



OUR NAME'S THE GAME

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SOUTH CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Dear SCPGS members,

Greetings! Here is your genealogy newsletter for September-October 2021 starting with descriptions of the last two upcoming programs of 2021.

October 3, 2021 – Genealogical Resources of the York County History Center’s Library and Archives

Nicole Smith, Director of Library & Archives, will give a presentation on useful resources in York County genealogy research available through the History Center. Nicole Smith began as Assistant Director of the Library & Archives in 2017 and became Director in 2019. She is a graduate of the American Studies Master’s Degree program at Penn State Harrisburg and has been working in historical organizations, museums, and archives for over 15 years.

The York County History Center’s Library & Archives houses an extensive and varied collection covering a wide range of topics, including genealogy and family history, local history, decorative arts, community organizations, historic sites, and military history.

November 7, 2021 – The Churches and Chaplains of York County During the Civil War

Description: Faith traditions played a strong role in society during the Civil War, both on the home front and among the military forces. York County's many churches provided moral and religious support for soldiers and civilians, shelter for the sick and injured, and, at times, political rhetoric for or against the Lincoln Administration. After the president authorized the chaplaincy early in the war, several well-known York County preachers signed up to serve local regiments. Join multiple award-winning author and longtime blogger Scott Mingus as he presents a PowerPoint slide talk on several churches and chaplains with local ties.

Scott Mingus is a retired scientist and executive in the global pulp & paper industry. The Ohio native was part of the research team that developed the first commercially successful self-adhesive US postage stamps. He has written 23 Civil War and Underground Railroad books. His biography of General William “Extra Billy” Smith won multiple awards, including the Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr. Literary Prize for Confederate History. He has also written several articles for *Gettysburg Magazine* and other historical journals. Scott has appeared on C-SPAN, C-SPAN3, PCN, and other TV networks.

Mingus and his wife Debi live in York County, PA. For more than a decade, he has written a blog on the Civil War and Underground Railroad history of York County (www.yorkblog.com/cannonball). He has written six scenario books for Civil War miniature wargaming. A maternal great-great-grandfather was a 15-year-old drummer and rifleman in the 51st Ohio Infantry in the Western Theater, and a paternal great-great-grandfather marched with Sherman in the 183rd Ohio. Other family members fought at Antietam and Gettysburg in the 7th West Virginia of the Army of the Potomac.

December 2021 – No Meeting

August meeting notes - **Aaron McWilliams and “Navigating the PA Archives”** – the new website for the PA Archives, by Becky Anstine.

1. Starting on the home webpage, select from the “Top Pages” column, “Research Online”
2. Aaron recommends that people start with “Get to know our new catalog”, before starting research. This heading has a variety of topics that explain new search terms, what can be found online, and how to search the collections, etc.
3. Under the same guide, next select “Browse or Search our new Catalog” – this provides the option of limiting the search to just the digital collections or the entire archive collections.

Learning to navigate this new search engine will take some time, but as the archives continues to add to the digital collections available online; it should become easier to use. If you do not have a subscription to ancestry.com; you can search the collection by going to ancestry through the Archive website. Archive records can also be found through familysearch.org. The Archives are not duplicating records that can be found on either of these sites on the Archive website.

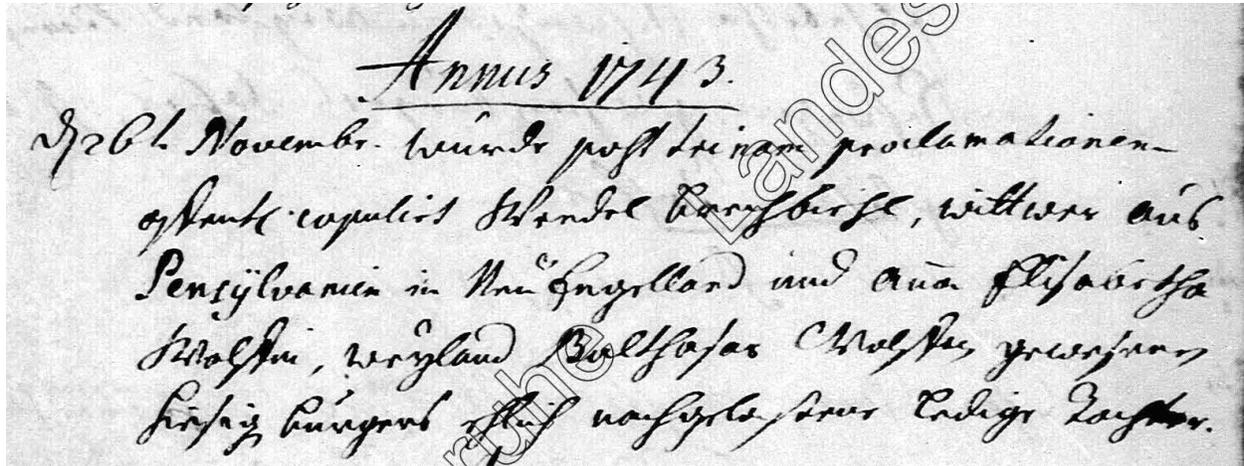
Information about visiting the archives and other information can be found on their website: www.phmc.pa.gov. A recording of the Aaron’s presentation can also be found on the York History Center Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/YorkCountyHistoryCenter>. See below for a sample trek into the State Archives.

