

Penn in Hand

Vol. XIX, no. 3 — September 1998

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

GSP NEWS

Forty campers from all over the country participated in the second successful **GSP Summer Camp** this August. The camp was organized and run by volunteers: genealogists and archivists who help people understand the extent of the research material available in Philadelphia, and give hands-on assistance. People often hesitate to conduct research in Philadelphia because of the difficulty ascertaining which records are available and where they might be found. The research facilities we used this summer included the Philadelphia City Archives, the Will Archives, the various records available in Philadelphia's City Hall, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic Branch of the National Archives, the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Main Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia at Logan Square.

The **Program Committee** had a busy year. In addition to the programs described in earlier editions of *Penn in Hand*, the committee also completed a successful trip to Salt Lake City shortly after the end of Summer Camp! This annual event is sponsored by GSP and the Historical Society of Montgomery County.

Twenty-seven people from all over the country participated. **Vivian Taylor** and **Jane Adams Clarke**, assisted by **Kathryn Donovan**, led this genealogical excursion. Among them, this trio has many years of genealogical research experience in Pennsylvania, Germany, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. If you have gotten beyond the "great pond," Salt Lake City is the place to go.

With the closing of HSP for an additional six-months period (see notice that follows), now is a good time to re-

mind our members that GSP has an extensive library of material, both published and manuscript, at 1305 Locust Street. In addition, we have the expertise to assist you in locating records needed to complete your family history.

On Thursday 15 October 1998 at 2:00 p.m. there will be a tour by GSP at the **Temple University Urban Archives**, Broad and Berks, Philadelphia for hands-on research into the records of the now defunct *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* newspaper. Choose the name of a specific person and you will be able to read everything written about or by this person in the *Bulletin* through the years. Check our annual program of events or call the GSP office for directions.

Vivian Taylor will lecture on Philadelphia Cemeteries on 19 November 1998. An expert on cemetery records, she published a comprehensive article on Montgomery County Cemeteries for the *Second Hundred Year History of Montgomery County* (available in the GSP Research Room).

NEWS OF OTHER SOCIETIES AND AGENCIES

The **Register of Wills Archives** and the **Philadelphia City Archives** will be relocating to 3101 Market St. This move started in July and will continue through mid-October. Already in effect, the City Archives limits access to its records to Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at its current address: 401 N. Broad St. A complete shutdown of all public services is anticipated near the end of the actual move of the Archives, scheduled for some time in October. The Archives plans to reopen sometime in November. Researchers should call in advance (215-686-1580) to ascertain the current hours.

(continued on the following page)

GSP RESEARCH ROOM, 1305 LOCUST STREET, 3rd FLOOR, PHILADELPHIA, PA
HOURS: Monday and Wednesday — 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or by appointment.

HSP LIBRARY HOURS: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday—10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
Wednesday—1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Closed: Sunday, Monday, and major holidays.

The **Historical Society of Pennsylvania** will close through the winter, beginning 26 November 1998, to complete the building renovation. Reopening date in Spring 1999 will be announced later.

Our Vice President, **Walter Stock**, and other members of the Public Library staff have compiled a master index to Philadelphia biographical material. It may be used in the Social Science and History Department of the **Free Library of Philadelphia**, 1901 Vine St. (Logan Circle), Philadelphia.

The **National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)** has announced

the following Family History Workshops to be held at the **Mid-Atlantic Region** from noon to 1:00 p.m. at their facility, 900 Market St., Philadelphia:

14 October 1998 — Census Records 1790–1920

21 October 1998 — Passenger Lists & Naturalization Records

28 October 1998 — Military Records

The non-refundable registration fee for each workshop is \$5.00. Advance registration and payment are required. Space is limited. Contact: NARA at 215-597-3000.

The **Historical Society of Montgomery County (HSMC)** has acquired the 150-year-old Montgomery Cemetery, located in West Norriton. The intention is to preserve it and promote it as a national historic treasure. It is the final resting place of four generals and 400 enlisted officers and men who served in the Civil War, as well as many other local people. This cemetery has suffered from years of neglect and the society is scheduled to receive a \$50,000 Federal Community Development Block Grant to start rehabilitation. To volunteer in this effort, call **Michael Tolle** at HSMC, 610-272-0297.

