



THE GAZETTE

A PUBLICATION OF THE HAMILTON COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 1, JANUARY 2011

Happy New Year!

Make 2011 the year where your family history comes alive!

Annual Spring Seminar - April 16, 2011

Mark your calendar for the *Annual Spring Seminar*, Saturday, April 16, 2011. Mill Race Banquet Center, 1515 West Sharon Road (at Mill Golf Course in Winton Woods Park). 8:30 am-4:00 p.m. Speaker: **CRAIG R. SCOTT**, CG is President and CEO of *Heritage Books*. He has been lecturing nationally for over 20 years. In 2008, Craig received the *Grahame T. Smallwood, Jr. Award* from APG. Topics to include: *Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors (commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War)*, *Reasons for Not Serving*, *Compiling a Military Service Records and Pension Research*.

Black History Month

2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the American Civil War. Among the war's many aspects, none were more important than the struggle for freedom. The Library is proud to present three programs, which highlights African Americans contributions to the struggle that defined the meaning of the nation. All programs will take place in February at the Main library in the Huenefeld Tower.

Publishing Family History & Photos

By Bev Breitenstein

You've gathered and collected family facts for years. You have dozens of photos of grandparents, great-grandparents, and cousins and other relatives. How can you put this information together for safekeeping and share with current family members? Why not try publishing your own Family History!

At our May 2011 Chapter Meeting, our President, Kenny Burck, will present his experiences pertaining to publishing his own family history book and Barbara Gargiolo, owner of Little Miami Books in Milford, OH will share with us the publishing side of this endeavor. If you have considered this idea but didn't know where to start join us for a fun and educational morning.

The date and time of the Chapter meeting are still to be determined. Please check the calendar on our website.

The Harrison News 1871-1916 Project By Jim Dempsey

In 2005, one of our members, Jim Innis, and Margaret Rieger of the Harrison branch of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County approached me about microfilming the only known copies of *The Harrison News*, of Harrison Ohio. They had 45 years of bound issues beginning in 1871.

The Village Historical Society of Harrison, Crosby Township Historical Society, Morgan Township Historical Society, Inc. (Butler County), Friends of White Water Shaker Village, Inc. and Ohio Historical Society had expressed their concerns repeatedly over several years to Margaret about the deterioration and loss of these documents.

These were the only known large local history resource for the surrounding area of Dearborn, Franklin and Union counties in Indiana, and western Butler and Hamilton counties in Ohio and especially unique for history of the large Shaker settlement in the Fernald area. Births, marriages, deaths and obituaries for the area are in every issue.

In 20 years of filming for the Chapter, this would be the largest project undertaken. I estimated it would be over 8,500 pages and take 18 rolls of 35mm. microfilm. Because there would be considerable repair work to torn pages, it would be a multi-year project. The local historical organizations agreed to fund the film costs for copies at the Harrison branch library and the Chapter agreed to fund a copy for the main library downtown. I had to invent a rolling platform that would accommodate the large books, minimize page handling and avoid any additional wear and tear on the pages.

The project began in May of 2005 and was completed last week, with over 500 hours of effort and 5 and one half years elapsed time. As each roll was completed it was made available at both libraries. The last rolls for 1871-1877 should be available in Jan. 2011.

Library News from The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

BY PATRICIA VAN SKAIK, MANAGER,
GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY DEPARTMENT

New Year's Resolution

What's your genealogy resolution(s) for 2011? Track down a new line? Find more information on an illusive ancestor? Organize those "loose" genealogy notes? Use new online tools to find ancestors? Share your research? Learn more advanced methods? Go on research trips or visit the Library more often? The goal of the Library's Genealogy & Local History Department is to support your resolutions through the materials, equipment, programs and services.

New Computers

On January 19, the Library will install new computers in the Genealogy & Local History Department. These computers will be much faster and loaded with Microsoft Office software. Unlike the previous computers in the department, the new ones have the capacity to transfer information directly from the computers to flash drives. Researchers can also open flash drives from home and add information as they find it. In addition, the new computers have PowerPoint, useful when working with graphics on family history books or creating presentations. Library cardholders can reserve a computer up to 48 hours in advance by going to the Library's homepage, www.cincinnati.org, selecting "Services," and then "PC Reservation." Those wishing to enhance computer skills can register for free classes at the Library. For dates and locations, go to the Library's homepage, select "Programs and News," and click on "search by date and location." From the dropdown menu, select "Internet and Computers."

