



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

by Linda C. Koehler

I'd like to congratulate DCGS member Virginia Buechele on receiving the Helen Wilkinson Reynolds Award from the Dutchess County Historical Society in a ceremony on November 19, 2004. The Helen Wilkinson Reynolds Award is presented "to a local historian who is a current example of the meticulous search for historical truth that embodied the life of its namesake." Anyone who has done any amount of research in Dutchess County genealogy is probably familiar with Helen W. Reynolds' name. Miss Reynolds was very active in the historical society, but as genealogists we are very grateful for the 2 volumes she published on the history and records of Poughkeepsie's Christ Church in 1911 and 1916, her collaboration with Dr. Wilson Poucher on Old Gravestones of Dutchess County in 1924, her Notices of Marriages and Deaths ... Published in Newspapers Printed at Poughkeepsie, New York, 1778-1725 published in 1930, and Dutchess County Doorways: 1730-1830, which concentrates on architectural details of houses, but also has much material on the social and cultural life of the resident families.

Ginny Buechele, a professional genealogist, has an extensive website that includes her personal genealogy and historical interests, as well as transcribed Dutchess County marriage records, tombstone inscriptions and other miscellaneous materials at <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Acres/2843/>. She has been very involved in preserving the cemetery and buildings at the site of the Dutchess County Poorhouse in Millbrook, and most recently has worked at saving the Abraham Fort Homestead, a Revolutionary War era home, from demolition by developers in the Town of Poughkeepsie. Ginny has also lobbied our county government over the last several years to appoint and fund someone to the office of County Historian, a post which has been vacant for 12 years. In our last newsletter

we mentioned Ginny's online petition to the county executive on that issue. In December, the county executive William Steinhaus released a proposed County budget which does include funding for a County Historian. It has not yet been approved, but it is definitely start in the right direction.

◆ MEETING NOTICE

(Ed. note: I hope this reaches you before Dec. 14!)

Genealogy software and online resources

from Hank Feinberg <hank@totalpromotions.net>

Tuesday, 14 Dec 2004, 7:15 p.m.

The Rasso Room, 4th Floor at Palisades Center
near the Ice Rink, West Nyack, NY

The Rockland PC Users Group will be sponsoring a presentation on Genealogy to be given by **David M. Kelieman**, who runs the Genealogy Workshop at the New York PC Users Group and is a past president of NYPC. David will be demonstrating the latest in Genealogy software and discussing online resources available to research your ancestors and more.

Please join us for this most interesting talk!

Hank Feinberg RPCUG
845-352-7111

Death note

William G. Wilcox of Hyde Park, NY, died Saturday, 20 Nov 2004 at age 70. He and his wife Erna have been Family Members of the DCGS since 2002.

An extended obituary was on the web on 26 Nov at (all one line): http://dbease.pojonews.com/dbEase/cgi-bin/go_get.pl?tableName=obits&rundate=11/24/04&rundate%20match=LIKE

◆ DCGS MEETINGS

Notes by Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer

Tue 21 Sep 2004

Anita Anderson Lustenberger, CG, a genetic counselor and a professional genealogist specializing in the Hudson Valley, spoke about "Using DNA in Your Genealogical Research." DNA test results can be used to show that two or more people share a common ancestor, but cannot prove who that person was. DNA testing is often used to determine whether people

with the same name (or variations of a name) are related or not. Testing can also disprove hypothesized relationships.

Two kinds of tests are currently used. One sequences the Y chromosome (passed from fathers to sons); women do not have Y chromosomes, so must enlist a brother or father to participate in these tests. The other tests mitochondrial DNA (passed from women through the egg their children). The latest person in a mitochondrial DNA test can be a man or a woman, but all people further back in the lineage are female.

Family DNA studies should use as many potential descendants of a common ancestor as possible, from as many lines as possible. Sources of error in DNA testing can be "non-paternity events" such as adultery, adoption, name changed for adoption, etc. Other errors may be caused by poorly-designed studies or drawing unsupported conclusions.

The web site <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~allpoms/genetics.html> has information about genetic testing, and a link to a page with a "List of Y-Chromosome DNA studies underway by family historians." Check this site to see if it lists a study in progress for a name in which you're interested.

Ms. Lustenberger is a trustee of the NY Genealogical & Biographical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society and a former trustee of the Association of Professional Genealogists. One of her current projects is co-authoring a book on early (pre-1790) New York taxpayers.

