



THE GAZETTE

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

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FamilySearch Discontinues Microfilm Distribution Services

By Bob Brodbeck

On September 1, 2017, FamilySearch will discontinue its microfilm distribution services. The last day to order microfilm to be sent to a local Family History Center will be August 31, 2017. This change is prompted by the increase in digitized records and the fact that microfilm technology is outdated.

FamilySearch has digitized and placed online more than 1.5 million microfilms, including the most requested collections. The organization will digitize the remainder of its microfilms by the end of 2020. Family History Centers will continue to provide access to relevant technology, premium subscription services, and digital records, including restricted content not available at home. For more information about this change, see <https://familysearch.org/ask/faq#overview>.

Local priesthood leaders may approve the retention of films already in the centers on permanent loan. Look for an update on the Cincinnati Family History Centers in the September *Tracer*.

SWOHDNA (Southwest Ohio DNA Interest Group) By Kathy Reed

At our last meeting on June 13th, we discussed the reliability of the ethnicity results we receive after having our DNA tested. In addition, we had a short presentation on a new Ancestry.com feature called Genetic Communities. Videos were produced and can be watched at these links:

Ethnicity Estimates <https://vimeo.com/221692503>

Genetic Communities <https://vimeo.com/221660345>

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15th, at the West Chester MidPointe library. Doug Beezley will discuss Y-DNA and its applicability to surname studies.

Fall Programs By Kathy Reed

Mark your calendar for our kick-off program with Dr. David McDonald scheduled for Saturday, September 16th. Talks will be devoted to German ancestry in celebration of German Heritage Month and Oktoberfest Zinzinnati. Additional details will be provided at a later date.

“Ask the Experts Day” will be held on Saturday, October 7th, at the Main Library. Debra Dudek, of the Fountaindale Public Library, will be offering the following presentations:

Discovering your UK/Irish Roots Online: Websites and Resources for English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish Ancestry - There is no such thing as "one stop genealogy shopping"! This program will lead you through the resources and search techniques for the three big UK and Irish databases: FindMyPast, ScotlandsPeople and RootsIreland. Learn what's new on these databases, how you can apply them to your research and how privacy and information rights impact your quest for records.

Crime, Prison, and Punishment: Researching UK Criminal and Prisoner Records online and at the National Archives – Whether by choice or circumstance, some of your ancestors may have found themselves on the wrong side of the law. The vast array of criminal and prison records available online and at the National Archives in Kew can offer researchers a great deal of information for their ancestors in a pre-census world.

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

**BY Tricia Spaite, Manager,
Genealogy and Local History Department**

Pleased to Meet You

Hello!

Thank you for providing me with some space in the Gazette to introduce myself and bring you the news from the Library.

My name is Tricia Spaite, and I've been serving as the Interim Manager of the Genealogy and Local History Department since Pat Van Skaik retired in February. I was born and raised in Cincinnati, and started working for the Library at the Pleasant Ridge Branch at age 15. I left the Library after high school, and returned to seek my fortune as a Reference Librarian after earning my BA in English Literature and my Masters in Library Science. In total, I've spent 23 years here, at a variety of locations and in a variety of positions, but mostly as a Reference Librarian at the Main Library. Some of my most valuable professional experiences took place in the Magazines and Newspapers Department, where I very quickly learned the value of a death notice to a genealogist and became instantly acquainted with the Jeffrey Herbert indexes!

In April, my supervisor, Holbrook Sample and I met with Kenny Burck and Liz Stratton to talk about the HCGS's relationship with the Genealogy & Local History Department, and to hear about members' concerns regarding the department's future. We came away with some valuable suggestions and an even deeper appreciation of the Society's contributions to the Library and its collaboration with our very knowledgeable and dedicated staff. At the time of this writing, there are no concrete changes to report, but we'll do our best to keep you informed as we move forward.

Collection Update

Here are just a few titles of interest that were added in the last 2 months:

- *The Old Burying Ground, Fredericton, N.B*
- *Index of Hamilton County, Ohio reported court records : 1841-1869 / indexed by Jeffrey G. Herbert for the Hamil-*

ton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

- *The Reesor family in Canada: genealogical and historical records 1804-2000*
- *History, St. Lawrence Catholic Church, St. James Catholic Chapel, Schaubhut Family Cemetery, Troscclair Cemetery, and Cemetery inscriptions 2010, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana*
- *Wood County, Ohio, marriage records. Volumes 17, 18, 19 and 20 : October 1913 through June 1926*
- *Lewis patriarchs of early Virginia and Maryland*
- *Randolph County cemetery records / compiled by the Randolph County Genealogical Society.*
- *The Tucker band: Tuckers and related families (Burtons and MaGills)*
- *The official history of Elbert County, 1790-1935 / by John H. McIntosh. Supplement, 1935-1939; by Stephen Heard Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, Elberton, Georgia*
- *New Brunswick vital statistics from newspapers / by Vital Statistics Committee, New Brunswick Genealogical Society.*

