
The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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www.falgen.org

Newsletter
February – April 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

Joint Meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Societies

Two lectures presented by Michael J. Leclerc, E-News Editor, NEHGS – November 13, 2010

Across the USA Migrations and their Genealogical Significance

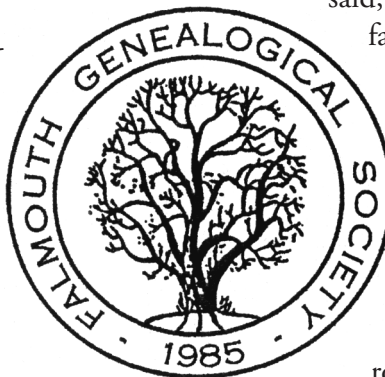
by Janet Burt Chalmers

New England Historical and Genealogical Society's E-News Editor Michael J. Leclerc was the featured speaker at the annual joint meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth genealogical societies on Saturday, November 13 in Barnstable. He presented two informative lectures to the large crowd of Cape genealogists.

The first talk, titled "Across the USA – Migrations and their Genealogical Significance," focused first on why New Englanders should care about migrations out of New England, and then on routes our ancestors took and how to track them.

Michael noted that Massachusetts has lots of marriage records but very few birth and death records. He sug-

gested that not finding a death record might not mean an ancestor's death was not published; it might mean that an ancestor had moved west. and died there. He said, "No one roams alone!" and told us that families moved in big clumps with their cousins and neighbors following a minister.



He showed us maps of migration routes which gave clues about where people came from. He mentioned the Kings Highway ordered by King Charles, the Boston Post Road, and roads in Quebec were made of logs. He said that Colonial roads in 1750 offered options for settlement and expansion as did Indians boundaries being pushed north in 1768. He said that after the Revolution the western boundary of Massachusetts included Wis-

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Calendar of Meetings for 2011

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

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| 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 |
| May 14 | Leslie Huber speaking on the "Journey Takers" the migration experience. |
| Jun. 11 | Marianne Schafer – Compiling an Anecdotal Record. |

Migrations Across the USA

Continued from page 1

consin and Illinois south to Mississippi. He said that states ceded their western land to the federal government so they could redistribute it.

Michael suggested looking at the histories of an area of interest. He noted that names of states and boundaries often changed making searching censuses sometimes confusing. The state of Franklin existed in 1784-1788 where part of Tennessee is now, and Vermont became a state in 1791. Land categories in 1790 included Bounty land (lands going to be given away for military service), Indian reservations, and land that was going to be opened up for settlement. He said that Ohio was settled by Connecticut, Massachusetts and Virginia, becoming the Connecticut Western Reserve, the Virginia Military District, and The Fire Lands, replacing houses that burned in New England. He said Massachusetts didn't need to deed land in Ohio because it had a lot of land to give away in Maine.

He talked about the Michigan Survey and Toledo War, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, and the Lewis & Clark Expedition in 1804. Following the Louisiana Purchase the size of the United States had doubled. Louis and

Clark explored Louisiana and then went all the way west to the Pacific Ocean.

During the 1820s people went into unexplored country. Free states and slave states formed. 1825 marked the opening up of the Erie Canal beginning the 1825-1860 great era of canals. The New York Road paralleled the Erie Canal extending to where settlements were.

With the invention of the John Deere Plow in 1830 and the development of roads farmers had increased motivation to go west. In the 1940s whole towns of New Englanders were in Wisconsin and Michigan. The California Gold Rush of 1849 saw New Englanders going west to get rich.

The expansion of the railroads westward opened new towns. With easier and faster transportation there was loads of development in the 1850s and '60s, mostly in the upper midwest. The center of the population of the US had moved west to Missouri between 1870 and 1890.

Michael closed his talk by telling his audience, "Keep your eyes and minds open to find missing ancestors."



Latest Developments in Internet Genealogy

Michael Leclerc's second lecture to the joint meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth genealogical societies was on Internet Genealogy. He distributed a hand-out listing the following websites that he recommended researchers check out.

Cyndi's List – the first step in researching a new place Wikis

- Wikipedia
- Encyclopedia of Genealogy
- Research Wiki

Blogs

- Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter
- Maureen Taylor
- American Ancestors' Daily Genealogist
- GeneaBloggers
- Internet Archive
- Way Back Machine

American Libraries

Podcasts

- Genealogy Gems

- Dear Myrtle

- iTunes

Online Indexes

- World Archives Project – Ancestry

- Worldwide Indexing – FamilySearch

Genealogical Societies

- Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania

- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society

- NEHGS – AmericanAncestors.org

Social Networking

- Facebook

- Geni.com

FamilySearch.org

Google

Annual Holiday Food Festival – December 11, 2010

by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

Before FGS members shared favorite holiday recipes and foods, Joyce Pendery talked about “Ancestral Treasures: Recipes and Cookbooks:” and their history. According to Wikipedia, written recipes date back to about 1500 BC in Babylonia. Early recipes were tailored to the needs of cooks who prepared foods for large groups, not families. The earliest American “family” cookbooks date from the end of the 18th century. Many of the early cook book authors were New Englanders, led by Amelia Simmons who published one of the first American cookbooks at Hartford, CT, in 1796.



Joyce S. Pendery, CG, talks about recipes and cook books. Photo by Janet Chalmers.

Until the mid to late 19th century cooking was an inexact science with recipes calling for a drop, a bit, a sprinkling, a handful, or a spoonful or glassful of each ingredient or to “stir and add flour until thick.” The number of servings, size of pan, oven temperature, and time to cook were rarely stated. “Pour into pan and cook until done in a hot oven” was the usual instruction.

Many 19th century cookbooks were actually complete household manuals of which cooking was one part. Lydia Marie Child’s *The Frugal American Housewife*, the

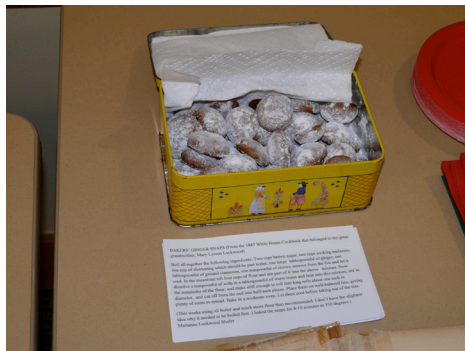
most influential cookbook of the day, went through 33 editions from 1829 to 1870. Catharine Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe specialized in mixing moral and household advice with cooking. Joyce showed several 19th and early 20th century cookbooks from her collection.

The late 19th century movement toward scientific cookery was developed at the Boston Cooking School. Not only did they advocate accurate measuring of all ingredients and testing of recipes, they also emphasized balanced meals, nutrition, and daily dietary requirements.

Fannie Farmer’s Boston Cooking-School Cook Book of 1896, and still

in print, was the culmination of this movement.

Our ancestors brought many of our favorite family recipes when they immigrated to America, perhaps written down or else recreated here from memory. Some of these recipes found their way onto small index cards that fit perfectly in “recipe boxes.” Ethnic cookbooks also became popular in the 20th century, as well as specialized cookbooks of many types. Ethnic or domestic, scientific or not, we enjoy our family recipes decades and even centuries after they were first prepared.



