

SINCE 1985

# Happy New Year! FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWS

WINTER 2018

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 1

### SOCIAL MEDIA FOR GENEALOGISTS

Falmouth and Cape Cod genealogical societies sponsored "Social Media for Genealogists" on November 11 in Osterville. A lovely and animated Mary Tedesco presented info to further personal, professional and society goals. The Gloucester resident and co-host of PBS's "Genealogy Roadshow" shared her methods of expanding networks with fellow genealogists and results of her surveys of genealogists' preferences. Mary is also the founder of ORIGINS ITALY. The top site she recommends is Facebook, which has 1.8 billion users. A full 87% of professional genealogists belong to Facebook groups. Her next



PAST PRESIDENT  
RALPH WADLEIGH WITH  
MARY TEDESCO

recommendations are Twitter with 314 million users; LinkedIn, on which Mary has 3,000 followers; Instagram with 600 million active users; and Pinterest.

#### For Professional and Society Goals

Mary stressed knowing your audience to provide content interesting to it. Survey your followers with [SurveyMonkey](#). Hers were 42% professional and 47% amateur. Their favorite accounts were Facebook, 90%; Twitter, 30%; Pinterest, 18%; LinkedIn, 14%; Instagram, 9%; and Google Plus, 13%. If your audience has roots to your

(cont'd. on page 3)

### YUMMY HOLIDAY FOOD FEST HELD

December 9<sup>th</sup> was threatening snow, but a dedicated group assembled for the annual Holiday Food Fest. President Thomas Greve began the meeting with the usual short business session then provided an update on the work he and Tim Martin have been doing on the cemetery project. The West Falmouth Friends Cemetery and the Old Town Burying Ground have many more burials than are currently on the FindAGrave website. They are working to remedy this.

Bob Chase began the program with his beautifully decorated and festive Lebkuchen (gingerbread) tin chest sent from a friend in Nuremburg, Germany.

The box, with scenes from the city nicknamed "Christmas Land," was filled with traditional cookies, cakes and candies. Nuremburg is famous for its Christmas market which began in 1500. Bob met his German wife while stationed there.

Also along the German vein, Dottie Priestley brought a nutcracker and a musical ball, German Christmas decorations she purchased when she lived there 50 years ago as a newly-wed Army bride. As they say in Germany, "Fröhe Weihnachten!"

Caribbean rum fudge was the treat Margaret Rioux shared. She said it is

(cont'd. on page 2)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held at 10 am  
Downstairs, Falmouth Library  
Unless Otherwise Noted

Saturday, January 13

**"What Next?: Third-Party Tools for Exploring Autosomal DNA"**  
With Thomas Greve, President, Falmouth Genealogical Society, and Professional Genealogist

Saturday, February 10

**"Andiamo! Finding Your Italian Ancestors"**  
With Margaret Fortier, Professional Genealogist/ Mass. Society of Genealogists Board Member

Saturday, March 10

**"US Immigration Documents"**  
With Seema Kenney, Certified in Genealogical Research from BU; President Worcester Chapter Mass. Society of Genealogists

Saturday, April 14

**"Brick Kiln Road and Influential Quakers in early Falmouth."**  
With Tom Sbarra, Retired Cardiologist and Falmouth Resident

Saturday, May 12

**"Characteristics and Use of Y-DNA and mtDNA Testing"**  
With Nora Galvin

Saturday, June 9

Annual Meeting

Saturday, July 7

**Topic To Be Announced**  
With Jill Morelli



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THE FESTIVE GROUP WITH THEIR YUMMY CONTRIBUTIONS, FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JAN ZLATEV, BOB CHASE, DOTTIE PRIESTLEY, DEBORAH WINOGRAD, MARGARET RIOUX, DEB MARTIN, MARY BARRY AND WENDA WINDBIGLER.

## YUMMY HOLIDAY FOOD FEST HELD

(cont'd. from page 1)

“just about illegal to leave the Cayman Islands without bringing some home!”

Deborah Winograd shared photos of her great aunt, born 1870, whose cookie recipe she prepared. The aunt helped raise Deborah’s mother after her grandmother died during the flu epidemic. The recipe with raisin walnut filling consisted of only an ingredient list and cooking temperature but they came out fine.

Jan Zlatev was missing her flower-shaped cookie cutter with a hole in the center for her Swedish cookies so she used a star shape instead. Her Swedish

mother immigrated in 1929.

Wenda Windbigler apologized for bringing her usual smoked salmon, crackers, cream cheese, onions and capers but absolutely no one complained. Her family fished for salmon in the rivers of Northern California where now only Native Americans are allowed to take the river salmon.

Mary Barry was given her grandmother’s Cape Cod cookbook recently by a cousin. The recipes are all quite simple and she chose to make hermits, which she remembers from her childhood. The dark spicy treats contained raisins, cur-

rants, nuts and molasses. Hermits were taken to sea by sailors because they stayed fresh and were healthy.

Deb Martin wore a Christmas fascinator, a decorative head-piece such as those worn at English teas. She served lemon curd cheese cakes rather than the scones which would have been served at teas. Her mother also loved to wear hats.

Bebe Brock brought shortbread cookies in honor of a great grandfather, James Keith (1643-1719), who lived in Aberdeen, Scotland before becoming the first minister in Bridgewater, Massachusetts.

### Member Tip: How to Find Years-Old Archived Web Pages

Tim Martin, VP of Falmouth Genealogical Society, has a suggestion to see how a particular web page looked in the past. He says although Google maintains a cache of recent web pages, you can possibly find content from a few years ago at the Internet Archive Wayback Machine website : <https://web.archive.org/>. Enter a desired URL and see what it looked like at selected

times in the past. You may be able to click on links and be directed to content from a similar time for that link. You could, for instance, see what meetings were in the event calendar on our website ten years ago. Availability varies, but this will often be useful for primary pages, etc.” *Thanks for this useful tip, Tim.*

## SOCIAL MEDIA FOR GENEALOGISTS

(cont'd. from page 1)

specialty it doesn't matter where they are.

Be yourself, focus on your expertise, get followers to like you for you. Promote with blogs and crowd source for content—get ideas from many friends and colleagues. Be sure to obtain needed sources. Be professional and polite.

Speak your audience's language and deliver meaningful content. Monitor your content and decrease the frequency of unpopular subjects. Check monthly demographic statistics on your sites. Give the people what they want and your popularity will increase. Make appealing content and ask others to re-tweet it. Have cool events; show photos with cheerful faces. Engage your audience by posting with a purpose and stay 75 to 90% within that purpose.

Don't use acronyms unless you first write out the words.

Include public domain images such as those from [Wikimedia Commons](#), [FlickrTheCommons](#) or [Pixabay](#) or Google "public domain images." Obtain prior written permission to publish other images you find online. Use the New York Public Library digital collection of 100,000 and get your nostalgic juices flowing.

Use Facebook to boost your blog readership by posting a button for new posts. Use Facebook ads, which start at only \$10, set a radius of 50 to 70 miles.

Genealogists do not like excessive politics of either party, cyberbullying, rants, spam or fake news, chain messages, rudeness, over-posting – select only the best for each day. Don't be too

personal.

Be ethical and respect privacy. Ask permission before posting something, avoid posting identifying information. If you have a complaint, contact the party privately. Unfriend those who cyberbully. Don't borrow content.

### For Personal Goals

Follow Facebook groups in the town, county, state or ethnicity of your research. See Katherine Willson's website, [SocialMediaGenealogy.com](#). When posting for info on your ancestors, give all the facts you know. Don't be too general.

