

SINCE 1985

Celebrating 30 Years!

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWS

WINTER 2016

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 1



Annual Holiday Food Fest a Delicious Success

President Mary Barry kicked off the December 12 “Holiday Food Fest” by thanking members for all their volunteer hours during the past year. Their major accomplishments included the Boy Scout genealogy merit



badge program, the new website and newsletter designs, and 93 individuals assisted at Tuesday’s help sessions.

The festivities moved on to the sharing of holiday recipes, memorabilia and stories. Holiday foods included

(cont’d. on page 3)

Brick Walls and Archives Addressed

The Falmouth and Cape Cod genealogical societies were privileged to hear Washington, DC-based and nationally-known genealogist Dr. John Colletta speak on November 14 in Oyster



PAST PRESIDENT RALPH WADLEIGH MEETS WITH JOHN COLLETTA AFTER THE PRESENTATION

In his first presentation, “**Breaking Through Brick Walls,**” Dr. Colletta stressed the importance of logic and perseverance. His talk was centered on case studies from his own ancestors and how he ascertained their stories from very little knowledge beforehand.

He used his third great grandfather as an example. The man arrived in the US in about 1830 but John could not find any arrival record. He was able to construct a rather

complete story with many source references. His recommendations? Review the evidence then strategize by thinking your problem through very carefully and ask yourself: what is precisely your objective?; what do you know already?

Read about the back-

ground and history of the area to obtain the bigger picture. Utilize multiple sources in combination. Look at siblings and neighbors. Explore library guidebooks and written family lore. Look for multiple people and towns with the same names. Realize town names can change as can borders. Look at event witnesses, who are usually relatives. Compare signatures. Review previous and next pages of original census and other records.

(cont’d. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, January 9

“What’s in a Civil War Pension File?”

With Phyllis Day & Ralph Wadleigh

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Saturday, February 13

“Genealogy of the Wampanoag Tribe and Acceptance Criteria”

With Rita Lopez, Enrollment Director of the Wampanoag Tribe

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Saturday, March 12

“A Look at the Falmouth Historical Society’s Archives and Library”

With Brian Nickerson and Meg Costello of Falmouth Historical Society

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Saturday, April 9

“Brick Wall Blaster”

With a Panel of Members

Bring your genealogical puzzles. Receive suggestions to break down barriers and find missing pieces.

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Saturday, May 14

“The Dangers of Online Public Trees”

With Dave Robison, Professional Genealogist

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Saturday, June 11

“Annual Meeting”

Report on the Year/ All Welcome

**10 am Downstairs
At the Falmouth Library**

Brick Walls & Archives

(cont'd. from page 1)

“MOST HISTORICAL SOURCES HAVE NOT BEEN PUBLISHED.”

JOHN COLLETTA,

PH.D.

ON THE VALUE OF

ARCHIVES

Find two corroborating facts to be sure. Find timely gazettes with town lists and maps. Ask family including cousins for oral lore such as “ma and pa attended the same school” because they could contain a kernel of truth. Know that surnames can have many spellings—John found 12 ways to spell “Connelly.” Remember there can be errors even in original sources.

“**Understanding Archives,**” the second talk, clarified the differences between, and benefits of, public archives (national, state, county and city) and private archives (religious, business, association and educational institutions.) Archives contain original records exactly as they were. They are essential for thorough searches because most historical

COME TO OUR NEXT MEETING
Saturday, January 9th
10:00 am
Downstairs in the Falmouth Public Library

Do you know...
“What's in a Civil War Pension File?”

Learn:
The value of obtaining Civil War pension records
The legal background of the Civil War Pension system
How to determine if a pension record exists
About veterans' & widows' applications
Steps towards approval or denial of pension applications
How to obtain pension records
Q & A to follow

With Falmouth Genealogical Society's Own
Ralph Wadleigh and Phyllis Day

sources have not been published.

Learn what they contain and where they're located. They provide prints, photos, and maps for your family history. Using hypotheses read about background during the time period. Newspapers contain amazing trivia about ancestors. Consult with archivists and use finding aids such as websites of

agencies, catalogs of microfilm publications, inventories, guides and directories of specific topics.

Private archives can be housed in the custody of creating agencies or successor agencies.

Dr. Colletta provided lists of archive guides, catalogs and manuals for specific subjects and repositories.

New Titles Purchased for Reference Genealogy Collection



Falmouth Public Library has purchased two new titles for the Reference Genealogy Collection.

The first of these is The Great Migration Directory: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1640: a Concise Compendium. Robert Charles Anderson, who has been leading the Great Migration Study Project

since 1985, is the author. This volume is different in that it provides concise entries for all known immigrants from 1620-1640. Previous volumes cover only through 1635. It is published by New England Historic Genealogical Society and is said to be one of the most important genealogical sources published for New England.

The second book is the 5th edition of In Search of Your German Roots: a Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in the Germanic Areas of Europe written by Angus Baxter. It covers areas that are now, or were part of, Germany. A circulating copy was also purchased. It may be found at 929.1072 BAX.

*Submitted by Jan Zlater
Chair, Library Committee*

Mass. Genealogical Council Seminar to be April 16 & 17

This event will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, Marlborough, Mass. The seminar features multiple tracks of genealogy lectures on a variety of topics from fundamentals to advanced. Register for one or both days. The cost is \$75 for Saturday and \$85 for Sunday. Member Ralph Wadleigh is offering rides to those interested in carpooling (whplar@comcast.net). Click to learn more and register: <http://www.massgencouncil.org/index.php/2016seminar>

Annual Holiday Food Fest a

Success (cont'd. from page 1)

Swedish oatmeal cookies complete with a homemade gnome, Toll House cookies and the cookbook from which they came, hand-knit stockings, frosted sugar cookies, a photo of Auntie and some of her Pilgrim bread with orange marmalade topping, chocolate chip cookies and, the piece-de-resistance, a Harvey Wallbanger cake! The happy celebration is an annual hit.

Conserving Personal Collections is Essential

On October 10 Shellee Morehead, Ph.D., CG, reminded us that our family heirlooms such as documents, textiles, furniture, photos, etc. tell a unique story we want to pass on to future generations. These home sources, or personal collections, contain unique family items and are distinct from files. Dr. Morehead stressed we should make critical decisions about what's important and not save everything. Disseminate research materials to others including *copies* of unique items. For the "keepers" she recommends taking the following steps as soon as possible.

Convert movies, slides, computer disks to the latest technology but retain the originals. Keep original handwritten letters, diaries, memoirs and Bible entries. Don't keep anything someone can recreate. Reference books can be purchased; vital records, obtained.

