



**South Central
Pennsylvania**
Genealogical Society

Our Name's The Game

www.scpgs.org

Monthly Newsletter Vol. 38 No. 1 July/August 2012

OUR NEXT MEETING

Sunday, August 26, 2012 — DNA ... Part II

This month's meeting will be held at the Meeting Hall at York County Heritage Trust Library & Archives, 250 East Market Street, York, Pennsylvania. A brief business meeting will begin at 2:15 PM and the program will immediately follow at approximately 2:30 PM.

Our speaker, Darvin Martin's interest in DNA stems from a long-standing drive to understand his family history. As soon as DNA tests for genealogical purposes became available commercially, Darvin began to explore his deep ancestry, using DNA to link his Swiss and German Mennonite/Amish surnames into a world family tree. The results are striking, and reveal a complex ancestral diversity for most people of European ancestry, including Asian and African components.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sunday, October 7, 2012 — *program to be announced*

Sunday, November 4, 2012 — *program to be announced*

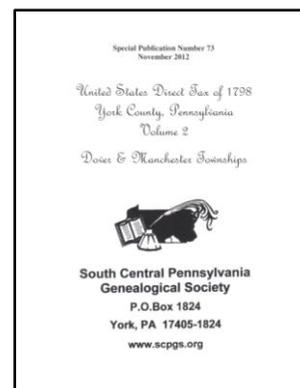
OUR FIRST "FOR PURCHASE ONLY" PUBLICATION

We are pleased to announce that we are ready to begin taking orders for our first "for purchase only" publication. This publication is our second volume of the United States Direct Tax of 1798 for York County, Pennsylvania (aka Glass Tax because it lists the number of windows and window panes, called lights in the homes for which the home owner was taxed) and will include Dover and Manchester Townships. The publication is 71 pages in length, includes a surname index, and will sell for \$20 plus a \$5 fee to cover postage and sales tax.

As a current member you have the opportunity to purchase this publication for only \$12.50 (sales tax and postage included) during the "pre-sale". We must receive your payment by November 1st in order for you to receive this "for purchase only" Special Publication at the reduced "pre-sale" price.

To reserve your copy please make your check payable to SCPGS and mail to

South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society
Attention: Margaret Burg
PO Box 1824
York, PA 17405-1824



We anticipate that pre-sale orders will arrive in your mailbox shortly after Thanksgiving. This publication would make a great Christmas gift for the genealogist on your gift-giving list.

CONGRATULATIONS! ... to Lois Shank Gerber from Lititz, Pennsylvania. Lois recently attended the Lancaster Family History Conference and was selected to receive a “free” one-year membership in the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society.

Announcing a Global Alliance Of Genealogy Professionals

Posted by Dick Eastman on July 1, 2012

I received the following announcement from a new organization called “Global Alliance of Genealogy Professionals”:

Ancestry.com’s “ExpertConnect” program made it easy for genealogical consumers to find, compare and retain the services of professional researchers. The newly formed Global Alliance of Genealogy Professionals seeks to fill the void created when ExpertConnect was discontinued in 2011.

GAGP member researchers are screened and approved based on various criteria, but most critical is the requirement that the research provider actually live in the geographic area in which he or she offers research services. This guarantees that clients are not only getting the

most qualified service provider – they are also getting the most cost efficient service. Expenses such as ordering records are eliminated. And, local researchers have full understanding of the records they review as well as the history behind them.

Specific services offered by GAGP members include family history research, home histories, document retrieval, DNA testing, translation services, heir searches, publication and preservation of family records, and sales of books and software geared toward genealogical subjects.

For more information visit the GAGP web site at <http://tiny.cc/GAGP>

SCPGS OFFICERS 2012-2013

The following officers were either elected at our June meeting or will be serving the second year of a two-year term:

President: Richard Konkel

Vice President: Kimberly Grim

Treasurer: Margaret Burg

Corresponding Secretary: Becky Anstine

Recording Secretary: Melody Kraus

Directors-at-Large: Thomas Gibson and Franklin R. Grove, Jr.

Thanks also go to those who served in appointed board positions during the past year and will continue to do so in the 2012-2013 year:

Cynthia Hartman, Director of Publications and newsletter editor

Patricia Gross, Director of Operations

Mardella Brenneman, Director of Public Relations

Barbara Rudy, Director of Special Projects

Lila Fourhman-Shaull, Representative for the York County Heritage Trust

Thanks to these members for making room in busy schedules to accept a position of responsibility.

Exploring the Past and Touching the Future

written by Becky Anstine

On Saturday, June 2nd our “Exploring the Past-Touching the Future” conference was held at the York County Heritage Trust. There were thirty people in attendance.

