



# Genealogical Society of Rockland County, NY

## NEWSLETTER

Volume 20, No. 2 • Celebrating our 20th Anniversary • ISSN 1085-8563

Home Page: <http://www.rocklandgenealogy.org>

### In This Issue

GSRC Information .....	Page 1
Extracts from Minutes:	
September 27, 2005.....	Page 2
Photos from the GSRC 20th Anniversary meeting, HSPIRP mugs information.....	Pages 3
Extracts from Minutes:	
October 25, 2005, Famous Estates in Town of Woodbury late 1800's.....	Pages 4 - 5
Extracts from Minutes:	
November 22, 2005.....	Pages 6
Membership Renewal Notice, New Members, New Surnames.....	Page 7 - 8
New Addresses, New e-mail addresses, E-mail address correction(s), New on the GSRC Website, 2006 Rockland Historic Preservation Merit Awards....	Page 8
The Rockland Scrapbook, F.Y.I., Comments on Ancestor Table: Eleanore Keenan Logan, Additions to Ancestor Table: Alfred L. Beasley, Calendar of Events...	Page 9
Photos from Crossing the Boundaries.....	Page 10
Mayers-Allison Family History Book Review, Home Kids-The Story of St. Agatha's Home for Children.....	Page 11 - 12
In the Rockland Room.....	Page 12
The Pyrahs of Orange County, NY, A Note from the Editor.....	Page 13
GSRC Publications Order Form .....	Page 14

All photos: Joanne Potanovic, unless otherwise noted.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Dues & Membership

Annual Society dues are \$ 15.00 for both individuals and organizations. The Society dues year is September 1st to August 31st. Have you renewed yet?

\* \* \* \* \*

For information regarding meeting cancellations due to bad weather, call:

Joan Brooks	845-942-0577
Marie Koestler	845-623-4046
Maryann Smith	845-358-2145

\* \* \* \* \*

### Meetings

Regular meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of every month except July, August and December. GSRC meetings are held in the all purpose meeting room in the New City Public Library, 220 North Main Street, New City, (Rockland County), New York. 845-634-4997.

**All meetings start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.**

\* \* \* \* \*

### GSRC Officers & Chairpersons 2005

President	Michael Secora
Vice President	Richard Peterson
Recording Secretary	Joan Brooks
Treasurer	Robert Protzmann
Board of Directors	Florence Anderson
	Les Baisley
	Marie Koestler
	George Fee
	Henry Rennie
	Douglas Renud
	Maryann Smith
Genealogical Research Librarian	Marie Koestler
Membership	Marie Koestler
Newsletter Editor	Robert Protzmann
Programs	Joanne Potanovic
Publishing / Indexing	Douglas Renud
	Florence Anderson
	Les Baisley
	Joan Brooks
	Marie Koestler
	Richard Peterson
	Mike Secora
	Maryann Smith
Publicity	Maureen Ryan
Surname Index Editor	Robert Protzmann
Webmaster	Bruce Hamilton

The above officers can be reached by postal mail at:

Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
P.O. Box 444, New City, NY 10956

\* \* \* \* \*

**Minutes of Meeting of  
Genealogical Society of Rockland County**

**Tuesday, September 27, 2005 - New City Library  
Twentieth Anniversary**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Vice President Richard Peterson.

The minutes of the last meeting were dispensed with on motion by George Trigg, seconded by Henry Rennie, passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report due to Treasurer being on vacation.

**Membership:** No report.

**Indexing:** Les Baisley reported that Tom Sullivan was able to obtain the remainder of the Shankey books, and the data is now being entered. Tom also offered to try to get the McGowan books for us. Only a few books were sold over the summer. Les is working on transcribing and entering the data on Mt. Rest Cemetery, Stony Point, and it will soon be ready for proofing. The White Funeral Home records are almost finished. Marie Koestler has finished Wyman-Mock, Pearl River; we just need to get pictures, etc. Marie is also still working on the Ramapo and Orangetown cemeteries.

**Announcements:**

Sally Pellegrini of New City Library announced that in the past year the library had sponsored two trips to New York City, showing people how to get there and get around. The third trip is planned for October 3rd by ferry to Chambers Street.

The next New York City Family History Fair will take place on October 16th in Manhattan at NYU, Midtown. This is a one-day conference, which includes vendors, speakers, etc. In addition, genealogists will be on hand to help people with their "brick walls." Last year, Karen Lamberton and Bob Protzmann had a table there, but they could use more volunteers to help so everyone can participate in the fair.

Sally reminded everyone of the conference, "Crossing the Boundaries," sponsored by the NYG&B Society and several genealogical societies in the area, including ours, on Saturday, October 29th, at the Salvation Army building in Suffern. There will be nine speakers.

On the afternoon of January 15th, 2006, the Library and our Society will sponsor a program featuring basic concepts (church records, vital records, census, etc.) of genealogical research. This will include small group meetings of about 20 minutes each, with people moving to another group every 20 minutes.

Sally noted that, during the summer, the Library experienced many problems with the new computer system, but that everything seems to be working fine now.

The Library now has four CD's of the NYG&B Journal.

The Historical Society donated some original notebooks of George Budke. They have been organized by library staff and bound. Maryann Smith noted that, among the books, was a copy of the Gage Genealogy,

which has been copied for the New City Library, as well as our own. The Gage family had been engaged in the shipbuilding business in Nyack.

The Library obituary project has been put on hold until other ongoing obituary projects are coordinated, so there is no duplication.

Regina Haring noted that on the weekend of October 1st and 2nd, the 225th anniversary of Major John Andre's hanging will be marked during Colonial Days at the DeWindt House. This event is sponsored by the Tappan Historical Society.

The GSRC newsletter is in the mail.

Dick Peterson noted concerns among our members: George Fee had open heart surgery; Christine DePalma underwent major surgery; Franklin Hoffman had cardiac bypass surgery.

**Programs:**

October 25th—Dorothy Meyers of the Woodbury Historical Society speaking about some of the famous estates in the Town of Woodbury, NY, during the late 1800's.

November 22nd—Someone will speak about an ongoing project to translate Huguenot texts from French and German into English, noting the impact that language had on the culture in New Paltz, NY.

Newsletter editor, Joanne Potanovic, requested from members information to include in future newsletters.

Member Dick Ten Eyck of Colorado spoke about his involvement in the Ten Eyck DNA Project, of which he is manager. Through FamilyTreeDNA, he and four other Ten Eyck's, three of whom had already proved their descendancy from Ten Eyck lines, participated in the project. Thirty-four markers were utilized, costing about \$270, and the results were back in six weeks. DNA proved that the two who had unproved lines were related to the other three.

A year or so ago, he had hired title searcher, Don Lynch, to assist in pinpointing the location of his Ten Eyck ancestor's land here in Rockland County. It was found to be on Deegan Lane in Tomkins Cove. Eugene White now lives on that land and had in his possession the original Ten Eyck deed.

Both Dick Ten Eyck and his wife, Teen, thanked the members of our Society for all their help over the past few years.

Tonight we are celebrating our twentieth anniversary as the Genealogical Society of Rockland County. Marie Koestler stated that, at the very first organizational meeting, sixty people showed up at the lower meeting room of the Historical Society building in New City. A summary of our history is in the current newsletter. (Copy attached to minutes)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. on motion by George Trigg, seconded by Karen Lamberton. Cake and coffee, etc., were served.

