

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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P. O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA 02536
www.falgen.org

Newsletter
February – April 2010

President: Ralph Wadleigh
Editor: Janet Burt Chalmers
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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

Joint Meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Societies – November 14, 2009

Research Techniques for Genealogists & Breaking Through Brick Walls

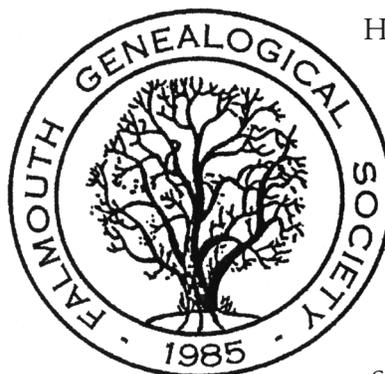
Presented by Michael LeClerc, NEHGS

by Ralph Wadleigh and Janet Chalmers

The Falmouth and Cape Cod genealogical societies held their third annual joint meeting on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at the West Barnstable Community Center. The program featured two excellent presentations by New England Historical and Genealogical Society staff member and eNews editor Michael J. LeClerc.

Michael's first presentation, titled "Research Techniques in Genealogy," focused on the importance of going to the original records. He encouraged us to go beyond the published vital records to search for such things as account books showing debits and credits, business records, farm records, undertakers' reports, doctors' reports of death, gravediggers' records and collections of

family papers. He indicated that in trying to establish a person in a time and place you discover his status and add a layer of texture to the image you hold.



He recommended using Family History Library films of town, church and probate records. He said that New England church records can sometimes help with baptisms, marriages and deaths (burial records). He said that "original returns of deaths" are documents filed by doctors and used by the town clerks to complete a death certificate. Sources such as old account books and diaries are records in appeals courts.

Michael's second talk was titled "Breaking Through Brick Walls in Genealogy." He noted that brick walls

Continued on page 2

Calendar of Meetings for 2009 – 2010

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Feb. 13 | Mary Lou Botelho – A Trip to the Azores to Find Ancestral Connections |
| Mar. 13 | Peter Cook – Preserving your family artifacts, photos, slides & videos – at Falmouth Senior Center |
| Apr. 10 | Drew Bartley, Mass. Society of Mayflower Descendants, "Out Migrations from Cape Cod" |
| May 8 | Michael Marx – "Advanced Googling for Genealogists" |
| Jun. 12 | Marion Pierre-Louise - "Don't Call Your Relatives, Let Them Call You!" |
| Jul. 10 | FGS Members – "Tales of our Ancestors" – stories of individual research |

Holiday Food Fair & Genealogical Swap – December 12, 2009

By Ralph Wadleigh

On Saturday December 12, 2009, FGS members and friends enjoyed a Holiday Food Fest and Swap. About a dozen members prepared holiday sweets and treats from ancestral family recipes. Each preparer gave a brief history of the recipe and the family member who first originated the dish. Needless to say, a delicious time was had by all. Some of the preparers were:

- Joyce Pendery – Christmas wreath cookies



Breaking Through Brick Walls

Continued from page 1

can be breached by writing up a sketch in Register style, summarizing all known info including source citations, documenting everything, then examining what's missing, and finally searching records that might fill in the missing links. Michael noted that research can be broadened by looking at siblings, parents, cousins and neighbors. He said to make sure to check all spelling variants and question everything. Try to see if anything you have might be wrong. He suggested you might even have too much information!!

He said that cemetery records can show lots of things: who else is buried with the family? Are their burials not marked with a stone? Not all stones survive.

Michael also suggested using maps from different times since political boundaries have changed.



- Judy Wadleigh – Grandmother Grace's devil's food cake.
- Ed Shibata – Inari Sushi
- John and Barbara Peri – roasted chestnuts, pfeffer-nuss, stuffed dates
- Jacqueline Webster - Dad's cookies, a traditional Canadian holiday cookie
- Marianne Shafer – Babush's Slovakian Nut Roll
- Bebe Brock – printouts of some family recipes



The reporter begs forgiveness since he knows a few recipes and dishes are not included above. He should have written them all down, but he was too busy eating! Thank you for all those who participated.

Continued on page 3

How to Search Records in the Barnstable County

Probate and Family Court – January 9, 2010

Presented by Anastasia Welsh Perrino, Barnstable County Register of Probate

by Janet Chalmers

Barnstable County Register of Probate Anastasia Welsh Perrino gave an informative presentation to members and guests at the Falmouth Genealogical Society meeting on January 9, 2010. The keeper of the records, she outlined how to view both Probate and Divorce records at 3195 Main Street in Barnstable. She encouraged people to search www.barnstablecountypfc.com and visit the Registry of Probate office Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30.

She handed out an outline highlighting the major points of presentation: 1) Probate Records, 2) Divorce Records, 3) Case Scanning, 4) Other types of cases in

the Probate and Family Court, and 5) Questions and Answers. This report is based on the information from that outline.

Talking first about probate records, Anastasia noted that records can be reviewed from 1637 to the present. She said that all records are public, unless there is a specific court order to impound the record. The red index books in the Registry of Probate office contain case numbers for probates by alphabetical order from 1638 to 1980. The card catalogues in the office contain information on probates from 1980 to 1991. After 1991, the records are in the office computer. No public records are online.

Continued on page 4



Holiday Food Fest & Exchange

Continued from page 2

The second part of the meeting featured an exchange of genealogical books, magazines, software and other tools deemed surplus by their owners. A number of books donated to FGS by the Janice Dorchester and already in the Falmouth Public Library collection, were auctioned for the benefit of the Society. Thanks to all who donated material for the swap.



From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

Greetings.

The first objective of The Falmouth Genealogical Society as contained in the bylaws is to promote an interest in genealogy and family history. Over the past few weeks, I have discovered two projects that will help us towards this mission. First, I was invited to join several other Falmouth organizations in a brainstorming meeting to focus on a project for which a grant would be sought from the National Parks Service through its Preserve America Program. You may recall that last fall Falmouth was the first Cape town to receive Preserve America status. Many worthy ideas were advanced, some of which involved cemeteries and local historical repositories. The grant would seek funds to plan a suitable tourism/history related project to celebrate the town's 325th birthday in 2011. A subcommittee is cur-

rently preparing a grant application. We will hear more of this in the coming months.

The second project to promote an interest in genealogy and family history is an opportunity to become an advisor to scouts seeking to achieve a genealogy merit badge. The genealogy merit badge requires a good deal of work and analysis and is a wonderful way to interest some younger persons in their history and in our field. Of course we need a volunteer or two to act as merit badge advisors to monitor the scouts as they work to meet the badge's requirements. If this is of interest to you, please let me know.

Participation in either or both of these projects will bring positive attention to FGS and will foster more interest in genealogy and family history.



Barnstable Probate Records

Continued from page 3

Divorce records may be viewed from 1922 to the present. All records are public except for any financial records in the divorce, which are only available to the parties or their attorneys. Also, court ordered guardian ad litem reports are impounded and not for public viewing. (These are reports ordered by the court and usually prepared by an independent social worker in the context of contested custody proceedings.)

The blue books in the Registry of Probate office contain divorce cases from 1922 to 1980, and the card catalogues in the office contain divorce information from 1980 to 1992. After 1992, all divorce information is contained in the computer. Anastasia noted that due to case volume, the Barnstable County Registry of Probate is looking to move older documents offsite.

Since January, 2009, the Registry of Probate office scans all documents in the computer that were filed after that date. Staff can readily access these documents without the need of pulling the file. In the future, the public will be able to access court documents from the computer;

however, this is a long time away as many of the probate and family court documents contain sensitive information.

Continued on page 5



Letter to the Editor

An elusive GRANDFATHER. For the past thirteen years we've been trying to find out where he went. The family "story" was – he was born on the boat coming from Sweden and died in the War. War records came up empty. We found his birth certificate in Brockton and have the marriage certificate to our grandmother.

Enter – Anastasia Welsh Perrino who spoke at the January 9th meeting on Probate Records, So – off to the courthouse we went and in his mother's will – pay-dirt – our GRANDFATHER and where he lived.

*Anne & Marilyn Carlson
Jan. 2010*

Genealogy of a House

by Shirley Dunkle

Although neither my husband nor I have any Barnstable County ancestors, our 200-year-old house in North Falmouth has a unique history and has required actions by the Probate Court several times.

This house was built about 1810 (or earlier) by the Nye family and occupied by James and Almira Nye and their three children, all of whom predeceased their parents. James died in 1871 at age 78.

The will of JAMES NYE, written Dec 1867 and probated Aug 8, 1871 declares: I, James Nye of Falmouth, County of Barnstable, State of Massachusetts, give and bequeath to the Congregational Church and Society in North Falmouth my house lot, dwelling house, and other buildings standing thereon, together with my garden and orchard adjoining, the same to be held, and used by them and their successors, for, and as a Parsonage forever, possession of the same to be had after the decease of my wife. And it is my desire that the said Church and Society keep said premises in good repair, the outlay to be met by the annual rental to be by them fixed and determined.” (clause 5)

The will of James Nye was duly proven and allowed by the Honorable Court on September 12, 1871.



Barnstable Probate Records

Continued from page 4

Anastasia said that there are many types of cases in the court other than probates and divorces. These cases include guardianship, conservatorship, paternity (out of wedlock birth), modifications of court orders, grandparent visitation, abuse prevention, change of name, and any type of equity matter.

All matters are public except for financial statements filed by the parties and out-of-wedlock birth cases prior to 1998. The court has general equity jurisdiction. If there is no statute or a remedy at law, the court has jurisdiction to hear the case. These cases are usually very interesting.

On June 18, 1872 the Honorable Court appointed Commissioners to make partition of all of the real estate of James Nye. The Commissioners did set-off to Almira Nye, widow of the said James Nye, certain real estate. The Commissioners partitioned the described real estate agreeable to the requisition of the will of James Nye, deceased.

The Honorable Court did enter a decree in August 1872 accepting, confirming and establishing that the premises be assigned as described and set-off to the several parties therein named.

Almira Nye died in 1890 at age 89. Her will was written May 13, 1888 and probated in 1890. There is no mention of the house in her will although she did leave money “for the support of the Gospel forever” to the church. She also left her husband’s pew, second pew from the front on the north side of the church, to her husband’s nephew Francis A. Nye. (You never know what interesting information you are going to find in probate records!)

The house was indeed the parsonage of the North Falmouth Church, occupied by nineteen ministers and their families, until 1958 when the church elders decided that it would be better to build a new parsonage closer to the church than to put a lot of money into much needed repairs and updating of this old house. About this time, we were looking for a fix-it-up house to buy. However, before the church could sell this house they had to petition the court to clarify the intent of James’ will.

Equity Petition in October 1958 to the Honorable Judge of the Probate Court in the County of Barnstable: The North Falmouth Congregational Church Trustees represent that under the will of James Nye, late of Falmouth, deceased, certain real estate was devised to the North Falmouth Congregational Church.

Your Petitioners further represent that the real estate in question has been kept and maintained by them since 1872 and is impractical for a parsonage and would require extensive renovations and that an advantageous

Continued on page 6

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



Falmouth Public Library has added some new books that may be of interest to our members.

