



# THE DCGS 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

### Uproar Surrounding County Historian and Archives

*President Valerie LaRobardier*

Dutchess County Genealogist and Historian Ginny Buechele serves us all well once again by bringing attention to the sad state of affairs regarding our County Archives and Historian's office. Our County Charter specifies "There shall be a County Historian, who shall be appointed by the County Executive, subject to confirmation by the County Legislature. He shall be directly responsible to, and serve at the pleasure of, the County Executive. He shall have all the powers and perform all the duties now or hereafter conferred or imposed upon him by law, and perform such other and related duties required by the County Executive or County Legislature." While the duties are not very specifically spelled out, the existence of the Historian is clearly mandated by this code. Dutchess County Local Law 3 provides for the creation of a Records Management Program, recognizing the existence of the office of the Historian. In addition to clear duties for the Records Department Officer, many of which are not now being met, this Law provides for creation of a Records Advisory Board, which to date has never met. Dutchess County's archival records date back to 1717. Former County Clerk Richard Anderson was concerned about the state of these records and to that end had a professional Needs Assessment Study conducted to determine and prioritize the needs of records preservation. Today, in this historic Quad year, Dutchess County does not have a Historian, Archivist, or active Records Advisory Board to act on these recommendations. **Let's have all you genealogists out there, especially those who have been blocked in your research by counties and municipalities that have suffered loss of records, get on board and write or call to demand this problem be rectified. Ginny urges us to "WRITE as soon as**

possible. Please - Your support on this issue will be greatly appreciated by researchers across Dutchess County, the state and nation."

Write and call:

Dutchess County Executive  
William R. Steinhaus  
22 Market. St.,  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Voice (845) 486-2000 Fax (845) 486-2021  
e-Mail [countyexec@co.dutchess.ny.us](mailto:countyexec@co.dutchess.ny.us)

copy: The County Legislature at:  
Dutchess County Legislature  
Chairman Roger Higgins  
22 Market St.  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601  
Voice (845) 486-2100 Fax (845) 486-2113  
e-Mail [countylegislature@co.dutchess.ny.us](mailto:countylegislature@co.dutchess.ny.us)

[Part of Local Law 3 follows]

## SECTION 3

\*\*\*\*RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD\*\*\*\*

There shall be a RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD designated to work closely with and provide advice to the Records Management Officer.

(A) The BOARD shall consist of the County CLERK, the County HISTORIAN, a representative of the COUNTY LEGISLATURE selected by the CHAIRMAN of the LEGISLATURE, the Commissioner of COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS, the President of the County HISTORICAL SOCIETY, or his designee, the President of the Dutchess County MUNICIPAL HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION, or his designee, the President of the GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, or his designee, and a DUTCHESS COUNTY ARCHIVIST to be selected by the County HISTORIAN.

(B) The BOARD shall meet PERIODICALLY and have the following duties:

Provide advice to the Records Management Officer on the development of the program on an ongoing basis and propose changes and improvements;

Review the performance of the program on an ongoing basis and propose changes and improvements;

Review retention periods proposed by the Records Management Office for records not covered by STATE ARCHIVES' SCHEDULES;

Provide advice on the appraisal of records for archival value and to be the FINAL SIGN-OFF as to what is or is not archival.

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**Dutchess County  
- in other genealogical magazines**

*by Christine Oppenheimer*

Evans, Stefani. "‘Middling Sorts’ and Baptisms: Alatea ‘Alleta’ Sadler (ca. 1732-1806) of New York and Poughkeepsie." In the National Genealogical Society Quarterly 97 (June 2009):97-110. Discusses the family of her son, Nicholas Power, who founded the Poughkeepsie Journal.

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**Memberships**

Roland E. Ormsby, Membership VP, [reormsby@optonline.net](mailto:reormsby@optonline.net)

Membership lists are shown in the printed version of the Newsletter, not in the web version.

