

# The Falmouth Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

November 2011 – January 2012

Vol. 24 Number 1  
P. O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA 02536  
www.falgen.org

President: Ralph Wadleigh  
Editor: Janet Burt Chalmers  
JanetBChalmers@aol.com

*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

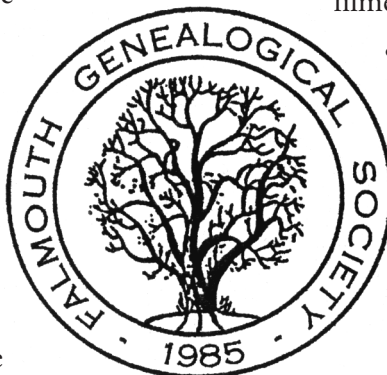
### *Tracking Your Family Through the U.S. Censuses*

Presented by Joy Henning – October 8, 2011

by Ralph Wadleigh

On October, 8, 2011, FGS was pleased to welcome Joy Hennig, Research Librarian at the Worcester MA Public Library whose topic was Tracking Your Family Through the US Censuses. Using examples from her own family, Joy illustrated what information was available from each census 1790 through 1930. Her main points were:

- After 1850 the name of each member of the household was recorded.
- The names of most African Americans, however, were not recorded until 1870.
- As a rule, the later the census, the more information you will find.
- No single census included exactly the same questions as another.
- People did not always respond truthfully to the census taker.



- Census takers often made mistakes due to language barriers and other factors.
- Be aware that every time the data was copied, there was potential for error.
- Never rely on a transcription – go back to the filmed or digitized original whenever possible.
- Be sure to look at the names and data for each person listed in the household; some may be relatives even if they do not share the head of household's surname.
- When searching, try every variant of a particular name.
- Compare the data found with that from other sources.

Examples of each of the censuses were circulated illustrating the variety of information contained in each. Hennig's presentation was an excellent introduction and review of the informative value of the US censuses, clearly genealogy's most important basic resource.

## Calendar of Meetings for 2012

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Jan. 14  | Michael Brophy – the 1940 Census – at the Falmouth Senior Center on Dillingham Ave. |
| Feb 11   | What's New On The Web -   |
| March 10 | Marcia Melnyk – Don't Reinvent the Wheel – Tapping into the Knowledge of Others     |
| April 14 | Sharon Sergeant – Investigative Genealogy   |
| May 12   | Annual Meeting – Jeramie Hammond – A Vision of a New FGS Website                    |

# Joint Meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Societies

Three lectures presented by Dick Eastman, blogger and tech guru

November 12, 2011 – St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Osterville, MA

## # 1. *The Organized Genealogist*

by Janet Burt Chalmers

Dick Eastman's first talk to the meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical societies focused on organization. Being very organized himself, Dick told us right away that his slide presentation was available to us all at: <http://www.eogn.com/handouts/organized>. I have taken the liberty to make my report based on that web address.

Dick started with some very funny cartoons that I certainly identified with, showing family reactions to the title of his talk and then showing a photograph of an office much like mine featuring piles of papers precariously balanced!

Following the preliminaries, Dick said, "Everything that I will offer today is something that I use daily."

He emphasized making constant backups, digitizing documents and pictures, and making web searches on Google.

Today's Goal: If you go home and use one or two of today's ideas, I'll be happy.

- Web Searching (Google) Google is your friend
- Google's Mission Statement: "Organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful"
- Google Searches: Google will find most of the information that you and I post on the web, along with more information published by tens of thousands of other individuals and societies. Google will not find the information stored within the databases of the big sites: Ancestry.com, Family-Search.org and others
- Google's Special Syntaxes intitle: Restricts your search to the titles of Web pages
- Google's Special Syntaxes site: Allows you to narrow the search by a site or a top-level domain

