

# Penn in Hand

Vol. XXVII, No. 4— Winter 2007

The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

## GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

### **RESEARCH ROOM CLOSING 1 MARCH**

Wednesday 28 February will be the final day of research service by GSP at 215 South Broad Street.

Library Committee Chair Cass Donovan, Board Members, staff and volunteers have been working to organize materials, cull out what is duplicative of HSP possessions, and transport the rest.

It is anticipated that this process will be so far along by 1 March that on-site research will no longer be productive at GSP. However, from 1 March through 30 June, GSP members seeking to do research may obtain passes for access to the library at 1300 Locust Street from the GSP office at 215 South Broad Street. On Tuesdays & Wednesdays passes will be available on a walk-in basis; on Thursdays & Fridays pre-arrangements must be made by telephone to GSP at 215-545-0391.

### **ANNUAL MEETING 15 MARCH**

The Annual General Membership and Election Meeting of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania will be held on Thursday 15 March 2007, at 1:00 p.m., in the 2nd floor Meeting Room (the former main Reading Room) of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia.

In addition to the usual reports and the election of officers and directors, the meeting will feature an update from GSP and HSP members of the joint transition team on the progress of the new strategic partnership with HSP, the ongoing transfer of research materials, and plans for wrapping-up GSP's presence at 215 South Broad Street by 30 June.

All members are encouraged to attend.

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**Historical Society of Pennsylvania Library  
1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia PA 19107**

**HOURS:**

**12:30 to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday & Thursday**

**12:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday**

**10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday**



*Penn in Hand*, the newsletter of the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, is published four times a year: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter

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## GSP ANNUAL FUND

Donations to the Annual Fund are used for general purposes. Levels of support are designated by the GSP Fund Raising Committee. This list contains the names of those whose contributions were received 11 October 2006 – 31 January 2007.

### President's Circle

(minimum gift of \$1000)

Mr. & Mrs. Ellice McDonald Jr.

Hon. Herbert K. Zearfoss

### Friend

(minimum Gift of \$100)

Margaret H. Kwadrat

John Howard Platt, Jr.

Mrs. Janet S. Watson

### Contributor

(minimum gift of \$200)

Sara H. Brower

### Other

Margaret N. Leichthammer

## RESEARCH ROOM DONORS

NOTE: This list contains *only* names of those who have signed and returned Deeds of Gift for research materials donated to GSP between 18 October 2006 and 14 February 2007.

Fairfax (VA) Genealogical Soc.

Robert M. George

H. Keith Hellems, Jr., M.D.

Kevin R. Howley

Ernie Mabrey

PA Society of Mayflower  
Descendants

Barton B. Proger

Kathryn C. Torpey

The Welcome Society of PA

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In December 2003, I was appointed *Penn In Hand* editor. Now, under the new strategic partnership with HSP, the news of GSP will be coming by way of an expanded HSP newsletter (*Sidelights*) as well as by way of GSP's Web site. It was exciting (horrifying?) to undertake the editor's role: "Microsoft Publisher works *how?*" But it became just one more new opportunity I enjoyed because of my employment with the Society.

Since July 1993, when Tom Deahl and Jane Adams Clarke brought me on board part-time to get a handle on a backlog of microfilm and of review books, my work at various times has included (among other duties) creating a computerized catalogue for microfilm, evaluating microfilm quality, tracking materials received for review, registering acquisitions, MARC ("machine readable") library cataloguing, assisting users of our research facility, and providing research assistance for off-site inquirers. Importantly, the skills developed here enabled me to succeed as the Librarian/Archivist of the Germantown Historical Society 1999-2001.

As GSP enters a new phase, I wish to express my appreciation for what I learned working here. Good luck with your researches!

## INFORMATION WANTED

Here are the "Information Wanted" rules:

1. Queries are accepted only from members.
2. Members are encouraged to submit queries, understanding that GSP may have to limit the number from any one member in any one issue of *Penn In Hand*.
3. All queries should have a clear Pennsylvania connection and at least one date.
4. Please try to keep all queries to 75 words or less. You may include all the information you need to make your request as clear as possible but GSP, of course, retains the right to edit where necessary.

