



Genealogical Society of Rockland County Newsletter

Volume 6, No. 1
September 1991

Genealogical Society of Rockland County, c/o The Historical Society of Rockland Co., 20 Zukor Rd., New City, N.Y. 10956

Dues covering the society's fiscal year from September 1, 1991 to August 31, 1992 are now due and payable.

See the renewal form attached to this newsletter. Thanks for your support!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome back! As summer vacations end and the school year approaches, we begin our sixth year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing officers, Les Baisley, President, and Henry Rennie, Vice President, for their services. I would also like to thank those who have been re-elected and those who have agreed to continue in their present positions for another year—Peter Krell, Joan Brooks, Pat Kerner, Sally Dewey and Marie Koestler.

Welcome to our new Co-Vice Presidents and Program Chairs, Ruth and George Fee. Also a special thanks to Marie Koestler for organizing our programs and for the help she gave me in my position as Membership Chairman, as well as the encouragement she gave me to accept the nomination for President.

My two major goals for my term in office are to increase membership and improve services to our membership. I hope you will all support me and our society in these efforts. Let's get back to work and keep finding those ancestors.

—Bob Protzmann

NOTICES

✓ **Nyack Lecture Series**—The second annual Virginia Parkhurst Lecture Series, an annual Nyack Public Library program focusing on journalism, local history or genealogy, will begin Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 7:30 p.m. with a potpourri of local history.

Jean Pardo interviewed Virginia Parkhurst, Nyack village historian, on tape shortly before Parkhurst's death last year, and an excerpt of that tape will open up the series. Also on hand will be an array of local photographs, many from Parkhurst's own collection, which are unidentified. Old timers in the county are encouraged to attend to help identify these photographs and newcomers are invited to see how Nyack looked way back when.

The highlight of the evening will be a videotape of the houses of the 1884 map of Nyack. The video was

put together for Hopper House by local history and architecture buffs Charlotte Menaker and Eleanor Gibson.

✓ **New Book on Camp Shanks**—The Historical Society of Rockland County has announced the publication of *Camp Shanks and Shanks Village: A Scrapbook*, by Scott E. Webber. The book is the product of more than 20 years of research based on National Archives records, interviews with participants, and the memoirs of many who were at Camp Shanks. Illustrated with more than 250 photographs, cartoons and drawings, the book documents the role of Rockland County in World War II.

The price is \$35 plus a shipping charge of \$2.50 for each book ordered. New York State residents should

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Upcoming Meetings and Events

Regular meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month (except July and August) at the Community Room of the History Center Museum, Historical Society of Rockland County, 20 Zukor Road, New City, N.Y.

Meeting time is 7:45 p.m.

Sep 24.....Jean Ostrowsky from the L.D.S. Center in Emerson, NJ, who works in their research area, will speak about tracing your ancestors and what's available at their center.

Oct 29.....Bill Lent, who is one of the Friends of the Old Dutch Burying Ground in Sleepy Hollow, and has done extensive research on the Lent family, will speak about both subjects.

Nov 26.....To be announced

the late 1600s. Today's New York state communities of Tappan, Orangeburg, Blauvelt and Sparkill lie within the perimeter of the patent, as do the New Jersey communities of Northvale, Norwood, River Vale, Old Tappan, and Harrington Park.

The Harings and some of the other early families who settled here remained in the area even after the Revolution. The Dutch heritage was so strong in the Tappan area that sermons were preached in Dutch at the Tappan Reformed Church until 1835.

Fabend's book focuses on the lives of these early Dutch settlers—marriage and childbearing customs, living conditions, agricultural methods, economic position, inheritance patterns and political and religious life. The book has won the 1989 book award from the New York State Historical Association and the 1989 Hendricks Prize from the New Netherland Project.

✓ **Updated History of Pearl River**—Robert Knight has updated his Centennial *History of Pearl River*, now annotated through 1991. The book is \$17.95 plus \$1.00 shipping and NYS sales tax of \$1.12 for a total of \$20.07. Order from Robert P. Knight, P.O. Box 93, Pearl River, NY 10965.