Treat your special collections as if they are as important as those in museums. Learn to organize, document and preserve your collections. *Always* store them away from humidity, extreme temperatures, light, dust, animals and acid. *Never* store them in a basement,

garage, attic or storage unit! Make back-ups and upload online or store in a safe place. Use PVC-free, acid-free containers. Use an archival-safe photo-marking pencil on the back of all photos. Dr. Morehead recommends an archival supply company like Hollinger for effectively preserving items.

Document and label every item by what it is, where it came from, its size, number of pages, dates, whose it was, who possesses it now, where it should go or to which organization it should be donated, etc. Organize everything in a way someone else can understand. It doesn't matter how. You can organize by type of material, location, surname, chronology or any combination of those. For category suggestions visit the Library of congress site <http://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/>.

What happens after we're gone? Attach a codicil to your will that certain labeled boxes may not be thrown out and assign someone to receive them. Prepare for the future. Backup, label, scan, donate, send to relatives, create scrapbooks, write memoirs, articles and family history.

Plan *now*, preserve *now*!



"TREAT YOUR

SPECIAL

COLLECTIONS AS IF

THEY ARE AS

IMPORTANT AS

THOSE IN

MUSEUMS."

DR. SHELLEE

MOREHEAD

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society**

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

COMMITTED TO
PRESERVING PUBLIC
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AND ENCOURAGING
OTHERS IN THE
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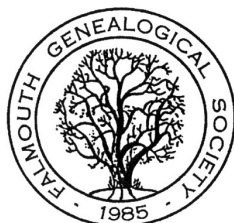
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The Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net



Murder Mystery Solved



**RUTH A.
HAMILTON,
1949-1972**

by Shirley Dunkle

The following e-mail recently came to me from Mary, my husband’s cousin (2nd cousin once removed), also an avid genealogist:

“--- I happened to find that our ancestor William Wilson’s daughter, Marion Larkin Wilson [born 8/19/1914], was your neighbor. She married a Phillip Butler Hamilton in 1946. Their address was on Sippewissett Road, Falmouth, MA. Is that close to you? I also found a photo of her from a school in Newton. ---“

Yes, indeed, that is near me – in the same town! However, I didn’t recognize the name. I called a couple of friends who lived on or near Sippewissett Rd. in 1946. One friend did remember the couple. The truth was startling. What my friend remembered was that there had been a murder in the family. She thought that it had involved one of their two daughters and was big news in the Boston papers at the time. A second friend confirmed that the murder had been of a daughter, but had no further details.

Intrigued (horrified, actually) we began to search. We easily found on Ancestry and FamilySearch the complete information on Marion and Philip: birth and death dates; parents and grandparents. We could not find anything about their daughters. We assumed that they had been born after 1946 but didn’t know their names, whether or not they were married, or when they died. We checked the town Street Directories for 1980, 1988 and found only Marion and Philip - no daughters. We also checked the house records at Town Hall and found that the Sippewissett Road house was sold in 1993, after Philip died.

It occurred to me that if Marion and Philip died in Falmouth in 1990 and 1992, respectively, they were possibly buried in Falmouth. I called FGS Member Donna Walcovy, who is the Superintendent at Oak Grove Cemetery in Falmouth, looking for Hamiltons. There was a Marion and Philip Hamilton lot with six other Hamiltons! Bingo!

Driving to Oak Grove, we located the eight gravestones, all with NAMES and DATES! There were two that we assumed must be the daughters: Jane Hamilton Devitt, (1947-1993) and Ruth A. Hamilton (1949-1972). Judging from her death at such a young age, we surmised that Ruth was most likely the murder victim. Immediately we went to the Falmouth Public Library website and, at FGS Member Ralph Wadleigh’s suggestion, checked the newspaper database, finding this article published in the Harvard Crimson:

MURDER SUSPECT March 21, 1973

Anthony J. Jackson, 33, was ordered held without bail Tuesday after pleading innocent to an indictment.....charging him with murder in the death of Ruth A. Hamilton, one of eight young women found slain in the Boston area since last summer.

Mary helped us find information on these Boston-area serial killings known as the “Hitchhike Murders”. Ruth Hamilton was a 23-year-old art teacher in Winthrop. She was tragically murdered in her apartment in Cambridge, MA. She would have been my husband’s half 2nd cousin.

NOTE: Falmouth Genealogical Society News welcomes members’ articles about genealogical finds and/or suggestions for researching. To contact the editor see tan box on the left.



SINCE 1985

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FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWS

SPRING 2016

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2

Genealogy of the Wampanoag Tribe

Our February speaker, Mashpee Wampanoag tribal member Rita Lopez, is the enrollment director for that tribe. She determines the eligibility of those who apply for tribal membership by meticulously documenting every aspect of each membership application. As she explained, her work is very detail oriented, and she sometimes relies on outside researchers and records. Documents can be found at New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston and at the British Society for the Propagation of the Bible, as well as locally. Boston Genealogist Richard Andrew Pierce has become a specialist on the tribe.

The Town of Mashpee was run by the tribe into the early 1800s.



By Joyce Pendery

They petitioned many times before finally being recognized as a tribe. Early missionaries, including Gideon Holly, Mr. Tupper, and Mr.

Bourne, were the earliest historians and genealogists for the tribe. Their goal was to Christianize tribal members, and in the process they listed native names, documented lineages, and indicated where they lived. They also taught tribal members to read and write.

The 1849 tribal census was the earliest to document names, and the 1859 report is used to document membership in the tribe. In the 1950's Mashpee Wampanoags began to formally document tribal membership and to try to end overseers management of their affairs. Since it is often difficult

(cont'd. on page 3)

Why Research Civil War Pension Records?

If you have an ancestor born in the US between 1806 and 1845 he might be a Civil War veteran, says Ralph Wadleigh. He and Phyllis Day, Society members, spoke at the January 9th meeting. They explained about the wealth of genealogical information to be found in Civil War pension records, whether or not a pension was granted. This could include sworn testimony,

marriage records, birth records of children, a physical description and family relationships which may not be found elsewhere.

Legislation was passed in 1861 to authorize pensions to recruit volunteers to the Union Army. By 1862 pensions for widows, minor children and dependents were established. In 1890 pensions were

(cont'd. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**NEXT MEETING
Saturday, April 9**

"Brick Wall Blaster"
With a Panel of Members
Bring genealogical puzzles and get suggestions to break down barriers and find missing pieces.