COURTNEY: Seeking ancestors/relatives of Ida COURTNEY b. 1857-1861. Parents John b. about 1822 & Sarah ? b. about 1826. Ida married James Mark Duncan 2 October 1878. Brothers & sisters: Anne, Kate, John, Emma, Eber, and Eva. I believe all were born in the Philadelphia area.

*Bernard Sandberg, P.O. Box 595, Manassas VA 20108-0599, bsandbergjr420996@comcast.net*

BEALS/BEAL/BEEL/BIEHL: Seek birthplace, ancestry of Jacob BEALS b. 15 April 1806, expect Northampton (now Lehigh) County, PA; m. Elizabeth BREY; d. 1890 Clarion County, PA; both buried Salem Lutheran.

*Liz Williams, 1985 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105; 651-699-3434  
liz.williams.art@hotmail.com*

BREY: Seek surname, ancestry of Maria (b. Germany), wife of Michael BREY (b.1773); resided Lehigh County, PA (deed, 1813-1821); d. Clarion County, PA after 1850.

*Liz Williams, 1985 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105; 651-699-3434  
liz.williams.art@hotmail.com*

PETERSON/SULLIVAN: Seeking any information/ancestors/relatives of Emanuel PETERSON (b. before 1765) and wife Abigail SULLIVAN (b. 1765-1784), married at Christ Church, Philadelphia, 19 March 1802 and resided in Southwark District, Philadelphia. Believed to be parents of Isaac, b. c. 1810, Catherine, b. c. 1805 and possibly Emanuel, b. c. 1812. Emanuel, Sr., died 1812-1813 and may have been brother of Thomas, John, and/or Margaret. Any information supporting or refuting above appreciated.

*Russell Durk, 5431 W. Alyssa Court, White Lake MI, 48383, REDURK@cs.com*

HIGH/JENKINS/EVANS: Greatly appreciate lineage information on parents of Davis HIGH (8 July 1813 – 23 June 1872): Jacob HIGH and Barbara EVANS; and parents of Davis' wife Barbara JENKINS (9 January 1817-15 January 1894): Richard and Elizabeth JENKINS of Chester County, PA and/or surrounding area. Davis and Barbara had nine sons and are buried with Elizabeth Jenkins in Warwick Township, Chester County, PA. Have hit a brick wall. *Kate Briggs, 242 Chesterfield Road, Pittsburgh PA 15213, kgirl7@peoplepc.com*

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I feel privileged to be able to write the final back-page editorial for this – the last issue of *Penn in Hand* as you know it. One of the agreements the Transition Team made was that a joint newsletter would be printed to serve the interests of both GSP and HSP. In the spring, if you are not already a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, you will begin receiving their former, and now our joint, newsletter *Sidelights*. This will highlight programs and happenings for both organizations. More than a few of the continuing details of the move are still being worked out, but the bottom line is that this move will make it much easier for researchers to do all their work in one institution rather than in two. I've enjoyed editorializing these past almost-three years, and look forward to my second retirement this coming June.

When the alliance is fully realized come 1 July, no one presently employed at the Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania will be so employed. It has been planned that many of the "office/administrative" operations will either be

done by HSP or will be outsourced by them. A search is presently underway for a full-time Genealogical Librarian at 1300 Locust to assist patrons in their research. In conjunction with this, we also hope some of our members will step forward as volunteers to assist patrons in that Library when that Genealogical Librarian is otherwise occupied. A GSP Executive Director/Office Manager will occupy separate office space within HSP on a part-time basis, but I will not be that person.

I thank all those who have assisted me over the past three years – especially President Zearfoss and Secretary Donovan, as well as my co-workers Sylvia, David, Ginny and Dottie. The few short years I've spent at GSP far surpass in pleasure and satisfaction the job I held for twenty-nine years previously. Thank You, members, for having made my time here so rewarding.

*J. Thomas Showler*  
Executive Director

**DATED MATERIAL**

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