I am reading *Social Networking for Genealogists* by Drew Smith. Drew is an academic librarian at University of South Florida

in Tampa and an expert in digital genealogy. His book writes about services available online which may be used by genealogists to share information with family and with other researchers.

The first chapters are a basic introduction with terminology. Each of the later chapters deals with a specific service such as message boards, blogs, wikis, even podcasts and “Facebook.” Author suggests how to set up free accounts to access areas of interest and possibly find fellow researchers. I am finding it quite educational as I have not been involved with these kinds of sites before.

It can be found at REF GENEALOGY 929.10285 SMI.

Other new titles are:

- The 2009 edition of *Ancestors of American Presidents* by Gary Boyd Roberts can be found at REF GENEALOGY 929.373 ANC. This is an update of the 1989 edition.
- The R-S volume of *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634-1635* can be found at REF GENEALOGY 929.274 AND / vol. 6.
- The *1858 Map of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket* can be found at REF ATLAS 912.744 EIG. The 1858 map was originally produced for display in government, civic and business offices.
- The *Greenwood Encyclopedia of Daily Life in America* can be found at REF 973.03 GRE. This is a four-volume set. Volume 1 covers the years 1763-1861; volume 2 covers the years 1861-1900; volume 3 covers 1900-1940; volume 4 covers 1940 to the present. The books may present some interesting information about the times our ancestors lived and increase our understanding of them.
- *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853* by Terrence M. Punch can be found at REF GENEALOGY 929.1072 PUN.



Genealogy of a House

Continued from page 5

offer has been received from William M. Dunkle, Jr. for the purchase of the premises described in the will of James Nye, for ten thousand eight hundred dollars. Your Petitioners are in doubt whether or not the clause in the will of James Nye and the subsequent partition proceedings have created a trust or an absolute gift to the Church of the real estate.

We pray that the Honorable Court construe and interpret the said clause of the will of James Nye and determine if a trust were created or if the said real estate was an absolute gift to the Church and further instruct us whether, if the said premises were an absolute gift to the Church, the petitioners may sell and convey the same and use the proceeds of such sale to build a new parsonage.

On the 10th of March 1959, the Probate Court in the County of Barnstable ordered and decreed that clause 5 of the will of James Nye be construed and interpreted as permitting the Church to rent or sell the premises; and the Court did hereby authorize, empower and direct the Church to sell and dispose of the existing Parsonage, free from any trusts, and to use the proceeds from such sale towards the purchase, erection and maintenance of a new Parsonage, which Parsonage shall be known as the James Nye Memorial Parsonage, to be held by the Church under the same terms as the Church holds its existing Parsonage.

Ground was broken for the new parsonage in October 1958 and the “nearly completed” home for the minister and his family was dedicated on Sunday, April 5th, 1959. We moved into the old parsonage on April 17th, 1959 and have been here ever since.

A Germany Trip

by Claire Arthur Wagner

My husband, Bob, is 1st generation American. His mother and father emigrated to the U.S. from Germany without family or knowing English. They came from different villages and did not meet for several years. Bob had never met his grandparents, aunts, uncles, or cousins, and had no contact after his parents died.

Our oldest daughter decided to do some family research as a Christmas gift to her dad about twenty years ago. Taking a chance on old addresses, she found some of each family. There has been contact ever since, and they have begged us to visit. Over a year ago, we began to talk about making that visit, and plans were set for July of last year.

We flew from Boston to Washington-Dulles to meet our daughter and granddaughter to fly together to Frankfurt where we were met by Joachim and Marian Schmitt. Joachim's grandfather and Bob's father were brothers. Joachim and their two daughters all spoke English, and had a dictionary handy to look up words they couldn't think of or understand from us.

The four days we stayed with them in Kindsbach were full of getting acquainted and touring, but the most important was meeting Joachim's brother and sister, and going to Labach where Bob's father was born. The house, though modernized, and the only church, (built around 1300), where the children undoubtedly were baptized, are still there. A neighbor remembered stories of the family, probably because Grandmother Wagner was widowed at a very young age and left to raise four boys and a girl by herself. Also, we saw the home of Bob's great grandmother. The church graveyard revealed markers of relatives.

We learned an interesting fact about the cemeteries in Germany: a family is only able to keep a plot for thirty years unless other family members are buried on top of the previous ones. Germany is small, and space for graveyards is scarce. Few stones have dates.

The second home we stayed in was in Tamm, near Stuttgart, with a cousin on Bob's mother's side. Birgit's mother is Bob's first cousin. Birgit, her husband, and

two daughters all speak English, and also had a dictionary handy. After several days of getting acquainted and touring, this family took us to the home of a first cousin, Elisabeth, and her husband, Werner, in Rossbrunn. They do not speak English, but with the help of their two grandchildren and Birgit's family, we got along just fine.

From this home, it was a short drive to Hettstadt where Bob's mother was born. Her home had few changes, so was easy to recognize. On another street we stopped at two homes owned by Bob's mother's maternal grandmother's family. They had not expected us, and were so excited they had to bring out a tray of schnapps at 10:30 in the morning for a toast. They, also, had a scrapbook with a picture of Bob's mother. The church was nearby, with a graveyard all around, and many family markers. Elisabeth told us there is an unspoken competition of who has the prettiest garden around the family stone.

At the end of our visit, Elisabeth and Werner hosted a party for as many family members as were able to attend. There were eight first cousins, some spouses, children, and three grandchildren. Most did not speak English, but enough did that we got along very well. Bob took a stack of unmarked family pictures with us, and some were identified. He learned some medical history, stories about his mother, and corrections were made on the family lineage chart. We, also, heard how grateful the families were for the care packages during and after the War.

We will never forget the kindness and generosity of everyone we met. They made us feel comfortable immediately, and treated us like royalty. They were so pleased that we made the effort to visit, and said what a blessing it was. Bob has learned to do translations through Google, so we are in closer touch with many of the families.

**March 13th meeting
will be at the
Falmouth Senior Center**

FGS Welcomes New Members

#381 Maureen Macklin, 5 Melrose Avenue, Falmouth, is researching Ayres, Sayre, Dowd, Harlow, Franke, McMillan, Waite, and Daniels in Northeastern U.S. and England, Ireland, and Germany.

#382 Mary Lou Botelho, 3 Starfish Lane, East Falmouth, is researching Botelho, Medeiros, Souza, Tavares, and Sabino in Sao Miguel, Azores, and Martins in Pico, Azores, in the time period 1850-1900.

#383 Paul Riemer, 64 Streeter Hill Road, North Falmouth, is researching Riemer/Dumschott in Russia, Poland, and Germany in the 1800s, Ryan/Collins of Ireland before 1910, Perry/Butterworth in New England and Virginia, Caruthers/Nye in New England to Oklahoma, and Blackburn/Simmons in Virginia.

#385 Marilyn McMillan, 5 Melrose Avenue, Falmouth, is researching the same families as #381, Maureen Macklin.



Census Takers Needed For Cape Cod

An urgent call has come from the Federal Census Office Manager for Cape Cod, for recruits to come forward for involvement in the enumeration of the 2010 Census. The Hyannis office, serving Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, needs over 1500 applicants for conducting interviews with community residents who do not return the mailed census questionnaires that will appear in mailboxes on April 1 this year. Schedules are flexible and individuals can work weekends and evenings near their homes. Pay averages \$15 per hour, and any driving mileage can be reimbursed. Interested persons are asked to call 866-861-2010 to schedule an appointment to take the required employment test. The federal government is trying very hard to have a complete 100% count of the population this year. This role could be highly interesting to genealogists in terms of gaining insight into the process and possible errors that can occur in all census-taking; this work in turn will help genealogists to further understand how to interpret and consider the veracity of past censuses that they are using in their own family research.

#386 Phyllis Day, 126 Old Barnstable Road, East Falmouth, is researching Doherty and Logue from Malin Head, Ireland, Whelan (Whalen) and Killoran from Ireland, and Martel from Prince Edward Island (French Mi'kmaq).

#387 Jennifer Herlihy Rakeman, 16 Joy Street, Barrington, Rhode Island, is researching Dimmick/Dimmeck in Falmouth/Barnstable in 1620-1760.

#388 Courtenay Barber III, 6 Crown Avenue, Falmouth, is researching the Robert Williams Watson family of New Jersey and New York and the Adeline Finnigan family of Northern Ireland.

#389 Arden Edwards, P. O. Box 41, Woods Hole, is researching Edwards in Scotland and Neill and Snedecker in Ireland.

#390 Joan Croce, 107 Harriette Road, East Falmouth, is researching the Dr. Micah Allen family of Pembroke/Halifax back to George Allen; and in Nebraska, a James M. Smith family of Hastings, back to Richmond, VA.

#391 Linda Louise George, 178 Brick Kiln Road, East Falmouth, is researching Gallerani of Italy.



In Memoriam



Dorothy E. (Lefevre) Sandlin, age 90, of Teaticket, died Sunday, Jan. 24, 2010, at her home after a long illness. A life-long resident of Falmouth, hers was a familiar face at Falmouth Genealogical Society meetings where she greeted members and guests as she took care of the society's nametags.

Dorothy was FGS member #23, a Life member who joined in 1985, the year that is on the FGS logo.



Mark Your Calendars for NERGC

Mark your calendars now for NERGC 2011 to be held from 6 to 11 April 2011 at the Sheraton and Marriott hotels in Springfield, MA. FGS is a sponsoring partner in this conference and we will surely benefit if we personally take part. Join in the fun!

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Program Notes From Meetings

My Journey to the Azores and Family – February 13

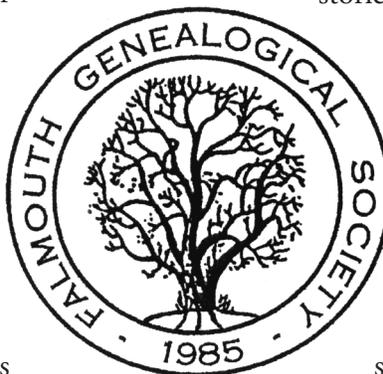
Presented by Mary Lou Botelho, FGS

by Mary Lou Botelho

In 1941, my family moved from East Falmouth to Woods Hole to live on the Janney Estate. My father became the caretaker of the property for the next 16 years. The caretaker's house had two bedrooms; I shared one with my grandmother Vovo Medeiros. She would take out her sewing from a basket that she had carried from the Azores. This small basket contained all her possessions when she sailed to this country to work in the mills of New Bedford. I still have her basket. Often I would listen to her tell her thoughts and stories while I lay in my bed dropping off to sleep. This was the start of my journey to the Azores.

I grew up living in two cultures. The first was my household which spoke Portuguese, made trips to visit relatives, attended Portuguese Masses with the usual baptisms, marriages, and funerals, and enjoyed the yearly festivals. I made weekly visits to my Grandparents Martin's home in Waquoit. One memory I have is my grandfather telling me that someone from the town hall had visited him to ask if it would be alright

to name the street where he lived Martin Road. The arrival of summer with the Janney grandchildren and the freedom to play and explore was what I always waited for during the long winter months. I was included in all the activities of this summer family and listened to their stories of family history.



