



**South Central  
Pennsylvania**  
Genealogical Society

# Our Name's The Game

www.scpgs.org

**Monthly Newsletter Vol. 41 No. 5 March/April 2016**

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Sunday, May 1, 2016**

**Visit to Historic Hellam Preserve**

This month's meeting will be held at the Historic Hellam Preserve, a nineteenth century farmstead that features a wonderfully preserved log house, dating from the 1700s. The complex also includes several buildings including a stone bank barn, spring house and 19<sup>th</sup> century farm house. A brief business meeting will begin at 2:15 PM and the program will immediately follow at approximately 2:30 PM.

Historic Hellam Preserve is pleased to host members of the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society for its Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, from 2:15 to 4:00 PM. After a brief meeting, Historic Hellam Preserve Board members will provide a tour of our restored 1758 Log House, a 1790 Spring House and Stone Barn.

NOTE: Everyone attending this meeting will be considered a member of SCPGS for the day.

Directions to Historic Hellam Preserve: From York: Take Route 30 East to Hellam Exit. Take 462 East to Hallam and continue east for 1.5 miles. Turn right on Hill View Road for 1.0 mile to Historic Hellam Preserve entry drive on right, marked by sign.



**Sunday, June 5, 2016**

**Henry James Young Awards**

The presentation of the Henry James Young Awards will be held at 2:15 PM on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> in the Meeting Hall of the York County Heritage Trust located at 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.

This year we will honor Kathryn Jordan and Franklin R. Grove Jr. Kathryn is described as the "consummate community volunteer" and has always been a local history preservationist. She is an active member of the Stewartstown Historical Society, and member of South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. Kathryn is a former SCPGS board member and served one year as president. She typed and prepared the United States Direct Tax of 1798 – The Hopewell Townships. (also known as the Glass Tax census). Frank serves as membership, registrar & genealogist for York's Continental Congress Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and is a member of South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society. He is a current SCPGS board member and served one term as president.

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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

The South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society welcomes and values your continued membership. Renewing your membership will help us continue to provide services such as special publications and research assistance in the York and Adams County area. Unless you are a life member, your membership will expire on June 30, 2016 and you will not receive membership benefits beyond that date if you do not renew.

To renew your membership in SCPGS for the fiscal year 2016-2017, please promptly mail your payment with the renewal notice included in this newsletter. Please return the entire page.

### **From Our President: Jonathan Stayer**

On March 5, I had the opportunity to talk about our Society to the Col. James Smith-Yorktown Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Preparing for that presentation caused me to review and reflect on the purpose of our organization. Our by-laws lay out a five-fold purpose, part of which is to “hold meetings for the education” of our members and “anyone interested in genealogy.”

I strongly support this aspect of our purpose because many individuals are attempting to trace their lineages alone using primarily sources found on the internet with little understanding of research methodologies and documentary evidence. When they hit a “brick wall” using genealogical websites, they believe that they have exhausted the available resources. They need to learn about original records and research methods, and they need to connect with more experienced genealogical researchers.

In 2016, our Society is providing programs to do just that. On March 20, we had an excellent seminar on records and sources in Ireland presented by Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt from the Ulster Historical Foundation. The meeting hall of the York County Heritage Trust was packed beyond capacity — standing room only! Even for someone like myself who has no known Irish ancestry, the presentations were engaging and informative.

If you missed that program, you will have another educational opportunity on Saturday, September 24, 2016, when we hold our biannual genealogy conference at the York County Heritage Trust. Keynote speaker Ron Hershner will talk about the Civil War correspondence of a York County family.

Aaron McWilliams from the PA State Archives will describe Revolutionary War and Civil War records. Col. Martin Andresen of the Army Heritage and Education Center will discuss researching World War I and World War II veterans as well as the genealogical value of Army collections.

Our own board member Becky Anstine will offer two sessions for beginners—one on getting started and one on online genealogy. Local genealogist Neicy DeShields-Moulton will talk about how she has used DNA tests in her research. And, Trust librarian Lila Fourhman-Shaull will acquaint attendees with the genealogical holdings of the York County Heritage Trust. Vendors and representatives from local lineage societies will be on hand to answer questions and to provide resources. Plan now to attend this exciting educational offering!

