



THE DUTCHESS NEWSLETTER

Dutchess County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 708, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602-0708

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

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• President's Notes

Linda Koehler <lckoeplr@optonline.net>

At our May meeting, we held elections for officers. The slate of officers for 2004-2005 will be:

President	Linda Koehler
Vice President	George Trigg
Treasurer	Wayne Merrick
Recording Secretary	Melinda Carter
Corresponding Secretary	Gilbert Leach
V. P. Membership	Roland E. Ormsby
V. P. Library	Linda Koehler
V. P. Programs	Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer
V. P. Publications	Eleanor Shortle
V. P. Education	OPEN
V. P. Projects	Jan Foster
V. P. Publicity	Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer
V. P. Search	Bernard Rudberg

I would like to thank the board for all their hard work this past year and their willingness to continue in their jobs for next year. And I would like to offer a warm welcome to our newest board member George Trigg.

• LIBRARY REPORT

Linda Koehler <lckoeplr@optonline.net>

There will be new summer hours at the Library/FHC as of June 1 for DCGS members and the general public:

- Tuesday - 9 am to 9 pm
- Thursday - 9 am to 12 noon.

Although the number of days that we are open has been reduced, the total number of hours that we are open remains the same, and we are open for the entire day for one day a week. The DCGS librarian will be at the library on Tuesdays from 9 am to 2 pm. If you are a DCGS member coming from a distance with a limited time in the area, you may contact Linda C. Koehler for an appointment to visit the library at other times (home tel# 845-462-2361).

Summer Vacation Schedule - the FHC and DCGS Library will be closed the 2 weeks before Labor Day (the library is closed from Monday August 23 and reopens on Tuesday September 7, the day after Labor Day).

NEW BOOKS & PERIODICALS received in the library in the last 9 months

PERIODICALS

Family newsletters:

De Bonte Koe [Journal of the Ostrander Family Association, Inc.]

Search Light [quarterly focused on Light family]

Hallock Family Connections

Periodicals from New York

NY Gen & Biog Record

The New York Researcher (formerly NYG&B Newsletter)

Heritage Hunters [Saratoga County, NY area]

SLVGS News [St. Lawrence County, NY area]

Westchester County Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Capital District Genealogical Society Newsletter

[Albany, NY area]

Tree Talks [Quarterly of the Central New York Genealogical Society]

Ulster Genie [Newsletter of the Ulster County, NY Genealogical Society]

Newsletter - The Historical Society of Shawangunk and Gardiner

Other miscellaneous:

Connecticut Ancestry [Vol.45 - 46 have a long series on "The Smith Families of Stamford, Connecticut" which includes Dutchess County connections.]

Cape Cod Genealogical Society Bulletin

Forum [Quarterly of the Federation of Genealogical Societies]

BOOKS

Old Miscellaneous Records of Dutchess County (The Second Book of the Supervisors and Assessors). Higginson reprint,

2004. (Orig. published by Vassar Brothers' Institute, Poughkeepsie, NY, 1909). [Records from 1720s and 1730s]

Marriages and Deaths Reported in The Fishkill Standard, Fishkill Landing, New York, 1874-1877. By Katharine M. Chamberlain. Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 2000. 286 pages.

Census No.2, Village of Rhinebeck, Jany 15, 1898. [photocopy of the original record which is in Starr Library with a transcription and index by Beverly Burroughs Kane]

The Records of the Reformed Dutch Church of New Hackensack, Dutchess County, New York. Edited by Maria Tower. Clearfield, 2002. [Reprint in reduced print]

Petitions for Name Changes in New York City 1848-1899. By Kenneth Scott. Washington, DC: National Genealogical Society, 1984.

Worden's Index to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record 1870-1998. Indexed by Mrs. Jean D. Worden. c2002. [CD-ROM]

Genealogy on CD-ROM. By Marthe Arends. (Baltimore: GPC, c1999). [bibliography of CDs]

United Empire Loyalists. Enquiry into the Losses and Services in Consequence of Their Loyalty - Evidence in the Canadian Claims. By Alexander Fraser. 2 vol. Baltimore: GPC, 1994.