✓ **New Vanderbilt Genealogy**—Jean M. Rand has announced the publication of her new genealogy, *Some Descendants of Jan Aertsen Vanderbilt*, a hardcover, 328-pg (including index and bibliography) June 1991 book from Gateway Press.

The book is the culmination of 15 years of research and traces many lines from Jan Aertsen Vanderbilt from 1640 to 1990 mostly in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Arkansas, and Texas.

The book is \$37.50 per copy postpaid (NY state residents add \$1.50 sales tax; NYC residents add \$3.19 sales tax) and may be ordered directly from the author, Jean M. Rand, 209-07 Whitehall Terr., Queens Village, NY 11427

✓ **Early Orange County Wills**—A new two-volume-in-one edition of *Early Orange County Wills*, is available now from the Orange County Genealogical Society at the introductory price of \$20 including shipping. Vol. I covers Abstracts of Wills 1731-1788 of Orange and Ulster County Wills on File, Surrogate's Office, City of New York. Vol. II covers Abstracts of Wills June 27, 1787 to Dec 31, 1830, Orange County Surrogate's Office, Goshen, NY. The work includes an everypage index. Order from the Orange County Genealogical Society, 101 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924.

✓ **New York State Vital Records**—According to Laura J. LeBarron, editor of the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations Newsletter, Roger Ritzmann of the New York State Archives reported in April that the Archives and the NYS Department of Health were negotiating the transfer of the index to the Archives. The index has been

inaccessible to the public since its 1990 move, and in a related development, there has also been an extremely long processing time for mail requests for vital records (reportedly anywhere from 6-14 months because of backlog of requests and Vital Records staff workload).

Use of the index allows researchers to identify exact certificate numbers. When this information is included in the request for vital records, the processing time is shortened because the Vital Records Staff doesn't have to do the search.

Currently, those seeking vital records are encouraged, if the jurisdiction in which an event occurred is known, to direct requests to the local Registrar of Vital Statistics.

✓ **Where to Write for Vital Records**—The Consumer Education Research Center (CERC) has published an updated version of its book, "Where to Write for Vital Records." The book contains a state-by-state listing of addresses and phone numbers of places where each record can be found. Other information includes the cost of each document, and samples of letters containing the information needed to get these and other vital documents. Also included is information on the Family History Library of the Mormon Church.

To order the book, send \$6.50 to Consumer Center—Documents, 350 Scotland Rd., Orange, NJ 07050 or call 1-800-872-0121 for credit card orders.

✓ **Upcoming Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey Programs**—The Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey (JGS) meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Charles Goldman Library of the YM-YWHA of North Jersey at 1 Pike Drive in Wayne, NJ.

At the September JGS meeting David Kleinman, will talk on Computers and Genealogy.

The October JGS meeting will feature Arthur Kurzweil, the well-known author of "From Generation to Generation."

For additional information contact Susan Ginsberg, 201-399-6829 (office) or 201-564-8522 (home).

✓ **Genealogy Club of the New Jersey Historical Society**—The Genealogy Club of the NJHS welcomes the public at its meetings, which are free and held on the third Saturday of each month Sept. to May from 10-noon at the New Jersey Historical Society, 230 Broadway, Newark, NJ. Free on-site parking is available. Future meetings include:

Sept. 21—"Past Promise: How to Write a Biography" by Janet Gibbs Albanesius.

Oct. 19—Annual Seminar "Reflections of the Past: Your Photographic Heritage" (there is a charge for this seminar: \$12 for NJHS members; \$15 for non-members). The seminar includes "A Close and Searching Look at Personal Photographs" by

well as making cameras, they also made stereopticons. Henry John was married to Catherine Snyder. His son Frank later took over the business. Quite a number of the Lewises knew Jimmy Hare, who was the first photojournalist. The Lewises were thought to be Methodists.

