



THE GAZETTE

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

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Abell Fund / War of 1812 Fund

By Jeff Herbert, Treasurer

As we wrap up 2014, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the J. Richard Abell Fund and the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions Fund this year. Once again we have received terrific responses and support for these two initiatives that help support and advance our research. The Abell fund helps ensure that the genealogy collection at the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County remains one of the best collections in the nation.

The Board recently voted to continue the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions fund into 2015 and continue to match donations dollar for dollar until the maximum of \$1,812 has been contributed and will be matched by the Chapter with an additional \$1,812. At a cost of \$.45 per digitized page, a \$25.00 donation will digitize approximately 55 pages, but with the matching funds by the Chapter this will digitize 110 pages, and the additional matching funds from Ancestry.com, this will digitize 220 pages. Your donation will be amplified by a factor of four.

In December a check in the amount of \$1800.00 was presented to Patricia Van Skaik, director of the Genealogy and History Department and a check in the amount of \$2010.00 was sent to FGS in support of the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions fund, which will be matched dollar for dollar by Ancestry.com. This represents contributions of \$1005.00 and Chapter matching funds of \$1005.00 for a total donation of \$2010.00. Thanks to everyone who has supported these great causes this year.

This is another terrific example of a collaborative effort to make a big, lasting impact on future research, and also to help preserve these vital, historical records before they are lost. I hope you will consider helping with these efforts in

2015. If you wish to contribute, you can donate by check, and note the "J. Richard Abell Fund" or "War of 1812 Pensions" in the memo section on your check to "Hamilton County Genealogical Society". Or if you prefer to use your credit card, it is even easier by using the "Donate" button on our website under the "Shop and Support" section.



Cemetery Book Request

By Jane Fitzpatrick

HCGS Cemetery Committee has never had a complete set of the society's cemetery books. These books would help for future projects and member inquiries. The following books are what we still need to complete this collection: Volumes 10 through Volume 22 (Symmes Township). If anyone has any of these volumes and would want to donate them to the committee, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Jane Fitzpatrick, Cemetery Chair:
jmfitz@fuse.net

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

**BY Patricia Moseley Van Skaik, Manager,
Genealogy and Local History Department**

New Year, New Inspiration

Genealogy is a cycle. Every new discovery leads to new questions. For many genealogists, the holidays provide motivation to nail down loose ends, break through brick walls, and organize findings to share with family and friends. Yet, every step yields new inspiration and with it the cycle continues. Die-hard genealogists never pause. Whether continuing or re-igniting family research, all can benefit from a trip to the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton, one of the top-rated genealogy libraries in the nation.

The benefits of the Library extend far beyond the books, microfilm and electronic resources. Librarians in the Genealogy and Local History Department have a total of nearly 200 years of genealogy experience in methodology, classic sources, ethnic specialties, and the latest digital resources. In the past year, members of the Genealogy and Local History Department attended 70 training programs and seminars, many on their own time to further develop their genealogical skills.

Library Usage Up

The trend of using the Library to compliment at-home online research is growing. The most recent library researchers range from familiar faces to first time users. In 2014, the Genealogy Department saw a 15% increase in reference questions and an 8% increase in the number of books and microfilm used, almost all of which are not accessible online.

New to the Collection

The Library maintains its ranking as a leading library by continuing to add resources to the collection. New additions include: how-to books that can be checked out, such as Henry Louis Gates' *Finding Your Roots*, the companion to his PBS series of the same name; the final addition to the 48 volume set, *Guide to German Parish Registers*; and small print runs of published obituary indexes, abstracts and transcripts from across the nation. Without these obituary resources, researchers would have to travel to their ancestors' home in hopes of finding them. An accomplished researcher who made an unnecessary trip to his ancestor's homeland remarked that his new motto is "ALWAYS check the Cincinnati Library first!"

Digital Update

The challenge of successful research is often not the lack of rec-

ords, but the difficulty finding relevant ones. This year, access to the Library's in-house digital content will be greatly enhanced through the content management software system, *Content DM*. Expect to find fully digitized books, records, maps and illustrations in the Library's Virtual Library with ease.

