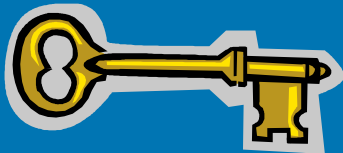


# CRACKER CRUMBS



Unlock Your Past To  
the Future

May 2007  
Volume 29, Issue 4

## Manasota Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flmgs>

**2006-2007**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Don't forget that the MGS Board meets the last Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM at the Manatee History Records Library in Bradenton (October-May). All members are invited to attend.

### **ABOUT THE MANASOTA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Our Society meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Central Library, located at 1301 Barcarrota Blvd., W., Bradenton, Florida.

We are an electronic society, and our newsletter and all notifications regarding meetings come to our members via email.

Dues are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family couple.

President is Anne Young  
([french.cat@verizon.net](mailto:french.cat@verizon.net)); Website:  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~flmgs/>

Contact us at 941-776-0466 if you would like further information.

### **PREPPING FOR YOUR SUMMER GENEALOGY TRIP!**

We recently found a wonderful list of Family History Interview Questions that may be useful to those of you who are planning on a summer genealogy trip and meeting a relative for the first time! Good Luck and hope you have a genealogically-profitable summer!

- Did you have any nicknames growing up?
- Were you named after somebody else?
- What was it like for you growing up in the time period you did?
- Where did you grow up?
- Did you family move often and if so, where and what time periods?:
- What kind of house did you live in when you were a child?
- What is your fondest memory (of whomever you are wanting to know about)?
- Did your parents or grandparents come to this state from another state? When? What was the city, county and state?
- Do you remember your great-grandparents? What do you know about them?
- Who was the oldest person you can remember in your family as a child? What do you remember about them?
- Was there a chore you really hated doing as a child?
- What you consider to be the most important inventions that have been made during your lifetime?
- How is the world different from what it was like when you were a child?
- What kinds of books did you like to read?
- What were your favorite toys and what were they like?
- What were your schools like? How did you get there?
- Were you ever given any special awards for your studies or school activities?
- What is one of your favorite Christmas memories?
- What major illnesses or health problems do you remember having?
- Do you have any health problems that are considered hereditary in nature? If so, what are they?
- What was your first job?
- Where there any fads during your youth that you remember vividly?
- How did you meet the person that you would later marry?
- What were the hardest choices that you ever had to make? Do you feel like you made the right choices?
- What wise advice would you give to a grandchild on their wedding day?

### GENEALOGICAL TIDBITS FOR YOUR REVIEW!

As always, we thank Jean Morris for her continuing to search for such a wide variety of information for our members. My goal this summer is to take the time to review all the many sites that Jean has suggested during this past year's newsletter! I don't want to take any chances that I may have missed something!

- Legacy.com is perhaps the largest online host of published death notices.... they publish obits for more than 300 major US newspapers and even a few Canadian papers. Their website is: <http://legacy.com/Obituaries.asp>
- Seaman's Protection Certificate. If your ancestor went to sea between 1796 and 1897, he may have applied for a Seaman's Protection Certificate to protect him from imprisonment by Great Britain and other world powers. This program lasted from The applicant presented proof of citizenship and paid a fee of 25 cents. Every three months a list of those seamen was sent to the Secretary of State in Washington DC stating the seaman's age and physical description. Write the Archives Division, NARA, Washington DC 20408. (From Kinseekers' Quarterly Vol. 21 No. 1 Jan-Feb-Mar 2007 page 5)
- Did one of your ancestors die in a fire or another type of disaster? [www.gendisasters.com/](http://www.gendisasters.com/) chronicles the events that touched our ancestors' lives: train wrecks, fires, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, storms, mining explosions, ship wrecks, drownings, accidents, and possibly even epidemics. They are transcribed newspaper accounts, excerpts from historical books and photos detail hundreds of life's tragedies that our ancestors endured, from the 1800s to the 1950s - and its FREE. Search hundreds of articles or browse by state or event.
- [www.findmypast.com](http://www.findmypast.com) is a new site licensed by the British National Archives which may help people tracking ancestors who emigrated from British ports. Here you can search online passenger lists of the ships that carried them to new lands The passenger manifests give an insight into all long-distance trips made by 30 million travelers from 1890 to 1960 including the Titanic which sank in 1912. The records also show the passages of trans-European migrants. Many were Jews fleeing persecution who began their journeys in continental Europe and traveled to British ports like Southampton and Liverpool to catch economical sailings.