Transcription of Letter Written by Edward Butler Swift to His Father, Jabez Swift, Who Was in California in Search of Gold

While several members treated the FGS gathering to favorite baked goods made from their ancestors' recipes at the December 11 meeting, David S. Martin treated members to a taste of daily life in 1849 Falmouth by reading a special letter written by his ancestor Edward Butler Swift to his father who was in California searching for gold.

Jabez Swift, b. March 1805 in Woods Hole; d. 13 Sep 1849 in California

Edward Butler Swift, b. June 1834; d. May 1869

Cover addressed to

Mr. Jabez Swift
San Francisco, California

Falmouth May 18, 1849

Dear Father,

These few lines are the sum and substance of a letter I wrote you a week ago by Mr. Whitmore, which you may possibly get; although I think it very doubtful. I will explain to you what I mean. Last Tuesday was the day on which Mr. W__ was to leave Falmouth for Plymouth from whence he was to proceed to California. Accordingly several letters were sent by him, one for you among them. The next morning Mrs. Susan Nye was found to be missing; soon it was suspected that Mr. W__ was the means of her absence; search was instantly made when she was found in Sandwich having arrived at that place three minutes too late for the cars. It was found that Thos. Bunker had been hired to carry her there by Mr. Whitmore. Nothing as I know of has been heard from Mr. W__ since. The affair has caused considerable talk, as it is a rare thing for Falmouth. Whether he will go to California or not is unknown to me. He may have the kindness to forward the letters if not.

This finds me in good health as well as Mother, Billy, Sis, and all our friends. Grandmother Swift died two weeks ago. Uncle Joseph was at the funeral. We have

received five letters from you since you left Falmouth. We had a letter last night, and this morning I went up to Quisset to carry it.

I suppose you are in the land of gold by this time, and have seen the waters of the Sacramento. Since you left, mother's health has improved much. Willie likes living to Quisset very much. As for little May, she grows very fast and she has got to be a great girl. She can walk all around the room by the aid of the chairs and walls. She seems very glad to see me whenever I go up there, and will cry when I am obliged to go.

We are glad to hear that you are getting along as well as you are. I suppose you would like to know what we have been doing since you have been gone.

We got clear of the cow in the first place. Next we hired the house to the U.S. Glass Company at a good price for Mr. Edward Haines to live in. We reserved two rooms in which to put our furniture. We hired some of the furniture also. We were obliged to move out of our house in a week after it was engaged, so you may think we had to work quite sharp. We sold our provisions that we thought would not remain good. We next sold our horse to Mr. John Webster for 50 dollars; he likes him very well except the use he makes of his tongue. The wagon and harness have not been sold yet. The salt has been sold and shipped. Mr. Haines bought our wood, pork, etc. He seems to be a very clever man. The Glass Factory thrives under its new agent, Capt. Dillingham. Capt. Elijah Swift has been very sick with but little hope of recovery; it is not probable he will ever get out again.

There is nothing new here except Mr. Whitmore's case which is the all absorbing topic of conversation. You must write us often and let us know how you are getting along. I long to see you and to hear of all the strange things you have seen. People are inquiring all about you and how you get along. Our friends all join with me in sending their love.

from your affectionate son, E.B. Swift

From Contact to Call Number – January 8, 2011

Presented by Timothy Salls, Manager of Manuscript Collection, NEHGS

by Susan Hutchinson

Tim Salls, Manager of Manuscript Collections at the NEHGS, Boston, presented a well-organized and fascinating lecture on the process of donating genealogical collections to NEHGS. His lecture followed the entire donation process, from the initial contact by the donor, processing the materials, producing finding aids and catalogs, to eventually adding the collection to the library resources and making it available to the public.

After initial contact with a donor, NEHGS surveys the collection to get a general overview and then transports it to Boston. There, documents are examined, identified and sorted, and surname charts are created. Tim gave many practical tips on how to organize and preserve documents. He stressed the importance of creating a 'Guide' to all materials. He included a great deal of practical information on preservation, use of archival materials, and dealing with damaged documents. The following links to recommended sites for archival materials are included.

Vendors of Archival Supplies

Archival Products. PO Box 1413, Des Moines IA 50317.
(800) 526-5640. <http://www.archival.com>

Archivart. 40 Eisenhower Drive, Paramus NJ 07652.
(800) 804-8428. <http://www.archivart.com>

Conservation Resources International, Inc. 5532 Port Royal Road, Springfield VA 22151. (800) 634-6932.
<http://www.conservationresources.com/Main/S%20CATALOG/default.htm>

Gaylord : Archival storage materials and supplies. PO Box 4901, Syracuse NY 13221-4901. (800) 448-6160.
<http://www.gaylord.com>

Hollinger Metal Edge Corporation. 9401 Northwest Drive, Fredericksburg VA 22408. (800)634-0491.
<http://www.hollingermetaledge.com/>

Light Impressions. PO Box 2100, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. (800) 828-6216. <http://www.lightimpression-direct.com>

Paige Company. Corporate Office, 400 Kelby Street, Fort Lee NJ 07024. (800) 662-6937. Local shipping from

AZ, CA, CO, FL, GA, IL, MD, MA, NJ, OH, TX, & WA. <http://www.paigecompany.com/productcatalog.shtml>

University Products, Inc.. 517 Main Street, PO Box 101, Holyoke MA 01041-0101. (800) 628-1912. <http://www.universityproducts.com>

Tim then proceeded to describe how the material/information is cataloged and integrated into the library data base systems so that they are easily accessible to researchers. Tim also spoke about individual guides, and how to search for them on the internet.

The remainder of the program was devoted to discussion about what types of materials are of interest to NEHGS (no family Bibles after 1750, thank you!). While NEHGS may not have an interest in a genealogical collection, he did point out that there are many local groups, colleges and universities that might like to receive a collection of materials. Tim stressed, that anyone interested in making a donation should find out if the collection will be available to the public. There have been instances where institutions have termed these collections "private," and have denied access— even to descendants!



Members chat following Tim's program. Photo by Ralph Wadleigh.