### **A Criminal Ancestor**

Are you descended from convict ancestors transported far from home or did great, great, great uncle John end up in court for squabbling with the neighbors? If your ancestor was a hardened criminal, a victim of a miscarriage of justice, a political prisoner, or in court for not paying their dog license a new study is looking to hear from you.

Criminals in the family have always fascinated family historians and it seems more of us are discovering more of them all of the time. The digitization of the records of the criminal justice system and newspapers are bringing to light a side of our ancestors that may have previously been kept secret. The crimes themselves range from the minor, even amusing, to the serious, and tragic. From a few cows wandering unsupervised along a country lane resulting in an appearance at the petty sessions court and a 2 shilling fine, to a young girl stealing some lace and being transported for 7 years to Australia, a sentence which really meant a lifetime exiled from her native land. A young boy imprisoned for vagrancy. A rebel. A highwayman. A murderer.

The documents which record their crimes often have amazingly rich details not found in birth, marriage, or even census records. From prison registers we can get physical descriptions of someone who lived long before the invention of photography, we can learn their height, weight, eye and hair color, and any distinguishing scars or features such as tattoos. From newspaper accounts of trials we hear their voices as they give evidence.

But how do we feel when we come across an ancestor who broke the law? And how do they shape how we view our family's history? Is a criminal ancestor someone to be ashamed of, to celebrate, or part of a larger story? What do their crimes, and the punishments they received tell us about them as people, and about the time and society they lived in? You can help provide the answers.

As part of the Digital Panopticon project ([www.digitalpanopticon.org](http://www.digitalpanopticon.org)), Aoife O. Connor of the University of Sheffield wants to hear from family historians across the globe who have discovered ancestors who were connected to a crime. Her own family history includes, an ancestor aged 18 imprisoned in 1821 for thirteen days on suspicion of stealing a frame saw, and another who was fined two shillings at in 1855 for driving a horse and cart with no reins. She is conducting short anonymous online surveys which can be found at [acriminalrecord.org/surveys/](http://acriminalrecord.org/surveys/)

## African American Genealogy

Rodney Barnett was the speaker for our February meeting. He spoke about the challenges of researching his slave ancestors in Virginia and Alabama. During his program he mentioned eight barriers that impact researching slave ancestors ...

1. Records often do not contain surnames
2. Slaves were considered property and were bought and sold
3. Families were easily separated
4. Fathers are much harder to identify than mothers
5. Slave women were often taken advantage of
6. Not much oral history exists
7. Poverty
8. Discrimination

Mr. Barnett also shared his research strategies ... (a) start with the closest relatives; (b) talk often with the oldest relatives; (c) write down or record everything; (d) trace family back to the time of slavery; (e) determine whether the family was free or enslaved. If your family was enslaved you will need to know as much about the family that owned them as our own.

The following is from the handout prepared by our speaker, Rodney Barnett ...

African American Genealogy can be a very rewarding yet frustrating experience. Researching the African American family has its own unique challenges. The same events that helped to shape the history of black Americans have also helped to shape the records of their existence. The African American experience has included slavery, racism, "Jim Crow" laws, segregation and mistrust. But despite the many challenges, it is possible to successfully develop a family story that is both meaningful and accurate. With a little luck, and a lot of perseverance, it is even possible to find our way back to the mother land.

Many records before and after the Civil War are very similar, however, the way you use them may differ greatly.

Records before and including the Civil War — Free blacks lived a life that was just a small step above their counterpart enslaved brothers/sisters. The biggest advantage was that they could not be separated from their families by being sold. Many free blacks were very prosperous during this period. There were also some free blacks whose families had never been enslaved.

### Free Black Records

- Marriage Bonds/Certificates
- Church Records
- Military Service (Revolutionary War, Civil War)
- Birth Records
- Death/Burial Records
- Wills/Deeds
- Manumission Records
- Census
- Lawsuits
- Free Black Registrations

Although the history books kind of gloss over the subject, the institution of slavery was an inexcusable event which made quite a few people very wealthy. The country which benefited the most was the U. S. There is just no way to justify stealing a person from their homeland, and selling their offspring. Following are some records of slavery ...