Also during this period, thousands of Britons were propelled by economic reasons to seek new beginnings abroad. Between 1890 and 1914 an estimated 125,000 Britons immigrated every year to the United States, with 50,000 going to Canada and 25,000 to Australia. Trips to all continents are covered with sailings to South America, Caribbean, West Africa and all parts of Asia. Initially only the period from 1890-1900 will be available but subsequent decades will be put online over the next few months.

The lists provide an intriguing glimpse of individual voyages. What, for example, did 40 year old Glaswegian spinster dairy maid Elizabeth Barr make of New Zealand when she arrived there in 1923 on the steamship Remuera? Did she perhaps strike up an onboard friendship with John Woodrow, 21, a rabbit-catcher from Warwickshire or maybe she built a new life with another fellow passenger, 33-year old London fireman Rufus Workman? Although the passenger lists have been available at the archives' offices in Kew, southwest London, for some time, they are indexed there by port of departure only and not by surname, making it difficult to find a particular individual. The passenger lists which are available online in their original form vary. Some are typed, others are handwritten. Some record very little detail, while others give occupations, address and ultimate destination overseas. You may also find some free information by going to the National Archives of the United Kingdom at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/) and click on Migration Records on the left side of that p(Taken from Genealogy Club of Osceola County FL Newsletter, Vol. 6 No. 3 March 2007 page 6).

- Lutheran Roots Genealogy Exchange. The new Lutherans Online Lutheran Roots Genealogy Exchange helps those who wish to trace their family roots. They offer: 1) A family genealogy registry; 2) A message board. Go to: [www.lutheransonline.com/lutheransonline/genealogy](http://www.lutheransonline.com/lutheransonline/genealogy) (from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter July 18, 2005)
- From Tom Kemp: I wanted to let you know that I've launched my own blog. Genealogy Librarian News at <http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com>. I want it to be a way to spread the word on news, announcements and other items of interest to genealogy librarians and researchers. Please update my mailing address to: 30 Colchester Ave., East Hampton CT 06424.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is here, the snowbirds have flown back to the frozen North, and another year of MGS has gone by. Your Board has been working hard to provide some new and interesting activities for you next year.

Next year we will be offering lessons in beginning genealogy. Phyllis Doucette has volunteered to teach the classes. There will be two sessions of four lessons each. The first session will start Oct. 16, and then the sessions will be repeated starting in mid-January. They will be held at Westminster Courtyard, 222 Old Main Street, and the cost is \$15 for the 4 class session. This is a great way to get started, or to renew your skills if you haven't done research in a long time.

Our Program Chairman, Jean Morris, has been working to put together a great list of programs for next year. We are very lucky to have many nationally-known speakers in our area, and many of them will be speaking to our society next year.

Thanks to several of our members, our project of indexing the Marriage Records of Manatee County is moving along at a good pace. The workers in the Record Office are very appreciative of our efforts. If you have a laptop with MS Excel and a few extra hours a week, maybe you would like to volunteer to type a few pages into the index. It's easy. If you're interested, contact Nancy Ely at 726-5675.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the board and the committee chairmen for all their hard work over the past year. You make my job easy. I am so grateful for everything you do. Merci mille fois!

See you at our next General Meeting! Anne



At the final meeting of the 2006-2007 year, the Manasota Genealogical Society presented a check for \$400.00 to Linda O'Connor Levy from the Central Library for the purchase of genealogy material and books. Ms. Levy thanked the members of MGS for our continued support of the Library Genealogy Section.

## EXCITING NEWS ---The new Computer Special Interest Group begins in October! (submitted by Ed Gaulin)

Arrangements are being finalized for the first Manasota Genealogy Society (MGS) Special Interest Group (SIG) to meet in October. SIGs are formed within genealogy groups to allow members with similar ethnic and technical research interests to share, explore and discuss in detail those aspects with other members. The most common SIGs are German, Irish, French and Italian ethnic groups, PAF, FTM, and Master Genealogists database groups, plus general Computer SIGs.