The main problem encountered was the very common name of Lewis, which is the fifth most common Welsh name. The name also exists in other ethnic groups, although it may be spelled differently.

William is also a common name, very popular since William the Conqueror. Henry is a common Welsh name also. There were many William and Henry Lewises in New York City, so it was difficult to figure out who was who. These names are plentiful in the immigration indexes, Index to American Genealogy, the Index to Marriages and Deaths in the New York Herald, and the LDS Library records.

The approach Bob took was to look into the history of photography. He researched the subject at Rockland County libraries, as well as Newburgh.

This occurred over a period of about 2 to 2-1/2 years. He discovered that the family owned a photography business on Chatham Square; he learned the different names the business had taken over a period of years. One book stated that they owned a factory in Daguerreville, New York. At this point he started to write letters to photographic historical societies. The family was known to have moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn, so he wrote to the Long Island Historical Society—no information.

Eventually, from one of the books, he got the name of Matthew Isenberg, one of the foremost collectors of early camera equipment and daguerrotypes in the world. He wrote to him and received a phone call one night. Evidently, Mr. Isenberg owns some of the Lewis family cameras. Mr. Isenberg told him the Welsh town William was born in and that they had won several awards for their photographic apparatus. He even promised that he would send Bob more information.

The next thing he did was write cemeteries—Linden Hill, Cypress Hills, and Green Wood. He found the family buried in Cypress Hills. Once he got solid dates from the cemetery (after he had written twice), he went to the Municipal Archives for certificates. The cemetery information and the certificates noted the date of death, last residence, what they died of, birthplace, etc.

After receiving replies to some of his letters, he found out that Daguerreville was just south of Newburgh. The factory they had operated there was the largest in the world during that period. It eventually became a large photographic supply house. They had also invented an improved camera, and were the first to use a bellows. There are not many of their cameras still in existence—one of them was worth over \$10,000 back in 1935.

Bob searched the newspaper archives in Newburgh and found that they had bought the facto-

ry, it employed about 50 people, and was indeed the largest in the world. He found an ad in one newspaper in which the business was looking for houses for their employees. In another article in *The Newburgh Telegraph*, there was an editorial complaining of the lack of housing in the Newburgh area. Evidently, this led them to selling the factory.

In the future, Bob plans to go to the New York Public Library to search City Directories, old journals of photography, and telephone books. He also wants to get hold of a book that Mr. Isenberg told him has a great deal of information on the Lewis family.

In the New City Library, Bob utilized the Encyclopedia of Associations and Directory of Special Libraries.

Mike Secora: In trying to piece together the family of Levi Knapp, born c. 1800 in Clarkstown, NY, Mike used the following steps.

1. He put together the census records for the family, obtained from the Federal census records available on request in the New City Library on microfilm.

2. From the census records, besides the people listed in the 1850 and 1860 census, he figured out that the following people were family: a) one male born between 1825-1830; b) one female born between 1825-1830; c) one female born between 1830-1835; d) one female born between 1835-1840. Females Eliza Ann and Sarah M. were not listed in 1860 and had either married or died. Female Henryetta (projected age 13 in 1860) probably had died.

3. He looked for the 1850 Census family name in Peter Krell's book, So That All May Be Remembered available in the New City Library (or for purchase—if you are doing Clarkstown research this book is a must have!). In this, he found: a) Levi, c. 12/13/1800-4/1/1881 Knapp Cemetery; b) Eliza Ann, c. 2/19/1803-9/19/1876 Knapp Cemetery; c) Sarah Matilda, 6/15/1839-6/25/1857 Knapp Cemetery. The age for Sarah Matilda matched that of Sarah M. from 1850 and since this was a family cemetery, he felt fairly sure this was the same person.