- Church Records (slave baptisms, memberships, deaths)
- Military Service (conscription)
- Birth Records (slave birth registrations)
- Death/Burial Records (slave death registrations)
- Wills/Deeds (slaves mentioned in wills and deeds)
- Manumission Records (record of freedom)
- Slave Census (no names recorded)
- Lawsuits (slaves were property)

Records after the Civil War — Although all blacks were now free, laws were written to continue a type of slavery for many blacks. Many left the South in search of better jobs and a better life.

- Marriage Bonds/Certificates
- Church Records
- Military Service (USCT, draft registrations, discharge records)
- Birth Records
- Death/Burial Records
- Wills / Deeds
- Census
- Lawsuits
- Freedmen's Bureau / Freedmen's Bank
- Voting Records
- Tax Records
- Family Bibles
- Newspaper Articles/Obituaries
- Social Security Records
- Local Histories / Family Genealogies

## Calendar of Local Events

### Tuesday, May 3

*Mason-Dixon Line and the "Great Chancery Case"*  
Adams County Historical Society [7 PM]  
Lutheran Theological Seminary  
Valentine Hall on the Gettysburg campus

Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon stepped onto the docks at Philadelphia on November 15, 1763 to begin the surveying work that colonial surveyors proved they were not capable of doing. Their journal records indicate that they crossed Marsh Creek on August 24, 1765 surveying a portion of the line which is now the southern border of Adams County. David Peters will present history about the Mason-Dixon Line focusing on how the 80-year old border dispute between the two colonies (and the Penn and Calvert families) developed and how it was eventually resolved in what became known as the "Great Chancery Case."

This program is free and open to the public thanks to our sponsor ACNB Bank

### Friday, May 6

*Lunch with the Librarians: Adoption & Genealogy Research*  
York County Heritage Trust [12:30 PM - 1:30 PM]  
250 East Market Street, York, PA

Adoptions present many challenges to tracing your family lineage and can sometimes seem like a roadblock. We'll discuss what information is and is not publicly accessible, along with tips for pursuing this challenging research. FREE and open to the public. Pre-registration required by Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

(contact [aeveler@yorkheritage.org](mailto:aeveler@yorkheritage.org))

### Saturday, May 14

*Murder at the Accomac*  
York County Heritage Trust  
250 East Market Street York, PA [10:30 AM]

Michael Maloney, local writer and author of *Across the River: Murder at the Accomac*, will examine the history and story surrounding the 1882 murder of Emily Myers, at the present day Accomac Inn. Shot by John Coyle Jr. after he received a rejection to his marriage proposal, Myers' murder made local and national headlines. Discover the history of the Accomac and the events leading up to and after the murder. Copies of *Across the River* will be available in the Trust's bookshop before and after the program.

### Monday, May 16

*Practical Use of the Mighty FAN Club: a Case Study of a Shadowy Female*  
Carroll County Genealogical Society  
Dixon Room, Westminster Library,  
50 East Main Street, Westminster, MD [7:30 PM]

Have you followed an ancestor as far back as you can through the records until you hit the proverbial brick wall? You probably know that the only way to make any more progress is through studying the FAN Club (Friends, Associates, Neighbors). What does that actually look like in practice? This case revolves around a woman in the shadows whose married name was even disputed and whose maiden name seemed hopelessly obscure. Using the few records left by her and her FAN Club as she settled in three states, we track her movements, uncover something of her life and character, and discover her birth family. Techniques used in this research should encourage researchers to think more creatively about breaching that brick wall. Program will be presented by Sharon Cook MacInnes.