*For more on this topic, members can access the material handed out at the meeting. Simply go to the [Falmouth Genealogical Society](#) website, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes. If you need the password, please contact Jerry Luby at [jluby02@aol.com](mailto:jluby02@aol.com) or 508-563-6775.*

"WHEN POSTING FOR INFO ON YOUR ANCESTORS, GIVE ALL THE FACTS YOU KNOW. DON'T BE TOO GENERAL."

-MARY TEDESCO

# Thank You

Louise Adler  
Susan & William Archer, Sr.  
Marie Lou Botelho  
Paul Bunnell  
Frances Caddigan  
John Caspole  
Joan Croce  
Paco de la Fuente

to the following individuals who have generously donated to FGS and/or the Internet cemetery project in the past year:

Shirley Dunkle	Lockwood Rianhard
Elaine Dwyer	Paul Riemer
Stephen Hemberger	Margaret Rioux
Patricia Hildebrandt	Marianne Shafer
Susan Hutchinson	Sandra Sullivan
Elizabeth King	Allen Swift
Richard Lawrence	Stanford Vincent
Gerard Luby	Ralph Wadleigh
Leslie McDonald	Donna Walcovy
Frances McLean	Janice Zlatev
Marilyn McMillan	

Do you realize...

We have over 1,000 ancestors/grandparents, when we go back 10 generations and over 1 million when we go back 20 generations?

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth  
Genealogical  
Society**

PO Box 2107  
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107  
Website: [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org)

COMMITTED TO  
PRESERVING PUBLIC AND  
PRIVATE RECORDS AND  
ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN  
THE PERFORMANCE OF  
GENEALOGICAL  
RESEARCH

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*Vice President*  
Tim Martin

*Second Vice President*  
Mary Barry

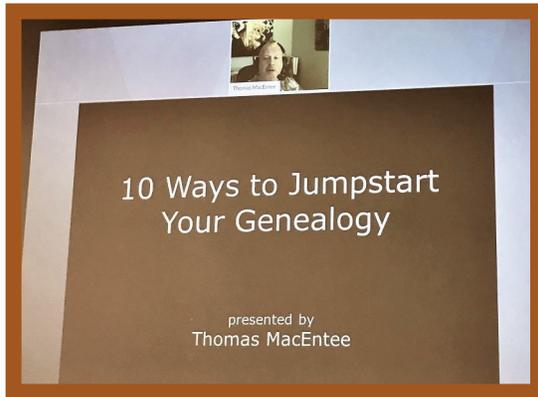
*Treasurer*  
Jerry Luby

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*The Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.*

Editor: Dottie Priestley  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

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On October 14 our society hosted its first online webinar. “10 Ways to Jumpstart Your Genealogy” was presented in Falmouth Public Library by Thomas MacEntee, live from his 1,000-mile-away office in Chicago. His most popular lecture, it was informative as well as personally motivational. MacEntee shared his experiences and suggested taking a break when you hit a research “speed bump” (brick wall).

The first letters of his “10 Ways” spell the word “G.E.N.E.A.L.O.G.Y!”

**G**oal Set in writing with little goals along the way. Use the buddy system, discuss your progress and use project management. His free Excel spreadsheet, <http://hackgenealogy.com/features/videos/#Project> can help. He gives the link to download a template. Track your time spent and move completed goals to another spreadsheet.

**E**mbrace change. Get out of the normal bubble and shake things up; explore. Capture things from the Internet into Evernote. Join Evernote Genealogists on Facebook. Subscribe to [Dumb Little Man - Tips for Life](#) for fun, easy advice.

**N**etwork – no genealogist is an island and geography is no longer our master. MacEntee teaches in Australia, sharing his family photos and posts on message boards. He still receives email from a 1999 post. He uses Facebook for genealogy only joining German Genealogy (20,000 members). He suggested joining a group with your interest.

**E**ducation – go after your interests. It can be free and last a lifetime. Research teaches you about your ancestors’ lives and history. The [GeneaWebinars](#) website and Facebook page offer a calendar of upcoming or recorded

offerings. MacEntee runs one in the background as he works on something else. He recommends the FamilySearch Help Center. He said the online Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate Programs, a master’s level program of which he’s a graduate, was the best in his life. He also highly recommended the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburg (GRIP) and Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG). Sign up for free emails from the Genealogical Tip of the Day.

**A**dvice – give and get, and network. One option is Technology for Genealogy Facebook group, useful for both Mac and Windows users.

**L**imits – set your own. There are too many choices, you are what you choose. Be smart, use Google Alerts with a daily, weekly or monthly notification timeframe. (MacEntee set up an alert for a family address and received an email when it went on the market, making it possible for him to look inside at the rooms.)

**O**rganize – clean up your workspace, computer and online resources. File right away, take time to clean up. Use The Organized Genealogist on Facebook by [DearMYRTLE](#).

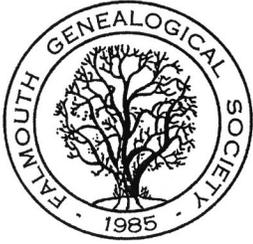
**G**et Out – take research trips. Only 10% of records are online so go to libraries or use Cyndi’s List’s genealogical library. [WorldCat.org](#) can find books in libraries around the world and an interlibrary loan may be possible.

**Y**ou – what makes you happy? Take care of yourself; set personal goals (MacEntee did, and lost 110 pounds). Your joys will be doubled and your burdens cut in half. Read The Happiness Project blog by Gretchen Rubin - <https://gretchenrubin.com/blog/>

**!** - exclaim your results! Track your journey and share it to inspire others. Document your goals, projects and results; leave a legacy. You are the steward of your family history. Use Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, mail lists and messages.

Though he receives between 300 and 400 messages a day; MacEntee will reply if written at [hidefgen@gmail.com](mailto:hidefgen@gmail.com).

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# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

SPRING 2018

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2

## ANDIAMO! FINDING YOUR ITALIAN ANCESTORS



Margaret Fortier spoke on February 10 about tracing Italian ancestors. She began her talk with a sweeping

background of the hardships and natural disasters that befell Italians over recent centuries. Invaders caused the area to look like a patchwork of independent states and unification didn't occur until between 1860 and 1870. Ancestors' documents prior to this time will not list the country of Italy. Even local dialects are completely different languages. Jurisdictions include 20 regions, 100 provinces and many communes, some with

the same names. A list of over 8,000 communes can be found on Wikipedia. Villages within communes can be found at [EnchantingItaly.com](http://EnchantingItaly.com).

Travel was by foot or donkey because of lack of roads and railroads. 40% of the country is mountainous. Even in 1936 when Margaret's father came to the US, he rode a donkey cart to the ship in Naples!

Italians left because they had the highest taxes in Europe – 30% on farmers and day laborers, the least able to pay. Southern Italy was near bankruptcy. Feelings ranged from distrust to suspicion and resentment of the government. Multiple earthquakes, volcanoes and diseases killed hundreds of

*(cont'd. on page 4)*

## US IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS DISCUSSED

*By Phyllis Day*

On March 10<sup>th</sup> Seema Kenney, President of the Worcester Chapter of Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, may have left snowy central Massachusetts to come to snowy Cape Cod to deliver her immigration and naturalization talk. However, records show that most of our ancestors didn't leave their homelands in the winter. The heaviest immigration occurred in the spring and the second heaviest, in the fall, when crossing the Atlantic was calmer.

