

MASSACHUSETTS RESEARCH PRESENTED BY TOP EXPERT

David Allen Lambert spoke about “Research in Massachusetts” on Monday, November 16th via Zoom. In wide demand as a speaker, Mr. Lambert is Chief Genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS).



DAVID ALLEN LAMBERT

He began by commenting that the “amount of records that have survived since 1620 in Massachusetts is remarkable,” also stating that, “having Massachusetts ancestors is kind of a coup.” “Massachusetts was the largest and most influential of the New England colonies.”

Then he discussed Native tribes in Southern New England. To the North from West to East were the Pocumtuc, Nipmuck and Massachusetts. To the South from West to East were the Paugussett, Tunxis, Mattabesic, Quinnipac, Pequot-Mohegan, Niantic, Narraganset, Wampanoag, and Nauset. The 1861 Massachusetts Earle Report on Native Americans, recently indexed by Mr. Lambert, is an important resource available online at AmericanAncestors.org. It includes the name, tribal membership, tribe/race, and location of Native Ameri-

cans in Massachusetts in 1861. This resource is used as a genealogical reference by many Massachusetts area tribes to determine if someone is a descendant, and therefore qualifies to be a member on the current tribal membership rolls.

Lambert reviewed Colonial History. The Mass. Bay and Plymouth colonies merged in 1691. Maine was a part of Massachusetts until 1820 when it was established as a free state, and Missouri was a slave state. He mentioned the major immigration periods. The Great Migration was between 1620 and 1640. Ulster Scots arrived in 1718, mostly settling along coastal waterways and rivers. People left Massachusetts for Rhode Island, Connecticut, Northern New England and New York for religious or political reasons. After the Revolutionary War, loyalists went to The Canadian Maritimes, the UK or the Caribbean. The Industrial Revolution in the 1830’s precipitated significant city growth. The Irish potato famine brought settlers between



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Saturday, Jan. 9 @ 10 am

“Did Your Ancestors Own Slaves?”

With Janice Lovelace, Ph.D.

Monday, Feb. 22 @ 4 pm

“Brick Wall Breakthroughs”

With Thomas MacEntee Members Submit Brick Wall Problems to be Analyzed

March

Date and Speaker To be Announced

April 1—May 31

“Springing from the Past Into the Future”

16th New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC)

Virtual Lectures No Risks, No Travel Costs Registration Fee \$150

Link: [E-Zines – NERGC](http://E-Zines-NERGC) (more on page 5)

Saturday, June 12

35th+ Anniversary Luncheon

Postponed From Last Year At the Flying Bridge Restaurant, Falmouth Pending Pandemic Status



MAYFLOWER 400: THE WAMPANOAG AND ENGLISH PERSPECTIVES

In October Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) commemorated the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Mayflower by sponsoring four Joy of Learning May-

flower 2020 programs in partnership with the Falmouth Public Library via Zoom. Thanks are extended to the Library and Faith Lee for entrusting FGS with

organizing the series and for managing the registration process for the Zoom meetings. The articles on the following pages cover the topics presented.

MAYFLOWER 400—SESSION 1 A WAMPANOAG PERSPECTIVE

By Mary Barry

On October 7 Linda Coombs spoke on “The Wampanoag Perspective.” A member of the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Coombs has a long career as an educator, author and historian and served in many positions at museums and educational institutions. She’s found that people either do not know a great deal of history or are misinformed. So she decided to educate the public she encounters using primary source information.



LINDA COOMBS
WAMPANOAG TRIBE MEMBER

Her talk referenced five major themes in Wampanoag history. (1) “Sea Captains” who captured and took many Wampanoags, against their will, to England and Spain. An example was Squanto, who, in 1614, surprised the Mayflower settlers by speaking English he’d learned while in Britain. (2) “Messengers,” refers

to skilled runners who provided communication between tribes and sachems and could cover 90 miles in a day! (3) “The Great Dying,” refers to the 1616 plague that killed 75-95% of New England Indian Tribes. (It is interesting that the plague did not come south to the Cape.) To this day, the Wampanoag and other tribes have not recovered. (4) “Pow Wows” are held annually in Mashpee on the July 4th weekend, which Coombs says is a symbol they are still alive. (5) “Governance,” under which she spoke about the Wampanoag history of female rights compared to

the lack of them in European culture during colonial times.

Regarding the First Thanksgiving, Coombs said the Pilgrims were going to have a feast, but there is no evidence

Indians were invited or that they were welcome. Europeans came with no desire to negotiate with Wampanoag leaders. Rather, they followed the Doctrine of Discovery (1493), which held that Christians could go to non-Christian lands and take what they found. Native Indigenous were pushed out of their homelands. In the 1660’s there were colonial laws, land transfers, and laws against pow-wowing. During the end of the 17th century through the 18th century, the English shipped Wampanoag women and men

(cont’d. on next page)

POSTPONED
ONE YEAR!
THE 35+
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LUNCHEON
WILL BE
SATURDAY
JUNE 12,
2021!
PENDING PANDEMIC
STATUS
FALMOUTH
GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY

A WAMPANOAG PERSPECTIVE CONT'D.

out of the country into slavery. They removed children from their homes, shipping them hundreds of miles away to live in English homes.

Coombs concluded by saying that, although people have many stereotypical ideas, this is not about blame or guilt tripping. She sees 2020 as a starting point

to accurately educate people about supportable Wampanoag and Native American history instead of mythical stories.

MAYFLOWER 400—SESSION 2 INFLUENCES ON NATIVE PERSPECTIVES - MYTHS, LEGENDS AND REALITIES (1602-1630)

By Jerry Luby

On October 14 the speaker was Ron Peterson, chairman of the Orleans historical Commission, member of the Plymouth 400 commemoration committee and author of the monthly column on local historical topics in the Cape Codder. He opened his presentation by setting the record straight regarding the Native American Indians and their new Pilgrim neighbors, differentiating the facts from popular myths and legends.

He covered the period between 1602 and 1630, bringing to light how many European visitors who came to the Plymouth and Cape Cod areas traded peacefully with the Native Indians. But many others stole their food and enslaved them. Some Native Indians were brought to Europe and placed on dis-

THE PLYMOUTH 400 STORY
Influences on the Native Perspective
1602-1630



play. Just before the Pilgrims arrived, the once strong Indian nation of the Northeast was decimated by a plague that reduced their numbers from over 200,000 strong to but a few thousand.

The arrival of the Pilgrims is often depicted as a ceremonial event, the landing on the Plymouth shore and stepping on a large rock. There was no such ceremony and no record of that occurring. In fact, many of the Pilgrims were frightened to go ashore. This fabrication sought to

feature the Pilgrims as a conquering nation.

Another myth is that of a first Thanksgiving, shown in paintings, as a gathering of many Pilgrims and a few Native Indians around a large table giving thanks for their survival.

There is no record of this ever happening. What is documented, however, is an event where over 90 Native Indians entered the Pilgrim camp to trade with a handful of Pilgrims. Many of the Pilgrims were actually so frightened they stayed in their shelters. But the Pilgrims propagated the myth to convince their brothers and sisters in Europe that the Native Indians were friendly to the Pilgrims.

See the note on page 4.

MAYFLOWER 400—SESSION 3 EARLY FALMOUTH FAMILIES

By David Young
and Phyllis Day



DAVID YOUNG, MEMBER
WEST FALMOUTH
QUAKER MEETING

On October 21, 2020 David Young and Phyllis Day made presentations on the subject of early Falmouth families.

