
The Falmouth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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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.

Program Notes From Meetings

The Journey Takers: An Inside Look at the Immigration Experience

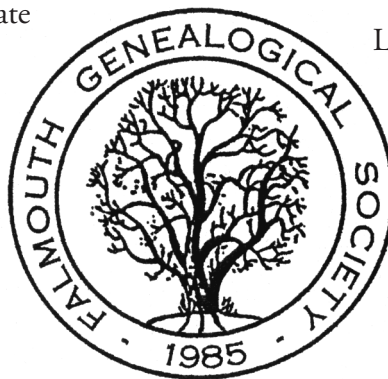
Presented by Leslie Albrecht Huber – May 14, 2011

Leslie Albrecht Huber made her German and Swedish ancestors come alive for FGS members who listened to her stories detailing the real life experiences of ancestors she called ordinary people. Leslie noted that our ancestors are much more than names and dates. She presented case studies to show how we can use genealogy and social history sources to recreate our ancestors' lives.

First Leslie presented a German case study telling the stories she learned in Germany researching the lives of ancestors Georg and Mina Albrecht who were born in Mecklenburg-Schwerin in 1837 and 1840 in small farming villages.

She emphasized the importance of using maps from the appropriate time period to understand the place; take time to understand jurisdictions and boundaries; and know the home town and church in order to trace ancestors in the parish records.

Leslie found that life was hard for peasants in Mecklenburg. Even though serfdom was abolished in 1820, many people lived in poverty. She said the average life expectancy of the area where Mina was born was 33, one third of babies didn't live to their first birthdays, and 20 percent of babies were born out of wedlock.



Leslie learned that Georg and Mina married a few months after the birth of their second child, a common practice in their day. She noted that it is important to gain a basic understanding of the time and place our ancestors lived in, then narrow the search to the village to learn more about the family's environment. She said sometimes sources are online, but you may have to contact the place directly.

Leslie went on to describe the immigration experience of the Albrecht family in 1880. They sailed on the *Wisconsin* to New York, where the passenger arrival lists

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Calendar of Meetings for 2011–2012

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

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|---------|---|
| Oct. 8 | Joy Henning – Gen. Dept, Worcester Public Library – analyzing census returns. |
| Nov. 12 | Dick Eastman, blogger and tech guru |
| | Joint Meeting with Cape Cod GS, in St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Osterville. |
| Dec. 10 | Annual holiday food fest and an ancestor talk by Janet Chalmers |
| Jan. 14 | Michael Brophy – the 1940 Census |

Beyond Names, Dates and Places – Compiling an Anecdotal Record

Presented by Marianne Shafer, FGS – June 11, 2011

Falmouth Genealogical Society member Marianne Shafer presented a program she gave at the New England Regional Genealogical Conference in Springfield the month before about compiling anecdotal records of ancestors. Like Leslie Huber, she emphasized the importance of going beyond names, dates and places to get to know your ancestors.

She emphasized the importance of placing the ancestor in his or her historical context. She described her process as taking a journey through three anthropological societies leading to writing the story.

Marianne started with *The Hunter-Gatherer Society* which she described as *Struggling Barefoot Through the Forest of Research*. She talked about Inner Research and

Outer Research, the first being choosing the subject of the story, determining why she wanted to write it, and accounting for what information she already had.

Outer Research focused on where she could find more information, pre-research research, and how to record her findings.

Describing *The Agricultural Society: Planting and Cultivating Rows of Information and Filling Your Historical Barnyard with Healthy Livestock*, she talked about computer organization and hard copy organization.

Next she described *The Manufacturing Society: Assembling Organized Parts to Produce the Vehicle of Your Dreams*, emphasizing the importance of citing sources and writing the story.



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state they were from Sweden. They were never indexed as being German in any database. From New York they made their way to Utah by train.

She noted that original records can be wrong. She said you must sometimes use creativity to locate the records you need. She said to experiment with the facts you think you know about your family when searching databases, particularly Internet databases.

Next, Leslie introduced a Swedish case study: the story of her ancestor Karsti Nilsson, born about the same time as Georg and Mina in southern Sweden. She emphasized paying attention to family and gathering sources, but using them as a starting point only; verifying all information in the original records, and being flexible in spellings of names and places.

