm	<i>“African American/Civil War Genealogy”</i> <i>Part 3 of 4</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Symmes Township Branch Library 11850 Enyart Road (513) 369-6001
Saturday, February 1 10:00 am	<i>Orientation to the Genealogy and Local History Department</i>		Third floor, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, February 1 2:00 pm	<i>Finding Slave Ancestors Using Ante Bellum Plantation Records and Slave Records</i>	<i>Joyce Coleman</i>	Third floor, Program Space 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, February 8 2:00 pm	<i>Delphi Benson’s Migration from Cincinnati’s Fourth Ward to Walnut Hills</i>	<i>Dr. John Bryant and Brian Powers</i>	Third floor, Program Space 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, March 1 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Websites: An Introduction</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Third floor, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, March 15 11:00 am & 1:00 pm	<i>HCGS Program</i> <i>“Surveying Land Records for Genealogical Gold” - 11:00 am</i> <i>“Who Owned Land and Where Are the Records?” - 1:00 pm</i> REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Third floor Computer Lab Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, March 29 1:00-3:00 pm	<i>Intricacies of Land Indexes</i> REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Third floor computer lab Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati

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

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

**January-May 2014
Program Calendar (Cont'd)**

Monday, March 31 7:00 pm	<i>Co-sponsored by HCGS "Irish Genealogy-in Honor of St. Patrick's Day" Part 4 of 4</i>	<i>Colleen Phillips</i>	Symmes Township Library 11850 Enyart 513-369-6001
Saturday, April 5 10:00 am	<i>Orientation to the Genealogy and Local History Department</i>		Third floor, Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, April 5 1:00—3:00 pm	<i>HCGS Program "Reading and Interpreting Deeds" REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!</i>	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Third floor computer lab Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
Saturday, April 12 8:30 am—4:00 pm	<i>HCGS Annual Seminar See form on page 127 of the December Tracer or download form from this issue of the Gazette</i>	<i>Michael Lacopo</i>	Mill Race Banquet Center 1515 West Sharon Road
Saturday April 19 1:00 pm	<i>HCGS Program "Introduction to Property Maps" REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!</i>	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Third floor computer lab Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati
April 30—May 3	Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference www.ogs.org	<i>Choice of 85 sessions</i>	Kalahari Resorts, Sandusky, Ohio
Saturday, May 3 10:00 am	Genealogy Websites: An Introduction!		Third floor computer lab Main Library 800 Vine Street, Cincinnati

THE GAZETTE

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