### Friday, June 3

*Lunch with the Librarians: Genealogy Roadblocks*  
York County Heritage Trust [12:30 PM - 1:30 PM]  
250 East Market Street, York, PA

Do you feel like you've mastered the basics of genealogy research, and need some advice for tackling the challenges in your family tree? Bring your questions about those ancestors who are stumping you, and we'll offer strategies for finally tracking them down. FREE and open to the public. Pre-registration required by Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> (contact [aeveler@yorkheritage.org](mailto:aeveler@yorkheritage.org))

### Saturday, June 11

*A History of Firefighting in York*  
York County Heritage Trust  
250 East Market Street York, PA [10:30 AM]

Join retired Fire Chief Greg Halpin as he shares the history of the city of York's organized firefighting. Starting in the Revolutionary War period, Halpin will use historic images from his collection as well as that from the department, highlighting the development of various departments and fire houses, as well as the evolution of equipment and techniques.

## Fundamentals of Irish Genealogical Research

On Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> we welcomed Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt from the Ulster Historical Foundation with a packed house of approximately 125 people for their presentation on Irish and Scots-Irish Family Research.

Gillian began the program with a discussion of the records available to Irish researchers. She stressed that the popular notion that researching Irish ancestors is a fruitless exercise because many records were destroyed is not true. Three main categories of record were destroyed in 1922 in the destruction of the Public Records Office in Dublin ... virtually all census returns (1821-1851); the registers from over 1,000 Church of Ireland parishes; and virtually all original wills probated before 1900.

When researching in Ireland it is important to have a basic understanding of land division ...

PROVINCE ... there are four: Munster, Leinster, Connaught, and Ulster.

COUNTY ... there are 32; twenty-six are in the Republic of Ireland while the remaining six are in the North of Ireland and are part of the United Kingdom.

BARONY ... an ancient form of administrative unit used for the collection of taxes etc. Even though the 1901 census was conducted on a "barony" system, the term has little relevance today.

PARISH ... some emigrants give their parish name as being the place from which they emigrated. But which parish were they talking about? There are Catholic Church parishes, Protestant Church parishes, and civil parishes. To make matters worse, Catholic Church parishes were reorganized in the early 1800s and some were merged and others had their names changed.

TOWNLAND ... the smallest land division. They seldom appear on maps but are used in church records.

Ulster Provinces consists of counties Antrim, Armagh, Cavan, Derry, Donegal, Down, Fermanagh, Monaghan and Tyrone. Although the name Ulster is now often synonymous with Northern Ireland, three of its counties, Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan, are part of the Republic of Ireland.



Civil registers of births, marriages and deaths provide the basic family history information, however, their usefulness will depend on the period being researched. Civil (state) registrations of births, deaths and marriages began on January 1, 1864 Non-Catholic marriages were required to be registered beginning April 1, 1845. Marriage certificates normally give fuller information than birth and death certificates, and are the most useful of civil records.

The first census was held in Ireland in 1821 and thereafter every ten years until 1911. Unfortunately, census returns for 1861 through 1891 were completely destroyed by government order in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Census Records: The census was taken on a Sunday under the assumption that "everyone" would be "home" that night. Form A describes the family, while Forms B1 and B2 describe the buildings on the property. The 1901 and 1911 censuses are available free at [census.nationalarchive.ie](http://census.nationalarchive.ie). It may also be worth checking the Old Age Pension Claims as they contain extracts from the 1841 and 1851 censuses. The old age pension was introduced in 1909 for those over seventy years of age. For many born before 1864, when state registration of births began, a copy of the 1841 and/or 1851 census was used to prove entitlement to the pension. These census search forms are accessible at [censussearchforms.nationalarchives.ie](http://censussearchforms.nationalarchives.ie).

The Primary or Griffith's Valuation (1848-1864) gives a complete list of occupiers of land, tenements and houses. It is arranged by county and parish. The following information is included: name of townland, name of householder or leaseholder, name of the person from whom the land was leased, a description of the property including its acreage, and finally the valuation of the land and buildings. It is available free at [askaboutireland.ie](http://askaboutireland.ie). The manuscript valuation books were updated on a regular basis. When a change of occupancy occurred, the name of the lessee or householder was crossed off and the new owner's name written above it, and the year was noted on the right-hand side of the page. Different colored ink was often used to differentiate between years with a key at the start of each book. Valuation Revision Books for Northern Ireland are available online at [proni.gov.uk](http://proni.gov.uk).

Nearly all of the farmers in Ireland were tenants. The records generated by the management of landed estate are a major source of genealogical information. Catalogs of many of the estate collections can be downloaded from [www.nli.ie](http://www.nli.ie).