Karsti was the youngest of seven children born in her father's second marriage, and when she was three years old her mother and two older sisters died within a matter of weeks. Karsti's father died when she was 14, leaving her to live in the home of her older brother.

In the 1850s the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints began sending missionaries to Sweden, and in 1860 Karsti was baptized into the Church at age 17.

Leslie said to pay attention to details in the records beyond names, dates and places. She suggested doing follow-up research to determine what these details such as causes of death, occupations or other pieces of information mean. She said to really understand events in your ancestor's lives, put them in their historical context. What did it mean to join a nonconformist religion? How unusual was it to lose so much of your family so suddenly?

Karsti's immigration experience included taking ships and trains to London where she boarded the *Monarch of the Sea* bound for New York in 1861. From Castle Garden in New York she took a series of trains and boats to Nebraska, then set off with a group of covered wagons following the Mormon Trail to Utah.

Leslie noted that if you can't find letters or biographies that your ancestors wrote, look for first-hand accounts by

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The Joys of Publishing Your Family History

Program presented by Bob Chase – July 9, 2011

reviewed by Joyce Pendery

FGS member Bob Chase began his PowerPoint presentation on “The Joys of Publishing Your Family History” with a slide of the family tree of Donald Duck and the quip: “If he can do it, so can you!” Bob’s daughter Karen, also a family history fan, assisted Bob with his talk.

Bob’s background influenced his study of family history. Born in Newburyport, he is an 11th generation descendant of Aquila Chase, an early immigrant who settled there in the late 1630s, as well as of other early Newburyport settlers. While showing the image of a plate of salmon slices and peas in the pod, Bob told how Aquila was once arrested for picking peas for this favorite dish on a Sunday. The beauty and history of the town are due, in part, to the wealth early shipping captains brought there.

During his thirty years of studying his family history, Bob has compiled sixty-three family notebooks, all with the same format, in loose leaf binders. Information has come from family trees, newspaper articles and obits, Bibles, oral history interviews and family stories, photos, and any other sources he could find. Bob even designed and stitched a needlepoint family tree.

Bob talked about his own life, his education, and his post-World War II counter-espionage training that took him to Nuremberg, Germany, where he met his future wife. Bob and his family lived in northern New Jersey, where he worked in business and education, until he retired and moved to Menauhant. Over the years, his



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others who shared their experience.

As a final lesson, Leslie said, “As you uncover your ancestors’ stories, don’t let them slip away again. Write them down and share them with your family so their stories will ‘never be forgotten again.’”

interest in genealogy gradually increased, due to his background, his curiosity, and his desire to study family medical history.

Eventually, he wondered how to meld into a meaningful, interesting whole, his Ahnentafels collection, family records and stories, photos, artifacts, account and check books, and more. With the advent of web sites specializing in compiling and publishing family histories, he found the answer he was looking for at Blurb BookSmart at blurb.com, an online, on demand, self-publishing book service. All contacts are via email. They also provide a comprehensive tutorial and customer support. The program runs on Windows and MAC and provides free, down-loadable templates that can be manipulated, as needed. Bob showed slides with different page formats for photo and text layouts, or a combination. Photos can be printed in color, and users can choose colors and designs for backgrounds and pages, and choose from a number of different book types and sizes. Printing or downloading text inserted into Blurb’s formats is limited. There is no fee until downloading for publication. Cost varies with size of the book, beginning at about \$20. For example, a hardcover (image wrap or dust cover) book, in color, with 240 pages of photos and text costs about \$80, including postage and tax.

So far, Bob has published four books, with two to follow. He uses an anecdotal approach to family history and his own system for showing family trees. For publication, Bob divided his family history in half: his father’s and his mother’s families; another volume covers his wife’s German ancestors; and the fourth, in German, is *Kuonrod’s Travels* by Alexander Capp, an artist-poet from Munich, recounting his adventures around the world in 1908, in illustrations and stories.

For the most part entries in Bob’s books come from scanning information from the family notebooks he compiled, as well as from photos and documents, which Bob then organized, page by page. It was, in his words, “a labor of love” which his children and grandchildren will enjoy for years to come.

Tales of Our Ancestors

Program presented by Three FGS Members – August 13, 2011

Jacob Kunkle, 1781-1866 – From Stockade to Staunton

presented by Margaret Cooper

Three young men were in a stockade in Norfolk, VA. They had no money and could not speak English. Jacob Baumgartner passed by speaking German and the young men called out to him. Jacob took them home, gave them work to work off their debt and later two of the young men married Jacob's daughters. Jacob is Margaret Cooper's third great-grandfather.