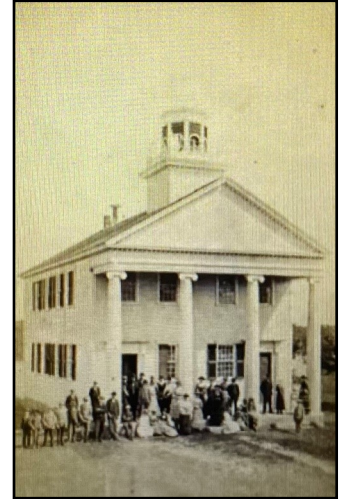
David Young, a West Falmouth resident and member of the West Falmouth Quaker Meeting who serves on its cemetery committee, spoke about West Falmouth, originally called “Sippewissett.” It was founded by Quakers including the Giffords, Swifts and Bowermans, who purchased land starting about 1670. An original deed can be seen at the West Falmouth Library.

Quakers came here to escape persecution in Sandwich and Barnstable, because Falmouth was tolerant (illegally). Quaker dominance of the village disappeared in the latter 19th century, as some individuals left Quakerism and many members of the early families migrated to Maine and points west, especially Bristol County, New York State, and Michigan.

The old Quaker cemetery was begun about 1685, on the Native American trail paralleling Route 28A, but farther uphill. There are no headstones, as they were considered immodest. This cemetery has at least 69 graves and was used until 1770. The First Friends Meeting House was also built there in 1720.

The North Shore Road (Route 28A) was built in 1753. Quakers bought a half-acre lot along it in 1760, built the Second Meeting House there and surrounded it by a newer cemetery. (The current building, on the same site, was built in 1842.) To date, there are approximately 700 graves in the burial ground.

Among the Quaker families, the Giffords were farmers, but also included James E. Gifford, a prominent 19th century lawyer and state representative. The Swifts were entrepreneurs, with the blacksmith shop which expanded into ships’ gear and then boatbuilding, the windmill, and sales of lots for the first vacation homes. The Bowermans, including some descendants using the variant “Bowman,” built the oldest existing house in Falmouth in 1678, and it remained in the family until 1981.



THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL
C. 1870

Phyllis Day spoke next, asking, “Why Lawrence High School, not Falmouth?” Phyllis is Falmouth Genealogical Society’s Delegate to the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC). Over 50 years ago when new-to-Falmouth, Phyllis didn’t understand why Falmouth’s high school was named Lawrence High School. She learned that Shubael Lawrence, Jr., had bequeathed \$10,000 to Falmouth Academy in September 1841. The academy was a private high school organized in the early 1830’s by locals to educate their children. The money was to be invested and the income applied to a teacher’s salary. The bequest required that the school name be changed to Lawrence Academy.

(cont’d. on next page)

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 tjmartin@timfo.com.

EARLY FALMOUTH FAMILIES CONT'D.

Shubael, Jr., wrote his extensive will acknowledging he was “in ill health” and died soon after at age 44 with no issue. There were other bequests totaling \$45,000, one to the East End Meeting House of \$10,000. His death record lists him as a Trader, the 1840 census lists him as involved in commerce, but he was also a ship owner, ran the mill with his father, was his father’s heir and has been called, “Falmouth’s

First Capitalist.” His maternal grandparents were named Davis, Nye, Wing, Hatch and Dillingham. His 4th great grandfather, Stephen Wing, arrived in Sandwich before 1646.

In 1890, the Town offered to buy the Academy property for \$3,000, the stockholders accepted the offer, executed a deed and, with the approval of the Supreme Judicial Court, the remaining funds were transferred to the Town. In 1891, the school officially became

known as Lawrence High School.

In 1893, the Town built a new Lawrence Junior and Senior High School on Main Street. In 1953, a new Lawrence Junior and Senior High School was built on Lakeview Avenue. At a Town Meeting in 1972 it was voted to build a new school on Gifford Street named Falmouth High School. The 1953 building continues to serve as Lawrence Junior High School.

MAYFLOWER 400—SESSION 4 PROVING MAYFLOWER DESCENDANCY

By Ralph Wadleigh

On October 28, 2020, Ralph Wadleigh presented the fourth and final zoom talk of the Joy of Learning Mayflower 400 Series, entitled “Proving a Mayflower Descendancy.” Ralph started with some Mayflower statistics. Of the 102 passengers, only 51 had descendants because many perished in the harsh first winter. Ralph explained that to prove a Mayflower descendancy one must link oneself by lineage (generation by generation) to one of those 51 passengers. A good starting tool is the completion of a lineage chart such as found on the web page of the Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants, (MSMD),



RALPH WADLEIGH

<https://www.massmayflower.org/>. The process continues with the collection of records such as vital, census, land, probate or Bible, proving the relationship of each generation.

Ralph explained that there were shortcuts to the process. Most importantly, The General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), <https://www.themayflowersociety.org>

has published “silver” and “pink” books which include proofs of the first five generations for certain passengers. This means that only about seven generations need to be proved by a researcher. The Falmouth Public Library has a number of these publications. Other shortcuts may be found in records held at either a state society, the (GSMD), or in research already undertaken by a family member. Also, GSMD maintains an extensive library in Plymouth, usually open to the public – call for hours.

To make certain that your

(cont'd. on next page)



**Springing From the Past
Into the Future**

**16th
New England Regional
Genealogical Conference**

**Live Virtual
Presentations & 60 “On
Demand” Recordings
to view between
April 1—May 31, 2021**

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DearMYRTLE
John Grenham**

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Ancestors Road Show
Exhibit Hall
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**Go to Website for More
<http://NERGC.org>**

PROVING MAYFLOWER DESCENDANCY CONT'D.

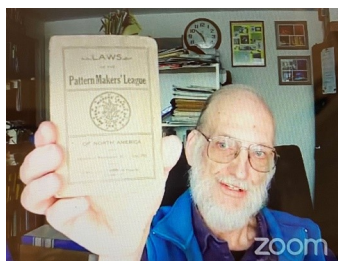
research meets acceptable genealogical standards, Ralph recommended that you should consider joining the “Mayflower Society.” In Massachusetts, this means applying through the MSMD in Hingham. Once your application is approved by MSMD, it is sent

to the GSMD at Plymouth for final approval. GSMD will issue a handsome membership certificate to demonstrate your achievement! Both MSMD and GSMD have interesting events and publications featuring Mayflower passengers and related topics.

So, if you think you have a Mayflower ancestor, get started! You will find a helping hand at the Falmouth Genealogical Society. Just visit the website, <http://www.falgen.org>, or call a member.

STORIES & ARTIFACTS PRESENTED FROM HOME

It was a small friendly group who met via Zoom on Saturday, December 12th to hear members talk about their ancestors and show family artifacts.



CLYDE TYNDALE SHOWS HIS GRANDFATHER'S BOOK

Clyde Tyndale began by talking about his grandfather, Joshua Littleford, 1877-1974, a pattern maker and the only grandparent living when Clyde was born. His wood-carved patterns were used to make gears by sandcasting. He was employed by Consolidated Aircraft in San Diego. Clyde

displayed a small book dated 1915 entitled, “By-Laws of the Pattern Makers League.” This would have made him a union member, surprising Clyde who knew him to be very conservative. He also showed an early 1900’s catalog of mechanical wheels and gears, probably the kind made from the patterns. Clyde also has his grandfather’s book, “Trials of a Small Boy” dated 1888, when his grandpa would have been about 11, signed, possibly by him.

Clyde’s wife, Deb Winograd, then talked about her maternal grandmother’s engagement “ring,” a circle pin engraved, “HBV, August 24, 1912-13.” Deb did not give their names but said the letters “HBV” were their initials. When she met her future spouse on a



CLYDE'S WIFE DEB WINOGRAD

streetcar, he was doodling circles. Not sure what the dates signify, Deb thinks it may reflect the days they met and became engaged. They married December 3, 1914. Deb shared photos of



(cont'd. on next page)

STORIES & ARTIFACTS PRESENTED FROM HOME

(cont'd. from page 6)

each. Sadly, her grandmother died four years later during the flu epidemic and two days after giving birth to Deb's uncle. Deb wore her wedding dress when she married Clyde.



