



THE DUTCHESS NEWSLETTER

Dutchess County Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 708, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602-0708

<http://www.dcg-gen.org>

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President's Notes

Linda Koehler <lckoehlr@optonline.net>

Hold the date! The Dutchess County Genealogical Society will hold an all-day fall seminar on **Saturday 28 October 2006** at the Hyde Park United Methodist Church on Route 9 in Hyde Park, New York. Our featured speaker will be Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, an outstanding writer and speaker, and a noted authority on DNA and genealogy.

Megan has authored several books including *Honoring Our Ancestors* (inspiring stories about rediscovering our family history), *They Came to America: Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors*, and *Trace Your Roots with DNA: Using Genetic Tests to Explore Your Family Tree*. Visit Megan's website at <<http://www.honoringourancestors.com/aboutus.html>> for more information about her background, including work as lead researcher for the PBS *Ancestors* series, and as consultant with the U.S. Army's Repatriation project using DNA to trace families of servicemen killed or MIA in Korea, WWII and Vietnam. Megan also has a sister website at <www.genetealogy.com> supporting this brand new field. And as if that wasn't enough, she maintains a genealogy blog online at <<http://megansrootsworld.blogspot.com/>>.

Ms. Smolenyak will give two hour-long talks: "Trace Your Roots with DNA" – Megan talks about "genetealogy" (the marriage of genetics and genealogy), what it is and how can we use it to further our genealogical endeavors. She discusses her own and others' experience launching and managing a DNA project doing Y-DNA/surname testing, including such considerations as test and vendor selection factors, privacy, and convincing others to participate.

"Beyond Y-DNA: Your Genetic Genealogy Options" follows up with additional options for genetic testing for genealogical purposes other than the popular patrilineal surname studies that use Y-DNA tests. Come learn about mtDNA, SNP, BioGeographical and ethnic tests, as well as the Sorenson

Molecular Genealogy Foundation and the Genographic Project, and determine if one or more of them is right for you.

In addition to Megan's talks, there will be two other hour-long sessions, in which attendees will be able to chose among the following talks by local genealogists:

"Genealogical Research on the Internet" presented by Robin Walsh;

"Beginning Genealogy" presented by Linda Koehler; plus "Probing into Probate: What Did Your Ancestors Leave You?" and "Organizing Your Genealogy" both presented by Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer.

Brochures with full details about the seminar will be mailed out in early fall.

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The next general DCGS meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19, 2006, at 7:30 p.m.
at the LDS Church on Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie.

Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer will speak on:

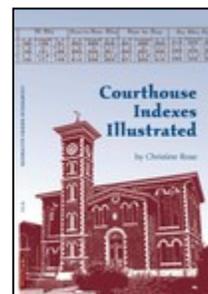
"Fire! Flood! Hurricane! Hard Drive Crash! Would You Lose Your Genealogical Materials in a Disaster?"

Hear suggestions on how to protect your valuable work from all kinds of dangers.

[*Ed. note* - Jan Foster called our attention to the following new book. The review is extracted and shortened here from Eastman's Online Genealogy announcement, May 16, seen at: http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2006/05/courthouse_index_de.html] - -

Courthouse Indexes Illustrated - by Christine Rose, a Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Lecturer, and a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists. This slim, 58-page booklet describes the various kinds of indexes in great detail. One would think that an index was a simple list of words in alphabetical order. Not so!

Christine Rose also explains the details of Russell Indexes, Graves Indexes, Campbell Indexes, Vowel Indexes, and more.



She lectures frequently at national genealogy conferences and at many regional seminar and local seminars. She served on the faculty of the Institute of Genealogical Research in Washington, D.C., and has been on the faculty as an instructor and a coordinator of Samford University's Institute of Historical and Genealogical Research since 1992. Christine was elected Fellow, American Society of Genealogists, in 1988. She has also been awarded the prestigious Donald Lines Jacobus award for two Rose genealogies and received top reviews for the book she co-authored, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*. *Courthouse Indexes Illustrated* is an excellent "how-to" book that will sharpen the research skills of most any genealogist. It sells for \$9.95 plus postage. You can order *Courthouse Indexes Illustrated* online at <http://www.christine4rose.com>. Other bookstores should be able to order it for you if you specify ISBN 0-929626-17-6.