Family records include the marriage certificate of her relative (one of the young men) which is a contract between the groom and the father in law. Jacob had come to the US (Annapolis, MD) in 1802 at about age 21. The family bible lists the children. Jacob had come to the US as an indentured servant. This is a process whereby one sells oneself to a ship captain before leaving Europe.

A person in the Colonies buys the contract and pays for the passage. The indentured servant then works to pay off the debt. In the early 1800s half to two-thirds of the men who came



Margaret Cooper, Bob Rice, Jim Cardoza and Gardner Edgerton presented tales of their ancestors at the August 13th FGS meeting. Photo by Ralph Wadleigh.

to the US were indentured servants. Jacob worked in a forge in Panther Gap. The 1860 US census listed Jacob as coming from Fitlinger Germany with his birth date 1781.

Margaret noted a James E. Kunkle in the materials she received from her aunt. She wrote to two people with

this name who she found on the internet. She received a wonderful genealogy from one of them which enabled her trace Jacob's family further. Jacob was born the son of David of Hesse Germany in 1753. David fits the naming convention for the children – naming the first son after the groom's father (David) and the second son after the father-in-law (Jacob).

The information helped to clarify the names of the places

of birth and marriage in Germany. Jacob was married in Gelhausen in the state of Hesse. Margaret had some researching to do since James E. Kunkle did not include any documentation with his genealogy.

Two Sailors and Two Ships

presented by Jim Cardoza

Jim Cardosa's second great grandfather was Thomas Cockley Landers born in 1817 in West Falmouth in 1817. He married twice with three children from his first wife (one lived to have children) and five children from his second wife (four survived to have children). He went to sea as a second mate on a whaling vessel between 1842 through 1861. The ship was the *Charles W.*

Morgan which was launched in New Bedford in 1841 and made 37 whaling voyages. Thomas Cockley Landers was the ship Master from December 1863 through 1867. His wife went to sea with him and kept diaries which are the source of much information. Children were born on ship and the first of two sons named

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Stephen Hopkins of Jamestown and Plymouth Plantations

presented by Bob Rice

This Tale of My Ancestors concerns both of America's groups of first settlers but it was at Plymouth, Massachusetts among the Pilgrims that I connect. My main Mayflower descent comes from my grandmother Grace Walker Rice but it was her father, my great grandfather Vernon Walker who last year I discovered was a descendant of Stephen Hopkins. Hopkins had long been suspected to have been in Jamestown but until Caleb Johnson and Ernest Christensen discovered his true origin it was not certain.

They found that Hopkins was from Hampshire, England (not Gloucestershire as speculated) and married ca 1603 before the birth of his first child with Mary _____ who was buried 9 May 1613 at Hursley, Hampshire. Furthermore Christensen proved Stephen Hopkins was baptized 30 April 1581 to John Hopkins and his wife Elizabeth Williams at Upper Clatford near Winchester, Hampshire. All these places are close



Two Sailors and Two Ships

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Thomas fell overboard and drowned. Thomas Cockley took up farming in his later years and died in 1877 in New Bedford at the age of 60.

The second sailor is Bethune Landers Fish who was also born in West Falmouth. He went to sea from 1840 through 1843 on the ship *Eagle* and again from 1843 through 1845. He married sometime between 1845 and 1846 to Achseh (?) Hatch Bowerman who was born and died in West Falmouth. They had five children (three lived to have children). Jim Cardoza is descended from the youngest son. Bethune Landers Fish was in the volunteer militia in the Mexican War but was never in combat. His ship was the *USS Mississippi*. The ship left Philadelphia around 1841 on an antislavery patrol off of Africa. He is also reported to have been with M.C. Perry on the Black Ship Squadron in Japan and to have made two voyages around Cape Horn. He was the cook on coastal vessels from 1855 through 1880. He ended his career as a janitor at the West Falmouth Grammar School. He died in West Falmouth in 1912.