Collection Notes

In 2010 we added thousands of new books to the genealogy collection. Digitized versions of these books are not available from any source online. We also expanded our Kentucky vital records. Death records for 1957-1959 arrived on microfilm, bringing our coverage to 1911-1959. Look for more Kentucky records, scheduled for delivery early this year. Remember, online providers that offer electronic versions of genealogy books often do not allow browsing, downloading or printing all of the pages. Many books that can be viewed in part online are also available in hard copy at the Library. For full access to entire books, visit the Genealogy & Local History Department or request copies of specific pages by calling 513-369-6905 or emailing history@cincinnati.org.

Virtual Library

Volumes 1-4, 1904-1930, of Cincinnati *Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps* are now available on the Library's Virtual Library. For the geographic areas covered by each volume, go to the volume's first page following the index pages. Each page can be enlarged to desired magnification providing better readability than the original paper maps, even with a magnifying glass. Online Cincinnati City Directories have crossed into the 20th century with searchable directories now available from 1819-1915.

Downloadable eBooks

If you own an eBook reader, smart phone, iPad, iPod or MP3 player, you're not alone. Perhaps you received one as a gift over the holidays. To meet this fast growing demand for books and recordings played on portable electronic devices the Library has expanded its subscription to electronic materials. These materials can be checked out for free. Genealogy books are not widely available for eReaders, yet. But, the staff of the Genealogy and Local History Department can demonstrate how to download materials that meet non-genealogy reading and listening pleasures. For more information on free downloadables, go to www.cincinnati.org, select "Virtual Library & Downloadable" from the left navigation column and then "Downloadable eBooks & audiobooks" from the next screen.

Programs at the Main Library

2011 marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. Watch for a host of programs marking this historical struggle. In February, the Genealogy & Local History Department will recognize the contributions of African Americans in the Civil War. Two of the programs: *Slavery & Freedom on the Burge Plantation* (February 5) and *Camp Nelson: Black Soldiers and Refugee Slaves in the Civil War* (February 12) focus on genealogy.

In March, learn more about Irish heritage and genealogy through programs on *The Irish in Cincinnati* (March 12) and *Discover Your Irish Past*, co-sponsored by the Hamilton County Genealogical Society (March 19). These four programs present fascinating approaches and narratives that cross ethnic boundaries. For more details call 513-369-6905.

Special Projects

Some of Hamilton County's earliest records are contained in *Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio Record Book* with abstracts dating back to 1791. This book, chalked full of local names, derives its information from some unlikely sources, including registrations of ear marks used by farmers to identify their livestock, payment records of squirrel taxes, juror lists, indenture records, township financial accounts and militia lists. Join fellow genealogists as they create a comprehensive index to this one-of-a-kind source. Watch the Hamilton County Chapter's website, <http://hcgsohio.org/index.shtml>, or call the Library at 513-369-6905 for details.

President's Message

BY KENNY BÜRCK

(Kenny's contact information...Home: 513-851-9549,
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I am happy to welcome Bev Breitenstein as our new Chair of Century Families of Hamilton County, and assisted by Kathy Reed. Bev documented her ancestors into Settlers & Builders of Hamilton in 2007 as a Charter Member and Kathy Reed is a member of First Families and Settlers & Builders. Bev has now joined the committee of our other Chapter lineage societies (First Families and Settlers & Builders) which includes Gail Burkholz, Karen Klaene, Mary Tholking, Melanie Hunt, Kathy Reed, Kenny Burck and Deb Cyprych. This new society is for those who were born in Hamilton County or those with ancestors who lived in Hamilton County between January 1 1861 and 100 years ago. The new application form is completed and online on our website at www.hcgsohio.org. Just click on the button that reads *Settlers & Builders and Century Families*, or let the Chapter know and we will mail you a copy. I have passed out about 20 applications to date and two applications have already been completed and received by the Chapter.

We are still working on purchasing the Century Families medals. It has surprised us that the costs for the new medals are much higher than our last purchase of medals. Most lineage societies (such as the Ohio Genealogical Society) charge \$40.00 to join their lineage societies. It is likely that our Chapter may have to raise the cost to join First Families, Settlers & Builders and Century Families after October, 2011 just to cover our costs for the medals, certificates, frames and other expenses. So here may be your chance (in 2011) to document your ancestors and join one or all of the Chapter societies before a possible price increase. The deadline to receive applications to First Families and Settlers & Builders is August 31, 2011 and for Century Families it is July 31, 2011. In all cases we will take an

application later than these dates **IF** we can process the application and complete all the paperwork in time before the annual luncheon.

