



THE DCGS NEWSLETTER

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

<http://www.dcgsgen.org>

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Dutchess County in Other Journals

By Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer

Ruddock, William T. "Robert¹ Stivers of Elizabeth Towne, New Jersey, and Eastchester, New York." *The Genealogist* 24 (Spring 2010): 34-51.

1810 census - comment

I found Valerie's article about the federal census interesting. Many people are not aware that the 1810 census for towns of Fishkill and Beekman contained agricultural information, including number of horses, cattle, sheep, looms and yards of cloth made the past year. Also listed were mills, distilleries, etc. I have found this data helpful in my work on the Beekman Patent.

Frank J. Doherty, 4/16/2010

HELP! We need some fresh volunteer help in the DCGS library! The old folks are disappearing and replacements are needed! If you can spare a little of your time for your DCGS, everyone will benefit! Even an afternoon or a couple of hours per week would be helpful! Much of this needs to be done in

the DCGS library. I am unsure how much, if any, could be done at home.

1. We need more help doing Name Searches – there's a long list of requests. You will poke through DCGS files looking for requested names and collecting references to them.
2. Our Librarian has moved away and we really do need a Librarian, or at least some people who can take on some of the Librarian's duties until a long-term person can be found! This is a good chance to learn some of the "back office" work that genealogy libraries do. Right now, most of these duties are not being done. If you want to know more, email your newsletter editor after June 23: J. Douglas Leith <jdleith@verizon.net> – I have a 4-page outline sent in February 2009 by Linda Koehler, the previous librarian. It might scare you except that you don't have to be THE librarian, just take on a few of her chores!
3. In relation to that, we need help to update the various indexes that have been unattended for nearly 18 months. Perhaps the biggest part of that is updating the every-name index to our surname "vertical files" (folders with clippings and misc. notes in them). Also, none of the names from completed searches have been added since the Librarian left.

Please, look at your calendar and your free time and see if you can spare some time for the DCGS office! Maybe just give it a try and see how it goes, at least – you may find that you can spare the time after all!

Contact the society at the address on the header above, or at <dcgscontact@aol.com>

From the DCGS meeting of 18 May 2010:

Rhinebeck's Black Community: From Slavery to Freedom

Steven Mann focused on the interaction Rhinebeck's Black community had with the rest of the town's citizenry before and after the abolition of slavery, and he also discussed the little neighborhood of Oak Street, formerly known as Tar Pot, and the Negro section of the Rhinebeck Cemetery.

He writes the following report for this Newsletter.

Steven Mann is of Rhinebeck, former president and current secretary of The Museum of Rhinebeck History, and a DCGS member. Also attending the meeting was Mrs. Lorraine Roberts, Chair of the Black History Committee at the Dutchess County Historical Society.

Steven spoke on the early history and the slaves within Rhinebeck Precinct (which included Red Hook until mid-1812). He next talked about the little Oak Street neighborhood where several free Black families lived, and one family in particular, the McKinnon-Irvis family of Rhinebeck, Hudson and Catskill. The Irvises are descended from a slave possibly named Joseph Irvis of Upper Red Hook. Later church records show members of the Irvis family being baptized at St. John Reformed Church in Upper Red Hook. Steve and his mother went to school with members of the Irvis family at Catskill Central Schools and he is in contact with descendant Kathy Irvis of Catskill. He also was in contact in the mid 2000s with a McKinnon descendant living in Syracuse who is working on that family's lineage.

Mann had a copy of a map showing the lot owners on Oak Street which he was referred to by Rhinebeck Town Historian Nancy Vogel Kelly. He also had a copy of a ca. 1900 photograph of Rhinebeck resident Bob Deyo, a Black man -- it being until recently the only piece of Black memorabilia in the Rhinebeck Museum collection. Mann will continue his research via the graves in the Black Section of the Rhinebeck Cemetery and through the graves in the Catskill cemeteries where many of the Irvis family are buried.

Happenings (from the NYG&B) –

(Ed. Note: some of the following events will have already occurred by the time you receive this Newsletter – I include them because of some uncertainty as to the mailing date.)

Jersey Boys, Jersey Girls: Finding Your Jersey Folk in the New Jersey Room

Tuesday, 22 June 2010. 5:30 p.m.
NYG&B, 36 West 44th Street, 7th Floor, New York

Jersey City is the oldest settlement in the state of New Jersey - its founding having been authorized by the fourth and last Director-General of New Netherland, Peter Stuyvesant, in 1660. The New Jersey Room at the Jersey City Free Public Library has a wealth of often overlooked genealogical and historical resources pertaining to New Jersey in general and Hudson County in particular. Cynthia Harris, MLS, will talk about their resources and how they can be of help in your research. The discussion takes place at the NYG&B's new headquarters, 36 West 44th Street, 7th floor, New York, NY. Registration is \$25 members/\$40 non-members and is limited. Please visit our [online store](#) or call Lauren Maehrlein at 212-755-8532, ext. 211.