Tue 16 Nov 2004

The scheduled speaker was unable to attend this meeting. Melinda Carter volunteered to lead a discussion on ways to save money while doing research. Some ideas people suggested were:

- look for research materials and magazines at your local library or through interlibrary loan;
- several public libraries in the Mid-Hudson Library System offer access to Heritage Quest Online;
- join the Godfrey Library (online at <http://www.godfrey.org/>) for \$35.00 to have access to the online databases (including Heritage Quest Online) they offer for members;
- join other societies that offer online access (for example, the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania <http://www.libertynet.org/gspa/> offers members access to Heritage Quest Online; the New England Historic Genealogical Society <http://www.newenglandancestors.org/> offers members many databases of New England information);
- Look at the USGenweb site at <http://www.usgenweb.org/> to see what information is available about your counties of interest; place queries that might reach distant relatives, and take

advantage of people who offer free research or look-ups;

- Visit the State Archives Internet sites for your states of interest; many now have genealogical information online;
- Look up a surname of interest on Internet phone directory sites. If it's a common surname, focus on people who live in your ancestral area; if it's uncommon, check out all instances of the name. Call or write to the people you find listed to see if they are related and/or can help you with your research;
- Tell family members or friends who give you gifts on holidays what items you want (books, software, database subscriptions, etc.);
- Find someone who lives in your area of interest who has ancestors in the area where you live, and trade research;
- Barter with family members and friends for help or access to computer tools you don't have (e.g., Melinda babysits for a friend who has a scanner and uses it while the baby sleeps).

◆ QUERY

I live in England but I am doing some research into aspects of 1920s and early 1930s specifically Italian organized bootlegging in Poughkeepsie and in Wappingers Falls. I have collected some material already but there are large gaps that I hope can be filled by the recollections of friends and relatives.

Thus there may be descendents of the people who were around about 1930 who can help. Examples are the Harrigan, Maranzano and Germano families, who feature in this saga. I am especially interested in the operations around Salvatore Maranzano, a big "bootleg king" until his 1931 murder in New York City. Information can be treated in confidentiality, if desired.

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◆ SURNAME INDEX LIST UPDATE
Send in your info (name, address, email, surnames)!

DCGS will issue a Surname Index update for current, life and new members, (membership year 2004/2005 and beyond). The new Surname Index listing will be mailed with the Spring issue of **THE DUTCHESS**.

To ensure the new Surname Index Listing has the most recent member addresses and surname lists, only data received in response to this notice, or data specifically requested from existing entries, will be included in the new Surname Index Listing.

Data may be mailed to the DCGS address shown on this newsletter or e-mailed to me at wf-are@juno.com. To meet the Spring publication deadline, data must be received or postmarked by January 15, 2005.

Roland E. Ormsby
VP Membership

◆ MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Roland E. Ormsby
VP Membership
wf-are@juno.com

New members and those submitting address corrections or a new set of surnames are listed in the mailed copies of this newsletter by membership number.

NOTE: E-mail addresses are updated only if a new US Postal address or a surname list change is included. Names being researched are in **bold type**.

◆ Library Report

by Linda Koehler

Van Wyck, Richard T. *A War to Petrify the Heart: The Civil War Letters of a Dutchess County, N.Y. Volunteer / Richard T. Van Wyck*; edited by Virginia H. Kaminsky. Hensonville, NY: Black Dome Press, 1997. 381pp, index, bibliographic notes, photos, maps. A collection of nearly 200 letters home from 1862-1865; published under the auspices of the East Fishkill Historical Society.

We filled in our Columbia County materials with the following published church records from Kinship Publishing. They all have a similar format - abstracted records arranged chronologically in a column format, with indexes:

Books by Kelly, Arthur C. M. - Rhinebeck, NY: Kinship:

...*Baptismal Records of Reformed Dutch Church, Hillsdale, New York (Krum Church) (Dutch Church of New Claverack) 1776-1849*. c1970. 37pp, 14pp, 10pp.

...*Marriage Record of Kinderhook Reformed Dutch Church, Kinderhook, New York 1717-1899*. c1986. 103pp.

...*Baptism Record of Kinderhook Reformed Dutch Church, Kinderhook, New York 1718-1899*. c1985. 403pp.

...*Marriage Record of Linlithgo Reformed Dutch Church, Livingston, New York 1723-1899*. c1970. 103pp.

...*Vital Records of the Christ Lutheran Church, Ghent, Columbia County, New York 1801-1901*. c1993. 231pp.

...*Baptism Record of St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Churchtown, Columbia County, New York (Lutheran Church of Claverack) 1760-1899*. c1969. 228pp, 44pp, 30pp.

...*Baptism and Marriage Records of the Reformed Churches of Ghent, West Ghent, Mount Pleasant, and Stuyvesant Falls [New York] 1775-1899*. c1972. 172pp.

...*Baptism Records of the Gallatin Reformed Church, Gallatinville, New York. Also known at various times as: Stissing Church, Reformed Dutch Church of Greenbush, Vedder Church 1748-1899*. c1968. 169pp.