4. He went to the New City County Courthouse armed with the date Levi died, looking for a will. No Luck!

5. He went to the County Clerk's Office to look at land records—only for Levi and Eliza Ann at this time, and only as grantor of land. He was only interested in heirs at this point. Here he had some luck. He found a deed transaction from Levi dated 4/30/1881 (after his death). This gave him the following information: Abram Knapp, Margaret R. Whitaker, Barbara Trumper, Hannah A. Knapp, Maria L. Hartwick, Eliza A. Moore were all listed as heirs of Levi.

6. He went back to Peter Krell's book to check out the new names, and the following entries were found: • Eliza A. Moore 2/10/1845-? Germonds

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Chris noted that you can subscribe on computer to

the Pennsylvania State Library, which houses the archives. You can ask for a name and it will tell you what books or materials they have on that name, and whether the books are indexed. The Library will check the indexes for you at the rate of \$10 per hour. You get a lot of information for your \$10.

Although not related to computers, Chris reported that another little-known source for genealogical research is law libraries—of universities, State and County governments, local colleges, etc. There is hardly a family that would have escaped being in court at one time or another, and these libraries would have a record of it.

1855 NEW YORK STATE CENSUS, ROCKLAND COUNTY

Transcribed by Pat Wardell

Please see December 1990 issue (p. 6) for general information about this census and about this transcription.

TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW, 2ND ELECTION DISTRICT (continued from May 1991 issue)

Dwel	Fam.	Name of every person...1 June 1855	Age	Sex	Col	Relation to head of family	Where born	M/W	Yrs Res	Profession, Trade, Occupation	land owner
(dwelling 68, Family 83 continued)											
68	83	Peter Rose	20	M		Boarder	Rockland		20	Brick burner	
		Lewis [Oblense? Ulense?]	18	M		D ^o	Germany		6/12	None	
		Christopher Miller	25	M		D ^o	Germany		6	None	
		John Mc Wiggen	22	M		D ^o	Ireland	M	5	None	
		John Mallen	35	M		D ^o	Ireland	M	10	None	
		James [Mc—(illegible)]	45	M		D ^o	Ireland	W	5	None	
		Thomas Mc Lary	16	M		D ^o	Ireland		16	None	
	84	Joseph Apple	46	M			Germany	M	1	[Mason?]	
		Anna Apple	45	F		Wife	Germany	M	1	None	
		Christina Apple	15	F		Daughter	Germany		1	None	
69	85	F. W. Nickerson	28	M			Putnam	M	3	Brick Manu ^r	Owne
		S. Amelia Nickerson	23	F		Wife	Rockland	M	23	None	
		[Geo.? Cha.?] Nickerson	58	M		Father	Putnam	M	2	None	
		Susan Nickerson	53	F		Mother	Putnam	M	2	None	
		Mary Nickerson	22	F		Sister	Putnam		2	None	
		Martha Nickerson	16	F		Sister	Putnam		2	None	
		Isaac T. Reynolds	50	M		Uncle	Putnam	W	3	Blacksmith	
		Herman [Ware? Vare?]	30	M		Boarder	Germany		1/12	None	
		Charles Schmidt	26	M		D ^o	Germany		1/12	None	
		[Christian?] Ulerre	45	M		D ^o	Germany	W	1/12	None	
		John Ulerre	16	M		D ^o	Germany		1/12	None	
		Henry [Siebor?]	20	M		D ^o	Germany		1/12	None	
		Henry Schmidt	22	M		D ^o	Germany		3	None	
		[Teodore?]	22	M		D ^o	Germany		6/12	None	
	86	W ^m Rose	31	M			Rockland	M	31	None	
(13)						(21 June 1855)					
		Emiline Rose	22	F		Wife	Rockland	M	22	None	
		Mary [C.? E.?] Rose	4	F		Daughter	Rockland		4		
		Adison Rose	1	M		Son	Rockland		1		
70	87	Allison Tenike	34	M			Rockland	M	34	None	
		Mary Tenike	31	F		Wife	Rockland	M	16	None	
		Caroline Tenike	9	F		Daughter	Rockland		9		
		Alexander Tenike	7	M		Son	Rockland		7		
		D (name blank except for D) Tenike	5	F		Daughter	Rockland		5		
		W ^m Tenike	3	M		Son	Rockland		3		