Examples: Eogn.com, Ancestry.com, edu

- Google's Special Syntaxes link: Returns a list of pages that link to the specified URL Example: link:<http://www.eogn.com>
- Google's Special Syntaxes cache: Finds a copy of a web page that Google indexed even if that page is no longer available today or has since changed its contents. Example: <cache:www.eogn.com>
- Google's Special Syntaxes daterange: Limits your date to a particular date or range of dates that a page was indexed. Note #1: It is the date that the page was INDEXED by Google, not the page CREATION date! Note #2: Date format must be in Julian dates
- The original data is kept on your hard drive, which will fail someday. For convenience, always keep a backup copy on a hard drive, CD, DVD, jump drive, or whatever works for you. In case of a local disaster (fire, flood, hurricane, tornado, etc.) always keep a copy somewhere else. Offsite Backup Original Your Data Local Backup
- How Often Should You Back Up? CONSTANTLY! There are many software products that will make nearly constant backups for you. Time Machine (Macintosh) – free Karen's Replicator (Windows) – free Mozy (Windows & Macintosh) – free to \$4.95/month Backblaze (Windows & Macintosh) – \$4.95/month
- Make Digital Copies: 1. To improve the originals, 2. To share with others, 3. For preservation, 4. To reduce storage space requirements
- Scanning Pictures is Self-explanatory: To improve the original photos (faded, scratched, damaged, etc.), to share with others, for preservation
- But How About Documents? Genealogy Books? Magazines? I am now in the process of scanning

*Continued on page 3*

## # 2. Conservation: Keeping Up With Technology to Ensure Readability By Future Generations

by Marianne Lockwood Shafer, FGS

Presented as his second talk of the morning, Dick Eastman divided the study of genealogy into three phases: The Historical (Prior to 1920), The Present (1920 to 1980), and The Future (2011 and Beyond).

In the Historical period prior to 1920 there were but a few genealogical societies, and these were created mostly for the elite. Everyone was looking to be somehow



### The Organized Genealogist

*Continued from page 2*

all of my papers, books, magazines and... I am destroying most of the originals!

- But How About Documents? Books? Magazines? I don't want to count how many books I have purchased over the years, but I am sure it must be several hundred volumes. I don't want to even think about the bottom-line price. I only have space in my four bookcases to store a tiny fraction of them; the rest are stored in boxes in the basement. Out-of-sight books are books that I rarely use. Out of sight, out of mind. I probably wasted my money by purchasing all those books as I rarely use most of them.
- I Have Another Issue With Storage Space: In my retirement years, I plan to move to smaller living quarters. This brings up a challenging word: DOWNSIZING
- I Have Another Issue With Storage Space: A few weeks ago, I made the problem worse by purchasing a new home
- My Solution: Digitize Everything and make plenty of backups!
- Being organized reduces frustrations!
- Have a Great (and Organized) Day! <http://www.eogn.com>
- [www.eogn.com](http://www.eogn.com) Thank You!
- These slides are available at: <http://www.eogn.com/handouts/organized>

connected to royalty. Research was very expensive and much of the information was second-hand. Compiled sources were typically without source citations.

The Present period, 1920-1980, witnessed many changes, including the growth of genealogical societies. Microfilm began in the 1930s and by the 1960s we saw popular books on genealogy like Alex Haley's *Roots*. Excellent source citations came into use at this time.

Between 1980 and today digital records, social networking, and TV programs ushered in an era of expanding the genealogical audience. Eastman cited such figures as 500 million names now on FamilySearch.org, and 6 billion on Ancestry as evidence of the growing and changing audience of those interested in genealogy.

Younger, and driven by technology, TV, and mass media, future genealogists may not care to develop pedigree charts; instead they may want to research and write stories about only a few ancestors. Demographical changes, illustrated by a study of college age students interested in genealogy and history, showed, among other statistics, that 50% of those in the study did not share the same surname as their fathers.

Eastman predicted within the next five years, 60% of all internet access worldwide will be by people who do not own a "regular" computer. The sale of tablets and handhelds is rapidly growing. Improved technology makes it possible to gather genealogical and other information anywhere and at any time. Cloud computing will be the norm. In ten years, we will see more records online with faster and better access to those records, and record preservation in digital form will make things easier than searching original records. Soon all microfilms, books, and paper records from local records offices will be available online, and the emphasis here is on the word ALL.

Dick Eastman's information-packed presentation made apparent the need for genealogists to keep up with today's technology. We want to preserve the records we

*Continued on page 4*

## # 3. Latest Technology for Genealogists

by Richard Harbison

At the start of this talk, Dick showed the URL for the PowerPoint presentation. It is: <http://www.eogn.com/handouts/latesttech>. When you type in this URL you are redirected to: <http://www.slideshare.net/reastman/the-latest-technology-for-genealogists>. When I typed in the first URL, the redirection crashed my browser. Admittedly, I am using an old platform (Windows XP), and I had more than 20 tabs open, with Mozilla Firefox as my browser. After I sorted things out, and went after the URL with Internet Explorer, everything was OK, until I tried to download the presentation, whereupon I was told that I had to join FaceBook. I am among the last people on the planet who are not members of FaceBook, and so I used the slides online, which works just fine, and I'm still not a member of FaceBook. I am telling you this because you might notice a certain grumpy tone in my review, caused by the crashing of my browser, which always makes me grumpy.