MGS is starting with a Computer SIG that will concentrate on the genealogical applications, techniques and tips available to our members using their personal computers. We will discuss, examine, and demonstrate hardware, software, and various computer applications. Internet research and applications will be demonstrated. Our discussions will stress simplicity and avoid the technical details wherever possible.

The Computer SIG meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month (Oct to May) following the Society monthly membership meetings. We are still working on some ideas like having a catered lunch prior to the SIG meeting. Details will follow.

Plan to join us on October 3rd, 2007.

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Phyllis Doucette wanted to make sure that our members were aware of the following!

Dear Members: This was part of my RootsMagic Newsletter and refers to the same project I was talking about last month.

### Tip of the Month: FamilySearch Indexing

I'm sure most folks who have done even a little bit of genealogy/family history know (or have heard) of the large collection of genealogy records held by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS).

The LDS Church has been very busy digitizing those records (over 2 million rolls of microfilm) and others. These records will eventually be made available for free online, but what good will digitized records be if you can't find any of the information on them? That's where you come in.

FamilySearch Indexing is a massive project designed to create indexes for all of these records, and you are invited to help. You can do this from the privacy of your home (sitting in your pajamas if you want), and it is really quite easy. Simply visit: <http://www.FamilySearchIndexing.org> to find out more information, or to volunteer. Various other organizations are also involved, including NEHGS, the Ohio Genealogical Society, the Indiana Genealogical Society, and the Black History Museum and Cultural Center.

The sooner these records are indexed, the sooner they will be available for all of us to use for free, so if you have a little spare time, or if you have friends or family who would like to help, visit the website above to volunteer.

Phyllis Doucette

## More Genealogy Tips from Jean Morris (continued from page 2):

- Pennsylvania Published Archives is free on [www.footnote.com/](http://www.footnote.com/)  
This early Pennsylvania resource is contained in 138 volumes, in 10 Series. It has always been difficult to intelligently use this research material without a Guide to Using the Published Pennsylvania Archives. A number of research guides have been compiled and published over the years. The most recent was published by the Manasota Genealogical Society's Jean S. Morris in 2004. It is a 55-page softbound pamphlet and contains a cumulative list of all subjects covered in these volumes by county; time frame, subjects which include French & Indian War 1754-1763; the Revolutionary War; county militias; naturalizations; church records; land records; tax records; etc. It will help you better utilize this web site to a maximum. The published archives begin with 1664 upon the formation of the Colony and contain much data dating to just before the Civil War. You can order the guide from Jean at 174 Osprey Circle, Ellenton FL 34222, 941-722-5156 or email her at [morrisjean@verizon.net](mailto:morrisjean@verizon.net).
- Footnote.com is also working with the National Archives in their huge digitization project which will be a subscription site; but the PA Archives portion is free for the time being.
- About.com has an extensive list of invention-related links, includes lists like Chinese inventions, Famous inventors, Black inventors, and Women inventors. From Air Brakes to Zinc Furnaces: Pittsburgh and Allegheny City [PA] Patentees 1790-1879 is a database of patents created by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. Cincinnati Inventors Database of patents issued to Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio Inventors from 1813-1873. From *Treasure Chest News: Central FL Genealogical Society*, Orlando FL - Feb. 2007 Vol. 28 No. 1
- Maryland - <http://aomol.net/html/index.html> - Archives of Maryland on-line.
- New York - [www.nypl.org/digital/index.htm](http://www.nypl.org/digital/index.htm) = New York Public Library Digital Library.
- Pennsylvania Civil War Trails: The Guide to Battle Sites, Monuments, Museums and Towns by Tom Huntington 2007 published by Stackpole Books and the Pa Historical & Museum Commission; 150 pages, paper, \$14.95. The author presents seven itineraries to help today's travelers discover Civil War history for themselves.
- In the Spring 2007 issue of Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine page 36 is a hands-On history article about "The 140th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, organized in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg which was mustered in on Sept 8, 1862." The unit, which saw extensive action, including battles at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg, lost 326 soldiers to mortal wounds and disease. The Pennsylvania State Archives is conserving muster rolls explaining what happened to each veteran at the end of his service.
- Visit our recent speaker George Morgan's blog at <http://ahaseminars.livejournal.com/>
- Researching a Slovenian Ancestor? Try [www.ironrangersearchcenter.org/store/](http://www.ironrangersearchcenter.org/store/) or [www.sloveniagenealogy.org/](http://www.sloveniagenealogy.org/)
- The St. Louis-San Francisco Railway "Frisco," was a major employer from about 1940 forward. Its employee registration cards have been released and are searchable. They include employees name, address occupation, birth date and place, race, sex and names of parents including maiden name of mother. The Frisco Employee Magazine (1902-1935) is also available in PDF form and may contain valuable information about an ancestor or relative who worked for them. <http://thelibrary.org/lochist/frisco/frisco.cfm>. (From *Rootsweb Review* 2 Aug 2006, Vol. 9 No. 31.
- Stephen P. Morse's One-Step WebPages [www.stephenmorse.org](http://www.stephenmorse.org) We first heard about this man when he created search forms for the Ellis Island database and for the Castle Garden NY database.. Over the years, he has continued to create customized search forms for other databases. If you are new to genealogy, and haven't used his search forms, or haven't visited his site lately, be sure to explore it and try the numerous tools and forms.