ELEANOR BALDIC

The next speaker, Zooming in from Florida, was founding member Eleanor Baldic. She said she is a 12th generation descendent of early Boston's very progressive Gould family. The first of six Thomas Goulds was a founder of King's Chapel; another of Tremont Temple, the first Episcopal Church and the first integrated church in America. She also found she has Salem witches in her family. Eleanor courageously recounted how she has "communicated" with ancestors in cemeteries and felt powerful emotions. She even "heard" them tell her they were glad to see her and to know they were not forgotten. This experience enabled her to see them as real people, not just names

in her tree. Eleanor wonders if others have experienced something similar. She has enjoyed the genealogy journey and hopes to continue it for a long time.

Deb Martin is thankful her husband, Tim, introduced her to genealogy. Through it, she grew to appreciate the gigantic trove of amazing mementoes she inherited from her maternal great grandparents, Mary Elizabeth Tucker Baker and Benjamin Baker, whose portraits she shared. In the trove are her great grandfather's shipboard journals from his years as a sea captain in the 1800's when he and his wife traversed the globe.



DEB MARTIN

She also has her great grandmother's beautifully poetic journals, from which Deb read a selection dated July 17, 1870. It describes a storm at sea, complete with wonderful metaphors. The journal from their first voyage, which ended March 29, 1869, describes a 16-month trip around the world. Tim is going to transcribe them.



DEB MARTIN'S GREAT GRANDPARENTS

She has a ship's prayer book used mainly for burials at sea, paintings of the ships, Chinese water-colored prints, his captain's chair, a set of flow blue china and other treasures purchased in China, India, Hong Kong, England and Russia. Her grandfather also traveled with them, his parents, and Deb has photos, a boyhood journal and books used to educate him at sea.

As exciting as these travels must have been, Deb's great grandmother must have missed home. She wrote how she felt her heart being pulled by a hawser (a huge towing rope) back to Cape Cod after a long voyage. The home in Brewster is still in the family.

Thanks to these members for sharing their families' stories and treasures. We look forward to showcasing members' discoveries and mementoes in future meetings.



SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**PO Box 2107
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
Website: www.falgen.orgCOMMITTED TO
PRESERVING PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE RECORDS AND
ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN
THE PERFORMANCE OF
GENEALOGICAL
RESEARCH**Officers***President*
Jerry Luby*Vice President*
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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

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“MASS. RESEARCH”*(cont'd. from page 1)*

1845 and 1849. After 1865 ethnic groups, especially French Canadians and Italians, arrived in Massachusetts.

Mr. Lambert summarized many general guides. Of special note is Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research by Michael J. Leclerc (the 6th Edition is coming soon). Also, Lambert's own contribution to the National Genealogical Society's Research in the States Series - Massachusetts has an extensive bibliography and lists of websites and databases of primary resources. He says, "In my estimation, genealogy is truly wet cement, it's never completely cured, and there's always room for some new discovery." The Great Migration Directory: Immigrants to New England 1620-1640 by Robert Charles Anderson incorporates many new discoveries citing immigrant names, place of origin, arrival dates (even if estimated) and best bibliographical sources.

Vital records for Massachusetts are generally in good shape starting around 1642 with notable exceptions: Boston birth records begin in the 1630's, but in the 1780's "somebody got lazy... and didn't really resume recording births again until 1850," according to Lambert. Massachusetts was the first state to mandate state-level vital records in 1841. Massachusetts was also the first to publish a city directory in Boston in 1789. Statewide vital records from 1841 to 1925 are available at the Massachusetts State Archives in Dorchester at Columbia Point for \$3 each. Vital records for 1926 to 2020 are available at the Registry of Vital Records and Statistics at 150 Mt. Vernon St. in Dorchester for \$20 each. For recent vital records, the primary source is not the state level form, but the town clerk record, which is generally cheaper to acquire.

Town Records are an often-overlooked source of information about ancestors. Seldom indexed, many are available as raw images at familysearch.org. Lambert encourages recording transcription of records verbatim and avoiding creating what might seem a more sensible order, such as alphabetical. Regarding Cape Cod records, Barnstable County deeds burned in 1827 and are only partially reconstructed.

Note: Much of the content of NEHGS's website, americanancestors.org, is available to members only. An individual membership is currently \$95 a year.

About 38 participants were present at this meeting, including several from outside of our society, including one each from Nova Scotia and another from California.

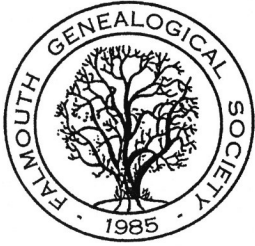
This presentation was a glorious firehose of information. Reviewing the video recording and handout on the FGS website is well worth the time. See "Note" on page 4.

Do You Have E-Mail?

If Falmouth Genealogical Society does not have your email address, it is unable to send you some notices and reminders of upcoming Zoom meetings. To remedy this, please contact Ray Howe, Membership Chair, at irayhowe@aol.com. He will be happy to add you to the e-mail distribution list if your membership dues are up to date.

thank you!

A special thank you to the following members who contributed to the writing of this extra large newsletter issue: Mary Barry, Phyllis Day, Jerry Luby, Tim Martin, Ralph Wadleigh and David Young.



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

APR-JUNE 2021

VOL. 33, ISSUE 2

SPEAKER ASKS IF OUR ANCESTORS OWNED SLAVES

By *Tim Martin*

Our January 9th Zoom speaker was Janice Lovelace from the Seattle, WA area, a highly-regarded speaker on African American genealogy. This summary of her excellent talk will highlight the content that pertained to New England in particular.

Between 1650 and 1860 about 10-15 million enslaved people were transported from western Africa to the Americas. About 5 million went to South America, 4.5 million to the West Indies, 1/2 million to North America and 1/3 million to Europe. This talk concerns those sent to the English colonies that became the USA.

The earliest reported indentured Africans to the American English colonies were about 20 slaves sent to Jamestown in 1619. Indentured slaves were sent to Spanish Florida somewhat earlier. In 1638 the ship "Desire" brought slaves from the West Indies to Massachusetts. Slavery also existed in New England during the colonial period, recognized as legal first in Massachusetts in 1641, Connecticut 1650, Virginia 1661, Pennsylvania 1700 followed by gradual emancipation after the Revolutionary War. Slaves in the north were used at small farms, as sailors, for ship building, as dock workers, and for construction and domestic work.



JANICE LOVELACE

Examples of Slave Codes (laws):

- Marriage between slaves was not legally recognized.
- Slaves could not possess property or money.
- Slaves could not make a contract or hire themselves out.
- Slaves could not leave a plantation without a pass stating destination.
- It was illegal to teach slaves to read or write, or give them books.
- Slaves could not testify except against other slaves.
- The child of an enslaved mother was the property of the mother's owner.

In the Revolutionary War period, of a total population of about 3

(cont'd. on page 4)

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During April there will be No Regular Presentation Due to NERGC, See Below

April 1—May 31

"Springing from the Past Into the Future"
16th New England Regional Genealogical Conference

(NERGC)

Virtual Lectures

No Risks, No Travel Costs

Registration Fee \$150

Link: [E-Zines – NERGC](#)

(more on page 5)

Saturday, May 8 @ 10 am

"The Massippee Plantation" (Mashpee)

With John "Jim" Peters

Executive Director of the

Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs

Thursday, June 10 @ 10 am

"It's More than Ancestry and FamilySearch"

With Dave Robison

Professional Genealogist

35th+ Anniversary Luncheon

CANCELLED!

See you in 2025 for the 40th



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IRISH SPEAKER WAS LIVE FROM DUBLIN

By Jerry Luby

On Saturday March 13, we hosted the Society's first live virtual presentation from "across the pond." Aiden Feerick B.A., M.A.G.I. (Member Accredited Genealogists Ireland), spoke with us from Dublin, Ireland via Zoom. He presented "Paths and Methods for Irish Researchers Today."