Saturday, May 14

"The Dangers of Online Public Trees"
With Dave Robison, Professional Genealogist

Saturday, June 11

"Artifacts & Annual Meeting"
With Member Talks and Report

**Saturday, July 16 NOTE:
3rd Saturday of the Month**

"Too Many Marys: Finding Your Irish Ancestor"
With Jill Morelli

Saturday, August 13

"Using Colonial Records in Family History Research"
Barbara Matthews, CG, FASG

Saturday, September 10

"Finding Cousins Using DNA Tools and Case Studies For Exploring Your Autosomal DNA Matches"
With Pam Holland, Professional Genealogist

Saturday, October 8

"Treasures and Trivia Over Decades of Research"
With Member Bob Chase

Saturday, November 12

Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society
"Analyzing Conflicting Information" and "Exploring School Records"
With Pam Eagleson, CG
At St. Peter's Church, 421 Wianno Avenue, Osterville

Saturday, December 10

"Annual Holiday Food Fest"
Members bring holiday recipes, cookbooks and cards

Why Research Civil War Pension Records?

(cont'd. from page 1)

“THERE IS A WEALTH OF GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION TO BE FOUND IN CIVIL WAR PENSION RECORDS.”

RALPH WADLEIGH

offered to honorably-discharged, disabled veterans who were unable to perform manual labor. Only one full pension could be claimed by relatives of the deceased and beneficiaries for unmarried men could be his mother, or father if she's not living, or siblings if both parents are deceased.

The declaration to receive a deceased husband's pension must have been filed within three years of his death. A surgeon, not the soldier's doctor, was required to examine and certify invalids. The amount received ranged from \$8 per month for a private to \$30 per month for a lieutenant colonel and up to Navy Commander. The widow's pension would stop the day of her remarriage but minor children under 16 could still receive them.

The File of Benjamin L. Crowell, Company K, 1st Regiment, Maine Heavy Artillery was used as an example. Private Crowell had died from small pox on January 28, 1864. The file showed that his wife, Avis Crowell, completed a declaration in February 1864. The document lists their five minor children with birth records. Their file continues all the way



RALPH WADLEIGH POSES WITH HIS GERMAN ANCESTOR'S PENSION FILE AND PHYLLIS DAY

through November 12, 1878 when the youngest child turned 16. It shows that during some of those years Mrs. Crowell was awarded the standard private's pension commencing on July 25, 1866.

Their file is interesting because when Avis remarried in 1869 her pension stopped and Benjamin's cousin applied for guardianship of her children. As such, he received 10% of the pension and the \$2 per month for each of her children. By 1872 Avis moved to Wisconsin and in May of the following year she reported not having received the children's funds. Guardianship had become a business and was subject to fraud. In December their guardian was found to be "converting their pensions to his own use." Payments to the guardian were suspended and Avis was granted guardianship of her children, which continued until the

last child reached 16 in 1878.

Christian Ehlers, Ralph's German immigrant ancestor, was one of many Germans who became soldiers. He went deaf from an abscess in his ear. He filed his own application which included his wife's name, maiden name and his own signature.

In 1907 Congress authorized an old-age pension of \$12 per month for those 62; \$15 per month for 70 year olds and \$20 per month for age 75 and older. This was a precursor to Social Security in 1935.

Info on Civil War veterans may be found here:

Ancestry.com indexes **Books** including Regimental Histories, Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War.

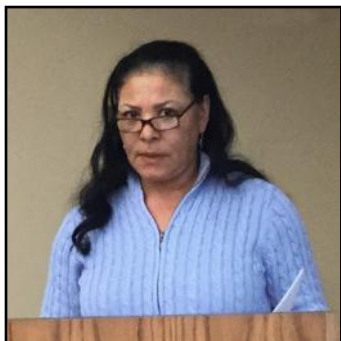
National Archives www.archives.gov – pension files can be ordered online for an \$80 fee.

National Park System, Civil War Soldiers www.itd.nps.gov/cwss **Massachusetts Civil War Records** www.massachusettscivilwar.com

Family Search www.familysearch.org US Civil War collections

Genealogy of the Wampanoag Tribe

(cont'd. from page 1)



RITA LOPEZ

to formally document Mashpee tribal membership, tribal members seek clues to make connections. Graveyard headstone information is often very helpful,

as are names signed on petitions. Another source of information is lists of those who served as soldiers during the 1800s. Census records sometimes stated Indian: and maps showing areas of Indian settlement provide additional information. The 1910 census was the first to list the tribe of membership and to state the percentage of Indian blood. The 2010 census also documents tribal membership. Ms. Lopez stated the tribal members

have to use whatever information is available to document their tribal membership. For the 20th century, school records and property ownership records are important sources on information, as are town annual reports that list births, marriages, and deaths.

Of the approximately 2,800 individuals enrolled as tribal members, about half live in Massachusetts. Another 500 or so members are not enrolled.

Falmouth Historical Society Was Meeting Topic

Our speakers from the Falmouth Historical Society on March 12th were Brian Nickerson, Board member and former President of the Nickerson Family Association, and Meg Costello, Research Manager. Housed in Museums on the Green, 55 & 65 Palmer Avenue, the society's collections on the town and its inhabitants, businesses, buildings, activities and stories are extensive and worth exploring. But Meg said the organization is most famous for its maritime collection, which includes 47 ship logs, primarily from whaling ships. One is a gripping account of an 1835 attack by South Pacific natives. Whaling contracts and navigational charts are included.



MEG COSTELLO AND BRIAN NICKERSON

Falmouth's famous author, Katherine Lee Bates, spent her childhood here and is well represented. One prize possession is her handwritten, though not her working, copy of the "America the Beautiful." The society has 250 published genealogies, family bibles, photographs, correspondence and family papers.

Rev. Henry Herbert Smythe, the society's founder, listed

tombstones in the Old Burying Ground. These listings are especially valuable because some of those stones were unreadable when photos were taken of the 1,500 stones in Falmouth cemeteries.

The collections include town clerk ledgers dating to the 1600's. There are town meeting minutes, school records and even dog licenses. They house a collection of Falmouth business records from the chamber of commerce, formerly the board of trade. There are women's temperance records and mementoes from the Old Silver Beach University Players of which Henry Fonda was a member. They have scrapbooks and

(cont'd. on page 5)

"THE ORGANIZATION IS MOST FAMOUS FOR ITS MARITIME COLLECTION."

BRIAN NICKERSON

ON FALMOUTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Board at Work on Falmouth Cemeteries

The Falmouth Genealogical Society board of directors has taken on the task of uploading info on gravestones in all Falmouth cemeteries online on the Find-A-Grave free website <http://www.findagrave.com/>.