The first session – “Where do I begin” was led by Kim Grim, Margaret Burg and Lila Fourhman-Shaull. Lila used the ABC’s of genealogy to explain materials available in the trust library. Kim described her experiences as a beginning family researcher and Margaret shared tips on doing family history interviews.

The second session – “Ancestry.com –using the library edition” was led by Becky Anstine. Becky talked about the resources available on the library computers, showing how to search the various data collections and using the 1940 census.

Dennis Brandt, a local civil war researcher and author was the speaker for the third session – “Civil War military and pension records”. This included an explanation of when and why the pensions were issued and information that might be found in pension records.

Richard Konkel led the fourth session – “York

County Court, Land and Church Records of genealogical significance”. Richard discussed the various types and purposes of court records that can be found at the York County Archives and York County Courthouse. He also talked about the various religious organizations in York County and the type of records that were kept by the churches.

Our final session was originally planned to be a panel discussion on “Ethnic Influences in York County” but several of the panel members were unable to attend. Myra (Neicy) Deshields-Moulton, the only panel member available, was the highlight of our conference. Myra talked about the difficulties and successes she has had researching her African American families. She showed several of the books that she had printed on her different ancestors. The seminar ended with a panel discussion on “What do I do when I hit a brick wall” and questions, answers and comments from the audience.

We had many positive comments from the conference participants and many expressed the desire for more seminars on researching the family tree.

Last Remaining Revolutionary War POW Camp Has Been Saved

Posted by Dick Eastman on May 21, 2012

The last undeveloped Revolutionary War era prisoner-of-war camp has been saved from encroaching development. Camp Security is surrounded by residential neighborhoods just east of York, Pennsylvania. Between the summer of 1781 and spring of 1783, the camp housed more than 1,000 British and Canadian prisoners, who were guarded by members of the York County Militia and Convention troops. During the war there were very few camps like this constructed, and all have been destroyed by development – all except for Camp Security.

For more than ten years the site of Camp Security was been threatened by a proposed housing development known as “Hunter’s Crossing”. A group of concerned citizens known as “Friends of Camp Security” was formed with a goal of saving this nationally significant site from destruction. A non-profit group called “The Conservation Fund” (TCF) has purchased the final tract of Camp Security property, ensuring its survival for future generations to enjoy. The Friends of Camp Security have already raised \$350,000 and are asking for the public’s assistance in raising the remaining \$650,000 to repay TCF. ALL money donated will be used towards the loan repayment.

You can read more in an article at <http://www.preservingyork.com/2012/05/15/camp-security/>
You can also learn more about Camp Security at <http://www.campsecurity.com>

The A, B and C's of Genealogy in the York County Heritage Trust Library and Archives

written by Lila Fourhman-Shaull

- A administrative bonds, affidavit
- B bibliography, bounty lands, burial records, business records
- C cemetery abstractions, census, city directories, church records, community and township histories, county histories
- D death certificates, deeds, denominational histories, diaries, divorce records
- E emigration and immigration records, estate, ethnic histories
- F family registers or fraktur, family reports
- G genealogies, grantee/grantor, graveyards, guardian
- H heir, historical society
- I immigration, indentured servant, indexes, intestate, internet, inventory
- J journal
- L land records, letters, lineage books
- M maps, marriage records, military mortality schedules
- N naturalization, necrologies, newspaper
- O obituaries, oral history, orphan's court records
- P passenger list, pedigree chart, Pennsylvania Archives, pension, periodicals, photographs
- Q quitclaim deed (transfer land or claim without guarantee of clear title)
- R regimental histories
- S scrapbooks, school directories and year books, social security index, surveys
- T tax records
- U unprobated wills
- V vital records
- W wills, web

Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society Fall Conference

Solving Research Problems with an Interesting Twist

When: Saturday, October 13th from 8:30 AM to 4 PM

Where: Best Western Westminster Hotel & Conference Center, 451 WMC Drive, Westminster, Maryland.

The speakers are Susannah E. Brooks, Ann Morrison and John Humphrey. Additional details can be found at <http://www.magsgen.com>

How To Find A Revolutionary War Patriot

Posted by Dick Eastman on July 1, 2012

The Revolutionary War started with the battle between British troops and local Massachusetts militia at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, on 19 April 1775. It ended eight years later with the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1783. If you have been able to trace your ancestry in America back to those years, you have an excellent chance of finding at least one ancestor who had some type of service related to the Revolutionary War effort.