AIDEN FEERICK

Feerick's first slide read, "Céad Míle Fáilte Muintir Falmouth," Gaelic for, "A hundred thousand welcomes to the people of Falmouth." Feerick began his talk by asking, "Why do people want to know about their Ancestors?"

His answers included the 1970's famed series "Roots," BBC Irish documentaries, and the advent of DNA matching. These have excited people from around the globe as never before. In the US, FamilySearch.org, created a robust search engine that helped propel the desire to know ancestors. This popular hobby exploded when DNA matched 3rd and 4th cousins within the family tree.

Feerick mentioned how Irish people immigrated

worldwide searching for a better life for their families. Common phrases for America heard among Irish immigrants were, "the land of opportunity,"

or "the land of milk and honey." The Irish immigrated first to England, Scotland, and Wales in the early 1700's. Canada was a destination for the Irish between 1850 and 1900. Laborers were needed for canal work and ships offered low-cost crossings. At one point, one-third of all servants were Irish. The US became the most popular destination between 1900 and 1950. However, today their most popular destination is Australia.

The Irish Government encourages researchers to connect with their Irish ancestors by providing the websites listed below at no cost. Feerick presented three paths for the Irish researcher, somewhat like a three-legged kitchen stool. They are:

1. Census Records from 1901 and 1911, the only years for which a full census is available. Reference web site is www.census.nationalarchives.ie

- 2. Vital Records** of births, marriages, and deaths from 1864 are available online with the original registers imaged. Marriage records begin in 1845 but most of the Catholic population opted out; time restrictions apply to these vitals with 100 years for births, 75 years for marriage and 50 years for deaths. Reference web site is www.irishgenealogy.ie
- 3. Church Records**, both Roman Catholic and Church of Ireland, are partially online with more to come. Reference web site <http://registers.nli.ie>

For land research between 1830 and 1864, Griffith's Valuation proves to be a good source.

Feerick surprised us by relating the genealogical story of a rather famous Boston first-generation Irish American, Tom Flatley. He was a billionaire real estate developer who lived modestly and died in 2008. Flatley was born in 1931 in Kiltimagh, County Mayo, Feerick's hometown! So, of course, he and others there are enormously proud of him. Feerick knew the record keeper on Flatley's parents' 1923 marriage record, saying he must have been new to the parish because there are several mistakes

(cont'd. on page 4)

THE IRISH GOVERNMENT
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NO COST.

- AIDEN FEERICK

BRICK WALL: THE CASE OF ADELINE HARTMAN

By Phyllis Day

Thomas MacEntee, a professional genealogist in Chicago, was a return speaker to Falmouth Genealogical Society on February 22. MacEntee, who has had a varied career, decided that what he does best is teach and inspire others. His goal is to help others become successful and works at doing this daily.

Before the session, members were asked to submit their genealogy brick walls for a chance to be selected. Of the six submissions received, Falmouth Genealogical Society's Secretary Ralph Wadleigh's was chosen for its broad appeal. MacEntee approached this brick wall as though Wadleigh was a client. He named this project, "The Case of Adeline Hartman." Wadleigh needed help locating a birth record for Adeline and proof of her parentage.

MacEntee provided a step-by-step account of his methodology. Utilizing an Excel Research Log he has created, he identified the actions he took for every person, the target resource, and the dates he started and completed each action. For document evaluation he identified the source type, its clarity, whether the information is primary or secondary, and the evidence

type. He also entered notes that analyze the entry. He placed links to the documents. A name variation tab lists every given name and surname variation found. While he admits this is time consuming, he says it may prove especially useful.

To answer Ralph's submission, MacEntee needed to research not only Adeline but also her parents, siblings, husband, and daughter. This also included the various locations in which each had resided. One record on which MacEntee relied was Adeline's death certificate issued by New York City on which her grandson was the informant. It states her birth was January 20, 1851, in New York City. All record searching was done online.

MacEntee found a marriage record for Adeline's parents but the date is after the noted date of her birth. Adeline's marriage date to Theodore Borcholt is November 10, 1869, and they are listed on the U S Census in 1870 living in Connecticut. In 1900, Adeline is listed as a widow with her daughter living in Cambridge, Mass. A death record for her husband lists his death as January 16, 1903 in New York.

MacEntee created a timeline of events using



THOMAS MACENTEE*

"Timeline," which is found at www.timetoast.com, a free website.

When the presentation was complete, MacEntee said he was unable to provide evidence of Adeline's birth date or identify her parents. He did provide "Next Steps" for Wadleigh to possibly fill in some of the holes in the research.

Wadleigh thanked MacEntee for his work, stating that he found his methodology "supreme" and the technology he used was "over the top." In conclusion, Wadleigh suggested that the remaining five brick wall submissions be worked on by the Society to break them down. MacEntee

(cont'd. on page 5)

* Editor's Note on photo of Thomas MacEntee: That is not a funny little hat on his head; he has a Mohawk haircut with a tuft of red hair.



SLAVE ANCESTORS?

(cont'd. from page 1)

million in 1770, about 20% were of African ancestry. In November 1775, the British promised freedom to any enslaved person who fought for the British; thousands did. The Patriots allowed Free Blacks in a militia, and later accepted blacks (free and enslaved) in the Continental Army. In 1775 Rhode Island established a primarily black militia – with soldiers discharged into freedom. In 1783 the British evacuated thousands of former slaves to Canada, England and the Caribbean colonies from New York City – listed in the “Inspection Roll of Negroes” online at NARA.

In the Post-Revolutionary War period, in most northern states, gradual emancipation occurred over two decades, freeing children while some parents remained enslaved. In Massa-

chusetts, the state constitution was amended in 1780 to say, “all men born free and equal,” with a 1783 judicial decision ending slavery. By the 1790 U.S. Census, 94% of nearly 700,000 enslaved people lived south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

In your own search for slave owners, start with one family line most likely to fit the profile: large landowner, wealthy, in an area known for slavery. Wills, deeds, court records, tax records (slaves were property), and the far-right columns in early federal censuses and 1850-1860 Slave Schedules can be particularly useful, as well as local history collections, family business records, dairies, and letters. The Civil War enlistment papers of Union Army U.S. Colored Troops lists the name of the owner

of non-free enlistees.

Additional sources not to miss:

- National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections (NUCMC).
- Freedman Bureau Records at NARA (the National Archives and Records Administration, some are at FamilySearch.org).
- Newspapers have sales of slaves and runaway advertisements.
- Coming to the Table <http://comingtothetable.org/>.

This meeting’s associated PDF handout is available in the Members Only area of our website, falgen.org.

(See related article “Confessions of a Slave Owner’s Descendant” by Ralph Wadleigh on page 6.)

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 tjmartin@timfo.com.

IRISH SPEAKER

on localities. Census records show the family’s nine members lived in three rooms. They would have had no electricity, gas, or running water. They would have cooked with peat. Flatley’s mother’s parents and others are well known to Feerick.

The presentation ended

with a question-and-answer session.

Feerick is a founding member of the Irish research website, <http://www.AnccestorNetwork.ie>

His handout list of recommended websites for Irish research is available to members. See the note on the left.

(cont'd. from page 1)



Need HELP
with your Research?

Zoom sessions
free to members

Team Up!

with FGS volunteers
to move you forward!

More information
at falgen.org

Register Now!

Be sure to visit
Falmouth Genealogical Society's
booth at the conference!

Virtual NERGC 2021 April 1—May 31, 2021



Springing From the Past
Into the Future

Three Gathering Days with scheduled presentations.

Sixty On-Demand presentations.

Special Interest Groups, Speaker Chats, Ancestors Road Show, and Exhibit Hall throughout the 61 day event!



Angie Bush



John Grenham



Pat Richley-Erikson

Plus another 48!