Family History Month: October 2017

Family History Month at the Library is always a busy and exciting time, and this year is no exception. On October 7th, we'll be hosting internationally-known Genealogist Debra M. Dudek, who will deliver her lecture "**Discovering your UK/Irish Roots Online: Websites and Resources for English, Welsh, Irish and Scottish Ancestry**", during which she'll lead us through resources and search techniques for three big UK and Irish databases: FindMyPast, ScotlandsPeople and RootsIreland. She'll update us on what's new in these databases, how we can apply them to our research, and how privacy and information rights impact our quest for records. For additional information about Ms. Dudek, take a look at her page on the Genealogical Speakers Guild's website: www.genealogicalspeakersguild.org.

That same day, from noon-2, there will be over 20 experts on-site, with specializations ranging from ethnic genealogy to court records, to provide free one-on-one consultations. Not to be missed!

Then, Ms. Dudek returns at 2 p.m. to present: "**Crime, Prison, and Punishment: Researching UK Criminal and Prisoner Records Online and at the National Archives**" Whether by choice or circumstance, some of

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President's Message

BY KENNY BURCK
513-851-9549
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I just took my DNA test with a third company and find the outcome not surprising but still fascinating. I don't claim to understand all of it, but it is fun to see the results. It does confirm I am related to many of the cousins I have researched. It was helpful to attend the DNA sessions at the April Ohio Genealogical Society in Sandusky, Ohio. I hope many of you are also being tested.

Every few years the Chapter board has held a long-range planning meeting. In regular board meetings there is just no time to step back and take a look at the larger picture. We reviewed what we are now doing and discussed what we could be doing to benefit the needs of our members. As most of you know Patricia Van Skaik, our long time Genealogy and Local History Department Manager, has left the library for another position. This raised many questions about any possible changes that would be forthcoming to researchers. Our Education Director Liz Stratton and I met at the end of May with two library officials and came away with a positive feeling that things would pretty much stay the same in the department as far as staffing levels, the location and name of the department, etc. We suggested several ideas for possible enhancements that could be beneficial to researchers and we were encouraged to write them down and tell them the rationale for our suggestions and they would give them consideration.

Back to the long-range planning meeting, our board officers and directors, along with several committee chairs and other interested members, considered a long list of proposed projects; how and what books we purchase, improvements to our wonderful website, enhanced programs, how to encourage members getting more involved in our organization, how to plan for our future leadership in the society, how to enhance the usage of our J. Richard Abell Fund that purchases Ohio-related genealogy books, and many more ideas were floated.

We claim to be the 2nd largest county genealogical society in the U.S.A. We think we are pretty good now with our two-time National Genealogical Society award winning *Tracer*, our great *Gazette* newsletter, terrific programs, a first-class Annual Seminar, our much-acclaimed website, a good functioning and friendly Board and com-

mittees and a host of wonderful volunteers indexing Hamilton County records. We have many members each year applying for membership into one of our lineage societies, thereby preserving their research for future generations. We have close relationships with our public libraries, historical societies, Hamilton County offices, the LDS Family History Center and neighboring genealogical societies. We are also financially sound. But we can do better. Our digital resources committee is meeting regularly to enhance our social media presence and to bring more information to you online. We hope to have more webinars and provide more videos on our website for local and out-of-town members. We continue to have hands-on computer classes and are considering more sessions similar to our all-day Annual Seminar. We are thinking about a survey of our membership to get more of your ideas also.

We had a tour of Spring Grove Cemetery about two years ago. We recently held a tour of the Waldschmidt home and property in Symmes Township. While not totally genealogical in nature, they were viewed as extremely fun and educational by the attendees and brought in more members. We are considering additional activities such as this to complement our more traditional programs. We started a southwest Ohio regional DNA group as more and more genealogists are getting DNA tests and need to understand the results more strategically. Jeff Herbert continues his interest in indexing more records and donating his material to become new Chapter books.

A few months ago our Chapter purchased a somewhat expensive but durable portable scanner for the public library. This was purchased for use by the library staff to go out in the community and scan information from townships, historical societies, schools, private collections, or anyplace records exist that might otherwise never come to our attention as genealogists. They would then be placed on the library website. Our Director At-Large Jim Dempsey is currently working with a local high school and a protestant church lining them up as early candidates to scan some of their records. The library's goal is to make this an ongoing project so our investment in the scanner is maximized. If you have an idea of a project to scan a particular group of records, please approach me or any Board member.

