



**South Central
Pennsylvania**
Genealogical Society

Our Name's The Game

www.scpgs.org

Monthly Newsletter Vol. 39 No. 7 March 2014

OUR NEXT MEETING

Sunday, April 6, 2014 — Alphabet Soup of Revolutionary Lineage Societies

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, Frank Grove has been helping people with their application paper work for the Children, Daughters, and Sons of the American Revolution since about 1990. In 2006, he became the "official" genealogist/registrar for the Continental Congress Chapter, S.A.R. We will look at many of the current requirements of the national organizations, review the "must" areas that need to be very complete, and provide hints to help with unknown dates. We will also discuss the importance of record copies from the organizations and the "cut off" date after which older applications will not be accepted without it being updated.

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS are scheduled as follows ...

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Are You My Mother?: Tracing Your Female Ancestors

Probably the most common problem in researching women is identity. What was her maiden name? Who were her parents? This meeting will be a round table discussion concerning some of the issues faced while researching our female ancestors. Bring your success stories and/or brick walls, and participate in the round table discussion.

Saturday, June 7, 2014

Thinking Outside the Box?: Take Your Research to a New Level

This conference is sponsored by the York County Heritage Trust and South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, and will be held Historical Society Museum and Library, 250 East Market Street, York, PA from 8 AM until 4 PM. The scheduled speakers are Darvin Martin, Jonathan Stayer, and Kevin Shue. More information is included on pages 3 and 4 of this newsletter.



U.S. National Archives to Close or Combine Facilities

from Dick Eastman (eogn.com), March 11, 2014

The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration just issued a press release announcing the permanent closure of three National Archives facilities over the next two years. The Anchorage facility will close in 2014, the two Philadelphia facilities will be consolidated in 2014, and the two Fort Worth facilities will be consolidated in 2016. It is interesting to note that the records in Alaska will be digitized and placed online so that the records will remain available to Alaskans and to everyone else.

Philadelphia, PA, facility consolidation ... The National Archives currently maintains two facilities in Philadelphia — a records center and archives at Townsend Road, and a small "storefront" archival facility at 900 Market Street in the city center. Archival records are currently moved between the two for research use. The Market Street facility will close in FY 2014. The less than 5,000 cubic feet of archival records stored at Market Street will be moved to Townsend Road, where the majority of the archival records already are stored. The Townsend Road facility's research room will be modified to better provide appropriate access to researchers, and community outreach programs will continue.

I Am My Own Grandpa!

from Dick Eastman (eogn.com), January 18, 2014

Remember that little ditty that was first sung by Lonzo and Oscar in 1947 and later by Homer and Jethro, and many other folks afterwards? I Am My Own Grandpa is a bit of a mind-bender for any genealogist. It reportedly was inspired by an anecdote that Mark Twain related in a book, proving how a person could become his own grandfather. Here are the lyrics to the song I Am My Own Grandpa, written by Dwight B. Latham and Moe Jaffe:

Many many years ago when I was twenty three,
I got married to a widow who was pretty as could be.
This widow had a grown-up daughter
Who had hair of red.
My father fell in love with her,
And soon the two were wed.
This made my dad my son-in-law
And changed my very life.
My daughter was my mother,
For she was my father's wife.
To complicate the matters worse,
Although it brought me joy,
I soon became the father
Of a bouncing baby boy.
My little baby then became
A brother-in-law to dad.
And so became my uncle,
Though it made me very sad.
For if he was my uncle,
Then that also made him brother
To the widow's grown-up daughter
Who, of course, was my step-mother.
Father's wife then had a son,
Who kept them on the run.
And he became my grandson,
For he was my daughter's son.
My wife is now my mother's mother
And it makes me blue.
Because, although she is my wife,
She's my grandmother, too.
If my wife is my grandmother,
Then I am her grandchild.
And every time I think of it,
It simply drives me wild.
For now I have become
The strangest case you ever saw.
As the husband of my grandmother,
I am my own grandpa!

Can your genealogy program properly handle these relationships?

Dead Men Tell No Tales... But Their Obituaries Do! Announcing a Major New Indexing Project

from Dick Eastman (eogn.com), February 6, 2014

The following announcement was recently released by FamilySearch:

Obituaries + Volunteers =

A Treasure Trove of Searchable Stories

FamilySearch has declared 2014 the “Year of the Obituary” and is working with partners and the larger genealogy community to collect and digitize millions of obituaries from the United States, with other countries soon to follow. The goal for this year is to index 100 million names from these historical documents, including the name of the deceased, relatives, and all other individuals found in each document.