Visit www.NERGC.org for details on the presentations and registration.

FGS COMES TO THE RESCUE

The Society's Obituary Index resulted in a query from a collector in Buffalo, NY who had purchased a 1920's scrapbook created by a young nurse.

As an article in the January 29, 2021 issue of the Falmouth Enterprise relates, the collector found the FGS website after learning from Ancestry.com that the book's creator was living in Falmouth when she died.

The collector contacted our V.P. Tim Martin for help in

locating a daughter of the now-deceased nurse, who might appreciate the return of the scrapbook to the family. Tim received the message asking for info and enthusiastically helped return this "orphan object" to the 85-year old daughter.



BRICK WALL

(cont'd. from page 3)

agreed to send them to Tim Martin, Vice President.

MacEntee's valuable handouts include a case outline, timeline and extensive research log, a free research log template and a brick wall methodology. These can all be found on the FGS website. See Note on page 4.

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

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CONFESSIONS OF A SLAVEOWNER'S DESCENDANT

Janice Lovelace's January 9, 2021 presentation to the Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) entitled "Did Your Ancestors Own Slaves?" triggered something in my memory. After I reviewed some ancestor families in York County, Maine, I found that, in response to Janice Lovelace's question, I must answer "Yes." My sixth great grandfather, Nathan Lord, of Berwick, Maine, was a slave holder. In his probate inventory returned on 15 October 1733 is "1 Negro, one hundred pounds."

That's not all. Another Berwick resident, Joseph Ricker, my fourth great-grandfather, owned multiple slaves. In his will dated 19 January 1771, thirty eight years after Nathan Lord's estate inventory, he "devises: to my w Mary all the household furniture & clothing she brought with her+ use of one of my Negro girls for life.....to my sons Tristram and Joseph Ricker my homestead farm [house, barns, mill, stack of cattle, Negroes...]" Also, in

the 1771 Massachusetts Tax List, he declared ownership of three slaves. (York County was part of Massachusetts' District of Maine until 1820). These Negroes were later identified in records pertaining to Joseph's sons, John, Tristram, and Noah. One named Toney was so well regarded by the family that he could share their table at meals.

I do not know if any of these individuals ever gained their freedom.

More research is needed to determine if any of my Connecticut ancestors owned slaves. I hope not!

If any readers have ancestors from Kittery, Eliot or Berwick, Maine, an excellent source for Black research is *Lives of Consequence, Blacks in Early Kittery and Berwick*, by Patricia Q. Wall. I would be happy to lend this book to any FGS member.

- Ralph Wadleigh, FGS Secretary

FAITH LEE AWARDED LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

With gratitude for all she has done, the board of directors voted to award Faith Lee, recently retired Librarian at Falmouth Public Library, a lifetime membership to the Society.



RETIRED LIBRARIAN FAITH LEE RECEIVING HER LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARD CERTIFICATE FROM DOTTIE PRIESTLEY.

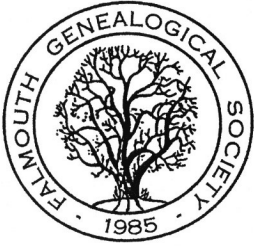
Faith assisted the Society in multiple ways over the years including during the regular Tuesday afternoon help sessions. Every week before the pandemic, we occupied the room behind her desk and called

on her for assistance finding individuals' ancestors. She also helped with the planning and execution of the successful Mayflower 400 series held in October 2020.

Although we'll miss seeing her

when we go to the library, we look forward to having her involved with our programs. Welcome, Faith.

Jerry Luby, President



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

JULY-SEPT 2021

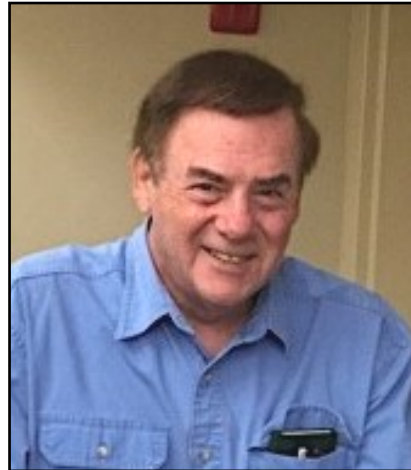
VOL. 33, ISSUE 3

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Falmouth Genealogical Society's 2021 fiscal year (June 2020 to May 2021) was an unsettling time for many of us. The mandated wearing of masks and social distancing, as well as the closure of the Falmouth Public Library (our home), necessitated more online interface and phone conversations. Sessions formerly held at the library, such as Tuesday help sessions and monthly Society meetings with guest speakers, utilized conference calls or Zoom. All were a direct result of the COVID-19 virus.

Our Society continued to adapt and be innovative in delivery of programs to members and the public. During the year, we re-joined Massachusetts Genealogical Council with Ralph Wadleigh as our delegate. We also made significant contributions as a founding member of the New England Regional Genealogical Council (NERGC). Tim Martin, our VP and Programs Director, developed and implemented live genealogy help sessions called "TeamUp" to replace the one-on-one Tuesday help sessions at the library which has been extraordinarily successful for many years. When we return to normal post COVID-19, we will be using both programs.

The NERGC delegate from our Society is Phyllis Day, who worked tirelessly and took on the



JERRY LUBY

responsibilities for its Society fair. She ramrodded over 20 societies to be ready for the first day of events. "Like herding cats" was an expression often used. Mary Barry, the backup, was just as busy.

The Board of Directors has worked hard this past year to conduct the business of our Society and bring both historic and genealogical content to you as part of our monthly Society meetings.

The Falmouth Genealogical Society is extraordinarily strong and willing to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

Stay healthy and strong yourselves.

Yours truly,

Jerry Luby
President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Go to Falgen.org for info on whether meetings will be held virtually via Zoom, or in person or both if pandemic restrictions lifted

Sat., July 17 @ 10 am

"Don't Build Your Own Brick Walls!"

*With Jill Morelli
Professional Genealogist
Via Zoom*

August

Date, Time and Speaker To Be Announced

*Via Zoom if needed or at Library if allowed or both
See Falgen.org for Updates*

Sat., Sept. 11 @ 10 am

"The Real Life of Vital Records—The Secrets of Finding Them Today"

*With Diane Boumenot
Via Zoom if needed or at Library if allowed or both*

Sat., Oct. 9 @ 10 am

Topic to be Announced
*With Sandra Faiman-Silver,
PhD, Anthropology
Via Zoom if needed or at Library if allowed or both*

Sat., Nov. 13 @ 10:30 am

"How to Reopen and Work a Genealogical Cold Case" and

"The Genealogists Google Search Methodology"

*With Lisa Louise Cooke
Possibly at
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Osterville and/or Via Zoom
Joint Meeting with Cape
Cod Genealogical Society*



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Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc

FOUNDING MEMBER SHARES THE ABENAKI'S HARD ROAD IN HISTORY

By Mary Barry



CHIEF PAUL BUNNELL

PAUL DISCOVERED HE IS
A DIRECT DESCENDANT
OF BOTH LOYALISTS AND
NATIVE AMERICANS.

On May 8th, Paul J. (Gwilawato) Bunnell, Chief and Elder of the Koasek Band of Abenaki and founding member of Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS), spoke about his genealogical journey and about the Abenaki culture and history. Also in the audience for his talk was Eleanor Baldic, another FGS founding member.

In researching his French-Canadian side of the family, Bunnell began to notice women who had married into his French line had only single names (no surnames) and their occupations included “making snowshoes” and “making baskets.” Curious why there were only single names for these women in his lineage, he discovered he is a direct descendant of both Loyal-

ists and Native Americans. Some years ago, Bunnell spoke to FGS about Loyalists, that period of American history and genealogical research methods we could use. And, as he always has, he began doing his genealogical research

backwards. The history of the Northeast is one of England versus the French. And, when the British came to power, the Native American tribes would go into the woods and the French would follow them. Bunnell said that the Acadians merged with Native Americans by marriage.