In the early 1970s, Jo-Ann Leaf and I were team teachers at the East Falmouth Elementary School. We discovered that the materials about the history of the first Plymouth families truly did not give the students an excitement and passion for learning and inquiring about this topic. So for the next 34 years we assigned each student an actual name of one of the original Pilgrims. For one day they were that person and lived in their shoes. Often some of our students would actually trace their family to one of the Pilgrims.

These events had an impact on me. What about my family roots? Where did my family come from? What

Continued on page 2

Calendar of Meetings for 2009 – 2010

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- | | |
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Preserving Your Family Artifacts, Photos, Slides & Videos – March 13

Presented by Peter Cook

Peter Cook, from Explorations Unlimited LLC - a Falmouth company that specializes in videography, copying tapes to DVD and duplication, spoke to the Falmouth Genealogical Society about preserving photos, slides, film and video tape in digital formats.

Peter emphasized that people should make multiple copies of their photographs and documents and file them in several different places. He made it clear that as technology changes people should upgrade their digital files. He said that tapes, film, floppy disks, CDs and DVDs all have limited shelf life.

Chemical breakdown is why various media fail and why valuable information should be stored in several ways. He noted that for valuable paper copies it is worth using acid-free paper. Also, one should consider buying a media safe to protect against fire, etc.

Blank CD/DVDs are highly variable in their long-term reliability. Store brands may last only eight years, but the Taiyo Yuden CDs Peter uses have been tested to last 25 years.

He said that a simple photo editor, such as Picasa, can restore colors, crop, etc.

One other tip that Peter had for folks with lots of slides that they want digitized, is to simply take a digital photo of each slide when it is projected on a wall. It's fast and cheap and with photo software, the image may even be improved!

Peter brought examples of tapes and the work he has done to copy them for clients along with machinery he uses to copy tapes and slides to DVD and CD. His website is www.explorationsunlimited.biz.



My Journey to the Azores and Family

Continued from page 1

was the Azores? As the years went by some of my husband's siblings and my cousin and her father made trips to the Azores. My husband Franklin and I were busy with our family and careers. But we were given pictures of family and listened to family stories. When it was time to retire, one of my goals was to visit the Azores.

On March 7, 2007, Franklin, our son John, along with Ken and Bev White, cousins to Franklin, and I boarded a SATA plane late at night. We flew for four and half hours through four time zones, landing on the island of Sao Miguel, one of the nine islands that is a part of the Azores. These islands are about 900 miles off the coast of Portugal. It is the only place in Europe that grows pineapple and tea. From the air you are able to see the emerald green islands of the Azores. We flew to the island of Terceira and spent a few days touring and enjoying the island. It was at this time that Franklin and I discovered that our Portuguese language of our childhood allowed us to be understood. We felt at home.

We flew back to Sao Miguel and spent four days touring and getting down to the serious business of looking

for our family roots. I arrived armed with photos and information about my husband's family. Thanks to the effort of James Gould, Franklin's brother Daniel Botelho, and my research, we had the names of the villages where his father Luciano and first cousins lived. We were able to find Franklin's cousins, and visit the church that his great-grandfather Francisco Souza Tavares built. His picture is displayed at the entrance to the church. In the village of Maia we were able to find the house where Franklin's father Luciano was born. We located the house of his mother Deolinda Botelho's parents, Joseph and Maria Souza Tavares.

I carried a slip of paper written by my mother, Olive Medeiros Martin, with an address and description of the road where her father lived. In the village of Vila Franca do Campo, I found the street of my grandfather Joseph T. Medeiros. She had written the wrong village but, after a visit to the village post office, I found the road and her description of the statue of King Henry that was at the end of the road.

A visit to the tea factory museum in Porto Formoso brought me to tears. I saw on display baskets exactly like

Continued on page 3

My Journey to the Azores and Family

Continued from page 2

the one my grandmother kept her sewing materials in. After finding the person in charge of the museum, I was told that those baskets were used to carry the food for the men who worked in the fields. My great-grandfather must have sent her to America with his basket.

There was not enough time to do all the discovering we needed to do, so on April 22, 2009, we once again flew to the Azores with Ken and Bev White. This time we flew from Sao Miguel to the island of Faial. This island had an off-shore volcano eruption in 1957 which covered a village. We toured this island and one day took the ferry to the island of Pico.

Pico is the island of my father's family, Martin and Rose Perry. I had discovered that our family names are spelled differently in the Azores; they are Martins and Rosa Pereira. Once again, armed with the research of James Gould and myself, along with the address from Aunt Mary Lawrence, I looked for my roots. We traveled to the town of Monte de Cima. At a small village store I met an old woman who led me to the Rosa Pereira house of my grandmother. Grandma Louise Rose Perry Martin had told me of walking up a hill to her house and slipping in the rain. The house is up a small hill and to the right. Sadly it is in ruins. I collected a small amount of dirt and pieces of tile to take home with me. I placed some on the graves of my grandparents at St. Anthony's cemetery and on my great-grandparents' graves at St. Joseph's cemetery.

On the south shore of the island of Pico is the town of Lajes de Pico, the home of the Martin family. My great-grandfather and grandfather came to America on the whaling ships working as seamen. There is a whaling museum in the village and I asked to see the records of the ships that sailed out of that small port. I was told that those records were not available for the public but that they knew of a place that kept the best records – New Bedford, Massachusetts in the United States! As we flew from Faial, we viewed the top of the mountain on Pico Island above the clouds. It is the highest mountain in all of Portugal.

We arrived for a second visit to the island of Terceira to meet with a Botelho cousin of Franklin's family. On our first visit we were unaware that we had family on

that island. Franklin's cousin has a young family with a cute seven-year-old boy. The father works in the Azores Department of Culture. He is in charge of the monies that are given to people who do reconstruction on their property. If owners are willing to follow the government's plan of construction to preserve the history, they will be reimbursed 50 percent of the costs. He proudly gave us a private tour of his office in the 1500-year-old governor's palace.

We spent the last few days on a second visit to the island of Sao Miguel. This time I had more information on my mother's Medeiros family. I had discovered that my Grandfather Medeiros had a brother who was a priest in the village of Ponte Garca. After talking to the village men sitting across from the church, I discovered that the church had two side altars dedicated in my great-uncle's name. My mother and her brother Joseph had referred to him as Uncle Sheik. I discovered that his name was Francisco Medeiros Simas. Now I understand the confusion of the name Simas changing with the generations here in the States. Since he was a priest he had a family vault in the cemetery which when opened had pictures and names of family. The cemeteries do not expand and the decomposed remains are removed after a period of years as members are buried in the same plot.

We traveled to the village of Achadinha to find the home of Vovo Maria Branco Medeiros, my grandmother. While traveling to her village I thought of her basket and the story she told me of walking as a child with her father across the island and being handed over to a man. He walked her to the seaport and handed her to a woman who sailed with her on the boat to New Bedford to work in the mills. My cousin Patricia Thrasher and her father Joseph Medeiros had paid a visit to this village many years ago. Pat gave me a picture of our grandmother's house. With this picture I was able to find the house. As luck would have it, it was empty, ready to be sold. The neighbor had a key and opened the house. The original part of the house was at the back of the building. I was able to touch and take pictures of the lava rock oven and see where my Vovo lived as a child.

We stayed in the capital city of Porto Delgada. Franklin had brought with him his father Luciano Botelho's military papers. We went to the Fort de Sao Bras where

Continued on page 4

They Went That-a-Way: Out-Migration from Cape Cod – April 10

Presented by Scott Andrew Bartley

by Nancy Hayward

Scott Andrew Bartley of the Mayflower Library in Plymouth spoke to the Falmouth Genealogical Society on April 10 about outward migration from Cape Cod.

Mr. Bartley gave a handout with a bibliography of books about the out-migration from Cape Cod and an outline of his talk.

He introduced the topic of general migration by showing an old map of the eastern coastline of what would become the United States. It showed “Grants to London & Plymouth Companies of VA 1606” and “Council of New England 1620.” The land was divided along straight lines of North latitude at 34° - 38° (Jamestown), 38° - 40° (Neutral), 40° - 41° (New England), and 45° - 48° (ME, etc.).

Mr. Bartley said that understanding migration patterns at various times gives an indication of where a relative might have headed, although early migrations were minimal. Unless they were indigenous Indians, they were migrating into or out of Cape Cod. There were several reasons to migrate and several ways to do so. Reasons could include lack of space, price of land, climatic conditions (floods, droughts, etc.) which might have affected the food supply. One specific climatic con-

dition he mentioned was a year when it snowed every month of the year (1816-1817) causing crop failure.

There were general migrations and point to point migrations. Politics, religious issues and wars caused and/or interrupted migration. Beside the Plymouth Colony there were two separate colonies in Connecticut, and the Rhode Island colony was separate. There was also an “Oblong” in New York state (on the west side of the Hudson River) south of today’s Albany and north of New York City with settlements (Westchester, Dutchess & Putnam Counties). Settlers could migrate out of the Plymouth Colony by road, by water or by ice, which was frequently done. By 1700 there were “turnpikes” (well-traveled roads) making travel easier.

Several wars in the 17th and 18th centuries affected the colonists and interrupted migrations. Pequot War was in 1637. King Philip’s War (1675-1676) killed 5% of the settlers and 40% of the Indians. Migrations pulled back into original settlements. 1688 - 1697 was William’s War to the north and west between France and Britain. Nova Scotia and Newfoundland were affected by this. Queen Anne’s war (related to the Spanish succession), and the Seven Years War (a.k.a. French & Indian War,

Continued on page 5



My Journey to the Azores and Family

Continued from page 3

he had served in 1918. Franklin donated the papers to the fort for their exhibit. Attached to the fort is a museum that was created in 1993. Their guide states that the purpose of this museum is to “collect, preserve an exhibit of all human artifacts related to the military history of the Azores.”

We spent the last night of our visit with the Botelho family at their village in the house of Franklin’s Uncle Carlos Botelho. Since his passing, his daughter has moved into the house along with her family. Many of the relatives who were milking cows took time to stop by and greet us before going back out to the fields. They had a family dinner for us with all the cousins. A huge

table was set up in the living room and the younger generation ate in the kitchen. They had pizza while we ate a typical Azorean meal.

Both Franklin and I were born here in Falmouth. We attended the Falmouth schools, worked in the town fire and school departments, brought up our two sons here, and have retired. Our town has always given us a respect and appreciation for family and history. This influence was the driving force for us to search for our family background and discover our ancestors. There are still lots more to discover about our families. Another trip back to the islands and more research is our plan. I read once that we are remembered as long as someone says or reads our name. This is the mission of genealogy and the respect we can give our ancestors.

From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

It's been a busy winter for your Society. We have had some interesting monthly meetings, a few good trips to Boston and lots of visitors to our Tuesday workshops. We have also finished twenty years of *Falmouth Enterprise* obituary indexing. Not bad for our little company of seekers! With the warmer weather coming on we'll be able to continue work on the Cemetery Transcription Project, especially the photography side of it. I would encourage all of you to help out with our activities. I would also encourage you to make suggestions in the realm of genealogical-related activities which could help the membership or the community as a whole.