The Balloting Book and other documents relating to Military Bounty Lands in the State of New-York. Higginson reprint, 2004. (Orig. printed by Packard & VanBenthuyzen, Albany, 1825). [alphabetical list of persons awarded bounty land and to whom they delivered patents to the land, etc.]

New York in the Revolution. Ed. by Berthold Fernow. Baltimore: Clearfield, 2000. (Reprint of Volume XV of Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York. State Archives, Vol. 1, publ. Albany, 1887).

A Genealogical Register of the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield, Conn. from the settlement of the town A.D. 1720 to the year 1800.... By George C. Woodruff. Baltimore: Clearfield, 2002. [Reprint; orig. published 1845]

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records - Saybrook (1635-1850) and Sharon (1739-1865). Vol. 38. Nancy E. Schott, comp. Lorraine Cook White, general ed. Baltimore: GPC, 2000.

The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Town Vital Records - Rocky Hill (1765-1854), Roxbury (1796-1835), Salem (1836-1852), and Salisbury (1741-1846). Vol. 37. Lillian Bentley Karlstrand, comp. Lorraine Cook White, general ed. Baltimore: GPC, 2000.

Three Centuries of Simsbury [CT] 1670-1970. By William M.

Vibert. Simsbury Tercentenary Committee, c1970.

The Palatine Ship. Ghost Ship of Block Island. By Robert W. Carlson. College Park, MD: Archeoastronomy Press, 1994. 59 pages. [short history describes the 1738 wreck on Block Island of an English ship "Princess Augusta" carrying Palatine German immigrants to Philadelphia]

Thumb Nail History of Wm. A. Benton 1st 1788-1865 and some of His Descendents [sic] with Side Lights and Anecdotes. By Wm. A. Benton 2nd 1881-1971.

The Genealogy of the Ross Family, Descendants of Zebulon Ross, who came from Scotland to Dover, Dutchess Co., N. Y., in the early part of the eighteenth century. By W.R. Griffith & Augusta E. Preston. Higginson reprint, 2004. (Orig. published 1885 by W.R. Griffith of New York City, and Augusta E. Preston of South Dover, NY).

Ancestors and Descendants of Simon DeLong, Loyalist. Dutchess County, New York to Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, Canada. By Betty Andrews Storey, comp. Self-published, 2003.

Van Imbroch/Van Imburgh/Van Amburgh/Van Emburgh Genealogy. by Donald C. Poppe. [Manuscript genealogy]

Koon-Coons Families of Eastern New York Part I. By William S. Coons & Kate Koon Bovey. 1996 reprint by Ulster County Genealogical Society (originally publ. 1931, Tuttle Publishing Co).

Genealogy of Mildred Wood Poole including Benedict, Wood, Ward, Howard, Gray and Cobb Families. By Mrs. Gordon L. Poole. [Manuscript family history]

The Ancestry of Dr. J. P. Guilford. Seventeenth-Century New England Colonials. Vol. I. By Joan S. Guilford. Franklin, NC: Genealogy Publishing Service, 1990, 995 pages.

The Ancestry of Dr. J. P. Guilford. Seventeenth-Century New England Colonials and a Few Eighteenth Century Immigrants. Vol.II. By Joan S. Guilford, Ph.D. (Franklin, NC: Genealogy Publishing Service, c2003).

DCGS MEETING

Tuesday May 18, 2004 7:30 P.M.

At the L.D.S Church, Spackenkill Rd., Poughkeepsie
(Notice sent by Roland Ormsby, 12 May 2004)

"What Did Your Ancestors Leave You? Investigating Estate Files"...

...was the topic of the May meeting of the Dutchess County Genealogical Society (this program was rescheduled from March, when the March meeting was cancelled because of weather).

While an ancestor's estate generally left items only to close relatives and friends, the papers created as a result of

settling it may contain a wonderful bequest for genealogists researching the family: their ancestors may unknowingly have left them gifts of information. **Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer** will discuss what sorts of papers might be involved in estate files, what you can learn from them, and how you can access them.

Ms. Crawford-Oppenheimer has been doing genealogical research since 1979. Her book, *Long Distance Genealogy: Researching Your Family History from Home*, was published by Betterway Books in 2000. Articles she has written have appeared in several major genealogical magazines. She is a well-known speaker at both local and national conferences.