- Morse's new finding aid = "Finding Birthdates and Related Persons." It mimics the databases used by *The Private Eye* and *PeopleFinders* Web sites. Morse gives you two Search buttons, and because it is the same data, you can click on either one or both. Visit the site at [www.stevenmorse.org.birthdate/privateeye.html](http://www.stevenmorse.org.birthdate/privateeye.html).
- Did You Know? In parts of Germany during the early 1880s, eggs substituted for birth certificates. An egg was dyed a solid color, then a design etched onto it with a needle or sharp instrument, which included the recipient's name and birth date. Such eggs were honored in courts of law as evidence of identity and age. Why? From earliest times, and in most cultures, the egg signified birth and resurrection. In the Lutheran Church this symbol represents Christ's resurrection on Good Friday. (From Panati's *Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things*.)
- Good people finding sites:  
<http://people.yahoo.com>  
<http://ancestorsonboard.com> = 30 million passengers on thousands of ships sailing all over the world 1890-1909; 50,553 passenger lists of 7.5 billion names.
- Immigrant servants database of redemptioners and transported convicts by Nathan W. Murphy A.G. from Colonial (before 1783) America and European sources, including Colonial Virginia's court orders complete for the 17th century (1600-1700) to be completed by the Spring of 2007 (not the same as Virtual Jamestown Project). Sources used can be found in NGSQ March 2005 "Origins of Colonial Chesapeake indentured servants, American and English Sources: A Bibliography" + other Links. Visit the site at: [www.immigrantservants.com](http://www.immigrantservants.com) (From Dick Eastman's EOGN Vol. 12 No. 11 March 12, 2007).
- Ship and Yacht Register List. This Web page contains a list of American ships, both those confined to American waters and those which traveled international waters. Use the alphabetical search to locate a specific ship or yacht. [www.mysticseaport.org/Library/Initiative/ShipRegisterList.cfm](http://www.mysticseaport.org/Library/Initiative/ShipRegisterList.cfm).
- With nearly 6 million names, the Canada Border Crossings Collection represents a significant addition to Ancestry.com and provides excellent detail on ancestors that immigrated to the U.S. between 1895 and 1956. (Requires U.S. Deluxe Membership).
- Time Lines of History in Your Genealogy. Our ancestors may have lived 30, 50, 80 or more years, or from 10,000 to 30,000 days. WHY are we interested in only three days in our ancestors life...his birth, his marriage, and his death?
  - What happened to our ancestor for those additional thousands of days?
  - Do we have any idea of what happened in the world during his lifetime?
  - Do we know what happened in his country or in his villages during his life?
  - What were the international and local political, economical, industrial aspects while he was alive?
  - Who were famous contemporaries which we might associate with our ancestor and his lifetime with our basic historical knowledge?
  - What did our ancestor do?
  - How did he live?
  - What effect might the world have on him during his lifetime?
  - There are many questions we can ask about the life of an ancestor. You can add many of your own questions to the above list. If he was a farmer, was his home built for or by him or did he inherit it or buy it from someone else.
  - A good example of a family history set on a timeline can be found at:
    - <<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~jackott/AncWorld.htm>>
 (by djweber on the Baden-Wurttemberg Mailing List at <[baden-wurttemberg@rootsweb.com](mailto:baden-wurttemberg@rootsweb.com)> from Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc. April 2007 page 30).
- Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memoirs. A 4-volume, 1900-page Hudson-Mohawk Genealogical and Family Memories (New York: Lewis Historical Publ.Co., 1911) contains names and facts about 600 families who arrived in that part of New York State before the year 1700.

