

SINCE 1985

Celebrating 35 Years!

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWS

JAN.-MAR. 2020

VOL. 32, ISSUE 1

MICHAEL L. STRAUSS SPEAKS AT JOINTLY-SPONSORED NOVEMBER MEETING *By Ralph Wadleigh*

On Saturday, November 9, 2019, the Falmouth Genealogical Society and the



Civilian Defense and the Office of Price Administration

Cape Cod Genealogical Society enjoyed their annual joint meeting at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Osterville. Michael L. Strauss, AG® (Accredited Genealogist) of Utah, was the featured speaker. He delivered two excellent lectures. His first topic was "Researching Your World War II Ancestors." Using an illustration of a mud-stuck Army Jeep, he stated that many researchers have been stuck with their World War II research because of a 1973 fire in the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. The fire damaged 80% of the records for Army personnel discharged November 1, 1912 to January 1, 1960 and damaged 75% of Air Force personnel discharged September 25, 1947 to January 1, 1964. Navy, Marines and Coast Guard records were not affected.

Because of the record loss, substitute records must be used for those individuals whose records were affected. These include Draft Registration Cards, Morning Reports, Missing Air Crew Reports, Pension Files, Casualty Records, Headstone Applications and Individual Deceased Files. Mr. Strauss provided attendees with details regarding the contents of these substitute records and where and how they can be accessed. Records concerning the home front were also covered. Records of the Office of

are at the National Archives.

Records can also be searched for participants in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAC), Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP), Women's Navy Reserve (WAVES), Women's Coast Guard Reserves (SPARS) and the Merchant Marines.

After a break for lobster rolls and chicken salad sandwiches, Mr. Strauss began his second lecture entitled, "Following the Armies: Researching Military Maps." He observed that many family researchers find pleasure when they can locate an ancestor on a field of battle. This is made easier if the ancestor's regiment, battalion, brigade or division is known. With this knowledge, maps and other records can be the keys to a successful outcome.

Mr. Strauss gave a brief history of the evolution of military maps. Interestingly, during the Revolutionary War, most of the maps used by the Continental Army were British maps! He also provided a historical overview of the parts of the US government and/or military that were engaged in map making. Various types of maps were discussed and illustrated. These included, Panoramic Maps, Battlefield Maps, Topographical Maps, Draft Registration Maps, Railroad Maps and City Plans among others. The

(cont'd. on page 4)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held at 10 am Downstairs, Falmouth Library Unless Otherwise Noted

Saturday, January 11

"Telling Their Stories When They Left No Stories"

Webinar With Mary Roddy, CG

Saturday, February 8

"No Irish Need Apply"

The Irish Experience in Boston From Mid-1700's to the Great Potato Famine

With Christopher Daley

Saturday, March 14

"Oak Grove Cemetery — Buried Genealogy Puzzles"

10 am Meet at Oak Grove Cemetery, Falmouth

Wednesdays in April

April 8, 15, 22 and 29

Joy of Learning Series "Mayflower 400 Including The Wampanoag Story"

7:00 pm

Hermann Room

Falmouth Public Library

More Info to Come

Saturday, May 9

"The Portuguese Adventures of Grandpa Jose Moniz"

With Al Moniz

Saturday, June 6

35th Anniversary Luncheon & Annual Meeting

The Flying Bridge, Falmouth

More info to come



Please Watch Your Mail for a Survey and Respond Promptly!



Like us on

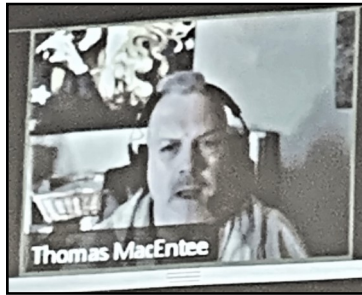
Facebook

Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc

WEBINAR PRESENTED ON PRIVACY, DNA AND GENEALOGY

“IT’S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THE RULES, LEARN THE OPTIONS AND MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION”

THOMAS MACENTEE ON PRIVACY SETTINGS



SCREEN DURING WEBINAR

On October 12 Falmouth Genealogical Society presented a webinar, “Privacy, DNA and Genealogy” with Thomas MacEntee from Chicago. The privacy issue is complicated, constantly evolving, and sometimes messy. MacEntee touched on some of the problems.

Murder convictions have been overturned; decades-old crimes have been solved; and John and Jane Does have been identified by law enforcement accessing DNA test results. But who has the right to your DNA test results?

It’s your responsibility to know the rules, learn the options and make an informed decision. And sign up for updates. The International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) Wiki explains the current DNA privacy policies, consent forms, terms and conditions of each of the big five DNA vendors: 23 and Me, FamilyTreeDNA, LivingDNA (British), MyHeritage (Israel), and Ancestry.com. [here](#).

Just because you want privacy doesn’t mean you can’t support law

enforcement. It is more difficult to solve mysteries and trace family when people block access to their DNA. It’s worth reading the pro and con impacts on the genealogical community in [this article](#) from The Atlantic about the messy consequences of the Golden State Killer case.

Blaine Bettinger’s website has important information about who has rights when you pass away. You can download and sign his beneficiary agreement [here](#). Some funeral homes offer DNA swab tests when consent is impossible. The courts say the dead have no right to privacy. So put your wishes in your will. Norway is close to being able to test DNA from artifacts such as envelopes, hair, dentures, but can we be sure the ancestor licked it?

The Legal Genealogist article, “Opening the DNA Floodgates,” can be read [here](#).

The 4th Amendment prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures without probable cause.

A study found that 60% of Americans of European

descent could be identified even if they didn’t take a DNA test because each test identifies a whole family.

DNA companies can conduct research on your genetic data, sell it, or share it with third parties. Should you be entitled to share in the profits?

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) of 2008 is a Federal law that prohibits discrimination in health coverage and employment based on genetic information.

Could the government secretly use DNA data as Roosevelt used the 1940 census to find Japanese? Unbelievably, the Chinese gave free “health” DNA tests and used results to find and then track Muslims. MacEntee is afraid of a possible “dark side” in the future.

Is it possible for genealogists to create a set of “best practices” for DNA? Is blockchain the future platform for DNA?

All these questions require keeping up to date on changes to DNA practices.

Personally, MacEntee uses his own full name and allows access to law enforcement.

He provided a list of resources with links, see “Note” on the left.

Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access the material handed out at meetings. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, [falgen.org](#), click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes. If you need the password, please contact Jerry Luby at jluby02@aol.com or 508-563-6775.

MEMBERS CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS WITH STORIES AND GOODIES



LEFT, CATHERINE GWYNN AND THE WEDDING DRESS; MIDDLE, THE TABLE IS ALMOST “GROANING” UNDER THE WEIGHT OF GOODIES; AND RIGHT, DOTTIE PRIESTLEY TALKS ABOUT LIVING COUSINS SHE MET

A relaxed and festive group of people enjoyed coffee and tasty treats on December 14.

The invite to tell a story enticed Catherine Gwynn to bring in her lovingly-cared-for grandmother’s wedding gown. She said Nelly McCarthy wore it when she married Thomas Keohane in 1907. Catherine doesn’t know when or where this grandmother got the dress. But Catherine wore it herself when she got married in 1983 and a cousin also wore it.

Ralph Wadleigh presented an interesting exercise using an intriguing and mysterious 1845 letter found at an antique shop. His interactive presentation encouraged audience suggestions for sleuthing to find the story of the individuals in the letter using genealogical sources. Later he showed slides of records he found proving who the individuals were and what precipitated such a letter being written. Ralph is considering donating it to a museum where

any interested descendants could find it.

The final short topic was “Cousins I Found,” in which Dottie Priestley discussed eight living (not dead) relatives she found online and eventually met in person. The catchphrase for each was “People are so nice.” She showed photos of her cousins and the precious family artifacts they shared with her, including some original 1700’s documents. She also showed some fun videos.

And she told how different these cousins’ lives are from hers. They included one who cut the trees to build his log cabin home in the mountains of northwestern Canada, one who was a Hollywood actor, one who is a Wall Street mega-millionaire and another who is an award-winning advertising executive.

Thanks go out to those who brought goodies and/or shared their stories. It was a lovely Saturday morning.

\$500 INCOME RECEIVED


Thanks to the Falmouth Road Race and to member volunteers who put together bibs for runners, Falmouth Genealogical Society received another check for \$500. This helps us continue to provide interesting speakers for our monthly meetings and to give back to the community with our Library donation for online, at-home access to reliable genealogical records.



MEMBERS RALPH WADLEIGH, LEFT, AND TIM MARTIN PRESENTED A CLASS ENTITLED, “GET STARTED IN GENEALOGY,” AT THE WEST FALMOUTH LIBRARY ON OCTOBER 24, 2019. THIS OUTREACH HELPS INDIVIDUALS FIND ANCESTORS AND PROMOTES THE SOCIETY. *In the photo, Ralph is so into it, he’s actually wearing part of the title slide on his face and shirt!*

In Memoriam

Falmouth Genealogical Society was saddened to learn that one of its former members and past treasurer, Ed Shibata, passed away on November 24, 2019 in Falmouth. Sincere condolences are offered to his wife.


 MARK YOUR
 CALENDAR
 FOR A
 LUNCHEON
 ON
 SATURDAY
 JUNE 6, 2020!
 CELEBRATE
 35 YEARS
 OF FALMOUTH
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY!

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**

PO Box 2107
 East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
 Website: www.falgen.org

COMMITTED TO
 PRESERVING PUBLIC AND
 PRIVATE RECORDS AND
 ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN
 THE PERFORMANCE OF
 GENEALOGICAL
 RESEARCH

Officers

- President*
Jerry Luby
- Vice President*
Tim Martin
- Treasurer*
Thomas Greve
- Secretary*
Ralph Wadleigh

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

Internet addresses contained in this publication are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

MICHAEL L. STRAUSS SPEAKS

(cont'd. from page 1)

more famous mapmakers were introduced with examples of their works as were the leading map publishers.

Many military maps can be located online at The Library of Congress and the National Archives. A New England source for maps is Historic Maps Works, LLC., of Portland Maine.

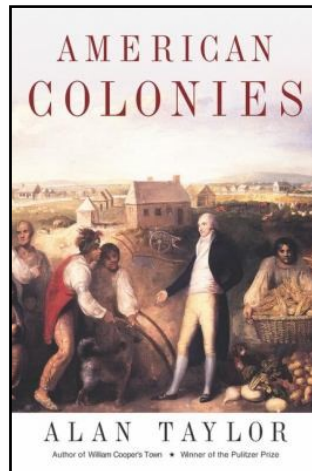
This second presentation, like the first lecture

was fact filled, and delivered at a rapid pace. All attendees were impressed with Mr. Strauss' extensive knowledge of military history and its application to genealogy. In case you missed this meeting, you are in luck. His lectures were accompanied by detailed handouts which can be accessed at the Falmouth Genealogical Society website, see the "Note" on page 2.

AMERICAN COLONIES—A BOOK REVIEW

By Ralph Wadleigh

"American Colonies" by Alan Taylor is an ambitious book suggested to me by a genealogy friend whose son had it on a summer reading list! It is a big picture history, synthesizing the development of all the American colonies from 1500 to 1800. This includes, not just the ones we are familiar with in the present continental United States, but those of the Caribbean, Mexico, Peru, Alaska, Hawaii and Canada as well. The imperial rivalries between English, French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese were the forces pushing colonization. Each sought a variety of riches; gold, furs, tobacco, cotton. The native peoples were usually subjugated through a combination of disease, guns, alcohol and internal dissention. Where native labor was insufficient, slaves were imported. Each empire experienced different results.



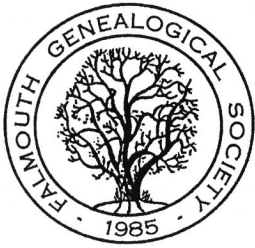
closer to West Africa's slave markets than Jamaica, so it was colonized first for slave-based sugar production.

An interesting observation concerns the role of guns. To make it easier for natives to supply deer and furs at an ever-increasing rate, the colonizers provided guns to the natives so they could employ weaponry more advanced than tradition bow and arrow or spear hunting. This did increase the deer and fur harvest for the export trade, but now the natives had guns and colonizers worried about the threat the armed natives presented.

Genealogists having ancestors living in the various colonies will find Taylor's descriptions valuable for historical context. For example, persons with New England colonial ancestry will learn how coastal New Englanders played a colonizing role by supplying lumber, dried fish, horses and cattle to the West Indies, in return for molasses which when converted to rum, was used to intoxicate local tribes. Rum was also exported to Africa where it was traded for slaves destined for the West Indies.