Fintan then spoke about the Ulster Plantation and sources for finding seventeenth century families in Ireland. The further one goes back in time the more difficult it becomes to discover precise details about family history. Despite their limitations sources from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries are useful if they can be used to demonstrate that a particular name occurred in a parish or townland at a certain date.

Ordnance Survey memoirs provide a great deal of background information on the character and habits of the people who lived in Ireland during the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The memoirs are a unique source for the history of the northern half of Ireland before the Great Famine, as they describe the landscape and situation, buildings and antiquities, land-holdings and population, employment and livelihoods of the parishes. They were published in 40 volumes by the Institute of Irish Studies at The Queen's University in Belfast, with an additional index volume covering the entire series.

Some of the other sources mentioned were:

- Fiants of the Tudor Sovereigns (1521-1603) ... first drafts of pardons (to native Irish)
- Calendar of the Patent Rolls: pardons, bequests, and endowments (prim. upper parts of society)
- Denization (1605-34): Grants of Naturalization
- Summonister Rolls (ca 1611): local court records involving misdemeanors
- Ulster Port Books (1612-15)
- A Note of Names on William Brownlow's Estate (Lurgan, County Armagh)
- Precincts of Omagh allotted to English Undertakers
- Muster Rolls (1630-31): recorded the name of able-bodied men capable of bearing arms (protestant)
- "Men and Arms": The Ulster Settlers
- 1641 Depositions: published on the Trinity College (Dublin) website [www.1641.tcd.ie](http://www.1641.tcd.ie)
- Cromwellian Settlement of Ireland: 45 pages of adventurers (English settlers)
- Irish Genealogist
- The Down Survey of Ireland: transfer of lands from native Irish to planters
- Church of Ireland Registers
- Published Gravestone Inscriptions

During the final part of the presentation, Gillian talked about records related to the different churches in Ireland. Prior to the commencement of civil registrations the main source of family history information are church registers.

The primary denominations in Ireland are: Baptist, Church of Ireland (Episcopalian), Congregational, Presbyterian (includes Reformed, Non-Subscribing, and Secession), Methodist, Moravian, Quaker (Religious Society of Friends), and Roman Catholic. The single largest denomination in Ireland is the Roman Catholic Church. Following the Reformation in Ireland the Catholic Church went through a lengthy period when its activities were severely curtailed (IE record keeping was not a priority due to persecution). The Church of Ireland is the largest Protestant denomination. Until 1870 it was the established or state church. The Church of Ireland was required to keep proper records of baptisms, marriages and burials from 1634, but very few registers survive from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Presbyterians came to Ireland from Scotland in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century, although it did not become an organized denomination until the second half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Methodism emerged in Ireland in the 18<sup>th</sup> century as a result of John Wesley's many visits to the island. The Quakers (Religious Society of Friends) came to Ireland from England about 1670.

Baptism usually only included the date of the baptism and name of the child and father, however, they may also include the name of the date of birth, mother, and/or residence (townland).

Marriage records typically only included the name of the bride and groom and the date of the marriage; occasional they also include the status, residence (townland) and/or father's name.

Burial records usually only include a name and date of burial; however, they may also include age, residence (townland) and/or occupation.

Some of the lesser known church records of the Church of Ireland (the State Church) are the Vestry Minute Books, Congregation Census and Visitation Book. These records are not indexed, not transcribed and not online.

The Presbyterian Church kept a Presbyterian Session Book that may include transgression of members, and a Communicants' List that is typically organized by family. One thing to keep in mind is that Presbyterians tended to attend a church where the minister's theology most agreed with their own rather than the church closest to where they lived.

The program concluded with a question and answer period. Questions ranged from the Ulster DNA Project to Viking cities to Catholics in Maryland, as well as emigrants from Scotland, and immigrants to England and Canada.

Some of the useful websites from the Ulster Historical Foundation handout are:

[www.ancestryireland.com](http://www.ancestryireland.com) ... Ulster Historical Foundation website

[www.rootsireland.ie](http://www.rootsireland.ie) ... website for the Irish History Foundation (IFHF) county centres in Ireland, detailing over 20 million civil and church records as well as passenger lists.