Photographs and text are being uploaded to the site. Progress has been made and the first full cemetery is nearing completion. Special thanks to Ray Howe and Jerry Luby for utilizing hundreds of paper files and CD's to obtain the information.

Welcome New Members

The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society in recent months:

Susan Archer
William Archer
Mark Astolfi
Edward Morgan
Lori Peltola
Barry Tate
Belinda Tate

We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings.

Free Book About Eva Belle Kempton

“The Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton 1878-1908, Part 1” has been donated to the library and is yours for the asking. Written by Author Dean Crawford Smith and printed in 1996, it includes the ancestry of Warren Francis Kempton 1817-1879. Published by New England Genealogical Society it can be found for sale online for \$45 and up.

If you are interested in this important work you may email Mary Barry at mpbarry@mac.com.



Helping Preserve the Pensions

Falmouth Genealogical Society is proud to have donated to preserve the pensions of the War of 1812. We have received the following press release on the program.

January 19, 2016 – Austin, TX. The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) announces the \$2 million dollar mark has been surpassed in 2015 with the support of donors in the fundraising efforts to digitize the 7.2 million pension images for the 180,000 pensioners of the War of 1812 in the Preserve the Pensions project.

This is a landmark project. It marks the first time the genealogical community has come together to raise such a significant amount of money to preserve priceless documents. When completed, this project will save tax payers \$3.45 million dollars. FGS' previous successful efforts to index the Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System with the help of volunteers produced a \$6.3 million dollar tax savings. Hence, these two pro-

jects will result in nearly a \$10 million dollar savings to tax payers.

“We are deeply appreciative of so many within the family history community who continue to support the Preserve the Pensions project,” says D. Joshua Taylor, FGS President. “This important milestone is the start of the ‘homestretch’ and is evidence of the passion and commitment amongst genealogists to preserve records for the future.”

For every dollar raised, 98 cents goes directly to digitizing the documents. There are no salaries paid for this project—the project costs are primarily to print materials to publicize the project.

Additionally, in 2015 the project raised \$208,401 in total cash donations. This amount, coupled with the generous match from Ancestry.com, doubled the funds raised to \$416,802 bringing the **total amount raised for the project thus far to \$2,032,198!**

With generous donations and continued help in sharing information about the project, **significant progress can be made in 2016—possibly completing the fundraising for the project.** The images for pensioners with surnames beginning with the letters “A” through “M” have already been posted on the Fold3 website and will remain free forever thanks to donors!

Furthermore, due to record preparation and image capture issues at the archives, there is a delay in the publication of images on the site. It is anticipated that these issues will be resolved quickly and that image publication will resume within the next 60-90 days. There is always a publication preparation delay between record capture and publishing the images online. In the meantime, because of the support of donors, great fundraising progress has been made to complete the project, and **further donations can be made on the War of 1812 Preserve the Pensions website.**

Falmouth Historical Society Was Meeting Topic

(cont'd. from page 3)

ephemera from Stephen Car-ey whose family donated the Knob property. Other items are baseball programs, photos of the 1938 hurricane and of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip's visit in 1976. There's even info on a possible but short-lived Nobska vodka circa 1950.

Their CD's contain oral histories, tapes and videos, war records and draft registrations. Digital Archives Volunteer Brian Nickerson, spoke about this ongoing work and showed a short video about the project.

17,000 multi-page documents have been digitized and are keyword searchable. These include Barnstable County Registry of Deeds real estate records beginning in 1703 with a searchable index of seller and buyer. Their 1,000 post card collection is also being digitized. A special new scanner is being utilized to digitize their glass-plate negatives.

Meg has written descriptive stories about archive items in under "Untold Tales of Falmouth," on the website. You can view their website at

www.museumsonthegreen.org, but a visit to this local treasure is recommended. The museums will be open for the season on June 6 but the research center in the circa 1730 Conant House on Palmer Avenue, is under construction and will not reopen after Labor Day. It will have new climate control and better display methods. All books are in storage until the reopening but you can call Meg at 508-548- 4857 to make an appointment to view other archives.

Thank You

Louise Adler
Susan & William Archer, Sr.
Marie Lou Botelho
Marie Brady
Melvina Brock
Frances Caddigan
James Cardoza
John Caspole
Helene Doyle

to the following individuals who have generously donated to FGS and/or the Internet cemetery project:

Shirley Dunkle
Joan Frederici
Priscilla Fuller
Stephen Hemberger
Patricia Hildebrandt
Susan Hutchinson
Elizabeth King
Richard Lawrence
Gerard Luby
David Martin
Leslie McDonald

Frances McLean
Brian Nickerson
Joyce Pendery
Paul Riemer
Marianne Shafer
Sandra Sullivan
Allen Swift
J. Elliott Taylor
Donna Walcovy
Deborah Winograd
Janice Zlatev

"PEOPLE WILL NOT
LOOK FORWARD TO
POSTERITY, WHO
NEVER LOOK
BACKWARDS TO
THEIR ANCESTORS"
-EDMUND BURKE

Thanks also to our hard-working Publicity mavens: Marianne Shaffer and Dara Bowin!

Help Look for Descendants

Oak Grove Cemetery is trying to locate descendants of person buried there and we need your help. One, we'd like to up-date our files with living relatives. Many of our graves are owned by the person buried in the lot. If something were to happen to the grave-

stone, or the grave, we have no idea whom to contact. The second reason is we're trying to write a book about the persons buried in OGC, the famous and regular people and we need photographs and stories about your loved ones. The third reason is we're trying to



locate all our WW I military. Please contact: Donna E. Walcovy at oakgrovecemetery@verizon.net



SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society**

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

COMMITTED TO
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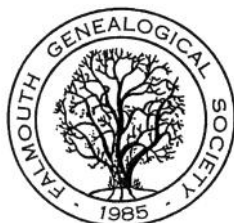
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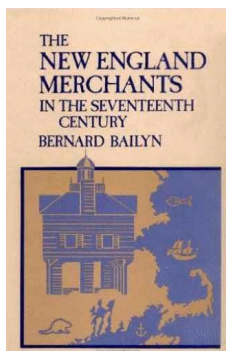
Secretary
Dottie Priestley

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
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Book Review



New England Merchants in the Seventeenth Century
by Bernard Bailyn
Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London,
England, 1979

By Ralph Wadleigh

Genealogists should always be looking for context. That is the environment in which our ancestors lived and worked. This engaging book examines the interaction between the Puritan oligarchy and the rising merchant class in New England's seventeenth century. It explains in economic terms the reasons behind the early settler migrations to the north and west of the Massachusetts Bay area. In my case, I learned that one of the major reasons settlers moved to the Connecticut River area was the fur trade. Furs were one of the first local commodities that could be profitably sold in England and therefore were a way to reward English investors for their sponsorship of "plantation" settlements. For economic gain, settlers needed to get as close as possible to where furs were plentiful and where they could be readily obtained from the Native Americans. Another example of this is the founding of Springfield, Massachusetts by fur trader William Pynchon.