- An index prepared in 1951-52 by Marie Noll Cormack is available at the Schenectady County NY Public Library. This online edition includes an index of families by county as well as keyword searching. The book is available online at [www.schenectadyhistory.org/families/hngfm/index.html/](http://www.schenectadyhistory.org/families/hngfm/index.html/) as part of the Schenectady Digital History Archive. A copy is held in the Orlando Public Library, downtown.
- Texas History Online. For those with Texas ancestors, history, photographs, old documents, books - check out this website: <http://texashistory.unt.edu/browse> Click on 'browse by contributor' to see participating libraries and collections. Currently the Denton Public Library of 1154 photos/books/documents online, but there will be more. Included is the 1890 and 1894 city business directories. (From the Genealib = Genealogy Librarians mailing list.)
- Burke's Peerage. A new website has been launched which specializes in Irish & British online genealogy called The Origins Network at [www.originsnetwork.com](http://www.originsnetwork.com) They have completely re-designed the Burke's Peerage Online service [www.burkes-peerage.net](http://www.burkes-peerage.net) making it much easier to search this rich database and to access an extraordinary range of detailed articles and essays on many aspects of the culture and traditions of the British Isles. It includes detailed genealogical data on over 15,000 families (some back 1000 years) whose members shaped the history of Britain and Ireland and North America. Over a million family members are included. In addition to detailed lineages of peers, knights and landed gentry, over 5000 entries relate to current famous people. There are lineages of kings and queens of England and Scotland from the 9th century, and of 42 U.S. presidents and 33 U.K. prime ministers. It is a subscription site. Read more about it in the Central Florida Genealogical Society Newsletter, April 2007 on page 33 in the MGS library collection.
- Our friend from GenealogyBank.com, Tom Kemp, has re-issued his Blog which was called Genealogy Librarian News, following a format which he used many years ago where he reviewed scholarly articles about varied subjects - which was an excellent small bi-yearly publication if I recall correctly. Don't expect him to solve your genealogy problem BUT just reading his Blog will have you different perspectives about libraries, their catalogs, their openings, historical journals (which many of us tend to overlook) which contain excellent material to help us better understand work in progress out there. Give it a try at <http://genlibrarian.blogspot.com/> it is available both in a web browser and as an RSS data feed.
- Lutheran Roots Genealogy Exchange. The new Lutherans Online Lutheran Roots Genealogy Exchange helps those who wish to trace their family roots, especially those with Lutheran ancestors. There are two features to this area of Lutherans Online: 1. A family genealogy registry; and 2. A message board. You do not need to be registered for Lutherans online to browse the registry, but you must be registered in order to add your family information. [www.lutheransonline.com/lutheransonline/genealogy/](http://www.lutheransonline.com/lutheransonline/genealogy/) (from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, July 18, 2005.)
- From Dick Eastman's <http://www.eogn.com/plusedition/thisweek.htm> 3/1/2007 is an article titled "A Better Way to Search for People?" Peter Wood wrote and offered a suggestion that I have not seen before. He described a better method of searching for people on RootsWeb, Ancestry.com or even on Google and other search engines. He finds that adding one more letter onto the end of the name improves the number of correct "hits" and reduces the number of "false hits." He writes: Often users are not aware of, or know about the "Advanced Search" option in many search engines such as Google. The work-around for that is to use quotations in the search box, as an example "John doe". Of course, it is NOT case sensitive, so a poor typist like me does not have to worry about capitalization. What this does show, of course are "hits" for every John Doe, whether living or dead, including articles on or about said person.  
What I found from bitter experience - and I took the "Graduate Course" at the School of Hard Knocks" after scrolling through sometimes thousands of articles to look for a genealogy site - was to add a space and a "b" in the search box. Please notice there is NO period after the b, as in "John doe b". Now I get a much greater response of just genealogy sites where people have decided to post their genealogies on their own web sites. I have found that using just the "b" gave the best result as it is both an abbreviation for birth or born and also finds all three versions. I have found many interesting genealogy sites this way. The drawback, though - and it does warrant consideration - is that the search will not find John A. doe if only "john doe b" is used. My recommendation is to use as full a name as is known at first, such as "john Alexander doe b", then gradually reduce the middle name down to a more common format such as "john alex doe b", to "john a. doe b". If you are still having difficulty, it also is wise where a middle name is known to reverse the first two names and repeat this process. If one is really desperate, use the very basic "doe b".