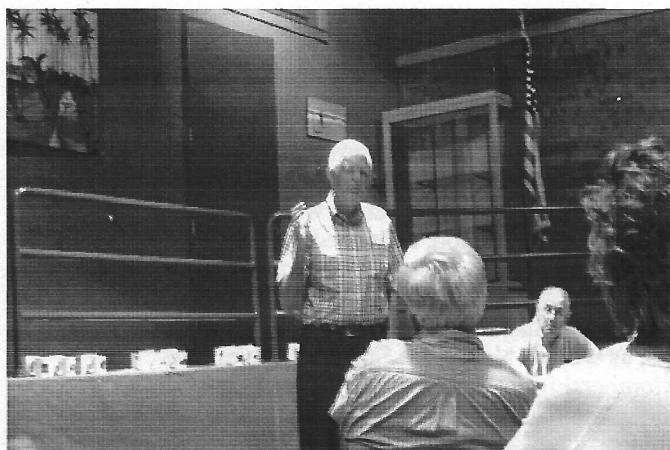
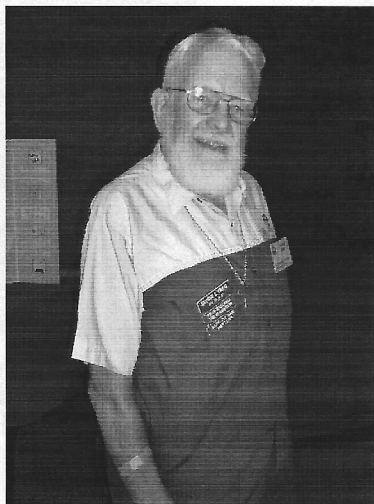
Respectfully submitted,  
Joan C. Brooks  
Secretary





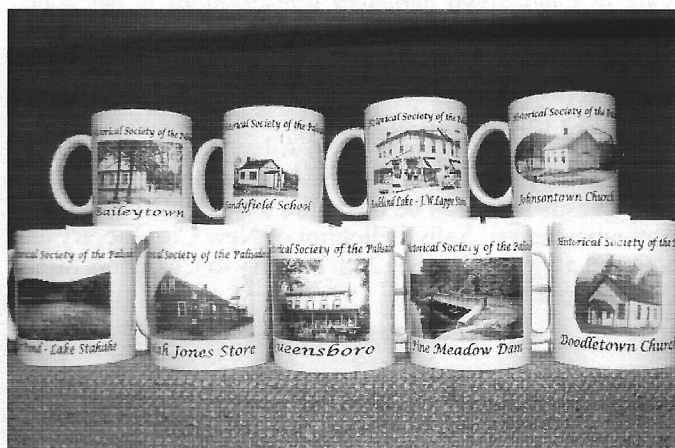
Four of the original GSRC members: Joan Brooks, Marie Koestler, Les Baisley and Henry Rennie.

GSRC member George Trigg travels the farthest for each month's meeting.



GSRC member Dick Ten Eyck spoke about his involvement in the Ten Eyck DNA Project.

\* \* \* \* \*



### Noteworthy

The Historical Society of the Palisades Interstate Park Region has some beautiful mugs available with images, such as:

Sandyfield School, Doodletown Church, Johnsontown Church, Rockland Lake - J.W. Lappe Store and more.

The mugs will be on display at the New City Library in February

Sales of these mugs benefit the Historical Society of the Palisades Interstate Park Region.

For further information, please contact:

Florence Anderson  
2 Buckingham Court, Pomona, NY 10970  
(845) 354-2493

E-mail: <fandersonn@aol.com>

For further information regarding the Historical Society of the Palisades Interstate Park Region, please contact:

John E. Perrotta, Jr., HSPIPR chairman  
845-362-2068.

\* \* \* \* \*



GSRC members MaryAnn Smith and Susan Schuler help Allison Potanovic (daughter of your editor) enjoy some of the delicious anniversary cake!

**Minutes of Meeting of  
the Genealogical Society of Rockland County**

Tuesday, October 25, 2005 - New City Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President Michael Secora.

The minutes of the last meeting were dispensed with on motion by Dick Peterson, seconded by Barry Brooks, passed. Treasurer's Report: Bob Protzmann reported a balance of \$9,391.11 in our checkbook as of August 31, 2005. Also, our Society has received its Federal 501c3 tax exempt status, as well as New York State tax exemption.

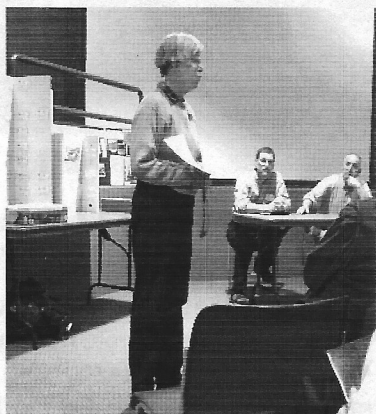
Membership: Bob reported 130 paid members to date.

Indexing: Les Baisley stated that everything is coming along. The Shankey records are being entered into the computer and will be printed out to be proofed. He is almost finished with Mt. Rest Cemetery, after which it will be proofed by a walk-through. Marie Koestler is still working on Wyman-Fisher Funeral Home records. Peter Krell's book of Clarkstown cemetery transcriptions is being entered into the computer.

Website: Maryann Smith noted that several members are currently working on recording the Rockland County vital records (birth, marriage, death) from the microfiche at the New York State Archives in Albany. It is planned to put these on the website. Mike Secora noted that the 1892 NYS census will soon be up on the website.

Announcements: Sally Pellegrini of New City Library announced a trip on October 26th by ferry to Chambers Street in New York City.

Sally  
Pellegrini  
addressing  
the GSRC  
October 2005



Sally reminded everyone of the conference, "Crossing the Boundaries," sponsored by the NYG&B Society and several genealogical societies in the area, including ours, on Saturday, October 29th, at the Salvation Army building in Suffern. There will be nine speakers. Maryann Smith noted that volunteers are still needed to take care of our GSRC table. We also need to provide a volunteer to assist Peter Scheibner, since he'll have a laptop computer at the conference, which will contain some of the records the County Archives has on its kiosk.

Programs: November 22nd—Topic: Translating Huguenot texts from French and German into English. The speaker will discuss the impact those languages had on the culture in New Paltz.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on motion by Dick Peterson, seconded by Henry Rennie,

to proceed with the program, "Famous Estates in the Town of Woodbury during the late 1800's" by Dorothy Morris.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan C. Brooks  
Secretary

\* \* \* \* \*

**Famous Estates in the Town of Woodbury  
during the late 1800's**  
presented by Dorothy Morris

Dorothy is a member of the Woodbury Historical Society. Although she was originally from this area, she worked in Ohio for many years, and then returned home, noticed all the new development that had taken place, and would be taking place, and became interested in local history. In one case, she noted that the development of Woodbury Commons made a huge difference in the open space that was there before.



Dorothy  
Morris

Dorothy spoke about several of the "famous" people who had come to the Town of Woodbury. It was quite easy to come up the corridor and up through the Clove to the country. Rent was cheap, and they also bought land and built mansions. Newspapers would send reporters up to the town, and they would write stories about the wonderful country up there. One writer, William T. Howell, was also an avid hiker, and he kept a journal or diary of all of his travels, including the wildlife, geology, and the way of life of the inhabitants. People discovered that they could get out of the city to good, clean air.

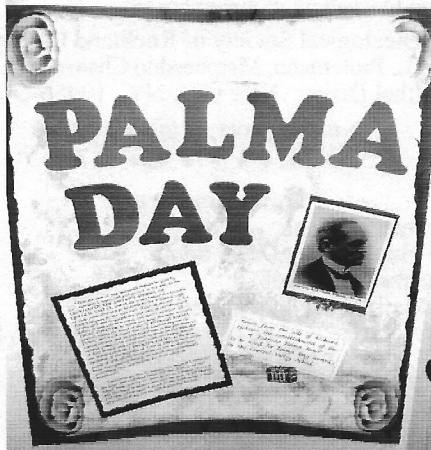
Even the people who weren't so well off could come up to the country and stay in the boarding houses that sprang up in the town. Another draw for people was mineral springs. Estates were owned by George M. Cohan, Charles E. Rushmore, Gypsy Rose Lee, Fred F. Proctor, Estrada Palma, David Cornell, Dr. James E. Falkirk, and, of course, Edward H. Harriman.