A Pennsylvania Archives Guided Search by Erica Runkles

Suppose you have an ancestor who was a teacher in the late 1800s/early 1900s. The PA Archives has a section in its online digital collection which shows records on teacher certifications during this period. Let’s take a guided tour! Once on the www.phmc.pa.gov website, click on each step in the following sequence: Research Online; Browse or Search our Digital Collections; Power Library; Browse By Department or Subject; Education, Department of; Application for PA Teaching Certificates 1866-1922. This microfilm collection is massive and not searchable by keyword but is fortunately alphabetized and grouped by surnames. My grandmother had attended the Brenneman’s School in North Hopewell Township, York County between 1908-1921 and I wanted to see if any of her teachers had received their permanent teaching certificates. H. S. Kinkle, who lived in Stewartstown, had taught at various one-room schoolhouse locations in North Hopewell and had been my grandmother’s teacher for four years. I was able to locate three pages (Roll 4859, slides 442-444) of the documentation showing that after three years of teaching in a common school and passing his exam, Mr. Kinkle’s application for permanent certificate was approved on June 12, 1911.

Wendell Brechbiehl the bridegroom from Pennsylvania, from our SCPGS president, Richard Konkel

In doing research in German church records for over thirty years, some unusual records have come to light that caught my attention and I copied out of interest. The 1743 marriage of Wendel Brechbiehl and Anna Elisabetha Wolff in the Reformed church records of Heidelberg near Karlsruhe in Baden is one such record. What caught my eye was that the groom was listed as living in "Pennsylvania in New England." A copy of the original record with transcription and translation follows: Kirchenbuch reformiert Kirche Heidelberg, Kreis Bruchsal, Baden: Mischbuch 1650-1749 image 156 www.archion.de:



Transcription:

Annus 1743 d 26tn Novembr. Wurde post trinum proclamationen – getraute copuliert Wendel Brechbiehl, wittwer aus Pensylvanien in Neu Engelland und Anna Elisabetha Wolffin, weyland Balthasar Wolffs gewesener hirszig burgers ehlich nachgelaßener ledige Tochter.

Translation

In the year 1743 the 26th November was after three times proclamation – married Wendel Brechbiehl, widower from Pennsylvania in New England and Anna Elisabetha Wolffin, the deceased Balthasar Wolff, citizen of this place legitimate surviving single daughter.

A little additional information can be gleaned from other sources. Wendell Brechbühl appears on the three ship lists for the Ship *Samuel* that arrived in Philadelphia in August 1732. Strassburger & Hinke *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, Volume I, pp. 59, 63, 65. An extensive Ortssippenbuch entitled *Ortsfamilienbuch Heidelberg* by Maria M. Schlitz and published in 2020 provides additional information, namely that Hanß Wendelin Brechbühl was born in Heidelberg on 19 August 1704 to Christoph Brechbühl (1660-1726) and wife Anna Margaretha (1668-1705) had come from Switzerland to Heidelberg. Wendel was married about 1727 to an Anna Catharina and had three children born between 1728 and 1730. His second wife Anna Elisabetha Wolff was also born in Heidelberg on 6 November 1720, the daughter of Hanß Balthasar Wolff (1679-1736) and wife Anna Maria nee Wolff (1683-1737). Anna Elisabetha happens to be the great aunt of my ancestor Barbara Wolff (1789-1883) who emigrated with her husband Johannes Heinger in 1820 and settled in Manchester Township, York County, Pennsylvania.