Gramps, My Best Friend When I Was A Kid

by Donna Walcovy

Robert Lawrence Walcovic

B: 20 May 1896: Port Kennedy, Montgomery Co., PA

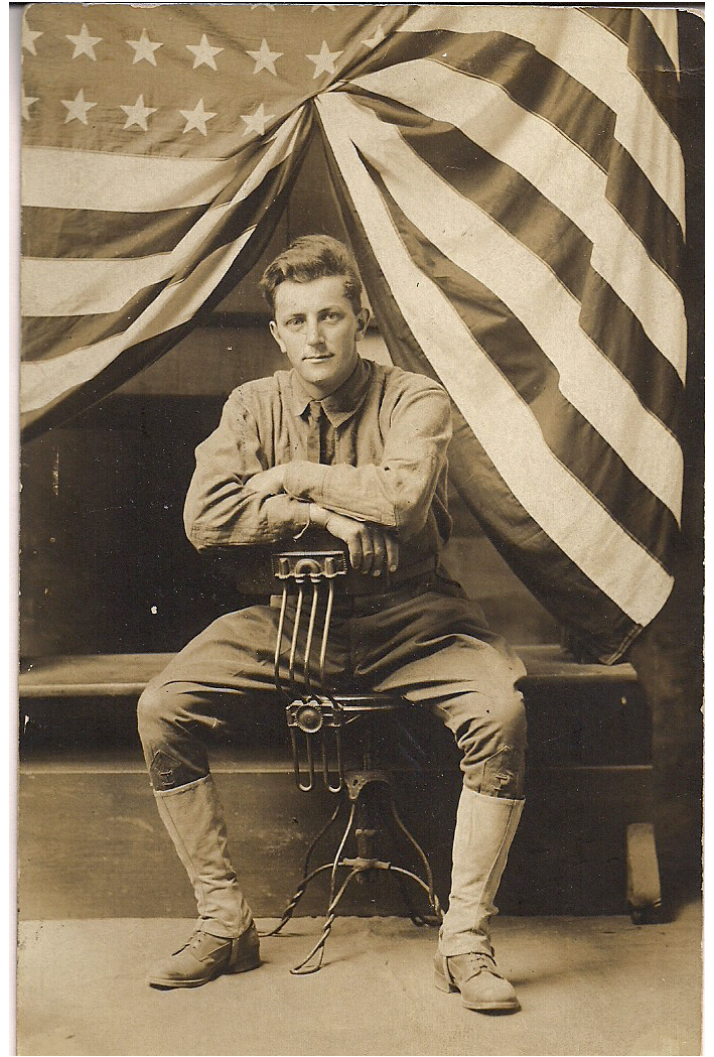
D: 7 Oct 1973: Royersford, Montgomery Co., PA

Gramps was born in a town that no longer exists, Port Kennedy, PA. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania took the land to develop Valley Forge State Park. Yes, that Valley Forge! When I was a kid my grandmother would drive over there and show me the one wall still standing on the farm where Gramps was born.

Gramps was a great athlete; he played semi-pro baseball and football for Conshohocken, PA. He was also a very famous Barrel Jumper. When the Schuylkill River froze in the winter the young men of Conshohocken would have ice skating contests and jump beer barrels on their ice skates. Gramps was always the winner. I have the ice skates he wore. As a kid, each winter Gramps would take me to the Ice Skate Exchange to turn in my old skates and find new (used) skates for me. He'd never let the man sharpen my skates. Gramps preferred to sharpen my skates himself. There were no barrels to jump so Gramps taught me speed skating. I was good.

Gramps was known as Bobby Ice in Conshohocken, PA. He delivered ice for his brother-in-law. In 1990 when I began my genealogical efforts I went to Conshohocken, my Irish cousin, Joe Collins was the President. Joe told me the Mayor of Conshohocken – an honorary title – there was no Mayor, would be visiting that day. I asked the fellow if Conshohocken meant: Hills, Mills and Beautiful Girls as Gramps had always told me. The fellow laughed, and asked who my grandfather was? Bob Walcovic I said. He responded “Bobby Ice, I knew him well!” The saying about the hills, etc. was developed by the borough of Conshohocken for a 15 minute radio program they sponsored in the 1920s.

Gramps enlisted for the World War and was sent to France. He was a handsome fellow. I remember he told me a story about a village they found that was completely underground. I thought this was a dream, but never forgot. My first visit to Europe in 1990 was to the Netherlands where I toured the old Roman Salt mines and the local village was moved, underground, for both World Wars.



Gramps in his WW I Uniform

I also have Gramps' dog tags from WWI. They look very different from what my father, his son, wore in WWII.

Gramps was in the Cavalry and he was the blacksmith for his unit. He carried a huge U-shaped scar on his forehead and I asked him, what happened. He was shoeing a mule and the mule kicked him in the head.

Gramps was one of 25 men from Conshohocken who enlisted in WW I. I have a photograph of all 25 men standing in front of a church. All 25 men returned home, alive. For the 25th anniversary of their enlistment date all the men reassembled in front of the church for another picture. Again, all 25 were alive. I have that photograph, too.

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From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

Greetings

Are any of you having trouble finishing your genealogy? Well, I hope not. That's something that will never happen! The main reason is that over 12 generations you have 1024 great-great-great-great- great- great- great-great-grandparents! And that is only the direct lines! Most of us feel fortunate if we can identify and prove eight great-grandparents! At any rate don't despair. Come to library on Tuesday afternoons at 2PM and see if any of our resident experts can lend a hand!

We're making progress on the Falmouth Obituary Index. The years 1980 to 1989 have been read and are being entered into an excel spreadsheet. As soon as that's done, they will be added to the website. Our goal is to index the full run of the *Falmouth Enterprise* beginning in 1896. There are about 75 microfilm rolls to go. If thirty-five of us volunteered to read two rolls each, we could finish the job in a year! Wow! If this sounds like something you'd like to do – it benefits all Falmouth

researchers – let me know at whplar@comcast.net. I'll show you the ropes!

Ten of us have signed up for the New England Regional Genealogical Conference being held in Springfield April 7-10, 2011. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn, network and just enjoy the company of fellow researchers. Anyone who has attended one of these conferences makes it a point to sign up again. Information can be found at www.nergc.org. Or ask me all about it. Your Society is a charter member of the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. A successful conference means a financial gain for FGS. Registrants who sign up before Feb. 15, 2011 get a price break. Don't delay! FGS Speakers Donna Walcovy and Marianne Shafer want to see you in the audience!

Finally, please let me know if you have any ideas to make FGS work better for you and others. FGS exists to help you! Don't be shy.



Gramps, My Best Friend

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After the War Gramps was one of the first men hired for a new fire station in Conshohocken, The Spring Mill Fire Company, and rose to Chief with only a 6th grade education.



Dog Tags for Robert L. Walcovic, WW 1.

Gramps retired from the fire company and moved to Brigantine, NJ for his retirement. He started his own business as a carpenter. I vividly remember his truck! It was an old Telephone Company truck he painted foam green. He paid, in 1952 \$500.00 for the truck. I have the receipt. As a kid I used to drive the truck, first sitting on Gramps' lap and as I grew

in my teens, I drove it alone, with Gramps in the passenger seat.

During the summers when I visited Gramps in my early teens he taught me how to play golf. To make sure my golf clubs were the proper size for me he cut down his wooden shafted golf clubs to fit me. Since I haven't grown taller (OK, I've grown wider) I can still use the clubs.



Gramps' Fire Chief badge..

I just signed up to play in a Golf Tournament with The American Business Women Association, Cape Cod chapter in July. I will be using those very special gold clubs.

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



The second season of the NBC series *Who Do You Think You Are?* starts Feb 4, 2011 with a new slate of celebrities. I just finished reading the companion book to the series by Megan Smolenyak, chief genealogical consultant to the series. The book is *Who Do You*

Think You Are? : the Essential Guide to Tracing Your Family History.

Ms. Smolenyak starts off with recommendations for preparing for your own ancestor search by checking what family papers are available and by talking with older relatives. Try to record your visit either on video

or audio rather than note taking as it allows for more interaction with your relative. A risk to starting without preparation is to find yourself researching the wrong family tree.

She then goes on to write about the huge amount of information that is now available online, but cautions that this is only a small portion of what is available. Megan devotes a chapter each to censuses, vital records, military records, and then to “crossing the pond”.

Much of the information and sources is probably familiar to those who have been researching for a time, but she does offer lots of leads to finding possible sources new to the reader. The book is a valuable resource for information to the “newbies” as the author refers to beginners, but I think almost anyone can find some idea that is helpful.