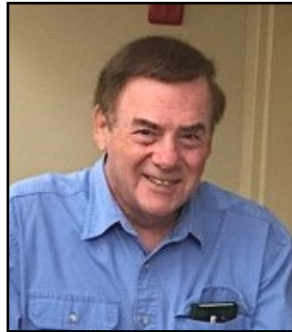
This volume will provide the reader with an excellent overview of the colonization process in the Americas. "American Colonies" is available through the CLAMS network at the Falmouth and other local libraries.

Cover photo used with permission of Penguin Random House



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As the global effects of coronavirus (COVID-19) continue to evolve, Falmouth Genealogical Society is firmly committed to the health and safety of its members, guests, volunteers, and community.



JERRY LUBY

Due to these public health concerns, Falmouth Public Library and Falmouth Genealogical Society have postponed the "Joy of Learning Series" on the "Mayflower 2020" formerly scheduled for April. We are exercising an abundance of caution in the interest of protecting our well-being. We have rescheduled the four-part series for four Wednesdays in October, as shown in blue on the calendar to the right.

Also to be presented at a later time is the program at Oak Grove Cemetery originally scheduled for March 14. And our Tuesday help sessions are on hiatus for the duration of the library's closure.

These are difficult times. People all over the world and all over the country are grappling with COVID-19, in all different stages and circumstances.

Due to these unprecedented circumstances, our Calendar of Events on this page is speculative and other scheduled events could

be postponed too. All programs are listed as originally planned. We will continue to keep you informed. Updated information about these programs will be mailed to you and posted on Facebook and on our website, www.falgen.org.

The Falmouth Genealogical Society is continuing its work throughout this crisis. We will be conducting board meetings virtually and are working to offer many new informative programs as soon as it is safe to do so.

We will let you know when we will return to our regular programming and public mission.

Fortunately, online genealogical research is available while we self-quarantine at home. We hope you have more time to dig further into your family history.

Hoping you all stay in good health and we see each other's smiling faces again very soon.

Yours truly,

Jerry Luby

President



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held at 10 am Downstairs, Falmouth Library Unless Otherwise Noted

Saturday, May 16

"The Portuguese Adventures of Grandpa Jose Moniz"
With Al Moniz

Saturday, June 6

35th Anniversary Luncheon & Annual Meeting
12:00 Noon at The Flying Bridge, Falmouth
More info to come

Saturday, July 11

Topic to be announced
With Jill Morelli

Saturday, August 8

Program to be Announced

Saturday, September 12

Program to be Announced

The following meetings will be held downstairs at Falmouth Public Library "MAYFLOWER 2020" Joy of Learning Series In Concert with "Falmouth Reads Together"

Wednesday, Oct. 7 @ 7 pm

"A Wampanoag Perspective in 400 Years of History"
With Linda Coombs, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Wednesday, Oct. 14 @ 7 pm

"Influences on Native Perspectives—Myths, Legends and Realities"
With Ron Petersen, Orleans Historical Commission

Wednesday, Oct. 21 @ 7 pm

"Connections to Early Falmouth Families"
With Phyllis Day and David Young, Quaker

Wednesday, Oct. 28 @ 7 pm

"Proving a Mayflower Connection"
With Ralph Wadleigh, Mayflower Descendant

“NO IRISH NEED APPLY”- BOSTON EXPERIENCE DETAILED



CHRISTOPHER DALEY
SPEAKING

On February 8th Christopher Daley spoke about the Irish experience in Boston from the mid-17th century through the 20th. A history teacher in the Silver Lake Regional School System in Kingston Massachusetts, he holds a B.A. and an M.A. from Bridgewater State University in Political Science and History. His fast-moving, fact-filled slideshow was, at times, made even more dramatic when he acted out James Michael Curley “sucker punching” a newspaper editor. Daley’s own Irish ancestors were from Bantry, County Cork.

In mid-17th century Ireland exaggerated claims of atrocities against English landlords resulted in the murder of 4,000 Irish, who had been made sharecroppers on their own land. Nearly 100,000 Irish children were removed from their parents, sent as indentured servants to Virginia, New England and the West Indies, and taken off boats in chains. One of these, Goody Glover, was

hanged as a witch for reciting the Lord’s Prayer in Latin in 1688. Daley calls her the “first Irish martyr in Boston.” Anti-Irish/Catholic sentiment lasted for centuries. But on November 2, 1788 the first Mass was conducted without persecution, followed by the building of the Catholic Church of the Holy Cross, the first Irish burial ground, St. Augustine’s, and the first Irish newspaper, “The Pilot.” In 1820 a semi-voluntary wave of Irish came to escape penal laws. By 1830 a total of 61,392 Irish had come to Boston. Later Protestants burned down the Ursuline Convent in 1834 and the Broad Street Riot was in 1837.

The Great Famine saw 47,000 come to Boston in 1845 in “coffin ships” only to live in Irish slums worse than Calcutta’s in Boston’s Battery March and the North End. “No Irish Need Apply” appeared in ads. Women worked as maids and washer women. The men, former farmers, became waiters, or longshoremen carrying cargo on their backs, or ditchdiggers who were worked to death. It was Irish workers who filled in Mill Pond and built Beacon Hill and Beach Street in Chinatown. Immigrants

worked six-day weeks, 14-hour days with no breaks.

The anti-immigration, anti-Catholic, anti-Irish Know Nothing Party governed for ten years beginning in 1854. Cartoons depicted the Irish as monkeys, drunks and brawlers. Although there were claims the Pope would pull the strings if they were elected, Irish politicians eventually were elected as dog catchers, lamplighters and city councilmen. Later the first Irish Catholic Mayor, Hugh O’Brien, was elected. Others included Patrick Maguire, Patrick Collins, Martin Lomasney, P.J. Kennedy, John F. “Honey Fitz” Fitzgerald (Rose Kennedy’s father) and James Michael Curley.

The colorful James Michael Curley was elected over and over again despite corruption and even being jailed. Voters would forget and vote the popular candidate in again. He served one term as governor, four as mayor, and two in Congress and was known as the mayor of the poor. He gave mops to washerwomen so they wouldn’t have to be scrub floors on their knees. He died in 1958 and is buried at Mt. Calvary, Roslindale. His tombstone reads like a resume. There are two statues of him in Quincy Marketplace.

Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access the material handed out at meetings. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, falgen.org, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes. If you need the password, please contact Jerry Luby at jluby02@aol.com or 508-563-6775.

WEBINAR OFFERS HELP IN WRITING ABOUT ANCESTORS

On January 11th Mary Roddy, CG® began her webinar with a boring recitation of vital statistics for a person, just birth and death dates, parents' and children's names, etc. Though we need this info, it doesn't make a story anyone would want to hear. Roddy proceeded to enumerate various ideas and sources to find "fluff" for a better understanding of ancestors' lives and more interesting reading.

She offered many suggestions. Gather what you know, create a timeline, fill in with fluff and write it down. It does not need to be chronological to be interesting. See where you have holes, look for themes, squeeze all you can out of records. Put yourself in your ancestor's place. Obviously, you don't know how they felt, but human feelings are the same. Think about what it must have been like when they experienced such things as babies' unexpected deaths. What were the circumstances? What was it like at holidays? or on their jobs? Perhaps their ethnic neighborhood was filled with sounds of their language and smells of their cooking. Did they own or rent?

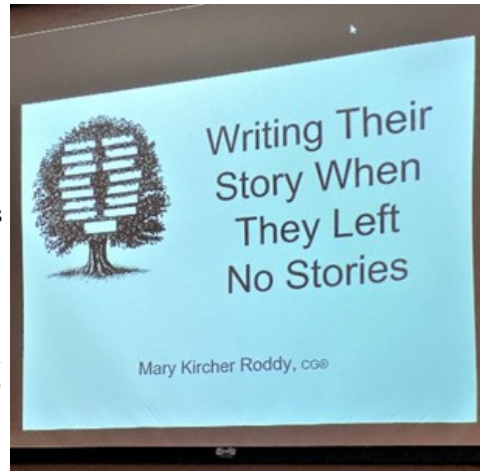
She suggested many sources for fluff. Non-population censuses for 1850 – 1880 include industry, farming,

etc. and are available on Ancestry for selected states including Massachusetts. If ancestors were farmers, what did they grow or sell? Whose land were they farming?

Google farming methods used in the period.

Some states took censuses in the years ending in "5." Look at others on the page with your ancestors. Learn about occupations. What tools did a dairy farmer use? What did they grow in your ancestor's area? What method did they use to harvest? Find out what a "car oiler" does – don't just say someone worked on the railroad. How did they care for animals? [Archive.org](http://archive.org) may have publications of the time as well and even videos of workers such as blacksmiths. Maybe you'll find a book your ancestor could have read.

Women were usually performing vital roles at home – how and what did they cook or how did they raise their children? Godey's Lady's Book featured topics of interest to women. Cornell's Home Economics Archive, hearth.library.cornell.edu/, has full texts of publications from 1850 to 1950. To add life to your stories and for ideas for questioning rela-



tives, go to web.archive.org/web/20180618071045/http://genwriters.com/.

Newspapers may have stories about wedding anniversaries and visits. Online eBay postcards show ancestor's towns and old maps have drawings of houses on streets. There are theses and dissertations about occupations. The Library of Congress has slave narratives. Search for accounts of pioneer trips west or ocean crossings. Even if your ancestors didn't leave any diaries, others did.

Everything you experience in your life your ancestors probably did too—from having children to sickness, medicines, cooking, shopping, school, church (was there a mixed marriage?), music, sports, social gatherings and politics.

Roddy recommends using all your senses to fill in details. And write, write, write!

See "Note" on page 2 to obtain this meeting's handout.


 MARK YOUR
 CALENDAR
 FOR A
 LUNCHEON
 ON
 SATURDAY
 JUNE 6, 2020!
 CELEBRATE
 35 YEARS
 OF FALMOUTH
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY!



SINCE 1985

Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc.

PO Box 2107
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
Website: www.falgen.org

COMMITTED TO
PRESERVING PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE RECORDS AND
ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN
THE PERFORMANCE OF
GENEALOGICAL
RESEARCH

Officers

- President*
Jerry Luby
- Vice President*
Tim Martin
- Treasurer*
Thomas Greve
- Secretary*
Ralph Wadleigh

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

Internet addresses contained in this publication are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

ACCESS TO MASS. VITAL RECORDS THREATENED

The Budget Bill released by Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker contains Section 42 of the Outside Bill which ends Massachusetts open records policies in civil registration -- policies that have been in force since 1641.

The public good is improved when historians, genealogists, journalists, authors, investigators—all citizens—have access to records produced by our government. Genealogists owe it to themselves, their colleagues, and their communities to advocate for open public records.

Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) has taken appropriate measures to register its opposition to this proposal. FGS urges all members to do the same by writing their representatives.

For more details visit the website of Massachusetts Genealogical Council which serves as a records access watchdog advising the Massachusetts legislature regarding access issues. <https://www.massgencouncil.org/call-to-action>. Click on “How You Can Fix This.”

FAMILY SEARCH MICROFILMS AT LIBRARY

The following information depends on the library's reopening after the coronavirus is contained.

There's good news for local historical and genealogical researchers: the Falmouth Public Library has recently been given Family Search Affiliate Library status. This means its computers are configured to allow access to an additional range of microfilms at familysearch.org that are locked to the normal public user. To access the additional locked microfilm records you need only your own familysearch.org account. To create an account click on “Free Account” from the familysearch.org main page. Locating the appropriate microfilm generally requires using the “Search” function. If you need help with the process contact a reference librarian or come to a Genealogy Help Session at Falmouth Public Library – Reference Section any Tuesday from 2:00 – 4:00 pm where members of the Falmouth Genealogical Society are ready to guide you.

Family Search provides access to the world's largest collection of microfilms bearing genealogical records.

Mark Your Calendar

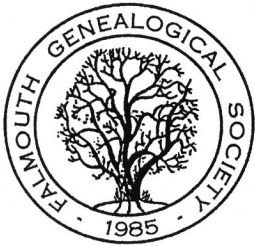


**Springing From the Past
Into the Future**

**16th New England Regional
Genealogical Conference
14-17 April 2021,
MassMutual Center,
Springfield, MA**

In Memoriam

Falmouth Genealogical Society was saddened to learn of the passing of Bob Rice on February 17. Bob was a valued and faithful member through the years, serving as VP from 2003-2006. He was an early adopter of DNA-based genealogy and a helpful researcher on Tuesday afternoons at the library. His funeral will be held at a later date.