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**NEWS FROM THE NYG&B SOCIETY – July 2009**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The G&B is accelerating several projects involving preparing original archival materials for inclusion in our website’s e-Library. The current projects include indexing both Ward 17 of the 1855 New York State census and our wonderful Member Biographies. Once these indexes are complete, digitized versions of these documents will be posted to the e-Library. To help with the indexing, some of which you can do at home, contact:

Lauren Maehrlein, Director of Education

[lmaehrlein@nygbs.org](mailto:lmaehrlein@nygbs.org)

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

36 East 44th Street, 7th floor

New York, NY 10036-8105

[www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org](http://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org)

phone: 212-626-6853, fax: 212-626-6857

*(ed. note: I'm doing some 1855 census pages at home, using images of old rotten pages with big holes in them, transcribing what can still be read into provided Excel spread sheets which I send back to NYG&B. It's tedious but interesting! – JDL)*

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**Historic Towns of Dutchess County**

*President Valerie LaRobardier*

Our Quad Project, the launching of this Association and magazine, is off to a great start, thanks to the help and support of the DCGS Board. The articles and most of the columns for the first issue are nearly finished, and editing and graphic design work is in process. We have been asked to make a large banner using the cover map of Dutchess County with a historic image from each township for the Walkway Over the Hudson dedication parade on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The problem, however, is that the treasury is not yet able to pay for this banner. Additionally all of the advertising for the launch issue has not yet been sold. While I will say that every prospective advertiser that has viewed the promotional material has been enthusiastic, it is time consuming for me to go around and visit all of them. This task

has impacted the progress of the editing and design, there is no getting around it. Our advertising is very reasonable....starting at \$20. All businesses, churches, townships, clubs and historical societies are urged to participate, and certainly at these low advertising rates there is no reason not to. Please talk to any business owners or clubs that you are involved with. They may visit the web site at [www.historicdutchessstowns.org](http://www.historicdutchessstowns.org) or call me at 845.849.6025 for more information. Any of you who have not yet subscribed, this would be another great way of supporting the project!

HTDC Membership Level [check one]

- Individual Basic [Enclose \$35]
  - Professional Basic [Enclose \$150]
- Individual Subscribing [Enclose \$60]
  - Professional Sustaining [Enclose \$185]
- Individual Sustaining [Enclose \$85]
  - Professional Donor [Enclose \$250]
- Individual Donor [Enclose \$140]
  - Charter Patron Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Title [circle one]:

Use no title    Mr    Ms    Mrs    Miss  
                  Dr    Rev    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Suffix: [Jr, Sr, AIA, etc., as applicable] \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact or individual subscriber name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Organization name, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose payment and mail to:  
Historic Towns of Dutchess County  
71 Sand Hill Road  
Dover Plains, NY 12522

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**Coming at the NYG&B –**

20 October 2009 -

**Vital Records: Building Blocks of Genealogical Research**, Suzanne McVetty, CG, a member of the NYG&B Education Committee.

4-6 November 2009 -

The next **Research in Albany** program will be held Wednesday, 4 November, through Friday, 6 November, 2009.

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**DCGS Fall Seminar**

SEARCHING FOR YOUR ANCESTORS  
 ....on the Internet

Saturday, 24 October 2009  
 8:30 A.M. — 3:30 P. M.  
 (Registration 8:30 — 9:00)

United Methodist Church  
 Route 9 and Church St., Hyde Park, NY

Registration:  
 \$25.00 in advance  
 \$30.00 at the door  
 Optional buffet lunch: \$7.50  
 Includes deli meats, cheese, breads, salads  
 Get ready for a great seminar this year as professional  
 genealogist and marketing expert **Dan Lynch** teaches us  
 how to “Google Your Family Tree” in the morning and to  
 use Heritage Quest and Family Search In the afternoon.

Dan Lynch will have copies of his book, *Google Your  
 Family Tree* available for sale, and also Kinship will have  
 genealogical books and CDs available for sale.

For more information call Steven Mann at 845.876.6892  
 or email Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer at  
[Christine3cats@gmail.com](mailto:Christine3cats@gmail.com)

Or visit our web site at [www.dcg-gen.org](http://www.dcg-gen.org)

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Map for the United Methodist Church:  
 (Albany Post Road = Route 9)

To Vanderbilt Mansion  
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To Roosevelt Home and Museum  
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¶ The United Methodist Church is on the  
 east side of Route 9. The entrance to  
 the parking lot is on Church Street.