Book Review

Strangers and Pilgrims Travellers and Sojourners, Leiden and the Foundations of Plymouth Plantation by Jeremy Dupertuis Bangs. (General Society of Mayflower Descendants, Plymouth, MA, 2007).

by *Ralph Wadleigh*

This is a masterful, superbly researched account of those English Separatists who chose exile in Holland and eventually decided to sail to North America on the *Mayflower*. It explains the reasons for leaving their English homes, why Leiden was selected as a place of exile, and how Leiden eventually became a place that no longer suited their needs. Finally it shows how the Leiden experience influenced the development of Plymouth Colony.

Bangs is a first rate scholar. To present this account, he read seemingly every original source available. The appendix and bibliography take up a fourth of the volume's 894 pages and the footnotes are fully developed

and add much to the text. The Pilgrims' life in Leiden is described in full detail. Their living conditions, their work, their religious life, their interaction with the general populace, the effect of local politics; all is brought to light. The minute discussions of the theological differences between the different separatist groups are somewhat difficult to understand, and the reader can at times become impatient with the level of detail presented, but the benefits of the research presented far outweigh these reservations.

In the final chapter, Bangs explains how the Leiden experience brought several important concepts to Plymouth. Among these were civil marriage, a tolerance and forbearance towards the Native Americans, innovative architectural design, and a methodology of working together with the other colonies, patterned after the Dutch political system. This work is worthy of study by anyone with a *Mayflower* connection or an interest in 17th century Europe's social and political turmoil.

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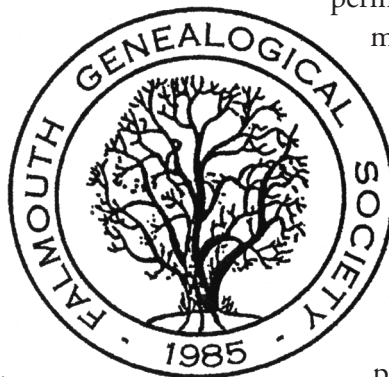
Program Notes From Meetings *Technology Workshop*

Presented by Richard Harbison – February 12, 2011

by Richard Harbison

On February 12, 2011, I tried an experiment in the Falmouth Public Library Conference Room. My talk was titled, “How to Use the Internet to Create and Improve Your Genealogical Database and Store Your Genealogical Information.”

Before I gave the talk, someone had said, “You’d better have a good set of handouts.” So, I decided to make my handout my entire PowerPoint presentation as a PDF file. The good thing about a PDF file is that it keeps usable hyperlinks to the Internet. If your computer is connected to the Internet, click on the hyperlinks, and you are there, almost at once. Don’t try to print out the handout – use it on your computer, follow the hyperlinks, and dock it when you are doing something else. In other words, multitask – that’s what computers do so well.



People were asked to bring their laptops with them, and follow what I was doing as I was doing it. They were to participate in my searches on Ancestry.com and on Google, copying all the actions I was doing on the screen on their own computers. Like most of the experiments I have done (I have been a scientist for most of my life, so I am very familiar with the probable outcomes of first experiments), the first try was far from a complete success, but the results were interesting, and I think, encouraging.

The first thing that astounded me was the number of people that showed up. I had expected that there would only be about 20 people or so, since several FGS members had already told me that they were not coming. I was really, really wrong – the room was packed with people and their laptops before the meeting even started. Dur-

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Calendar of Meetings for 2011

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

May 14	Leslie Huber speaking on the “Journey Takers” the migration experience.
June 11	Marianne Shafer – Compiling an Anecdotal Record.
July 9	Robert Chase – Publishing Pitfalls
Aug. 13	Tales of Our Ancestors
Sep. 10	TBA

Technology Workshop

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ing the course of the talk, I saw a number of people come into the back of the conference room, look at the assembled mass of people, and then leave. I am as poor at estimating crowd numbers as I am at estimating how many people are likely to show up for a talk like this, but Gary Ingraham, the Falmouth Library Information Systems Librarian, said that he counted at least 51 at one point. I left a sign-up sheet for email addresses of non-members who wanted the handout (it is a PDF file), and there were 31 addresses on it. I conclude that there are quite a few people in Falmouth who want to learn how to use their computers and the Internet to do genealogy.

Unfortunately, the levels of expertise among the people who showed up varied quite a bit. There were some who had problems connecting to the library Internet server. Fortunately, Gary Ingraham and Ed Shibata were able to help with these problems as I began the lecture, but there were still a number of people who probably never made it onto the Internet. This was the first big lesson for me: for hands-on classes, there must be many fewer people, all of whom are at similar levels of computer knowledge. Gary suggested that classes like these should probably have 20 people at most.

At the start, I recommended that every genealogist should own and carry a flash drive, and own a genealogy program. Our first exercise was to go to FamilySearch.org and download its Personal Ancestral File (PAF) program, which is free. I discussed only a few of the many genealogy programs that are available for purchase, and suggested that they buy one, because these programs have features that PAF lacks. I don't know how many people were successful in downloading PAF. This is yet

another reason for a smaller class size, perhaps with another teacher who can go around helping students who are having trouble. Obviously, the lecture format, particularly with such a large audience, doesn't allow this.

The second exercise was to download a GEDCOM (Genealogical Data Communication) file partly made from data I had supplied to a cousin several years ago. He has a site on RootsWeb, which I discussed far too little, as I realized we were taking a lot longer than I expected.

Then we looked at the GEDCOM file, opening it with

Notepad, and seeing how simple it is. After that we imported it into PAF and looked at it, eventually finding our way to my immediate family. I demonstrated how simple it was to add, subtract and change entries in the database.

Subsequent exercises involved my grandfather and great-great grandfather, and were done using the library version of Ancestry.com. We downloaded a World War I Draft Card for my grandfather, Arthur Harbison, and the 1910 Census record for Arthur and his family. I have no

idea how many people were keeping up with me at this point in the lecture. We then ran out of time before we attempted to download a Tennessee marriage license for my great-great grandfather, Rev. John Harbison, and before we got into using Google.

Of course, since I did not have the foggiest idea of how long this talk was going to take, I never got to the stuff I was really interested in, the stuff that I had just discovered in late January. Here is the background: I have



Mary Lavinia Bryant Harbison and her first five grandchildren. From left, Lillie Mai Webster, Elbert Walters, Myrtle Lou Walters, George Harbison (he's my father), Mary L. B. Harbison and Marie Harbison (my father's sister). Photo taken about 1907.

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Technology Workshop

Continued from page 2

been trying to trace the descendants of the nine children of my great grandparents, George Washington and Mary Lavinia Bryant Harbison, down to the present, and had completely struck out on the descendants of Stella Pearl Harbison, their 4th child. I knew she had married Tom Walters and had 4 children, something terrible had happened, but I couldn't find any trace of her descendants in the present. I also had the picture on the previous page, and a series of letters about it.

And then, in late January, a slick new feature in Ancestry.com came to my aid. This feature is the Public Member Trees, which you cannot see with the library edition of Ancestry.com. You must have an individual subscription.