The first ever all German-related conference is being held at the end of July 2017 in the Minneapolis, MN area. I know of at least six members are attending from our local society. There are 627 registered so far and they expect

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(Family History Month Cont'd from Page 2)

your ancestors may have found themselves on the wrong side of the law. The vast array of criminal and prison records available online and at the National Archives in Kew can offer researchers a great deal of information for their ancestors in a pre-census world.

The ever-popular Genealogy Lock-in will take place on October 21st from 6:30-11:30 p.m. As always, pre-registration is required, and is scheduled to begin on or around August 1st on the Library's webpage. This year's event will include four optional mini-tech seminars. We hope to see you there!

And finally, if you know someone who could use an Introduction to Genealogy, be sure to tell them about the Monday evening classes that are being offered at our branch locations in October:

October 2, 7 p.m.: Harrison Branch Library on New Haven Road

October 16, 6 p.m.: Miami Township Branch Library on North Miami Ave.

October 30, 6 p.m.: Reading Branch Library on Reading Road (a beautiful new facility that had its grand opening in June of 2015)

Spotlight on: Newsdex

As I mentioned in my bio, I spent several years as a Reference Librarian in the Magazines and Newspapers Department, and while I was there, one of my primary duties was to add content to Newsdex, the Library's in-house index to local newspapers—so you probably aren't surprised to hear that it's a favorite resource of mine.

If you've never used it, you might not realize that it provides citations to content not found anywhere else—specifically, to articles and death notices in Cincinnati newspapers that aren't available in any commercial database to date, such as the Cincinnati Times-Star, the Cincinnati Commercial, and other historic newspapers that the Library keeps on microfilm.

The citations found there can be used to retrieve articles from microfilm, which a researcher can do for themselves on-site at the Main Library, or, the citations can be sent to the Library as a reference request by phone or email. In those instances, a Librarian will search the microfilm for you, make a copy, and email the image to you—free of charge!

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to attract over 700. You can find registration information at the International Germanic Genealogy Conference website at www.IGGPartner.org.

Your Chapter board does not meet in July or August. It is our research or break time. However, programs and all our other functions continue to be worked on over the hot summer months. We meet again with a renewed enthusiasm the third Thursday in September at the Perkins Restaurant in Mt. Healthy. All are welcome. We eat (if you choose to come early) about 5:30 and the meeting is from 6:30 to about 8:00 p.m. Happy ancestor hunting!

Our Rivermen Ancestors

By Kathy Reed

I recently had lunch with Gary Johnson who has an interest in Cincinnati's history as a naval center during the Civil War. You heard that right – we were a naval center. He has been researching this topic for quite a while and has been invited to give presentations on the topic. I immediately became interested because I knew my gg-uncle, Robert Willis Darby, had served in the Navy at the end of the Civil War. Part of his obituary mentions his service:

R.W. Darby was in River Fighting at Close of Conflict. Robert W. Darby, 81 years old, 726 Whittier Street, last surviving member of the crew of the United States steamer Carondelet, active at the close of the Civil War, died at his home late Saturday. He had been ill several months. At the beginning of the Civil War, Mr. Darby enlisted with the One Hundred and Ninety -- first Ohio Regiment and later became a member of the crew of the Carondelet, operating on the Mississippi River. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Naval Veterans and Knights of Pythias. Surviving him are five daughters and three sons. Mr. Darby was born in Cincinnati.

Mr. Johnson is interested in speaking with members of the Hamilton County Genealogical Society and the public whose ancestors may have served in the Navy or in the boatbuilding infrastructure of Cincinnati at the time. With enough information, he may write a book. Here is his letter: - ***Continued on page 5***

(Our Riverman Ancestors Cont'd from page 4)

I appreciate your offer to communicate with the Hamilton County Genealogical Society to see if your members have ancestors who were involved with the Navy during the Civil War or the Cincinnati area infrastructure that supported the riverboat industry. Here are some professions who supported the industries below for which there may be some existing histories of the Cincinnati people who did the work.

Riverboat men

- Steamboat pilots
- Steamboat engineers
- Steamboat company owners/operators
- Supportive infrastructure for riverboats
- Boatbuilders/carpenters
- Foundrymen (iron or brass)
- Machinists (like Miles Greenwood's Eagle Iron Works, etc.)
- Boilermakers
- Iron miners and furnace operators from the Hanging Rock iron area in Ohio
- Coal miners, coal processors, coal tipples and suppliers who brought the coal to Cincinnati

If you have an ancestor who was a riverboat man, Navy man or worked in related fields, contact Kathy Reed, Program Director at programs@hcgsohio.org. I will get you in touch with Mr. Johnson.