SINCE 1985

Celebrating 35 Years!

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWS

JULY-SEPT. 2020

VOL. 32, ISSUE 3

First Virtual Presentation!

“GETTING TO KNOW GRANDPA JOE —

THE ADVENTURES OF MY PORTUGUESE GRANDFATHER, JOSÉ MONIZ”

Falmouth resident Al Moniz spoke to Falmouth Genealogical Society on June 13 via Zoom and telephone call-in. Al said he was asked to research his grandfather,



ALAN MONIZ, AS SEEN ON THE SCREEN DURING THE PRESENTATION

José Moniz, for an upcoming family reunion. Grandpa Joe founded the strawberry cooperative of Portuguese growers in Falmouth and first appeared in the 1910 census. His life in Falmouth was well documented by another cousin.

Though knowing researching a Portuguese name the equivalent of John Smith is nearly impossible, Al accepted the challenge. Family stories about a snake, a rock and naming a child would prove to be vital clues when combined with research. José, who lived from 1877 to 1954, was born on São Miguel, an Azorean island not completely part of mainland Portuguese cul-

ture. Life was difficult for peasants like José, who worked long, hard hours disregarded by the government. So many left, there were 100,000 more residents in the 1890's

than today.

Al found his Uncle Theophilus' São Miguel Baptism recorded in Lomba da Maia. There were two stories about why his grandfather would give his first-born son a Greek name like Theophilus. One was, while working on a coffee plantation in Sao Paulo, Brazil where Portuguese and Greek workers were sent, Grandpa Joe had a friend with that name. Other versions of the story have a benevolent plantation owner named Theophilus treating him like a son, making him a foreman and eventually giving him land, which he sold

(cont'd. on page 2)

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

In the absence of a physical annual meeting this year due to the pandemic, Falmouth Genealogical Society mailed to members its annual reports including financial info, nominations, and ballots. The re-

ports show the Society ended the year on an extremely positive note with more members, successful and diverse programs, and continued sound finances.

(cont'd. on page 4)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*All Meetings Will Be Held Virtually via Zoom During Pandemic Restrictions
Go to Falgen.org for Links*

Saturday, July 11 @ 10 am

“Friedrich Eiler: Building an Identity from Scant Clues”

With Jill Morelli, CG

Saturday, August 8 @ 10 am

“Opportunities for Research at Oak Grove Cemetery, Falmouth”

With Brad Jordan, Jr., Superintendent, Oak Grove & Jerry Luby, President, FGS

Saturday, September 12

Program to be Announced

The following meetings will be held downstairs at Falmouth Public Library “MAYFLOWER 2020” Joy of Learning Series In Concert with “Falmouth Reads Together”

Wednesday, Oct. 7 @ 7 pm

“A Wampanoag Perspective in 400 Years of History”

With Linda Coombs, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Wednesday, Oct. 14 @ 7 pm

“Influences on Native Perspectives—Myths, Legends and Realities”

With Ron Petersen, Orleans Historical Commission

Wednesday, Oct. 21 @ 7 pm

“Connections to Early Falmouth Families”

With Phyllis Day and Quaker David Young

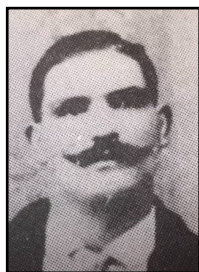
Wednesday, Oct. 28 @ 7 pm

“Proving a Mayflower Connection”

With Ralph Wadleigh, Mayflower Descendant

“GETTING TO KNOW GRANDPA JOE”

(cont'd. from page 1)



JOSÉ MONIZ
(1877-1954)



to finance his return to the Azores.

On this Baptism record, his grandfather's name was José Moniz “Catunto.” Al thought the latter was just a nickname. Then he heard a new story about “Catunto” being a rock off the coast around which only his grandfather could swim. But Al discovered other family branches with the name too. However, “Catunto” was important because it differentiated his family from all other Monizes.

In other stories a teenaged José was sent away for getting into trouble. On a São Miguel Genealogy Facebook group someone said his grandfather must have been sent to then-Portuguese São Tomé & Príncipe islands off Africa to work on coffee and cocoa plantations. This is plausible because he worked on coffee plantation in São Paulo; the plantations were owned by the same people as those in Brazil; and they needed laborers because of a boom in the cocoa bean price. Another story has José being bitten by a cobra before returning to the Azores. He did have a big chunk missing from the calf of a leg. There are no cobras in Brazil, but São Tomé has a “cobra bobo.” So, there was physical evidence connecting him to São Tomé.

Someone directed Al to Lomba da Maia's records on Facebook where he found Grandpa Joe's Baptism on March 11, 1877, and his parents and grandparents' names. He discovered something else the family didn't know - Grandpa Joe was the youngest of a huge family with siblings and step siblings.

In 1866 José, his parents and grandparents all had the name Catunto, but in 1865 the same parents are listed without Catunto. Records indicated the name was applied to his great grandfather and 2nd great father after that point. Perhaps some other family member swam to that rock.

The stories are all inconclusive. But maybe Grandpa Joe came from a line of daring risk-takers and was a troublemaker/agitator who would not accept the status quo. Perhaps his talents as a leader and organizer were evident even back then.

Al concluded that maybe his grandfather approves of his grandson's snooping into the past. Al dreamt Grandpa Joe came to him, looked down, smiled, and nodded his head.

To watch Al recount these family stories in person, see his photos and maps, and even listen to some native music, check out the recorded presentation at <https://youtu.be/Pz4zhi296M>.

First Virtual Presentation

This first of what may be many virtual presentations was a success with an impressive 34 participants. VP Tim Martin deftly controlled the technical aspects including assisting and admitting viewers, controlling mics, recording the presentation, and even playing musical features. This technology can be utilized for future meetings and presentations whether or not a pandemic requires it.

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SITTING LEFT TO RIGHT: PHYLLIS DAY, MARY BARRY, SECRETARY RALPH WADLEIGH, & JAN ZLATEV. STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT: DOTTIE PRIESTLEY, CLYDE TYNDALE, VP TIM MARTIN, & PRESIDENT JERRY LUBY. MISSING FROM PHOTO WERE ELEANOR BALDIC, BOB CHASE, THOMAS GREVE, & TREASURER RAY HOWE. NOTE: PHOTO WAS TAKEN PRE-PANDEMIC.