...*Baptism Record Reformed Church, West Copake, New York 1783-1899*. c1969. 189pp.

...*Baptismal Record of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Manorton, N.Y. (Lutheran Church of Livingston) 1765-1872*. c1971. 215pp, 29pp, 23pp.

...*Marriage Record of Reformed Church, Claverack, New York 1727-1899*. c1970. 116pp, 69pp, 13pp.

...*Vital Records of St. John's Lutheran Church, Ancram, Columbia County, New York 1846-1945*. c2002. 153pp.

Proper, Rev. Gordon R., compiler. *City of Hudson Burying Grounds Interments 1829-1873, Hudson, Columbia County, New York*. Presented by Arthur C. M. Kelly. Rhinebeck, NY: Kinship, c1986. 274pp.

◆ Dutchess County censuses and indexes

Linda Koehler <lckoehlr@optonline.net>

See last issue for Part I of this material.

Digital online images of the Dutchess County, New York census from 1790 to 1930 are available at

<www.ancestry.com> and <www.genealogylibrary.com> for

a subscription fee, with access to HeritageQuest online free to the public through subscribing local public libraries such as Adriance Memorial Library in Poughkeepsie. Check with your local library to see if it is available through them and/or via a regional library system. Also, other organizations (for example, some genealogy societies around the country such as the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society) offer HeritageQuest Online as part of their membership benefits.

At the Dutchess County GenWeb site <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nydutch/>> there is a description of how to subscribe to "Census Lookup Lists". This is an online mailing list where you can post requests for volunteers to do a lookup for you in the census of any particular state you request.

The online "Browse" feature (that is, searching the census line by line and page by page) is different in Ancestry & HeritageQuest. For both, you first have to select a specific town. In Ancestry, you can only see the town you select - once you come to the last image for that town, you have to go back to the list of towns and select another town. However, for HeritageQuest, once you select the town, you can continue to "page" through the census beyond the last image of a particular town by clicking on the "Page" button (the same way you might continue scrolling through microfilm pages). However, once you get past the images of the town you originally selected, some of the headings that cite the town and page numbers at the top of the web page no longer change to reflect your movement through the census (for example, it says you are still looking at the first town you selected, even though you have paged beyond that town). So be sure to look at the census page itself to cite your source when you record what page you are on, once you find what you want.

There may be other errors in organizing the digital images. For example, in Ancestry.com online paging, they include some of the Town of Union Vale pages under the Town of Beekman in the 1840 census, which means you won't find

those pages if you go straight to the town of Union Vale to browse. If you use the index, it will still take you to the correct entry, i.e., Rufus Potter of Union Vale is linked to his entry, and his census page identifies the town as Union Vale, even though Ancestry is telling you that it is part of the town of Beekman. So, again, be aware of exactly what it says on the actual census page, since it may be different from the identification that appears on the web page formatting by Ancestry, Heritage Quest or other digital versions of the census.

1790

The first census began on Mon 2 Aug 1790. Federal marshals of the judicial districts for U.S. Court were authorized to take the count and to appoint as many assistants as necessary; they had 9 months to finish and return the results to Washington. No particular instructions were given to the marshals, except a copy of the law. No form of any kind was provided to the marshals, so they made up whatever form they found convenient. Basically, it was all handwritten, even the lines and the column headings. The marshals were required to post the completed schedules within the county so that corrections could be made if necessary. The marshals then delivered the only copy of the original census sheets to the clerks of the U.S. Courts, who kept them. The court clerks prepared numerical summaries for their district and sent these to the President of the United States.

The 1790 census was a simple population count, and only 6 items of information were collected: name of the head of household; # of males above 16 years old, # of males below 16 years old; # of females; # of all other free persons; # of slaves.

In Dutchess County, the towns which existed at the time of the census were Amenia, Beekman, Clinton, Fishkill, Northeast, Pawling, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck and Washington. Also included were the towns now part of Putnam County - Frederickstown, Phillipstown and Southeast.

A published version of this census has been available since 1908 when the Government Printing Office published a transcription of the census for each available state. They have since been reprinted: *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States Taken in the Year 1790 - New York* (Baltimore: GPC, 1992. 308pp. with a fold-out map). Names are arranged within county, then township in the order in which they were recorded in the census with all census data transcribed. Alphabetical index in back.

You will find a link to a partial transcript of the 1790 census for Amenia, Beekman, Clinton, Fishkill, Pawling, Frederickstown, and Northeast on line at the Dutchess County GenWeb site <<http://www.rootsweb.com/~nydutch/>>.

The Ancestry.com and HeritageQuest online versions of the 1790 census record both have a complete digital image of the original microfilm, and both databases have indexes.