The author illustrates how many of the early merchants came to America from an English merchant background and how their contacts in England allowed them the necessary credit to permit importation of the required tools, machinery and dry goods that were not as yet manufactured in the New World. Eventually, the New England merchants were able to invest in locally built ships which developed trade relations around the English world, especially in the West Indies, where growing sugar based economies needed New England bred horses and foodstuffs like fish for the slave labor force.

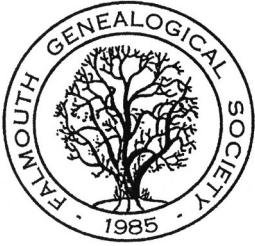
Bailyn further describes the reaction in England when the New England merchants threaten the English trader's markets. The counter reaction in New England over penalizing English legislation gives rise to early hints of the Revolution that would occur decades later.

The narrative is sprinkled with names of many traders. It also describes how intermarriage between merchant families begins to create a merchant "class." You may find a number of your ancestors named. I found an ancestor of mine, Anthony Stoddard, and one my wife's, John Coggeshall.

This well written social and economic history can be found at the Woods Hole Public Library and on CLAMS.

Cover photo printed with permission of Harvard University Press

ATTENTION MEMBERS: If you received a copy of this newsletter in the mail but would prefer to receive future issues in PDF format via email, just send your request by email to Ray Howe at irayhowe@aol.com.



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

SUMMER 2016

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 3

Annual Meeting and Artifact Talks Held June 11

Annual Meeting Highlights

The annual meeting of the Society was conducted by President Mary Barry. In the absence of nominations or volunteers to serve as Vice President and Second Vice President, the only candidate approved was Gerard Luby, who will continue as Treasurer. Other officers will be up for reelection next year.

Mary highlighted the past year's accomplishments. Monthly meetings including those sponsored with Cape Cod Genealogical Society were very well attended due to quality topics and speakers and excellent publicity. Members volunteered 239 hours at genealogical help sessions and had 90 clients.

The successful new Boy Scout program initiated by board members resulted in seven boys being awarded the Genealogy Merit Badge and will continue in the future. Society representatives are helping plan for the next New England Regional Genealogical Consortium Conference to be held in April 2017 in Springfield.

Member Artifact Talks

After completing society business, the fun began with the always-popular member artifact talks.

Marianne Shafer brought several items from her husband's family's



MARIANNE SHAFER
WIELDS A HATCHET

general store in Greer City, PA, including wooden display boxes. She showed a hatchet probably used by her husband's grandmother to kill chickens. But the most moving part

of Marianne's talk was her recitation of a poem she wrote describing how she felt when the family sold the store, which you can read on page 4.

Joe Mulvey

shared items including his County Roscommon, Ireland grandfather's November 1888 Naturalization paper. In 1924 his grandmother's name was written in the corner of the document after women could vote.



JOE MULVEY
TALKS

Rosanne McFarland



ROSANNE
MCFARLAND WITH
CHRISTENING
ALBUM

Christening gown hand-stitched by her grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Nolan Mooney for her first-born son in 1907.

Little did she realize the gown would go on to be worn by over 40 family members spanning four generations. A relative created a photo album of recent baptisms. One very interesting

(cont'd. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NEXT MEETING
Saturday, July 16
NOTE: 3rd Saturday of Month

"Too Many Marys: Solving
Identity and Same Name
Conundrums"

With Jill Morelli

Too little or too much information? These are common issues with individuals with common names, especially in Irish records. We will explore the different types of identity issues and some of the strategies for solution in each. Jill lectures nationwide about her Midwestern, northern German and Scandinavian ancestors.

Saturday, August 13

"Using Colonial Records in
Family History Research"
With Barbara Matthews, CG,
FASG

Saturday, September 10

"Finding Cousins Using DNA
Tools and Case Studies For
Exploring Your Autosomal
DNA Matches"
With Pam Holland, Professional
Genealogist

Saturday, October 8

"Treasures and Trivia Over
Decades of Research"
With Member Bob Chase

Saturday, November 12

"Using Colonial Records in
Family History Research"
With Barbara Matthews, CG,
FASG

Saturday, December 10

"Annual Holiday Food Fest"
Members bring holiday treats,
recipes, cookbooks, Christmas
cards

Saturday, January 14

"Adding Color to Your Family
Tree"
With Al Woollacott, III,
Genealogist and author of "The
Immigrant"



Brick Walls are Blasted

by Gerard Luby

EACH MEMBER OF THE PANEL RECOMMENDED A CALM METHODICAL APPROACH.



THE PANEL, LEFT TO RIGHT: DAVID MARTIN, RALPH WADLEIGH AND JAN ZLATEV

Speaking at the Falmouth Genealogical Society monthly meeting on April 9, 2016 was a distinguished panel of three long-term society members, Jan Zlatev, David Martin, and Ralph Wadleigh. Their

objective, to assist the general audience in helping them unravel their genealogical puzzles.

Ralph Wadleigh talked about some of the most common brick walls, immigration searches for women, military records, general local and state archives, and inconsistent census records.

The panel provided guidance on the use of specific websites that may be of value in helping attack brick walls and answered audience questions.

Each member of the panel recommended a calm methodical approach to finding ways through, over, under, and around your brick wall. A comment was made that it is like peeling back an onion, layer by layer.

In Memoriam

Beverly Deignan, a member of Falmouth Genealogical Society for about seven years, passed away March 12th after a long battle with cancer. She was 76.

Annual Meeting and Artifact Talks

(cont'd. from page 1)

photo includes 15 individuals who each wore the gown as infants and another is of a baptized descendant posing with his Jewish children who would not wear the gown.



BOB CHASE WITH A POST HORN

Then up came **Bob Chase** telling stories of a music

box and a post horn. Bob said he met his wife in Germany 62 years ago, danced with her and then, 20 minutes later, told her he didn't know how or where but she was going

to be his wife! After 35 trips back to see her family they have accumulated a large collection of her family's keepsakes including these items.

Eleanor Baldic talked about her Civil War great grandfather and showed his photograph and blood-stained uniform belt, which, she says, at 155 years old, is older than she is!

Louise Adler shared a yellowed document and said her mother, who immigrated from France to Woonsocket, RI in 1900, died when she was only 8.