I can think of two things that each of you could do right now. First help out with the census – by now you

should have sent your card in, but some of us are now working for the census and will need support. Second, be on the alert for legislative moves to block access to vital records. They are constantly popping up and they all seem to have unintended consequences. During this legislative session no less than seven bills were introduced having genealogical issues. The Massachusetts Genealogical Council monitors these developments on our behalf. FGS is a proud member of this council. You can follow its work on its website www.massgencouncil.org.

As always, I appreciate your comments and feedback. Be sure to plan to attend our upcoming monthly meetings. They always are a good place to network and learn.



Out-Migration from Cape Cod

Continued from page 4

1754-1763) affected migrations mightily.

After the end of the French and Indian War, Albany became the center of a circle which would transcribe the direction migrations took. Westward expansion extended to about a line down through the Appalachian Mountains. Cape Codders got introduced to other parts of the country. Mr. Bartley suggested that on-line old newspapers might be a source of useful information for research. After the French and Indian War people saw newspaper ads for land elsewhere. He said that he thought “migraters” probably rented land before they bought. He mentioned major social change, land price increases and the snowy year. He said that the Revolutionary War stopped all migration.

Mr. Bartley said that reading someone's travel experience might have encouraged migration. In 1787 the first travel guide was written. One slide showed land for sale in New York state in 1819. Migration occurred on major rivers. In 1839 in Philadelphia, H.S. Tanner published “American Traveler.” It had a 1720 map of New England showing migration patterns. Quakers from Sandwich, Falmouth and Nantucket moved

to New Jersey and the southern colonies. A “District of Maine” migration map showed there were Maine settlements before the French and Indian War. Western Massachusetts opened up to migration after the Treaty of 1763 at the end of the French and Indian War. One creative census enumerator added a unique column headed “From whence they came.”

In the 1740s an unmapped area of New York state showed Cape Cod settlers. In 1759 (during the French and Indian War), the Acadians were ejected from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, then those areas were advertised to south-east Massachusetts residents. Some people migrated there but returned to Massachusetts later. In the 1770s the Tories (the Loyalists) were vanquished. Vermont took their land. In 1787-1788 journals were being published by Jabez Fitch who traveled in New England. Rivers and canals took New Englanders West. In the 1780s - 1790s many people left Cape Cod because of political and religious strife.

Mr. Bartley suggested that researchers search court records, consider crop failures/weather conditions. He noted that war stopped fishing. He suggested that in looking at church records one look at baptism records, admission and dismissal records and the business records of the church as some memberships are there.

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



I read an interesting article in the April 2010 issue of *Smithsonian*. It was "Ireland's Forgotten Sons" by Abigail Tucker. Amateur archeologists William and Frank Watson uncovered a mass grave near Malvern, PA.

A railroad company document found in a file belonging to their grandfather, who had worked for the railroad, led them on this search. The file of documents and letters collected during an internal investigation in 1909 wrote of an 1832 cholera outbreak. The outbreak occurred among a construction crew working on Mile 59 of the Philadelphia-Columbia line.

On Mile 59 workers had to level a hill and use the excavated material to fill in a nearby valley to level the ground for the horse-drawn railroad. Workers came from rural areas of northern Ireland to perform this punishing labor. In the summer of 1832 cholera swept the Philadelphia area. The workers fled their shanty town, but local area homeowners fearing contamination turned them away. The men returned to the camp where many died and were buried in a mass grave.



Cape Cod Genealogical Society Plans Research Trip To Boston

The Cape Cod Genealogical Society is sponsoring a research bus trip to Boston on Wednesday, May 19, 2010.

The destinations are the Boston Public Library and the NEHGS Library. The price is \$35.00, and all are welcome.

More details about the trip and a registration are online on the CCGS Website at <http://blog.capecodgensoc.org/>. Look for Bus Trip in the list of Topics on the right. You can also call Ellen Geanacopoulos at 508-432-5469.

Identifying the remains was difficult because these workers were not listed in records of that time.

The passenger list of the *John Stamp* which came from Ireland to Philadelphia in the spring of 1832 may be the best source for identification. The passenger list was compared to later census records to identify "missing" immigrants. One of the skulls was that of a teenager with a genetic dental abnormality. John Ruddy of Donegal was a teenager. Later research showed the dental abnormality in a current Ruddy family of Donegal.

The Watsons are raising funds for DNA testing of the skull and the current Ruddy family. If there is a match, the skeleton will be sent to Ireland to be buried with the family. I found the use of the same research tools to identify the skeleton that we use to find our ancestors interesting.



FGS Welcomes New Member

#392 Gail Donkin of Cataumet.

Exploring New Paths to Your Roots

11th New England Regional Genealogical Conference



**6-10 April 2011
Springfield, Massachusetts**

Featuring over 50 genealogical experts and 100 informative lectures, workshops, the Ancestors Road Show, Librarians and Teachers Day, and popular Special Interest Groups.

National Speakers



John Philip Colletta

Entertaining, knowledgeable and experienced, John Philip Colletta is a popular lecturer. For 21 years he taught workshops at the National Archives and courses for the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Colletta is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. His publications include articles, two manuals, and one "murder-mystery-family-history."



Paul Milner

Paul Milner, a native of northern England, is a professional genealogist and lecturer. Paul has specialized in British Isles genealogical research for 30 years. He is the author of several books on English and Scottish genealogical research. He has been designing workshops and lecturing to a wide variety of audiences for over 35 years.

**More information at
www.nergc.org**

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 2107
Teaticket, MA 02536-2107

Membership dues for fiscal year 2011 (1 June 2010 to 31 May 2011) of \$20.00 are due and payable now. Dues cover a spouse's membership and include a subscription to the newsletter, printed and mailed, or e-mailed as a PDF (Portable Document Format) file or both.

If you care to add a gift, it will help the Society in acquiring new CDs and books to aid your research. The Falmouth Genealogical Society is a 501(c)(3)-charitable/educational organization, and thus all donations and gifts to the Society are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Annual membership fee (\$20 per household)	\$ _____
Gift to the Society general funds	\$ _____
Gift to the Cemetery Transcription Project	\$ _____
Total amount enclosed	\$ _____

Permanent address (Unless information has changed since last year, **Name(s)** are sufficient.)

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I prefer my newsletter by (check one only) regular mail e-mail both regular mail and e-mail.

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Circle the months during which the temporary address is in effect:

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Suggestions for the Board _____

Opportunities to help the Society:

1. Cemetery Transcription Project: Contact Donna Walcovy (508-477-1947 or d.quenzenel@comcast.net) for details.
2. Membership Chair (Solicit new members and follow up on old members).
3. Associate Editor (Take and write program notes for the Newsletter).
4. Meeting Room Chair (set-up and restoration of the meeting room).

If you can help out, please talk to President Ralph Wadleigh (508-548-3408 or whplar@comcast.net).

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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www.falgen.org

Newsletter
August – October 2010

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 *Advanced Googling for Genealogists – May 8, 2010*

Presented by Michael Marx

from an article provided by Michael Marx by Carol Bogin and printed in the June 2008 Mass-Pocha newsletter

Michael Marx gave a presentation on the advanced capabilities of the Google Web-search tool. His talk was thorough, stimulating and easily understandable by non-experts. He showed that Google can do far, far more than the simple searches most of us are familiar with. For example, Google searches can not only include pages on which search terms appear but can also exclude pages on which other specified terms appear. It can search for complete phrases as well as individual terms, and it can search for pages where search terms appear near each other, not just anywhere on the entire page. Google can automatically include or exclude terms that are similar to ones that are specified (e.g., “car” and “truck” for “auto”) or are different grammatical forms (e.g., plurals). It can search for pages on which numbers

appear within a specified range of values (e.g., a range of years), and it can even be a powerful calculator (including unit conversions).

Searches can be limited

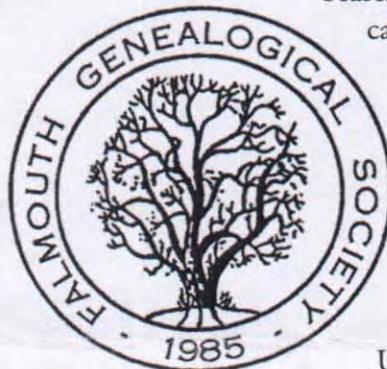


FGS members Ed Shibata and Janet Chalmers join speaker Michael Marx following his presentation. Photo by Ralph Wadleigh.

to a specific Web domain or to pages that have links to a specified domain.

Michael’s examples concentrated on the benefits of targeted searches for genealogical research, but the techniques apply to any type of search, for any information.

Using many examples, he explained how to create effective searches, and he demonstrated tips and tricks for efficient research.



Calendar of Meetings for 2009 – 2010

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- Aug. 14 Getting Started in Genealogy Workshop
- Sept. 11 Roy Cardozo – Portuguese Genealogical Records
- Oct. 9 Janis Duffy – Using Collateral Lines to Build Your Family Tree
- Nov. 13 Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society – Michael LeClerc of NEHGS
- Dec. 11 Annual Holiday Food Festival

Don't Call Your Relatives – Let Them Call You – June 13, 2010

Presented by Marian Pierre-Louis, Fieldstone Historic Research

by Sallie Giffin

Our speaker for the June 12, 2010 program began by challenging us to consider more modern and faster ways to get in touch with distant relatives – either known or unknown. Marian noted that her talk was slanted toward the genealogy and moderately web savvy but after a show of hands discovered that many of those present used web access for their research. She suggested that she would convince us to consider creating a blog which would open our access to research and distant cousins and to gather important information about our relatives that we might never get by using old-fashioned methods.

Marian pointed out that in the 1960s genealogical work was done primarily by letter writing, talking to relatives and such things as looking through hard copies of telephone books. As she pointed out, this was time-consuming and you were depending upon people who were already known as possibly having information to help in your research. Marian believed that today we need to seek out new people who have information that can help us with our research and provide connections to others who can help us, and we can also quickly help others in their research.

Marian suggested that initially the best way to begin is to get a blog. One could also use or acquire a web-site and domain name but this requires more technical knowledge. The remainder of her talk concentrated on getting a blog, how to use a blog, safety concerns in using a blog, how to write a blog, and how to protect your interests if you were planning to turn your research into a manuscript.

To begin a blog site, go to Blogger.com – <http://www.blogger.com> or a second choice would be WordPress – <http://www.WordPress.com> Setting up your blog page is very simple.

Marian offered suggestions about how to develop your blog after setting it up. She suggested that you think big and write small; break big topics into segments and separate pages so that each blog is one or two paragraphs and no more than two to three photos on a page. She

also advised that photos should include text so that the photo can be identified when viewed later. She advised not to show footnotes, include GED files or indicate sources but to share those individually upon request. She also advised that contributions and photo credits should be acknowledged as an appropriate thank you to those who provided important information to you.