Ms. Kenney explained that immigration records show with whom our ancestors traveled, when they boarded the ship, when and where they disembarked. Passenger lists also provide such information. The National Archives, a major source of information for immigration records, lists passengers according to the port of entry, the date of arrival and the ship's name. Individuals coming here were expected to be physically fit, able to find work and able to provide for

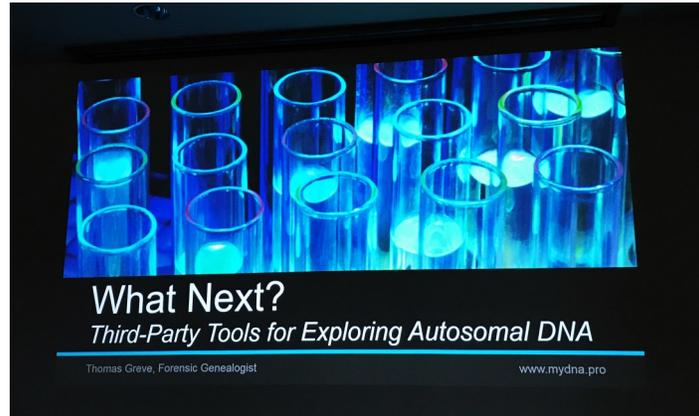
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<b>“Brick Kiln Road and Influential Quakers in early Falmouth.”</b> <i>With Tom Sbarra, Retired Cardiologist and Falmouth Resident</i>
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<b>Annual Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday, July 7</b>
<b>Topic To Be Announced</b> <i>With Jill Morelli</i>
<b>Saturday, August 11</b>
<b>Topic and Speaker To Be Announced</b>

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VP TIM MARTIN AND SEEMA KENNEY

*(cont'd. on page 5)*



## WHAT NEXT? THIRD-PARTY TOOLS FOR EXPLORING AUTOSOMAL DNA

On January 13 Falmouth Genealogical Society’s President Thomas Greve presented a jam-packed talk complete with well-designed graphics entitled, “What Next? Third-Party Tools for Exploring Autosomal DNA.” Thomas, who’s a professional genealogist, said there are four major direct-to-consumer DNA testing companies: [AncestryDNA](#) (the largest with 6 million), [23andMe.com](#) (with 3 million tested), [FamilyTreeDNA](#) (500,000 rough estimate) and [MyHeritage](#) (with 1 million). All four provide matches. [GEDmatch](#) is a third-party company unaffiliated with the others which offers tools to analyze your results. Thomas recommends [AncestryDNA](#), selling for \$79 a kit at the time of the meeting. Then download your

DNA datafile into [GEDmatch](#), [FamilyTreeDNA](#) and [MyHeritage](#). You may also test with [23andMe.com](#) for \$99 for more matches and information.

Thomas explained nucleotides, SNPs, chromosomes and autosomes (of the 23 total pairs 22 are autosomes and one is sex chromosomes). When sperms fertilize eggs, 50% of each’s DNA is passed on. In meiosis, the segments crossover randomly and recombine. On average everyone receives 25% of his DNA from each grandparent; 12.5% from each great grandparent; etc. As DNA is lost over generations, some ancestors’ DNA is not passed down at all. Genetic family trees contain only ancestors who contributed segments of DNA. Therefore, ethnicity

estimates can be off because they use only the genetic tree. People may not have any genetic proof of an ethnicity they’ve proven genealogically.

DNA companies test between 700,000 and 1,000,000 SNPs, compare them with others in their database, and give a list of matches in a measurement unit called centiMorgan (cM). The higher the number of cMs, the closer the relationship. [AncestryDNA](#) lists how confident their estimated range of relationships is, such as “Confidence: Very High-Possible Range 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> cousins.” Blaine T. Bettinger’s chart, Shared cM Project, on [thegeneticgenealogist.com](#) shows the probable amount of cM’s required for each relationship, useful in determining the closeness of cousins you match.

Chromosome browsers, which [FamilyTreeDNA](#) and [MyHeritage](#) have but [AncestryDNA](#) does not, enable comparisons with matches to see which segments are the same. [GEDmatch](#), the third-party independent uses your raw data file and provides instructions to upload it. You can analyze your DNA matches utilizing [GEDmatch’s](#) one-to-many tool to find

(cont’d. on page 3)

THOMAS RECOMMENDS ANCESTRYDNA ... DOWNLOAD YOUR DNA DATAFILE INTO GEDMATCH, FAMILYTREEDNA AND MYHERITAGE.

## WHAT NEXT? THIRD-PARTY TOOLS FOR EXPLORING AUTOSOMAL DNA

*(cont'd. from previous page)*

matches. Email addresses are provided for consultations.

Other third-party tools, such as [DNAPainter.com](http://DNAPainter.com), allows users to shade sections according to ancestors. With [Genome Mate Pro](http://Genome Mate Pro) you can download free software to manage your DNA comparisons, though the learning curve is steep. Learn where segments start and stop to identify relationships.

When individuals you match on a segment also match each other, this “triangulation” confirms

you share a common ancestor. You can compare family trees to find that ancestor. Or test a close relative other than a sibling to determine whether your matches are from your mother or father. Test both parents if possible. Thomas is fortunate to have all four grandparents living and plans to have them tested to show how all his DNA was inherited.

If you're concerned about privacy, read the company's policy and use an online name if you prefer. For further info, read Judy Russell's legal genealogist blog



MEMBER MEREDITH GOLDEN AND THOMAS GREVE AFTER THE PRESENTATION

*For more on this topic, please see the note on page 4.*

## EARLY FALMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS AVAILABLE ONLINE

*By Thomas Greve*

Church records can be critical to accurately documenting an ancestor's life story. In early New England, the church played an important role in each community and the lives of their residents. Falmouth's early settlers originally worshipped as a branch of the congregation in Barnstable. They officially gathered as the First Congregational Church on 28 October 1708.

The church's first record book, which spans the years 1731–90, has been digitized by the Congregational Library and Archives

and can be viewed for free at <http://www.congregationallibrary.org/nehh/series1/FalmouthMAFirst4930>.

An entry dated 22 August 1739 recounts the case of Prudence Parker, who was “was barred from Communion” for “having walked disorderly.” The church accused her of:

perverting Scripture to Justify, her Strange Carriage in Speech and Behaviour, Some Years agoe when she pretended Love to the Pastor [...]. And

likewise, that a little before the Marriage of the Pastor, [...] She broke out into Reviling Language Telling Him that if He did so, He was as bad as the Devil, and that the Devil would have him, and that the hottest Place in Hell would be his Portion.

This example is one of many rich stories that highlight the activities and character of the townsfolk.

Visit “[Our History](#),” [First Congregational Church of Falmouth, MA](http://www.congregationallibrary.org/nehh/series1/FalmouthMAFirst4930)

## FINDING YOUR ITALIAN ANCESTORS

*(cont'd. from page 1)*

“READ FICTION ABOUT YOUR ANCESTORS’ TIMES AND PLACES. YOU’LL APPRECIATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS, THEIR WORK LIVES AND THEIR CHALLENGES.”

-MARGARET FORTIER

thousands. The 80% agricultural country had outmoded machines and no roads to transport goods. Landlords ruled. There were few or no schools, 80% of the population were illiterate. There were few schools, poor housing with no plumbing, semi-starvation and no escape from poverty. Men 18 to 21 faced military draft. Despite massive emigration, the population grew to 35 million in 1911. Four million emigrated between 1880 and 1920. The numbers kept going up until the 1924 Emigration Act slashed it to less than 4,000 through 1965. When they arrived in the US, Italian immigrants thronged to large cities, creating little Italy’s in a dozen states. They worked as low-paid laborers and faced prejudice. Many were even lynched. One of seven American soldiers in WWII were Italians.

Be flexible searching name spellings. Margaret had to search for *Carolina Gubitosa* by looking at all 47 people in her town who came from



Italy. She eventually found her and eight family members as *Catbelene Kobatolsb*. Naming patterns such as first sons named after their grandfathers, caused many cousins to have the same names. Both first and last names were often changed once in the US. Some common changes were Carmela to Millie, Serafina to Sally, Vincenzo to James and Gregorio to Frank! Vowels were omitted and consonants, doubled. Russo could become Ross and DeLuca, Delucca. Or there was creative spelling.