Since Ancestry.com (like all online databases) is constantly changing, I do the same searches over and over, at about 6-month intervals. On this most recent iteration, everything was revealed to me thanks to two public member trees. It turns out that "Elbert" Walters, whose full name was George Elbert Walters, did not like being called Elbert any more than my grandfather, whose full name was Arthur Elmore Harbison, liked being called Elmore. So Elbert Walters lived his life as George Walters or George E. Walters, even though he was called Elbert as a child. While this discovery could hardly be compared to breaking down a brick wall, it completed a project that I had been at for several years. I have now tracked down all of George Washington and Mary Lavinia Harbison's grandchildren and most of their descendants. Now, all I have to do is write everything up.

A warning to all – I intend to persist in trying to offer a series of courses on Internet genealogy. I am convinced that there is a need for such a series of courses, since there is obviously a lot of interest, and there is a definite need for people to learn how to use this marvelous genealogical tool that is available to all. There are a number of logistical problems, and they must be met one by one. I will detail them in the order that I see they must be addressed.

First, basic competence in using computers must be established for those who intend to use the Internet. People need to learn how to connect to the Internet,

both at home and in the library. They must learn to multitask – this involves using the documents and directories that are docked along the bottom of their computer screens in the same ways that one might use a stack of books on one's desk. They need to learn how to read PDF documents on their computers, and how to use the hyperlinks that are found inside them. In addition, people need to learn how to use the tabs on their browsers. Think of these as another stack of books on one's desk. When doing a genealogical search on the Internet, it is not uncommon for me to have more than 10 tabs open on my browser, and an equal number of items open on my taskbar. Using browser tabs and the taskbar is much easier than using stacks of books, once one becomes used to it.

For those whose basic computer skills are developed enough for the student to follow the instructor on one's own laptop, or the school PC, I envision two courses. The first one, which I plan to give this September at the Falmouth Community School (AKA Falmouth Night School), will be on using the Internet to do genealogy research. See the separate article on page 8 titled "Introduction to Internet Genealogy," detailing my progress towards creating this course.

The second course, which needs to be at the Falmouth Public Library, will be on using Ancestry.com, which is available only when one is in the Library, unless all participants have personal subscriptions. Thus, there is a possibility of developing a course at Falmouth Night School for people who have subscriptions to Ancestry.com. For a course for personal subscribers to Ancestry.com, the maximum enrollment would be about 10. For the other two courses, enrollment could be larger, perhaps 15 at most.

I am extremely excited about giving these courses, and hope that there are enough of you interested in attending these courses to make them a reality. Please contact me if you are interested, and we'll be on our way!

I encourage anyone who would like to use my handout as a home study program to contact me and I'll send you the PDF. Ask questions, or make suggestions to me at gharbison@gmail.com or at the Falmouth Public Library between 2 and 4 p.m. on Tuesdays.

What's New on Falgen.org?

Presented by Donna Walcovy – March 12, 2011

Cemetery conservator and webmaster Donna E. Walcovy presented an interesting program on March 12 called "What's New on Falgen.org," the Falmouth Genealogical Society website which she created ten years ago.

In her PowerPoint presentation Donna showed the many features of the FGS website including her favorite, the Cemetery Transcription Project which she has dedicated to Bill Dunkle who died last summer. The site

shows gravestone and cemetery photographs, *Falmouth Enterprise* transcriptions, history, maps, lot listings and much more about the various cemeteries in Falmouth's villages. The website has links to 19 cemeteries.

Among other things, Donna also talked about the Family Data Bank and the Obituary Index being compiled from the *Falmouth Enterprise*.



FGS Members Enjoy NERGC – April 7-10, 2011

The New England Regional Genealogical Conference in Springfield, MA, April 7-10 was a huge success in both size and quality. A record number of conference attendees, about 900, enjoyed the excellent lectures, workshops and social events. Here are some comments from Falmouth Genealogical Society members who attended the event:

What did NERGC 2011 mean to me? Lots, because in three days I was able to:

- Learn valuable research techniques.
- Learn new technological advances.
- Learn about new web-based data releases.
- Learn industry trends.
- Meet the leaders and shakers in the New England and National genealogical world.
- Meet lots of folks just as obsessed as me.

I am proud that ten FGS members attended. FGS is one of the NERGC underwriters meaning we share in the risks for sponsoring the conferences and share in the monetary surplus that should result from a successful conference. By having ten of our members attend, it



Falmouth Genealogical Society was well represented at NERGC with this group of members enjoying each other's company at the Friday evening banquet. Sitting: Marianne and Merrill Shafer, Phyllis Day and Joyce Pendery; standing: Ed Shibata, Donna Walcovy, David Martin, Janet Chalmers, and Judy and Ralph Wadleigh.

meant that they could enjoy the conference's full offerings and gain more appreciation of our society.

Ralph Wadleigh

I attended the very first NERGC gathering more than twenty years ago at Old Sturbridge Village. How we have grown! Attendance there numbered under 300 New Englanders, and this year's conference drew over 900 from all over the country. Over the years I have

Continued on page 5

From the President

Ralph Wadleigh whplar@comcast.net

Wow, what a great conference we had in Springfield! Once again NERGC surpassed expectations in terms of courses, workshops and social events. Ten members of FGS attended in one capacity or another and from what I've heard, they all enjoyed it very much. I know I did, because after attending a number of NERGC conferences, I've made some good friends. This time I focused on some research and writing workshops to polish some of my not-so-great skills! FGS members Marianne Shafer and Donna Walcovy made great presentations and everyone else who attended volunteered in some way or another to fulfill the FGS volunteer obligation. Thanks to everyone for helping make NERGC such a success.

Obit index update: We are making good process reading through the 1970s. Jim Cardoza has been especially ac-



What I Liked About NERGC

Continued from page 4

attended all but two conferences. As Falmouth's delegate to NERGC for several years, I was program chair for the 2000 conference held at Providence and the 2003 conference held at Seacrest Resort in North Falmouth. Over the years, I also presented three lectures as FGS's contribution, but I can't compete with Donna! She can do two or three lectures at one conference! FGS and its volunteers have a stellar record as major contributors to the success of these conferences. And it is fun as well as informative.

This is a long way of saying that I know a good NERGC conference when I see one, and 2011 was definitely the best! Fantastic lectures, such as that presented by our own Marianne Shafer; comfortable hotels; adequate space in lecture halls; good food; and best of all: the friendly atmosphere that makes everyone feel welcome and included, even if they are attending alone or for the first time. For me, seeing genealogist friends of long standing from all over the country, whom I only see at NERGC, was the most treasured aspect of the conference.

Joyce S. Pendery, CG

I got information on a wide variety of topics, but, as usual, the amount of material was overwhelming. How-

ever, my marked-up copy of the daily schedules along with the Syllabus Material Table of Contents Alphabetically by Speaker have been invaluable for sifting through my CD-ROM syllabus files at my leisure.

Website update: A website committee has been formed chaired by Richard Harbison, a newly appointed FGS Director. He, along with Donna Walcovy and Jeramie Hammond are reviewing what is on the FGS website, how it is displayed and what improvements can be made.

Membership update: Thanks to Joan Croce for sending out some patron follow-up letters.

Also, as one of the -10% users of Macintosh computers, I volunteered to introduce Donna Moughty, who has used Macs for many years, learning several things which will be useful for my genealogical work and more.