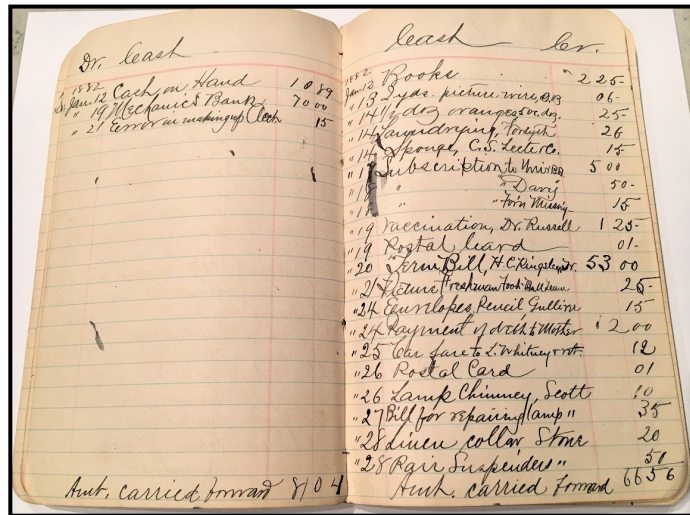
JONATHAN BARNES' ACCOUNT BOOK

By Ralph Wadleigh

In these challenging times, one Falmouth Genealogical Society program that will be missed is member "Artifacts Day." To partially fill this void, I am pleased to describe one of my family artifacts. It is a small notebook (7" x 4") of forty pages, bound in brown cardboard. The frontispiece contains the following inscription: Jonathan Barnes, New Haven, Conn., Sept. 14th, 1881. About thirty of the pages contain notations of income and expense. The remainder are blank. Jonathan appears to have been a student at Yale College, New Haven, Connecticut during the period September 1881 to October 1882 because expense entries include a Yale Straw Hat, a college catalogue, and a Yale News subscription. Furthermore, a notation on the inside of the back cover says, "Yale 85". The various expense entries (right page) provide an interesting glimpse into the daily life of a Yale student. (An 1881 dollar is equal to about \$25 today).



Clues to Jonathan's family are contained in the notebook. On the income (left) columns, Jonathan makes note of funds coming from Charles S. Leete & Co., Mechanics Bank, Uncle Romanta, mother, Uncle Steve,



Aunt May, Uncle Gid, and Dr. Leeds.

According to a Who's Who listing, Charles S. Leete was President of Mechanics Bank and an officer of Security Insurance Co. Charles S. Leete & Co. is listed as a wholesale druggist in various advertisements of the time. Jonathan likely had part time jobs at Mechanics Bank and Charles S. Leete & Co. Jonathan and Leete are not related.

Jonathan is my first cousin twice removed, born in Darien, Connecticut, 31 July 1864. In September 1881, when the account book was started, he would have been seventeen years old. Jonathan's mother was Emily Hart (Wells) Barnes Leeds, born in Wethersfield, Connecticut, 11 November 1832. Emily married Jonathan Ebenezer Barnes in Wethersfield, 12 September

1860. Their only son, Jonathan, arrived in July 1864.

Jonathan's father was the pastor of the Darien Congregational Church and tragically died in Darien on 31 May 1866, when young Jonathan was not yet two. Later in life, his mother married secondly, Samuel Penniman Leeds, in Wethersfield, 20 July 1882, a date during the period covered by the account book. Leeds was pastor of the Church of Christ in Hanover, New Hampshire and certainly is the Dr. Leeds mentioned in the account book.

Uncle Romanta was another important financial contributor to Jonathan's college experience. He is Jonathan's mother's brother, Romanta Wells, a druggist in East Haven, Connecticut. Emily's other brothers sending support are Stephen

(cont'd. on page 4)



 POSTPONED
 ONE YEAR!
 THE 35+ 1
 ANNIVERSARY
 LUNCHEON
 WILL BE
 SATURDAY
 JUNE 12,
 2021!
 FALMOUTH
 GENEALOGICAL
 SOCIETY!

SINCE 1985

Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc.

PO Box 2107
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
Website: www.falgen.org

COMMITTED TO PRESERVING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE RECORDS AND ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN THE PERFORMANCE OF GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Officers

- President: Jerry Luby
Vice President: Tim Martin
Treasurer: Ray Howe
Secretary: Ralph Wadleigh

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

Internet addresses contained in this publication are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual.

BOOK SUGGESTION: 'WHERE ARE THEY BURIED?'



Library volunteer, Ralph Wadleigh, has a book suggestion. Although he hasn't yet read it, he thinks this book sounds interesting.

Where Are They Buried? by Tod Benoit 'has directed legions of fervent fans and multitudes of the morbidly curious to the graves, monuments, memorials, and tombstones of the nearly 500 celebrities and antiheroes included in the book.' Subtitled, How Did They Die?, the book says it gives the 'fitting ends and final resting places of the famous, infamous and noteworthy.'

JONATHAN BARNES' ACCOUNT BOOK

(cont'd. from page 3)

Morgan Wells (Uncle Steve), a Wethersfield farmer and Gideon Wells, (Uncle Gid), an attorney in Springfield, Massachusetts, whose wife, Marietta is noted as Aunt May in the account book.

According to his obituary, Jonathan graduated from Yale in 1885 and moved to Springfield, where he joined his Uncle Gideon's law firm and established himself as well-respected attorney specializing in probate and estate law. His choice of career is foreshadowed by the account book's meticulous accounting of daily expenses.

Perhaps you have an artifact that you'd like to share. Just let us know!

NERGC CONFERENCE UPDATE

Unfortunately, it appears that the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium conference scheduled for April 14-17, 2021 in Springfield, MA will be either postponed two years or held virtually due to the pandemic.

SURVEY AFFIRMS - THE SOCIETY IS FULFILLING ITS MISSION

The recent survey took the pulse of the society and gave resounding approval to its efforts. Results have been tabulated and a final report will be released.

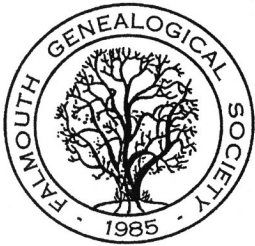
Your suggestions were helpful in going forward. Watch for future notices about innovations to be implemented.

ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

(cont'd. from page 1)

Items requiring votes included the budget and nominations, which were approved. Ray Howe has assumed his duties as the new Treasurer while maintaining his position as chair of membership.





SINCE 1985

Celebrating 35 Years!

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWS

OCT-DEC. 2020

VOL. 32, ISSUE 4

OAK GROVE CEMETERY'S STORY TOLD

On August 8, Oak Grove Cemetery's Superintendent Brad Jordan and President Jerry Luby gave a comprehensive presentation about the cemetery's beautiful natural garden setting, historic significance (it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places), and the challenges it faces. The private, non-denominational, non-profit cemetery was founded in 1848. Building closer relationships with community organizations can help with these challenges and benefit the whole community. Luby, also President of Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS), said the cem-



OAK GROVE CEMETERY
(PHOTO FROM CEMETERY'S WEBSITE)

etry is a special place where families gather, pay respects to loved ones and find peace.

It was established by prominent Falmouth citizens on five forest-like acres off Palmer Avenue and was designed after Cambridge's Mount Auburn Cemetery. Now 22 acres, it was the fashionable place to be buried; famous people there include Katharine Lee Bates.

An endowment fund was established during the early years of the cemetery. It serves as a perpetual fund to maintain the cemetery in

(cont'd. on page 2)

MORELLI SHARES HOW TO FIND ELUSIVE PEOPLE



JILL MORELLI ON ZOOM

On Saturday, July 11, we hosted the sixth annual presentation, this time via Zoom, by a favorite speaker, Jill Morelli, Certified Genealogist. She shared how she found someone with apparently no records except one. Friedrich Christian Eiler mar-

ried her widowed 2nd great grandmother Eda Berg on 8 Oct 1861, a second, and short-lived, marriage. Jill said, "Not all our ancestors are fine upstanding citizens, but Friedrich challenged all parameters of exemplary citizenship."

Jill presented examples of tools to discern whether information applies to an individual. Compare "known" evidence fragments with "new" ones to see if they fit. Use correlation to contrast two or more documents. List all items that make you believe it is the same person. Analyze documents as to reliability, readability, dates, etc. Collaborate

(cont'd. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Will Be Held Virtually via Zoom During Pandemic Restrictions Go to Falgen.org for Links

"Mayflower 400: The Wampanoag and English Perspectives" (below in blue) will be held virtually via Zoom in conjunction with Falmouth Public Library's Joy of Learning Series Registration Required [Click Here](#) or go to Events on Library Website

Wednesday, Oct. 7 @ 7 pm

"A Wampanoag Perspective in 400 Years of History"
With Linda Coombs, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)

Wednesday, Oct. 14 @ 7 pm

"Influences on Native Perspectives—Myths, Legends and Realities"
With Ron Petersen, Orleans Historical Comm.

Sat., Oct. 17, 9 am—3:30pm

"Cape Cod & the Plymouth Colony" Symposium
Cape & Islands Historical Assoc.'s ten essays on roles of Cape Cod in early years \$25 includes booklet See link on FGS homepage

Wednesday, Oct. 21 @ 7 pm

"Connections to Early Falmouth Families"
With Phyllis Day and David Young, West Falmouth

Wednesday, Oct. 28 @ 7 pm

"Proving a Mayflower Connection"
With Ralph Wadleigh, Mayflower Descendant

Monday, Nov 16 @ 7:30 pm

"Research in Massachusetts"
With David Allen Lambert Chief Genealogist at NEHGS

Saturday, Dec 12 @ 10 am

"Stories and Artifacts From Home"
Members Tell Stories on Zoom

OAK GROVE CEMETERY'S STORY TOLD

(cont'd. from page 1)

the future when it can no longer sustain itself through the sale of burial lots. Oak Grove Cemetery is not expected to be at capacity for another one hundred years. The cemetery, through its board of directors, continues to be a good steward in maintaining the serene garden and its lovely restored Greek-revival chapel, which is temporarily closed due to the pandemic but holds 60 people.

The cemetery is always looking for help. Some areas include gathering information about each person interred. FGS member Ray

Howe has improved the database that now resides in the cloud. Genealogical Society members have helped research veterans. More collaboration will help document lineage for family members who want to be buried in a plot. Other organizations such as Falmouth Historical Society (which has death journals from early burials), Falmouth Garden Club, and St. Barnabas Church could help. Records in the chapel basement contain info needing to be scanned. Plans include a touch kiosk where people can search names for info.

For more on this presentation, see note to the upper left.

Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access speakers' notes and most presentations on YouTube. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, falgen.org, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes and Videos. If you need the password, please contact Tim Martin at tjmar-tim@timfo.com.



**Springing From the Past
Into the Future**

**16th
New England Regional
Genealogical Conference
Virtual Presentations
April 1—May 9, 2021
Details To Be
Announced**

MORELLI: HOW TO FIND ELUSIVE PEOPLE

(cont'd. from page 1)

with others. Create tables to compare info. Use a timeline. Sometimes you need to think outside the box and even disobey sound genealogical rules. Start with a research question – where and when was Friedrich born? Consider vastly different name spellings due to a heavy accent.

Jill could not find him anywhere other than in the marriage records. Eda used this married name for only about a year, and none of Eda's three obituaries mentioned him. Jill made a table and broke a rule. She accessed German records on FamilySearch. You can click on the "Export Results" button



EDA (VAN HOORN) BERG
1811–1889

at the top to automatically create a spreadsheet of results. Using the index (a

magnifying glass icon) Jill searched on his first name and found him 50 miles from the birthplace. But he was married with six children! He immigrated after his youngest was born. His wife and children arrived in the US later. Eda must have discovered he was a bigamist and never used his surname again.

Jill collaborated with a descendant on Ancestry, who visited the house where he was born. After a kind librarian found in a newspaper that he was sent to a penitentiary, Jill found him in prison in the 1880 census, sent twice for pedophilia with a daughter.

Jill's case met some genealogical proof standards, but she needs his death record.

We look forward to hearing Jill speak again next year. A video of this presentation will be available for a limited time. See the Note to the upper left for info.

"SOMETIMES YOU NEED TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX AND EVEN DISOBEY SOUND GENEALOGICAL RULES."

