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DUTCHESS COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

“The Quack's Daughter: A True Story about the Private Life of a Victorian College Girl”

**is the topic of the March meeting of
the Dutchess County Genealogical Society**

Greta Nettleton says, “Imagine that a Saratoga trunk full of diaries and photographs belonging to a forgotten black-sheep ancestor came your way.... What secrets might be hidden inside?”

“My great-grandmother, Cora Keck, was a piano prodigy from Davenport, Iowa. Her mother, Mrs. Dr. Keck, was a notorious self-made patent-medicine millionaire. My story transports readers back through time to follow a passionate and talented western girl on her unlikely climb from the muddy streets of the nation’s “wickedest city” to the pinnacle of America’s social pyramid at Vassar College.

“Cora was sent to Vassar’s School of Music in 1884. Transformed by Vassar’s high expectations, she graduated as the star of the conservatory program. Returning home to her conservative parents and prevented from performing in public, she was forced to make a choice between loyalty to her family and her dreams of an independent future.

“Cora could have walked straight out of a Susan Glaspell story, except that everything in her tale is true. It is accompanied by hundreds of photographs that illuminate the life of a heroine eager to explain in her own words the ups and downs of her many friends and flirts, her wildly unconventional family and her bright ambitions for the concert stage.”

Greta Nettleton is a professional writer, editor and researcher. She lives with her husband and two sons in Rockland County, New York. She holds a B.A. in History from Duke University and an M.A. from the University of Texas at Austin. She has devoted five years of research to reconstructing Cora’s story. Copies of *The Quack's Daughter: A True Story about the Private Life of a Victorian College Girl* will be available at the meeting.

All are welcome.

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie
Tuesday, 19 March 2013 7:30 P. M.**

If Spackenkill Schools are closed because of weather, the meeting will be canceled.