No information on Wendel Brechbiehl can be found in Pennsylvania where he must have lived for nearly 10 years from 1732 to 1743. Likewise after the 1743 marriage the couple disappears from the records of Heidelberg and has not been located in any other locality in Germany or America. Did they return to Pennsylvania? He does not appear in any ship list other than the *Samuel* in 1732. It would be nice to know what became of this couple. Unless some other records come to light we may never know anything else about them.

Deceased Members

Ruthetta "Bunny" Jacobs, passed away at age 89 at Mountain Home, Salesville, Arkansas after a lengthy illness. Bunny, formerly of Spring Grove, PA had a long association as a member, officer, and Henry James Young awardee. She was the wife of the late William E. Jacobs, to whom she was married to for 61 years. She was the sister of the late Deanna Harbold and the late William Reachard. Born August 8, 1931, in York County, PA, she was the daughter of the late Guy William and Elsie Ellen (Stover) Reachard. She attended West York High School and York College. Mrs. Jacobs is survived by two children, Sherl M. Jacobs, Salesville, Arkansas and Steven Jacobs (wife Joanne). She was blessed with four grandchildren, Melissa Shue (husband Jason), Gegory Jacobs; she was also preceded in death by granddaughters Lauren Gross Morris and Kristina Jacobs. Also surviving are four great grandchildren, Kelsy Shue, Donovan Shue, Jordan Shue and Kylie Morris. Posted the York Dispatch on 8/2/21.

Phyllis Elaine Frey, 85, passed away August 13, 2021, at Wellspan York Hospital. She was the wife of the late Robert E. Frey, Sr. She was also a long-time member the SCPGS. Born in York on December 30, 1935, Phyllis was the daughter of the late Roy and Ada (Emig) Beck. She loved to feed the many wild animals that came to her back door to greet her every day for 70 years. Mrs. Frey is survived by her son, Robert Frey, Jr. and wife, Brenda of York; grandson, Arthur Selby III of Halifax; two brothers, Barry Beck of Spring Grove and Dick Beck of York; numerous nieces and nephews. The graveside service was held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, August 17, 2021, at Prospect Cemetery. A full funeral was formed at the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance at 1:15 p.m. The John W. Keffer Funeral Homes and Crematory, Inc. were entrusted with arrangements. Posted in the York Sunday News on 8/15/21.

Tidbits

Elizabethtown Historical Society

Maps are a terrific resource for genealogy researchers and there's a great opportunity awaiting anyone interested in Lancaster County family history. In 2000 the Elizabethtown Historical Society published a lovely reproduction of Bridgens' 1864 map of Lancaster County. Copies are very reasonably priced and for sale Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-3:00, at their museum at 57 South Poplar Street, Elizabethtown, PA. Please call ahead 717-361-9382 and ask for Dixie.

Genealogy Society of Pennsylvania

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania currently has free guides for each PA county downloadable at <https://genpa.org/public-collections/pennsylvania-resources/>. While they offer a caveat that certain information on each county might be dated, these state-wide guides provide remarkably comprehensive overviews.

Tips & Tricks – Finding York County Deeds Online

By Lynn Nelson

Deeds are one of the most valuable but underutilized resources for family history research. They offer so much more than metes and bounds property descriptions. They can provide clues to an ancestor's prior residence, establish women's maiden names, define family relationships, and more. I've found quite a few deeds that documented several generations of a family in a single deed! In addition to land transfers, deeds also record the transfer of personal property, manumissions, power of attorney, apprenticeships, prenuptial agreements, agreements of marital separation, and other legal transactions. If you're not utilizing this wonderful resource, you are missing out on learning about your ancestors and growing your family tree.

York County's recorded deeds and their indexes are available online from multiple repositories. Use the online indexes to identify the deeds of interest and the online repositories to read, print, or download the deeds. There are several online repositories for York County recorded deeds and/or deed indexes, each offering access to deeds for different time periods.