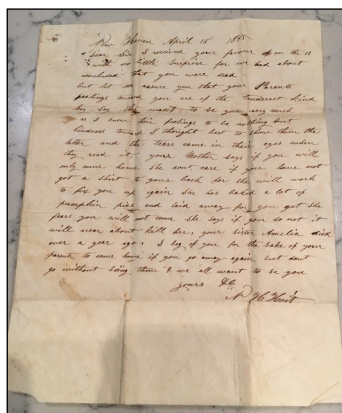
JILL MORELLI

WADLEIGH UNCOVERS “WHAT’S IN A LETTER?”

Although short, the 1845 letter was intriguing enough, packed with drama and emotion, to motivate Ralph Wadleigh to research the sender and recipient. On September 12, he shared the letter and what he found using his 20 years of genealogical experience. Wadleigh has served as President and currently is Secretary of Falmouth Genealogical Society, is Past President of the Wells Family society, and has published articles and spoken at genealogical events.

The letter’s sender was N. H. Hoit of New Haven and the recipient, William Alling of Nantucket, both unknown and unrelated to Wadleigh. Dated April 15, 1845, the envelope says, “in hast,” (haste.) Hoit writes he was surprised when he heard from Alling because he thought he was dead. He told Alling his parents cried when they read his letter and wanted to see him even if “you have not got a shirt to your back” because his mother “will work to fix you up again.” Hoit told him she baked a lot of pumpkin pies, “yet she fears you will not come. She says if you do not it will near about kill her.” He relates that his sister died over a year ago and begs him to come home.

Wadleigh surmised maybe Alling was a whaler away at



APRIL 1845 LETTER

sea since he came from Nantucket in the 1840’s, the height of the whaling industry. He found a Nehemiah Hoyt listed below a Truman Alling in New Haven in the 1840 census, likely a neighbor of the Alling family. Other census records, the New Haven city directory, and a map confirmed this.

Then, from the New Bedford Whaling Museum, Wadleigh found Alling was a crewman on the *Nautilus* in 1842. The “History of American Whale Fishery,” in Falmouth Public Library and online, records the *Nautilus* leaving in 1842 for the Pacific Ocean and becoming lost on Tumbes Bar in Peru on October 9, 1843. The cargo, and presumably the crew, was saved; but how did Alling get from Peru in 1843 to Nantucket in 1845?

Through the New Bedford Whaling Museum and the Nantucket Historical Socie-

ty, Wadleigh learned that six ships arrived in Nantucket in April 1845, five from the Pacific and one local schooner. Noting it could take time to research the ship logs, Wadleigh doesn’t know if Alling was onboard any. On Ancestry, he found the parents and proof of the sister’s death in 1843 when William was away. William died in 1897, and, according to census records, he did get back home, married, and fathered ten children.

Wadleigh’s tips: treasure your letters, they are rich sources of genealogical material. Read them and place them in sheet protectors. More research is needed to answer other questions, such as, “why didn’t he write his parents directly?” Wadleigh hasn’t decided yet how to best share the letter with others.

See note on page 2 for more info on this presentation.



Welcome Members

The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society in the past year:

Irene Checkovich
Ingrid Frank
Jon Frank
Janice Gildawie
Tom Hanley
Diane Margaretos
Sharon Melvin
Regina Mullen
Ruth Zwirner
Rod Zwirner

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at upcoming meetings.

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**

PO Box 2107
 East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
 Website: www.falgen.org

COMMITTED TO
 PRESERVING PUBLIC AND
 PRIVATE RECORDS AND
 ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN
 THE PERFORMANCE OF
 GENEALOGICAL
 RESEARCH

Officers

- President*
Jerry Luby
- Vice President*
Tim Martin
- Treasurer*
Ray Howe
- Secretary*
Ralph Wadleigh

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

Internet addresses contained in this publication are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

“ONLY A FEW BONES: A TRUE ACCOUNT OF THE ROLLING FORK TRAGEDY AND ITS AFTERMATH “

Book Review by Ralph Wadleigh

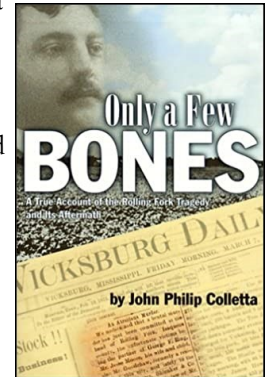
This book by John Philip Colletta, PhD, is a wonderful example of a genealogist working to unravel the facts behind generations of family lore. Colletta’s paternal great-great grandfather tragically died in Rolling Fork, Mississippi on 4 March 1873 when a store/warehouse was destroyed by fire. Among the various versions of the event held by the family, twelve theories are presented as to the cause.

Over three decades, Colletta patiently sorted through these theories using “old school” but still meaningful methodology. He pored over court records, deeds, family histories, and newspaper accounts. He constructed a network of informants and researchers; so necessary since this work was all accomplished before the age of the internet! Colletta’s employment at the National Archives likely gave him an advantage! After careful analysis, he reveals the true cause of the fire that killed his ancestor. On the way, the reader is transported from the family’s home base of Buffalo, New York to Mississippi’s Delta Country, along the Mississippi and Yazoo Rivers, about forty miles north of Vicksburg. You will learn about cotton agriculture, steamboats and Reconstruction.

One important feature is Colletta’s ability to imaginatively put the people and places involved in historical context. If you have a family lore or legend that needs illumination, this work provides helpful guidance. For aspiring writers, it is an excellent example of adding historical background to one’s family history.

Only a Few Bones is available online through Amazon or Abe Books. Alternatively, this reporter would be happy to lend it to anyone interested. However, it is the 2000 edition and readers might prefer to use the revised 2015 edition, which contains more narrative writing help.

Colletta is the author of two other important genealogical guides: *They Came in Ships*: a guide to finding your immigrant ancestor’s arrival record, 2002 and *Finding Italian Roots*: the complete guide for Americans, 2003. These are available locally through CLAMS.



LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARDED JOHN CASPOLE



**RALPH WADLEIGH PRESENTS
 AWARD CITATION TO JOHN
 CASPOLE**

At the monthly meeting of the Falmouth Genealogical Society held on August 8, 2020, Past President John Caspole was awarded a Lifetime Membership in recognition of his leadership and devotion to the ideals of genealogical research and study. Recently Dottie Priestley and Ralph Wadleigh had the honor of presenting John with his award citation. John is moving to join family members in Ohio and promises to keep in touch with FGS through the website and newsletters. We wish him the best for this next chapter of his long and productive life.