DEATHS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 1, 1870

(From 1870 Mortality Schedule of Rockland County)

LDS Film # 1415135 (Stamped pp. 609-620)

Submitted by Laura J. LeBarron

Explanation of Abbreviations:

*St = Status (Married, Widowed)
*F = Father Foreign Born (X = Yes)
*M = Mother Foreign Born (X = Yes)

C = Clarkstown
H = Haverstraw
O = Orangetown
R = Ramapo
R*995 = Rockland County Alms
House in Ramapo
S = Stony Point
W = Warren Village
Numbers indicate the number of

the family as given in the 2nd column
of the regular Population Schedule of
the 1870 Census.

Kp Bdg School = Kept Boarding
School
Imp = Importer
R = Retired

Bre = Bremen
Ger = Germany
Ire = Ireland
Pol = Poland
Pot = Potsdam
Pru = Prussia

Swi = Switzerland

Ch = Chronic
Cngtn = Congestion of
Genl = General
Inflm = Inflammation of
Quincy Sore T = Quincy Sore Throat
Rem Fever = Remittant Fever
Stmch = Stomach

An explanation of the diseases will
follow in the issue containing the
conclusion of this mortality listing.

Name	Age	Sex	*St	Bpl	*F	*M	Died	Occupation	Cause of Death	Town
ABRAMS, Rosetta	11	F	-	NY	-	-	Mar	-	Poisoning Acc.	R201
ACKERMAN, John (Bl)	25	M	M	NY	-	-	May	Laborer	Consumption	R437
ADAMSON, John	62	M	W	Ire	X	X	May	R Hotel Keeper	Heart Inflm	R1001
ARMSTRONG, Edward	4m	M	-	NY	-	-	May	-	Cholera Infantum	C128
BABCOCK, Abram	24	M	M	NY	-	-	Nov	-	Typhoid Fever	H437
BABCOCK, Radford	2m	M	-	NY	-	-	Oct	-	Unknown	H426
BABCOCK, Stewart	33	M	M	NY	-	-	Jan	-	Consumption	S28
BACON, Irwin	1m	M	-	NY	X	-	Oct	-	Unknown	W676
BAISLEY, Catherine	9m	F	-	NY	-	-	Mar	-	Quincy Sore Th	H477
BAISLEY, Emily	01	F	-	NY	-	-	Sept	Inmate	Scarlet Fever	R*995
BALL, Minnie	04	F	-	NY	-	-	July	-	Diphtheria	R828
BALL, Thompson	02	M	-	NY	-	-	Aug	-	Diphtheria	R828
BALLARD, Hannah	01	F	-	NY	-	-	May	-	Teething	S579
BALLARD, John	06	M	-	NY	-	-	June	-	Scarlet Fever	S589
BARBAROW?, Richard	62	M	M	NY	-	-	Feb	Farmer	Consumption	R373
BEEBE, Julia C.	16	F	-	NY	-	-	July	-	Brain Fever	S141
BENSON, Martha (Bl)	29	F	M	NY	-	-	Dec	Keeping House	Heart Disease	R437
BLAUVELT, Abram	86	M	M	NY	-	-	Mar	Inmate	Consumption	R*995
BLAUVELT, Mary	35	F	M	NY	-	-	Jan	Keeping House	Apoplexy	O401
BOGERT, Hannah	79	F	M	NY	-	-	Dec	Keeping House	Paralysis	O900
BONNETT, Margaret	53	F	M	Pru	X	X	Jan	-	Dropsey Heart	W193
BOWER, Lillian	01	F	-	NY	-	-	Oct	-	Bloody Dysentery	S294
BRADY, Edgar	18	M	-	NY	-	-	Aug	-	Consumption	R746
BRADY, Ellen	05	F	-	Ire	X	X	May	-	Scarlet Fever	W588
BRADY, Mary	48	F	M	Ire	X	X	Dec	Keeping House	Child Birth	O777
BRADY, Mary A.	1m	F	-	NY	X	X	Jan	-	Inflm Lungs	O777
BRIGGS, Amos W.	02	M	-	NY	-	-	Jan	-	Scarlet Fever	W685
BRISTOL, Estella	7m	F	-	NY	-	-	Mar	-	Dropsey Brain	H273
BROOKS, Oscar	11	M	-	NY	-	-	Jan	-	Consumption	H303
BROWN, Geneva	4m	F	-	NY	-	-	May	-	Cholera Infantum	O999
BROWN, John	4m	M	-	NY	-	-	May	-	Cholera Infantum	O999
BRUSH, James E.	46	M	W	NY	-	-	Jan	Lumber Mer	Delirium Tremons	O206
BRUSH, Joshua	79	M	M	NY	-	-	Apr	R Lumber Mer	Stmch Cancer	O206
BULSON, Frederick	4m	M	-	NY	-	-	Oct	-	Whooping Cough	S422
CAMERON, John	02	M	-	NY	X	X	Sept	-	Inflm Bowels	H194
CAMPBELL, Hilah A.	27	F	M	NY	-	-	Mar	Keeping House	Consumption	C459
CARLOUGH, Ida	06	F	-	NY	-	-	Oct	-	Diphtheria	R817
CARR, David F.	07	M	-	NY	-	-	Jan	-	Cngtn Bowel	H213
CARSON, Maggie	1m	F	-	NY	-	-	Aug	-	Cholera Infantum	R833
CARSON, Mary	1m	F	-	NY	-	-	Aug	-	Cholera Infantum	R833
CASSADY, Francis	07	M	-	NY	-	-	Aug	-	Bloody Dysentery	S221
CHARLTON, John	70	M	M	Ire	X	X	Sept	R Mason	Consumption	R682
CHARLTON, John Sr	70	M	M	Ire	X	X	Sept	Builder	Dropsey	C149