Yearbooks

The Public Library has begun digitizing local school yearbooks up through 1922, the cutoff date allowed by copyright law for publishing without special permission. See example, http://virtuallibrary.cincinnati.org/virtuallibrary/vl_oldrare.aspx?ResID=2565. We are currently negotiating agreements with area high schools for permission to post yearbooks published after 1922 on the Virtual Library. Look for the entire span of the Walnut Hills High School yearbook, *The Remembrancer*, early this year and many more schools to follow. The Library's yearbook collection comes completely from donations. To help fill in gaps by donating a yearbook to the Library, contact Chris Smith at chris.smith@cincinnati.org or 513-665-3340.

Changes at Main Library

Construction is underway for a Makers Space on the Second Floor of the North Building. The new department, opening early this year, will have a range of tools from 3D printers to sewing machines and staff to assist with the creation of customized objects. If you think this has nothing to do with genealogy, think again. Members of the Chapter's Technology Group have already previewed 3D printers in action and have some great ideas. Newspapers formerly located in this area have been moved to the Second Floor South Building in the Information and Reference Department, closer to Genealogy & Local History.

Upcoming Programs

Genealogy and Local History and the Hamilton County Genealogical Society kick off the year with several collaborative programs, including Session 4 of the Land Records Series and a two-session webinar at the Library with professional genealogist Michael G. Hait on African American genealogy. Tours and computer labs are offered monthly, as well as weekly 30-minute free individual consultation sessions on Tuesday afternoons. Schedule an appointment by contacting the Library at history@cincinnati.org or 513-369-3605. See Chapter calendar for complete program listings and details.

Last Chance to View Veterans Exhibit

Serving with Honor: The Queen City's Veterans on display in the Joseph S. Stern, Jr. Cincinnati Room at the Main Library has been a destination for many families and genealogists since its opening in November. The exhibit salutes local heroes and examines the history of veterans in Cincinnati starting with its settlement by Revolutionary War veterans and continuing

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President's Message

BY KENNY BURCK

513-851-9549

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Happy New Year to all and I wish all of you a great year of successful research opportunities. As a brief overview, the FGS/Roots Tech conference will be in Salt Lake City in February, the NGS conference will be in St. Charles, MO in May, the OGS conference will be in Columbus, OH in April and the Palatines to America conference will be in Harrisburg, PA in June. These are just some suggestions for conferences you may wish to attend to increase your genealogical knowledge. Also don't forget our Chapter's Annual Seminar in April at the Mill Race Lodge in Winton Woods. More details are in this issue of the Gazette. Many members have signed up already.

Jenny Davis is stepping down as Director of Digital Resources. This newest directorship in our Chapter addresses all forms of internet capabilities and social media. The active committee maintains our website, Facebook, Twitter, blog, etc. They meet regularly to keep up with all the latest trends in genealogy and address the needs of our members now and in the future. Our Chapter was just presented with an FGS national award for our efforts as a "tech savvy" organization. Jenny Davis was the main driver leading us to reach this level. Our website is not only terrific but is getting better with more videos of programs and soon an additional large database of records will be added. In a recent Digital Resources committee meeting, three new attendees offered help, joining the current regular members John Tholking, Gail Burkholz, Kathy Reed, Amy Hartman, Deb Cyprych, Jim Dempsey and Bob Brodbeck. Jenny has also been our chapter webmaster and a member of the group is being trained to become the new website administrator. We thank you Jenny for a job well done!

I hope this is the year that you fill out your application and send in your documentation to join one or more of our three lineage societies, *First Families*, *Settlers & Builders* or *Century Families of Hamilton County*. I just located another ancestor who died in Hamilton County in 1847 and have sent in my application for her as a supplemental member in *Settlers & Builders*. Plans are already underway for a Heritage Day Luncheon in October 2015 when the certificates and medals will be presented. All the information is on our website at hcgsohio.org or you may write

the Chapter for application forms. Applications are also at the downtown Public Library in a wooden rack in the Genealogy & Local History Dept. along with other genealogical information. You have until the end of August 2015 to apply.

Board members Jeff Herbert and Jim Dempsey were also presented with FGS national awards for their work in genealogy. Thanks to Jenny Davis for nominating them. Our annual Chapter awards are often presented at our Annual Spring Seminar in April. Feel free to contact me to nominate any Chapter member or other person who is making a significant contribution to local genealogy.