[www.nifhs.org/resources/](http://www.nifhs.org/resources/) ... North of Ireland Family History Society's website detailing publications on gravestone inscriptions and birth, marriage and death notices from local newspapers.

[www.nidirect.gov.uk/gro](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/gro) ... The General Register Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast holds the original birth and death registers recorded by the local district registrars from 1864 and marriage registers from 1845 for non-Catholic marriages and from 1864 for all marriages.

[www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk](http://www.scotlandsppeople.gov.uk) ... civil records, 1855-2006, church and census records for Scotland

[www.proni.gov.uk/index/search\\_the\\_arcives/will\\_calendars/](http://www.proni.gov.uk/index/search_the_arcives/will_calendars/) ... Wills calendar summaries available through PRONI's website, 1858-1965

[www.nidirect.gov.uk/osni](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/osni) ... Ordnance Survey maps (Northern Ireland)

[www.familyhistory.ie](http://www.familyhistory.ie) ... Genealogical Society of Ireland

[www.thecore.com/seanruad/](http://www.thecore.com/seanruad/) ... Irish Placename website

[www.placenamesni.org](http://www.placenamesni.org) ... Northern Ireland Placename Project

[www.1718migration.org.uk](http://www.1718migration.org.uk) ... The 1718 migration: The Scots-Irish Journey to the New World

<http://irishdeedsindex.net/index.html> ... Registry of Deeds online index project

[www.ancestryireland.com/family-records/gravestone-inscriptions/](http://www.ancestryireland.com/family-records/gravestone-inscriptions/) ... over 50,000 gravestone in Northern Ireland

[www.historyfromheadstones.com](http://www.historyfromheadstones.com) ... a series of maps showing locations of graveyards in Northern Ireland

## Mustering Up Your Family History

Saturday, September 24, 2016

South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society and York County Heritage Trust are jointly sponsoring a genealogy conference on Saturday, September 24, 2016 at the York County Heritage Trust, 250 East Market Street, York ... Mustering Up Your Family History.

The keynote speaker will be Ron Hershner, author of "Letters From Home: The Civil War Correspondence of a York County Family".

The conference will feature two tracts of programs:

Genealogical Research —

Climbing Your Family Tree

I Found It on the Internet

Resources of the York County Heritage Trust Library

Using DNA in Genealogical Research: A Personal Story

Military Records —

Pennsylvania Revolutionary War Research

Pennsylvania Civil War Research

Researching World War I and World War II Veterans

US Army Heritage and Education Center's Holdings of Importance to Genealogists.

Registration for this conference will be included in the next newsletter and on the Society's website.

## Genealogy Tip of the Day

Michael John Neill; 9 April 2016

Before searching that "new" database, make certain you know:

- ✓ how complete the database is
- ✓ if it indexes just "main names"
- ✓ if it indexes every name
- ✓ how searches actually work

Practice searching the database for names you know are there – this is always a good technique when first performing searches.

### **Tales of Long Ago: York County's Oldest Women**

from *The News*, a newsletter of the Kreutz Creek Charge of the Reformed Church; July/August 1935, Vol. XVIII No. 3

The title of this tale is given us by an article published in "The Philadelphia Times," under date of August 12, 1899. A cut of the old lady, seated in her chair, with her crutch in her hand, accompanies the article. A young lady is standing by her side, with her hand on the back of the chair.

It was a copy of the original photograph of this cut which brought about this tale. Pastor and wife were visiting, Delroy, May 26, 1935. Some old photos were shown, among them the picture we are describing. The Pastor was asked whether he knew who it was. Whereupon he remembered seeing an enlarged likeness of this photo in the Rudy home at Hallam. The next day he inquired at the Rudy homestead, and sure enough there it was in the parlor.