As for topics to include in a blog, one might share family stories, share research successes, share old family photos, share family trees, a family diary or information found in a family bible. To attract cousins with an interest in a particular surname, write about that side of the family, indicate brick walls and include full family names and geographic locations to help cousins find you. And finally, you should update your blog at least once a week so that those distant cousins can easily find you.



FGS Welcomes New Members

- #393. Avis A. Grosslein of Falmouth, researching Aspelund of Norway in < 1870s, Grosslein of Germany in <1850s, L. Hesse or Hess in Milwaukee, b. 1885.
- #394. Charles & Janet Snyder of E. Falmouth, researching Snyder, 1890-1915; Schlegal, 1900s; Schulteis, mid-1900s; Betts, 1900s
- #395. George & Barbara Webber of Mashpee, researching Webster, Tuttle, and Langley in NH, Webber in Newfoundland, all >1600.
- #396. Gerald N. Fosdick of Bettendorf, IA, reseaching Fosdick, Hammond, Folger in MA, NY, CT, NJ, NYC and England, Germany, Ireland.
- #397. Mary Barry & Keith Schwegel of Clifton, NJ, and Falmouth, researching Barry; Hackett; Murphy; Andersen; and Joubert.
- #399. Allan Moniz of Falmouth, searching for Figueiredo/ Farro of Continental Portugal, Ideal Restaurant of Woods Hole, Gonsalves on Palmer Ave, James E Donovan, coachman, Dedham/Falmouth; Lawrence Minot, 24 Charles Street, Boston; Minot/Olney on Mill Road, Fay/ Carl Carlson/Beebe/Eldridge of Falmouth. All connected. All circa 100 years ago.

Favorite Ancestors: Pioneer Woman, Family Names, Falmouth Family Autograph Book – July 10, 2010

by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

Four members of Falmouth Genealogical Society presented fascinating vignettes about a favorite ancestor or family surname. Photographs, artifacts, and/or charts accompanied each lively presentation at the July meeting.

Barbara Peri's great grandmother, Ann Augusta West, was born in Defiance, Ohio, in 1844, daughter of Calvin West, a teacher who was very religious, and his wife Elizabeth (Hudson) West. Ann had three younger siblings. Following family members who had already "gone West," Calvin first went to southwest Oregon, via the Isthmus of Panama in 1853, leaving his family in Ohio. The next year he returned to Ohio to get his family. During the return voyage he contracted cholera and died, leaving his widow to go on to Oregon alone, where family members had already settled. Barbara showed photos of the West family.

Ann Augusta West, a precocious child, began teaching at age 14 and at age 15 started her own school. Barbara showed a gold watch and chain Ann bought with her savings from teaching. She married Gaius Webster in 1870, and in 1871 the couple moved to Coos Bay, Oregon, where they had four children. Because of the damp coastal climate, they moved on to Santa Cruz, California and later, to Paso Robles. Her husband, a lawyer, was a successful business man, politician, and legislator, while Ann was a vocal advocate for Woman's Suffrage, women's rights, and temperance. In addition, she always had a positive effect on the cultural life of the communities where the family lived.

Gaius Webster died in 1904, while Ann Augusta lived to 1923. Her two sons, who became lawyers in California, followed in the footsteps of Ann and Gaius as champions of issues that deeply concerned them.

Bob Rice discussed "DNA and a Welshman." By projecting a map of Europe, he showed the varying concentrations of Y Haplogroup II taken from a Population Genetics' study. He concluded that the surname Rice probably could not have originated in Wales or Eastern Ireland, but could have originated in East Anglia, Eng-

land. This contrasts with folklore that the surname Rice originated in Wales because of the prevalence of the surname Rhys there, a name the conquering English could not pronounce. In his 1858 genealogy, *The Descendants of Edmund Rice, 1638-9*, author Andrew Ward stated that Rice was a Welsh surname.

Bob's conclusion was: "YDNA analyses of living male Rice descendants of Edmund Rice have a distinct Y Haplotype that is included in the I1 Haplogroup, which is not found in other Rice families, and in fact YDNA studies for most if not all surnames clearly show that none of them apparently have unique origins in Great Britain, at least."

Mary Barry presented all the information she has recently found about her grandfather whom she never knew. John James Barry was born in Brooklyn in 1886 and died in Falmouth in 1936. Mary simultaneously presented a slide show of family photos of John Barry. The Barry family has summered in Falmouth for many years, but she only knew that her grandfather had bought a set of Encyclopedia Britannica in 1929; owned a huge stamp collection including complete Graf Zeppelin plate blocks; had chauffeured for a wealthy family in Woods Hole; had owned a garage; and was buried in St. Joseph Cemetery.

In Falmouth during the summer of 2005, she began exploring local resources, beginning with vital records and suggestions of FGS members at the Tuesday afternoon Help Sessions in the library. She learned that her ancestor had two sisters and that John's father (the caretaker of the Marshall Estate in Quissett) died when John was 13. John attended Falmouth schools and played on the Falmouth football team that was Champion of the Cape Cod League in 1904. While a student at Falmouth High School, John Barry also worked at Crocker's garage on Main Street. One day Henry K Dyer of Denison Paper Company came into the garage looking for a driver of his new Pierce Arrow. He hired John, who then worked for H.K. Dyer for more than nine years

Continued on page 4

Secondary Contributions of DNA Studies to Genealogy

by Bob Rice

Although YDNA analysis' main contribution to genealogy is in clarifying specific surname lines it also provides insightful help in a more general way. That is in debunking family lures of origins particularly in Europe including the British Isles. Or it could conceivably put such folklore on a firm basis. It has been about ten years since the first companies were formed to analyze DNA for genealogists and we now have results for almost two hundred thousand of such analyses, including over 36,000 for 67 markers all from FTDNA.

Since I have been associated with my Rice family's DNA project from the start I will use those results but refer to several other family DNA studies that are readily available on the FTDNA YDNA database that is available to anyone. The Family Tree DNA Company still has the overwhelming majority of YDNA results among a

dozen or more such firms. In fact they claim ninety percent of the total genealogical DNA work in the world. Their many DNA projects are to be seen at ftdna.com.

First of all it is now apparent that many (probably most) surnames do not have single origins. This had been a contention of some professional genealogists. They thought that if one were to track down a surname back to its origin particularly in England and take into account the variety of spellings for a given surname all those families or nearly all would be found to have one locale sometime in the century when surnames began to be generally used for ordinary folk say 1200 AD. In fact one of the very first papers published using YDNA to trace a surname suggested a very specific locale in Yorkshire, England for the origin of the surname Sykes. That

Continued on page 5



Favorite Ancestors

Continued from page 3

at his homes: "The Anchorage" on Penzance Point in Woods Hole; and 77 Lefferts Place in Brooklyn, NY. On April 6, 1909, John married Norwegian Marie Anderson who also worked for the Dyers. Eventually John moved his family to Falmouth and owned Falmouth Motor Car on Main Street for 24 years, and he was a member of the Falmouth Fire Department for 19 years. Mary was amazed to find so much of her family history along Falmouth's Main Street!

Marianne Lockwood Shafer talked about her great grandmother Mary Lyman Lockwood's autograph book from 1875-1879, showing slides of several of the autographs with their poems and dates. Mary was born in 1862. Marianne's research indicates that autograph books go back to 1545, after the publication of the Gutenberg Bibles. University students would have their classmates and instructors sign their personal Bibles. Later came friendship books, autograph books, year-books, and finally autograph books.. Marianne projected several of pages from Mary Lyman's book, read the poems, and commented on the significance of several signers and the maturity level of their lovely cursive

handwriting. Each summer, during Mary's school years, Marianne's Lyman ancestors left their home in Brooklyn, NY, to vacation at a boarding house east of Peekskill, NY, on a farm owned by Elijah Lee Lockwood. There Mary was courted by his son, her future husband, Elijah Judson Lockwood.

The verses, some copied from a volume of short poems, included:

*May your virtue ever shine,
Like the blossoms on a pumpkin vine.*
Apr. 20, 1875, L.W. White

And the puzzling poem, signed Rome, Dec. 14th, 1876, P.W.G.:

*Yawa sraey ruo slaets ruo emit neh
Oot serusaelp ruo laets llahs,
Yats lliw tsap eht fo yromem eht
Wener syoj ruo lfah dna.*

A FGS member quickly explained that all the above words were written backwards!

From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve you as President this past year and I look forward to continuing my term for another year. Here is the "State of the Society."

We have had an active year.

Membership is stable at close to 140 persons.

Meeting attendance is satisfactory – averaging about 40 per meeting.

We have had programs and speakers which I hope have been interesting and informative.

Our Tuesday help sessions have proven quite popular. Average of about three "clients" each session.

Cemetery Transcription Project – Photography completed at Church of the Messiah. Church of the Messiah is ready to be put on the web. Oak Grove needs to be photographed.

The first installment of the *Enterprise* Obituary Index

was published covering 1989-2009. We are indexing 1987 at the present.

We agreed to be a sponsoring society for NERGC 2011.

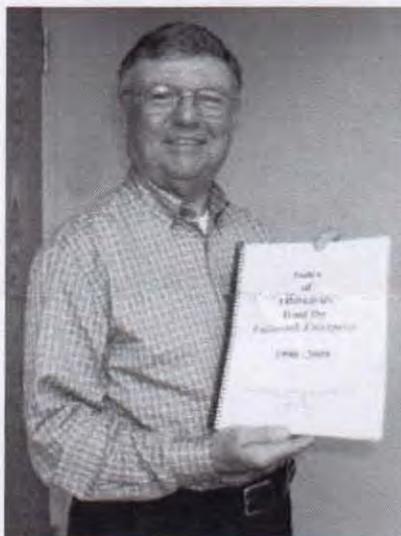
We have taken several field trips to various repositories in the area.

We have produced four newsletters.

Now the challenges!!!

We will need a new webmaster.

What concerns me the most: We need to have some potential new leaders and board members. Your society will not continue without new persons coming along to relieve the present cast of characters. We need a First Vice President to handle programs, someone to be our delegate to NERGC, someone to help Janet with the newsletter, someone to learn the Treasurer's job, someone to handle membership details, etc, etc. If you like what we're doing, it's your turn to help keep it going. Please step forward.



Ralph Wadleigh shows *Falmouth Enterprise* Obituary Index from 1989-2009. Photo by Janet Chalmers.



Secondary Contributions of DNA Studies

Continued from page 4

pioneering study now has to be largely discounted since only four genetic markers were used whereas recent studies use up to sixty-seven markers.