Amy Hartman is our Facebook coordinator and she reports our Chapter's Facebook members are growing rapidly. We just presented a prize for our 1000th member. Another prize has been donated when we reach our next Facebook member milestone.

Jane Edgar has been our *Gazette* editor for many years now. She is always there with timely emails to urge the regular contributors and the Board members into action to get our articles to her for publication. She then prepares *The Gazette* for publication and has it available to all of you right on schedule. Thanks Jane for the work you do for our members.

I want to thank all of you who made contributions in 2014 for the J. Richard Abell Trust Fund donations that go to the downtown library to purchase genealogy books in memory of Richard who was the Manager of the History Department for 30 years and to the War of 1812 Fund (that we match and donate to the Federation of Genealogical Societies who in turn presents it to the National Archives and Records Administration to digitize War of 1812 pension files and then places the records online at no cost for all to use). Both funds provide all of us with great resources to locate new ancestors.

Our January 2015 Chapter Board meeting will be held January 22 (the 4th Thursday) at 6:30 p.m. and February through May 2015 Chapter Board meetings will be held the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 p.m. all at the Perkins Restaurant on Hamilton Avenue at the Cross County Highway. All members are welcome to attend. This is how you learn what and when things are occurring in the future and you can be part of the action. Anyone in attendance can contribute. We not only have our elected Chapter officers in attendance, but committee members and other members who want to see what's going on. Several folks come as early as 5:30 p.m. to eat and socialize.

Season Two: Genealogy Roadshow By Jean Morrison



Mark your calendar for Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 8 p.m. ET: That's when family history TV series "[Genealogy Roadshow](#)" returns to PBS for its second season. The show, part "History Detectives," and part "Antiques Roadshow" has genealogy experts [Kenyatta D. Berry](#), [D. Joshua Taylor](#) and [Mary Tedesco](#) explore guests' family history, mysteries, and legends. It's shot in talk show format: We see an introduction to the guest, then the guest sits down with the expert and the expert reveals the truth behind the family story. A live audience (composed of both family history enthusiasts and hired extras) looks on.

The "Genealogy Roadshow" is a six-part series that will air every Tuesday, beginning January 13th through February 24th and were filmed in the cities of New Orleans, St. Louis, and Philadelphia.

through the present. It includes personal items such as photos, diaries, letters, uniforms, medals, and other artifacts drawn from the Library's special collections and private collections of veterans and their descendants. Photographs and streaming video from the Library's Veterans History Project, <http://vhp.cincinnati.library.org> compliment the exhibit and contain a wealth of genealogical information. *Serving with Honor* runs through January 18. More information is available through an interview on WVXU's *Cincinnati Edition* <http://wvxu.org/post/serving-honor-exhibit-now-display-public-library-cincinnati-and-hamilton-county> or by contacting the Library at 513-369-6905.

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Kroger Community Rewards By Jeff Herbert

The Hamilton County Genealogical Society (HCGS) is a participant in Kroger Community Rewards. You can enroll or re-enroll anytime. Participants are asked to re-enroll every year in April. The Kroger Community Rewards Program provides grants to registered non-profit organizations based on member participation. Purchases made at participating stores earn rewards that are passed along as a donation to HCGS at no cost to you. Most Kroger stores in the Greater Cincinnati, Dayton, Miami Valley, Southeastern Indiana and Northern Kentucky areas participate in the Cincinnati-based program. After you have enrolled, qualified purchases made with your registered Kroger Plus card will generate a cash reward for HCGS. HCGS does not have any access to your purchases or private information. To become a supporter, please follow the directions below.

REGISTER ONLINE: **KROGERCOMMUNITYREWARDS.COM** **ORGANIZATION #83590**

- Have your Kroger Plus card handy. If you do not have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger store.
- Visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com
- Click on Sign In/Register. If you are a new online customer, click on SIGN UP TODAY in the "New Customer?" box. Follow the on-screen directions to create an account or re-enroll.
- Register your card with the Hamilton County Genealogical Society, NPO number 83590. We can also be found by searching for the first three letters of our name, HAM.
- Select HCGS by clicking on the article to the left of our name.
- Save changes.

Thank you for your support!

We received a check from Kroger in the amount of \$75.62 for the 3rd quarter, making the total so far for 2014 over \$325.00 which allows us to fund new initiatives and programs such as the Spring Grove Cemetery Tours at no charge. If you are already a member, please check with friends and neighbors to see if they would be willing to join and help out too.