This massive collection of obituaries will add a fabulous new dimension to online family history research. Obituaries are a “treasure trove” of valuable genealogical information. Each is a unique story of a person’s life. Many obituaries include a photo of the person along with the names of generations of family members.

The success of this indexing campaign depends on volunteers. Tens of thousands of additional volunteers are needed to keep up with the volume of obituary indexing projects coming this year. This represents an excellent opportunity for societies, archives, schools, and churches to participate in a meaningful act of service that will pay big dividends for generations to come.

Many indexers will enjoy indexing obituaries because they are so interesting to read and are virtually all typewritten. However, each obituary is as unique as the deceased person it portrays, and this uniqueness can make obituaries deceptively tricky to index correctly. Good judgment and a willingness to closely follow the instructions are crucial.

Volunteers are encouraged to start immediately. The quirks of the project may take some getting used to, but help resources are readily available.

Although 2014 is the “Year of the Obituary,” this collection will likely require several years to fully index. Working together we will unlock this treasure trove of fascinating information for researchers everywhere.

Thinking Outside the Box: Take Your Research to a New Level

*A genealogical conference sponsored by the York County Heritage Trust
and South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society*



Saturday June 7, 2014

**Historical Society Museum and Library
250 East Market Street, York, PA 17403**



Whether just getting started, stuck on a difficult ancestor or in need of a review, this conference will provide you with a broad array of research techniques, insight and information.

Questions: contact Lila Fourhman-Shaull, 848-1587 ext. 223 or lfourhman-shaull@yorkheritage.org

Conference Schedule ...

8:30	Registration coffee, tea, juice and doughnuts	
9:00	“Exploring Your Heritage Through Expatriate Newspapers”	Kevin Shue
10:00	<i>break</i>	
10:15	“Archivists Dirty Little Secrets: How to Get the Most Out of Archives and Manuscript Collections”	Jonathan Stayer
11:30	<i>lunch</i>	(variety of wraps, sides, and beverage)
12:30	“Tackling Genealogy Problems”	Kevin Shue
1:30	<i>break</i>	
1:45	“DNA”	Darvin Martin
2:45	<i>break</i>	
3:00	Q&A and roundtable discussion with guest speakers	
4:00	<i>dismissed</i>	

To register, please complete this form, make check payable to SCPGS and mail to:

SCPGS, PO Box 1824, York PA 17405-1824

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone () _____

Email _____

Cost includes lunch: \$40.00 for SCPGS/YCHT members or \$50.00 for SCPGS/YCHT non-members

Registration Deadline is May 30, 2014

Session Descriptions

“Exploring Your Heritage Through Expatriate Newspapers”

Presented by Kevin Shue

description unavailable

“Archivists Dirty Little Secrets: How to Get the Most Out of Archives and Manuscript Collections”

Presented by Jonathan Stayer

Frequently genealogists experience frustration and discouragement when visiting archives or institutions that hold collections of original documents. Join an archivist from the Pennsylvania State Archives, who is also an amateur genealogist, for an insider's look at planning a research trip, understanding institutional culture, accessing and using original materials, taking notes, requesting copies, and other aspects of a successful research visit. This light-hearted talk will include Stayer's “Top Ten Rules of Research.” You can have a fruitful trip to the archives!

“Refresher on Basic Genealogy/Advanced Genealogy”

Presented by Kevin Shue

description unavailable

“DNA”

Presented by Darwin Martin

description unavailable

100 Years Ago...

articles from the April 23, 1914 edition of New Oxford Item, New Oxford, Adams County, Pennsylvania

FINDS A STRANGER IN HIS OWN GRAVE

Wanderer Returns to Chicago
and Discovers Another Man
in His Last Resting Place.

TANGLE FOR LAWYERS

Mother Says Body Supposed to Be Her
Son's Was Sent to Her From Wis-
consin; She Discovered Mistake, But
Hated to Spoil Funeral.

Chicago.—When Charlie Nelson "hit the road" out of Chicago two years ago he went away with the consoling thought that if death overtook him on his travels he always had a nice grave bought and paid for and waiting for his body in Chicago.

Maybe it was the certainty of the "decent burial" that made Charlie forget to write to the folks at home about his many adventures in strange lands.