Posted by Dick Eastman on May 14, 2006

MINUTES OF DCGS BOARD MEETING

Saturday, August 5, 2006

*from Linda Koehler <lckoehlr@optonline.net>
(Extracts, by ed.)*

Treasurer's report - Wayne Merrick reported on DCGS transactions from June 24, 2006 to August 5, 2006, and reported an ending balance of \$28,846.47 as of August 5.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership - Roland Ormsby - As of today, we have 131 annual members; there are 178 total members (including 32 life members and 15 exchanges). This is just a few members less than we had last year about this time. We are basically maintaining our membership numbers, perhaps losing a few each year.

Library - Linda C. Koehler - the library is running its usual schedule for the rest of the summer and will not be closed for the 2 weeks we have traditionally closed in August. An anti-virus subscription has been purchased and installed on the library computer since it is now connected to the Internet.

Program - Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer - schedule remains the same as announced earlier [that is, Christine will be speaking in September on protecting genealogical records from disasters; we have a speaker on scrapbooking in November; the regular January meeting is "members helping members"; and a speaker in May will talk about writing memoirs; only March is yet unscheduled.]

Projects - Valerie LaRobardier was attending her first meeting as Projects VP, so Jan Foster reported because of her familiarity with the present status of projects. The new DCGS test website is up for the board members to study and comment on.

OLD BUSINESS

Fall Seminar - Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer reports that she found a place to hold the fall seminar - we will be renting the Fellowship Hall at the Hyde Park United Methodist Church on **October 28**. We determined to keep the same admission we charged last time - \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members for the full day session. There will be 4 one-hour time slots that

day. Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak (subject to expected confirmation of arrangements) will use 2 of those slots to give talks on DNA topics. The other 2 time slots will offer a choice of 2 possible topics presented by local members - including a beginners' course, and using the Internet. The presence of vendors is still to be determined.

Newsletter Reminder - all board members (*and others - ed.*) are invited to submit articles, report on their committee jobs or send general notes of interest to our Newsletter; the editor is always looking for material. (! - ed.)

Ancient Documents transcription - a volunteer (Lilli Kniskern) is still working on that.

NEW BUSINESS

President Linda Koehler wishes to thank Gil Leach for continuing to serve temporarily as Corresponding Secretary through the Summer rush of renewals we get in the mail. She reminded the Board that we still need to recruit a new Corresponding Secretary. She also thanks Bernard Rudberg for cheerfully taking over portions of the job that Gil Leach had been doing previously in acknowledging the receipt of Name Search queries sent in to the Society.

The Board approved a **new Budget for 2006/2007:**

Income \$7,900.00. DCGS receives income from:

Member dues -	\$4,500
Sale of publications (back issues of The Dutchess and indexes) -	\$600
Name Search queries -	\$1000
Donations -	\$200
Fall seminar admission -	\$1,200
Other (interest on accounts) -	\$400

Expenses \$7,900.00. Expenses include:

Membership (correspondence and postage, producing Surname List) -	\$225
Publications (printing quarterly & newsletter, non-bulk mailings, any copying costs) -	\$4,700
Electronic publication -	\$300
(website, as contracted for web redesign)	
Name Search (photocopying, extra postage) -	\$100
Program (speaker fees, hand-outs, publicity, etc) -	\$300
Seminar (speaker fees, publicity, supplies, facility rental) -	\$1,200
Library (books, subscriptions, supplies) -	\$425
Other (insurance, FGS membership, P.O. box and bulk mailing permit, etc) -	\$650

The current balance in DCGS bank accounts (checking, saving, CD instruments) is \$28,846.47. The Board plans for ordinary expenses to be covered by expected annual income. Our balance has been growing because we have received a number of large donations over the last few years (including a \$5,000 gift this year) due to the wonderful generosity of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

The Board is planning to use some of this gift to offer a grant program in the near future asking applicants in the area who are

familiar with Dutchess County genealogy to find, preserve and publish new and/or under-utilized Dutchess County resources under the auspices of DCGS. Linda Koehler and Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer will work on developing a [request for grant applications](#) with specifics to be announced in the next newsletter.

The DCGS has received a request from the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) for permission to copy *The Dutchess*. (The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, is the main repository of all the information the Genealogical Society of Utah has collected.)