**January—May 2015
Program Calendar**

Saturday, January 10 11:00 am	<i>Introduction to Local Newspapers Using Newsdex & ProQuest</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Third Floor Training Room South Bldg, Main Library 800 Vine Street
Tuesday, January 13 7:00 pm	<i>Genetic Genealogy: Adding DNA to Your Genealogical Toolbox</i>	<i>Pamela White</i>	West Chester Library 9393 Centre Pointe Drive 777-3131
Wednesday, January 14 10:00 am	<i>Introduction to the Hamilton County Recorder's Office</i>	<i>Dave Pittinger</i>	Recorder's Office Programs@hcgsohio.org
Wednesday, January 21 10:00 am	<i>Introduction to the Hamilton County Recorder's Office</i> <i>This is a REPEAT of the January 14th program.</i>	<i>Dave Pittinger</i>	Recorder's Office Programs@hcgsohio.org
Monday, January 26 6:30-8:00 pm	<i>"Family Secrets"</i> <i>Kathy will discuss how historical newspapers played a significant role in some of her "unsettling" discoveries. For more information, visit the Congenealogy site.</i>	<i>Kathy Reed</i>	Meeting Room 3 Covington, KY
Saturday, February 7 11:00-12:00 pm Lab 1:00-3:00 pm	<i>"Surveying Land Records for Genealogical Gold: Digging into Deeds" (REPEAT)</i> <i>"Hands-on with Land Records: Digging into Deeds". Preregistration Required, http://goo.gl/rJYmdu. You can arrive at 1 pm if you have already heard the 11 am lecture</i>	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Third Floor Computer Lab Main Library 800 Vine Street
Saturday, February 7 2:00 pm	<i>Cincinnati Freedman of Color</i>	<i>Robert S. Duncan</i>	Third Floor Main Library 800 Vine Street
Saturday, February 14 11:00 (first session) 2:00 (second session)	<i>African-American Genealogy Webinar: Tearing Down the Brick Walls—11:00 am Freedmen's Bureau Records—2:00 pm</i>	<i>Michael G. Hait</i>	Third Floor, Huenefeld Room Main Library 800 Vine Street

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 2015
Program Calendar (Cont'd)**

Saturday, February 14 11:00 am	<i>Introduction to Local Newspapers Using Newsdex & ProQuest</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Third Floor Training Room South Bldg, Main Library 800 Vine Street
Saturday, February 28 2:00 pm	<i>John Mercer Langston and Ohio Black Conventions with Special Guest: Dr. John Bryant</i>		Third Floor Main Library 800 Vine Street
Saturday, March 7 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Websites: An Introduction!</i>	<i>Librarians</i>	Third Floor Computer Lab Main Library 800 Vine Street
Saturday, March 14 10:00 am	<i>In Honor of St. Patrick's Day—Griffith's Valuation: Beyond the Basics</i>	<i>Mary Ann Faloon</i>	Third Floor Main Library 800 Vine Street
Tuesday, March 24 7:00 pm	<i>"To Render Some Service: 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Civil War"</i>	<i>Greg Fugitt</i>	West Chester Library 9393 Centre Pointe Drive 777-3131
Saturday, March 28 8:00 am—2:00 pm	<i>Northern KY Regional History Day</i> http://goo.gl/4xHOXE	<i>Choice of 14 sessions</i>	Northern KY University Student Union, Highland Heights, KY
April 9-11	<i>Ohio Genealogical Society Annual Conference</i> www.ogs.org	<i>Choice of 85 sessions</i>	Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square
Saturday, April 18 9:00—4:00 SAVE THE DATE!	<i>HCGS Annual Seminar</i> <i>See page 127 of the December Tracer to register.</i>	<i>Jerry Smith, CG</i>	Mill Race Banquet Center 1515 West Sharon Road Winton Woods
Saturday, May 9 SAVE THE DATE!	<i>A day dedicated to the Germans of Cincinnati</i> <i>Plans are being finalized and will be published in The Tracer once they have been confirmed.</i> <i>We anticipate a 10:00– 2:00 time frame. Get your German questions ready!</i>	<i>Kenny Burck Jeff Herbert Bob Rau</i>	Kolping Society

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