In fact, your ancestor may have been a Patriot or a Loyalist. We don't celebrate the efforts of Loyalists very much in the United States, but go north to Canada and you will find that Loyalists are well documented and honored as heroes. They are especially honored for their contribution to the development of Canada. Perhaps one Canadian in ten has a Loyalist ancestor, and many people with English blood who live elsewhere – in the United States, in commonwealth countries such as Australia and New Zealand, or in nearly any other country round the world – are also of Loyalist descent. Visit the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada web site at <http://www.uelac.org/> for more information.

If you have already documented your U.S. ancestry to 1760 or earlier, you already have an excellent chance of finding either a Patriot or a Loyalist in the family tree. Boys as young as sixteen were allowed to serve, so any male ancestors born in 1760 or earlier are possible veterans. You can even find a few younger boys who served as drummers or assistants in the Revolutionary War and later were credited as veterans, even though they were not considered soldiers during the war itself.

Those who didn't serve directly in a military capacity may have helped in other ways, such as providing goods, supplies, or non-military service to the cause. Women also participated in the American Revolution, sometimes as spies,

and a few even fought in battles while disguised as male soldiers.

If your ancestor served as a Patriot and lived long enough after the war to apply for a pension, you can probably find a pension application for him. Almost all federal pension applications have survived, even the applications of those who were later turned down. In most cases, the veterans had to prove they were true veterans and therefore eligible for pensions. The "proof" often consisted of testimonials from relatives, neighbors, or from other military veterans with whom they served. Such testimonials often provide a wealth of genealogy information, frequently mentioning parents, spouses, siblings, and children. Even the applications that were eventually rejected can be valuable to today's genealogists.

Before 1818, national pension laws concerning veterans of the Revolution specified disability or death of a serviceman as the basis for a pension award (with the exception of the Continental Congress resolution of May 15, 1778, granting half pay to officers for service alone). On March 18, 1818, the U.S. Congress granted pensions to Revolutionary War veterans for service from which no disabilities resulted. Officers and enlisted men in need of assistance were eligible under the terms of the 1818 act if they had served in a Continental military organization or in the U.S. naval service (including the Marines) for nine months or until the end of the war. Pensions granted under this act were to continue for life.

Congress passed another service-pension act on May 15, 1823, which granted full pay for life to surviving officers and enlisted men of the Revolutionary War who were eligible for benefits under the terms of the Continental Congress resolution of May 15, 1778, as amended.

The last and most liberal of the service-pension acts benefiting Revolutionary War veterans was passed on June 7, 1832, and extended the provisions of the law of May 15, 1828 to even

more veterans. The act provided that every officer or enlisted man who had served at least two years in the Continental Line or State troops, volunteers or militia, was eligible for a pension of full pay for life. Naval and marine officers and enlisted men were also included. Veterans who had served less than two years, but not less than six months, were eligible for pensions of less than full pay. While thousands applied for pensions under the earlier acts of Congress, this final act of 1832 was the one that saw the most applications.

In 1832, all of the living veterans would have been at least 72 years old. Many had already died, either from war injuries or from unrelated causes. In many cases, widows of veterans applied for benefits based on a husband's service. In most cases, widows' applications provided even more family information than did the applications received from actual veterans.

On July 29, 1848, Congress provided life pensions for widows of veterans who were married before January 2, 1800. All restrictions pertaining to the date of marriage were removed by acts of February 3, 1853, and February 28, 1855. On March 9, 1878, widows of Revolutionary War soldiers who had served for as few as fourteen days, or were in any engagement, were declared eligible for life pensions. This was still an issue in 1878 because many older veterans had married younger women, resulting in a large number of widows obtaining benefits 108 years or more after the birth of their husbands.

Follow the Money - Tracking Revolutionary War Army Pension Payments by Claire Prechtel-Klusgens is a great tutorial on researching Revolutionary War pension applications. The tutorial may be found at

<http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2008/winter/follow-money.html>.

Revolutionary War pension applications may be found in their entirety on Fold3.com at <http://www.fold3.com> along with many Revolutionary War service records, final payment vouchers for several states, many Revolutionary War rolls, and more.

The RootsWeb's WorldConnect Project is another good place for identifying Patriot ancestors, although the site is not easily searched. The site is also plagued with MANY ERRORS; but, you will find it easier to use other people's research and gather the documentation needed to validate the research than to try to research something entirely from scratch. As always with any genealogy claims, you need to independently verify each piece of information you obtain on the WorldConnect Project.

NOTE: When searching at this site, type ONLY the Surname and Given Name of the person you are searching AND one of the following in the Spouse box: 1) spouse's first name only, 2) spouse's maiden name only, or 3) spouse's first and maiden name. Do NOT fill in any other search boxes unless you are researching an extremely common name.