His genealogical family research led him to the Koasek or Bo'asek (Co'wasuck) Traditional Band of the Sovereign Abenaki Nation. The Koasek Tribe has 400 members scattered across different parts of the country. His work and professional genealogical experience led him to ‘clean up’ the tribe’s membership listings and to require genealogical documentation. He incorporated this infor-

mation into one centralized system and established a formal application process.

Bunnell gave a detailed background on Abenaki housing, clothing, food, religious beliefs, and roles of men and women. He mentioned that the Abenaki were active in the French and Indian War, leading raids against British settlements. He said that during the French and Indian War, bounties of 130 pounds were paid for scalps of male Indians and 50 pounds for scalps of females or children. These scalps would be brought to Boston to collect the bounty.

Bunnell discussed the eugenics project in Vermont that began in the 1920's through 30's to “purify” the race by eliminating procreation of poor, colored, gypsy (Indians), minorities and handicapped individuals. This Eugenic Survey was led by Henry Perkins in an effort to improve “racial stock” in Vermont. Chief Bunnell said they have documented 253 sterilizations that took place generally from 1933 to 1963 but even up into the 1970's. Chief Bunnell understands why his grandparents were quiet about their family history.

(cont'd. on page 3)

IT'S MORE THAN ANCESTRY AND FAMILYSEARCH

By Ralph Wadleigh

On June 10, Falmouth Genealogical Society enjoyed an informative Zoom talk by FGS member and professional genealogist, Dave Robison entitled "It's More Than Ancestry and FamilySearch." Right off the bat, he jokingly shared this quote, "If it's on the Internet, it's true." Dave's talk featured an overview of the two major websites used by genealogists –

www.ancestry.com and www.familysearch.org.

Then he shared some good tips. He demonstrated how to start fishing in a big pond – that is, to produce good results, begin your search using wide parameters and then gradually narrow the search focus down. He demonstrated how this worked and then helpfully reviewed several of Ancestry's search buttons.

With respect to FamilySearch, any tree on its website is part of a worldwide tree, sponsored by FamilySearch. He cautioned us regarding this information on the Public Family Trees feature, which can be rife with unsubstantiated information. While the feature can provide useful hints, always look for sources!! One great feature of FamilySearch is the Research Wiki. This is an indispensable tool to consult when entering new geo-



DAVE ROBISON

graphic territory because it contains a complete guide to online sources for an area's history, geography and archives. As an aside, Dave noted that the 1950 US Census will be issued on April 1, 2022, but it will need indexing. FamilySearch will likely be active in the indexing process, and we can help by volunteering for indexing work with them.

Dave then moved on to two other useful sites containing a myriad of online sources:

www.stevemorse.org and www.cyndislist.com. He also recommended that we not forget Google. There he demonstrated the advanced search feature and the use of apostrophes and asterisks in the search fields. He also pointed out that a search in Ancestry only covers Ancestry databases, while a search in Google covers the

"globe." He finished by mentioning a few more: the Library of Congress www.loc.gov, www.Fold3.com (military records), www.jewishgen.org, and www.archives.gov (National Archives).

So many websites! And many more are contained in his extensive four-page handout available to FGS members at www.falgen.org. Now it is impossible to run out of places to look! Thanks, Dave, for this valuable, enlightening talk.

ABENAKI 'S HARD ROAD

(cont'd. from page 2)

Bunnell's leadership has also led to inclusion. On September 25, 2020, the Koasek of Turtle Island, Inc. was deeded 11.37 acres of land in Claremont, New Hampshire. It is there that the Koasek will have a Nation Center with a site to house a library and museum. They will be good guardians of the land by planting sweet grass, giving a home to two endangered types of turtles, and having an endangered seeds library.

For more information on the Koasek Band of Abenaki go to <https://koasekabenakination.com>.

Note:

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Ralph Wadleigh*The Falmouth Genealogical
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rpriest1567@comcast.net

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HONORING THE MEMORY OF PROFESSOR JIM GOULD

Highly respected as an historian and genealogist, the late Professor James Gould is remembered and honored for his many contributions to understanding Cape Cod traditions. He passed away in Seattle in March of this year at the age of 96. He had been an FGS member since 1997.

Just some of the significant opus of his historical work included mapping key locations in a number of Cape Cod towns, villages and cemeteries, in-depth histories of several villages such as Cotuit and Marstons Mills, conducting cemetery tours, conducting tours of Barnstable, carefully documenting historic structures, membership on the Barnstable Historical Commission, investigating and recording the detailed genealogies of numerous families with Cape Cod lineages, co-authoring a 2019 book with David Schrader and David Martin on the history of Unitarian-Universalism on Cape Cod and the islands, a new book in 2021 which he completed with Nancy Shoemaker shortly before he passed (“Women of Barnstable”), writing a fascinating series of historical articles about important events throughout the Cape for the Enterprise newspaper, and more.

He brought his pre-Cape Cod professional experiences in international relations and university teaching to benefit us on Cape Cod. He stood firmly for accuracy and detail and never hesitated to challenge any statement that might be historically doubtful, thus ensuring that archives are valuable resources for others to follow. His high standards and contagious sense of humor were also among traits that we were privileged to appreciate through his long and productive life. He was the recipient of many awards and honors, among the most recent of which was the Outstanding Preservationist for the Town of Barnstable in 2020.

We are richer for having known him and benefitting from his important work. James Gould was a second cousin, teacher and good friend of FGS founding member Eleanor Baldic.

To read more about him, his obituary is here: [James Warren “Jim” Gould | Claremont COURIER \(claremont-courier.com\)](http://www.claremont-courier.com).

-David Martin

**HELP SESSIONS TO
RESUME AT LIBRARY!**

Jill Erickson, Head of Reference at Falmouth Public Library, has obtained approval for us to resume Tuesday Help Sessions in the library beginning on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 2-4 pm. Until further notice, masks will be required inside the library. Visit www.falgen.org for dates and times of TeamUP sessions for those who prefer not to go to the library.

Donation Made to Thank Us for Help

Donors, who prefer to remain anonymous, have generously contributed \$300 to the society in VP Tim Martin’s name. **Why?** Because Tim solved a longstanding mystery of who their biological grandfather was using DNA and record searches. The donors want others to know how truly exciting such findings can be. Tim instituted the virtual TeamUP sessions when the library was closed. Huge thanks to Tim and to the grateful donors.

**NERGC STATISTICS
RELEASED**

The 16th New England Regional Genealogical Consortium conference was held virtually for the first time during the months of April and May, a huge undertaking. Falmouth Genealogical Society was an integral part of this event, as it has been since its inception.

As of May 17, the following statistics were reported:

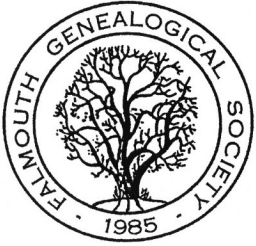
11,821 total views of sessions.

5,588 participants during scheduled times for the gathering and track days.

94 sessions viewed 6,233 times on-demand.

13 sessions with over 100 on-demand views each.

1,100 virtual visits to the Society Fair and Libraries, Archives & Museums Showcase.



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWS

OCT - DEC 2021

VOL. 33, ISSUE 4



ELEANOR BALDIC

LONG-TIME BOARD MEMBERS RETIRE

By Jerry Luby, President



BOB CHASE

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Falmouth Genealogical Society, I would like to extend warmest good wishes and sincere appreciation and thanks to two very special people on their retirement from active membership on the Board. Eleanor Baldic was a founding member and the first President of our Society. Bob Chase is a gentleman and true renaissance man.

