

SINCE 1985

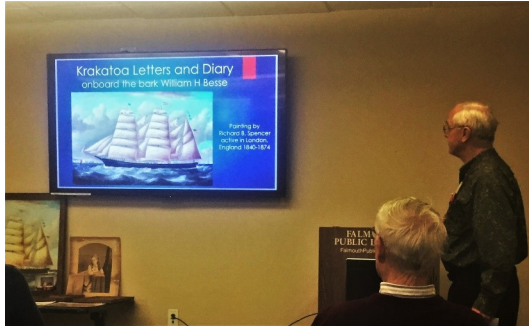
# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWS

WINTER 2019

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 1

## DECEMBER'S TOPIC WAS AN ERUPTION

The featured speaker on December 8<sup>th</sup> was our Vice President, Tim Martin. Tim spoke about a sailing voyage taken



TIM MARTIN PRESENTS FAMILY'S STORY

in 1883 by his wife Deborah's ancestors, Benjamin Clark Baker, master of the bark, *William H. Besse*, his wife, Mary Elizabeth Baker and their son, Deborah's grandfather, Sidney Tucker Baker.

Tim read from a paper originally delivered in 1897 by Deborah's great grandmother, the aforementioned Mary Elizabeth Baker, to the Cabot Club in Middleborough, Massachusetts. The voyage, from Hong Kong to Boston, was full of excitement. Initially, the Baker family and crew had to survive a cholera outbreak in Manila. Then the *Besse* ran aground on a coral reef not far from Batavia, now Jakarta, Indonesia. Here they had to wait while the ship was repaired in dry dock and during the downtime, enjoyed life in an inland Dutch governmental capital. While there young Sidney had to be yanked out of the public swimming area when a boa constrictor found its way into the pool!

After the ship was finally repaired, they set sail directly into the path of the massive 26 August 1883

eruption of the volcano Krakatoa. Miraculously, despite terrible seas, daytime darkness and sulphurous fumes, they

were able to sail out of the disaster area. Eventually they rounded the Cape of Good Hope and successfully found their way back to Boston. The fact that the Baker family survived the eruption has led the family to describe the adventure as their "Kraka-passover."



KRAKATOA

Tim and Deborah shared photos of the ship, maps of the area around Krakatoa, original daguerreotypes of the family and original diaries describing the voyage. This was a wonderful description of an epic family event and was appreciated by all.

Reported by Ralph Wadleigh



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**Saturday, January 12, 2019**

**"Bagging a Live One:  
Reverse Genealogy in  
Action - How to Find Living  
Descendants for Info"**  
*Webinar with Mary Roddy*

**Saturday, February 9**

**"My Amazing Van  
Buskirks: Family Research  
Case Study"**  
*With Tim Martin, VP  
Falmouth Genealogical Society*

**Saturday, March 9**

**"Finding Minnie—Creative  
Researching Tips"**  
*With Ann Hieser, Founder  
and Secretary, Digging for  
Family Roots, Plymouth*

**Wed.-Sat., April 3-6**

**15th New England Regional  
Genealogical Consortium  
Conference**  
At the DoubleTree by Hilton  
Manchester, New Hampshire  
*(See details on page 4)*

**Saturday, April 13**

**"USA Migration  
Westward: 1840-1900"**  
*With Ann Lawthers, New  
England Historical  
Genealogical Society*

**Saturday, May 11**

**"The Mashpee Archives"**  
*With Richard DeSorgher,  
Mashpee Historical  
Commission*



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Falmouth Genealogical Society

## FINDING THE LAW

“TO UNDERSTAND  
THE RECORDS, YOU  
MUST UNDERSTAND  
THE LAWS.”

JUDY RUSSELL



On November 10 at St. Peter’s Church in Osterville, Falmouth and Cape Cod genealogical societies co-sponsored two presentations by Judy Russell, JD, Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical Lecturer<sup>SM</sup>. The Legal Genealogist, as Judy is known, first spoke about “Finding the Law.” Her second presentation can be found on page 3.