The talk was divided into two sections. The first section was titled, "How to make sure your genealogy data is still readable by future generations." Contrary to the overall title of the talk, most of this section was about the inferiority of all other storage methods compared with digital files. I am in total agreement with this point of view, as those of you who took my Internet genealogy course will attest. Certainly, digital files are superior due to the fact that they are compact, multiple copies



### Conservation

*Continued from page 3*

have worked hard to compile, so we may pass them on to future generations, but paper copies are no longer a top priority. We must move more fully into the digital world by using those many options technology has provided us with. What is equally important is to recognize that digital equipment must be kept up-to-date, for it will be forever changing. This will make it possible for future genealogists to have access to what we have accomplished.

His following talk focused on the new technology we are going to need.

can be stored in a wide variety of places, they are easy to send, they are easy to put on the Web, they are highly portable, to name but a few of their virtues. However, digital files are hardly the latest technology, since they have been around for many decades.

Dick spent a considerable amount of time talking about the limitations of paper and ink. First, the paper itself is prone to degradation. Archival paper is expensive, and most of the paper that everyone uses has a limited life span. However, the worst thing is that very few people use real ink for their records (meaning the type of ink that used to be used in fountain pens), as this is the only type of ink that soaks into the fibers of the paper, forming a permanent bond. I wondered to myself about ball point pen ink, but did not ask Dick about this. I am sure that the audience, had they known, would have been pleased that I did not ask this question, since this was the last talk of our marathon genealogy session.

Then Dick discussed the limitations of ink jet and toner. These are the two main types of ink used in computer printers. Ink jet ink has one major drawback – it is water-based, and thus it evaporates. As it evaporates, colors become fainter, and that's why your old ink jet photographs look so terrible. The first to go is red, and the others follow, until there is nothing left. Toner is almost as bad, since it does not sink into the paper, but rests as a veneer on top of it. Over time and with use, the particles flake off and become fainter and fainter, until the manuscript becomes illegible. A member of the audience noted that artists have the same problem with charcoal, pencil and chalk, and have solved it with artist's fixative. I made some quick Google searches on artist's fixative, toner fixative and pencil writing fixative and found that he was indeed correct. I don't know how long these fixatives will extend the life of paper manuscripts, but I'm sure that if you are interested you could find this online relatively easily.

After the discussion on paper and ink, Dick then moved on to the problems with microfilm saying, "Microfilm is easily scratched. Even if you never use it, it only has a life of 200 to 300 years. Therefore, even with a huge

*Continued on page 5*

## Latest Technology

*Continued from page 4*

set of archival rolls, the life of microfilm is finite. Even worse, the oldest microfilm rolls were made of cellulose nitrate, which is extremely flammable, and, as it ages, turns into an explosive.” On 20 January 2011 the LDS Church History Library in Salt Lake City had to be evacuated when unstable cellulose nitrate microfilm was discovered. This material was transported to a local landfill and detonated. The final nail in microfilm’s coffin is the fact that it will no longer be produced in about 10 years. As a result of the inferiority of microfilm as a storage agent, all the material held by the LDS Church is being digitized, and all of this digitized material will be indexed in less than 10 years. After indexing is complete, all of their voluminous material will be available online. For free!

To end the section, Dick advised: “Digitize everything, make multiple copies, store them in multiple locations. Make multiple backups. Use multiple forms of media: CD, DVD, USB jump drives, external hard drives, online, etc. Never depend on one backup. Store them in multiple locations. Use online backups, which are cheaper than hard drives, but one needs a broadband connection. There are many online backups: Mozy, Backblaze, Dropbox, iBackup, Carbonite, CrashPlan, etc.” Note: I did not investigate all of these backup suppliers. I personally use Carbonite, and have had a computer hard drive crash. Believe me, even with an offsite backup, getting back to normal takes a fair bit of work.