(to be continued next issue)

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		John Mallen	35	M		D ^o	Ireland	M	10	None	
		James [Mc—(illegible)]	45	M		D ^o	Ireland	W	5	None	
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		Alexander Tenike	7	M		Son	Rockland		7		
		D (name blank except for D) Tenike	5	F		Daughter	Rockland		5		
		W ^m Tenike	3	M		Son	Rockland		3		

well as making cameras, they also made stereopticons. Henry John was married to Catherine Snyder. His son Frank later took over the business. Quite a number of the Lewises knew Jimmy Hare, who was the first photojournalist. The Lewises were thought to be Methodists.

The main problem encountered was the very common name of Lewis, which is the fifth most common Welsh name. The name also exists in other ethnic groups, although it may be spelled differently. William is also a common name, very popular since William the Conqueror. Henry is a common Welsh name also. There were many William and Henry Lewises in New York City, so it was difficult to figure out who was who. These names are plentiful in the immigration indexes, Index to American Genealogy, the Index to Marriages and Deaths in the New York Herald, and the LDS Library records.

The approach Bob took was to look into the history of photography. He researched the subject at Rockland County libraries, as well as Newburgh. This occurred over a period of about 2 to 2-1/2 years. He discovered that the family owned a photography business on Chatham Square; he learned the different names the business had taken over a period of years. One book stated that they owned a factory in Daguerreville, New York. At this point he started to write letters to photographic historical societies. The family was known to have moved from Manhattan to Brooklyn, so he wrote to the Long Island Historical Society—no information.

Eventually, from one of the books, he got the name of Matthew Isenberg, one of the foremost collectors of early camera equipment and daguerrotypes in the world. He wrote to him and received a phone call one night. Evidently, Mr. Isenberg owns some of the Lewis family cameras. Mr. Isenberg told him the Welsh town William was born in and that they had won several awards for their photographic apparatus. He even promised that he would send Bob more information.