Canada Border Crossings. While passenger lists are the more common and talked about of the immigration documents, the fact that millions of immigrants came to the U.S. by crossing the north and south borders is often overlooked. Canada was a common stop for many travelers on their way to the U.S. Eventually these travelers had to provide identical information as those immigrating by ship upon entering the U.S., evidenced by the fact that the same ship manifest cards and forms were often used at border crossing locations. With nearly 6 million names, the Canada Border Crossings Collection represents a significant addition to Ancestry.com and provides excellent detail on ancestors that immigrated to the U.S. between 1895 and 1956. (Requires U.S. Deluxe Membership).

### STRANGER IN THE BOX

Come look with me inside this drawer  
In this box I've often seen,  
at the pictures, black and white,  
Faces proud, still and serene.

I wish I knew the people,  
These strangers in the box,  
Their names and all their memories,  
Are lost among my socks.

I wonder what their lives were like,  
How did they spend their days?  
What about their special times?  
I'll never know their ways.

If only someone had taken time,  
To tell, who, what, where and when.  
These faces of my Heritage,  
Would come to life again.

Could this become the fate,  
Of the pictures We take today,  
The faces and the memories,  
Someday to be passed away.

Take time to save your Stories  
Seize the opportunity when it knocks  
Or someday You and Yours,  
Could be Strangers in the Box

From the *Illinois Genealogical Society Newsletter*, July 2006, comes the following:

“Over a million persons immigrated through the Port of Boston between January 1848 and July 1891. Volunteers are creating an online index of those persons from the Passenger Manifest Index cards at the Massachusetts State Archives.” The project is ongoing, but check out what has already been completed at [www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcrch/PassengerManifestSearchContents.html](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arcrch/PassengerManifestSearchContents.html). Once can search by name, ship name, date of arrival or departure, age, county of origin, destination, companions, occupations, etc.



PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN  
 FRAKTUR & TAUFSCHNE  
 by Jean S. Morris ©

174 Osprey Circle, Ellenton FL 34222, [morrisjean@verizon.net](mailto:morrisjean@verizon.net)



Readers who are familiar with the *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Quarterly* will recall my avid interest in Pennsylvania German Fraktur and Taufscheine. A recent article in *Ancestry Magazine* 23:2(March-April 2005): 55-57 edited by Myra Vanderpool Gormley reminded me again that some of you may not be aware of these beautiful manuscripts which many Pennsylvania German families had created for the baptisms of their children, and for marriage records.

American Fraktur are manuscripts on paper having text written [and printed] in ink with watercolor decoration. They date from about 1740 to 1920. They are passed down in families and lucky is the researcher who finds such a treasure. I recall that many years ago a WPGS member was researching at the National Archives and among her ancestors pension papers she found a huge hand-coloured & hand-lettered fraktur descendency chart of her entire family, including parents and grandparents.

There are many types of fraktur including religious texts, writing examples, bookplates showing book ownership, house blessings, songbooks, New Year's greeting cards, rewards for merit. Those made in Lancaster County Pa. were religious in nature. Often they were hymns or other pious texts.

Many American fraktur have genealogically significant data, such as birth certificates which contain given names on birth and baptism, dates, locations, the mother's maiden name, and names of sponsors (frequently grandparents). Family relationships are generally clear and many contain as many as two or three generations on a single record.