Fred F. Proctor: Fred Proctor had English roots. He had to quit school at 9 years of age when his father died and there was no money. He went to work in a menswear store, and eventually became an equilibrist (sp). In the 1860's, he bought the name, Fred Levitine (sp). He married and settled in Albany, bought many theaters on the Eastern seaboard, and founded a home for Vaudeville performers in New Jersey. He had a second marriage about ten years after his first wife died. They had a car accident, and he never drove much by car after that except for short jaunts. He pur-



chased property (over 1,000 acres) in Central Valley and built several homes and other buildings on it. This was a summer home for him and his wife. In 1928, he decided to retire on the Central Valley farm and get his affairs in order. He also had operated Proctor's Pleasure Palace on Fifth Avenue in New York City. In September, 1929, he died. His will consisted of at least 600 pages. He bequeathed something to anyone with whom he had ever been associated. In October, 1929, the Depression began, and the property went into receivership. It is now Camp Buckner and some other smaller camps. All the buildings except the Gate House were burned down, for whatever reason. In 1990, the Woodbury Historical Society prevented the Town of Woodbury from turning the Gate House back to the Government. The Historical Society did take it, but it is held by the Town. It has taken over eight years to completely renovate it, and it is now the Historical Society's Museum.

George M. Cohan: George had a summer home for himself and his parents in Woodbury, but he, himself, didn't spend much time there.



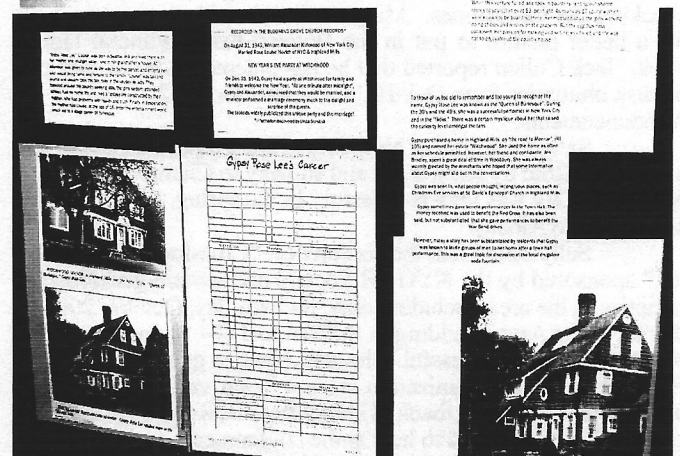
Estrada Palma: Estrada was born in Cuba and came from a very well-to-do family. He led some of his friends to free Cuba. He was very sickly and frail from being put in prison in Spain, and he and his wife came to Woodbury and stayed in a boarding house in Central Valley near David Cornell, who operated a boys' school, where Estrada took a teaching position. He eventually bought his own place and set up his own boys' school. In 1901, Palma was elected the first President of Cuba. He served four years and then retired. He died several years later.

Edward H. Harriman: Edward Harriman initially came from a poor background. His father decided to become an Episcopal minister, but was very cold and austere. He took a calling in California and left his wife and children. At some point, he did return to the family. Edward quit Trinity School at age 14 to work on Wall Street. He saved his money and purchased a seat on the Stock Exchange. He married a woman whose family was in the railroad business. There is the story that he originally intended to build in Tuxedo Park, but they rejected him. So, he then built Arden House on top of the mountain, so he could look down upon Tuxedo. A more plausible reason to build on the mountain was that he was always sickly, and the air up

there would be more healthful. Italian and German craftsmen were imported to build the mansion. The property also included a working dairy farm. During World War II, it was a convalescent home for the U.S. Navy. Following that, it was taken over by Columbia University and used as a Conference Center for many years. Currently, Columbia is not using it, and its future fate is unknown. Part of E.H. Harriman's land became Woodbury Commons and a public school building.

Gypsy Rose Lee: Gypsy and her sister, June, were entertainers, basically manipulated by their mother. Gypsy did author an autobiography. At sixteen, she was very heavy, but as an adult she became a Vaudeville entertainer; both Gypsy and June were moneymakers for their mother. Her mother then decided she wanted a chicken farm.

#### GYPSY ROSE LEE



Gypsy purchased property (Witchwood Manor) in Highland Mills. Her mother raised chickens and also made and sold jelly; however, when the place failed, she took in boarders, who were housed all over the property, including the barn. Gypsy was twice married. She did do some performances for the Red Cross and for War Bonds, but she was really a very private person.

Charles E. Rushmore: Charles was an attorney, who originally went out to South Dakota in the mining business. He exposed fraud in the industry, and they named a mountain after him (Mount Rushmore). Since his wife was not in good health, he purchased an old farmhouse in Woodbury, which was built in 1830. They hired an architect to convert it to a Victorian. This building still exists and is now a restaurant. Charles commuted by train from his home in Woodbury to New York City. He died at age 73 years, and his wife lived into her nineties.

Dr. James E. Ferguson: Dr. Ferguson was a major and physician in the Civil War, and later on established a mental hospital in the Town of Woodbury called Falkirk. He found that part of the country very much like the village of Falkirk in Scotland, where he had grown up. He also built a very large home on the hospital grounds. After he died in the early 1900's, his son sold it to a Dr. Carlos MacDonald. Wayne Corts of Stony Point has purchased it and has made it a private home.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Minutes of Meeting of  
Genealogical Society of Rockland County**

Tuesday, November 22, 2005 - New City Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by President Michael Secora.

The minutes of the last meeting were dispensed with on motion by Jack Cullen, seconded by George Trigg, passed.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Protzmann reported the following balances: \$9,356.11 (9/30/2005); \$11,228.23 (10/31/2005). We started the year 2004-2005 with a balance of \$10,899.65, and finished with \$9,391.11.

Membership: Bob reported 165 paid members to date; 48 remain unpaid.

Indexing: Les Baisley stated that the Shankey records are being entered into the computer and will be printed out to be proofed. Joan and Barry Brooks, Marie Koestler, and Les are proofing the Mt. Rest Cemetery draft by walking through the cemetery and checking the tombstones. Maryann Smith will continue to look for a better picture to put in the Wyman-Fisher Funeral Home book. Jack Cullen reported that he has entered, indexed, and put on disk obituaries from Oak Hill Cemetery for 2002.

Announcements:

Sally Pellegrini of New City Library reported that the trip on October 26th by ferry, train, and subway to Chambers Street in New York City was very successful. In the spring, we might take a train ride to Albany.

Sally stated that the conference, "Crossing the Boundaries," sponsored by the NYG&B Society and several genealogical societies in the area, including ours, on Saturday, October 29th, at the Salvation Army building in Suffern had 60+ attendees. It appeared to be very successful. She noted that, in general, most conferences with any organization are not being very well attended lately. Bob Protzmann thanked Henry Rennie, Regina Haring, and others who volunteered to help at the conference.

The libraries in Rockland County are starting a project of scanning in all their postcards. New City's have been finished and will be placed on line.

On Saturday, January 14, 2006, an afternoon mini-conference for beginners in genealogy is planned at New City Library. There will be six tables with approximately two GSRC members at each table handling one genealogical subject area, i.e., vital records, census, general questions, etc. It will be publicized.

Bob reported that he and Catherine Dougherty set up our GSRC table at the Family History Fair in New York City. Maryann Smith announced that Priscilla Leith has donated a draft copy of her Tremper genealogy to our Society. She will be adding footnotes, etc., and will then give us a final copy. In addition, a book on the Van Orden family was also donated, and thank you letters will be sent to both authors.

Maryann noted that she had spoken to Bob Hazekamp from the Passaic County Genealogical Club about a possible trip to the Castle, since we've had a difficult time contacting anyone there. They are still organizing their library, but we can plan a trip for the Spring, possibly March.

Tom Riley, who was one of the presenters at the Conference on the 29th, told Maryann that there are Orphan Train Societies in most states of the union. Since there was an equipment problem at the conference and he was unable to show his slides, he agreed to do a program for us.

Maryann discovered that the New York State Archives regularly sends out to local archives a list of their microfilm holdings. However, Peter Scheibner, Rockland County Archivist, reported that he has never seen such a list. He will check with them, since any Archives can purchase a copy of a microfilm on that list. She suggested that our Society could also perhaps help out by purchasing some films and housing them at the Archives.

Joanne Potanovic, our Society newsletter editor, is also a member of the Historical Society of Rockland County's Historic Preservation Committee. She spoke about obtaining nominations for the annual awards, and distributed flyers and applications for us to give to any interested party. Sally thought our own Society might qualify, since we do preserve old records.

The meeting was adjourned for refreshments at 8 p.m. on motion by Dick Peterson, seconded by Bob Protzmann.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 24, 2006, 7 p.m., New City Library. (No meeting in December.)