There was some discussion about possible uses that GSU might make of *The Dutchess* (among other things, *The Dutchess* could be microfilmed for deposit in the Family History Library and circulation to Family History Centers, digitized for posting on the Internet, reformatted for use in various kinds of indexes, or sold to commercial genealogical companies in exchange for additional free material going to GSU). We discussed our purpose as a group who wishes to disseminate genealogical information and resources as much as possible versus possible effects on our own membership growth and publication income if *The Dutchess* is freely available. It was decided to consult with other societies and publishers in the area to see what their experience has been.

NEWS FROM THE NYG&B – July 2006

THE NEW YORK TIMES AND HERITAGE QUEST ONLINE

- *In-Home Access for NYG&B members ends April 2007.*

ProQuest has cancelled remote in-home access to its Historical Newspapers and Heritage Quest Online databases for members of genealogical and historical societies.

Check with your local library - some of them will still have in-home access for members.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE eLIBRARY

The staff continues to add source material to the eLibrary. Recent additions include transcripts of the records of the Reformed Dutch churches of Kinderhook in Columbia County and Kiskatom and Leeds in the town of Catskill, Greene County, all from the Society's Vosburgh Collection; and records of Park Presbyterian Church of Troy, Rensselaer County, and Scipio Monthly Meeting of Friends, Cayuga County. Also recently added to the eLibrary are inscriptions from cemeteries in Cattaraugus, Saratoga, Schoharie, and Suffolk counties; West Sandlake, Rensselaer County; and Springfield, Otsego County.

NEWS FROM THE NYG&B – August 2006

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE eLIBRARY:

The NYG&B is pleased to announce an exciting new benefit for its members: The New York Genealogical & Biographical

RECORD is now available in the eLibrary on our website. The issues currently run from 1869 (The Bulletin) through 1933 and more issues will be added. The full run of The Record forms the largest collection of New York State genealogy that has ever been published under one title.

OUR NEWEST BOOK

Kings County New York Administration Proceedings 1817-1856, by B-Ann Moorhouse and Joseph M. Silinonte, is currently available, 360 pages, indexed, \$23.00 for members and libraries, \$32.50 for non-members.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE eLIBRARY

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record (1870-1933) and The Bulletin (1869).

Fernow, Berthold. "*Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam 1655 to 1663*", Vol. 1 (1902).

Fernow, Berthold. "*Minutes of the Orphanmasters of New Amsterdam 1655 to 1663*", Vol. 2 (1907).

Vosburgh, Royden Woodward. "*Records of the Presbyterian Church of Cooperstown, in Otsego County, NY*" (1920).

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 23, Tour of Woodlawn Cemetery. On Saturday, September 23, starting at 10:00 a.m., NYG&B will sponsor a walking tour of beautiful Woodlawn Cemetery, followed by a "Bronx-style" lunch, and a workshop on how to use the cemetery databases. Registration is limited to 50 participants. \$10 NYG&B members, \$12 non-members. Please contact Lauren Maehrlein at 212-755-8532, ext. 36, or via e-mail at education@nygbs.org. Group will meet at the front gate of the cemetery (Lauren will supply directions).

November 15-17, Research in Albany. On Wednesday through Friday, November 15-17, NYG&B will sponsor another of its popular Albany research programs, three days of guided research at the New York State Library, State Archives, and other Albany repositories. This program features orientations conducted by Library and Archives staff; three days of research assisted by the Library and Archives staff, volunteers from the Capital District Genealogical Society, and NYG&B experts from our staff and Education Committee; a Wednesday banquet at the hotel with a talk by Meldon Wolfgang III; and a wine and cheese reception on Thursday evening. **TO REGISTER:** The program fee, including the banquet, reception, and all other arrangements, is \$100 for members, \$125 for non-members. We have arranged a special room rate at the Crowne Plaza, Albany-City Center Hotel, of \$99 per night, single or double. Please call the hotel directly at 518-462-6611 and mention that you are attending the NYG&B program to get this rate. You may register online at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org or use the registration form in the Spring Researcher or contact Lauren Maehrlein, education@nygbs.org, telephone 212-755-8532, ext. 36.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*By Roland E. Ormsby, Membership VP
reormsby@optonline.net*

(Membership lists are not available in the
web edition of the Newsletter! - ed.)