Margaret stressed collecting every bit of information about ancestors’ lives in the US first. Family stories may have some element of truth.

Search US census, military, draft, church, state, naturalization, passport applications, WWII, alien registration records, passenger manifests – which after 1893 include much valuable information, etc. Search land records and voter lists by streets, checking the neighbors and looking for clues. Look at neighbors in census records including the pages before and after your ancestor’s, sponsors and witnesses and fellow members in fraternal clubs such as the Order of Sons of Italy in America (OSIA), any of whom could turn out to be relatives. Find out the town of origin because there is no index of places in Italy. Margaret found a birth record in Italy with notes added later about the baby’s marriage and death in Quincy, MA!

Know the geography of Italy. Read fiction about your ancestors’ times and places. You’ll appreciate their accomplishments, their work lives and their challenges.

*For more on this topic, please see the note below.*

### Note: For More Information on Presentations

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## "IT'S ALL RELATIVE"—A BOOK REPORT

By Jan Zlatev



I recently read "It's All Relative: Adventures Up and Down the World's Family Tree" by A.J. Jacobs. I found the book entertaining as well as informative. It begins with an email A.J. receives saying, "You don't know me, but my wife is your eighth cousin and we have over 80,000 relatives of yours in our database."

As A.J. Jacobs thinks about how we are all cousins, he decides to plan a mega "cousin reunion" in New York City where he lives. He writes about www.Geni.com and the project of a "World Family Tree" and contacts many scientists and family history researchers who are working on this concept. He talks with computer programmers and genealogists about the work they are doing with DNA. A.J.

also interviews many famous people who are his distant cousins

It is interesting to read his weekly plans leading up to the "mega reunion" and the ideas he has discarded for one reason or another.

There is a lot of background on genealogy and family history. The book has an appendix, notes, and a detailed index, all of which are very useful.

## US IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTS

(cont'd. from page 1)

themselves. Those determined to be unacceptable were returned to their countries of origin.

It was interesting to hear that in 1921 the US instituted quotas for acceptable immigrants by country. These quotas were based on numbers extrapolated from the prior US Census. The first quotas, based on the 1910 census, allowed 3% of the number of residents from that same country living in the United States.

Naturalization of our ancestors is a period-driven process. Immigration regulations varied over time. Because of this, there are many naturalized individuals with no specifics or paperwork. Entire families could be naturalized with only the

father's name indexed or searchable. However, census records are a reasonable source of immigration status.

The Declaration of Intention and Petition for Naturalization contain vital family information - the applicant's date and location of birth, father's name and his date and location of birth, when and where they arrived in US and the name of the ship. If married, they indicate the name of spouse and birth location, and names of any children with ages and birth locations. Witnesses to the petition swear they have known the applicant for a period of time.

The Naturalization process concludes with judicial ap-

proval of the applicant to become a citizen. There is no one place that this happens; it could be in a federal, state, county or local court. The only requirements are that citizenship be approved by a judge and that there is a written record of the proceeding. Those applicants naturalized at Federal Court can be found in the National Archives serving the state in which the court is located.

Mining immigration and naturalization records and others available to you here in the US better prepares you for the next step of searching records in birth countries.

For more on this topic, please see the note on page 4.

"ENTIRE FAMILIES  
COULD BE  
NATURALIZED WITH  
ONLY THE FATHER'S  
NAME INDEXED OR  
SEARCHABLE."

-SEEMA KENNEY

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Thomas Greve

*Vice President*  
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*Second Vice President*  
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## FORMER PRESIDENT JOHN PERI DIES

Former President of Falmouth Genealogical Society, John Peri, passed away January 25, 2018 in North Carolina. He was 94 years old. His wife Barbara predeceased him by 16 months.

An article appearing in a 2009 newsletter (see photo below) when John's term ended, states, "While John Peri was President, John and Barbara Peri planned and directed the production of 24 TV programs on genealogy, which were broadcast locally on channel FCTV and as video tapes, made available for loan at the library. Many members participated in the programs, and Barbara Peri videotaped some of our monthly lectures. During John's Presidency, the Society presented two multi-session courses on beginning genealogy, one at Falmouth Night School and one for the Friends of Falmouth Public Library."

The following remembrances were received from fellow members.

**Bob Rice** said, "John Peri was very helpful to me in my early time in genealogy. Both he and Joyce Pendery were genealogical giants to my early attempts."

**Ralph Wadleigh** commented that "For many years he was a key member of FGS. He served on the board and participated in the Tuesday help sessions. He helped us carry on while the new library addition was built and our Tuesday sessions and monthly meetings were shuffled to tem-

porary quarters. He was a giant in our midst. His special knowledge of pre-internet Irish and Scottish sources and research techniques were readily shared. He was a friend to all."

**Joyce Pendery** said, "I, too, am very sad to learn about John's passing. He had a long and productive life, including putting FGS on the genealogical society map, for which we are all grateful."

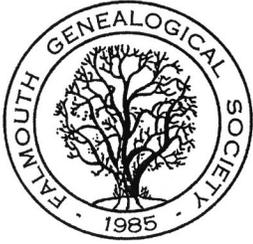
**Bob Chase** writes, "I was saddened to hear of John Peri's passing. He was the standard bearer for FGS when I joined in 1993, and a real inspiration for me in later years. His patience, knowledge and ability to find new speakers every month always amazed me. God speed John..."

John's full obituary can be found here: <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/bluebridgenow/obituary.aspx?pid=188068913>

From 2009 Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter



Former FGS president John Peri accepts accolades and a certificate of appreciation from outgoing president Joyce Pendery. Photo by Janet Chalmers.



SINCE 1985

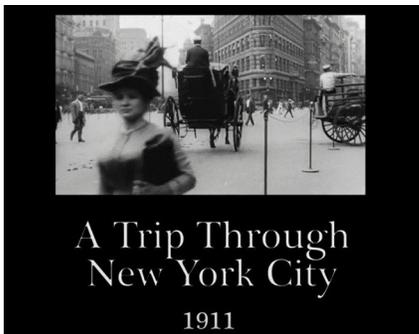
# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

SUMMER 2018

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 3

## SOCIETY MOVES AHEAD AFTER ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Falmouth Genealogical Society conducted its monthly and annual meeting on Saturday, June 9, at the Falmouth Public Library.

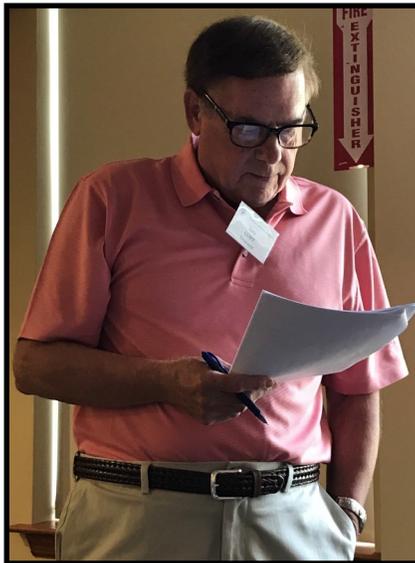


A Trip Through  
New York City  
1911

Tim Martin kicked off the meeting by introducing a short black and white film of New York City produced by a Swedish film crew in 1911, one of several taken around the world. The recent restoration added a sound track carefully overlaid with the action to draw in viewers.

The every-day scenes depicted included streets with horse-drawn carriages mingled with newer motorized vehicles, ships unloading in port, kids playing, railcars, business men in hats and women with long skirts maneuvering between vehicles, shoeshine boys – all mixed in with sounds of bells ringing, horns blowing, water splashing, horse hooves clopping, etc. Less than seven minutes long, the film magically transports the viewer back in time to what could have been our ancestors' lives.

