



# The Lookout

Volume 24 Issue 1

Late Spring Newsletter Issue

*Our mission is to preserve the history of the people who have gone before us.*

## Friendly Reminder

### Membership dues are due

Some of our members need to update their membership to be current. Please consider making your \$10 payment for 2015. Thank you very much.

#### WHEELING AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in the Wheeling Area Genealogical Society is \$10.00 per individual for the year from January 1 to December 31. Make checks payable to WHEELING AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 6450, Wheeling WV 26003-6450

#### PLEASE PRINT THE BELOW INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street

Mailing Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

City State Zip

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Check one:  NEW  RENEWAL

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#### ~~~~ WAGS Officers ~~~~

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Judith Fugate  
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Jeanne Finstein  
**Recording Secretary:**  
Marjorie Richey

**Board of Directors:**  
William Maxwell (through 2016)  
Carol Bell (2017)  
Lee Bourne (2017)

#### A Tribute to Judy Fugate Best Wishes in Your New Home



Judy Fugate, a very knowledgeable and essential member of the Wheeling Area Genealogical Society (WAGS), is moving to Virginia. Judy was born and raised on Wheeling Island in Wheeling, West Virginia. She attended Wheeling High School and graduated with a degree in X-ray Technology from the Ohio Valley Medical Center (OVMC) School of Radiology. In addition, she completed a genealogy class offered by Belmont Technical Institute, Belmont County, Ohio.

During her career, Judy worked for OVMC Hospital, Wheeling Hospital, and several physicians. After 30 years in the medical field she retired, but she was not finished. She became an employee of the McCoy and Altmeyer Funeral Homes for a few years followed by a stint in the reference room of an attorney's office where she worked with legal records.

Judy joined WAGS in 1992; Mary Lou Henderson was her mentor. She served the Society as President, Vice President, and was on the WAGS Book Committee. Judy helped many individuals research their ancestors and assisted one person in finding a long-lost brother in Scotland. Over the years, Judy held the offices of Registrar and Chapter Regent of the Wheeling Chapter, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) and also served as State Registrar. She organized workshops for both WAGS and for the Wheeling Chapter NSDAR.

Judy's is most proud of her family, four children whom she raised and educated to become very productive individuals and four grandchildren.



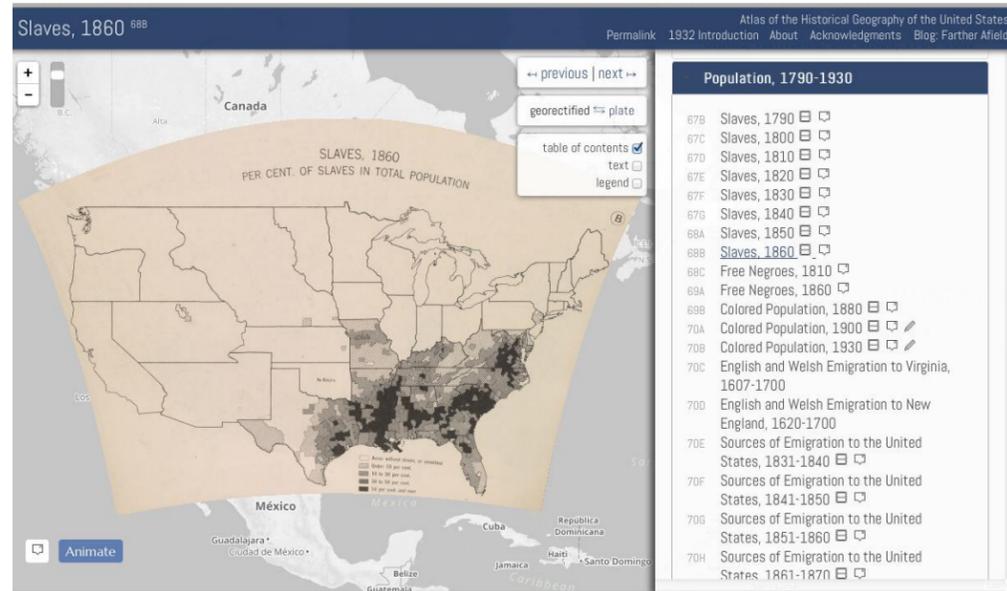
Judy has been an integral part of WAGS for many years, and she will be missed both personally and for the expertise she brought to our Society. Even though Judy will be leaving Wheeling, we hope she will continue to contribute from afar.

Our Homepage: <http://wagswv.org/>  
Our email: [wagswv@gmail.com](mailto:wagswv@gmail.com)

## Hi-Tech History By Jeanne Finstein

For those of us who find studying maps to be a fascinating way to spend some time, the digital version of the Atlas of Historical Geography (1932) is a valuable find - <http://dsl.richmond.edu/historicalatlas/>. These maps are an impressive collection of over 700 maps, including, among other things, selections on the natural environment, exploration and settlement of North America, locations of colleges and churches, military history, emigration patterns from Europe (good for genealogy studies), political opinions, and interesting trivia – such as estimated travel times from New York City to other areas of the country as transportation improved. In 1800, for example, it would have taken an estimated 11 days to get from New York City to Wheeling, (West) Virginia; in 1830 it would have taken over 4 days; in 1857 about a day. Using railroads in 1930, the travel time between the two cities was cut to a bit over a day, while using air travel in the same year reduced the travel time to under a day.