The next thing he did was write cemeteries—Linden Hill, Cypress Hills, and Green Wood. He found the family buried in Cypress Hills. Once he got solid dates from the cemetery (after he had written twice), he went to the Municipal Archives for certificates. The cemetery information and the certificates noted the date of death, last residence, what they died of, birthplace, etc.

After receiving replies to some of his letters, he found out that Daguerreville was just south of Newburgh. The factory they had operated there was the largest in the world during that period. It eventually became a large photographic supply house. They had also invented an improved camera, and were the first to use a bellows. There are not many of their cameras still in existence—one of them was worth over \$10,000 back in 1935.

Bob searched the newspaper archives in Newburgh and found that they had bought the facto-

ry, it employed about 50 people, and was indeed the largest in the world. He found an ad in one newspaper in which the business was looking for houses for their employees. In another article in *The Newburgh Telegraph*, there was an editorial complaining of the lack of housing in the Newburgh area. Evidently, this led them to selling the factory.

In the future, Bob plans to go to the New York Public Library to search City Directories, old journals of photography, and telephone books. He also wants to get hold of a book that Mr. Isenberg told him has a great deal of information on the Lewis family.

In the New City Library, Bob utilized the Encyclopedia of Associations and Directory of Special Libraries.

Mike Secora: In trying to piece together the family of Levi Knapp, born c. 1800 in Clarkstown, NY, Mike used the following steps.

1. He put together the census records for the family, obtained from the Federal census records available on request in the New City Library on micro-film.

2. From the census records, besides the people listed in the 1850 and 1860 census, he figured out that the following people were family: a) one male born between 1825-1830; b) one female born between 1825-1830; c) one female born between 1830-1835; d) one female born between 1835-1840. Females Eliza Ann and Sarah M. were not listed in 1860 and had either married or died. Female Henryetta (projected age 13 in 1860) probably had died.

3. He looked for the 1850 Census family name in Peter Krell's book, So That All May Be Remembered available in the New City Library (or for purchase—if you are doing Clarkstown research this book is a must have!). In this, he found: a) Levi, c. 12/13/1800-4/1/1881 Knapp Cemetery; b) Eliza Ann, c. 2/19/1803-9/19/1876 Knapp Cemetery; c) Sarah Matilda, 6/15/1839-6/25/1857 Knapp Cemetery. The age for Sarah Matilda matched that of Sarah M. from 1850 and since this was a family cemetery, he felt fairly sure this was the same person.

4. He went to the New City County Courthouse armed with the date Levi died, looking for a will. No Luck!

5. He went to the County Clerk's Office to look at land records—only for Levi and Eliza Ann at this time, and only as grantor of land. He was only interested in heirs at this point. Here he had some luck. He found a deed transaction from Levi dated 4/30/1881 (after his death). This gave him the following information: Abram Knapp, Margaret R. Whitaker, Barbara Trumper, Hannah A. Knapp, Maria L. Hartwick, Eliza A. Moore were all listed as heirs of Levi.

6. He went back to Peter Krell's book to check out the new names, and the following entries were found: • Eliza A. Moore 2/10/1845-? Germonds

the late 1600s. Today's New York state communities of Tappan, Orangeburg, Blauvelt and Sparkill lie within the perimeter of the patent, as do the New Jersey communities of Northvale, Norwood, River Vale, Old Tappan, and Harrington Park.

The Harings and some of the other early families who settled here remained in the area even after the Revolution. The Dutch heritage was so strong in the Tappan area that sermons were preached in Dutch at the Tappan Reformed Church until 1835.

Fabend's book focuses on the lives of these early Dutch settlers—marriage and childbearing customs, living conditions, agricultural methods, economic position, inheritance patterns and political and religious life. The book has won the 1989 book award from the New York State Historical Association and the 1989 Hendricks Prize from the New Netherland Project.