Respectfully submitted,  
Joan C. Brooks  
Secretary

\* \* \* \* \*

**Have You Renewed Your Membership?**

The GSRC offers a single class of annual membership at \$15.00 per year. The Dues Year runs from September through August. Members receive our quarterly newsletter. The membership form is available on the GSRC website where it may be downloaded:

<http://rocklandgenealogy.org/membership.htm>

Fill it out, print it and send it in with your payment along with any questions you have about membership to:

Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
c/o Robert L. Protzmann, Membership Chairman & Treasurer  
4 Ethel Drive New City, NY 10956-6328

e-mail: [protzy41@aol.com](mailto:protzy41@aol.com)

\* \* \* \* \*

**New Members**

P-22 Brenda L. Flaag  
35 Huckleberry Drive South  
Norwalk, CT 06850  
E-Mail: [plaag@optonline.net](mailto:plaag@optonline.net)  
Surnames: Costello, Dunn, Maher, Moran.

M-57 Margaret McCollough  
2 Fox Court  
Suffern, NY 10901-4141  
E-Mail: [MargaretMcCollough@usa.net](mailto:MargaretMcCollough@usa.net)  
Interests: Mid-Atlantic states (VA, MD, DC), German genealogy.  
Surnames: Buchele, Cooksey, Curry, Greene, Mullen, McCollough, Petrich, Rudderforth, Treiber.

S-67 Brian Stanton  
273 Cedar Lane  
River Vale, NJ 07650-5507  
E-Mail: [Brian@Stantonfamily.net](mailto:Brian@Stantonfamily.net)  
WebPage: [Stanton-Family.net/genealogy](http://Stanton-Family.net/genealogy)  
Surnames: Babcock, Call, Conklin, Furman, Hazen.

\* \* \* \* \*

**New Surnames**

B-03 Joan & Barry Brooks  
157 Washburn Avenue  
Stony Point, NY 10980-2108  
E-Mail: [jcbrooks@spyrail.net](mailto:jcbrooks@spyrail.net)  
Surnames: Abrams, Brooks, Cuthbert, Doig, Haldeman, Mathers, Scott, Wilde.

B-37 Elizabeth Bisig  
P.O. Box 72  
Oberburg, NY 12767  
E-Mail: [Ebisig@Warwick.net](mailto:Ebisig@Warwick.net)  
Surnames: Havlik, Kastner.



- D-07 Doris Douglas  
P.O. Box 3941  
San Clemente, CA 92674  
E-Mail: DNHD@Eox.net  
Surnames: Benjamin, Buchler, Dalton  
Debow, Earl, Hatch, Jost.
- D-18 Michelle Hull Drain  
6301 86th Avenue North  
Pinellas Park, FL 33782  
E-Mail: MichHull@aol.com  
Surnames: Boss, Call, Demarest, Hunter,  
Mackey, Roe, Rose, Secor,  
Sheridan.
- F-04 Nannette Frey  
1031 Zanotto Lane  
Montague, CA 96044-9245  
E-Mail: o-nnntt2@inreach.com  
Surnames: Barton
- F-13 Mrs. Charlotte E. Falkowski  
107 Nott Terrace, Apt. 411  
Schenectady, NY 12308  
E-Mail: CFalkow1@NYCAPRR.com  
Surnames: Berris, Conklin, Thorn(e).
- F-17 Marjorie A. Fioriti  
73 N. Magnolia Street  
Pearl River, NY 10965-1717  
Surnames: Jacob Rose Family.
- G-22 Katherine M. Grete  
277 Wava Avenue  
Niceville, FL 32578  
E-Mail: TGgrete@cox.net  
New Surnames: Green, Hunt, Paul, Slott, Town,  
Van Houten, Westervelt.
- H-01 Harriet M. Hasbrouck  
61 Summit Street  
Nyack, NY 10960-3725  
Surname: Zoellner
- H-16 Mrs. Leota Jane Hosler  
Kelly Plantation  
4322 Carriage Lane  
Destin, FL 32541-3453  
E-Mail: granp@cox.net  
Surnames: Remsen, Van Riper.
- H-24 Regina Haring  
136 Duryea Lane  
Nanuet, NY 10954  
E-Mail: RMHaring@att.net  
Surnames: Haring
- K-19 Mr. & Mrs. Kelvin L. Kean  
321 James Mill Road  
Elverson, PA 19520-8719  
E-Mail: kelvin@ceinetworks.com  
New Surnames: Kellie, Kelly.
- K-23 Margo Gregg Kumpf  
192 County Rt.  
Warwick, NY 10990  
E-Mail: decaf@warwick.net  
Surnames: Dishling, Greggs, Magale,  
Maskell, Tannhauser.
- L-15 Dorothy Looris  
66 South 2050 West  
Cedar City, UT 84120-1830  
E-Mail: Loris2567@mas.com  
Surnames: Bauer, Eitel, Lenard, Loris,  
Odell, Robinson.
- M-33 Helen Louise Micklitz  
6 Van Houten Avenue  
Butler, NJ 07405-1536  
Surnames: Carlough, Van Natta.
- M-46 Mr. Robert A. Mayers  
226 Ridge Road  
Watchung, NJ 07069-5420  
E-Mail: bobbmayers@msn.com  
New Surnames: Allison, Benson, DeNoyelles,  
Hoffman.
- M-47 Susan R. Mulledy  
4618 W. 191st Street  
Torrance, CA 90523  
E-Mail: COEEscrow@aol.com  
New Surnames: Adams, Bryant, Dogherty,  
Farrell, Horse, Kelley, King,  
Lennon, McCure, Mulledy,  
Scott, Wilson.
- M-55 John & Catherine McCormick  
45 Old Middletown Road  
New City, NY 10956-2738  
E-Mail: JohnMcjimbo@aol.com  
Surnames: Bauer, Hahn, McCormick.
- M-56 Scott Marsh  
58 Tyler Street  
Morgantown, WV 26501  
E-Mail: Marsh40@msn.com  
Surnames: Rhinesmith, Provost, Potter,  
Thornton.
- P-15 Mr. Michael Paul  
11 Bradley Court  
Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977-7035  
E-Mail: mickpaul37@hotmail.com  
New Surnames: Francisco, Goldrick, Heffner,  
Hester, Hoffman, Meyer, Paul,  
Utterstrom, Valentine.
- R-21 Mrs. Joan McCabe Reynolds  
2004 Lenape-Unionville Road  
Kennett Square, PA 19348  
Surnames: For, Hines, Hennion, Hughes,  
McCabe, Meehan.
- R-22 Susan Roedder  
6306 Farmer Lane  
Flourtown, PA 19031-1308  
Surnames: Acker, VenZile.
- R-24 Mr. James R. Rigsby  
500 Monterey Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA 94217-2416  
E-Mail: Jrrigs210@aol.com  
New Surnames: Wandell
- R-26 John Romansky, Jr.  
7 Strachan Place  
Garnerville, NY 10923-1711  
Surnames: Bishko, Dominick, McDaniel,  
Romansky.
- S-34 Carol A. Spurbek  
2834 2nd Street, North  
Fargo, ND 58102  
E-Mail: cspurb@msn.com  
New Surnames: Lewis, Westervelt.
- S-59 Elizabeth L. Stryko  
12 Hillside Avenue  
Haverstraw, NY 10927  
E-Mail: estrysko@aol.com  
Surnames: Baczenska, Bulzing, Maier,  
Stryko, Zaug.

S-64 Virginia S. Stannard  
88 Watertown Road  
Ocean Pines, MD 21811-1716  
E-Mail: virdex@dmv.com  
Surnames: VanBuskirk.

S-67 Brian Stanton  
273 Cedar Lane  
River Vale, NJ 07650-5507  
E-Mail: Brian@Stantonfamily.net  
WebPage: Stanton-Family.net/genealogy  
Surnames: Babcock, Call, Conklin,  
Furman, Hazen, Stanton,  
Tarantino.