Another problem with searches on the WorldConnect Project is that you must specify the exact spelling of all names entered. This is especially difficult when spelling of names were not standardized at the time. Sarah might be spelled as Sara, or Philip could be spelled as Phillip. All you can do is conduct multiple searches, trying every combination you can think of.

Census Records for 1790 and the early 1800s also can be very helpful in identifying Revolutionary War ancestors. The census records may be found on Ancestry.com. FamilySearch.org also has many census records available online although not all of them.

If you are unsuccessful at proving connections via the above online resources, you will need to resort to printed books and microfilm images as many of the needed records are not yet online.

If you have identified an ancestor born between 1710 and 1765 who was living in 1775-1776, check the online DAR Patriot Index to see if your ancestor is listed. If the answer is yes, someone else has submitted an approved DAR application for your ancestor; you will want to see more details in that application. If the

answer is no, your ancestor could still be a Revolutionary War patriot; however, no one has submitted an approved DAR application for him/her.

A DAR Patriot **INDEX** (not the full records) is available at

http://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search/

Other books to be searched include numerous compilations or source records from various states, land grants made years later as a result of Revolutionary War service, and even books about various generals and admirals that may mention some of the men who served under them. For example, I found a record of one

Revolutionary War Marine in my family tree who served on board the Ranger in a book about John Paul Jones.

You can find many such books in your local library and at Google Books, as well as at Genealogical Publishing Company at

<http://www.genealogical.com/categories/Revolutionary%20War/4.html>

and at <http://www.heritagebooks.com/>.

As with any genealogy effort, a bit of perseverance may provide records you never knew about – and very possibly contribute facts about your ancestors that you never knew.

NEW ACQUISITIONS AT YCHT LIBRARY

Among the recently received and/or recently catalogued materials at the York County Heritage Trust Library Archives are:

- *German Immigration to Pennsylvania 1683-1933*; Curran, Alfred A.; Brentwood University Press, 1986.
- *Wrightsville Presbyterian Church History*; Sayre, Robert; 2011.
- *Old Burial Grounds of New Jersey: A Guide*; Sarapin, Janice Kohl; Rutgers University Press, 1994.
- *Mayflower Families Through Five Generations. Volume 18, Part 2*. Genealogical Society of Mayflower Descendants, 2011; second edition.
- *Scrapbook of Items of East Prospect & Vicinity*; Spate, W.A.
- *Cashman Surnames in America. Number 19*; Weaner, Authur; 2011.
- *Descendants of Peter Zech: Zech Families and Marriages*; Lau, Michael; 2011.
- *Descendants of George Daniel Baugher: Baugher Families and Marriages*; Lau, Michael; 2011.
- *Mark Family Story*; Pasquale, Colleen G.; Troy Book Makers; 2011.
- *Houseal Family Tree*; Housseal, Brian; 2012.
- *Shenberger Families*; Brenneman, Kelly; 2012.
- *Lehman Family of York County, Pennsylvania*; Lehman, Robert; 2012.
- *Ehrharts of York County, Pennsylvania*; Bennett, Evedene; 2011.
- *Descendants of Tiskin An Gen Door*; Tyson; 2012.
- *Henry Willis of Long Island – Northern Branches*; Willis, David W.; 2012.

RESOURCE PERSON

Rick Thoman (rthomanjr@yahoo.com) has offered to serve as a resource person for members seeking information on the Thoman, Shue and Arnold families, including westward migrations.

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DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

QUERIES

Jacob THOMAN (1723-1805) and son Johann Heinrich THOMAN (1757-1835) have been identified as Revolutionary War veterans based (partly or wholly) on the presence of the names Jacob and Johannes THOM as members of Jacob Beiber's Company (pg 606 PA Archives Series 6-2). This seems questionable to me because whatever the 18th spelling (e.g. Domen, Dumy, etc.), it always implies a two syllable name, and THOM, an attested York County name, is not. Also an 18th century German list is most unlikely to list anyone named Johann Heinrich as Johannes. I would very much appreciate discussion on these questions with anyone knowledgeable about this era.

Rick Thoman, Faribanks, AK
rthoman@yahoo.com

I am especially interested in the Cora Lydia (Shenberger) KELLY line, Civil War era extended family that lived in the Wrightsville, Pennsylvania area.

Carolyn Sue Brenneman, 636 Dallas Street, York, PA 17403
waiola@comcast.net

IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

If you have not renewed your membership for the year 2012-2013, please mail your payment as soon as possible. Your annual membership expired on June 30th and you will not continue to receive membership benefits if you do not renew. Please remember that there will be an additional fee assessed to cover the postage for back issues of our newsletter and any special publications if you do not renew by September 1st. Renewal information was included in the April edition of this newsletter.