York County Pennsylvania Recorded Deeds Online Availability

Deeds	Deed Indexes	Online Repository	Cost	Link
1749-1859	1749-1912	FamilySearch	Free to read, print & download	https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/240217
1749-1980	1749-1980	IQS	Free to search & read. 80 cents/page to print or download	https://www.searchiqs.com/PAYOR/Login.aspx
1948-present	1948-present	Landex webstore	Free to search. Per document fee to read, print or download.	https://www.landex.com/webstore/jsp/cart/DocumentSearch.jsp
n/a online	1749-1912; 1913-1943	York County Archives website	Free to search, print or download indexes only.	https://www.yorkcountyarchives.org/record_details.asp?id=21

I use the deed indexes on IQS to identify deeds of interest because it is quick and easy, but I prefer to use the actual deed images on FamilySearch because they are free to download and the quality is generally better as they were filmed in gray-scale while the ones on IQS were scanned in black and white. However, the deeds on FamilySearch are available only through 1859, so I use IQS for later historic deeds. Researching modern deeds online must be done via the Landex Webstore.

In addition to the above online resources, recorded deeds may also be researched in person at the York County Recorder of Deeds office (all dates) and at the York County Archives. As relatively few original deeds survive, recorded deeds are usually the best available record of private land conveyances. The York County History Center holds some original deeds, which are indexed in their catalog available in the Library and Archives.

THE NEWS continues

The News was published bi-monthly in the interest of the West Manheim Charge, The Evangelical and Reformed Church, Rev. Edwin M. Sando, D. D., Pastor and Editor, 139 Pleasant St., Hanover, PA.

VOL. XVI, NO. 5 JANUARY 1937**BAPTISMS**

BANKERT, Shirley Louise, daughter of Clinton H. and Pauline E. (WARNER) Bankert, born April 26, 1936, baptized December 4, 1939 at the home of the parents, Brodbeck's PA R. 1.

BECKER, Harold George, son of Luther M. Becker and Romaine I. (MILLER) Becker, deceased, born September 6, 1936, baptized December 14, 1936 at the parsonage. Sponsors for the child were maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Miller (Estie Hetrick).

STERNER, Ray Allen, son of Delphia J. and Mary E. (WILDASIN) Sterner, born July 22, 1936, baptized December 21, 1936.

HORICH, Richard Stewart, son of C. Stewart and Margaret L. (STERNER) Horich, born October 1, 1936 at Manchester, MD, R. 1, baptized December 24, 1936 at the parsonage.

RENOLL, Melvin Edward, son of Melvin B. and Kathryn M. (BECKER) Renoll, born December 17, 1936, baptized January 6, 1937 at the home of the parents, Hanover R. 3.

NACE, Melvalena Ellen, daughter of Melvin M. and Ruth H. (ZIPP) Nace, born November 10, 1936, baptized January 6, 1937 at the home of the parents, Hanover R. 3.

DRESHER, Miriam Marie, daughter of Richard W. and Florence S. (HAMME) Dresher, born April 24, 1936, baptized January 7, 1937 at the home of the parents, Hanover R. 1.

GEISLER, Charlotte Viola, daughter of Paul R. and Annie S. E. (BECKER) Geisler, born May 10, 1936 at Porters, PA, baptized January 9, 1937 at the parsonage.

MARRIAGES

WENTZ - DULL – On December 19, 1936 at St. Bartholomew's Church, Herman W. Wentz, son of Edward Wentz, Hanover, R. 2 and Hilda M. Dull, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dull, Hanover, R. 1. The couple was attended by Miriam A. STERNER and Norman L. Dull. The couple will live at Pleasant Hill. *[The mother of Herman was Susanna TRONE and the mother of Hilda was Laura Julia MYERS. Find A Grave]*

SNYDER – BANKERT – On December 25, 1936 at the parsonage, William J. Snyder, Hanover, R. 3 and Grace Arlene Bankert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Bankert, Hanover, R. 2. The couple went to housekeeping in Waynesboro, PA. *[Grace's mother was Della A. WILDASIN. Find A Grave Obituary]*

SANDO – JONES - On January 23, 1937 in Trinity Reformed Church, Shenandoah, PA, Paul E Sando, son of the Pastor and Mrs. E. M. Sando, and Helen M. JONES, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Jones, Shenandoah, PA. Assisting was Rev. John H. Sando, brother of the groom, pastor of Trinity Church, Millersburg, PA. An organ recital and the wedding marches were performed by Martha R. Sando, sister of the groom. A wedding breakfast and reception followed at the home of the bride's parents after which the couple left for Cumberland, MD, where they are making their home. The groom is employed by the S. T. Little Jewelry Company.

