

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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Newsletter
November 2010 – January 2011

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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

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.

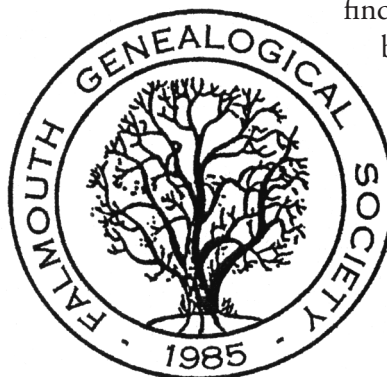
To begin research use four-generation pedigree charts on paper. These charts not only indicate what you already know, but they also make it easier for others to help you with your research. Start with yourself as #1, your parents as #'s 2 and 3, grandparents as #'s 4-7,

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;

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Calendar of Meetings for 2010 – 2011

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

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| 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

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

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Getting Started In Genealogy Workshop

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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

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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-

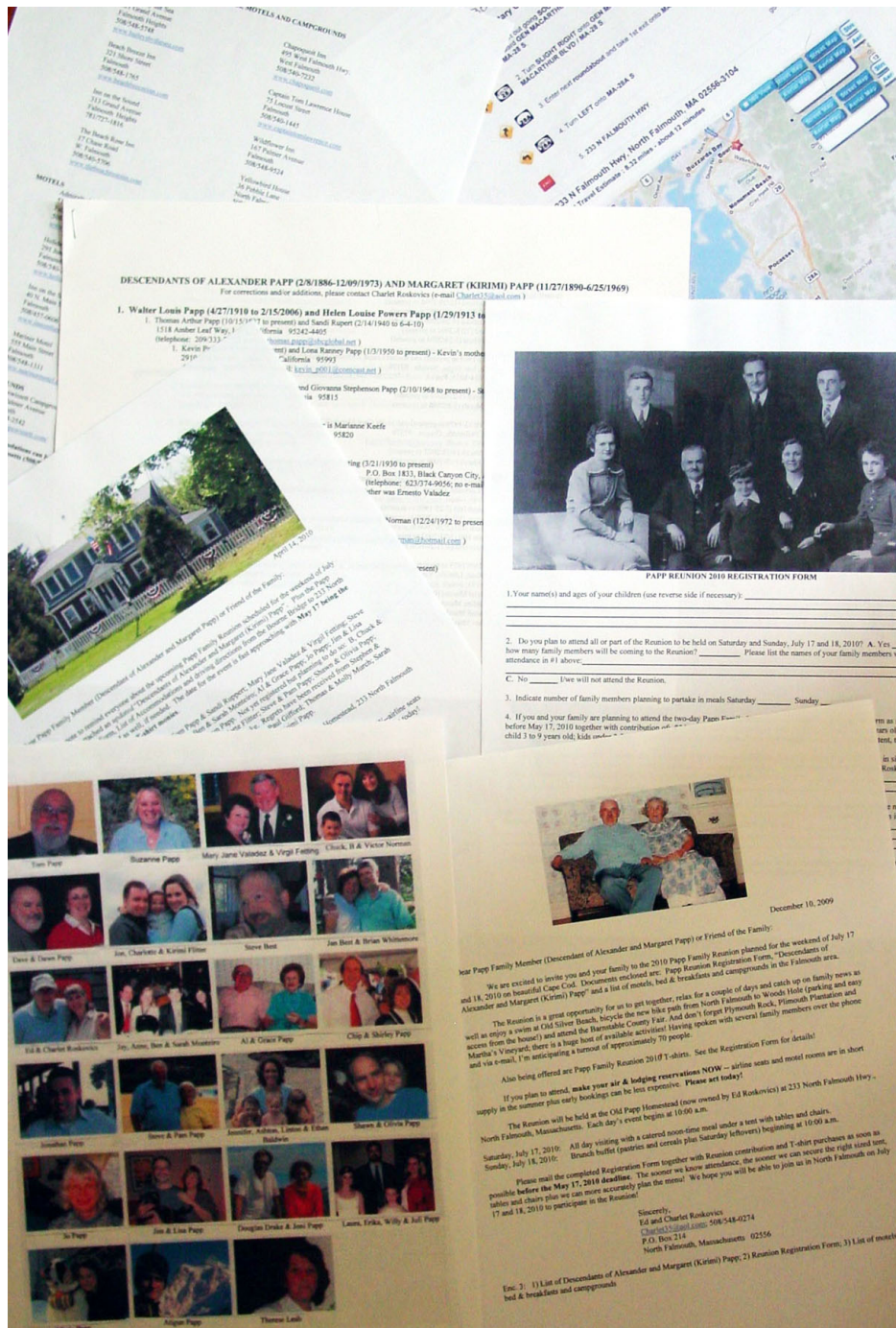
ously. She worked as a maid and a cook for five dollars a week and he was a bottle washer for one dollar per sixteen-hour day. He also tended the coal-fired furnaces for several other families. They met at a weekly Hungarian get-together and were married when she was 17 years old. From the furnace stoking 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

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Papp Family Reunion

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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