V-05 Mrs. Loyola T. Vuolo  
520 Park View  
Pompton Plains, NJ 07444-2126  
E-Mail: BAUV@aol.com  
Surnames: Bogaert, Jaycox, Martine,  
Maybe, Onderdonk,  
Polhemus, Snedeker.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### New Addresses

B-35 Alfred L. Beasley  
26170 Caveneck Road  
Milton, DE 19968  
E-Mail: ALBEAS@peoplepc.com

F-13 Mrs. Charlotte E. Falkowski  
107 Nott Terrace, Apt. 411  
Schenectady, NY 12308  
E-Mail: CFalkow1@NYCAPRR.com

R-06 D. Reid Ross  
13 Sandstone Drive  
Durango, CO 81301  
E-Mail: reidandsari@Bresnan.net

R-23 Mr. Robert Rheinlander  
135 Patterson Farm Rd  
Clinton, PA 15026

\* \* \* \* \*

#### New e-mail Addresses

A-08	Mrs. Florence M. Anderson	fanderson2@aol.com
B-28	Krystyn Boccuminin	kkbocc@optonline.net
B-35	Alfred L. Beasley	ALBEAS@peoplepc.com
B-36	Mr. John F. Benz	JBFB382@verizon.net
B-38	Jayne Barber	jayartbarber@yahoo.com
C-04	Grace D. Carmichael	Brblock@sbcglobal.net
C-26	Mary Clark	mcliberty73@yahoo.com
D-07	Doris Douglas	DNHD@Eox.net
D-20	Cathy Dougherty	Cathymgd@aol.com
D-24	Barbara L. de Mare	BarbaradeMare@yahoo.com
F-04	Nannette Frey	o-nnnt2@inreach.com
F-13	Mrs. Charlotte E. Falkowski	CFalkow1@NYCAPRR.com
F-17	Marjorie A. Fioriti	Mattmar219@aol.com
G-15	Mrs. Patricia Giannotti	PatG1211@Direcway.com
G-22	Katherine M. Grete	TGgrete@cox.net
H-05	Janice C. Hesselink	jhogt@earthlink.net
L-32	John B. Lovett	xjbl@optonline.net
M-20	Natalie N. Mather	fishmather@verizon.net
M-55	John & Catherine McCormick	JohnMcjimbo@aol.com
M-56	Scott Marsh	marsh40@msn.com
P-05	Dick Peterson	repete3@verizon.net
P-18	Cynthia Niero Prusiecki	pru47@aol.com
R-01	Henry Rennie	HGRNyack@aol.com
R-06	D. Reid Ross	reidandsari@Bresnan.net
S-59	Lyda M. Spear	Spearfamily@earthlink.net

T-14	Thor N. Trolsen	home2r@dejazzd.com
V-05	Mrs. Loyola T. Vuolo	BAUV@aol.com
W-23	Cathy Wanamaker	shilohjacobs@aol.com

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Correction(s)

L-25 Mrs. Eleanore Keenan Logan  
ellyklogan@surfglobal.net

\* \* \* \* \*

**Return of Former Members - Welcome Back, Susan Schuler**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### New on the GSRC Website

Please remember to visit the Genealogical Society of Rockland County's website: **<http://rocklandgenealogy.org>**

This new website has many new features including membership forms in both Microsoft Word format and PDF format that can be downloaded. An updated publications order form is also available for downloading. Take a look at the new GSRC website which will continue to have new features and information.

Thank you to the Website Committee and to our website volunteers Bruce Hamilton and Brian Stanton.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Historical Society Requests Nominations for the 2006 Rockland County Executive Historic Preservation Merit Awards

While Rockland County is small in size, it is large in historic and architectural significance. Rockland County is also rife with development which makes preserving its historic buildings and open spaces so important.

In 1991, the Rockland County Executive's Historic Preservation Merit Awards Committee was formed to encourage the preservation, restoration and, when necessary, the rescue of private homes and professional buildings by acknowledging these actions publicly. The committee also supports those individuals and agencies who have demonstrated leadership in preservation, as well as craftsmen who use traditional methods and materials in the preservation/restoration process. Activities and properties must be located in Rockland County and should have historical, cultural or architectural significance.

Along with Preservation/Restoration, Adaptive Use, Continuing Use, Artisan and Rescue Award, the categories include:

The Margaret B. & John R. Zehner Award for Historic Contribution - for underscoring the value of historic preservation to the community.

Preservation Leadership - for individuals, groups and governmental agencies displaying outstanding leadership or contribution to the preservation of historic resources in Rockland County.

Among those who have received awards are: Nancy Cacioppo, Chaire K. Tholl, Nash Castro, Armchair Walking Tours, Arthur Gunther, Danforth Toan, Rosemary Aiello, Roger Pellegrini, The Edward Salyer House, Grace Episcopal Church, The Osborn Barn, The Joseph Cornell House, The McVeigh/Greenwood House, The Sloot House, The Carson McCullers House, The Old Pomona Schoolhouse, The Blauvelt/Amos Homestead, Camp Shanks Museum, Malloy's Pharmacy, Kill von Beast Miller's Cottage, The Stebbins House, The Antrim Players, The Carousel at Bear Mountain and John Scott.

If you know of a property, person(s) or entity to be considered for one of these awards, please make the nomination. Self-nominations are encouraged. To be considered, the nomination form must be completed and received by: **Tuesday, February 7, 2006**

Nomination forms and guidelines are available on our website:

**[http://www.rocklandhistory.org/merit\\_awards.htm](http://www.rocklandhistory.org/merit_awards.htm)**

Should you have any questions, please contact Erin Martin, Executive Director, The Historical Society of Rockland County at 834-634-9629. You may, of course, contact me by e-mail if you would like me to send you a copy of the nomination form with guidelines.

Please support the Historical Society's continuing efforts to preserve local history.

Joanne Potanovic, Historic Preservation Awards Committee

\* \* \* \* \*



### The Rockland Scrap Book

The Website Committee will be launching an area on our website called The Rockland Scrap Book. This will include old photos of Rockland County, short reminiscences from residents on the what Rockland County used to be like; etc. These may be scenic or historic or even "curiosities" (like a photo of an unusual tool) and a short paragraph about how it was used.

This will be open to anyone who cares to contribute, not just GSRC members. Photos should have a title line of where and when the photo was taken and, if possible, by whom.

All items &/or queries should be sent to Karen Lamberton, chairperson of the Website Committee, by e-mail at:

**karen.lamberton@spyr.net**

or by regular mail to:

Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
c/o Karen Lamberton, Website Committee  
18 Bon Aire Cir, Suffern, NY 10901

\* \* \* \* \*

### For Your Information

Items for the GSRC newsletter, including queries and calendar events, may be e-mailed to me at:

**gatehilljo@optonline.net**

Please make the subject: For the GSRC newsletter.

or by regular mail to:

Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
c/o Joanne Potanovic, Newsletter  
597 Old Gate Hill Road, Stony Point, NY 10980

All submissions are considered for inclusion in the newsletter. Please remember to include the date and time along with the narrative for calendar items and include proper source references or submissions cannot be published. Please note that items printed in the newsletter are not edited by me unless so noted. Also, please do not hesitate to let me know if I need to make any corrections, additions &/or deletions. *Thank you. Joanne.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Ancestor tables and/or corrections, additions &/or deletions to same should be sent to:

Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
c/o Robert Protzman, Membership Chairman & Treasurer  
4 Ethel Drive, New City, NY 10956-6328

or by e-mail at: **Protzy41@aol.com**

Please make the subject: For the GSRC newsletter.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Comments on the

#### Ancestor Table of ELEANORE KEENAN LOGAN

1633 Hillcrest Drive, Deltona, FL 32725-4829

Addressing specifically the De Ronde references attributed to Bob Protzman, GSRC member John W. De Ronde has submitted the following:

The number 145, Maritji was bapt. 24 May 1696 in the RDC in NYC, not in Cortlandt Manor;

The date of (290) William Hendrickse's death is not 1716 but probably some time after 1724 as that was the last time he was witness to a bapt, in this case it was the bapt.

of William Ecker, his grandson by his daughter Aeltje and her husband Sybout Ecker. The other witness that day was his daughter Maritji (145);

William Hendrickse's wife, Magdalena Brouwer (291) I would suspect died following birth of daughter Elsie in 1701, as she is never heard from again in records. Her husband William, on the other hand is witness to several grandchildren's bapt. following that date, and she's not around.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Additions to the

Ancestor Table of ALFRED L. BEASLEY (B-35)

RR2 Box 310D, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Names in italics added by Marjorie Stevenot

### Ninth Generation

268. Jacob CONKLIN/KONKELIN, b. ca. 1718; bp. Sep 1719, tarrytown, Westchester Co, NY; d. Jun 9, 1787, age 60, bur. Palisades Cemetery.