The meeting is open to the public; bring a friend. If Spackenkill Schools are closed, the meeting will be canceled.

DCGS SPRING SEMINAR

The Dutchess County Genealogical Society presented its spring seminar on April 24, 2004, at the Mid-Hudson Library System Auditorium, 103 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, NY, from 8:30 to 3:30.

The speaker was **Roger Joslyn**, who has been well-received on his previous visits to our society. Here is a summary of his topics:

(as sent to the Newsletter before the meeting - Ed.)

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE CENSUS

A vital source for genealogical research, census records are often used without sufficient background information or understanding that could enhance research. For example, what is important about the three copies of the Federal census 1840-1870, or how can problems in published census indexes be overcome? This presentation covers important historical aspects of the census and explores examples of problem areas and some possible solutions to them. The discussion includes the underutilized non-population schedules.

THREE FEMALES 10-16...:

MAKING SENSE OF PRE-1850 CENSUSES

Genealogists are spoiled by the 1850 and later Federal censuses, which provide the name of everyone in a community. Earlier, only the name of the head of a household is listed and for this reason the earlier censuses are not used to their full potential or avoided altogether. For most areas, however, these records must be used in solving genealogical research problems. Utilizing case-study examples, this presentation will provide researchers with a good understanding of the pre-1850 Federal and the few corresponding state censuses. Note: even if you don't have New York ancestors, you may get some tips from the following talks for sources to investigate for ancestors elsewhere.

NEW YORK STATE CENSUSES AND TAX LISTS

State censuses can enhance research and those for New York are among the richest of these sources, providing considerably more detail than the Federal censuses --about births, marriages, deaths, migrations, citizenship, changes in occupation and land ownership, and military service. Tax lists also provide a great deal of important details about individuals and families as well as clues to further information in other sources. Tax lists can also serve as census substitutes for years when there were no censuses, when censuses are missing, or when a person is not listed in the census. In this presentation, the New York State censuses and tax lists will be described, their availability discussed, and their use in genealogical research delineated.

FINDING YOUR ANCESTORS IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

This presentation will focus on New York State genealogical source records, their location, content, and use, with particular emphasis on the nineteenth century. Research examples will be discussed and special attention given to the uniqueness of certain records, such as probate petitions, state censuses, and Civil War lists, all with the intention of quieting the myth that New York is a genealogical graveyard.

- **Gold in Dutchess County? (cont.)**

(Rhinebeck Gazette, Thu 1 Apr 1880, p. 3, col. 2):

We are in receipt of a neatly printed pamphlet purporting to be the prospectus of the Grand Duchess gold mining company whose officers are named as follows: Hon. William FULLERTON, president; Martin FRELIGH, vice-president; George J. SHERMAN, treasurer; James C. LANE, secretary. Edwin G. FRELIGH is one of the trustees. The company's property is that much talked-of tract known as the Rhinebeck gold mine, a minute description of the location of which is given. Extracts from reports of experts, assayers, etc., complete the document.

(Rhinebeck Gazette, Thu 8 Apr 1880, p. 3, col. 3):

Our Gold Mine. The New York Sun of Monday, under the Caption "In and out of Wall Street," has the following in reference to our new gold mine: "Coal, however, does not represent the only great mining industry at the east. It appears that we are almost as rich in precious metals. The state of Maine has been enjoying a big boom in gold mines for some time past, and now Dutchess county is coming to the front with a presumably inexhaustible [*sic*] lode of high-grade gold quartz. People in the vicinity are as elated as the peasantry round Lourdes were when the miracles were first established there. Large parties of distinguished ladies and gentlemen are undertaking pilgrimages to the neighborhood of Rhinebeck, abducting from New York the best engineers they can lay their hands on, and returning more enthusiastic than ever, feeling all the better also for a day's fresh air. -- Keeping in view they don't run the risk of coming across casual bowie knives or six-shooters, and that at this particular season of the year they can combine gold prospecting with trout-fishing and a reasonable allowance of flirtation, no

objection can be made to these little excursions, even if their main object should prove to be a mirage."