The first published genealogy of the Edmund Rice family was in 1858 by Andrew Henshaw Ward who published other surname studies and was also a descendant of Edmund Rice. He wrote a lengthy Preface to his book and concluded with the statement "The name of Rice is of Welsh origin...". He went on to explain that in Wales it was spelled ApRice. Over 150 years later we have absolutely no proof of Ward's contention for no one has ever discovered the origin of the Rice name. We don't even know who his parents were or where he was

born. He did declare 3 April 1656 in court in Massachusetts that he was about 62 years old, which calculates his birth as sometime in 1594 but he did not say where. Nevertheless some Rices still are convinced he was Welsh. We do know that he married Thomasine Frost at Bury St. Edmund, Suffolk, England on 15 October 1618 and started a family at Stanstead, Suffolk, a very small village next to Glemsford. The Frost family had been in those two villages for several hundred years. Edmund left no record but the Frosts did and the baptisms of Edmund and Thomasine's children in Original Parish Records were found in 1933. The earliest census for Wales and England is 1841 and Edmund left England in 1638 so with no records in Great Britain after almost 400 years of intermittent searches by amateur and pro-

Continued on page 7

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



Through the Virtual Catalog, I borrowed *Family History in the Genes: Trace Your DNA and Grow Your Family Tree* by Chris Pomery which was published by the National Archives in the UK. This is an interesting book if you have ancestry in the UK.

It talks about how men sharing the same surname can verify their connection to the same family tree through YDNA. There are about 5000 YDNA surname projects worldwide and most projects are just geared to amassing same surname results. A surname project becomes more valuable when combined with documentary research. Most of these dual approach projects are led by members of the Guild of One-Name Studies. It is interesting

that those most receptive to YDNA testing are those whose families have done some documentary research. The author also points out that while some surnames have no living descendants in the UK, there are some in the US.

I found the later chapters of greater interest. The topics covered were "Some Success Stories," "How to Find or Run a Project," and "The Future of Genetic Genealogy." The author also includes a list of useful websites and a reading list.

Pomery has a consulting agreement with Family Tree DNA and he mentions the benefits of joining a surname project with them as he says Family Tree DNA has about 90% of the YDNA surname projects. He also mentions that discounts are available for those joining such a project or those setting up a new project.



Book Review: *Champlain's Dream* by David Hackett Fischer (New York, Simon & Shuster, 2008).

by Ralph Wadleigh

If you are of French-Canadian descent *Champlain's Dream* should be on your reading list. It describes in a well documented and smoothly written way the efforts of Samuel de Champlain to establish French colonies in North America grounded on humanistic and peaceful principles. His work began under the sponsorship of King Henry IV with whom he had a surprisingly close rapport. He first arrived in New France in 1603, years before the English settlements in Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay became established. His idea of colonization differed from the English (and Spanish) in several important respects. First, he worked with the native populations attempting to integrate their various cultures with that of the arriving French. One tool was the encouragement of inter-marriage. Second, he sought to have a tolerant religious environment, recognizing

the native population's spirituality as well as allowing some Protestants to settle. Third, he explored vast regions of North America, not as an occupier, but as a seeker of knowledge. Colonizing efforts, which began about 1605, proceeded slowly because few women and families made up the first settlers. It wasn't until 1633-35 that the settlements along the St Lawrence and the Acadian shore began to be self sufficient.

With respect to genealogy, Fischer points out that many persons descend from the first few arriving family groups, but does not cover genealogical details. The reader felt that the original records of persons sailing to New France may not be very complete in that not all persons were recorded. Some of the best records seem to have been kept by the Jesuit and Capuchin priests that were part of the first settlements. At any rate, the work presents an excellent overview of the settlement of New France and can set the stage for some good family research!

Secondary Contributions of DNA Studies

Continued from page 5

essional genealogists we were left with Ward's reasonable supposition that Rice is Welsh. (The latest search in 2000 was by Joanna Martin, Ph.D. who lives about six miles east of Stanstead-Glemsford. She searched all extant records for villages and towns within an 8 mile radius that included Sudbury, Suffolk, England and contracted with other professional English genealogists to search in Essex County that is very near the region as well as in Herts County where Edmund moved his family before coming to Massachusetts. There are about 48 counties in England alone and probably thousands of villages and towns still to be searched although only a fraction will have records for the sixteenth century).

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) goes back thousands of years but is not specific for surnames and it only pertains to female ancestors. We have nevertheless found several female surnames that we know from Massachusetts records to have married into the Rice family in or near Sudbury, Massachusetts in the 1600s and their mtDNA were found in at least two of Edmund's male descendants. The most distant of these females was Martha ----- who married John Bent in Hampshire, England about 1624. Unfortunately we have not been able to find a living female descendant of Thomasine Frost but even if we did it would not help us with the Rice surname.

But if we consider the reconstituted ancestral YDNA of Edmund Rice that we now know it does give some information concerning the origin of Welsh versus English surnames. Because we had the parish records of Edmund's children births in England and the records of Massachusetts (from 1620!) we found living male Rices from the ERA database (120,000 names plus) whose YDNA agreed so extrapolation back to Edmund's YDNA was possible. His YDNA haplotype is not compatible with the great majority of YDNA haplotypes found in Wales that was reported recently. Thus it is unlikely that Edmund Rice was of Welsh origin. That haplotype is designated I1.

A quick examination of the Y haplotypes of the surnames Davies and Edwards widely regarded as of Welsh origin shows that at least some of the numerous different families (with different Y haplotypes) of each

surname also has I1 haplotypes. The Rice YDNA results for Rice families of other than Edmund's also show several different YDNA haplotypes. So some may be of Welsh origin but they are not consistent. We have found 19 distinctly different Rice families mostly now living in North America and have a list of more than 50 analyzed individual Rice males waiting for matches. This is consistent for most surnames that have been analyzed for YDNA. It is not peculiar to Rice.

Surveys of the different areas of Europe and the World for certain identifying genetic markers will probably be refined and expanded so in the future there may be more information as to origins of surnames.

What is clear so far is that most surnames are not of a single origin. Surnames attributable to Genghis Khan, Nialls of north western Ireland, African American, Jewish, and American Indian (but not individual tribes) are also delineated by YDNA and some have special designations on FTDNA reports.

The FTDNA web site has direct connections to various scientific papers of the Population Geneticists such as the study extending east to west across the British Isles, Chromosomal Evidence for Anglo-Saxon Mass Migration. Just go to ftdna.com and look for scientific papers to download.



Last Chance Offer!

Would you like your very own Micron Microfiche Reader with microfiche of the Family History Library Catalog and 1988 and/or 1992 FHL IGI microfiche for the six New England States, New York, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma, France, Ireland, Poland, and the Canadian provinces of Nova Scotia, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island? Sometimes old IGI microfiches contain information no longer displayed online.

These resources were formerly part of the FGS collection at the Falmouth Public Library before renovation of that facility. Now, there is no space to store and use these materials. We would like to find a home for them before resorting to more drastic measures. If you are interested in providing such a home, please contact jspendery@msn.com.

Exploring New Paths to Your Roots

11th New England Regional Genealogical Conference



6-10 April 2011
Springfield, Massachusetts

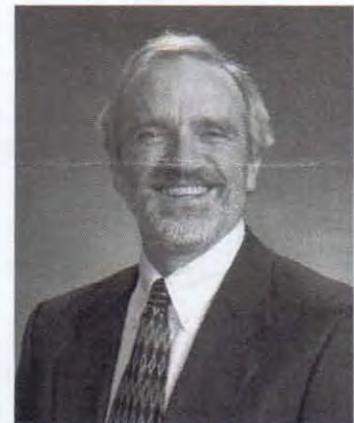
Featuring over 50 genealogical experts and 100 informative lectures, workshops, the Ancestors Road Show, Librarians and Teachers Day, and popular Special Interest Groups.

National Speakers



John Philip Colletta

Entertaining, knowledgeable and experienced, John Philip Colletta is a popular lecturer. For 21 years he taught workshops at the National Archives and courses for the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Colletta is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. His publications include articles, two manuals, and one "murder-mystery-family-history."



Paul Milner

Paul Milner, a native of northern England, is a professional genealogist and lecturer. Paul has specialized in British Isles genealogical research for 30 years. He is the author of several books on English and Scottish genealogical research. He has been designing workshops and lecturing to a wide variety of audiences for over 35 years.

More information at
www.nergc.org

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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www.falgen.org

Newsletter
November 2010 – January 2011

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

Getting Started: Uncovering Your Family Roots – August 14, 2010

Presented by Joyce Pendery, Richard Harbison and Ralph Wadleigh

Former FGS President and Certified Genealogist Joyce Pendery presented the first talk on the traditional approach to “Getting Started: Uncovering Your Family Roots.”

She began by citing two principal rules in genealogical research:

1. Always begin research with yourself or another person of interest and work backwards, generation by generation.
2. Always record complete citations for all sources of information.

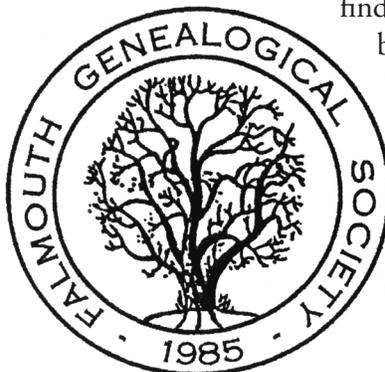
To begin research use four-generation pedigree charts on paper. These charts not only indicate what you already know, but they also make it easier for others to help you with your research. Start with yourself as #1, your parents as #'s 2 and 3, grandparents as #'s 4-7,

and great grandparents as #'s 8-15. (Males always have even numbers, while females have odd numbers – a genealogical convention!) Fill in all the birth, marriage and death dates and places you know or can

find in information around home. Look for birth, marriage, and death certificates, Bible records, newspaper announcements, old wills and deeds, old letters, old passports and driver's licenses, draft registrations, old photos, etc. Then contact relatives and ask for any additional information they may have. Eventually, you will need to create a paper file for each surname you are researching and possibly separate files for certain individuals about whom you find considerable information.

Research suggestions include: focus on one family surname at a time; verify undocumented information;

Continued on page 6



Calendar of Meetings for 2010 – 2011

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

- | | |
|---------|---|
| Nov. 13 | Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society – Michael LeClerc of NEHGS |
| Dec. 11 | Annual Holiday Food Festival |
| Jan. 8 | Timothy Salls, Archivist from NEHGS – How to Pass on Your Work |
| Feb. 12 | Richard Harbison – Technology Workshop |
| Mar. 12 | Donna Walcovy and others – What's New on Falgen.org |
| Apr. 9 | NO MEETING Come to NERGC in Springfield |

Portuguese Genealogical Research – September 11, 2010

Presented by Ruy Cardoso, CG

by Ralph Wadleigh

On Sept. 11, 2010, Ruy Cardoso, CG presented a well researched and informative talk on Portuguese Genealogical Research. His presentation outlined several important steps to take to insure a successful search using Family History Library microfilms. The steps he presented can also be used when researching immigrants of other ethnicities.

First, one must determine the parish from which the immigrant ancestor came. This can be obtained here in the United States from a variety of records including personal recollection, naturalization applications, obituaries, Social Security applications, and military records. Once the parish is identified, it is useful to consult a map of the area which will identify the physical location of the parish.

One must also learn the terminology used in the birth, marriage and death records. They are handwritten but their format is repetitive so, once one becomes familiar with their structure, the number of non-English words that have to be learned is fairly minimal. Because common abbreviations are frequently used, these need to be learned as well. Family History Library research guides found on www.familysearch.org can be a big help in this area.