Then, to reinforce the point, Dick repeated with another slide which said the same thing again, “Make multiple backups! Again, never depend on any one backup, Make multiple backups. Use different media. Save them in different locations!” I am sure that everyone got the point of the first section.

The second section of the talk was titled “Part 2 – Sharing Data.” Although Dick said he was going to discuss “two closely related terms, cloud computing and online everywhere,” he did not talk much about online everywhere; only pointing out that cell phone coverage was still pretty spotty in Maine. He seemed to think that our cell phone coverage is ubiquitous on Cape Cod. However, this is certainly not the case, since I cannot use my iPhone in my house, which is only three minutes from

the Bank of America in Falmouth, where the Occupy Falmouth crowd protests every Saturday morning. Try using your cell phone from the Chapoquoit Grill in West Falmouth as well. Undoubtedly, improved technology will someday allow Andean explorers to use their cell phones, but that day has not yet come. I predict that, well before the Andean explorers get ubiquitous cell phone coverage, patrons of the Chapoquoit Grill will get it. Time will tell if I am correct. As the Nobel Laureate Niels Bohr said, “Predictions are very difficult, particularly when they are about the future.”

“Cloud computing,” Dick explained, “is sharing of resources, particularly across the Internet. Cloud computing can mean that many users are sharing disk space.” A good example is Gmail, which differs from conventional email programs, in that one’s email is not stored on one’s own computer, but is stored on Google’s computers. To me, this also means that if you are sending emails that Google would not like, you should not use Gmail. “Or,” he said, “many users are using the same remote applications.” A good example would be an online service that converts Adobe Flash files to files that are compatible with an iPhone. The key is that an individual has remote access to the shared disk space or the application. Again, however, this depends on the quality of the connection to the remote facility. Do not try this with a dial-up connection.

Dick gave a list of some examples: “Gmail, HotMail, Google Docs, various backup programs, online photo editing programs, and Ancestry.com”. Cloud computing provides flexibility and many options. For example, Dick said one can: “keep all your information private but protected and backed up in state-of-the-art data centers; share bits and pieces of your information but only with people you choose; share with groups of people but only with passwords; make information freely available to everyone.” His bottom line was that the individual can control what information is available, and who has access to it. However, while he was saying this I was thinking that after another individual has access to your information, you pass control of it to that individual. I have had personal experience with this. When I was starting out in genealogy, I shared my

*Continued on page 6*

## Latest Technology

*Continued from page 5*

GEDCOM file with other people, and a few of them posted it on the Web, without giving me credit for the new information I had provided. Others did give me credit, and that taught me that it is important to have a good idea about the ethical standards of the people you give information to.

Dick then gave examples of shared cloud computing, such as: "Ancestry.com's OneWorldTree; RootsWeb; OneGreatFamily.com: FamilySearch; etc. In these cases, the information you contribute is 'pooled' with info supplied by others." Generally, these pooled information sites keep the names of living people private. The drawback to these is that the site you contribute to then owns the information as much as you do. However, there are private cloud computing websites, where you have total control over access. He listed: "The Next Generation; PhpGedView; WebTrees.net; FamilyTree-Explorer; and other products where one person or group controls all access."

Dick quoted predictions that in the near future nearly a third of the world's population will have smartphones, and he predicted that a great many people will be using smartphone apps to do genealogy. Together with cloud computing, these smartphones will become extremely powerful computers, capable of doing family history research at remote locations. He mentioned WeRelate.org which is a genealogical wiki (a wiki is defined by Wikipedia as "a Web site developed collaboratively by a community of users, allowing any user to add and edit content"). Using the wiki concept seems like a good thing when it comes to a person's immediate ancestors and his close cousins. After all, the person has direct knowledge of these relationships, knowing far more about them than anyone else.