FUNERALS

RUNKLE, Levi B., died November 19, 1936 at the York County Home, aged 77 years, 2 months and 23 days. Services and interment were held November 23, 1936 at St. Paul's (Dubs') Church and cemetery. *[He was born August 28, 1859, the son of Michael Runkle and Catharine BOLLINGER. He married Savannah YOST, May 7, 1899. See the Obituary for Savannah, Vol. XVII, No. 2, July 1937. PA Death Certs, PA Marriages, Find A Grave]*

BAUMGARDNER, Charlotte (SPONSELLER) (MARKLE), died November 23, 1936, aged 83 years, 1 month and 13 days. Services and interment were held November 25, 1936 at St. Paul's (Dubs') Church and cemetery. *[She was born October 10, 1853, daughter of Jacob Sponseller and Hester Catherine SHEELY. She was married first to Edward Markle, son of Henry Markle and Sarah ALBRIGHT, he was born July 27, 1844 and died May 16 1904. Charlotte married second, Edward Baumgardner, born 1843, died 1936. PA Death Certs, Find A Grave]*

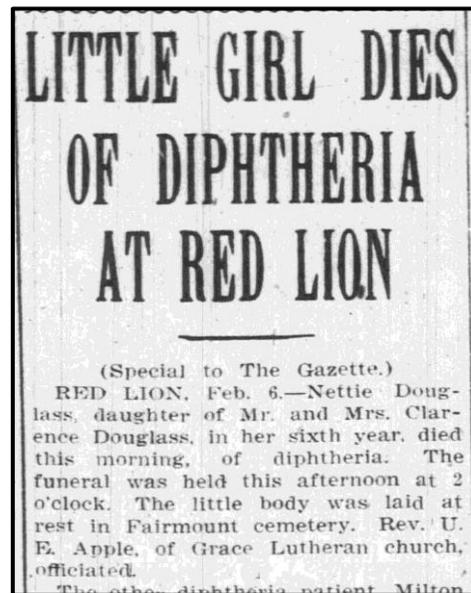
RABENSTINE, Harry C., died December 4, 1936, aged 51 years, 10 months, 1 day. Services and interment were held December 8, 1936 at Bair's Church, York Road. *[He was born February 4, 1885, son of Samuel Rabenstine and Alice HAMM. He married Viola BAILEY April 8, 1906. She was born December 22, 1890 and died August 4, 1977. PA Death Cert, Find A Grave]*

BOWMAN, Curvin H., died December 14, 1936 as a result of being struck by an automobile near York, PA. He was aged 52 years, 8 months and 7 days. Services and interment were held December 18, 1936 at Bair's Church, York Road. *[He was born May 6, 1884, son of Henry Bowman and Catharine BOLLINGER. PA Death Cert, Find A Grave, WWI Draft Registration]*

Reusing Children's Names [Michael John Neill's website, Genealogy Tip of the Day for May 3, 2021](#)

"Keep in mind that in some ethnic backgrounds reusing" names of deceased children was a very common practice. One of my ancestral couples from Ostfriesland, Germany, had four daughters named Reenste born within a ten-year time span. The first three died shortly after birth. The fourth one grew to adulthood. Other families re-used names of deceased children, but usually there were not as many children as there was in this case. Some individuals will name children after previous spouses who died during the marriage. That may seem a little bit unusual today, but there was a time when it was not unheard of. And my genealogy software program thought I was nuts to have a family with four children with the same name. But it can happen."

In my case, when I was just getting started studying family history, I encounter a bewildering finding – Clarence Oscar Douglass and wife Lucinda M. Burger's daughter, Nettie Viola, had some very confusing birth and death dates. I learned from a newly found third cousin that Clarence and Lucinda's second child Nettie Viola was born in Red Lion on 2 June 1900. In early 1906 when diphtheria was closing schools and cancelling church services, "first" Nettie contracted the horrid disease. The family was quarantined with the local newspaper following her case. The family was devastated when Nettie died on Feb 6, 1906, of diphtheria. Little over two years later, on 20 March 1908, Lucinda had another daughter who was given the name - Nettie Viola Douglass. by Erica Runkles



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DATED MATERIAL – DO NOT DELAY