This oldest lady of York County was Mrs. Catharine (Reisinger) Rudy, the grandmother of the present generation of Rudy's: Emanuel, Jacob, Ellen and Sallie. The girl, then 15 years, is Mrs. Philip Steinmiller, of Dormont, Pittsburgh, Pa., the daughter (Dora Stoner), of another Rudy sister who died some years ago. And strange enough, she was in the Rudy home, ironing, when the Pastor called. In the course of conversation, it was said a paper was found this very spring, in housecleaning. And there was given the information we desired to know. This tale is the result of this peculiar combination of circumstances. We quote the explanation which accompanied the cut:

"Among those who will attend the sesqui-centennial exercises of York County, and who will be one of the most honored guests of the Sesqui-Centennial Committee will be Mrs. Catharine (Reisinger) Rudy. She is the oldest woman in York County, having reached her 96th year, and the oldest native. She is still well preserved for one of her advanced years.

"Mrs. Rudy was born in Hellam township, York county, in 1803, the daughter of John and Rebecca Reisinger, of English descent (this should be German), who came to this country in the early colonial days, and were among the first to settle in the beautiful Kreutz Creek Valley. She was married in 1827 to Jacob Rudy, also of English descent (also German), and of an old family. To this union six children were born, of whom four are living. She has but nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Her husband died in 1881.

"Mrs. Rudy is a remarkably well-preserved and pleasant old lady, and has a good memory. She threads a needle without glasses and regularly reads her Bible.

"Her recollections of past events are very bright. Her brother, Daniel, was a soldier in the American army of 1812 and she relates the circumstances attending his preparation and departure from home very vividly. He died on his return home from disease contracted in the army. She has lived all her life within a mile of the place in which she was born."

We believe this same lady still holds the record of being the oldest person, in Kreutz Creek Charge, at least. We have searched the records of the present pastorate, beginning in 1920, and we find none older. It may be interesting to have the list of nonagenarians. They are as follows:

Mrs. Catharine E. Arnold, who died December 29, 1921, aged 94 years, 3 months, 12 days.

Captain William Fry, who died October 15, 1926, aged 92 years, 8 months, 8 days.

David Leiphart, who died October 17, 1927, aged 90 years and 20 days.

Samuel (Roddy) Leiphart, who died September 19, 1929, aged 93 years and 6 days.

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### **Genealogy Tip of the Day**

Michael John Neill; 6 April 2016

It is Not All Online ... There is still a significant amount of genealogical material (particularly local records) that are not available online. These materials must either be accessed onsite or via microfilm.

In discussing a problem with a colleague, I was told that the records most likely to help me with my problem were only available onsite or on microfilm. It was a good reminder for me as I was hoping to access "just the right database or website" and solve my problem.

It is not possible to mouse click your way to every record, at least not yet. And that day may not come until many of us have ceased to exist among the living.



In conjunction with your membership renewal, we would like to update our Surname Directory. In the past we maintained two separate directories ... one for members *only* and available upon request from the Membership Director and one on our website. We would like to consolidate these lists and publish all of the surnames on our website. You have the option of having your name and email address published in the directory on our website or *only* your name with the Society's email address as your point of contact. Email addresses published on our website will be text only not a hyperlink.

Please help us to update our Surname Directory by providing the surnames that you are researching.

Member's Name (as it should be shown in the Surname Directory)		
Member's Email Address		
SURNAMES		

Would you like the surnames posted on the South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society's website with a link to your email address?

Yes                       No

OUR NAME'S THE GAME  
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### RENEWAL NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Now is the time to renew your membership for the fiscal year July 2016 to June 2017. Any member, who does NOT PAY their dues by September 1<sup>st</sup> will automatically be dropped from the mailing list and there will be an additional fee assessed to cover the postage for back copies of our newsletter and any special publications. Please return this notice with your renewal and note any address correction. Members desiring newsletters to be mailed first class should add \$5.50.

Please make check payable to SCPGS (in US funds *only*) and mail to

South Central Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, PO Box 1824, York, PA 17405-1824.

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Please send a SASE  
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payment if you desire a  
membership card.

\$ 25.00	REGULAR MEMBERSHIP
\$ 30.00	FAMILY MEMBERSHIP
\$ 500.00	LIFE MEMBERSHIP (individual <i>only</i> )
\$ 750.00	FAMILY LIFE MEMBERSHIP (husband & wife <i>only</i> )