The screen shot below, showing slave population in the country in 1860, makes it obvious why the western part of Virginia – with a very small population of slaves – felt so different from the eastern part. Another map, showing Iron and Steel Works from about the same period, clearly illustrates the industrial strength of the North before the Civil War. [Note: the Table of Contents portion of the screen can be removed to allow a larger viewing area. Related text, legends, and sometimes animation are also options.]



Prepare to spend a great deal of time investigating this site ... it's a real winner!

Thanks for the tip: Fiske Genealogical Foundation Newsletter.

## MONTHLY MEETING RUNDOWN by Carol Bell

January – The speaker was Rebekah Karelis, coordinator and historian of Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation. Her topic was the "Restore Mount Wood Cemetery" project, which involves resetting and cleaning small and large headstones at the city-owned property. Those folks wanting to help can do so. Workdays are the first weekend of each month. For more information, contact Bekah at [bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org](mailto:bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org).

February – Canceled because of bad weather

March – A "work meeting" was held to discuss new projects that members would like to pursue in the new year. There was a discussion of the current status of ongoing projects.

April – Another "work meeting"

May – The speaker was Jon-Erik Gilot, Director of Archives & Records, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. The Diocese comprises the entire State of West Virginia. Jon-Erik gave a presentation describing the many "Genealogical Records Available in the Diocesan Archives." For more information, contact him at [jgilot@dwc.org](mailto:jgilot@dwc.org).

## Mt. Wood Cemetery Notables:

### Daniel Frost (1819 – 1864)

*This is the second in a series of biographical sketches of those who are buried in historic Mt. Wood Cemetery. After years of neglect and damage from vandalism and natural causes, the cemetery is receiving attention from a group of volunteers. The group, organized by Bekah Karelis, meets on the first weekend of each month, weather permitting (Saturdays beginning at 9:00 am and Sundays beginning at 1:00 pm). Additional help is welcome – no experience is necessary. For more information, contact Bekah at the Wheeling National Heritage Area Corp. (304-232-3087) or at [bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org](mailto:bkarelis@wheelingheritage.org).*



Daniel Frost was born in St. Clairsville in 1819, one of ten children of William and Rachel Wetzel Frost. He married Ellen Rathbone (1826 – 1886) in 1843 in Wood County, (West) Virginia. It was in that part of the state, in Ravenswood, that Daniel worked as the editor of the Virginia Chronicle before the Civil War. Confederates are said to have burned his paper because of its Northern views.

Frost was elected Speaker of the House of Delegates when the newly formed Restored Government of Virginia was organized in Wheeling. He then volunteered for military service for the Union and was commissioned Lt. Colonel on May 20, 1862 when he was 43 years old. Less than a year later, he was mustered in as Colonel. He served in the 11<sup>th</sup> West Virginia Infantry, along with Colonel Joseph Thoburn.

During the first two years of the war, the 11<sup>th</sup> Infantry spent much of their duty guarding the important B&O railroad. They saw much more action beginning in May of 1864 at the battle of Cloyd's Mountain, in what is now southwestern Virginia. Their objective there was to destroy the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. Two future U.S. Presidents, Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley, were part of their forces, commanded by Brigadier General George Crook. Frost was in charge of six companies during that battle and was cited for gallantry in a battle that was later described as one of the most savage of the entire war. He reported that the Union forces began the attack with an artillery barrage, then, due to the mountainous terrain, everyone on horses had to dismount and go on foot. General Crook, still wearing his jackboots, reportedly sank in a small stream when his boots filled with water, and some of the men had to pull him out. Both Crook and Frost survived the battle, but others weren't so lucky. Although the Union forces outnumbered the Rebels nearly three to one and the result was seen as a Union victory, the hand-to-hand combat led to terrible losses.

About two months later Frost's unit moved north and east, near what is now the tip of West Virginia's eastern panhandle. There they took part in the Battle of Snicker's Ferry (sometimes called the Battle of Cool Spring), under Union Generals George Crook and Horatio Wright. The Union troops had been pursuing the Confederates, under General Jubal Early, as they withdrew from the Washington, DC area. Union intelligence reported that they were to encounter a light Rebel picket line that had been left to cover Early's retreat. But that wasn't true. The Confederates actually outnumbered the Union and won the victory. Daniel was in command of the Third Brigade and was wounded in the abdomen. He died from that wound a day later, on July 19, 1864.

## WAGS BY THE NUMBERS by Carol Bell

Total Membership .....	112
States Represented.....	25
WV Members .....	55
OH Members .....	16
PA Members .....	5
Other States .....	36
Wheeling Area Members.....	57

## RECENT BOOK ADDITIONS:

*Our Quaker Ancestors – Finding Them in Quaker Records* by Ellen Thomas Berry & David Allen Berry. Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc. 2002

*Mount Pleasant and the Early Quakers of Ohio* by James L. Burke & Donald E. Bench. Ohio History Society. 1975