The **Genealogical Study Group** of the HSMC has scheduled the following programs to be held at 7:30 p.m. at HSMC Building, 1654 DeKalb St., Norristown:

15 October 1998 — Open Forum: Bring your genealogical problems for discussion.

19 November 1998 — Genealogical Research at the Free Library of Philadelphia (Logan Square) presented by **Walter D. Stock**.

The **Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society (WPGS)** has submitted the following schedule:

28 November 1998 — Computers and Genealogy. CGRS will present information on how best to use this modern technology to help in your family research.

9 January 1999 — Repository and Resource Day. Learn about what types of records are available at the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Library, the Darlington Library, the Hillman Library, and the Carnegie Library, all located in Oakland.

13 February 1999 — Ron Grim of the Library of Congress, Maps Division, will present two lectures. First, an introduction to how maps can help you locate your family and second, migration in Germany.

13 March 1999 — Research day at the Historical Society of Western PA, 1212 Smallman St., Pittsburgh.

10 April 1999 — Cemetery Day. Learn how to best utilize information from cemeteries, funeral homes and gravestones.

Unless otherwise noted, these meetings are open to the public at 10:00 a.m., at the Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA. For more information contact WPGS at 412-687-6811.

The **Bucks County Genealogical Society (BCGS)** will hold its 16th Conference on Saturday, 17 October 1998, at the Lenape Middle School, 315 W. State St., Doylestown, PA. Registration is \$40.00. The fee includes continental breakfast and brown bag lunch. Classes are limited to 30 students each, and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. The **BCGS Seventh Family Ancestry Fair** will be held 14–15 April 1999 at the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology. Contact: BCGS, P.O. Box 1092, Doylestown, PA 18901.



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The **New England Historic Genealogical Society Library** will be closed to the public 2–8 January 1999. **Thomas J. Kemp**, former Director of the Library of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, has been named Director of the New England Historical Genealogical Society Library.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Trinity Lutheran Church Records, Vol. 3, by Debra D. Smith and Frederick S. Weiser, eds., will be available after 15 November 1998 from Clossen Press, 1935 Sampson Drive, Apollo, PA 15613–9208 for \$39.95 per volume plus shipping.

Virginia in 1760: A Reconstructed Census, 1996, TLC Genealogy, P.O. Box 403369, Miami Beach, FL 33140–1369, 384 pp. \$35.00. Florida residents add 6.5% tax.

Church and Cemetery records are continually being compiled and copied by societies and individuals. Here are two recent ones:

Seceder Cemetery. Established 1798 of the Brush Run Seceder Church, Associate Presbyterian Church of Darlington, PA. First U.P. Church of Darlington, Georgetown Rd., Beaver County, PA, Published 1997 by Dwight Cooper, R.D. #1, Box 100, New Castle PA 16101–9514.

Venango County Pennsylvania Cemetery Records and Brief Church Histories, Vol. 6. This sixth volumes of a series lists the records from Frenchcreek Township. This volume, as well as Vols. 1 through 5 are available for \$15.00 each plus 90 cents Pennsylvania sales tax (for Pennsylvania residents). Add \$2.00 for mailing and handling for the first book and an additional \$1.00 for each additional book to be mailed to the same address. Only a limited supply of the earlier volumes are still available. Contact: Venango County Historical Society, P.O. Box 101, Franklin, PA 16323.

ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK

The **German Post Office** has changed the way it handles **International Reply Coupons (IRC)**. The new regulations state that only one IRC can be accepted for any letter or package. Any postal charges in excess of the value of one IRC must be paid in cash by the mailer. One \$1.05 IRC provides 3 DM of postage for foreign mail, which covers about one sheet of paper and the envelope. This new regulation makes it very expensive for German correspondents to send copies of documents to America, so be sure not to

request unnecessary copies. (Information obtained from the **Arizona State Genealogical Society, Inc.** journal, by way of the *Minnesota Genealogist*.)

The **Register of Wills Office of Berks County, PA**, now has several important indexes on its website: www.berksregofwills.com. Available are: marriage records of Berks County (1885 to present); marriage records of the City of Reading (1876–1884) birth records of Berks County (1894–1906); birth records of Reading (1876–1905), death records of Berks County (1894–1906); death records of Reading (1873–1905); estate records (1752–1914); and delayed birth records of Berks County. The website also includes information on how to order copies of records found in the indexes. (Information obtained from *Our Name's the Game*, newsletter of the South Central Genealogical Society).