together. It had long been known that a Stephen Hopkins was reported present on the ship *Sea Venture* when it wrecked on Bermuda during a hurricane on route to resupply Jamestown's settlement in 1609. Hopkins was a minister's clerk for the voyage, was convicted of mutiny while building escape ships on Bermuda, but was spared hanging. He along with most of the passengers and crew got to Jamestown and witnessed the horrible conditions there and troubles with local Indians. He probably returned to London on the same ship that Rolf and Pocahontas and other Indians used in the spring 1616. Hopkins married secondly 19 February 1617/18 Elizabeth Fisher at Whitechapel, Middlesex (part of London). That parish was next to two other parishes, Aldgate and Stepney that are known to have several Pilgrims involved in negotiations for the trip to America. In 1619 with his second wife and new child and children from his first marriage Hopkins bought into the Mayflower expedition that sailed September 1620. The evidence is from parish and probate records in England and from Bradford's and Mourt's accounts in Plymouth along with written accounts of the voyage and Jamestown records.

Stephen Hopkins played a larger role in Plymouth than most other Strangers, which is what the Separatists called 50% of the Pilgrim settlers who were not dissenters of the Church of England. Many were from nearer London and had skills more useful to the colony than religion. Hopkins was a shop keeper and worked with leather; John Alden was a cooper; Francis Eaton from Bristol was a carpenter; Peter Brown a weaver, and William Mullins a shoemaker were both from Dorking, Surrey. One gets the impression that many of the Strangers knew each other in England as did the Separatists of course. Additionally many who came on subsequent ships had known Pilgrims back in their various parishes in England. Nickolas Snow who married Constance Hopkins in Plymouth came from Stepney near Whitechapel on the *Anne* 1623.

Hopkins was part of the Plymouth government apparently from its beginning by serving on the Governors Council through Governors Bradford, Winslow, Prence, and probably Carver. He was chosen or volunteered for

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Stephen Hopkins

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most expeditions to the various Indian Sachems including Massasoit and had Samoset and Squanto living in his house from time to time. But in 1636 he got into a fight with a newly arrived 21 year old yeoman, was tried and convicted and required to pay a five pound fine. This ended his close association with Plymouth government but he was still utilized as an advisor from time to time. He started a business as a tavern and store. This continued to get him into trouble for harboring drunks and over-charging. His former servant Doty also got into trouble and Stephen's newer servants caused troubles which landed Hopkins in jail for a time. Hopkins' Plymouth house was among the largest for their size was based on the number of household inhabitants.

Starting about 1637 he sold some of his land, invested in several commercial ventures, and built a house in Yarmouth. Interestingly when the teenager Jonathan Hatch got into trouble at Plymouth, Hopkins was assigned to have special care of him which meant he lived in Hop-