However, when it comes to more remote ancestors, precise knowledge and critical thinking is required. To give a concrete example, I have a letter in which my grandfather stated that his paternal grandfather was named Thomas and that he was a school teacher, and that he did not remember his grandmother's maiden name. This is reasonable, since he was only seven years old when his grandmother died. Fortunately, she has a death notice in the *Christian Advocate* (Nashville, Tennessee) that gives

some exact dates for her life. It states (in the August 16, 1884 edition), "MARY C. wife of J. T. HARBISON born Aug. 2, 1834; married Oct. 10, 1853; died in home of her son, Robert Harbison, near Bon Aqua Spring, Tenn., Mar. 10, 1884." I know that Robert Harbison is the brother of my great grandfather, George Washington Harbison. I can match these exact dates with other data, such as a copy of a page from the Bible of George Washington Fly, Mary Catherine's father, and the Maury County, Tennessee marriage records to show that the dates of birth and marriage in the death notice match those of the other records precisely. This constitutes genealogical proof of a high order, and would not have been possible unless I had done the research. In this case, I would argue, my opinion is superior to the opinions of others who have not done the research. So, while I agree that wikis could be useful, they need to be carefully moderated by people who have expertise on the particular family history. Thus, I remain skeptical of the usefulness of broad-based wikis such as WeRelate.org.

The final topic that Dick covered was a new website, BillionGraves (<http://billiongraves.com/>). This new website is a competitor of FindaGrave.com (<http://www.findagrave.com>). Its advantage is that it has a smartphone app, which makes it easy to upload pictures of tombstones. Whether or not BillionGraves will replace FindaGrave remains to be seen. One member of the audience remarked that the thing he likes about FindaGrave is that he is able to link all of his ancestors and cousins to one another within the website. In other words, he is publishing his genealogy on FindaGrave. I thought this was an excellent point, quite in keeping with the idea that one should publish one's results as extensively as possible, making it increasingly easy for others to find them. This is a wonderful way to help insure that your research is not lost to posterity. I don't know whether BillionGraves will have this capability.

After that, the meeting quickly ended, since it was after 3:00 p.m., and we had been listening to lectures for more than 5 hours (somewhat comparable to attending a Wagnerian opera). Dick Eastman is an excellent speaker, with a charming and engaging manner; therefore, the time passed quickly for me.

# A Titanic Discovery!

by Charlet E. Roskovic

Steven Papp, my husband Ed Roskovic's grand uncle on his mother's side, emigrated in 1912 to America. The story I heard in 2006 was that Steven was heading back to Hungary on the *Carpathia* when the *Titanic* sank and was aboard during the rescue of about 700 *Titanic* passengers. It was during this voyage that he supposedly saw, and later told of, bodies floating in the water.

From a 1930 Cleveland, Ohio census, I knew he was emigrating West to New York in 1912 – not headed East to Europe – so I suspected the story that had been passed down the generations was somewhat incorrect. Even so, I could find no passenger lists of any kind that matched an Istvan Papp (Steven's Hungarian name) on either [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) nor Ellis Island's [www.ellisland.org](http://www.ellisland.org) with arrival in 1912. I did, however, find his naturalization card through [www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and later I obtained the address for the National Archives and Records Administration in Chicago, Illinois to order his Declaration of Intention. I wrote them a letter and included a copy of the naturalization card which showed his name and all the numbers that correlated with Steven's becoming a citizen of the United States of America. The reason I wanted a copy of Steven Papp's Declara-

ORIGINAL (To be retained by Clerk of Court)

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 111288

### PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

[Under General Provisions of the Nationality Act of 1940 (Public, No. 853, 76th Cong.)]

To the Honorable the District Court of United States at Cleveland, Ohio

This petition for naturalization, hereby made and filed, respectfully shews:

(1) My full, true, and correct name is **STEVE PAPP**

(2) My present place of residence is **3565 W. 60th St., Cleveland, Ohio**

(3) I am **57** years old. (4) I was born on **January 2, 1880** in **Adorian, Hungary**

(5) My personal description is as follows: Sex **Male**, color **White**, complexion **Med.**, color of eyes **Brown**, color of hair **Grey**, height **5** feet **11** inches, weight **198** pounds, visible distinctive marks **Scar on rt temple**, race **White**

(6) I was married to **Justina** on **August 22, 1914** at **Carteret, New Jersey**

(7) I am **single**

(8) I have **no** children; and the names, sex, date and place of birth, and present places of residence of such of said children who is living, are as follows: **Elizabeth (F), Nov. 23, 1918; Steve, Jr. (M), June 30, 1915. Elizabeth born in Carteret, New Jersey; Steve born in Carteret, New Jersey. Both reside in Cleveland, Ohio**

(9) My last place of foreign residence was **Adorian, Hungary**

(10) I emigrated to the United States from **Bremen, Germany**

(11) My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was on **April 28, 1912** under the name of **Miklos Papp (Istvan Papp)**