Next, the annual meeting was called to order by President Thom Greve who made a very positive presentation on the activities of the past year as indicated by the committee chair reports.



TREASURER JERRY LUBY REPORTS

Officers were elected as follows: Vice President Tim Martin has agreed to continue another term. Nominee for Second Vice President, Eleanor Baldic, was elected unanimously. The position of Treasurer, being vacated by Jerry Luby, will be taken over by President Thom Greve acting as Treasurer pro tem. He will utilize QuickBooks software and possibly split tasks among multiple people until a permanent solution is found. Jerry has done a fine job for the past four years. Thanks!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held at 10 am  
Downstairs, Falmouth Library  
Unless Otherwise Noted

**Saturday, July 7**

**"Finding Dirk: Insanity in the 19th century"**  
With Jill Morelli, CG®

**Saturday, August 11**

**"History of Burial Practices and Records"**  
With Pam Cobb, Director,  
Chapman Cole & Gleason  
Funeral Home

**Saturday, September 8**

**"Graveyard Archaeology & Ground Penetrating Radar"**  
With Archaeologist  
Craig Chartier

**Saturday, October 13**

**"The Hamilton Affair"**  
With Elizabeth Cobbs,  
Author and Historian

**Saturday, November 10**

**"Finding the Law" and "Facts, Photos, and Fair Use: Copyright Law for Genealogists"**  
With Judy Russell,  
The Legal Genealogist  
Joint Meeting With CCGS  
St. Peter's Church, Osterville

**Saturday, December 8**

**"Annual Holiday Food Fest"**  
Members bring treats and  
holiday memorabilia



Like us on  
**Facebook**

Falmouth Genealogical Society

**Dues Bills have been sent to all members. If you have not paid yet, please do so. You may pay online at [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org), click on "Join or Renew" under the Membership tab. Credit cards or PayPal are accepted.**

## FALMOUTH AND QUAKERS PRESENTED

“I AM REAL PLEASED  
TO LIVE IN A PLACE  
THAT RESPECTS ITS  
ROOTS LIKE THIS  
ONE.”

*DR. TOM SBARRA*

On April 14, 2018 the library meeting room was packed with people, including some Quakers, interested in hearing the history of Falmouth and its Quakers.

Falmouth’s retired cardiologist Dr. Tom Sbarra said he’s not a genealogist or an historian, just a country doctor fascinated by his town’s street names.

He said the 1600’s were tumultuous and violent as opposed to the more tranquil 1700’s, which allowed for a consolidation of gains. When Gosnold “bumped” into Cape Cod in 1602 he noted the lack of any trees taller than knee high for ten miles inland. This was because of the Natives’ need to be near the shore for shell fishing and for farm land. In the early 1600’s there were 40,000 Wampanoags, the highest number their population would reach. It would later dip by one third due to small pox and diphtheria.

Pilgrims and Puritans had come to Boston in 1629 looking for religious freedom. The Quakers, religious and political, were founded in 1651 in England by George Fox. Because of persecution in England, they came by the boatload to Massachusetts.

They were against warfare, refused to take up arms or pay taxes, thought of women as equal, had fits of ecstasy, and believed they possessed an inner light without the need of authority. The Puritans, how-



DR. TOM SBARRA

ever, did not believe in the religious freedom of others. Quakers were run out of town; their ears were cut off; their tongues were burned; four were hanged in Boston. There were witch trials in Salem; and between 1670 and 1712, three thousand Quakers went to Mattapoisett, West Falmouth and Nantucket to settle. There they rode out 100 years or more of tolerance. West Falmouth’s isolation may have contributed to the success of the Quakers there. They were integrated into town government, able to vote, and active in town offices.

Jonathan Hatch, the first European to settle in Falmouth in the mid 1600’s, spoke Wampanoag and negotiated with Sachem Job Notantico for land. His son joined the Quakers.

During King Philip’s War, 1675-78, a dozen New England towns were destroyed;

3,000 Natives and 1,000 colonists, or 10% of able-bodied men, died. But not on the Cape where there were good Native relations. It was the only place in New England not involved in the war.

Falmouth was incorporated in 1686. Brick works were started when clay was found and Brick Kiln Road was the first East-West road in town. It was not until 1886, 200 years after the brick works began, that the road was finished. By then the kiln had ceased operation. However, the bricks were not used to build houses, the pink granite was used for fireplaces and hearths. Dr. Sbarra searched for remnants of the brick kiln at the end of the road near Route 28. He found a possible foundation site, but the location is contested.

The first Quaker Friends meeting house was built in 1720 on Route 28-A across from the current meeting house. Dr. Sbarra went on to discuss the many notable town residents throughout ensuing years who made their mark on the area.

If you missed this talk, you can find information on the timeline he distributed (see Note to the left) or by visiting the Falmouth Historical Society. “The Book of Falmouth,” an almost 600-page tome printed for the tricentennial celebration, and other books are at local libraries.

**Note:**  
*For more on these topics, members can access the material handed out at meetings. Simply go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society website, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes. If you need the password, please contact Jerry Luby at [jluby02@aol.com](mailto:jluby02@aol.com) or 508-563-6775.*

## Y-DNA AND MTDNA: HOW THEY CONTRIBUTE GENEALOGICAL EVIDENCE

On May 12 Nora Galvin spoke on Y-DNA and Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and how they contribute genealogical evidence. A former research scientist at a major pharmaceutical company, Nora used DNA as a drug discovery tool.

She said DNA is a physical record of our lineage. Testing can help adopted people learn about ancestors they didn't know by reviewing matches' trees. It can reveal ethnic and geographic backgrounds. It can turn up "new" cousins and possible friends. However, the great majority of the 9 million people tested at Ancestry.com did so to find their ethnicity and have not posted genealogical trees. She did not discuss the autosomal test, the only one offered at Ancestry.com.

FamilyTreeDNA is the only company testing Y-DNA and mtDNA. Females have XX sex chromosomes from their mothers and males have X from their mother and Y from their father. Because the male Y-DNA is passed through generations virtually unchanged, it tracks with the surname. Although they receive mtDNA, men don't pass it on.

Haplogroups define people by geographic regions on a continental, not country, level and indicate deep an-

cestry. They are assigned letters of the alphabet with refinements of number and letter combinations. Subclades are divisions within haplogroups. She explained that, although DNA is copied millions of times without error and a single cell reproduces to trillions of cells, occasionally there are mutations in random cells. If there are enough mutations within a haplogroup, a new one is developed.

An SNP, or "snip," is a single nucleotide polymorphism, identical in close relatives. STR's, or short tandem repeats, are like beads on chains which can "hiccup" sometimes, creating 9 or 11 beads instead of 10.

Nora showed a world haplogroup map. Scientists work backwards to see where populations moved prior to 1400 to 1500 when there was an explosion of European exploration including to North and South America.

Nora highly recommends that males have their Y-DNA tested at FTDNA and join a surname project. Project administrators help people learn about their surname and lineage. Females can get a brother or male cousin to be tested. She recommends testing for at least 67 markers (\$268) because that will be much more helpful than testing for 12, 25 or 37

markers. You will learn an estimated distance to your MRCA (most recent common ancestor) with people you match, whose email addresses are available. For more money you can test for 111 markers if interested or even the Big Y – 111 markers plus 500 SNPs.

Nora presented some examples of surname projects, which aim to solve genealogical mysteries using FamilyTreeDNA. For example, the Hamilton/Hayward project is seeking to find the suspected identity of John Hamilton's wife Hannah using mtDNA. He was from Concord, Massachusetts (1667-1747).

