



GENEALOGY CLUB B-E-T-W-E-E-N T-H-E L-I-N-E-S

From the President

We are about to begin another season of interesting programs at our monthly meetings. Once again Pam Loos-Noji has put together a varied program for the fall. I hope you can attend the September meeting to see how genealogical research contributed to discovering the identity, and descendants, of a body found buried in a lead coffin in D.C.

This fall, we will hold elections for officers for 2011 - President, Vice President, Secretary and Program Chair. While the current board is willing to serve one more year, we need to have new blood directing the organization. 2011 will be my fourth year as President and I do not intend to serve further. It would be nice if someone would step up to serve as Vice President in 2011 with the intention of moving to President in 2012. In the past, we have had two Program Chairs, serving for two year terms, elected in alternate years. Pam has indicated that 2011 will be her last year as Program Chair and perhaps someone will volunteer to assist her this year so we can revive this tradition. Serving as an officer not only helps maintain a viable Genealogy Club but also gives you an opportunity to meet and network with others in the local genealogy community. None of these offices require an extraordinary amount of time, probably less than four hours a month, so please consider volunteering to help the club. If you are interested or have questions you can contact me at the club's e-mail: montmdgenealogy@yahoo.com.

Speaking of volunteering, if you have a couple of hours to assist in the library, Pat would love to have help with database entry in order to make records available for researchers on the Historical Society's website. This is a way to help those from outside the county research their local ancestors, just as we hope residents of counties where our ancestors resided provide tools for our research. Call Pat at the library if you are interested.

Many of you contributed to the fund for the purchase of a microfilm scanner for the library. It has arrived, and is working well. A big thank you!

- Lorraine Minor

Genealogy Club Monthly Meetings

Genealogy Club meetings, unless otherwise noted, are held at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., Rockville, MD. Call 240-314-5019 for directions. There is ample free parking. Meetings are always held on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., with refreshments following. Join us after the summer hiatus for the following programs:

Wednesday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Lost in Time: the Boy in the Iron Coffin, by Deborah Hull-Walski, Smithsonian Researcher. Forensic anthropology and detailed genealogical research identified the remains (and the relatives) of a boy found in an iron coffin in Columbia Heights, D.C.

Wednesday, October 27, at 7:30 p.m.

The Maryland 400, by Linda Reno, author. She brings to life a little-known Revolutionary War battle and the part played by Montgomery County men. She will talk and show a short film.

Wednesday, November 17, at 7:30 p.m.

Saving Private Memories: Photo/Document Storage & the Memory Book, by Pam Loos-Noji, researcher. She will offer possibilities for storage both physical and digital of your documents and photos, and discuss books created online to add further value to your family memories.

Check the website for updates and changes: www.montgomeryhistory.org/genealogy_club

Genealogy Club Meeting Summaries

May 26th: The evening's speaker was Laura Prescott, a representative for the new genealogical search engine Footnote.com. Footnote is a subscription program. With a live computer demonstration, Laura presented approaches and tricks that can be used to search and browse Footnote.com effectively to build a family history. Footnote has partnered with NARA, Library of Congress and other institutions to digitize their microfilm and textual documents.

June 12th: The Club's annual picnic was held at the Waters House in Germantown. Along with the usual potluck lunch and general festivities, Club members brought items for "show and tell": a chance to share recent finds, discoveries, and breakthroughs with fellow genealogy enthusiasts.

- Linda Kennedy, Club Secretary

*For full minutes of each meeting, please visit the Genealogy Club page of the website:
www.montgomeryhistory.org/genealogy_club*

Notes from July's First Friday Genealogy Help Session

Volunteer Vern Skinner was on hand to assist at July's First Friday session. Two Montgomery County researchers came in on this holiday weekend, and Vern was able to discover some information for them on the Windsor and Hartman families. He also had a new handheld scanner, which could be a real asset to genealogists and researchers; information on the device is in the Library.

Library Happenings - by Pat Andersen, Librarian

Montgomery County Marriages: For years, I've been telling people that the only information available for Montgomery County marriages from 1798-1899 was printed in Janet Manuel's *Marriage Licenses: Montgomery County Marriages, 1798-1898*. The original license record book contains only the names of the groom and bride, the date the license was issued, and in some instances the price paid for the license. Other than this information, there seemed to be no marriage returns for the county, except for a few early returns in the Schaarf papers at the Maryland Historical Society.

However, I've discovered that marriage returns do exist for the period 1866 onward. Although not listed in the 1994 *Guide to Government Records at the Maryland State Archives: A Comprehensive List by Agency and Record Series*, they are listed on the Archives website, under record series #T1928. The records from 1866-1913 are record numbers 373-376 of 376. They were probably shipped from the courthouse along with the license books covering the period to 1913, as no marriage license or records for that period are presently at the courthouse in Montgomery County. These records are not yet microfilmed, so it is necessary to go to the archives in person for research; I plan to make some archives trips to begin transcribing.

The marriage record book EBP1, 1865-1886 (with the first records beginning in 1866) contains the following information: date and place of marriage, name of official, title and residence of official; the male's name, residence, age, occupation, status and the female's name, residence, age, occupation and status (whether single, married or divorced). Unfortunately the parent's names are not given - although I noticed in the license books for 1899 onward that parental consent was required and noted for grooms under 21 and brides under 16 (for those who claimed to be exactly 21 or 16, their age was given in years, months and sometimes days).

Insurance Papers: Suzanne Johnson and Gwen Reese have completed two more databases in Access: one on the Montgomery Mutual Insurance Papers (over 2000 records) and one on early automobile insurance policies. Some of the more unusual records: Margaret C. Bancroft, of Sandy Spring insured her Saxon automobile in 1918; The Barnsleys of Rockville had policies on a Pullman, a Jeffrey, and a Buick, 1915-1917; Dr. J.W. Bird of Sandy Spring had policies in 1916 and 1917 on Saxon, Maxwell and Ford Automobiles (2 in 1916, 3 in 1917), and in 1919 he had four policies, on a Nash, two Saxons and a Ford. In 1921 he insured a "Lexington Mfg Co. Touring Sedanette." Looking at all the policies, a wide variety of automobiles were covered (although Montgomery County residents seem to have preferred Fords). Many of the brand names are unfamiliar to us today, such as the "Krit," which was advertised in the *Sentinel* by Watkins of Etchison.