Russell D. and Corinne Earnest, Box 1132, Clayton DE 10038, 302/659-0730 email: [rdearnest@aol.com](mailto:rdearnest@aol.com), have studied, collected and documented Fraktur for over 40 years. During that time they have recorded over 50,000 Fraktur and Bible records to be shared with genealogists and students of fraktur. Their book (see below) *Paper for Birth Dayes* is a continuing study. Write them for a current catalog and for forms to record any fraktur you may own.

Amsler, Cory M. *Bucks County [Pa] Fraktur*. Doylestown PA: Bucks County Historical Society; Kutztown PA: Pennsylvania German Society, c2001.

*Berks County Pennsylvania Fraktur: Artists, Scribes, Printers*. Reading, Pa: Historical Society of Berks County, 2001.

Bird, Michael S. *O Noble Heart/O Edel Herz: Franktur and Spirituality in Pennsylvania???? German Folkart*. Virginia Beach, VA: Donning Co., 2002.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ontario Fraktur*, illus. B&W and Color, many American fraktur/ 144pp. n.d.

Borneman, Henry Stauffer. *Pennsylvania German Illuminated Manuscripts; a Classification of Fraktur-Schriften an Inquiry into Their History and Art*. Norristown, Pa: Pennsylvania German Society, 1937; New York: Dover Publications, 1973.

*Pennsylvania German Bookplates*. [Publications of the Pennsylvania German Society, v54]. Philadelphia, 1953.

Bötte, Gerd-J. *The First Century of German Language Printing in the United States of America: A Bibliography Based on the Studies of Oswald Seidensticker and Wilbur H. Oda*. Edited by Karl John Richard Arndt and Reimer C. Eck. Göttingen, Ger. 1989.

Brocklebank, Lynn A. "Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, Fraktur: An Initial Survey." *The Magazine of Antiques*, 129:1(January 1986):258-267.

- Connor, Paul and Jill Roberts for the American Folklife Center; introduction by Don Yoder. *Pennsylvania German Fraktur and Printed Broadsides: a Guide to the Collection in the Library of Congress*. Washington: Library of Congress, 1988.
- Earnest, Corinne and Russell. *Fraktur: Folk Art and Family*. Atglen, PA: Schiffer Publ. Ltd., 1999 published for The Heritage Center Museum of Lancaster County, Pa.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Papers for Birth Dayes: Guide to the Fraktur Artists and Scribes*. Two volumes. East Berlin, Pa: Russell D. Earnest Associates, 1989, 2nd edition, 1997.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "Researching Fraktur - A Good News, Bad News Story." *WPGSQ* 26:3(Winter 2000):7-20 an extensive article containing four photographs of fraktur.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *German-American Family Records in the Fraktur Tradition*. Albuquerque New Mexico: B.R. Hoch, 1991-1994.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *To the Latest Posterity: Pennsylvania-German Family Registers in the Fraktur Tradition*. University Park, Pennsylvania: Penn State Univ. Press, 1004.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "19th Century Fraktur in Lancaster [Pa] is found in *Antiques and the Arts Online* at [www.antiquesandthearts.com/archive/fraklead.htm](http://www.antiquesandthearts.com/archive/fraklead.htm) 10/18/05.
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- " In the year of Christ, 1782, at 9 o'clock in the morning a daughter was bestowed upon the honorable wife of Philip Duck. The sun was in the sign of Virgo, and the moon in Grehf. This daughter was named Elizabeth Duck. God grant grace, power, and strength.... she was baptized by William Williams, preacher 19th May 1792... Elizabeth was born and baptized in America, state of Pennsylvania, Lancaster County, Earl Township....
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- \_\_\_\_\_. "Using Fraktur and Art Publications to Locate Pennsylvania German Fraktur." *WPGSQ* 26:4(Spring 2000):25-26 in which the compiler reviewed, & every- name indexed Frances Lichten's *Folk Art of Rural Pennsylvania* published in 1946 by Charles Schribner's Sons, Ltd. The artists were included in the index.
- \_\_\_\_\_. "More Fraktur" *WPGSQ* 26:4(Spring 2000):26 about an Anna Metzler fraktur sold at Garth's Holiday Auction; and a work by Elizabeth Miller; and an article by the Earnests on the Bieber/Beber/Biber/Beaver fraktur and a Samuel E. Stover Taufschein, of Center County Pa.
- Pennsylvania-German Folk Art, Decorative Arts and Furniture from the collection of Richard S. and Rosemarie B. Machmer*, a catalog published by Sotheby's for their Sat. May 24, 1997 auction. Call # rNK835.P4 P453 1997 (in Pa Dept. Carnegie Library, Pgh Pa).