Louise found her records thanks to French-speaking member, Joyce Pendery.

Betsy Davis brought a souvenir spoon from Boone County, Nebraska



BETSY DAVIS SHARES HER ALBUM FOR COUSINS

where her Irish-born grandmother worked and met

her grandfather. This was one of the few things the family saved.

Artifact talks remind us all to treasure and share our own family mementoes as these members do.

Dangers of Online Family Trees Discussed by Sue Hutchinson

The May 14 general meeting featured Dave Robison, owner of Old Bones Genealogy of New England. The well-known speaker, professional genealogist, and Tri-Chairperson of New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC), began by pointing out that only 15—20% of all genealogical information is on the Internet. All information should follow the Genealogical Proof Standard which requires a reasonably exhaustive search, complete and accurate source citations, skilled analysis and correlation of data, and research of data. The end result should be a soundly reasoned, written conclusion that details all the evidence, analyses and documentation. He also mentioned that sometimes a reasonably exhaustive search may draw information from (online) family trees.

Mr. Robison reminded people that Ancestry.com is a commercial business and anything can be posted on the Internet. Nothing should be posted on, or taken from, the Internet unless the accuracy and documentation of the information has been thoroughly checked.

He also discussed correcting mistakes found on family trees on Ancestry and discussed “public” vs. “private” trees. He recommended that people mark their trees “Private” so that only invited people can view the personal

information. He mentioned family trees other than Ancestry, but felt that one advantage to using Ancestry was the DNA capabilities/services which are available. He noted, however, that if a person drops his or her subscription to Ancestry they lose access to their Private Family Tree. Public trees remain accessible.

Mr. Robison mentioned problems with digitizing, transcribing, and indexing information in the Internet which can lead to mistakes and incorrect information. For example, mistakes in reading writing samples can cause incorrect information to be posted online. He mentioned the necessity of comparing writing samples to check for accuracy in names and numbers (example: is it a “3,” or a “5,” or an “8?”)

Mr. Robison went on to define “sources” vs. “info” vs. “evidence” and then discussed the types of sources (primary, secondary, undetermined). He finished his presentation by discussing “creative search strategies” and providing his website (free) where audience members can access his handouts and documents with this hyperlink:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/68ayqq9rtrls9zp/AADq6abV8gi4UmUaNuYtSKdZa>



DAVE ROBISON MAKES A POINT

Time to Renew Your Annual Membership

by Gerard Luby, Treasurer

Falmouth Genealogical Society’s fiscal year begins June 1 and ends May 31. However, membership renewal statement mailings were delayed until the end of June pending approval of a \$5 rate increase at the annual meeting. The increase, recommended by the board of directors, was approved, bringing the annual dues to \$25 for individuals, families and organizations. The last increase was 8 years ago. The payment date has been extended to July 30, 2016.

Donations to the Falmouth Genealogical Society can also be made by check or online through www.falgen.org by clicking on the “donate” button on the home page following the instructions provided.

“NOTHING SHOULD BE POSTED ON, OR TAKEN FROM, THE INTERNET UNLESS THE ACCURACY AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE INFORMATION HAS BEEN THOROUGHLY CHECKED.”

- DAVE ROBISON



SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society**

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

COMMITTED TO
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PERFORMANCE OF
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RESEARCH

Officers

President
Mary Barry

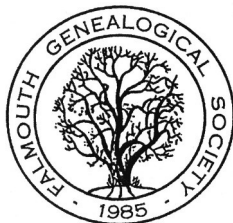
First Vice President
Richard Harbison

Treasurer
Jerry Luby

Secretary
Dottie Priestley

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

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net



The House in Grier City Town

By Marianne L. Shafer

(photo and article on page 1)

The house sits near the bottom of the hill,
On the left-hand side going down,
Between the gray-steepled church and the
white-clapboard school,
At the northern end of Grier City Town.
A rocking chair sits on one-half the front porch,
A geranium guards the front door,
And a hundred-year bench guards the other
one-half
Near the entrance to the old country store.

As I walk around back, there's the great gray
barn,
With a chicken-coop off to one side,
And a big green field where they used to plant
corn,
A nut tree with its branches spread wide.
Over the back porch stoop there's a vine-covered
roof
That looks left to the church's yard-side.
There's another old bench and a clothes line too,
That looks right to the school's fire-slide.

The back porch floor is still a fine, shiny gray
From years of brisk sweeps of the broom.
And the kitchen door's glass still winks a
welcome home
As it opens to my favorite room.
There in the corner is Daddy's wooden rocking
chair,
Mother's rug is by the sink on the floor,
One door's to the closet, one to the hall,
And one each to the dining room and store.

Down the hall are two parlors, one for every day,
And one for special days filled with friends.
Walk up brown, narrow stairs past the bed-
rooms, there's a storeroom
For storing the store's odds and ends.
Still other stairs lead me to the attic on high,
Two old photos, golden framed and quite grand,
And Grandma Hoverkost's chest which she
brought across the sea,
Long ago from a far-away land.

As I walk through this house I'm surrounded by
peace,
It's safe here, this I always will know.
It's good here, we grew here, we laughed here,
we mourned,
We loved here without saying so.
But times change. Mother now sits in a home,
Daddy's been gone about a year,
Sis lives in the west and I live in the east,

So we're calling the town auctioneer.

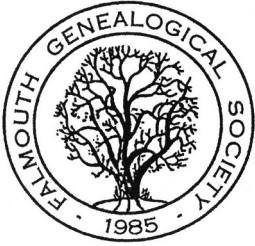
He will come with his gavel and table and chairs
And set up 'neath the old Chestnut tree.
The neighbors will come and sit there all day
long,
Some to buy things, but some just to see.
"Oh what am I bid for this dining room set?"
he'll cry.
"What am I bid for this knife?"
"Oh how can I let it all go in one day?" I say,
"Memories, a family, a life?"

So I run through the house and begin to collect
Some mementoes from days long gone by.
Two old photos, the chest, a chamber-pot set,
Three mirrors, a cradle, a scythe.
A spoon from the kitchen where Mother once
stirred
Hot soup on a cold winter's day.
Wooden boxes from the cellar where Daddy
once sat
And cracked walnuts then stored them away.

For my children have been to this Grier City
house,
Found games stored beneath worn parlor chairs,
Heard the train whistle down the old tracks by
the field,
Crept sleepily to sleep up brown stairs.
But their children will never be part of this place
Will never remember this time,
So I must save these memories, give these mem-
ories to them,
So their lives may be built upon mine.