A **Berks County Heritage Weekend** is planned at Morgantown, PA, to celebrate the Amish-Mennonite Pennsylvania roots 6–8 November 1998. This weekend includes "Innovative Ancestors of the Upper Conestoga Amish-Mennonite Community" featuring Paul Kurtz and his brothers in a musical-historical presentation by the UN-CLES on Friday evening, with an all-day chartered bus tour of Berks County, where the first Amish-Mennonites settled in the 1700s, scheduled for Saturday. Sunday morning will feature a "Heritage Sunday" at Conestoga Mennonite Church, the oldest Amish-Mennonite congregation in America which still meets today. Contact: Masthof, 220 Mill Rd., Morgantown, PA 19543–9702; phone 610–286–0258. Reservations for the field trip must be made by 20 October 1998.

The following appeared in the *Cape May County Historical & Genealogical Society* newsletter of September 1998. Perhaps there are some Tate family members in our area!

The Tate Family — You may have heard of the Tate Family. There is Dic Tate, who wants to run everything. Ro Tate is always trying to change things; Agi Tate stirs up trouble whenever possible — with the help of Irri Tate, who is always there to lend a hand. Every time new ideas are suggested, Hesi Tate and Verge Tate are there to say "They can't possibly work!" Imi Tate loves to be disruptive and Poten Tate wants to be a big shot. But it's Facili Tate, Cogi Tate and Medi Tate who always save the day and gets everyone pulling together!

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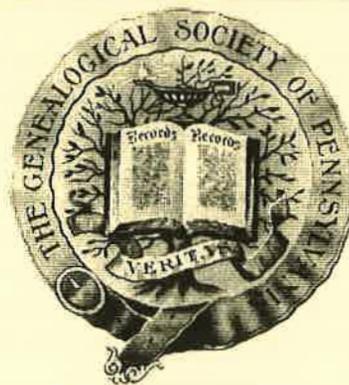
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A Special Deal for GSP Members!

Volumes 1 through 39 of the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine (PGM)*, are now available for CD-ROM! Broderbund Software has issued this set of two CDs, which include all volumes of *PGM* published between 1895 and 1995 plus four supplements. The GSP journals contain articles and data on Pennsylvania and Pennsylvanians. Material from original sources include county and township records, land records, marriage and death records, church records, family and Bible records, personal histories, Quaker meeting minutes, correspondence, and census records. The name index is a quick and convenient way to find what you are seeking in the pages of our journal.

Price: \$39.99 — 10% discount for members when purchased from GSP — plus \$1.65 postage and handling. A limited supply of these printed volumes are still available for \$4.00 each plus \$.50 postage and handling. *PGM* issues after 1995 are available for \$7.00 each.

PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE



VOLUMES 1-39

RESEARCH TIP

by Jane Adams Clarke

AIDS TO FINDING YOUR GERMAN ANCESTORS IN THE COLLECTIONS OF GSP AND HSP

German-speaking people and their descendants have played a dominant role in Pennsylvania ever since the first large group of immigrants established Germantown in 1683. That group was followed by the settlers of southeastern Pennsylvania who became known as the Pennsylvania German or Pennsylvania Dutch. The peak years of German immigration during the 18th century fell between the years 1749 and 1754, but heavy migration continued throughout the 19th century.

Before 1871, there was no unified country known as Germany, but rather hundreds of dukedoms, principalities, and kingdoms whose boundaries were subject to frequent change. It is important, therefore, when doing genealogical research, to ascertain just who had jurisdiction over the town where your ancestor lived. Though civil registration was legislated at different times in the various areas of what became known as Germany, by 1871 it was required throughout the country. Previous to that year church registers remain the prime source for family research.

As is true with most European family research, if the town of origin is known, there is a better than average chance that a missing ancestor can be found. If the town of origin is unknown, there is still a chance, especially for 18th century immigrants, as researchers both in this country and abroad have directed considerable scholarship toward locating immigrant families. In any case, try to pinpoint the town of origin in available American records using the usual genealogical methods before resorting to a search of German records.

The information contained in this tip, though far from complete or comprehensive, might give you the stimulus you need to start searching for what may at first appear to be a forever lost ancestor. In addition to the sources mentioned below, check the card catalogs at GSP/HSP for histories of various old and new world migration, and of the religious groups that came to America in the 18th Century (Lutheran, Reformed, Roman Catholic, Mennonite, Moravian, Amish and Schwenkfelder). After the ancestral town is found, check the Family History Library Catalog of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, as many German parish records have been filmed and are available through LDS.