I continue to get emails and a few phone calls from our members who have volunteered to help out in some way for the **National Genealogical Society National Conference** that will be held in Cincinnati from May 9-12, 2012 at the Duke Energy Convention Center. Keep those emails and calls coming as we need perhaps as many as 300 volunteers. The Ohio Genealogical Society is also volunteering for positions. Julie Miller, an NGS Board Member is the Conference Chair and was in Cincinnati in October to meet with about 10 of the local chairs to go over many of the early details.

A new Chapter publication, *Index to Cincinnati, Ohio Death Records 1878 to 1881*, is now available. Other recent Chapter publications by Jeff Herbert include *St. John German Cemetery, 1849-1879* and *Old St. Joseph German Cemetery, 1845-1879*. I was just going over a report by our Publications Director, Barbara Gargiulo, listing all of our Chapter books in stock and was surprised that some of these are out of print or have a very low inventory. While some books MAY be reprinted in smaller quantities in the future, some may just not be available. For example there are only 8 copies of *Volume 17, Delhi Township Cemeteries* left, 10 copies of *Index to Cincinnati, OH Death Records 1894-1896* and 15 copies of *Barrere Funeral Home Records* to name a few.

The Chapter sponsored a trip to the new Ohio Genealogical Society Library in Bellville, OH on November 4-5, 2010. While only a few members took advantage of this opportunity, it was enjoyed by those who attended. Additionally, only a few members are going to Salt Lake City, UT to the LDS Family History Library from January 5-13, 2011. We hope more can go on these genealogical journeys in future years.

I wish all of you a successful 2011 in locating new ancestors and discovering new facts about their lives.

(Continued from page 2)

Genealogy Librarians

The Genealogy & Local History Department bid goodbye to Denis Daly as he accepted a promotion as Team Leader in the Library's Information and Reference Department. Many genealogists knew Denis through his book reviews in *The Tracer*, his lectures, expertise in African American genealogy, and the Veterans History Project. We wish Denis the best and welcome to the Department librarian Brian Powers, a genealogist of more than 20 years.

Chapter Website

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Publisher
Hamilton County Ohio
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 15865

Published Quarterly

Cincinnati, OH 45215-0865
www.hcgsohio.org

Please see our complete calendar listing at:

<http://hcgsohio.org/calendar2008.shtml>



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Saturday, January 29, 2011	2 Programs about Cincinnati's Subway: Paige E. Malott and Leland Schuler present: Cincinnati's Abandoned Subway, A Documentary Film. Jake Mechlenborg to talk / sign copies of his new book: Cincinnati's Incomplete Subway: the Complete Story	<i>Paige E. Malott & Leland Schuler -</i> 11:00 am <i>Jack Mechlenborg</i> 1:00 pm	No reservation required Huenefeld Tower Room, Main Library
Saturday, February 5, 2011	Slavery and Freedom on Burge Plantation: Uncovering the Lives of Slave Ancestors in Bondage and on the March with Sherman	Genealogist <i>Mildred Baynes</i>	3:00 P.M. No reservation required Genealogy and Local History Department, Main Library
Saturday, February 12, 2011	Camp Nelson: Black Soldiers and Refugee Slaves in the Civil War	Author and Genealogist <i>Larry Hamilton</i>	3:00 P.M. No reservation required Genealogy and Local History Department, Main Library
Saturday, February 19, 2011	Honoring the Black Brigade: The Story of the Cincinnati Parks Board Monument to the Gallant Defenders of Cincinnati	Art Administrator for the Cincinnati Parks Board, <i>Jan Brown Checco</i>	3:00 P.M. No reservation required Genealogy and Local History Department, Main Library
Saturday, March 12, 2011	The History of the Irish in Cincinnati	Local Historian and member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, <i>Pat Mallory</i>	1:00 P.M. No reservation required Genealogy and Local History Department, Main Library
Saturday, March 19, 2011	Discovering Your Irish past	Well known Irish Expert: <i>Richard M. Doherty</i>	9:30 til 12:00 Noon No reservation required Huenefeld Tower Room at the Main Library.