Well, it's been a long time since that auctioneer
left
With our goods in his truck piled high.
And the neighbors have long since gone back to
their homes
With the few things they managed to buy.
And as I sit in my house in the east by the fire
Looking up at gold frames on the wall,
I try to remember those Grier city days,
But I'll never remember them all.

Yet, one thing's for sure.
Though I may not return to that sleepy old Grier
City Town,
I'll remember that house near the bottom of the
hill
On the left-hand side going down.



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

FALL 2016

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 4

Jill Morelli Discussed "Too Many Marys"

Falmouth Genealogical Society again welcomed Genealogist, Educator and Architect, Jill Morelli who presented a very informative lecture called: "Too Many Marys: Solving Identity and Same Name Conundrums."

Ms. Morelli started her program by explaining the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS). This is based on reasonably exhaustive research; informative citations to sources; analysis—looking at ONE particular piece of information—and correlation—linking things together; resolution of conflicting evidence; and a written conclusion.

She went on to talk about three types of identity issues: too little information; fragments of information that require merging (for example, information on immigrants from both the old and new countries); and too many individuals with the same name, which is especially common in Scandinavian, Irish, German and other groups with patronymic naming practices.

Ms. Morelli talked about basic skills and identity issues, and gave a case study involving each type of identity issue. In each case study, she followed the same format: clearly stating her ONE research question; gathering all data on the person and every sibling; building a family group sheet; building a working pedigree chart; carefully reviewing all sources; identifying missing sources and then procuring those that are missing; and making a time line of information on the individual. She emphasized looking at all family, fraternal, religious and other associations, neighbors. She point-

By Sue Hutchinson



DAVID MARTIN, JILL MORELLI
AND RALPH WADLEIGH

ed out that "everything can be a clue." She also strongly suggested posting all of the information and clues on a bulletin board or large chart in order to help with under-

(cont'd. on page 2)

The Falmouth and Cape Cod Genealogical Societies present their 10th Annual Joint Meeting

Saturday, November 12th

From 10:30 am to 1:00 pm

St. Peter's Church

421 Wianno Avenue, Osterville

Confronting Conflicting Evidence

Discovering errors by looking beyond easy-to-find indexes, consulting experts, and using other sources

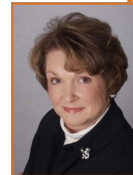
&

Finding Family Info in School Records

Exploring info that cannot be found elsewhere

With Pam Eagleson
Certified Genealogist

FREE for Members of Presenting Societies
\$15 for all others,
payable at the door
No Reservations Required
for Lecture



After Lecture:
Informal Discussion With the Speaker & Optional Lunch
Lobster Roll/Chips/Brownie/Drink—\$15
Chicken Salad/Fixings/Brownie/Drink—\$10
Payable at the Door (cash preferred)

Reservations for Lunch Required
by November 9
by message to Judy Fenner
at bfennerpam@comcast.net or
call 508-776-9401

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Saturday, October 8

"Echoes from the Past: An Octogenarian Look (Back) at Life."

With Member Bob Chase

Saturday, November 12

"Confronting Conflicting Evidence" and "Finding Family Info in School Records"

With Pam Eagleson, CG

Jointly sponsored with the Cape Cod Genealogical Society
(see more info on this page)

10:30 am—1:00 pm followed by Optional Lunch at St. Peter's Church, Osterville

Saturday, December 10

"Annual Holiday Food Fest"
Members bring holiday treats, recipes, cookbooks, Christmas cards

Saturday, January 14, 2017

"Adding Color to Your Family Tree"

With Al Woollacott, III,
Genealogist and author of "The Immigrant"

Saturday, February 11

To Be Announced.

Saturday, March 11

"Collections Useful for Genealogical Research"

With Mark D. Procknik,
Librarian at the Reading Room
New Bedford Whaling Museum

Saturday, April 8

"Tales of Our Ancestors"
With Society Members

Saturday, May 13

"The Lost Sister—Amazing and Heart-Breaking Facts an Adoptee Learned"

With Iris Burkart, the Lost Sister,
And Member Dottie Priestley

Saturday, June 10

"Annual Meeting"

Report on the Year/All Welcome



Colonial Records Was Meeting Topic

“COLONIAL NEW ENGLAND IS RICH IN RECORDS.”

Barbara Jean Matthews, Certified Genealogist and specialist in Colonial families in Massachusetts and Connecticut, spoke on August 13 about using Colonial records in family history research. Barbara began by defining the period as being from the first European settlement in Boston in 1630 through July 4, 1776 and the Declaration of Independence.

She pointed out that Colonial New England is rich in records and can give us a real sense of their lives. So the first recommended step is finding already-published family genealogies on Google, the Periodical Source Index of genealogical publications (PERSI), which is available via [Heritage Quest](#) and [FindMyPast.com](#), online family trees and online library catalogs. Also useful are the Report of Boston Record Commissioners, the Great Migration series, Massachusetts Bay Colony legal records, etc. Many records are online such as Massachusetts town clerk vital records, deeds and probate records,

gravestone images and manuscripts, the Massachusetts Historical Society, New England Historical Genealogical Society, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Archives, Leventhal Map Center at Boston Public Library (free to download) and the more recent City of Boston Archives.

Barbara illustrated the topic using three real people of the period.

Rev. Richard Mather was a well-loved and respected Dorchester minister. The first-person account of his crossing in 1635 published by the Dorchester Historical Society is background for anyone who came during the Great Migration and is available free on Google Books. Print your own copy of online books very inexpensively through [Harvard Book Sellers](#).

Capt. John Marston of Boston was a landlord, tavern owner and patriot. We can locate his tavern on a map and see a Paul Revere silver bowl with his name on it online or at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

There is a painting of *Mrs. John Freake* of Boston and her daughter Mary.



Except for those liberated when widowed, women were pretty much absent from records. We need to research their fathers and/or husbands. To find out what family life was like consult social and cultural histories, academic journals, living museums and interactive online series such as [PBS.org's Daily Life in the Colonies](#).

Look for Alice Morse Earle books on the late 19th and early 20th century. Children love “The Dreadful, Smelly Colonies” by Elizabeth Raum describing living conditions.

Always search using Google as well as using “Find” online and within PDF books online. Utilize Wikipedia, and Images; create a library of downloaded PDF books on your computer; or save a link in your library.

(cont'd. from page 1)

Too Many Marys

standing the large amount of information.

In conclusion she offered the following tips: get out of Ancestry.com and broaden your access to

information by using a mix of online and on-site sources; do locational searches; do a DNA study; take a class; collaborate with others. She distribut-

ed an excellent handout, and then offered one final tip: “Don’t wait for direct evidence—you may never find it!”