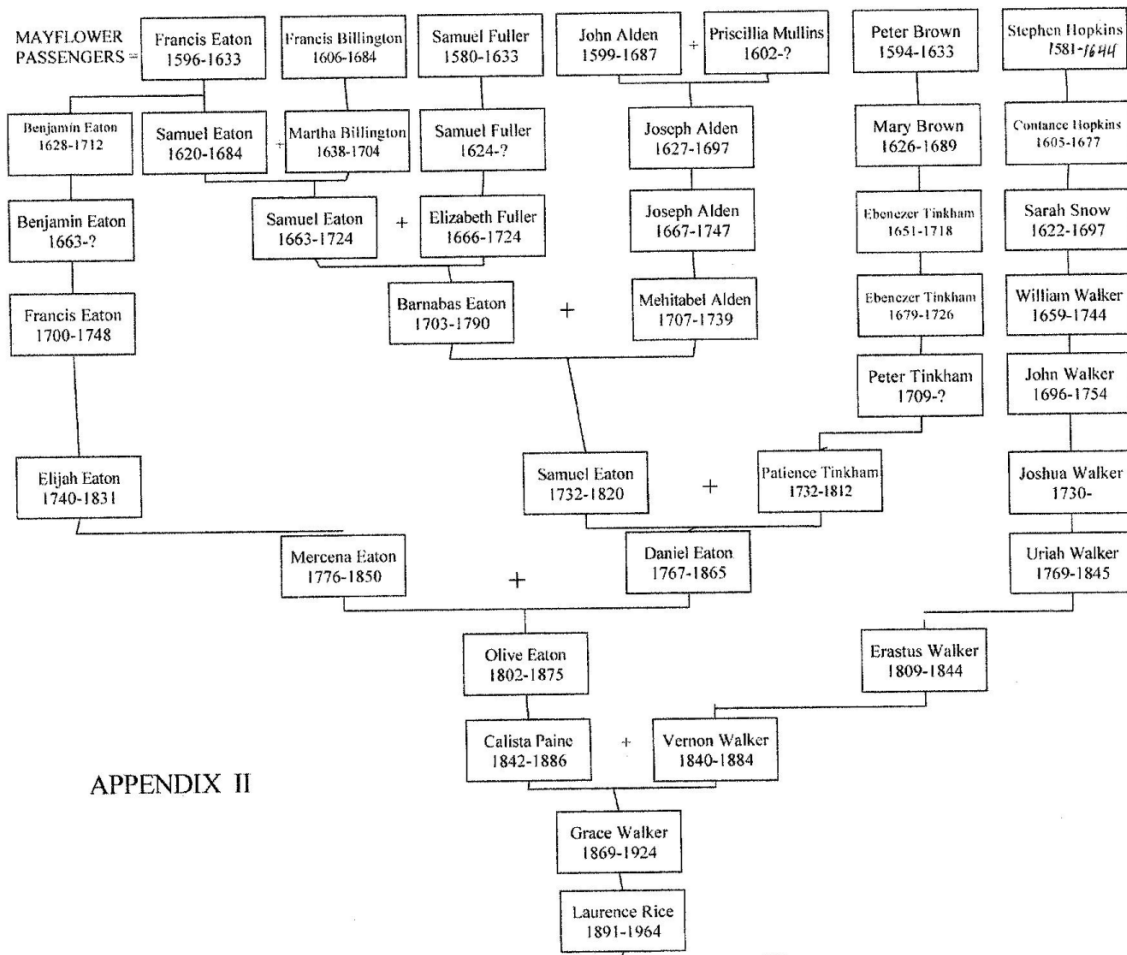
kins' home for several years before going to Barnstable and subsequently Falmouth. Hopkins eldest daughter, Constance, had married Nicholas Snow and moved to Eastham near First Encounter Beach where Hopkins and the others had been attacked by Nauset Indians. We descend from her. Stephen Hopkins died July 1644 but by mid 1700s he had an estimated one thousand living descendants.

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- Ernest Martin Christensen, "The Probable Parentage of Stephen Hopkins of the Mayflower," TAG, 79,(2004)241-249.
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Mourt's Relations.

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation.*



APPENDIX II

From the President

Ralph Wadleigh whplar@comcast.net

This was to have been the summer to tie up loose ends, but I find there are more ends coming loose and I'm having trouble corralling them all and making good knots! At any rate we are moving ahead slowly but surely on the obituary index project. We should be in a position to publish 1970 through 1989 by late October. We will take some photos in Oak Grove when the weather cools a bit. We will get to Boston before the snowbirds fly south. There, those are my midyear resolutions!!

Thanks to the American-French Genealogical Society Newsletter, I have discovered a potentially very useful research tool called Family Search Wiki. What this does

is list all the items in the Family History Library that pertain to localities, subjects or methods. Just for fun I typed in "Bond County, Illinois" and up came FHL microfilm references, a listing of the repositories in Bond County, publications in the FHL library concerning Bond County, and various web links including a link to a transcription of Bond County Probate Records which contained the will of one of my wife's ancestors. Wow. If you are focusing on a certain locality and want to develop a research plan, this a great place to start. Just enter <https://wiki.familysearch.org>. Have fun!!

As always, your suggestions for the betterment of our society are always welcome. Just let me know.



Lydia Longley: The First American Nun

presented by Gardner Edgerton

Gardner Edgerton told the chilling tale of how John Longley, then 12 years of age, and his sister Lydia, then 20 years of age, were the only survivors of their family of an Indian massacre on July 27, 1694. A baby sister was also not massacred due to the pleadings of Lydia but Betty fell ill on the third day of travel and did not survive the trip north as captive of the Indians. We learned of John convincing the Indians to let him free his pet sheep who otherwise would have died of starvation locked up in their barn following the massacre. John had heretofore envied the free Indian life. The three Indians who captured John said "strong like Indian boy." Lydia and John walked many days with the Indians and on joining with other prisoners like themselves learned that the massacre was not an isolated incident. The plan the Indians had was to sell the prisoners to the French people. They passed Lake Champlain on their journey. John was taken by Black Eagle to St Francis. He was ransomed five years later and went to Groton. He died in 1750 at the age of 68. Lydia was taken to Montreal. She embraced the Catholic religion in 1699 and joined the Convent of Notre Dame. She died in Montreal in 1758 at the Age of 84. She was the first American-born nun.