Ed Shibata

This was the first NERGC conference I had ever attended and I was amazed at the professional level and scope of lectures available. The site, encompassing the two large hotels, was daunting at first, but easy to navigate once we got our bearings. Volunteering at Hospitality gave me a chance to chat with so many interesting people from not only New England, but also from parts of the south and west. My favorites? Donna's presentation on the Iconography of New England Gravestones was tops. It was absolutely fascinating to learn how the gravestones had changed their motifs throughout the years. Josh Taylor's Genealogical Website development was breathtakingly speedy and chock full of information. Then, I loved the tall gentleman who walked the halls carrying a big sign that read, "ASK ME." What a lifesaver he was!

Marianne Shafer

Bookends

Notes from the Library Committee

Janice Zlatev, Chair



The Mystery "Uncle"

For several years I have been trying to identify the "Uncle" who lived in the home in Sweden where my mother grew up. There were two men who could be the uncle. Talking with my cousins, we had all heard

about the relative who returned from America. From our mothers, we had heard how he came knocking on the door one day and asked my grandmother, "Don't you remember me?"

Both my grandmother's oldest brother Anton Larsson and my grandfather's youngest brother Johan Persson had emigrated to America in the 1890s. One of them returned and lived with the family in a small farmhouse. There were my grandparents and six living children in the house, yet this uncle had a room of his own and my grandmother cooked for him and did his laundry. In return, he helped on the farm. (My cousins and I also believe he invested money in the farm from remarks made by our mothers.)

The latest Swedish household census I have is the 1900 which is too early from other information I have on when he returned. I also have a 1947-2007 Swedish Death Index, but he is not there either. I have been awaiting the release of the new death index which covers 1901-2009 and this CD became available in August 2010. Neither Anton Larsson or Johan Persson is on the new index. What happened to him?

I belong to the Swedish Genealogical Society of Colorado and on a recent trip to Denver I arranged to meet with Kjell S. Anderson, another member and a Swedish genealogist. Kjell has access to many Swedish resources and has the advantage of being able to read and understand any margin notes that are sometimes in the records. He found an Anton Larsson on a CD *Begravda i Sverige* or in English *Buried in Sweden* who was

buried 3 Dec 1939, but there is an infant in the grave also buried in 1939 and a married couple buried in the 1980s. I researched those names and found no connection to my family.

Kjell had given me the name of the cemetery in Halmstad where I do have some other family buried. I contacted a cousin in Sweden and he and another cousin visited the cemetery office seeking more information. Cemetery records show that Anton Larsson had died in St Olofshemmet, an "old folks home." My cousins pursued this lead and found records from the home giving Anton's date of birth which was a match. He had been admitted 1 Oct 1932 and there are records showing an annual payment until his death on 27 Nov 1939. We feel that this is indeed the "Uncle."

In Sweden, if a grave is not maintained or paid for, it may be reused after 25 years. The cemetery official also told my cousins that it was common to bury an infant in an opened grave and not create another grave. I am thinking this may have been the case if the family of the infant could not afford a grave. Why Anton is not recorded on the national death index is unknown. I am only thankful that he was recorded on the grave list.

I have now acquired both of these new CDs if anyone needs a "lookup."



Cape Cod Genealogical Society

Plans Research Trip To Boston

Seats are still available for the Cape Cod Genealogical Society's Research Bus Trip to Boston on Tuesday May 10, 2011. The destinations are the Massachusetts Archives, the Boston Public Library and the NEHGS Library. The price is \$35.00, and all are welcome.

For more information visit the CCGS Upcoming Events page at www.capecodgensoc.org/. Follow the link from the Bus Trip article for more details and a registration form. You can also call Ellen Geanacopoulos at 508-432-5469.

FGS Welcomes New Members

#405, Wenda A. Windbigler, Mashpee, researching Goble of Concord, MA, Illinois, New Jersey, North Carolina, California, Ferrill of Illinois and Kansas, Wahl of San Francisco, CA, James of Joplin, MO, and Kansas, Windbigler of Kansas, Ohio, Missouri, and Pennsylvania, McDonald of Canada and California, Towne of Baltimore, MD, Lydard of Kansas, Joplin, MO, Baltimore, MD, and Cook or Koch.

#406, Gail M. Kenney, Falmouth, researching Burke in U.S. and Ireland in the 1700s and 1800s, Rossi in Italy from the 1800s to present.

#407, John M. Tudor, Jr., East Falmouth, researching Tudor in Virginia between 1629 and 1815 before the family went to Kentucky, Dixon, Blair, and Caudill.

#408, John Allen, West Falmouth, researching Allen, Siller, Flynn, Dorney, Adler, Tale in the U.S., Ireland, England, Germany, and Austria.

#409, Robert Conant Ellis, East Falmouth, researching Margaret Conant of Dorchester, MA, in 1800, relatives in Falmouth >2000.

#410, Donna Garcia, East Falmouth, researching Figueira in British Guiana and Medeira Island, Jonas in Mashpee, Goncalves in Fogo, Cape Verde, and Pereira in Brava, Cape Verde.

#411, Mary & Brian Nickerson, Falmouth, researching Dugan in County Clare, McGovern, Cronin, and Brown in Ireland, and Nickerson in Chatham.



Book Review

The Age of Gold by H.W. Brands, published by Doubleday div. of Random House, Inc., New York City, 2002.

by *Ralph Wadleigh*

If you have a miner, forty-niner among your ancestors, this book will be of interest. Brands weaves the Gold Rush experiences of several known (John and Jessie Fremont, John Sutter) and relatively unknown participants to create a factual overview of one of the greatest migrations in America's history. The important migratory routes, by sea around the Horn, by sea via the Isthmus of Panama, and overland across the plains

are relived through the eyes of individual travelers. After describing the trials and tribulations of the newly arrived emigrants, the book becomes more of a history of California, which thanks to the rapid increase of population became a state faster than any other territory. Also discussed in a broad manner are California's role in the Civil War, the development of the transcontinental railroad and the effect of America's new-found gold-based wealth on its economic development. If you are trying to imagine the life of someone in your family who made this trip, this book may fill in some blanks. It is available at the West Falmouth Library and through CLAMS.



Introduction to Internet Genealogy Course to Be Offered at Night School

By *Richard Harbison*

I recently submitted a proposal to the Falmouth Community (Night) School to teach a course bearing the above title, and probably will find out if it is accepted about mid-May, at the earliest. I hope to give it in the Fall Semester of 2011 (starting in September). The course will extend through the entire Fall Semester, with one 2-hour class each week.

The course description is as follows: "If you know how to use a computer, this course can teach you a great deal about the multitude of free resources on the Internet to do your genealogical research. Using general search

engines like Google, as well as a wide variety of specific genealogical websites, the Internet can bring your ancestors to life, even though they may have lived far from Cape Cod."

The course will be taught in the computer lab at Lawrence School or the lab at the High School, using the school's PCs, or you can use your own PC laptops. The issues involved in using Macs will not be addressed, so Mac users should either be very experienced in traveling in the PC world, or they must be able to use the school's computers.

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Introduction to Genealogy Course Offered

Continued from page 7

Students should be very comfortable using their PCs on the Internet before they enter class, so I listed a few prerequisites. They are as follows: Familiarity with basic computer and Internet skills. Able to open and save PDF files. Able to use Google and other search engines. Have an email account. Able to download files and pictures from the Internet. It is recommended that each student have a genealogical database, and some familiarity with its use. If you don't have these skills now, there is plenty of time to learn them. Come see us on Tuesdays at our genealogical help sessions, and we can quickly get you up to speed.