Finding Cousins Using DNA

On September 10, Pamela Guye Holland, Genetic Genealogist, helped sort out the confusing details of DNA and discussed ways to utilize these sites to find relatives. She explained that we all receive 50% of our DNA from each parent, of which 25% is from each grandparent, 12.5% from each great grandparent, etc. There are 23 pairs of human chromosomes; the XY is male; XX is female. The four types are:

Autosomal DNA (atDNA) is the random combination inherited from all our ancestors. All three major DNA websites offer this test under different names.

Y-DNA is found in males only and traces the paternal line. If a female wants to trace her paternal line she needs to find a brother or close male who can be tested. This DNA remains unchanged for hundreds and even thousands of years. FamilyTreeDNA is the only company doing Y-DNA testing;

Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), found in both males and females and is passed down by only a female egg. It follows the maternal line and remains unchanged for thousands of years. Therefore, there will be many more matches with no indication of how far back the relationship is. FamilyTreeDNA is the only company offering mtDNA testing.

X-DNA is found in both males and females; fathers



PAMELA GUYE HOLLAND
SPEAKING ON DNA

pass on mother's X and mothers pass on both.

Three major companies offer DNA tests providing matching capabilities and the costs vary. All compare your DNA with others in their databases

but don't tell which ancestors you share. They are: **AncestryDNA**, which uses saliva, tests only autosomal DNA and has the largest database of potential matches. However, because of heavy marketing many who test there are not genealogically savvy. **Family Tree DNA (FTDNA)**, which uses a cheek swab, has the second largest database. **23 and Me**, which uses saliva, reports your inherited traits and health info as well. All three test on mtDNA and Family Tree DNA tests only that and Y-DNA. Pam did not talk about **GEDMatch** other than to say raw data can be uploaded to it from other companies for free to utilize its matching tools.

Ethnicity results, however, should be considered fun rather than hard and fast.

DNA uses centiMorgans (cMs) to measure the size of matching segments. The number of segments determines the relationship. Blocks of less than 5 – 7 cMs can be ignored unless other factors are compelling enough to pursue. A chromosome browser on FTDNA shows blocks of cMs shared with your matches and where they match. To calculate the percentage

shared with someone you add all segments over 5 cMs and divide by 68. There are 6800 total cMs. Viable results cut off at five generations so in order to go back to a sixth generation you need to test a relative a generation before you.

She recommends listing your surnames in your profile on your DNA sites and exporting your GEDCOM file with only births, marriages and deaths and their locations. Allow matches to see it. Add your most distant relatives with dates and locations. Eliminate worries about privacy by changing your name to your profile name and strip your GEDCOM of private data before uploading. Limit it to the 5 or 6 generations and omit living relatives.

The easiest way to find your connection with matches is to check for mutual surnames and birth locations in your match's list and tree. If a match doesn't have a tree online, contact him or her and request it. Using your DNA match's tree you might even be able to break through a brick wall. Search for the match's tree on Ancestry.com or Google for a tree online. Keep track of your matches using the "notes" feature on the websites and keep a spreadsheet for yourself.

For further info: **ISOGG Wiki** has more information on genetic genealogy. The handout from this lecture can be accessed by going to www.GenealogybyPamHolland.com. One change to the handout is that AncestryDNA no longer can be transferred to FTDNA.

“USING YOUR DNA
MATCH'S TREE YOU
MIGHT EVEN BE
ABLE TO BREAK
THROUGH A BRICK
WALL.”

- PAMELA GUYE
HOLLAND

Note—the **2017 New England Regional Genealogical Consortium Conference** will offer a DNA Day on Wednesday, April 26.



Board members, including Sue Hutchinson and Joan Croce above, spent a few hours helping the Falmouth Road Race Committee and received \$500 from the Road Race for Falmouth Genealogical Society. Community service - a win/win situation.



SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
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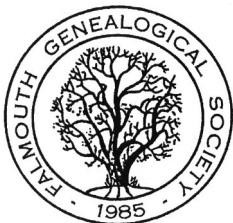
First Vice President
Position Open

Treasurer
Jerry Luby

Secretary
Dottie Priestley

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Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

*Library News*

Falmouth Public Library has added a new title to the Reference Genealogy collection. The book is "Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research" by Marie E. Daly with Judith Lucey. It is published by the New England Historic Genealogical Society. It may be found at Ref Gen 929.1072 DAL, but is now on the Reference new book display.

The book is divided into sections. The first is "Getting Started, Linking Your Ancestors to Ireland." Here it recommends using North American church records. Finding the circle of relatives and friends of your ancestor, may increase your odds of finding your link to Ireland. Different records often have more details than your ancestor's records. You need to find your Irish parish for searching Irish records.

The next section is "Using Irish Records." Here are the suggestions where to look. Search in church records, property and valuation, and the online Irish census. The authors are very familiar with Irish research and offer many illustrations and tips.

Several pages of online resources with the holdings of each are offered. Information is also given on whether the site is paid or free and some notes about special features or information about the sites. This list is also on the web-

By Jan Zlatev

site "American Ancestors" and will be updated there as new information is available.



Don't forget—society members are hard at work helping people search for ancestors every Tuesday from 2 to 4 pm at the main branch of Falmouth Public Library. Come see if they can help you.

*Three Recognized
for Boy Scout Work*

Mary Barry, President, surprised David Burt at the



August meeting by presenting him with a Boy Scout certificate. The document recognizes him for his work with scouts on genealogy merit badges earlier in the year. The certificates were also presented to Jerry

Luby and Robert Chase later.



Now all three have their own (honorary) genealogy merit badges. These guys really are good scouts.

*2017 NERGC
Conference Update*

The third 2017 New England Regional Genealogical Consortium Conference E-zine is now available at <http://www.nergc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/NERGC-2017-E-zine-3.pdf>

For additional information about NERGC, visit our Web page, www.NERGC.org, our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/NERGC>, or our blog, <http://nergc.blogspot.com/>.

NOTE: Registration is open so sign up now for your spot .

*Member's Work
Published*

Be sure to look for the Cape Cod Genealogical Society's Fall Journal. It will be devoted to old Cape Cod houses. Our own Director of Publicity, Marianne Shafer, will have an article there, *Tracing the Genealogy of a Cape Cod House: Using the Records of the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds*.

She is the editor of a new blog: *Cape Cod's Historic Half Houses: An Online Tour*, scheduled to go live this autumn. Also being published this fall is her novel, *The House on Crooked Pond: A Cape Cod Family Saga*.