269. Hester BARHYTE, b. ? 11, 1720; d. Oct 12, 1785.

### Tenth Generation

536. Joseph CONKLIN/KANKELYN, b. 1680-4, Westchester Co, NY. Lived Orangetown, Rockland Co, NY bef. 1712; returned to Phillipsburg, Westchester Co, NY by 1713; m. 1704.

537. Rebecca HYER/HYERT.

### Eleventh Generation

1072. Nicholas CONKLIN, b. 1661, Long Island, NY; d. 1751, age 90, Rockland Co, NY; m. ca. 1690. Moved from Westchester Co, to Kakiat, Rockland Co, NY, ca. 1719.

1073. Sarah HUNT, bp. Nov 29, 1673, NYDRC.

### Twelfth Generation

2144. John CONCKLIN, b. ca. 1632; d. < 1700. Immigrant, ca. 1662 - (2 theories - 1 says English, other says Huguenot (Consylea)). Moved from Flushing, Long Island to Rye, Westchester Co, NY.

2145. Helena \_\_\_\_\_ (inferred).

2146. John HUNT, m. Westchester Co, NY.

2147. Alice \_\_\_\_\_.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Calendar of Events

**Saturday, January 14, 2006 - 1:00 p.m.**

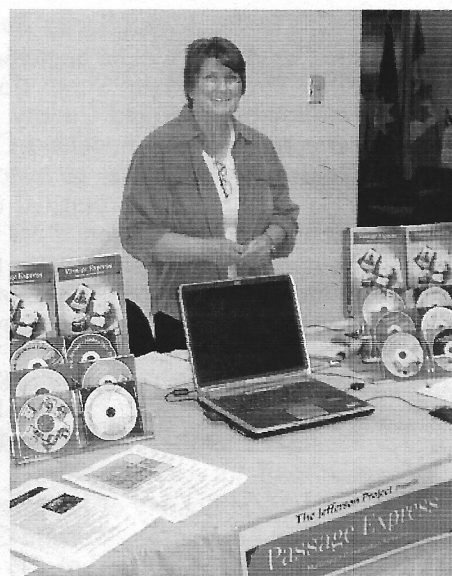
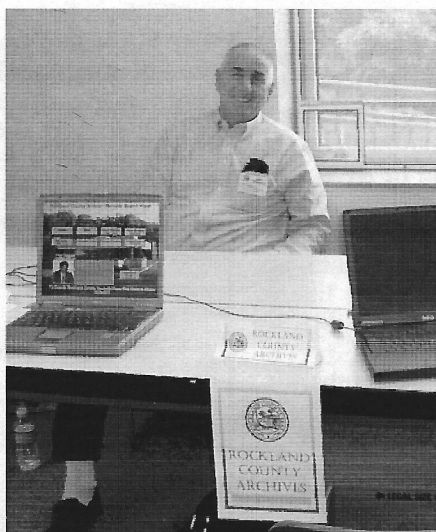
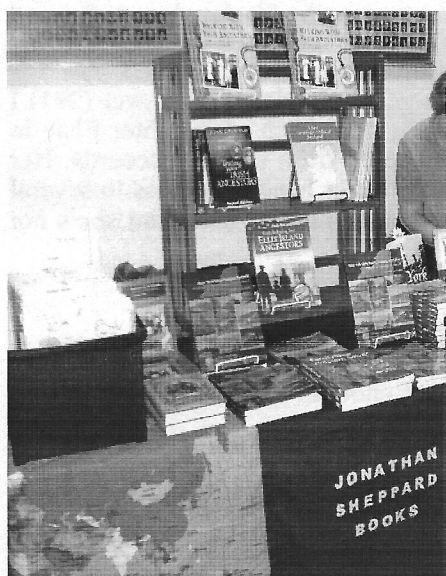
**Snow date: Sunday, January 28, 2006**

The New City Library

220 North Main Street, New City, NY

A Touch of Genealogy - The New City Library and the Genealogical Society of Rockland County are offering a series of mini-workshops. If you are new to genealogy, this is a good place to start. There will be six stations about basic topics such as vital records in New York and using census records. Each station will last for 20 minutes and then you move on to the next one of interest. Attend all or just one. This should be a fun afternoon presented by knowledgeable genealogy volunteers <http://www.newcitylibrary.org>

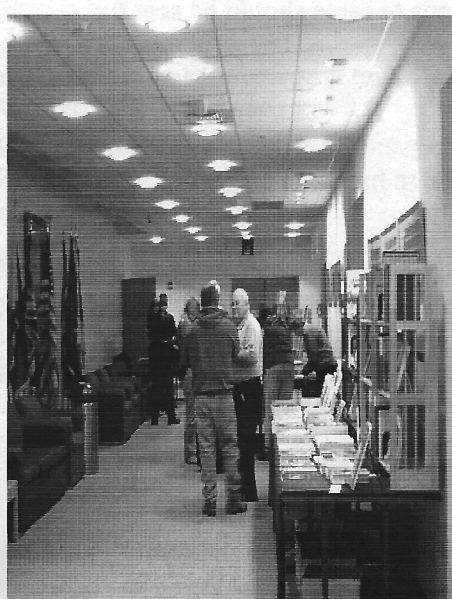
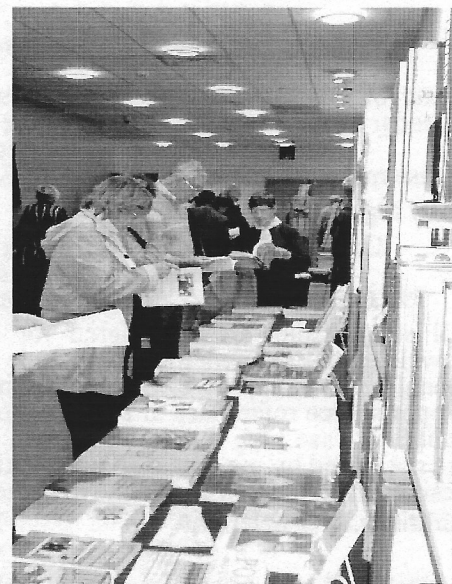
\* \* \* \* \*



## Crossing the Boundaries

- October 29, 2005 -

The Genealogical Group of NY & NJ, consisting of The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, The New City Library, The Genealogical Society of Rockland County, The Genealogical Society of Bergen County (NJ), The Passaic County (NJ) Historical Society Genealogy Club and The Orange County (NY) Genealogical Society, sponsored this all-day conference. Lectures included Loyalists Research Documents, Internet Resources for Tracking Ancestors' Migrations, The Orphan Train Era & Mended Fences: The NJ/NY Boundary Dispute.. Not only were the lectures very informative, but the vendors had many interesting things for sale. Congratulations to all of those involved in making this a successful day!





BOOK REVIEW

Mayers-Allison Family History

by Robert Adrian Mayers, 2005.

Mr. Mayers prepared this family history for The Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of his parents: Robert Adrian Mayers and Norma Delores Lehman, 23 July 1955.

Local researchers of the Allison Family of Haverstraw will be very impressed and pleased with the extent of research in this book. The family beginnings go back to 1400 AD on Ellisse/Ellison/Allison in Yorkshire, England. There are photographs and histories of the areas.

Thomas Ellison was the first of the family to arrive in America. He married Martha Honor Champion in 1659 in Stamford, CT. Their nine children were all born in Hempstead, Queens, Long Island, NY. The seventh child, John, was born ca. 1670 and is the progenitor of the Allisons of Haverstraw, NY. John's son, Captain Joseph (and wife Elizabeth Benson) were the parents of the John Allison who served in the Revolutionary War.

The narration and documentation on the Revolutionary War Soldier are excellent. John joined the 10th Company of the Third Regiment of Foot, NY Continental Line, at Clarkstown, NY. The company made a four-week trek north to Fort Ticonderoga, to St. John and on to Montreal. After the battle of Quebec was lost, many of the men did not reenlist in the spring of 1776; John and others started south to their homes in Orange County. Sometime in 1776, John joined the Orange County Militia. The narration of these long treks and battles of the men in and around Orange (Rockland) County brings local history to life.