Book Review

by Ralph Wadleigh

Some of you may be able to connect your family ancestry back to the Early Anglo-Saxon days and to the time of the Norman invasion of Britain in 1066. If this is the case, you will be interested in reading *The Year 1000* by Robert Lacey and Danny Danzinger. Using the pages of the Julius Works Calendar, drawn up in the workroom of Canterbury Cathedral about 1020, the authors illustrate the annual cycle of life that occurred in those times. Many topics are covered including agriculture, politics, social mores, economics, warfare, diet, health care and religion. It is easy to imagine an ancestor trying to make a living and supporting a family in those ancient times when life could be happy one day and very tragic the next. Even if you can't claim Charlemagne as an ancestor, you will find this work enjoyable reading. It's available at the Falmouth Public Library.



FGS Welcomes New Member

#412: Rosemary A. Simons of Falmouth, researching Vaida and Brince in Slovenia and Austria before Ellis Island. She is interested in her ancestors' part of Austria when they left, when it became independent, and now.

Upcoming Night School Course on Internet Genealogy

by Richard Harbison

I have received the go-ahead for a course this fall, titled “An Introduction to Internet Genealogy,” to be given at the Falmouth Community (Night) School (<http://www.falmouth.k12.ma.us/index.php/home/programs-departments/falmouth-community-night-school>). Lessons will start on Monday, September 19, 2011 and last 7 weeks. Each lesson will be 2 hours, probably starting at 6:30 p.m. I have set the maximum number of students at 15, so that everybody can get individual help.

Since the maximum number of students is limited, I suggest that anyone who is interested sign up as soon as possible. To find out when you can register, keep checking back at the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) that I have given you above. Note that the URL starts with “http” (Hypertext Transfer Protocol). If you are reading this as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file, all you have to do is click on the link, and you will be magically transported to the Falmouth Night School, where you can check to see if registration is available for the Fall 2011 Night School yet. Since you are going to be going back there frequently, you should add it to your favorites, if you are using Internet Explorer, or your bookmarks, if you are using Mozilla Firefox. These two browsers are recommended for the course, so, if you don't have Firefox, please get it – it's free!

As I see the course, it should be lots of fun, both for the instructor and the students. I will try to tailor my lectures to meet your individual needs, but you should make sure that you are up to speed with using your browser, your email, and are able to read PDF documents. You should be able to download picture and web pages from the internet, and know how to use Google, which is by far the most popular search engine on the internet. If you don't already have it, I recommend that you get the handout from my February 2011 talk, and play around with it, until you become familiar with these basic skills. If you need help with any of these items, I am available on Tuesdays at the Library from 2 to 4 to help you.

As of now, the first lesson will cover using browsers (Firefox and Internet Explorer preferred), how to save and restore browser sessions, multiple tabs, multiple windows, and using the taskbar. We will also talk about selecting and using a genealogy database to store your family tree and its data, and get into some of the advanced features of Google, and we will do a vanity search (if you haven't already done one).

If you are interested or need help, please email me at gharbison@gmail.com, and I will add you to my email list, and keep you up to date about what's going on with the course.



FGS Purchases Cape Cod Genealogy Society's CD of *The Bulletin*

by Janice Zlatev

The Society has purchased a copy of the CD containing all 119 issues of *The Bulletin* in searchable PDF (Portable Document Format) files. *The Bulletin* was the official publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society from 1975 to 2010. For most years three issues were published. In 2011 publication of *The Bulletin* ceased to make way for *The Journal of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society*. *The Bulletin* focused on the genealogy of Cape Cod and related research. Many of the articles contain records and sources that are not available in any other

publications. Articles include short genealogies; census, land and probate records; birth, death and marriage records; member success stories; articles on the many aspects of genealogical research; book reviews; summaries of holdings of Cape Cod genealogical libraries and historical societies; and articles of humor and general interest to the Cape Cod researcher. The CD is in the Falmouth Public Library non-fiction CD collection available for check out to its patrons. Shortly one will be able to look up the call number of the CD.