Deed and Leases at Recorder's Office

By Jim Dempsey

Online access to lease books 1 through 122 at the Recorder's Office has been delayed due to major database software upgrades in May. I will let you know once they are available. These leases are available at FamilySearch.org

Hamilton County deed books 301 to 333, 335, 338-340 are now online at the Recorder's Office website. To see these deeds, click on link below and then click on "Deed Books" located in the *Document Images* row of links. <http://recordersoffice.hamilton-co.org/hcro-pdi/index.jsp>

Deed Index 3 for deed books 56 to 99 (1835 to 1845), with buyer surnames A through Z, are now complete on our website at <https://hcgsohio.org/cpage.php?pt=147>.

Kroger Rewards keeps growing **By Jeff Herbert**

The Hamilton County Genealogical Society (HCGS) is a participant in the 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.

The 2Q amount from the Kroger rewards is \$105.45. YTD total for 2017 so far is \$187.87 due to all of our members signing up as reward members which helps keep our annual dues very affordable. If you or any family members or friends are not already a Kroger Reward member, please consider joining.

If you are already a member, please remember to renew.

Thank you for your support!

**July-October 2017
Program Calendar**

Saturday, July 1 10:00 am	<i>(Optional) "Genealogy Websites: An Introduction! Computer Lab Class</i>	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Main Library 3rd Fl. Computer Lab 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Saturday, July 8 12:30-3:30	<i>"Finding and using Published Sources" and "Organizing your Genealogy and Connecting with Cousins" Session 5 Pre-registration required</i>	<i>Liz Stratton</i>	Main Library 3rd Fl. Computer Lab 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Tuesday, July 11 7:00 pm	<i>"Early Military Records" Military Records ranging from the Colonial Wars through the Spanish American War. www.butlercountyogs.org</i>	<i>James Phillabaum</i>	MidPointe Library 9363 Centre Pointe Dr. West Chester, Ohio
Saturday, August 5 10:00 am	<i>Tour and Orientation to the Genealogy and Local History Department</i>		Main Library 3rd Fl. 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Monday, August 14 10:00 am	<i>"Meet the Experts" Discussion on resources available at the facility www.butlercountyogs.org</i>		Butler County Record Ctr. And Archives Hamilton, OH
Tuesday, August 15 7:00 pm	<i>Southwest Ohio DNA Interest Group Y-DNA www.butlercountyogs.org</i>	<i>Doug Beezley</i>	MidPointe Library 9363 Centre Pointe Dr. West Chester, Ohio
Saturday, September 2 10:00 am	<i>Genealogy Websites: An Introduction!</i>		Main Library 3rd Fl. Computer Lab 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Tuesday, September 12 7:00 pm	<i>"African-American Genealogy 101" Discussion on the basics of sound African- American genealogy research with tips on doing slave research www.butlercountyogs.org</i>	<i>Thomas Jordan</i>	MidPointe Library 9363 Centre Pointe Dr. West Chester, Ohio
Saturday, September 16	<i>German Ancestry in Celebration of German Heritage Month and Oktoberfest in Zinzinnati More details to follow</i>	<i>David McDonald</i>	Main Library 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Tuesday, October 10 7:00 pm	<i>Southwest Ohio DNA Interest Group Topic to be determined www.butlercountyogs.org</i>		MidPointe Library 9363 Centre Pointe Dr. West Chester, Ohio

**October 2017
Program Calendar (Cont'd)**

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, October 7 10:00 am—3:00 pm	<i>A Day with the Genealogy Experts Speakers, Personal consultation and tours Co-Sponsored by HCGS Talk 1—11:00 am Internationally known Genealogist, Debra M. Dudek presents, Discovering your UK/Irish Roots online Talk 2-2:00 pm Debra M. Dudek returns with Crime, Prison, and Punishment: Researching UK Criminal and Prisoners Records Online and at the National Archives</i>	<i>Debra M. Dudek</i>	Main Library, 3rd Fl. 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Tuesday, October 10 7:00 pm	<i>Southwest Ohio DNA Interest Group Topic to be determined</i>		Midpointe Library West Chester, OH
Monday, October 16 6:00 pm	<i>Discovering Your Genealogical Roots Co-Sponsored by HCGS</i>		Miami Township Branch Library North Miami Ave.
SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, October 21 10:30 am	<i>Heritage Luncheon Cincinnati's Anti-German Hysteria in 1917 Registrations begins at 10:30 am</i>	<i>Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann</i>	Clovernook Country Club 2035 W. Galbraith Rd Cincinnati, OH 45239
Saturday October 21 6:30-11:00 pm	<i>Genealogy Lock-In Co-sponsored by HCGS Pre-registration is required</i>		Main Library 800 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH
Monday, October 30 6:00 pm	<i>Discovering Your Genealogical Roots Co-Sponsored by HCGS</i>		Reading Branch Library Reading Rd Reading, OH

Please see our complete calendar listing on <http://hcgsohio.org>. Also, follow us on:



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