✓ **Updated History of Pearl River**—Robert Knight has updated his Centennial *History of Pearl River*, now annotated through 1991. The book is \$17.95 plus \$1.00 shipping and NYS sales tax of \$1.12 for a total of \$20.07. Order from Robert P. Knight, P.O. Box 93, Pearl River, NY 10965.

✓ **New Vanderbilt Genealogy**—Jean M. Rand has announced the publication of her new genealogy, *Some Descendants of Jan Aertsen Vanderbilt*, a hardcover, 328-pg (including index and bibliography) June 1991 book from Gateway Press.

The book is the culmination of 15 years of research and traces many lines from Jan Aertsen Vanderbilt from 1640 to 1990 mostly in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Arkansas, and Texas.

The book is \$37.50 per copy postpaid (NY state residents add \$1.50 sales tax; NYC residents add \$3.19 sales tax) and may be ordered directly from the author, Jean M. Rand, 209-07 Whitehall Terr., Queens Village, NY 11427

✓ **Early Orange County Wills**—A new two-volume-in-one edition of *Early Orange County Wills*, is available now from the Orange County Genealogical Society at the introductory price of \$20 including shipping. Vol. I covers Abstracts of Wills 1731-1788 of Orange and Ulster County Wills on File, Surrogate's Office, City of New York. Vol. II covers Abstracts of Wills June 27, 1787 to Dec 31, 1830, Orange County Surrogate's Office, Goshen, NY. The work includes an everynames index. Order from the Orange County Genealogical Society, 101 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924.

✓ **New York State Vital Records**—According to Laura J. LeBarron, editor of the New York State Council of Genealogical Organizations Newsletter, Roger Ritzmann of the New York State Archives reported in April that the Archives and the NYS Department of Health were negotiating the transfer of the index to the Archives. The index has been

inaccessible to the public since its 1990 move, and in a related development, there has also been an extremely long processing time for mail requests for vital records (reportedly anywhere from 6-14 months because of backlog of requests and Vital Records staff workload).

Use of the index allows researchers to identify exact certificate numbers. When this information is included in the request for vital records, the processing time is shortened because the Vital Records Staff doesn't have to do the search.

Currently, those seeking vital records are encouraged, if the jurisdiction in which an event occurred is known, to direct requests to the local Registrar of Vital Statistics.

✓ **Where to Write for Vital Records**—The Consumer Education Research Center (CERC) has published an updated version of its book, "Where to Write for Vital Records." The book contains a state-by-state listing of addresses and phone numbers of places where each record can be found. Other information includes the cost of each document, and samples of letters containing the information needed to get these and other vital documents. Also included is information on the Family History Library of the Mormon Church.

To order the book, send \$6.50 to Consumer Center—Documents, 350 Scotland Rd., Orange, NJ 07050 or call 1-800-872-0121 for credit card orders.

✓ **Upcoming Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey Programs**—The Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey (JGS) meets on the third Thursday of the month at the Charles Goldman Library of the YM-YWHA of North Jersey at 1 Pike Drive in Wayne, NJ.

At the September JGS meeting David Kleinman, will talk on Computers and Genealogy.

The October JGS meeting will feature Arthur Kurzweil, the well-known author of "From Generation to Generation."

For additional information contact Susan Ginsberg, 201-399-6829 (office) or 201-564-8522 (home).

✓ **Genealogy Club of the New Jersey Historical Society**—The Genealogy Club of the NJHS welcomes the public at its meetings, which are free and held on the third Saturday of each month Sept. to May from 10-noon at the New Jersey Historical Society, 230 Broadway, Newark, NJ. Free on-site parking is available. Future meetings include:

Sept. 21—"Past Promise: How to Write a Biography" by Janet Gibbs Albanesius.

Oct. 19—Annual Seminar "Reflections of the Past: Your Photographic Heritage" (there is a charge for this seminar: \$12 for NJHS members; \$15 for non-members). The seminar includes "A Close and Searching Look at Personal Photographs" by