Thirty-six years ago, Eleanor, and a band of likeminded individuals who shared a common interest in genealogy and family history, met at the Falmouth Public library. The result - Falmouth Genealogical Society was born. Eleanor has participated in, and lead, many genealogy projects during her time in the Society. One most important project comes to mind, cemetery data mining. Thousands of gravestone records were created, and photos taken, of the eighteen cemeteries in Falmouth. Eleanor's leadership has guided the Society through bad times and good times and has positioned us for the future. During one artifact day, Eleanor talked about her great grandfather who served in the Civil War and showed his blood-stained uniform belt.

Bob Chase, among other things, is the author of six books on his family history, a World War II veteran and a leader in the Boy Scouts of America. I will not forget his lecture on his book, "An Octogenarian Looks Back at Life." Bob is well known for his lively artifact talks about life in Germany pre- and post-war, and about his hometown of Newburyport, MA. He told stories about a music box and a post horn. He worked with David Burt and me in counseling Boy Scouts for their Genealogy Merit Badge. One special Bob Chase memory I have is my attempt to gain attention one Saturday morning when I spoke right after Bob's hilarious recount of the adventures of a dandy who sailed from England in 1908 bound for the US!

Although Eleanor and Bob have retired from the Board, I expect to see them at our meetings on a regular basis making recommendations and advancing the Society for many years to come.

- Jerry Luby

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Held Virtually via Zoom
Unless Noted Otherwise
See Falgen.org for
Updated Info*

Sat., Oct. 9 @ 10 am

"Researching Diaspora and Indigenous New England Communities"
With Sandra Faiman-Silver,
PhD, Anthropology
Via Zoom

Sat., Nov. 13 @ 10:30 am

"How to Reopen and Work a Genealogical Cold Case"
(short break between talks)
"The Genealogists Google Search Methodology"
With Lisa Louise Cooke
Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society
Via Zoom

Sat., Dec. 11 @ 10 am

"FGS Members Share Stories, Research Finds or Artifacts"

Please contact Tim Martin at fgsvicerepresident@gmail.com if you'd like to give a short (less than 10 minute) presentation to us on Zoom.
Via Zoom

OTHER MEETINGS

As a member of MGC (Massachusetts Genealogical Council), Falmouth Genealogical Society recommends **M:O.R.E. (MGC: Open Records & Education) Programs**
As part of executing its educational mission year-round, MGC offers programs on open records and other topics of interest to genealogists 4-5 times a year.

**For Info Go to
MGC | Home
(massgencouncil.org)**



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Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc

THE REAL LIFE OF VITAL RECORDS UNCOVERED

By Ralph Wadleigh

On Saturday, September 11, FGS members and friends enjoyed a thorough and detailed Zoom presentation by Diane Boumenot entitled, "The Real Life of Vital Records – Secrets to Finding Them Today." Focusing on Southern New England records, she sought to demonstrate how, why, and when records were created to allow researchers to successfully tie generations together. She recognized five vital records: birth, marriage, death, adoption and divorce.

Colonial vital records were recorded first by town clerks, usually when a head of household requested that they be recorded. Fees may have limited the number of recordings. Changes in town boundaries can affect the location of the records. Over the years, the original records as written by the clerks have been reorganized, republished, abstracted, microfilmed, scanned and finally digitized and put online. Mistakes have been made! In using online records, one must always drill down to look at the original record. Download and save that image page and the image of the



DIANE BOUMENOT

spine of the book containing the original record. That will be the source of record.

Records up to 1850 have been the subject of various abstract publications. Among there are Torrey's New England Marriages to 1700, the Barbour Index of Connecticut Vital Records, the tan books for Massachusetts and Arnold's Vital Records for Rhode Island. Each of these supply information as to the location of the actual record. Yes, one should take the next step and examine the original record! Publications by genealogical and historical societies might refer to vital records of interest. NEHGS's The Great Migration Series is one of these.

Finally, Diane discussed the era of state-mandated recording. Massachusetts started this in 1843, Rhode Island in 1853 and Connecticut in the 1890's. These mandates required towns to furnish vital record information to the state which used them for statistical purposes and to build statewide indexes.

The modern vital record certificates we obtain from towns are simply typed from original records held at the towns. Sometimes it is possible to view the original at the town level. This depends on individual town practices and procedures. Newspapers are another vital record source, especially for death and marriage. Immigration and naturalization applications are another good place to search.

Diane furnished a handout containing twelve bullets that can be applied to any state's vital records. These questions will help the researcher direct a search in any locality. Attached to the handout is an excellent bibliography. Please see Note" on page 2 for info.

Thank you, Diane for this excellent, informative presentation.

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 fgsnicepresident@gmail.com.

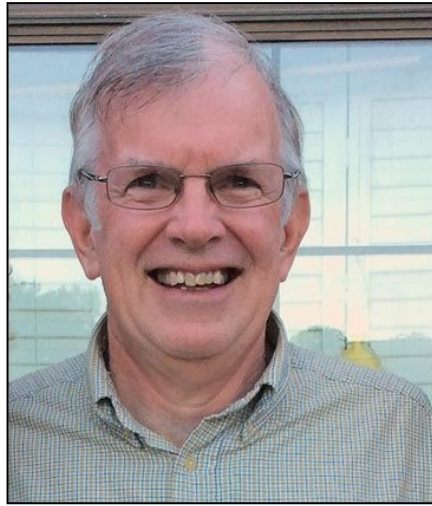
WIKITREE — THE “IN” CROWD

By Tim Martin

August 12th’s speaker was [Ray Sears](#), a very accomplished techie type who turned to Genealogy with a passion. He willingly shares his very considerable efforts, valuing and encouraging cooperative genealogical research. Genealogy may be one of the most successful crowd-sourced research efforts in existence, and Ray is a leader in this cooperation as few others I have seen. [Wiki](#)-[pedia](#) is likely the best known Internet crowd-sourced information resource, demonstrating that crowd-sourcing can be successful.

WikiTree is an example of a crowd-sourced unified family tree, pulling together and connecting genealogists’ trees into a single unified tree. Ray mentioned two other noteworthy efforts in building crowd-sourced unified family trees. The largest “world” family tree is at [FamilySearch.org](#) with 1.3 billion individuals in their world tree (very likely most are not connected to the unified tree) where membership is free, but errors in that many connections are often likely. The next largest is [Geni.com](#) with 155 million unified individuals which requires a membership for full functionality .

The subject of Ray’s talk was [Wiki](#)-[iTree.com](#)



L. RAY SEARS, III

with approximately 30 million unified individuals which is entirely free and popular with many genealogists. The Wikipedia descriptions of each are worth reviewing: [FamilySearch](#) | [Geni](#) | [WikiTree](#). Any of these unified trees can be a good resource for checking existing information on individuals and their family relationships. Just check the sources listed to gauge the accuracy of the information.

WikiTree principles: One tree shared by all, one profile per person, each profile has at least one manager who fields/approves changes, seven privacy levels are available. A complete change log for each individual’s profile shows changes made in context, by whom and when. A manager can undo changes as

listed in the change log by “restoring data from as it was...” to any previous date. A log also exists of all contributions you have made over time, showing them in context.

A “thing” or “space” can be defined. For instance, Ray built a sizeable [Space about Cape Cod](#) and the [Ancient Sears Cemetery](#) in

Dennis with considerable useful information, where additions and changes can be requested and made. In addition “[Projects](#)” can be defined where five or more individuals can work together. The [PGM Project](#) (Puritan Great Migration) is a notable effort at WikiTree. Of the roughly 20,000 PGM people who immigrated prior 1640, fully 7,000 Profiles are established at WikiTree. If you have a PGM ancestor, his or her Profile and Badge may already be defined, or you can do all a favor by defining your PGM member at WikiTree. Several PGM researchers are Project members and available for help. Automatic mapping functions are also available allowing you

to see the distributed geographic locations

(cont’d. on page 6)



JILL MORELLI CAUTIONS, “DON’T BUILD YOUR OWN BRICK WALLS!”