(12) Since my lawful entry for permanent residence I have **no** been absent from the United States, for a period or periods of 6 months or longer, as follows:

DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES			RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES		
PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE	PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE

(13) I declared my intention to become a citizen of the United States on **July 12, 1945** in the **Common Pleas** Court of **Cuyahoga County** at **Cleveland, Ohio**

(14) It is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States and to renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, State, or sovereignty of whom or which at this time I am a subject or citizen, and is a party intended to renounce permanently the United States. (15) I am not, and have not been for the period of at least 10 years or opposed to organized government; nor a member of or affiliated with any organization or body of persons teaching, disseminating or espousing, or advocating, or practicing, the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the United States. (16) I have resided continuously in the United States of America for the term of 5 years at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since **April 28, 1912** and continuously in the State in which this petition is made for the term of 6 months at least immediately preceding the date of this petition, to wit, since **June 1919**

(17) I am, and have been during all of the periods required by law, attached to the (18) I am able to speak the English language (unless previously unable to do so).

(19) I have **not** heretofore made petition for naturalization: No.

(20) Attached hereto and made a part of this, my petition for naturalization, are the cause of such dismissal or denial has since been cured or removed.

(21) I, Michael Papp, do swear (affirm) that I know the contents of this petition for naturalization subscribed by me, that the same are true to the best of my own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters I believe them to be true, and that this petition is signed by me with my full, true name: **SO HELP ME GOD.**

*Steve Papp*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

SALOON, CABIN, AND STEERAGE ALIENS MUST BE COMPLETELY MANIFESTED.

### LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

Required by the regulations of the Secretary of Commerce and Labor of the United States, under Act of Congress approved February 20, 1907, to be delivered to the United States Immigration Officer at the Port of Arrival.

S. S. *Bremen* sailing from *Bremen* April 13<sup>th</sup> 1912

No.	Name in Full	Age	Sex	Calling or Occupation	Mile to	Nationality	Place or People	Country	City or Town	Final Destination
1	<i>Antoni</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>
2	<i>Paul</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>
3	<i>Moskowitz</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Russian</i>	<i>Russia</i>	<i>Russia</i>	<i>Russia</i>	<i>Russia</i>
4	<i>Poljanec</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Slovene</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>	<i>Slovenia</i>
5	<i>Agabo</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>
6	<i>Ambar</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>
7	<i>Ziele</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>
8	<i>Prusman</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>Ship Carpenter</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>Polish</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Poland</i>

### STATES IMMIGRATION OFFICER AT PORT OF ARRIVAL

to the United States Immigration Officer by the Commanding Officer of any vessel having such passengers on board upon arrival

Arriving at Port of *New York* April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1912

No.	By whom was passage paid?	Whether ever before in the United States, and if so, when and where?	Whether going to join a relative or friend; and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address.	Whether a Politician, Minister, or Anarchist.	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical.	Deformed or Crippled, Nature, length of time, and cause.	Height, Feet, inches.	Color of Hair, Eyes.
1	<i>Self</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>5 6</i>	<i>Blk gr</i>
2	<i>Self</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>5 8</i>	<i>br</i>
3	<i>Self</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Good</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>5 3</i>	<i>bl</i>

tion of Intention is that the applicant is asked the name of the ship upon which he or she emigrated. I was certain that if I could obtain Steven Papp's Declaration of Intention I would be well on my way to knowing if the story were fact or fiction. This process of requesting the document began on November 14, 2011, and by Saturday, December 17, the packet arrived from Chicago, Illinois and by Sunday morning I had all the information I needed! What a wonderful Christmas gift!

Steven Papp's Declaration of Intention indicated he emigrated on the *SS Bremen* and was traveling under the name Miklos Papp (his brother, Michael Papp's name). Miklos Papp's name is on line

Continued on page 8

# Titanic Discovery!

Continued from page 7

2 of the ship manifest and shows he was being met in Essex Falls, New Jersey by his brother, Alex Papp (my husband's grandfather) which confirmed this was "the" Steven Papp I'd been researching! The ship left Bremen, Germany on April 13, 1912 and landed at the port of New York April 23, 1912. Also, on the ship manifest there is the mention of a wife in Hungary, named Maria Papp of Rozsapolley, Hungary. But there is **no** doubt about his story about seeing floating bodies from the *Titanic* disaster. The *SS Bremen* was on the same course as the *Titanic*, arriving at the disaster site a few hours after the accident occurred.

