



OUR NAME'S THE GAME

www.scpgs.com

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January/February 2020

A new year -a new decade –new changes and new resources!

The SCPGS board has proposed a change to the bylaws to add an appointed position of webmaster. The change in the bylaws will be voted on at the March 8th meeting.

Lynn Nelson will be managing our website – she will be making some updates and changes in the website. Thank you, Lynn, for accepting this position.

Pennsylvania Birth Certificates are now available through ancestry.com and the state archives website for the years 1906-1911.

The York Dispatch for the years 1876-2012 have been microfilmed and are now available through newspapers.com (the entire run of years is available if you have the “Publishers Extra” subscription).

Just a reminder that the library editions of ancestry.com and newspapers.com are free to members and at the York History Center Library.

Special Publication # 83 - Family Bible Records #9 – has been mailed out to members. If you did not receive your copy, please email SCPGS at: scpagensociety@gmail.com.

Upcoming events:

February 2 – Lebanon Cemetery – An African American Cemetery - Samantha Dorm and others will be speaking at our meeting. They have been working on preserving the grave sites and researching the lives of those buried at the only African American Cemetery within the City of York. They are also

involved in preserving the other five African American cemeteries in York County.

Samantha Dorm was born and raised in York on the east side of the city. She began volunteering at Lebanon Cemetery in North York. In May of 2019, she began to spend more time at the cemetery – finding that like her, more people were searching the cemetery to find where their family members are buried. As a professional grant writer, she wanted to use her skills on a community-based project, and has become involved with a Facebook group known as the “Graveyard Cleanup Volunteers. The group has uncovered over 400 “lost” grave markers buried under the ground and in the groundhog holes. In the process, they have discovered and traced many families – finding the unknown stories of artists, educators, soldiers, musicians, athletes, and soldiers. Founded in 1874, the cemetery has had over 3000 family members buried on its grounds and is still an active cemetery.



**IRISH GENEALOGICAL
RESEARCH
Presented by
The Ulster Historical Foundation**

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

YORK COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

250 EAST MARKET STREET, YORK, PA

This program is provided by the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society and the York County History Center. The program is free to members of the Society and History Center. There is a fee of \$40.00 for non-members(a one year membership for SCPGS is only \$25.00)

The Ulster Historical Foundation is a long-established, highly reputable research and publishing agency. It offers its extensive knowledge to help on the sources available to discover Irish and Scots-Irish ancestors.

The Foundation is an educational non-profit organization, with the aim to encourage an interest in the history of the province of Ulster; promote a positive image of Northern Ireland overseas; strengthen the links between Ireland and those of Ulster descent; broaden access to historical documents and records for Irish and Scots-Irish genealogy; and to inspire pride in Irish and Ulster heritage and culture.

The Program will include the following:

The Importance of Land Divisions for Irish Genealogy: Understanding Townlands

An Introduction to Archives in Ireland and Their Websites

Break – light refreshments available

Census Substitutes and Other Important Sources for Irish Research Prior to 1800

Q & A Session

For more information contact : Nicole Smith, York History Center 717-848-1587 Ext 225; or scpagensociety@gmail.com.

April 5 – Mother Cumberland: Researching with Cumberland County Records

Cara Holtry Curtis, Archives & Library Director of the Cumberland County Historical Society will be our speaker. Cara says: “ In its early years, Cumberland County spread west toward Pittsburgh and north into modern day Center County. Many immigrants traveled through South-Central Pennsylvania. Sometimes they would only stay for a short period of time; others stayed and put down roots. This discussion will take a look at records available and where they can be found in the county. Some records are similar to other counties and some resources are unique to Cumberland County. Come and learn some useful tips for researching in Cumberland County.”

January's meeting explored “Hidden Resources” – resources where information has been unexpectedly be found by researchers. The usual resources – auditor's files, wills, orphan courts, and Justice of the Peace records started the discussion. Members soon brought up unusual collections like College and University Special Collections which can contain directories, artifacts, and newsletters with information about family members who attended those educational schools. One example given was an early publication of the PA

German Society that described the lineage of the members at that time; this was housed in the Archives and Special Collections at Millersville University's McNairy Library. Another example was U. S. Army Transport Lists for WW I as proof of military service; among the many military records databases found on ancestry.com. Military files at the College Park branch of the National Archives have also been a source. One member has used the English and Wales Register of 1939 which was done in preparation for WW II and found it can provide information on ancestors of those countries. Several members have found family information in records for fire companies, lodges, church records and social organizations. Other history centers can also provide unexpected information on family members – among those mentioned were the Carlisle Army College and the York County Archives/ Online newspapers have become source that researchers are finding unexpected information – from membership in organizations, social activities – especially in the columns devoted to small town activities. Harry Senft's photographs of York County cemeteries was mentioned as a resource. Researching collateral lines can provide insight into family relations – postcards, letters, pension records were among resources mentioned.

“Hidden Resources” located in York County

Did you know that several of our local towns have their own museums, preservation societies, historical societies? Their museums have photos, artifacts, postcards, etc. not available elsewhere. You never know where you will find that missing piece to your family's history!

Glen Rock is known for more than just the “Glen Rock Carolers” Check out these websites for more information. The borough home page has a section devoted to the history of Glen Rock. This link on the borough home page has a description of the Historical District and gives a very detailed description of the various kinds of architecture that can be found in Glen Rock:

<http://www.livingplaces.com/PA/York County/Glen Rock Borough.html>

Glen Rock Historic Preservation Society - About | Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/glenrockpahistory/about>

Glen Rock Historic Preservation Society - About | Facebook. THE SOCIETY WAS ORGANIZED TO FOSTER INTEREST IN THE HISTORY OF GLEN ROCK AND THE SURROUNDING VICINITY, CONDUCT RESEARCH, EDUCATE THE PUBLIC, PRESERVE RECORDS AND OBJECTS, MARK SITES AND PURSUE SUCH ACTIVITIES AS MAY RELATE TO THE HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY

Glen Rock Historic Preservation Society, 1 Manchester St ...