For Allison family researchers, and Revolutionary War buffs, this book will be found on the Genealogical Society shelves in the Rockland Room of New City Library.

Marie Koestler  
October 2005

\* \* \* \* \*

Noteworthy

Home Kids, The Story of St. Agatha Home

by Nancy Canfield

Part 1 of Home Kids, The Story of St. Agatha Home opens with our family's story of how we came to St. Agatha: my father, a young executive with LOOK Magazine, died on his thirty-third birthday, when Manhattan Hospital gave him the wrong kind of blood during a transfusion, after a nose bleed. He would not fulfill his recent appointment as General Manager of McFadden Publications, parent company of LOOK and its family of magazines. My mother, at 32, with nine children aged 1 to 13, never recovered from the loss of her only sweetheart. They had met the summer after high school graduation, as junior counselors in a Catholic Camp, and married that September. They were 17. Mom began to drink to ease her pain. After three years, our house in the Bronx burned down, and we began a four year vagabond odyssey which ended with the Surrogate Court interven-

ing, and placing us in St. Agatha Home.

In Part 2, the history of St. Agatha begins in 1874, when a NYC man, John Reid, builds a house in Nanuet on the former property of a local land owner named Demarest. Mrs. Reid has respiratory ailments, and life in the country is prescribed - unsuccessfully. Their son, a Jesuit Priest at Fordham University, hastily summoned to say goodbye to his dying mother, does so, then hurries to a small private chapel in Spring Valley to say a mass for her, and returns to find her dead. The next day, the young Jesuit is invited by the owner of the chapel to stay on as their community priest, but the recently ordained Rev. Thomas Reid, not the master of his destiny, must decline. A couple of years later, St. Agatha fulfills that request, and nurtures the chapel, St. Joseph in the Valley, for ten-years, providing a priest, and all of it's other needs, until it separates and stands alone ten years later.

The elder Mr. Reid abandons the little house immediately, and returns to the city. A year later, his son asks his father to donate the house to the Sisters of Charity of NY, to house some of the thousands of orphans living on the streets there, "street Arabs" as they were called by Jacob Riis, and Rev. Charles Loring Brace. The young priest tells his father of the alternatives for such children: the poor houses, orphan asylums, orphan trains, and life on the streets. His father assents in 1875, but it is 1884 before the resources can be amassed to make the asylum a reality. Slowly, the children and the Sisters begin the new Home.

We learn how St. Agatha's acquires the houses and land of neighbors as they become available, including Babcock Hill, from Theo Babcock, who they provide a home and work for his widow and two daughters, side by side with the Boggiano sisters. The Ross/Davidson house on the north side of Convent Rd., which burned down in 1961, was formerly a tavern and inn.

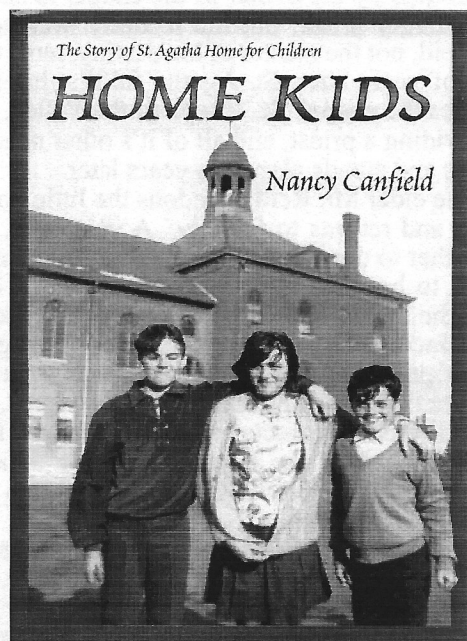
The growth of the Home, it's programs, it's involvement in the local communities, disasters such as fires and health epidemics, and the effects of the Wars and Depression, are all chronicled here. For instance, in 1917, St. Agatha Home built the first Preventorium in NY State. It still stands, used as the elementary school on the north side of Convent Road. Its purpose was to shelter healthy children who were removed from TB-infected parents until they either recovered or died. In 1923, when Babcock Hill was acquired, the Preventorium expanded there.

Did you know that Archbishop Terence Cardinal Cooke, who occupied the highest position in the Catholic Church outside of Rome, was a chaplain at St. Agatha when he left the Seminary, and remained a lifelong friend to the Home? Displaced Person's (DP's) were sheltered and employed at St. Agatha after the war? Boat children gained refuge at St. Agatha in the 1970's?

The stage has been set, but where are the actors? One by one, you will hear the stories of many of the past residents, who shared their histories with me. Many have gone on to become successful in the community, like the recently honored Tony Lombardi of the Nanuet post office. Another, Paul Fabrizi, in his eighties now, works for NY Senator Maltise. John Maloney, currently running

for office in Rockland County, worked at St. Agatha as Recreation Director, when I lived at St. Agatha, and awarded me a trophy in the presence of then Lt. Governor Malcolm Wilson, for my winning essay, The Relationship Between Rights and Responsibilities. I still have my medals.

All of this local history could be lost with the outcome of the current funding struggles by the county, but it will live on forever in Home Kids, The Story of St. Agatha Home For Children.



I'd like to thank Ms. Canfield for sharing this synopsis of her wonderful book with the GSRC. - Joanne.

For more information, Ms. Canfield may be reached at:  
ncanf@san.rr.com .

Visit the St. Agatha website at:  
<http://stagathaalumni.stagnesalumni.org>

\* \* \* \* \*

Queries may be sent to me at: [gatehilljo@optonline.net](mailto:gatehilljo@optonline.net). Please make the subject "For the GSRC newsletter". I'll try to ensure that all responses to already posted queries are printed in so that all may benefit. Thank you. Joanne.

\* \* \* \* \*

### In The Rockland Room...

these and other books may be found on the shelf located below the bulletin boards:

- B Traders and Gentlefolk: The Livingstons of New York  
Livingston Cynthia Kierner  
(Cornell University, 1992)

305. Bonds of Community: The Lives of Farm Women in 19th Century New York  
4 Nancy Grey Osterud  
Ost (Cornell Press, 1991)
352. The Book of Lists of Rockland County: Coroners Reports  
747 Richard S. Peterson  
Vol (Genealogy Society of Rockland County, 2005)
728. The President as Architect: Franklin D. Roosevelt 's Top Cottage  
84 John G. Waite  
Pre (Mt Ida Place, 2001)
- 728 Designs Underfoot: The Art of Manhole Covers in New York City  
974 Diana Stuart  
Stu (Design Books, 2003)
917. The Official Rails-To-Trails Conservancy Guidebook  
471 Craig Della Penna  
Del (Globe Pequot Press ,2002)
912. A Railroad Atlas of the United States in 1946: Vol 2 1385 Richard Carpenter  
Car (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005)
- 917 Spafford's 1824 Guide for New York Travellers  
47 Compiled by G. Martin Sleeman  
Spa New York State Library, 1991)
- 917 Walks and Rambles in the Western Hudson Valley  
473 Peggy Turco  
Tur (Backcountry Publications, 1996)
917. Winter Trails New York  
4738 Hanna Farra  
Far (Globe Pequot Press, 2001)
929. Prominent Families of New Jersey: Vol 1 & 2  
2 Edited by William Starr Meyers  
Pro (Clearfield, 2000)
970. The Dutch & The Iroquios  
3 Charles Hall  
Hal (Frances Hart & Co., 1882)
970. The Six Nations of New York  
3 Intro by Ronald Venables  
Six (Cornell University, 1995)
974. The Historical Atlas of New York City  
71 Eric Homberger  
Hom (Henry Holt & Co., 2005)
974. Shawangunk Place Names  
72 Marc Fried  
Fri (Published by the author, 2005)
974. The Jonathan Hasbrouck House  
7311 Neil Larson  
Lar (Hasbrouck Family Assoc, 2000)

\* \* \* \* \*



### The Pyrahs of Orange County, NY

by Chris Pyrah, Leicester, England  
(7 x great grandson of Benjamin Pyrah snr.)