This website pretty much says it all: <http://www.encyclopedia-Titanica.org/Titanic-where-were-the-bodies.html>. Anyway, with the Declaration of Intent, *SS Bremen* manifest and the *New York Times* newspaper article, we now know Steven Papp saw horrific and unimaginable tragedy from the *Titanic* disaster. I've been wondering about this for about five years now and have finally solved the mystery!

Another mystery: Did Steven Papp adopt his brother Michael's complete identity on the *SS Bremen* passenger list (name, age plus marital status) to emigrate to America maybe to avoid the Austro-Hungarian military? Steven was 22 years old in 1912 while Michael was 27 and

there is a good possibility the wife named Maria Papp in Hungary was Michael's. With the help of an obituary, I located Steven Papp's daughter, Elizabeth, who is 93 years old. She had never heard her father's story of floating bodies from the *Titanic* disaster nor had she heard that her father might have been married previously. Two years after arrival in New Jersey, Steven Papp married Justine "Justzina" Csiriban on 22 Aug 1914 in Carteret, New Jersey.

I would like to offer my sincere appreciation to: Robert Jerin, Croatian Heritage Museum, Cleveland Ohio; Donald G. Labaj of Berea, Ohio; Norman Davis of Olmsted Falls, Ohio. These three people helped me tremendously with my research and discoveries!

# LINER BREMEN SIGHTS 100 OR MORE BODIES

Passengers Made Nervous and Ill by Trip Through the Titanic Death Zone.

## ONE OVERTURNED LIFE BOAT

Many Victims Lashed to Deck Chairs, and Nearly All Wore Life Belts, Says the Captain.

The North German Lloyd steamship *Bremen*, which arrived yesterday morning from Bremen with 287 cabin passengers and 330 steerage passengers, was the first vessel to arrive in New York which had sighted the bodies and wreckage from the *Titanic*.

Capt. B. Wilhelm reported that on Saturday afternoon between 4 and 6 o'clock the ship passed several icebergs in latitude 42:32 north and longitude 49:22 west, and near by were two large icebergs, one about a mile away, which the Captain estimated to have been about fifty feet above the water, and the other about two miles further south. The *Titanic* sank in latitude 40:31 north and longitude 50:10 west.

The wreckage, consisting of an overturned collapsible life raft with a quantity of steamer chairs, gratings, and pieces of wood, was sighted first from the bridge through the glasses by Capt. Wilhelm and his officers, who had been on the look out for it all afternoon. As the ship drew closer it was discovered that the black objects bobbing up and down on the water and mixing with the wreckage were bodies of the victims.

The Captain said yesterday that he thought there were about 100 altogether. Chief Officer E. Klugkist said that he counted only seven. Several of the bodies were lashed to doors and gratings, the Captain said, denoting the desperate fight they had made for life. All appeared to be in a good state of preservation, which was attributable no doubt to the icy temperature of the water. The body of a man in evening dress could be seen through the glasses lashed to a door. Two more were lashed to a bundle of steamer chairs. Most of the bodies were seen between the two large bergs.

Capt. Wilhelm said that he did not make any attempt to recover any of the bodies as he had no coffins on board, and had been informed that the cableship Mackay-Bennett was in the vicinity searching for them, and he gave the position to her Captain by wireless.

It was noticeable that the bodies sighted by the *Bremen* all had on life preservers, except some of those lashed to pieces of wood, which answered the same purpose. The sight of these unfortunate victims caused a thrill of horror among the passengers who were standing on the deck of the *Bremen*, although they had known since lunchtime that the vessel was nearing the position where the big liner sank on Monday morning.

Mrs. Sarah Muller of Kansas City said that the *Bremen* sighted the first lot of bodies shortly after 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon, after passing fifteen icebergs on both sides of the ship.

"The wreckage and bodies were alongside until 6 o'clock," she said, "and made us feel nervous and ill. The sight was an awful one to gaze upon. I saw the body of a woman with a life preserver strapped to her waist and the bodies of two little children clasped in her arms."

"The body of a young woman, partly resting on a grating, as if she had been lashed to it hurriedly when the ship was sinking, was seen. That was on the port side and then I crossed over to the starboard side where we passed the body of a man floating face up with a child in his arms and the body of another man resting on a big steamer chair."

