Dear Member,

On behalf of the Delaware Genealogical Society (DGS) board of governors, I would like to extend our hope that you and your family are taking good care. The rhythm of our daily lives certainly has changed significantly over the past six weeks, and that applies to DGS, too.

In response to state restrictions on gatherings, DGS postponed our March and April member meetings to later this year. The annual meeting and social, normally scheduled for mid-May, will be rescheduled to later in May. It will be a virtual meeting, a first for us. All members will be invited, so watch your email for that information.

What have not changed are the genealogical resources that are available to you as a DGS member. Just in case you’ve exhausted all of your usual online repositories, let me share with you what the DGS website has in store for you. To access any these benefits, go to the Delaware Genealogical Society’s website and log in by clicking on “Member” in the blue left hand navigation column on the home page. After entering your username and password, member benefits will appear in the left hand column.

The newest addition is the updated Delaware Genealogical Research Guide, the printed edition of which was released in January 2020. The online content includes all of the text, links, resources, tables, and charts that appear in hard copy guide. We believe that the guide is essential for Delaware research and can be very handy for research in general. The published guide will continue to be available at Amazon.com; we simply feel that an online version is a nice complement to the hard copy guide. To access the online guide, click on the “Research Guide” link.

The Delaware Genealogical Society Journal, Volumes 20.1-20.3, have been posted. These journals include abstracts of the ledger from the Home for Friendless and Destitute Children for 1862 to 1882. Printed copies of Volume 20.2 were delivered by the US Postal Service last week, and Volume 20.3 is currently in the mail. Except for visiting the archive where the original records are stored, the DGS Journal is the only source for these records.

These journal issues are in addition to the forty years of journals that are already available on the website. To explore the journals, click on “Journal Archive” under Members. The “DGS Journals” link takes you to person and subject indexes, and tables of contents for journals published from 1980-2008.

Meeting materials from the two 2020 lectures are available. An article summarizing the live webinar with Diahan Southard, Your DNA Guide, is posted. The full presentation from Mike Miscoski, who spoke on Almshouses, Orphanages, and Reform Schools to a packed house, also is available. Click on “Member Meetings” to access these and other past meeting materials.

In addition to these digitized resources, you’ll also find the following:

- “Ask DGS,” the online forum where you can ask for help from your fellow DGS members.
- Forty-two years of the DGS newsletter, 25 years of which are indexed by subject and name.
- Chandler and Son Funeral Home interment records for July 1894-November 1916.

And let’s not forget the Delaware Genealogical Society Facebook group, which as of today has 624 members!

Watch for two more messages from us in the next few weeks: the newsletter will be published in another week or so, and an invitation to the virtual May annual meeting will be sent.

In the meantime, stay well. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Cheers!

Irene Heffran Monley
President