Microfilms of interest can be identified through the FHL catalogue on the above website. One conducts a place search and then selects church records from that locality. The catalogue listing will identify the films for that parish and their contents by subject and date. Films may be ordered from any Family History Library, the NEHGS Library or by going to Salt Lake City. Transcriptions of certain films are becoming more available on the web especially at www.etombo.com. Many films for the Azores are available at the Dartmouth Family History Center.

There are a number of naming conventions of which one should be aware. Among these are, women usually kept their original names. Surnames often went from father to son or mother to daughter, but crossovers occurred. The same person was often referred to in several



Ruy Cardoso and Eleanor Mendoza talk following the Sept. 11 program. Photo by Ralph Wadleigh.

different ways on different records. Some women used no surname or only a devotional surname (e.g., de Jesus).

When researching, Mr. Cardoso recommends:

1. Start with marriage records since there are far fewer of them, they contain surnames, they narrow down birth dates, and they often contain additional useful information.
2. If they are available and sufficiently detailed, use the names in the margins to reduce search time, though take care not to miss a key record as a result.
3. Pay attention to godparents on baptisms since they are often related to the family and may provide clues to locations of other family members.
4. Watch for the term “digo”, which is an indicator of a correction, e. g., “Maria daughter of Antonio digo Manoel” means “Maria daughter of Antonio, I mean Manoel.”

If readers have questions, Mr. Cardoso can be contacted at Ruy@newenglandcousins.com.

Using Collateral Lines to Build Your Family Tree – October 9, 2010

Presented by Janis Duffy

by Janet Burt Chalmers

Massachusetts Archives reference supervisor Janis Duffy presented an interesting talk on October 9 about using collateral lines to build your family tree. An expert on Irish genealogical research, she is a past president of TIARA (The Irish Ancestral Research Association). Using her own research on her Dillon and Fitzpatrick lines, she shared strategies she used for breaking one of her own brick walls.

Following the male line of Michael Dillon she searched street directories, census records showing naturalization date, passenger and naturalization lists, obituaries, baptism records including names of sponsors, and civil registrations. She instructed us to always keep an open mind and try all kinds of different spellings.

Janis made an important discovery when she found an obit for Michael Dillon saying he was a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters from County Kerry. A naturalization record showed he entered Philadelphia in 1887. Taking her research across the pond, she found baptism records at the National Library on Kildare Street in Dublin with family names spelled Dillane. She found the church where Michael and his siblings were baptized in Co. Kerry and civil registration of his family on different town land, suggesting they were not land owners. Janis noted that in the various records Michael's sister was listed as Eliza, Lizzie, Elizabeth, Bessy and Beth.

In finishing, Janis suggested that visitors to Ireland stay at B&Bs, go to local pubs and find out who the local historian is. She said, "The Irish never give up."

To go with her talk, Janis distributed a handout listing the following research sites:

Massachusetts Archives, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Dorchester, 617-727-2816, for Vital Records 1891-1915.

National Archives, 380 Trapello Rd, Waltham, 866-406-2379, for Census and Naturalizations.

Dept. of Vital Records, 150 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester, 617-740-2600, for Records 1916 to Present.

Archdiocese of Boston, 66 Brooks Dr., Braintree, 617-746-5795, for sacramental records Lowell to Scituate, must call for an appointment.

Boston Public Library, 666 Boylston St., Boston, 617-536-5400, for Newspapers.

Familysearch.org, Search Records, Record Search Pilot, Browse Record Collection, Click in Europe, Ireland, Library Catalog.

National Library, Kildare St., Dublin, Ire., www.nli.ie

TIARA, www.tiara.ie

General Register Office, Irish Life Centre, Lower Abbey St., Dublin, www.groireland.ie



FGS Welcomes New Members, Says Good Bye

#400, Dana Kay Manning, Springfield, VA, searching for Dimmock, Dimock, Dimmick, Dimick, Demmick, Dymore, Demac in Falmouth and Barnstable in Massachusetts and Oswego and Binghamton in New York.

#401, Ann Mathers Buckley, East Falmouth and Plantation, FL, researching Roberge in Maine and Quebec in 1830-1925 and Mathers in Connecticut and Ireland in 1831-1925.

#402, Jeramie D. Hammond, Falmouth.

#403, Elizabeth R. Hickey, East Falmouth, is taking over the family genealogy from her father, Deane Robbins, Member #121 since 1994.

#404, Margaret Cooper, Hatchville, MA, researching many surnames in the 1600s and 1700s, Shipman in Wisconsin, New York, and Connecticut.

We are saddened by two recent deaths of Falmouth Genealogical Society members.

1. George R. Hunt of Mendota Heights, Minnesota, and Falmouth, Member #204, joined us in 1997. He earned multiple academic degrees, including a Ph.D. in Medical Microbiology from the University of Pennsylvania. He worked at the 3M Company for over 30 years. He passed away on July 27, 2010, at age 86.
2. William M. Dunkle Jr. of North Falmouth was Member #159 who joined us in 1995. He worked at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution beginning in 1953, retiring in the mid-1990s. He is a 2001 recipient of a Falmouth Heritage Award for his efforts to preserve a paper record of Falmouth's history. He died on August 23, 2010, at age 81. The Cemetery Transcription Project has been dedicated to his memory.

From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

Hello Folks. I don't know how busy you all have been feeling, but I think we've had a busy time since the last newsletter. We've made a couple of trips to NEHGS in Boston. We've kept plugging away on the obituary index, and on October 8 we finished photographing a portion of Oak Grove Cemetery.

I want to especially thank the three photographers from the Upper Cape Camera Club who helped us. They were Ed Celette, Janet Walton and Ken Wiedemann. Now we just have to take the images and sort them to the reading books! Thanks also to several FGS members



who helped with mirrors, grave identification and keeping things organized.

We also made some progress on the Family Data Bank portion of the website where Ray Howe is working with Donna Walcovy to better organize the site data. We've also had a good number of visitors at the Tuesday afternoon help sessions at the library. So, you can see FGS is on the move in several areas! Let's keep it that way! If you want to lend a hand with any of these or other potential projects, just let me know.



Book Review by Ralph Wadleigh

Making Haste from Babylon by Nick Bunker

Those having Mayflower or Great Migration ancestry will find this book an interesting read. Nick Bunker, an Englishman, tells the familiar Pilgrim story from the point of view of an English historian. Using heretofore unpublished documentary evidence, he explains the political, social and economic forces that conspired to create the Separatist movement which eventually spawned the voyage of the *Mayflower* and a decade later the Great Migration. Among the forces woven into the story are King James' health, the constant European wars and King Charles' efforts to find ways to pay for them, trade between England and France, the popularity of beaver hats, and the threat of a conflict with Spain. He points

out the multitude of personal relationships among the Pilgrim leaders and those in England who were their financial backers. Edward Winslow, William Brewster, William Bradford and Thomas Weston are discussed in great detail. Also covered are relationships with the Native Americans. The book is available at area libraries through CLAMS.

Bus Trip To Boston Research Facilities

Seats are still available for the CCGS Research Bus Trip to Boston on Tuesday November 9, 2010. The destinations are the Massachusetts Archives, the Boston Public Library and the NEHGS Library. The price is \$35.00, and all are welcome. For reservations and information call Ellen Geanacopoulos at 508-432-5469.

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



Falmouth Genealogical Society has recently purchased two new books to add to the Falmouth Public Library collection. The first is *Puritanism: a Very Short Introduction* by Francis J. Bremer. The second title is *The Journey Takers* by Leslie Albrecht Huber.

Huber writes about her ancestors who came from Germany, Sweden, and England. The book is divided into four parts with copious notes, family group sheets, and a selected bibliography. She makes use of contemporary writings to add to her family histories as well as their own genealogies.

The first part is about her German ancestors Georg and Mina Albrecht who came in 1880 from the Mecklenburg area of Germany with their nine children. After a 10-day crossing from Liverpool to New York, the family then boarded a train for another week of travel to reach Ogden, Utah. They settled first in Dover, Utah and then in Fremont. One child was born in Utah, but another died there.

In 1879 Georg was baptized into the Mormon Church which had the “doctrine of the gathering.” It was expected of believers to move to a central location know as “Zion” which at this time was Utah. The financial costs of such a move were high, but converts could be assisted by the PEF (Perpetual Emigration Fund) if needed. This loan would later be paid in full. The Albrecht’s did not need this aid.

The second part of the book is about Leslie’s Swedish ancestor “Karsti” (Kerstina) Nilsdotter. Karsti was born in 1843 in Vallby, Kyrkheddinge, Malmöhus. Her mother died when she was three years old and her father when she was 14. She continued to live in the family

home with her older married brother. Karsti was baptized into the Mormon Church in September of 1860 and seven months later set sail with a group of LDS converts to Utah. In 1861, it was a one-month crossing and then by railroad and steamship down the Mississippi River to Hannibal, MO. From Hannibal she traveled by wagon train starting on July 13 and reaching Salt Lake City on September 22. All who were able bodied walked 10-14 miles a day.

The third part is about Karsti’s husband Edmond Harris who was born in 1825 in Wingrave, Buckinghamshire, England. Edmond’s ancestry was difficult to trace due to errors in contemporary documents. Edmond and his first wife Eliza Barrett emigrated to Australia in 1849 and were among the first Mormons to arrive. In 1855 they decided to go to America, but there was not enough money for all. Eliza and the two children left with others of their faith, but the ship struck a reef and Eliza and the baby drowned. Maria, age two, survived and was taken in by Peter and Elizabeth Penfold. Edmond was finally able to follow in 1857 and arrived in San Bernadino, CA in October of that year. Edmond and Karsti married in Utah sometime between her arrival in 1861 and the birth of their first child on 1 Jan 1864.

The fourth part continues the story with the marriage of Georg and Mina’s son Johan (b. 1862 in Benz, Germany) and Edmond and Karsti’s daughter Chasty (b. 1868 in Utah). Their son Earl Albrecht is the great-grandfather of the author. She writes of their lives and their families and their stories. Throughout the book, the reader follows the author and her thoughts as she discovers her ancestors. Leslie spent thousands of hours on research and then visited the places where her ancestors originated.

Leslie Albrecht Huber has been a speaker at FGS before and she will be our guest speaker again for the May 2011 meeting.

Papp Family Reunion

July 17 & 18, 2010

by Charlet Roskovics

On July 17 and 18 my husband, Ed Roskovics, and I hosted a Papp Family Reunion (his mother's side of the family) at our home, otherwise known as the Old Papp Homestead in North Falmouth. After his grandfather, Alexander Papp, passed away on December 9, 1973 (Margaret predeceased him on June 25, 1969), the house was sold out of the family; however, Ed was able to purchase it in 1980 when it became available again and even managed to buy back original acreage that his grandfather had sold over the years.

Alexander & Margaret (Kirimi) Papp

Sandor Papp (who later changed his name to Alexander) was born in Hungary and arrived in America through Ellis Island on January 23, 1907 via the *Kaiser Wilhelm* with the port of departure being Bremen. He was sponsored by Michael and Julia Visakay (his brother-in-law and sister) who lived in West Caldwell, New Jersey.