But a few weeks ago Charlie came back to Chicago and found somebody in his grave. He was much aroused over the intrusion of the stranger in his final resting place. He insisted it was unethical.

Charlie Nelson's mother, Mrs. Johanna Oberg, said it wasn't her fault, but he insists he "just can't feel comfortable while that other fellow is in my grave."

To make things worse, suit was filed against Mrs. Oberg by an undertaker in Chippewa Falls for the collection of a bill for the burial of the stranger in Charlie's grave. Charlie and his mother took their troubles to the Legal Aid society.

Mrs. Oberg says the body was sent to her from Wisconsin. She attributes the mistake to an erroneous description of the body by the Chippewa Falls



Found Somebody in His Grave.

undertaker and anxiety on the part of the coroner and officials to be rid of the task of caring for an unidentified body.

In support of her contention Mrs. Oberg showed the telegram which her son, Nels Nelson, received, stating his brother, William Nelson, had been killed in Chippewa Falls. The mother says that she telegraphed that her son's name was Charles Nelson, and also sent a detailed description of his appearance to the coroner and sheriff of Chippewa county.

"My son Charles is a blond—like myself," said Mrs. Oberg, "and when the body came I found it was that of a man with dark hair and dark complexion. I felt it was not the body of my son the minute I looked at it. However, as everything was ready, and the grave was dug, I allowed the body to be buried, so as not to spoil the funeral.

"Now they are suing me to pay for burying some unknown person. The telegram from the coroner shows that he misrepresented the appearance of the dead man."

In the meantime the efforts of the Legal Aid society are directed towards defending Mrs. Oberg in the matter and disturbing the unwelcome body in Charlie Nelson's grave.

A Berks county jury awarded 6 cents damages to Edmund L. Smith and Harry W. Smith, administrators of George Smith, Jr., of Union township, who sued George W. Bell for \$1500 damages for illegal cutting of trees. The parties own adjoining land.

York, April 18.—A platinum bracelet with 24 sparkling diamonds, 8 large and 16 small diamonds, was picked up on the hillside close to Spring Grove Yesterday afternoon, by Paul Freed. The bracelet is valued at \$3,000. It lay in an exposed tuft of grass all winter and yet of the thousands of men and women who passed none had eyes sharp enough to detect the little sparkles that flickered as the sunlight shone upon them. It remained for a tuft of sprouting alfalfa to raise it to plainer view, as though anxious to have its whereabouts known. The bracelet, a wedding gift, belonged to Mrs Ruth Runk, of Baltimore, and was lost last winter during a coasting party, at which Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gladfelter were hosts. Mrs. Runk was a guest at the Gladfelter home. When she dropped the treasure, the hill was scraped and looked over many times, but the bracelet could not be found. Yesterday young Freed went out to search for the jewel and soon came back with it.

Bargains Halted Marriage.

Chicago.—Agnes Kerzl was so interested at the bargain counters she forgot she was to marry August Czam at 3 p. m. He waited outside a department store for three hours and then went home.

Public Sale! of School Building,

On Saturday, May 2nd, 1914.

The New Oxford Borough Council will offer at public sale on the premises, A TRACT OF LAND, fronting 90 feet on Philadelphia Street and extending in depth 180 feet, in the Borough of New Oxford, Adams County, Pa; improved with a Two Story Brick School Building with a One Story Brick Annex. The latter is comparatively new and the former is in good repair. Twenty (20) per cent. of the purchase price to be paid when the property is declared sold, and the balance to be paid on or before September 1st, 1914. Sale to commence at 1:30 p. m., when further terms will be made known by

THE TOWN COUNCIL.

Fresh Cows Wanted.

Farmers and others having fresh Cows for sale will do well by dropping me a card. R. ALTLAND, Abbotstown, Pa.

**OUR NAME'S THE GAME
SCPGS INC.
P.O. BOX 1824
YORK, PA 17405-1824**

**NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #40
YORK, PA**

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

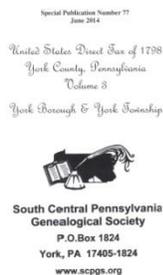
NEW “For Purchase Only” Publication

We are pleased to announce that we are ready to begin taking orders for our newest “for purchase only” publication. This publication is our third 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 York Borough and York Townships. The publication 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 June 15th 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 PA Genealogical Society
Attention: Margaret Burg
PO Box 1824
York, PA 17405-1824



All of our Special Publications are available for purchase.
Visit our website for the complete listing ... www.scpgs.org