



OCTOBER 2017

OCTOBER 17 MEETING: **Early 19th Century Immigration to America.** Ted Pearson from Franklin and Marshall College will tell us about the causes and effects of immigration to America during period of 1790-1849. Large numbers of immigrants came to the United

States during this period, after the American Revolution. What countries did they leave and why? What were their expectations and what were the realities of life in a new country. Come to Manor Orr Auditorium at 2:00 and find out.

President: **vacant**
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SEPTEMBER Meeting George Nettleton gave some suggestions for getting our genealogy down on paper (or computer) in a bite-size fashion (bite-size, both in preparation and in being read). It seemed to be well accepted, and some of those at the meeting will have some of their final products on display at the October meeting-check them out-they may even encourage you to do something similar.

Our Club Webpage Don't forget to check this to keep up to date on our 2017-2018 schedule. While there, also check out some of the other tabs (to keep "tabs on us," so to speak). And remember the site in case a friend is interested in genealogy, but isn't aware of our club or the site.

Dues Every September, we request your dues (\$10/WV residents, \$15 for County residents). See Bob McRobbie to pay (by check to Willow Valley Genealogy Club, please) or to check to see if you already paid. Or mail it to him (Manor B-208). The application is on the website or ask Bob for a copy at the meeting. Please also fill out our latest survey for your wishes for upcoming programming-that form is attached-please fill it out, and bring it to the meeting or email it to Al Fulvio (see pink box above for his email).

Officers: We now have a new secretary, Pat Burkhart, who was elected at our last meeting. Thank you Pat.



The office of President is still open-please look around and encourage someone to volunteer for this position-the term ends in June 2019, but the work load

isn't that difficult: agenda for Board meetings and making sure the Board members are keeping us on the right track.

Sharing Our Genealogy: Again this month, we encourage any of you with a laptop or mobile device, who also have a genealogy subscription site (Ancestry, Newspapers, GenealogyBank, etc.), and might be willing to demonstrate or take requests from members, to be available with your computer during refreshment time. This would be a great service for some of our members who don't have those sites. We all might prepare some questions or requests to fill holes, or answer questions in our family trees, to be prepared if others bring their laptops. You might want to bring a flash drive to download information, or your email address to send it to.

Family History Library microfilm: As mentioned previously, the Family History Libraries, will no longer be lending microfilm (as of September 7). Microfilm is being digitized (at the rate of 1,000 a day!) and they expect to have all the microfilm done by 2020. To find how to access digitized sources on, go to [Finding Digital Images on Family Search](#). You may still search the catalog, and if you find a source you'd like which is not yet digitized, let Familysearch know and they may move it up in the queue.

NOTE: Check the latest "Renaissance" p. 11 for "Close to the Vest & Under the Skirt"-about historic. clothing (October 20). This, along with costume talks we've had at our meetings, might help with the time frame for some of the photos you have.

SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST:

National Archives Hosts Virtual Free Genealogy Fair Oct. 25 10 am EDT

The National Archives will host a live, virtual Genealogy Fair via webcast on [YouTube channel](#). Participate in their biggest genealogy event of the year! Sessions offer advice on family history research for all skill levels. Topics will include Federal government documents on birth, childhood, and death; recently recovered military personnel files; Japanese Americans during World War II; 19th century tax assessments; and a "how to" on preserving family heirlooms. For the schedule, videos, handouts, and participation instructions, visit the Virtual Genealogy Fair [online](#) with archivist David S. Ferriero and records experts from National Archives' facilities nationwide.

Live captioning will be available online. If you require an alternative or additional accommodation for the event, please send an email to: KYR@nara.gov or call 202-357-5260 in advance.

Marking migration's anniversary

It was 300 years ago that 17 Mennonite families came to Lancaster County.

To commemorate the 300th anniversary of the arrival of Jacob Böhm (Boehm) to present-day Lancaster County, Darwin L. Martin will discuss the genetic background and the land records of local 1717 Mennonite families.

The presentation will begin at 3 p.m. Oct. 22 in Boehm's Chapel.

Since 2010, Martin has been exploring the DNA of Swiss-German Mennonite families and has used this data to reconstruct the ethnic origins of local Anabaptist families back into medieval Europe or beyond.

The influx of the 70 Mennonite families in 1717 greatly changed the culture and ethnicity of Lancaster County. Martin will discuss where these families settled within the confines of the townships in proximity to Boehm's Chapel.

Among the surnames



Darvin L. Martin

common to the area are, Baumgardner, Brackbill, Boehm, Brenneman, Eshleman, Good, Harnish, Herr, Hess, Huber, Keagey, Kendig, Kreider, Meili, Stehman and Witmer.

In addition, the anniversary book, *Sowing Seeds of Faith, A Boehm History, The First 300 Years, 1717-2017*, will be available for purchase. The approximately 240-page book presents an insight into the Pequea Township Böhm family, a history of the beginnings of Boehm's Chapel and Church including brief notations for the more than 200 Methodist pastors who have served the congregation, which originated on the Boehm homestead in 1775.

The book was written and compiled by Dolores Myers, executive director of the Chapel Society.

Books are available by contacting boehmschapel@gmail.com or phoning 717-872-4133.

Shipping and handling fees will be added to mail orders.

While the event is free and open to the public, donations will be greatly appreciated.

Shown at left is the cover of "Sowing Seeds of Faith," a history of the early Boehm family, the Chapel and present-day church.

Sowing Seeds of Faith

*A Boehm History
The First 300 Years
1717-2017*



By: Dolores S. Myers

Darvin has given DNA talks to our group in the past.

comments, suggestions, complaints? Contact: George Nettleton (george@nettletons.net)