"Never heard of them," I hear the genealogists of the SGRC cry. Pyrah is an unusual surname here in its home country of England, even more so in North America. There are branches down in Utah and Montana, descended from Jonathan Pyrah, a Yorkshireman who converted to Mormonism and worked his passage across the Atlantic where he joined his religious brethren and founded a dynasty in the early 1880s. There are the Philadelphia Pyrahs, whose most famous son represented the USA in the 1904 Olympic Games. Another smaller group were to be found in the mining area of Clay County, Indiana while yet others emigrated to Canada in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, again mainly for the mining and some of their descendants later drifted south into the USA. But Pyrahs in Orange County? The name doesn't appear in Cole's 1884 "History of Rockland County" but there are of course many references to David Pye, a leading citizen, lawyer and senator of the 18th century. So, is there a connection between the Pyes and the Pyrahs?

Cole's story of David Pye's arrival in Clarkstown is that of the lawyer sailing from England on business in 1757. For some reason he found himself stranded without a ship to take him home, so he decided to stay, married a New Jersey girl in 1762 and raised a family of six children, gradually establishing himself as a leading member of the community. Walter Leonard Pye's "Pye Genealogy" of 1975 gives a lot more detail of David's subsequent career and thanks to the Internet, even more information has come to light, for example, records from the time of the Revolution show he was contracting to units of George Washington's army. As "Squire Pye" he is often mentioned in the Diary of Ensign John Barr as playing host to soldiers of the Continental Army, showing his wholehearted commitment to his new American life. David Pye's name started appearing on numerous legal documents in Orange County as he pursued the paths of lawyer and politician over his original trades of clothier, fuller and dyer. Through his membership of the Freemasons he met people who could further his new careers and he took a number of official positions including County Clerk in 1792 and State Senator from 1791 to 1794. But of his ancestry, of his life before he "turned American" nothing was known. Until now.....

In 1793, in the town of Wakefield in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England, there was recorded "a Memorial of Indenture of Lease and Release ..... between the Honourable David Pye otherwise Pyrah late of Bradford in the county of York in the Kingdom of England ... but now of Charlestown (sic) in the County of Orange in the State of New York in North America...." The local clerk must have misread "Clarkstown" as "Charlestown" in a document provided by Senator Pye, who probably acted through a representative rather than travelled to England in person; he would have been about 69 years old, after all. This indenture concerned an agreement over three

cottages and ten acres of arable meadow in the township of Bowling, on moorland just to the south of old Bradford. So here we have the vital connection, "Pye otherwise Pyrah". This use of an alias was quite common at the time, for example there is to be found in the National Archives the will of "Jonathan Pye otherwise Pyrah", a Serjeant of Marines, dated 1744. The Pye form of the name was soon dropped in favour of Pyrah by the majority of the family, though its use lingered on in isolated cases, as here, into the final years of the 18th century. The document goes on to refer to David as "Eldest Son and Heir of Benjamin Pye otherwise Pyrah late of Bowling..."

From other indentures we know that Benjamin Pyrah of Bowling was a shalloon maker by trade, shalloon being a light woollen cloth often used as a lining for coats; he married Sarah Bordes in 1723. His youngest son was also named Benjamin and he too was a shalloon maker. The middle son was John, a yeoman farmer. David, the eldest, was referred to as a dyer and his experience in the family trade gave him a firm grounding for his business as a clothier with a fulling mill in Clarkstown. Benjamin senior is almost certainly the same Benjamin referred to as an Overseer of the Poor in an entry in the Bowling township book of 1726. The name of his father is not known for sure but was probably one of a quartet of J. Pyrahs, Jonathan, James, Joshua and John, all from Bowling. Joshua was born in 1677 the son of David Pye and was buried as Joshua Pyrah in 1712, according to Bradford parish registers. Whether Pye is the original form of the surname or a shortened version of Pyrah is a question still open to researchers.

That memorial of 1793 stored in the Land Registry at West Yorkshire Archive Service's headquarters in Wakefield proves that Rockland's David Pye was born David Pyrah of Bradford; David dropped the Pyrah part of his name as if in symbolic recognition of a break with the past and a new life begun in the Land of Opportunity where he rose to become a State Senator; had he remained in England he might well have remained a humble stuffweaver.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### A Note from your editor...

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the membership of the Genealogical Society of Rockland County for a very interesting year as editor of this newsletter in which I have learned so much. I've never before met such a knowledgeable and dedicated group of people.

I would like to thank Mike, Mr. Press (Suffern), for the fine job he does printing our newsletters and to Bob Protzmann and Marie Koestler who do the mailing.

I'd also like to give a special thank you to J. Douglas Leith, editor of this newsletter, whose friendship and knowledge made the transition from him to me go smoothly, especially since the transition to a new layout program has been challenging.

*May you all have a Happy Holiday and a healthy  
New Year with lots of success in your research!*

*Joanne.*

\* \* \* \* \*

# Genealogical Society of Rockland County

## Publications Order Form

Records of Rockland County Funeral Homes. Some of the information included in these books is Name, Birth Date, Place of Birth, Death Date, Place of Death, Cemetery, Spouse, Parents, etc. Funeral directors were not always vigilant in gathering the information and some records do not have all the data available.

- Vol. 1 **Records of the A.W. Dutcher's Sons Funeral Home, Haverstraw, N.Y.** \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
1875 to 1965. Over 5,000 persons. 600 alphabetical pages. Comb. bound. Shipping \$ 3.50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Vol. 2 **Records of the . George M. Holt Funeral Home, Haverstraw, N.Y.** \$ 35.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
1864 to 1953. Over 7,000 persons. 800 alphabetical pages. Comb. bound. Shipping \$ 4.50 \_\_\_\_\_
- Vol. 3 **NEW Records of the Stevenson Funeral Home, Piermont, N.Y.** \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
1875 to 1982. Over 5,000 persons. 500 alphabetical pages. Comb. bound. Shipping \$ 3.50 \_\_\_\_\_  
Includes Stevenson & Queally, Zimmerman, Flender and Flender-Price Funeral records.
- Vol. 4 **NEW Records of the J. Martine & Sons Funeral Home, Nyack, N.Y.** \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
1872 to 1920. Over 5,200 persons. 522 alphabetical pages. Comb. bound. Shipping \$ 3.50 \_\_\_\_\_

-----

**Burials at Brick Church Cemetery, Spring Valley, N.Y. (1774 to 1996)** \$ 20.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Over 8,000 burials. Includes cemetery records, early 20th century tombstone transcriptions Shipping \$ 3.50 \_\_\_\_\_

-----

**1855 N.Y. State Census for Rockland County. Towns of Haverstraw & Ramapo only.**

These are photocopies of the Census transcript as it appeared in past Society newsletters.

Haverstraw \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Ramapo \$ 5.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Postpaid)

**1892 N.Y. State Census for Rockland County. Each individual Township** \$ 14.95 \_\_\_\_\_  
Each township packaged & indexed separately. Three hole punched for ring binders. (Postpaid)

Orangetown \_\_\_\_\_ Clarkstown \_\_\_\_\_ Ramapo \_\_\_\_\_ Haverstraw / Stony Point \_\_\_\_\_

-----

**Marriage and Death in Rockland County, N.Y. July 1847 through December 1859** \$ 12.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
As reported in the Haverstraw Messenger and the Rockland Journal newspapers. (Postpaid)  
Over 3,800 named individuals. 149 pages, indexed. Comb. bound.

-----

**Book of Lists for Rockland County, Volume # 1, Jury Lists from 1798 to 1834** \$ 12.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Rockland County residents chosen to serve as jurors in the various Rockland County courts. Includes name, township of residence, occupation. Nearly 5,000 names. (Postpaid)  
159 indexed pages. Comb. bound.

**All prices are for U.S. orders only. International postage rates are prohibitive!**  
**If you wish to order for International shipping, you must write ahead for a current price quote.**

---

Books Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Shipping & Handling \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ORDER TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed order to: Publications Committee, Genealogical Society of Rockland County  
Post Office Box 444, New City, NY 10956

**Make checks or Money Orders payable to" Genealogical Society of Rockland County**