National Geographic's Genographic Project collects DNA to map human migrations. Autosomal, Y-DNA and mtDNA markers are tested and compared to that of 80,000 indigenous peoples. Almost a million people have submitted kits so far. It does not provide matches for genealogy, rather it gives deep ancestry and percentage of Neanderthal DNA.

For more in-depth info read Bryan Sykes' and Blaine Bettinger's books, go to International Society of Genetic Genealogy's website, [www.isogg.org](http://www.isogg.org), or see the "Note" on page 2.



NORA GALVIN

"I HIGHLY  
RECOMMEND THAT  
MALES HAVE THEIR  
Y-DNA TESTED AT  
FAMILYTreedNA  
AND JOIN A  
SURNAME PROJECT."

NORA GALVIN



SINCE 1985

**Falmouth Genealogical Society**

PO Box 2107  
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107  
Website: [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org)

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PRESERVING PUBLIC AND  
PRIVATE RECORDS AND  
ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN  
THE PERFORMANCE OF  
GENEALOGICAL  
RESEARCH

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*President*  
Thomas Greve

*Vice President*  
Tim Martin

*Second Vice President*  
Eleanor Baldic

*Treasurer*  
Jerry Luby

*Secretary*  
Susan Hutchinson

*The Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.*

Editor: Dottie Priestley  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

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**PLANNING AHEAD FOR NERGC 2019**

*By Phyllis Day, Delegate*

The 15th New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) conference will be held in Manchester, NH, April 3-6, 2019. The event will be held in the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, currently the Radisson Hotel Manchester Downtown during transition.

Nationally-recognized speakers for the conference are Blaine Bettinger, well known for genetic genealogy; Dr. Thomas Jones, an award winning genealogical researcher, writer and educator; and, Cyndi Ingle, developer and owner of "Cyndi's List."

Falmouth Genealogical Society has committed to providing 25 volunteer hours on Thursday evening, Friday and Saturday during the conference. This is a five-hour increase from previous years. Our participation and volunteer time provides our Society with significant income biennially.

**Plan to attend NERGC 2019?  
Volunteering for an hour is fun,  
will help fulfill our commitment...  
and even generate income for us!**

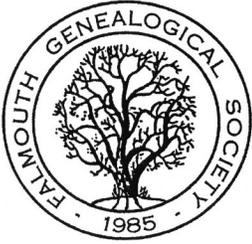
**Free Time?  
Volunteer With Us**  
If you would like to contribute your talents to assist the chairs of the following committees, please let us know:  
**Newsletter  
Treasurer  
Publicity  
NERGC Conference**  
Email Dottie Priestley  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

**DO YOU HAVE INFO ON THESE WOMEN?**

Falmouth Genealogical Society member Thelma Spicer is researching Falmouth women who signed an 1840 petition for the Abolition of Slavery. The project is for the Falmouth Museums on the Green. If you have any information she can include in biographies of these women, please contact her at [westielover44@gmail.com](mailto:westielover44@gmail.com). She will be happy to share what she learns.

- Ann F. Allen
- Evelina Belcher
- Susan Bennett
- Sally D. Bodfish
- Sarah C. Bodfish
- Eliza P. Bourne
- Elizabeth Bourne
- Louisa Bourne
- Elizabeth Butler
- Jane H. Butler
- Parnel Butler
- Sarah P. Butler
- Eliza Childs
- Eliza D. Crocker
- Jane Crocker
- Susan Crocker
- Susan B. Crocker
- Emma Ann Crowel
- Lucy F. Davis
- Mary D. Davis
- Fanny Dimmick
- Harriet H. Donaldson
- Permelia Edwards
- Lucy Eldred
- Sarah Ann Ely
- Mary Fish
- Adeline F. Gibbs
- Sophonria Gibbs
- Adelaide Gifford
- Hannah Gifford
- Elizabeth Hammond
- Rhoda Hammond
- Achsah Hatch
- Anne Hatch
- Mary Hatch

- Sarah Hatch
- Sarah F. Hatch
- Sophia Hatch
- Temperance G. Hatch
- Thankful Hatch
- Thankful L. Hatch
- Fear Jones
- Harriet Jones
- Love Shiverick Jones
- Susan B. Jones
- Nancy Lawrence
- Susan Lawrence
- Thankful Luce
- Louisa McClane
- Rebecca McClean
- Nancy McLane
- Betsy Nye
- Mary Price Nye
- Sarah Nye
- Betsy Parker
- Hannah Parker
- Ruth Parker
- Annes H. Ray
- Fanny Saber
- Abigail Shiverick
- Celia D. Shiverick
- Lucy Shiverick
- Salome Shiverick
- Sarah D. Shiverick
- Sarah L. Simmonds
- Nancy Stuart
- Lavina Swain
- Lucretia Whitens
- Sally Dimmock Wood
- Amanda Young



SINCE 1985

# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

FALL 2018

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 4

## GROUND PENETRATING RADAR IN PLYMOUTH COLONY REVIEWED

On Saturday, September 8, archaeologist Craig Chartier presented, "Ground Penetrating Radar Explorations in Plymouth Colony." He is Principal Archaeologist for the Plymouth Archaeological Rediscover Project.

Ground penetrating radar (GPR), which is non-destructive, is secondary as an archaeological tool to actual digging. It is not as accepted here as it is in England, where they use multiple techniques before digging. The machine itself costs about \$40,000 and software charges are \$12,000 annually. The computer screen report looks like squiggles, impossible for anyone other than experts to decipher. Craig hires Russ Kempton of New England Geophysical in Mendon, MA for \$1,500 per full 8-hour day.

GPR looks like a lawn mower but is quieter. It sends radar pulses which bounce back, creating lines on the computer screen. The depth of the image can be set. If the lines are straight across the ground is undisturbed. Blips may be rocks. Some GPR have Global Positioning Systems (GPS). The GPR survey looks for foundations (brick shows well); ditches or trenches show as disturbances in the soil. Because right angles are not natural, they indicate that something, such as a building, was in that spot.



CRAIG CHARTIER

When looking for Mayflower Pilgrim Henry Simpson's homesite in Duxbury, they found a possible cellar hole of 8 x 12 feet and 4 feet deep. Excavation revealed it was just an old septic system!

### Pilgrim Fort and Watch House at Burial Hill Plymouth

GPR is very effective here because of sand formed by glacial dumping, which is easier to see through. Friends of Burial Hill had a description of the 100-square foot fort but didn't know if the layout in the half mile area was square, rectangular or diamond shaped. A watchtower was built in the 1630's. The palisade fence had posts in a trench like that at Jamestown. A possible building was identified 10 feet east to west and 15 feet north to south, a little off from the watch house stone marker.

There is a mass grave for the crew of the shipwrecked "General Arnold," who froze to death waiting to be rescued after going aground off Plymouth in 1778. A Salem, NH company, Geophysical Survey Systems, (GSSI) came for free as a training opportunity. It found possible grave locations. However, it may never be possible

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held at 10 am  
Downstairs, Falmouth Library  
Unless Otherwise Noted

### Saturday, October 13

**"The Hamilton Affair"**  
With Elizabeth Cobbs,  
Author and Historian

### Saturday, November 10

**"Finding the Law" and  
"Facts, Photos, and Fair  
Use: Copyright Law for  
Genealogists"**

With Judy Russell,  
The Legal Genealogist  
Joint Meeting With CCGS  
St. Peter's Church, Osterville  
(See below)

### Saturday, December 8

**"Annual Holiday  
Food Fest"**

Members bring treats and  
holiday memorabilia



**Saturday  
November 10**  
Joint Meeting with  
Cape Cod  
Genealogical Society  
10:30 am—2 pm  
St. Peter's Church,  
Osterville

**Speaker: Judy Russell, JD, CG,  
CGL - The Legal Genealogist**  
**10:30—11:30 am**  
**Finding the Law**

We're told as genealogists that we need to look at records in the context of the law at the time and place where the records were created. Easier said than done! With 50 states and the federal government all passing laws, how do we find the laws we need?