Woodlawn Cemetery: History, Genealogy, and a Walk in the Park

Saturday, 26 June 2010. Woodlawn Cemetery,
Webster Ave. and E. 233rd Street, Bronx, NY
Two options: 10 a.m. to Noon or 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Susan Olsen, Director of Historic Services of Woodlawn Cemetery, will conduct two genealogical tours and orientations to the



records of this beautiful and historic 400-acre cemetery founded in 1863 in the Bronx. The Woodlawn Cemetery maintains an archive containing millions of records associated with memorialization, care and

design of lots, and interments of over 300,000 people, including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Jay Gould, Admiral David Farragut, Damon Runyon, Irving Berlin, Ralph Bunche, Duke Ellington, and many other famous names. Burial structures were designed by a who's who of period architecture, including John Russell Pope, McKim, Mead and White, Cass Gilbert, Daniel Chester French, Edward Lutyens, John LaFarge, and many others.

Added bonus: If you are looking for a specific plot please e-mail Susan Olsen in advance: solsen@thewoodlawncemetery.org for extra assistance.

Registration is \$15 members/\$25 non-members and is limited. Please visit our [online store](#) or call Lauren Maehrlein at 212-755-8532, ext. 211. Be sure to specify Morning or Afternoon tour. For detailed directions visit www.thewoodlawncemetery.org Their phone: 718-920-0500.

Genealogy Programs at the New York Public Library

Uncovering Your Family History: Introduction to Genealogy

Maira Liriano, Manager, Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy. Ms. Liriano introduces you to key resources in one of the country's largest free public collections of genealogical tools. With skills learned here, you might find the name of an ancestor on a ship's passenger list or discover the names of family members in historical census records. South Court Classrooms, [New York Public Library](#), 5th Avenue and 42nd Street. This is on Thursday, August 12th at 3:15 pm

Clues from Family Photos

Sachiko Clayton, Librarian, Milstein Division of United States History, Local History and Genealogy. The best clues about old family photographs are often found in the images themselves. This class introduces techniques for dating images as well as resources for researching photographs. South Court Classrooms, [New York Public Library](#), 5th Avenue

and 42nd Street. On Friday, July 9th at 3:15 pm

New Tools in Map Research I

Matthew Knutzen, Geospatial Librarian, Collections Strategy Held in the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, Room 117.

Limited to 6 people; register in advance by e-mailing southcourt@nypl.org or by calling 212-930-9284.

In this hands-on class, participants learn how to research antiquarian maps using traditional methods as well as new Geographic Information Systems (G.I.S.) accessible only in the Map Division.

On:

Thursday, July 8th at 11:30 am

Thursday, August 12th at 11:30 am

New Tools in Map Research II

Matthew Knutzen, Geospatial Librarian, Collections Strategy Held in the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division, Room 117.

Limited to 6 people; register in advance by e-mailing southcourt@nypl.org or by calling 212-930-9284.

Open by invitation to those who have taken New Tools in Map Research. Topics include deeper database searching (e.g., Imago Mundi on JSTOR) as well as optimized geographic search using Google Earth Map Indexes. Students also conduct a vertical time study of a self-selected location.

On:

Thursday, June 24th at 11:30 am

Thursday, July 22nd at 11:30 am

Thursday, August 26th at 11:30 am

Researching with E-Resources: Catalogs

Anne-Marie Belinfante, Specialist, Dorot Jewish Division

This introduction to research concentrates on the Library's new integrated online catalog as well as basic navigation of WorldCat, an online catalog of materials held in libraries worldwide.

South Court Classrooms, [New York Public Library](#),

5th Avenue and 42nd Street.

On:

Thursday, June 24 at 2:15 pm

Thursday, July 29 at 2:15 pm

Thursday, August 26 at 2:15 pm

Internship Opportunities at the NYG&B

The NYG&B is offering six to eight week internships for college and senior high school students in our brand-new, midtown Manhattan office.

We anticipate that one third of the internship will be spent organizing and assisting with the scanning and indexing of manuscripts for placement on our website. One third will be spent assisting with development projects. And one third will be spent an independent research project relating to the intern's family or community history.

College and high school students interested in being considered for internships should e-mail a resume and cover letter to Cathy Michelsen at cmichelsen@nygbs.org. The letter should describe the applicant's experience with primary research materials and propose a topic for independent study. Interviews are required. Applications are accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis.

NYG&B Member Benefit

All NYG&B members are entitled to submit up to four queries of 100 words or fewer for inclusion in the Genealogical Exchange of the *New York Researcher* and to be posted to the G&B web site.

Queries may be sent via e-mail to education@nygbs.org

The Story Tellers... We are called...

My feelings are that in each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve. To me, doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, in-

stead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the story tellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called as it were by our genes. Those who have gone before cry out to us: Tell our story. So, we do. In finding them, we somehow find ourselves. How many graves have I stood before and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors you have a wonderful family you would be proud of us? How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say. It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who am I and why do I do the things I do? It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying I can't let this happen.

The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish. How they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family. It goes to deep pride that they fought to make and keep us a Nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us. That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them. So we do. With love and caring, and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are they and they are us. So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take their place in the long line of family storytellers.

That is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and put flesh on the bones. (Unknown Author)

(submitted by Nancy Kelly)

Quips...

(also from Nancy Kelly)

Can a first cousin, once removed, return?

Cemetery: (n) A marble orchard not to be taken for granite.

My family tree is a few branches short!

Research: What I'm doing, when I don't know what I'm doing.

Take nothing but ancestors, leave nothing but records.

Theory of relativity: If you go back far enough, we're all related.

Thanks, Nancy!