The topics for the first class now include (they may change as I develop the course): 1. Using browsers (Mozilla Firefox and Internet Explorer preferred) – How to save browser sessions, multiple tabs, multiple windows, using the taskbar. 2. Selecting and using a genealogy database to store your family tree and its data. 3. Advanced use of Google.

The maximum number of students in the class will be 15. I would like to give preference to FGS members, but the ultimate decision on this will be up to the Falmouth Community (Night) School. I will keep everyone posted on the progress of my proposal in the Newsletter. Once the class is accepted, sign up as soon as possible to make sure you have a

place. If you are interested in this course, please contact me at gharbison@gmail.com. Let me know what nights and times might be best for you, although I don't know how much say I have on these matters. At any rate, if you contact me as soon as possible, I can give you updates on the status of the course as soon as I learn it, and do everything I can to make sure you have a place in the class. I expect that the course will be a lot of fun, and that we all may learn a lot from it.

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Proposed Budget

FY2012 (June 1, 2011 – May 31, 2012)

Income from 6/1/11 to 5/31/12

Membership dues (130 members @ \$20/member)	\$2600.00
Member gifts to General Fund	\$750.00
Member gifts to Cemetery Project	\$500.00
Interest from Certificate of Deposit	\$ 60.00
Profit-sharing from the 2011 New England Regional Genealogical Conference	\$1000.00
Book sales	\$100.00
Total	\$ 5010.00

Expenses from 6/1/11 to 5/31/12

Newsletter printing and mailing	\$600.00
Programs (honoraria, mileage allowance, publicity, handouts)	\$1500.00
Subscription to Ancestry/HeritageQuest, shared with Falmouth Public Library	\$600.00
Federation of Genealogical Society dues	\$55.00
Cemetery Project	\$400.00
Administrative Expenses (MA filing fees, P.O. Box rental, nametags, etc.)	\$250.00
Website (includes professional work)	\$2200.00
Total	\$5605.00

Net loss	\$595.00
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Comments:

1. Member gifts to the General Fund and Cemetery Project have been estimated from FY2011.
2. Every other year we have received about \$1000 from the New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC). In the year of the meeting we place a \$100 ad in the syllabus as a sponsoring genealogical society.
3. The annual subscription cost for Ancestry/HeritageQuest increases each year; in FY2011 we paid \$500 of the total cost of \$2155.
4. The Board anticipates \$2000 of professional work on its website to make it compatible with all browsers, etc., and is the cause of the Net Loss in the budget.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

Membership dues for fiscal year 2012 (1 June 2011 to 31 May 2012) 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.)

Name(s) _____

Street address _____

Town, state, zipcode _____

Telephone number _____ E-mail address _____

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

If applicable, provide a temporary address for newsletter mailing and indicate when it is in effect:

Street address _____

Town, state, zipcode _____

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

January	February	March	April	May	June
July	August	September	October	November	December

Suggestions for the Board _____

Opportunities to help the Society:

1. Cemetery Transcription Project: Contact Donna Walcovy (508-477-1947 or d.quenzel@comcast.net) for details.
2. Associate Editor (Take and write program notes for the Newsletter).
3. 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

Newsletter

Vol. 23 Number 3

P. O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA 02536

www.falgen.org

September – October 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

The Journey Takers: An Inside Look at the Immigration Experience

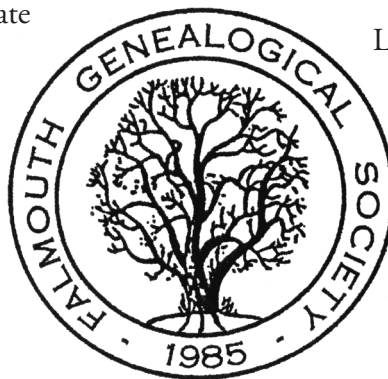
Presented by Leslie Albrecht Huber – May 14, 2011

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

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

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

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



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

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

Continued on page 2

Calendar of Meetings for 2011–2012

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

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

Beyond Names, Dates and Places – Compiling an Anecdotal Record

Presented by Marianne Shafer, FGS – June 11, 2011

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



The Journey Takers

Continued from page 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Continued on page 3

The Joys of Publishing Your Family History

Program presented by Bob Chase – July 9, 2011

reviewed by Joyce Pendery

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

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

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

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



The Journey Takers

Continued from page 2

others who shared their experience.

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

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

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

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

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

Tales of Our Ancestors

Program presented by Three FGS Members – August 13, 2011

Jacob Kunkle, 1781-1866 – From Stockade to Staunton

presented by Margaret Cooper

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

The information helped to clarify the names of the places

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

Two Sailors and Two Ships

presented by Jim Cardoza

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

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

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Stephen Hopkins of Jamestown and Plymouth Plantations

presented by Bob Rice

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

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



Two Sailors and Two Ships

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

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

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

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

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

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From the President

Ralph Wadleigh whplar@comcast.net

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

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

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

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



Lydia Longley: The First American Nun

presented by Gardner Edgerton

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

Book Review

by Ralph Wadleigh

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



FGS Welcomes New Member

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

Upcoming Night School Course on Internet Genealogy

by Richard Harbison

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

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

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

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

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



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

by Janice Zlatev

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

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

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Program Notes From Meetings

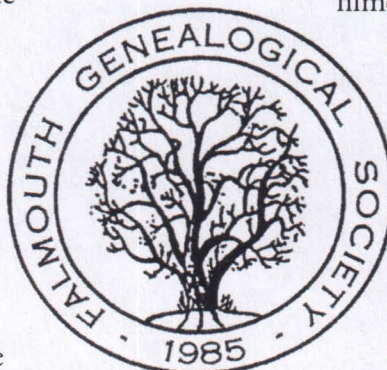
Tracking Your Family Through the U.S. Censuses

Presented by Joy Henning – October 8, 2011

by Ralph Wadleigh

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

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



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

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

Calendar of Meetings for 2012

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

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

Joint Meeting of the Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Societies

Three lectures presented by Dick Eastman, blogger and tech guru

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

1. *The Organized Genealogist*

by Janet Burt Chalmers

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

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

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

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

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

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

Examples: Eogn.com, Ancestry.com, edu

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

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

by Marianne Lockwood Shafer, FGS

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

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



The Organized Genealogist

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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3. Latest Technology for Genealogists

by Richard Harbison

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

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



Conservation

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Latest Technology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Titanic Discovery!

by Charlet E. Roskovics

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

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

ORIGINAL (To be retained by Clerk of Court)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 111288

PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION

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

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

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

- (1) My full, true, and correct name is STEVE PAPP
- (2) My present place of residence is 3565 W. 69th St. Cleveland(2), Ohio
- (3) I am 57 years old. (2) I was born on January 2, 1880 at Adorian, Hungary
- (4) I am of the color of my eyes Blue, of my hair Brown
- (5) My personal description is as follows: Sex Male, race White, complexion Med., scars or marks Scar on rt temple, present nationality Hungary
- (6) I was married on August 22, 1914 at Carteret, New Jersey to Justina Carteret
- (7) I am not a native born citizen of the United States
- (8) I have 2 children: Elizabeth (F), Nov. 23, 1913; Steve, Jr. (M), June 30, 1915. Elizabeth born in Carteret, New Jersey; Steve born in Carteret, New Jersey. Both reside in Cleveland, Ohio.
- (9) My last place of foreign residence was Adorian, Hungary under the name of Miklos Papp (Istvan Papp)
- (10) I have been in the United States since April 23, 1912