**11:45 am—12:45 pm**  
**Facts, Photos and Fair Use:  
Copyright Law for Genealogists**  
Understanding what is and isn't copyrighted and what genealogists can and can't use is the key to staying out of trouble and to protecting our own work. Learn what copyright is and what it isn't.  
**12:45 pm—2:00 pm—Lunch**

RSVP Required by November 3 with food choice of chicken salad (\$9) or lobster salad (\$15) rolls. Both include chips, homemade brownie and beverage. Email [bfennerpgm@comcast.net](mailto:bfennerpgm@comcast.net) or call 508-776-9401. Pay at the door.



## THE HISTORY OF BURIAL PRACTICES REVIEWED

“MYSTERY  
SURROUNDS THE  
DEATH CARE  
INDUSTRY.”

PAMELA COBB

Our speaker on August 11 was Pamela Cobb, Funeral Director at the John-Lawrence Funeral Home in Marstons Mills, one of several owned and operated by Chapman, Cole & Gleason. She is also a Certified Grief Recovery Specialist with a friendly personality and a lovely Oklahoma accent. Her topic was “The History of Burial Practices and Records.” There was considerable interest the subject as evidenced by the number of questions and audience participation. She said mystery surrounds the death care industry, which has seen many changes over the years.

Embalming was not used in early years because bodies had to be taken outside cities quickly to prevent the spread of diseases including the plague. In the US, it was used for temporary preservation beginning in the Civil War era, when soldiers’ bodies needed to be transported back home.

Cremation began about 3,000 BC in Europe and the Near East. Here in the US, only two were recorded prior to 1800. It was legalized in 1876 and the practice has grown, accelerating in the 1970’s. It is expected to be utilized in 50% of all deaths this year, with estimates of 71% by 2030. Here in the East, the rate is currently about 50%; in California it is 98% and 60% in the Mideast. Remains are pulverized bone not ashes and the Environmental Protection Agency regulates their disposition. Pam’s handout



PAMELA COBB  
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

includes a statement by Rev. Billy Graham on why cremation does not affect resurrection of the body.

Burial and cremation practices, which align with social and economic conditions, vary throughout the US. Catholic practices dominate the East whereas Protestant practices are more common on the West Coast and in the Central US. In Pam’s home state of Oklahoma there are no wakes or visiting hours.

US cemeteries annually inter 30 million feet of hardwood, 90,000 tons of steel in caskets, 17,000 tons of steel and copper in vaults, and 1.6 million tons of reinforced concrete in vaults. Traditional ground burials are expected to drop to 23.2% by 2030. Pam touched on “green burials” with minimal environmental impact, no preservatives and biodegradable containers.

Pam’s handout included a standardized form for death certificate information. In Massachusetts an electronic program generates death certificates which the funeral home starts, the doctor signs, and the home releases to the town clerk. The info must match Social Security records. Parents’ names and birthplaces are the most common unknown facts.

Because family members are emotionally distraught, preplanning is advised. Funeral directors help make people comfortable and can even go to the house.

Pam distributed folders with a talk outline, Rev. Graham statement, death certificate information sheet and the history of cremation. She is a “Type 6 – Funeral Director,” meaning she has no ownership in the funeral home. *For further info see “Note” on the left.*

**Note:**

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**Free Workshop on Immigration and Migration**

On Saturday, November 3, the Cape Cod Genealogical Society will offer a 2-hour workshop at West Falmouth Library from 10 am to Noon. The topic will be Immigration and Migration. Included will be trends in different time periods, reasons for immigrating, where different nationalities went, routes taken by groups, and migration out of Cape Cod. To make a reservation call West Falmouth Library at 508-540-4709.

## FINDING DIRK: INSANITY IN THE 19TH CENTURY

On July 7, Seattle Certified Genealogist, Jill Morelli, made her fourth (surely enough to qualify now as annual) presentation to us while on vacation in Falmouth. Researching her great grand uncle Dirk was a “genealogical itch” she couldn’t scratch; he was confined from 1872 to 1905. But eventually she successfully petitioned the courts for release of his records. She dedicated this presentation to #1435, the only inscription on a tombstone of an unknown person at the Jacksonville, Illinois insane asylum.

When people disappear from records, it’s possible they were hidden in a mental institution. If it’s a woman, she might have been institutionalized on her husband’s word alone.

Originally the insane were embraced, pushed away or jailed. In the 1700’s they could have been bled, removed, starved, or heated or chilled to refocus their brains. In 1774 courts could certify the insane. Bethlem Royal Hospital in London was one of the worst patient care facilities. Patients were shackled with food and heat sometimes withheld. The public could donate to view the patients. The word “bedlam” came from this facility.

In the early 1800’s, Quakers founded the York Retreat where quiet, calm, moral treatment included good food, sleep, warmth and work. In 1817 Benjamin Rush and Phillipe Pinel were on the medical forefront and early proponents of medical treatment. By 1892 it was thought insanity was a symptom of disease and a vaccine was sought. Many states institutionalized those not insane such as epileptics, syphilitics, alcoholics and the senile. The calm atmosphere disappeared because there were so many patients. Bartonville in Illinois kept 50 to 60 incurably insane, including epileptics and the criminally insane, in one giant room. Pioneers for change included three former female asylum residents, Dorothea Dix, Elizabeth Packard and Kate Lee (a pen name). Packard and Lee published diaries of their experiences and all three worked for reform.

After two and a half years of research Jill found Dirk on FindAGrave. His family had purchased a tombstone at Bartonville Hospital in Peoria. Others interred there have nothing but markers with numbers. Dirk’s family were German immigrants living in

Northern Illinois. In 1872 Dirk was in the Central Hospital for the Insane in Jacksonville, Illinois. Two years later he was moved to Elgin, a regional hospital nearer the family farm. But the family moved to Michigan and Iowa in 1875.

However, he was not abandoned. Jill was brought to tears when she read the family’s farm records that included traveling expenses every Christmas to visit Dirk in Illinois from Michigan and Iowa. He was sent pin money every year and even had an estate of \$6,000 at his death.

Publicly available records include those of church-owned facilities, the US Census, FindAGrave, newspaper reports, personal family papers, annual reports of facilities with menus, time they awoke, safety programs and entertainment. The 1880 US Census was the only one with a DDD, Defective, Dependent, Delinquent schedule listing the insane, deaf, blind, crippled, etc.

If not publicly available, records can be requested of the court but there is still no guarantee they will be released. You may have to be a relative and there could be a long wait. Rules to

*(cont’d. on page 4)*



JILL MORELLI, CG

“IF NOT PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, RECORDS CAN BE REQUESTED OF THE COURT BUT THERE IS STILL NO GUARANTEE THEY WILL BE RELEASED.”

*JILL MORELLI*

## FINDING DIRK

*(cont'd. from page 3)*

access these records vary by state. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) can prevent their release. If you know the law allows release and you are refused, ask for a supervisor. Interpretations differ with local authorities. Changing terminology makes it difficult to search laws.

Jill wrote to the Kane County court and failed; she interviewed two lawyers then hired a local one and had to teach him; she

strategized; two judges rotated on Fridays, so she chose the one with a better sense of history and sent him a scholarly paper. The Judge heard her request and granted it. She received papers from two of the three hospitals, released to her lawyer with caveats. There were medical case files, annual reports from Elgin and transfer documents. She learned Dirk was in a fight at 12 years of age and committed his first attack as a 13-year old; he committed another attack

at 15 then again at 21. He was committed because he thought he was the strongest man in the county, he struck his brother with a pitch fork, and he tried to go at a horse with an axe. But what caused the fight? Had he hit his head and suffered blunt force trauma?