Mrs. Beatrice Stenke, another passenger, said that the sight was the most horrible spectacle she had ever witnessed and made her faint and ill.

"There were a number of women and children," she said, "but the majority of them were men and boys. I saw a man and a woman in each of the life preservers, two men clinging together, and the body of a woman with a child in her arms lashed to the railing. I believe the two big bergs which were seen by the *Bremen* were fully dressed with the exception of the woman on the chair, who was in a night gown."

At the end of the line of floating bodies and debris an overturned lifeboat was seen about a mile away from the *Bremen*. The officers said that the wreckage had drifted so far away from the scene of the disaster owing to the counter current of the Gulf stream. They did not think there was any reason to believe that the *Titanic* had struck either of the two big bergs which were seen by the *Bremen* close to the wreckage. Numerous messages were received by wireless warning the Captain of the vicinity of icebergs and field ice.

One message from the Red Star liner *Zoele* said that the vessel was surrounded by field ice and no open water could be seen. The *Bremen* received word of the *Titanic* disaster by wireless from Europe on Tuesday, April 16, and the cabin passengers were informed on Wednesday.

The New York Times

Published: April 25, 1912

Copyright © The New York Times

**TRIPPLICATE**  
(To be given to declarant when originally issued; to be made a part of the petition for naturalization when petition is filed; and to be retained as a part of the petition in the records of the court.)

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA** 108147  
**DECLARATION OF INTENTION** No.  
(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

State of Ohio In the Common Pleas Court  
County of Cuyahoga of Cuyahoga County at Cleveland Ohio

(1) My full, true, and correct name is Steven Papp  
(2) My present place of residence is 3565 W. 69th St., Cleveland, Cuyahoga, Ohio  
(3) My occupation is Iron Worker  
(4) I am 22 years old. (5) I was born on Jan 2, 1890  
in Adorish, Hungary  
(6) My personal description is as follows: Sex Male  
color White complexion Fair color of eyes Brown color of hair Brown height 5 feet 11 inches, weight 185 pounds, visible distinctive mark Scar on left side of face, near temple race White present nationality Hungary  
(7) I am un married; the name of my wife or husband is Justina  
at Carteret, N.J. or she was born at Nyirtura, Hungary; we were married on 8/27/1914  
on Sept 8, 1895 and entered the United States at Cleveland, Ohio on Jan 9, 1912  
(8) I have three children, and the name, sex, date and place of birth, and present place of residence of each of said children who is living, are as follows:  
Bela, 11/24/1916, Cleveland Ohio, Now in U.S. Army  
Elizabeth, 11/23/1918, Cleveland Ohio, resides in Cleveland Ohio  
Steve, Jr., 6/30/1915, Carteret N.J., resides in Niagara Falls, N.Y.  
(9) My last place of foreign residence was Adrian, Hungary (10) I emigrated to the United States from Bremen, Germany  
at New York, N.Y. under the name of Miklos Papp (Istvan Papp) on Apr 24, 1912  
(11) Since my lawful entry for permanent residence I have not been absent from the United States, for a period or periods of 6 months or longer, as follows:

DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES			RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES		
PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE	PORT	DATE (Month, day, year)	VESSEL OR OTHER MEANS OF CONVEYANCE

(13) I have not heretofore made declaration of intention: No. --- on March 1920 at Cleveland  
Cuyahoga, Ohio in the US District Court

(14) It is my intention in good faith to become a citizen of the United States and to reside permanently therein. (15) I will, before being admitted to citizenship, renounce absolutely and forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which at the time of admission to citizenship I may be a subject or citizen. (16) I am not an anarchist, nor a believer in the unlawful damage, injury, or destruction of property, or sabotage, nor a disbeliever in (17) I certify that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of me and was signed by me.  
I do swear (affirm) that the statements I have made and the intentions I have expressed in this declaration of intention subscribed by me are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. SO HELP ME GOD.

Steven Papp  
Subscribed and sworn to (affirmed) before me in the form of oath shown above in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Cleveland, Ohio this 19th day of July, anno Domini 1915 hereby certify that Certification No. 176008 from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, showing the lawful entry for permanent residence of the declarant above named on the date stated in this declaration of intention, has been received by me, and that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of the declarant.

(S&A) Leonard F Fuerst  
Clerk of the Common Pleas Court.  
By Robert Deputy Clerk.

FORM N-415  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
(Edition of 11-1-11)