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- "The Prints and the Penmen" was an exhibit held at The Heritage Center Museum of Lancaster County [Pa], 13 West King St., Lancaster PA 17603-3813, 717/299.6440, is described in "Fraktur Frenzy" a paper published in *Pennsylvania Heritage Magazine*, n.d.
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Web Sites: (there are thousands of web sites under fraktur and taufschein).

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- Earnest, Russell D. and Corrine: [www.antiquesandhearts.com/archive/fraklead.htm](http://www.antiquesandhearts.com/archive/fraklead.htm)
- Franklin & Marshall (F&M) College archives and special collections:  
<http://libraryfandm.edu/archives/fraktur/fraktur.html>
- Free Library of Philadelphia: <http://libwww.library.phila.gov/collections/collectionDetails.cfm?id=24> (phone 215/686-5416)
- Maine Antique Digest: [www.maineantiquedigest.com/articles/fra1097.htm](http://www.maineantiquedigest.com/articles/fra1097.htm)
- National Park Service: [www.cr.nps.gov/museum/exhibits/revwar/image\\_gal/indeimg/frakturwash.html](http://www.cr.nps.gov/museum/exhibits/revwar/image_gal/indeimg/frakturwash.html) (10/18/05)
- The Pennsylvania German Society web page: [www.pgs.org/culture.asp](http://www.pgs.org/culture.asp)
- PennState: [www.libraries.psu.edu/speccolls/FindingAids/fraktur.body.html](http://www.libraries.psu.edu/speccolls/FindingAids/fraktur.body.html)
- York County Heritage Trust. Faith and Family in Fraktur: [www.yorkheritage.org/faithfamily.html](http://www.yorkheritage.org/faithfamily.html)
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The following piece was forwarded by MGS member, Barb Schulz. A great ending to the last newsletter of the 2006-2007 year!



### **NEWS FLASH. 1852 NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS SOLVE GENEALOGICAL MYSTERIES.**

It is New Year's Eve 1852 and Henry HYDENWELL sits at his desk by candlelight. He dips his quill pen in ink and begins to write his New Year's resolutions.

1. No man is truly well-educated unless he learns to spell his name at least three different ways within the same document. I resolve to give the appearance of being extremely well-educated in the coming year.
2. I resolve to see to it that all of my children will have the same names that my ancestors have used for six generations in a row.
3. My age is no one's business but my own. I hereby resolve to never list the same age or birth year twice on any document – especially US census.
4. I resolve to have each of my children baptized in a different church – either in a different faith or in a different parish. Every third child will not be baptized at all or will be baptized by an itinerant minister who keeps no records. Every girl child will be named some form of Lucy, Louise, Louisa, Lucinda; every boy Lewis, Louis, Louis, Lee or some other form of the same name.
5. I resolve to move to a new town, new county, or new state at least once every 10 years -- just before those pesky enumerators or tax people come around asking silly questions.
6. I will make every attempt to reside in counties and towns where no vital records are maintained or where the courthouse burns down every few years.
7. I resolve to join an obscure religious cult that does not believe in record keeping or in participating in military service. Maybe even marry an Indian Princess and never tell anyone her name or tribe.
8. When the tax collector comes to my door, I'll loan him my pen, which has been dipped in rapidly fading blue ink.
9. I resolve that if my beloved wife Mary should die, I will marry another Mary. If both women should die--both will be buried with a tombstone that says: " M., wife of the Honorable Henry Lee Jamison George Albert Hinden Wells, esquire, gentleman, civic leader & patriot. (aka: Bubba Hendavell)
10. I resolve not to make a will. Who needs to spend money on a lawyer? On that note: I resolve to spend all my money before I go--mostly on my own headstone (which will be set at my grave-in an obscure place with my phonetically spelled name or a row of initials, and the wrong date)!

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER, EVERYONE!**