Jill said reform has come a long way but has far to go. A 2015 newspaper headline read, "Jails Not Suitable for Mentally Ill."

*For further info see "Note" on page 2.*

Dottie Densmore Priestley found this poem engraved on a stone at the Densmore Family Cemetery on Noel Shore, Nova Scotia last month:

*Dear Ancestor  
A tombstone stands  
among the rest,  
forgotten and alone.  
Your name and date are  
chiseled out  
on polished marbled stone.  
It reaches out to all who care,  
it's not too late to mourn.  
You did not know I would exist,  
you died and I was born.  
Yet each of us are part of you  
in flesh and blood and bone.  
Our hearts contract and beat a pulse  
entirely not our own.  
Dear Ancestor,  
The place you filled  
all those years ago,  
spread out among the ones  
you left,  
the ones who loved you so.  
I wonder how you lived and loved.  
I wonder if you knew  
that one day I would find  
this spot  
and spend some time with you.*



## MISSING YOUR ANCESTORS?

Three ancestor photos were left at a meeting a few years ago. Sadly, only one has a name written on the back. They were never claimed when displayed later. They have been in our possession ever since.

If you know whose they are, please contact Dottie Priestley at 508-563-3181, [rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net).



4" x 6.5"  
TAKEN IN  
NEW  
BEDFORD BY  
KNOWLES.



2.5" x 4" PHOTO BY  
SW. SWENSSON IN  
LINKÖPING, SWEDEN.  
"SANDSTROM" IS  
WRITTEN ON THE  
REVERSE.



4" x 6.5" TAKEN IN  
LYNN IN 1889 BY F. E.  
TAGGARD PHOTOG-  
RAPHY.

## GROUND PENETRATING RADAR

to excavate the maybe 100 or more graves.

A pit, an intriguing fort-period anomaly, was found under, and was therefore earlier than, the 1707 Warren burial lot. Maybe there was a cellar beneath the fort. Excavation would be required to determine what it was. The words “possibly” and “maybe” are necessary until digging is done.

### First Meeting House in Duxbury’s Myles Standish Burial Ground

Here they took a tarp to make lines in a 50 cm grid and spent a day scanning. Nineteen probable grave locations were found in two or three clusters, possibly family groups. Additional findings included possible sill trenches for foundations

of a 17<sup>th</sup> century building. Other anomalies cannot be verified without “ground truthing.”

It would take about half an hour to do a space the size of the library room where we meet.

Reports and blogs of Craig’s surveys are online.

*(cont’d. from page 1)*

“THE WORDS

‘POSSIBLY’ AND

‘MAYBE’ ARE

NECESSARY UNTIL

DIGGING IS DONE.”

*CRAIG CHARTIER*

## A GOOD RESEARCH OUTING

*By Ralph Wadleigh*

Recently I traveled to the Family History Library (FHL) in Salt Lake City by car from Mashpee in 51 minutes. How is this possible? Well, my real destination was the Middleborough, MA Public Library, which by special arrangement, is an affiliate library of FHL. Here the designated FHL microfilms which have been digitized are available for viewing through the library’s public computers. With a guest login obtained from the circulation desk, I was able to view certain land record indexes and deeds of Wethersfield, Connecticut without going either to Salt Lake or Wethersfield.

To identify what films are available for viewing, log on to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org). Select the search tab and then select catalog. One can choose among place,

surname, title, author, subject or keywords. Under keywords, I wrote Connecticut, Wethersfield, Land Records and a choice appeared one of which was the Land Records, 1635-1912; general index, 1635-1916. That was the series I wished to explore. I selected that choice and all the individual microfilms included in the series were listed. On the far right of each listing is an icon. If it shows a camera it can be viewed. At first the images were unreadable, but a librarian kindly showed me how to download them to a picture mode making them readable. I chose to print copies of several pages at ten cents each. Note, if you chose legal size, tell the desk librarian of that choice before she releases the requests to the printer. Otherwise the

printer defaults to letter size which may cut off some information.



Library staff, especially Research Librarian Libby Fox, were all helpful. There are about a dozen public computers. Usage is time limited, either one or four hours. Guests must use the one-hour machines but the librarians are able to extend the time allotted. The Middleborough Public Library is located at 102 North Main Street, Middleborough, MA 02346, phone: 508-946-2470. There are several places for lunch within walking distance. The library is just about a mile off I-495 exit 4 heading North on route 105.

Have a good visit!

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth  
Genealogical  
Society**

PO Box 2107  
 East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107  
 Website: [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org)

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 four times a year and is dedicated  
 to news, events and ideas that  
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Editor: Dottie Priestley  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

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## RECENT LIBRARY ADDITIONS

*By Jan Zlatev, Library Committee Chair*

Falmouth Public Library has updated some of its reference genealogy titles to reflect the latest edition of each. The library has both a reference and a circulating copy of each of these popular titles.

[Discovering Your Italian Ancestors](#) by Lynn Nelson at 929.1072 NEL

[Family Tree Irish Genealogy Guide](#) by Claire Santry at 959.1072 SAN

[Genealogy Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors](#) by Franklin Carter Smith and Emily Anne Croom at 929.1072 SMI

[In Search of Your British and Irish Roots](#) by Angus Baxter at 929.1072 BAX

[Unpuzzling Your Past: a Basic Guide to Genealogy](#) by Emily Anne Croom at 929.1072 CRO

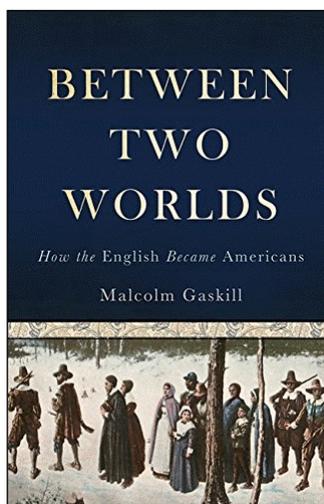
## BOOK REVIEW: BETWEEN TWO WORLDS — *HOW THE ENGLISH BECAME AMERICANS*

*By Ralph Wadleigh*

This scholarly but eminently readable volume by Malcolm Gaskill describes the entire English colonial experience in the Americas from Jamestown, Virginia in 1607 to Port Royal, Jamaica and Salem, Massachusetts in 1692.

Each immigrant from England carried his or her Englishness to an arrival place. This Englishness was then shaped by the challenges of the New World. The challenges were many; disease, climate, native populations, soil conditions, etc., each had an effect on how English customs of law, property, and class were reshaped to accommodate local conditions.

Events in England also played an important role in colonial matters. The 1600's were turbulent years



in England when Civil War, a Protectorate, a reaffirmation of Protestantism under William and Mary as well as waxing and waning interest in the economic benefits of the colonies roiled English politics. Royal Governors attempting to enforce imperial edicts met with mixed success.

Even though only less than six percent of all English

emigrants went to New England, Gaskill devotes the largest portion of the book to New England related events. The role of the Puritan magistrates in Massachusetts and their mouthpieces—Richard, Increase and Cotton Mather—is well documented. The book's focus on New England benefits those with English and New English ancestry reaching back to the early 1600's, as the work provides an enlightening look at colonial social life. Gaskill draws on many original sources, frequently letters, to illustrate how the colonists and those who chose to stay felt about their decision. Like me, one may even find an ancestor mentioned by name.

*Between Two Worlds* is available through CLAMS.