<https://www.gluseum.com> › *United States* › *Glen Rock, PA*

Historical society related to *Glen Rock, Pennsylvania* and the surrounding areas. Includes museum, research library, monthly meetings, and special events!

The York County Blogs on the York Daily Record are another hidden resource.

Universal York

York, Pa., really is the center of the universe, especially when you consider its place in historical events. Local historian June Lloyd looks at how things have converged on our hometown, past and present.

Cannonball

Scott L. Mingus Sr., the author of several books and magazine articles on the Civil War, shares stories and anecdotes from the war years and announces local Civil War events of the modern day.

Wandering in York County

As an educator, historian, millennial and lover of York County and the region, Jamie Kinsley sheds new light on York County's culture and heritage by connecting the current events of today with history lessons of our past.

Yorks Past

Stephen H. Smith, a lifelong Yorker who caught the local history bug early in life, first used his interest to study his family histories, and now shares a hodgepodge of explorations of York's past through posts and talks.

Only in York County

Lifelong Yorker Joan Concilio talks about the food, people and places that have made York County great - both past and present - through this blog and her weekly "Ask Joan" column in the York Sunday News.

Retro York - York Pa. history and Retro York's Facebook Page

Read the latest *York, Pa.*, history stories and news from *York County Pa.* as written by Jim McClure, former editor of the York Daily Record.

Why can't I find where my ancestor is buried?

People become frustrated when they can't find burial information online. Not all cemeteries are online – those that are may only have a portion of the tombstones photographed or the information entered into a database. Many people go to a cemetery, expecting to find a grave marker or tombstone for their ancestors and are disappointed when they cannot find any information about the burial site of their relatives. There is also the failure to recognize that there are many reasons why a marker was not erected: lack of money, no nearby surviving family members or friends to insure that there was a marker, the individual did not die in the area, the original marker was wood and no longer exists and was not replaced, or the individual was buried on family property. Walk through any cemetery and check and see how many people who were born in the late 1800's that are still alive! No one ever went back and had the death date engraved on the tombstone.

Many burial places have been lost. They may have been on family land and over time as the land was sold; eventually the knowledge of a graveyard was lost. Weather has also played a role – there have been pictures online of cemeteries being washed away or underwater. There are cemeteries in Lackawanna County where the cemeteries are closed for safety reasons because the mines below have collapsed or mine fires burn underneath the sites. Some cemeteries are neglected because there are no longer cemetery associations or family members to take care of the grounds.

One of the other problems is the information of the burial information provided on death certificates and obituaries. There have been many obituaries in today's newspapers that do not mention where the remains will be buried. Cemeteries often have several names – churches have been closed or joined with other sects and not only is the church name changed but the cemetery with the church has a new name. Frequently, the death certificate will only list a location – one example is "Hereford Cemetery" – there are several churches with cemeteries in Hereford, Baltimore Co., MD. In some cases, the cemeteries have been moved and the remains have been reburied elsewhere, but no one is sure which bodies were buried in which cemetery.

Not all cemeteries have offices to call for information. Sometimes the records don't exist or have been lost over the years. It can be difficult to find out if there is a cemetery association and who is in charge of record keeping. Funeral homes can be contacted, but not all of them have the staff to locate records and in some cases,

they don't feel they can release the information. Probate records will sometimes record if there was money paid for a tombstone. Wills can include a bequest of a sum of money to pay for iron fencing and upkeep of the family lot in a particular cemetery. Pensions can provide burial information – if a widow is applying for the pension – she has to provide proof of when and where her spouse died. There might be bills from the funeral directors, etc. for burial expenses in the pension file.

Prospect Hill Cemetery in York offers cemetery tours, spring through early fall. The tour takes you through the cemetery, showing the variety of tombstones, the various other cemeteries that were moved to Prospect Hill, and the people buried there. It is an interesting and informative tour – especially if you are trying to find some of those elusive ancestors.

Upcoming event of interest:

Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid Atlantic :Congregational Heritage Event

**Saturday, March 28, 2020
At the United Lutheran Seminary
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania**

Celebrating Your History...For the Future

A day of educational sessions on keeping archives, planning major anniversaries, writing meaningful history, and much more...helping congregations to preserve and celebrate Lutheran heritage in the Mid-Atlantic region.

For more information and to download a flyer with information about speakers and a description of the sessions being offered; go to the following website:
<https://www.lutheranhistoricalsociety.com>

BITS AND PIECES FROM YORK COUNTY....

Grandview Golf Course will be celebrating its 100th birthday this year. It opened in 1920 as a 9-hole private Jewish Country Club. In 1926, the club officially opened under the Grandview Name. The club advertised that membership fees were available for \$16.00 per year in 1928. Due to the Great Depression, the club offered open membership to the general public in 1933. The Waring Family (Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians) bought the club in 1937. Mr. Frank Waring (Fred's father) announced plans to expand the course to 9 holes by spring of the

following year. The purchase included a club house, pro shop, locker room and 100 acres of land of which 50 were undeveloped). In 1984, Bob Little and his brother-in-law, George Barton, purchased the club from the Waring family. In 2010, the management was transferred to the Barton family. In 2017, the club was sold to the Chronister family. (To find out more – search for “waring Grandview golf course” on newspapers.com- there are 413 entries!)

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DATED MATERIAL – DO NOT DELAY