Following is a bibliography of sources to assist you with your search. An asterisk will appear after the titles of books available in the collections of HSP/GSP. Many of these volumes will lead you to other reference books.

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Genealogical Publishing Company. Not reprinted was the second volume of the original set containing facsimiles of the actual signatures or marks of the immigrants when they took the oath of allegiance.

Filby, P. William, *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*,* multiple volumes. Computerized lists of all published passenger and immigration lists.

Glazier, Ira A. and William P. Filby, *Germans To America, List of Passengers Arriving at United States Ports, Vols. 1 to 9*,* Scholarly Resources. Covers period January 1850 to December 1855.

Zimmerman, Wolfert, *German Immigrants. List of Passengers Bound from Bremen to New York 1847-1867*,* three volumes, Genealogical Publishing Company.

Note: The passenger lists available through the National Archives and their branch offices for the various ports in this country should also be checked. These have not been published. The Hamburg ship lists, which exist from 1850, have been microfilmed by LDS.

IMMIGRANT ORIGINS

Burgert, Annette K., *Eighteenth Century Emigrants, Vol. I, The Northern Kraichgau*,* Pennsylvania German Society.

Burgert, Annette K., *Eighteenth Century Emigrants, Vol. II, The Western Palatinate*,* Pennsylvania German Society.

The above two books and a series of monographs by Mrs. Burgert, contain documentation from European records for all families listed, the ships on which they arrived, when known, and information found in this country on the individual emigrants. These monographs are available in collections of GSP/HSP, and from AKB Publications.

Jones, Henry Z., Jr., *The Palatine Families of New York 1710*,* two volumes, PO Box 8341, Universal City, CA, 91608. A study of German immigrants who arrived in New York in 1710. Some of these people later settled in the Tulpehocken area of Berks County. German origins of these immigrants are given.

A series of monographs compiled by Clifford Neal Smith is available in collections of GSP/HSP and contains information on emigrants in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

Burgert, Annette Kunselman and Henry Z. Jones, Jr., *Westerwald to America*,* Picton Press. This is similar to the other books noted above by Mrs. Burgert and Mr. Jones.

There have been numerous other articles on emigrants/immigrants published in books and journals such as the Pennsylvania German Society publications, *Pennsylvania*

Folklife, publications of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, and those of other genealogical and historical societies. Space limitations prohibit listing all of these. Later tips may cover these and Ortsippenbuchs.

INFORMATION FOUND IN GERMAN ARCHIVES ON EMIGRANTS/IMMIGRANTS

Some of the following books are in German, but since the names are in alphabetical order, the volumes are easy to use. In some cases, there are explanations in English.

Hacker, Werner, *Auswanderungen aus dem Früheren Hochstift Speyer Nach Sudosteuropa and Uebersee im XVIII Jahrhundert*.*

Hacker, Werner, *Kurpfälzische Auswanderer vom Unteren Necker*.*

Hacker, Werner, *Auswanderung aus Baden und dem Breisgau*.*

Hacker, Werner, *Auswanderungen aus Rheinpfalz und Saarland im 18 Jahrhundert*.*

The above books by Werner Hacker contain information on 18th Century emigrants from the areas indicated in the titles.

Auerbach, Inge, *Hessische Auswanderer (HESAUS), Band I, Auswanderer aus Hanau im 18 Jahrhundert*.*

Auerbach, Inge, *Hessische Auswanderer (HESAUS), Band II (1840-1850)*.* Published by Der Archivschule Marburg.

Schenck, Trudy and Ruth Froelke, *Württemberg Emigration Index, Vols. 1 through 5*,* Ancestry Publishing. Compiled from Württemberg emigration records. Cover 19th Century emigrants.

Note: The archival records of emigration, which are the bases for the above volumes by Hacker, Auerbach, Schenck and Froelke, along with many by Clifford Neal Smith, are from lists of those leaving with permission of the authorities. Many left without this permission.

Among other reference books in the collections of HSP/GSP are two multi-volume series on "middle class" families: *Deutsches Geschlechterbuch, Genealogisches Handbuch Bürgerlicher Familien*,* and *Siebmacher's Wappenbüchern 1605-1961*.* There is a guide to this latter series in HSP's collections with the call letter F/617s, that contains a note in English explaining how to use the series.

For additional information to aid in German research, check the research tips on the "IGI" in *Penn in Hand, Vol. IX No. 3*, and on "The Hessians" in *Penn in Hand, Vol. IX No. 2*.