(from the FGS Forum 15(3):20, Winter 2003)

STATEN ISLAND RESEARCH

The **History Archives & Library of the Staten Island Institute of Arts & Sciences** features many collections of interest to genealogists. The Biographies Collection includes letters, clippings, photographs, and biographical data on Staten Islanders, 1851-1945. Staten Island Families holds Wills 1787-1863, Letters of Administration and Guardianship Papers of Richmond County, and Indexes to Wills and Letters of Administration from the County Clerk's Office. Court papers, indentures, mortgage papers, receipts, family letters, birth, death and marriage records, Family Bibles and family genealogies are also onsite. The Vosburgh Cemetery Records include inscriptions of many Staten Island gravestones from the late 1600s to the early 1900s. The Richmond County Records Collection includes Justice of the Peace Dockets, 1706-1896; County Coroner papers, 1787 and 1879, and Proceedings of the Board of Supervisors, 1877-1897. This is just a sampling of what's available. Visit their Web site at <<http://www.siiasmuseum.org>> or call (718) 727-1135, ext. 20. [from Staten Island Institute of Arts & Sciences History Archives & Library informational brochure, undated]

Death Records of Rensselaer County, NY, 1847-1851

Rensselaer County consists of the following towns (each town name is followed by the years included in this database): Brunswick (1847, 1849), Grafton (1849), Hoosick (1847-49), Lansingburgh (1848, 1849, 1851), Nassau (1848), Petersburg (1847-49), Pitistown (1847, 1849, 1850), Poestenkill (1848), Schaghticoke (1847, 1849), Schodak (1849-50), and Stephentown (1849).

The preface, written by Milton Thomas, reads: "These records were discovered and copied around 1915 by Frank Warner Thomas, a prominent Troy lawyer and historian, and were lent to the writer [Milton Thomas] in 1921. The records as found were on sheets of paper and carelessly kept on a duty shelf in the cellar of the Rensselaer County Court House at Troy. The records were kept in accordance with the 1847 laws of New York which required that the records be kept by the clerks of the various school districts, and turned over by them to the town clerks, who in turn were to send them to the secretary of state. What was left of them would then be turned over to the Legislature. This law was soon ignored, but not repealed until 1909. The only other county known to possess any records kept under this law is Suffolk, although they may exist elsewhere.

"An effort was made in the early part of 1922 to find the originals, but among that mass of old papers [in the Court House] it was impossible to locate them. This is greatly to be regretted, for Frank Thomas's copy is unfortunately very poorly typewritten; it was probably run off in great haste, and there are many queer spellings which may or may not be typographical errors. Most of these spellings have been retained, but when it was quite evident that Mr. Thomas had

struck the wrong key, the writer did not hesitate to make the necessary correction.

"As to the records themselves, they are a valuable contribution to the genealogical literature of this section as they cover a period for which there are no regularly recorded vital statistics, and for which the genealogist has to depend upon church records and gravestone inscriptions almost entirely. It will be noticed that no distinction is made in the records between married and single women."

Search Death Records of Rensselaer County, New York, at www.newenglandancestors.org/research/database/nydeaths/.
Master Search: Master search all databases at www.newenglandancestors.org/research/database/all/default.asp.

Computers

For a review of a new genealogy program called "RootsMagic" visit this site: www.newenglandancestors.org/articles/research/?page_id=659&attrib1=1&seq_num=201.

Ed. note: *Caveat emptor* as usual. While this review is favorable, it is often helpful to actually see the program in action, perhaps at a genealogy meeting. It seems that the latest program is always the best, and in fact that may not be true for everyone! Your own needs and preferences should be considered also. If you can see the program in action, come armed with some specific issues and see how it works..

• EDITOR'S NOTES

J. Douglas Leith <jdleith@comcast.net>

From the NEHGS web site at: www.newenglandancestors.org/research/database/beekman/:

The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Volume 2 Family Sketches — Atherton to Bailey. We continue our ongoing series of family sketches featured in Frank J. Doherty's The Settlers of the Beekman Patent. Some names include: Atherton, Attwell/Atwell, Austin, Avery, Aylesworth, Babbitt, Babcock/Badcock, Backus, Bailey

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

Your **contributions** to this Newsletter are needed and welcomed! Send it to your editor (below)! Contributed material is what most readers look for first, and is the most valuable to all of us.

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