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

(11) I declare my intention to become a citizen of the United States on July 19, 1945 at Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio

(12) Since my lawful entry for permanent residence I have DO been absent from the United States, for a period or periods of months or longer, as follows:

DATE OF DEPARTURE	DATE OF RETURN	REASON FOR ABSENCE

(13) I have not been in the United States for a period of one year or longer, as follows:

DATE OF DEPARTURE	DATE OF RETURN	REASON FOR ABSENCE

(14) I have not been in the United States for a period of two years or longer, as follows:

DATE OF DEPARTURE	DATE OF RETURN	REASON FOR ABSENCE

(15) I have not been in the United States for a period of three years or longer, as follows:

DATE OF DEPARTURE	DATE OF RETURN	REASON FOR ABSENCE

(16) I have not been in the United States for a period of four years or longer, as follows:

DATE OF DEPARTURE	DATE OF RETURN	REASON FOR ABSENCE

LIST OR MANIFEST OF ALIEN PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES

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

S. S. Bremen sailing from Bremen April 18th 1912

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Country	Religion	Where born	Parents	Where married	When married	When last in U.S.	Where last in U.S.	Where last in U.S.	Where last in U.S.
1	Wendler	20	M	Germany	Catholic	Munich, Germany	John & Maria	Germany	1908				
2	Papp	27	M	Hungary	Protestant	Adorian, Hungary	Michael & Elizabeth	Hungary		April 23, 1912	New York		
3	Wingwright		F	Germany									
4	Polzella		M	Italy									
5	Labato		M	Italy									
6	Wesner		M	Italy									
7	Ziele		M	Italy									
8	Prausman		M	Italy									

STATES IMMIGRATION OFFICER AT PORT OF ARRIVAL

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

Arriving at Port of New York April 23rd 1912

No.	Whether over 16	By whom	Whether in possession of \$10.00	Whether going to join a relative or friend, and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address.	Whether a Politician	Condition of Health, Mental and Physical.	Deformed or Clipped, Nature, length and time.	Height, Feet, Inches.	Complexion.	Color of Hair, Eyes.
1		Self	Yes	No	No	No	No	5 8	Fair	Hl yr
2			Yes	No	No	No	No	5 8		br
3			Yes	No	No	No	No	5 3		bl

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

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

Continued on page 8

Titanic Discovery!

Continued from page 7

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

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

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

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

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

LINER BREMEN SIGHTS 100 OR MORE BODIES

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

ONE OVERTURNED LIFE BOAT

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

The North German Lloyd steamship *Bremen*, which arrived yesterday morning from Bremen with 267 cabin passengers and 255 stowage passengers, was the first vessel to arrive in New York which had sighted the bodies and wreckage from the *Titanic*.

Capt. B. Wilhelm reported that on Saturday afternoon between 4 and 6 o'clock the ship passed several icebergs in latitude 41° north and longitude 50°25 west, and near by were two large icebergs, one about a mile away, which the Captain estimated to have been about fifty feet above the water, and the other about two miles further south. The *Titanic* sank in latitude 40°51 north and longitude 50°14 west.

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

The Captain said yesterday that he thought there were about 100 altogether. Chief Officer E. Klugkist said that he counted only seven.

Several of the bodies were lashed to doors and gratings, the Captain said, denoting the desperate fight they had made for life. All appeared to be in a good state of preservation, which was attributable no doubt to the icy temperature of the water. The body of a man in evening dress could be seen through the glasses lashed to a door. Two more were lashed to a bundle of steamer chairs. Most of the bodies were seen between the two large bergs.

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

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

Mrs. Sarah Miller of Kansas City said that the *Bremen* passed the first lot of bodies shortly after 6 o'clock Saturday afternoon, after passing fifteen icebergs on both sides of the ship. The wreckage and bodies were alongside until 6 o'clock, she said, and made me feel nervous and ill. The sight was an awful one to gaze upon. I saw the body of a woman with a life preserver strapped to her waist and the bodies of two little children clamped in her arms.

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

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

There were a number of women and children, she said, but the majority of them were men and boys. I saw a man and a woman clinging together, their arms two men clinging together, and the body of a woman with a child in her arms lashed to a chair. All the bodies I saw were fully dressed with the exception of the woman on the chair, who was in her nightgown.

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

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

The New York Times
Published: April 25, 1912
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TRIPPLICATE
(To be given to declarant when originally issued; to be made a part of the petition or submission when petition is filed; and to be retained as a part of the petition in the records of the court)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA **108147**
DECLARATION OF INTENTION No.

(Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof)

I, Steven Papp, of the State of Ohio, do hereby declare that I am a native born citizen of the Common Pleas Court of Cuyahoga County, Cleveland, Ohio.

(1) My full, true, and correct name is Steven Papp. (2) My present place of residence is 3565 W 69th St., Cleveland, Cuyahoga, Ohio. (3) My occupation is Iron Worker. (4) I am 25 years old. (5) I was born on Jan 2, 1890 in Adorjan, Hungary. (6) My personal description is as follows: Sex Male, color White, complexion Fair, color of eyes Brown, color of hair Brown, height 5 feet 11 inches, weight 185 pounds, visible distinctive mark Scar on left side of face near temple, race White, present nationality Hungary.

(7) I am married; the name of my wife or husband is Justina, we were married on 6/27/1914 at Carteret, N.J. She was born at Nyirtura, Hungary and entered the United States at New York, N.Y. on Jan 9, 1912 for permanent residence in the United States, and now resides at Cleveland, with me.

(8) I have three children; and the name, sex, date and place of birth, and present place of residence of each of said children who is living, are as follows: Bela, 11/24/1916, Cleveland Ohio, Now in U.S. Army, Elizabeth, 11/23/1918, Cleveland Ohio, resides in Cleveland Ohio, Steve, Jr., 6/30/1919, Carteret N.J., resides in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

(9) My last place of foreign residence was Adrian, Hungary. (10) I emigrated to the United States from Bremen, Germany on Apr. 24, 1912. (11) My lawful entry for permanent residence in the United States was at New York, N.Y. on Apr. 24, 1912 under the name of Miklos Papp (Istvan Papp).

(12) Since my lawful entry for permanent residence I have not been absent from the United States, for a period or periods of 6 months or longer, as follows:

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

(13) I have herebefore made declaration of intention: No. --- on March, 1920 at Cleveland, Cuyahoga, Ohio in the US District Court.

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



Subscribed and sworn to (affirmed) before me in the form of oath above shown in the office of the Clerk of said Court, at Cleveland, Ohio, this 17th day of July, anno Domini 1915 hereby certify that Certification N 176008 from the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, showing the lawful entry for permanent residence of the declarant above named on the date stated in this declaration of intention, has been received by me, and that the photograph affixed to the duplicate and triplicate hereof is a likeness of the declarant.

LEONARD F. FUERST
Clerk of the Common Pleas Court.
By Robert J. ... Deputy Clerk.

FORN N-816
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
(Edition of 11-41)