By Dottie Priestley



JILL MORELLI, CG
(ON ZOOM SCREEN)

On July 17 Certified Genealogist Jill Morelli presented her record-breaking seventh consecutive July presentation to Falmouth Genealogical Society. The Washington State writer and publisher delivers helpful information knowing human nature has its downfalls. The talk’s title was, “Don’t Build Your Own Brick Walls,” to which she added, “It’s Hard Enough.” Admitting she had built some herself, she later found some were not brick walls at all.

Her basic principles: become a professional skeptic, focus on a single problem at a time, recognize that this is hard work, use F.A.N. (Family, Associates, and Neighbors) research techniques and understand the context. Jill makes pedigree charts and FAN clubs, including relatives at christenings, witnesses for wills, church members, neighbor deed holders, administrators, marriage and other witness-

es, and neighbors, for each possible candidate. This is so important in countries with many similar names. She notes that one may reappear as a sister’s spouse.

Believe only the best sources and verifiable information – usually not the family Bible or public family trees and stories. Look at your research with fresh eyes and compile a written report to develop a research plan.

Reading about the times and people who lived where ancestors lived will help us understand them, their motivations for actions, the context of records, ethnic backgrounds, geography of the area, available record sets, the era in which our ancestor lived, education, ability to own property, etc.

Use the G.P.S. (Genealogical Proof Standard), i.e., use reasonably exhaustive research and informative citations, analyze and correlate evidence, resolve conflicts and write it up. DO NOT accept traditions and stories, make assumptions about records or use poor methodology. Be skeptical. Reexamine records again. Listen to advice and apply only if appropriate, use undocumented work only as hints, review sources for validity and quality, broaden the

search utilizing newly available resources. Criminal activity, illegitimacy and nefarious activities could have happened even in your family.

Attend conferences, learn methodology, build a network of fellow genealogists, collaborate, learn new vocabulary and tools. Do on-site visits or call to enlist the help of clerks. Visit the local historical society.

Do not use just indexes, they are incomplete, and transcribers make mistakes. Look at originals. They may have clues in fields missing from indexes. For instance, a dollar value in real estate leads to deed records. Get DNA from relatives now; don’t assume you’ve got plenty of time. If the county records burned check other governmental jurisdictions like towns or schools, deeds, etc. If you don’t speak your ancestors’ language, learn 100 words of vocabulary and join a Facebook group for your ethnicity. Learning words and connecting words is easier than you’d think.

Don’t assume if it’s the same name it must be your person. Scandinavian and Irish research won’t be easy. Identify all possible and reasonable candidates and build FAN clubs for each,

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**Need HELP
with your Research?**

**Zoom sessions
free to members**

Team Up!

**with FGS volunteers
to move you forward!**

**More information
at falgen.org**

FREE HELP FROM FALMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

FREE GENEALOGY RESEARCH ON ANCESTRY.COM

Ancestry.com's Heritage Quest, library edition, is again available for free, at-home use to anyone with a CLAMS (Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing) library card. To access it, go to the library's home page, click on the blue circle with "Digital Collections," click on "Online Resources," then click on

"Genealogy/Local History." Use your library card number.

PORTUGUESE AND CAPE VERDEAN IMMIGRATION TO FALMOUTH AND CAPE COD

This four-week, free-on-Zoom course which began on October 5 uses recent research uncovering unknown histories of Portuguese and Cape Verdean

immigration to Falmouth and Cape Cod. This is part of the library's Joy of Learning series. Classes will focus on immigrants and settlement of the town and Cape in four key historical periods (early mid 1800s; the Industrial Agricultural period 1870-1930; WW II and its aftermath; and the 1960s-1980s). Go to the library's calendar for more info and to register.

"DON'T BUILD YOUR OWN BRICK WALLS" (cont'd. from page 4)

then eliminate one by one. Jill had to do this with three men married to three women all with the same names in the same parish within a nine-year timeframe! She authored an article about it in a Swedish genealogy newsletter. Note: the Irish often don't know birth dates but the Swedes do.

Use FamilySearch Wiki's collections catalog of images because 85% is not searchable by surname! Google is your friend; search on your ancestor's name adding, "+family history."

Lack of direct evidence is not a brick wall. Extract, analyze and correlate all information and write it up to identify gaps. Look for better citations. Date interviews. Collect all infor-

mation. Get as close to reliable sources as possible – get the original Baptismal record at the original church. Death and census records are not reliable for births.

Write it up! Identify which brick walls you want to solve and stay focused. They are often end-of-the-line persons. Pick ONE and write a research plan beginning with an exact research question. Example: "So-and-so married so-and-so on such-and-such a date in such-and-such a place. Who was his father?" Record info step by step. Cite and correlate all information, come to a conclusion or not, summarize your findings and why you think you



Write it up!

have an answer. Report all findings, positive and negative!

Jill's closing remark, "Slow down, observe carefully and enjoy the journey!"

In a Q and A, Jill noted that record accuracy varies by ethnic group. The Irish changed birth dates to comply with filing laws when they had enough money.

If you want to hire help, she suggested someone from the Association for Professional Genealogists where your ancestor lived. Most charge in chunks of time such as 10-hour increments and produce reports from 15-20 pages long showing sources of evidence.

Slaves can be found in Probate records.



Welcome Members

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

Caroline Anderson
Greg Anderson
Esther Ann Price
Faith Lee
Mary Anne Conboy
Patti Hart
Karen Hinds
Linda Heald
Dorene Dias
Cynthia Barrows Dias
Rita Anne Garrick
Les Garrick
James Scalli
Paul Silva
Vasca Pires
Clara Pires
Betsy Kyle Reece

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



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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.

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WIKITREE

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tied to vital records for a collection of individuals.

DNA connections can also be defined and linked to DNA kits at Ancestry.com, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA, MyHeritage and to GEDMatch. atDNA, Y-DNA and mtDNA connections are supported as proof of relationship. Numerous genealogical chart types are available for display and printing. A "RootsSearch" function is available which does a search for an individual (using automatically filled data fields) at any of the following genealogical websites: AmericanAncestors, Ancestry.com, Archive.org, BillionGraves, ChroniclingAmerica, FamilySearch, FindAGrave, FindMyPast, Fold3, GenealogyBank, Geni, MyHeritage, Newspapers.com, and many more. You can select

which collection of websites are enabled for search.

In summary: the unified tree projects, including FamilySearch.org, Geni.com and WikiTree, are not to be overlooked as resources for genealogical information regarding individuals that any of us are researching. There are several features of WikiTree in particular that any of us might find very useful. In addition, we may find it worthwhile to get to work on tying our ancestors to one of these world trees. Ray Sears is an obvious great resource to get you going on WikiTree in particular. He loves Cape Cod so surely he loves us!

See "Note" on page 2.

ANCESTRY.COM USERS BEWARE!

Anything you upload to Ancestry.com becomes its property. As of 3 August 2021 when the company's terms of service were updated, the genealogy website

has the right to use anything you upload such as family trees, photos or stories. Click [here](#) to read more at "One Big Change at Ancestry" from The Legal Genealogist website.



USING PAYPAL ON OUR WEBSITE

We have updated the PayPal functions on our website. For instance, under "Membership," "Join or Renew" you will now see two PayPal buttons reading, "FOR ONE YEAR" or "FOR ANNUAL AUTO-RENEWAL." Hopefully that is clear enough.

Also, for all PayPal payments you now have the option to check a box that says,

"I'd like to add \$1.25 to my donation to help offset the cost of processing fees." Paying that little extra to cover transaction fees will be truly appreciated!

Of course, you can also pay for membership via USPS mail to FGS, P.O. Box 2107, East Falmouth MA 02536. Thank you all for your willingness to support our group!