Magdolna Kirimi (who changed her name in 1930 to Margaret) was also born in Hungary, arrived in America

Continued on page 7



Getting Started In Genealogy Workshop

Continued from page 1

don't believe everything in old family stories as they are usually a mixture of fact and fiction; be aware of spelling variations for each surname; back up your research and make copies of old documents and photos; do not post information online about people who are still living without permission

Information recorded on these charts can be transferred to a computer program when you have recorded basic information about your ancestors.

Joyce distributed several lists of suggestions concerning genealogical books in the Falmouth library, web sites for genealogists, area libraries and archives, and various sources to consult. These forms, as well as assistance with research, are available every Tuesday from 2-4 at the Falmouth Public Library.

FGS member Richard Harbison then described the technological tools that most genealogists employ:

1. Hardware you will need:
 - a. A computer that can connect to the internet
 - b. A flash drive – available at Wal-Mart or Staples
2. Software you will need: A genealogy database – many are available. Here are three:
 - a. Personal Ancestry File (PAF). Price – FREE.

Available at: <http://www.familysearch.org/eng/default.asp>

- b. Family Tree Maker. Price – about \$ 40.00. Available at: <http://www.ancestry.com/>
- c. RootsMagic. Price – about \$ 30.00. Available at: <http://www.ancestry.com/>
- d. There are lots more – Reunion for Macintosh, etc.

3. Where do you search? The big three:

- a. Google – it's free.
- b. Family Search – the Mormon site – it's free.
- c. Ancestry.com – free at the Falmouth Public Library, but there are advantages in having a personal account.

4. Basically, there are two kinds of genealogy searches – tracing your roots, and finding cousins. Roots tracing goes from the present to the past, and finding cousins goes from the past to the present. Google and Ancestry.com are great tools for finding cousins.

5. Interested in genetic genealogy? We suggest you use FamilyTreeDNA, since it's the biggest. Available at: <http://www.familytreedna.com/Default.aspx?c=1>

6. Last, but hopefully not least – we are available every Tuesday between 2 and 4 at the Falmouth Public Library to help you get started.

Finally, attendees separated into a number of special interest groups such as Ireland, Colonial America, Europe, and French-Canada to receive information on where to start in those areas.

Papp Family Reunion

Continued from page 6

through Ellis Island on March 16, 1907 with her father Stephen on the *Carpathia*. Stephen was 42 years old and she was 15. On the ship manifest he was noted as being a gardener and she his daughter; their final destination was Roseland, New Jersey where they, too, were sponsored by the Visakay family.

Magdolna Kirimi worked at Becker Dairy Farm as did Alexander Papp but they didn't know each other previ-

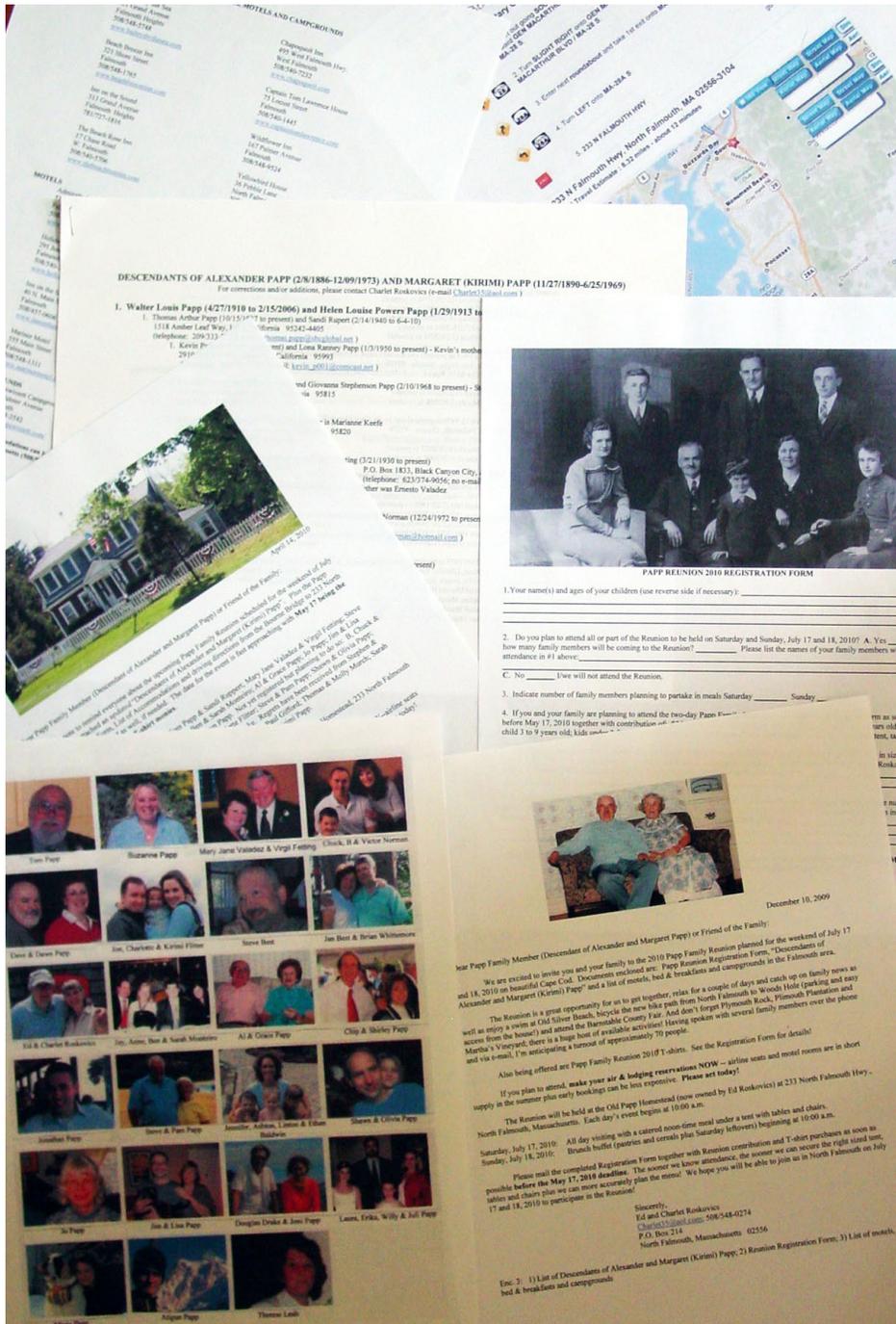
ously. She worked as a maid and a cook for five dollars a week and he was a bottle washer for one dollar per sixteen-hour day. He also tended the coal-fired furnaces for several other families. They met at a weekly Hungarian get-together and were married when she was 17 years old. From the furnace stoking work he later got a job as gardener and chauffeur for Mrs. Jason Rogers at her summer home in West Falmouth. (Jason Rogers was editor of the *New York Post*.) Mr. Papp worked for Mrs. Rogers 25 years and brought his family to Falmouth to live year-round in 1929. By 1934 Alexander and Margaret Papp built a nine-room house at 233 North

Falmouth Highway which was composed of lumber, windows and doors from two homes being torn down. To augment their income they rented rooms. For many summers, Mr. Papp had a thriving business selling fresh vegetables and small fruits at a stand by the road in front of their house. He was a wonderful gardener and, during the war, he was employed as a carpenter at Camp Edwards.

The Papp Family Reunion

In July 2009 I began putting together a "Descendants List of Alexander and Margaret (Kirimi) Papp" which comprised their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren's names, dates of birth and death but, if still alive, their address, telephone number, e-mail address. The information I lacked from my files I collected via the telephone. Then on December 10, 2009 I sent a bulk e-mail (with five snail-mail packets) to everyone announcing a Papp Family Reunion. I included the List of Descendants, a Reunion Registration Form plus a list of accommodations in the Falmouth area. We even offered T-shirts (made by the Shirt Shack in Wareham) with a wonderful picture of Alexander and Margaret Papp with their six children. On April 14, 2010, I sent another batch of e-mails and snail-mails reminding people of the May 17 deadline for registration and included an updated Descendants List, Registration Form, accommodation list

Continued on page 8



Papp Family Reunion

Continued from page 7

plus driving directions. As the registration forms began arriving, I asked those relatives attending for pictures of themselves and made a “page of mug shots” which I later shared with everyone just prior to the July reunion. We had a total of 46 attendees and many had never met nor even knew each other prior, so the mug shots were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

I had hoped the whole reunion would be self-supporting so we charged fees for the two-day event: \$35 for those 21 years and older; \$25 for children 10 to 20; \$15 for those 3 to 9 and those under three were free. I think with the foods served we should have charged more but our objective was to make it as affordable as possible for everyone to attend. Folks came from as far away as Alaska, Oregon, Washington, California, Colorado, Minnesota, Florida, New Hampshire, Virginia, North Carolina, New York and Massachusetts. There are 99 living descendants of Margaret and Alexander Papp and we had 46 attendees! Not bad...

There were two birthday girls – 14 and 27 years old and we celebrated their birthdays by giving a small Hungarian flag, a bound Papp/Kirimi genealogy book (which I had researched, printed and bound), a T-shirt and a birthday cake apiece.

Saturday morning at 10:00 people began arriving and I set out shrimp with cocktail sauce plus cheese and crackers together with water, sodas and a variety of wines. By 2:00 p.m. Roche Bros. arrived with hot vegetable and meat lasagnas, potato salad and watermelon boats. To these I added spiral ham, crusty rolls, three bean salad, tossed and dressed garden salad, potato chips, make-your-own peanut butter and jelly sandwiches plus chicken nuggets. And for dessert, we

had a full sheet picture cake – a real bargain from BJ’s for \$31.00! Sunday morning we offered coffee, danish and doughnuts at 10:00, then at noon hot dogs and hamburgers together with three bean salad leftovers and spiral ham with crusty rolls. For desert Sunday we had lemon squares, pizzelles and shortbread (the shortbread was brought from Alaska). To keep costs low, we’d purchased food from Roche Bros., Stop & Shop, BJ’s, Freihoffer’s Bakery Outlet in Wareham plus I made the



tossed and three bean salads, lemon squares and pizzelles.

The Papp Family Reunion was a huge success! Everyone had a great time; the weather was hot and humid but dry. From Taylor Rental in North Falmouth we’d rented a 30’ x 30’ tent with eight tables and 64 chairs which provided much needed shade and kept everyone outdoors – vs. in the house! Ed

opened his office on the hill for toilet use and it was there I hung genealogical descendants charts with each and every name typewritten. Also hung were the ship manifests and pictures of each ship. Ages ranged from 94 down to 2 years, with the eldest being the last living son of Alexander and Margaret Papp. It was wonderful seeing everyone interacting and having a great time!

Ed and I feel quite certain this will be the last reunion we’ll host but, if we do have another it will certainly be catered!

One of Many Thank Yous

The reunion was absolutely FANTASTIC. I thought the last one was good too, but this one was REALLY over the top! Every last detail was worked out to perfection. Nothing could have been done to make the experience any better. Just saying “thanks” doesn’t begin to seem adequate, but words fail me. This was a once-in-a-lifetime event, and I will be forever grateful for your having made it all happen.

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Steve Best