Judy, a former prosecutor, said her mantra for genealogists is, “To understand the records, you must understand the laws.” And first, you need to know when and where a record was created to find it.

An example Judy gave was a 22 December 1848 probate record which stated, “a guardian for Polly Poole received this day \$743 in full satisfaction of her inheritance.” How would you find out how old Polly was? You need to take a three-step process: understand the

legal system, find resources and find the right law.

The first thing to know is that the legal system is hierarchical; some laws outrank others. Highest ranking are chartering documents such as the US Constitution, of

which the Supreme Court is the ultimate arbitrator, and state constitutions. The next level is statutory law, both Federal (which dictates voting in federal elections, taxes, military service, homestead eligibility) and State (which is huge and covers intestate, marriage, child custody, land laws). Where there is no statutory language, the rule of decision will be drawn from the common law (age to marry, estates with no wills). Every state has its own charter documents and laws. Judy noted that the Massachusetts Constitution (ratified in 1780) has been amended 120 times!

Charter documents are easiest to find; statutes, more difficult. Which legal system? Federal or State? Federal law is codified (organized by topic) every seven years. Which statute was in effect at the time? Louisiana, because it was a

French colony, does not follow the common law at all and statutory enactments will prevail.

Judy said the most important resource on her handout is the Library of Congress American Memory Project <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw>. A list of other resources can be found on her meeting handout.

If you take time to read cases, you get used to wording that is not necessarily common-sense terminology.

To find the right law you need to know that every law has its parent and grandparent (genealogy of a law). You need the law in effect at the moment your record was created. There are three methods to find it – you can work backwards, forwards, or utilize the sandwich system with start and end points. Going backwards to find the law for an 1852 Alabama divorce for desertion you need to know what that meant. There was a law that showed it meant abandonment of bed and board for three years before a complaint filing. Don’t assume the law was the same a year later; there may have been amendments.

Using the sandwich system

*(cont’d. on page 6)*

**Note:**

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

## FACTS, PHOTOS AND FAIR USE — COPYRIGHT LAW FOR GENEALOGISTS.

Judy Russell, whose first presentation is reported on page 2, admitted copyright law is a tough topic. Genealogists rely on things produced by others, but can they use them?

*Disclaimer* – Judy said that, although she has a Juris Doctor degree from Rutgers, she is not currently an active or licensed lawyer. She said, “I’m not giving legal advice in this talk; so don’t sue me!”

Copyright law offers legal protections to creators/authors for a limited time; it’s usually enforced in civil courts; and it gives exclusive rights to creators who get to say if others can: (1) make copies; (2) prepare derivative works; (3) distribute copies; (4) display works in public; (5) give public performances, etc. Original works, fixed in any tangible medium, can be copyrighted. Cell phone pictures are tangible mediums as are articles, books, maps, art work, motion pictures and sound recordings.

US Government materials, such as censuses, created for the federal government, cannot be copyrighted. Ideas, processes and procedures are covered by patents; names and slogans, by trademarks. Common information is not copyrighted. This includes facts, measure-

ments, place names, map colors, calendars, height and weight charts or facts such as dates of birth, work or military history, names on jury or tax lists, or relationships such as spouses. A society-published cemetery book can’t be copyrighted.

Copyright protection time is limited. If the item was created after 1 Jan 1978, the protection lasts as long as the creator’s life plus 70 years. If the creator is anonymous or a pseudonym is used the protection is for 95 or 120 years from the creation date. If it was created before 1 Jan 1978, it depends on many variables.

A consequence of infringement is the possibility of being sued, requiring the hiring of a copyright lawyer at \$600 per hour! And damages may have to be paid if money was lost. You can’t say, “I didn’t know” or “It didn’t have copyright notice,” because after 1978 the copyright was automatic and didn’t require registration. The instant someone took the picture it was copyrighted. You can’t say, “I found it on the Internet,” “I made only my own copy,” “It’s out of print,” “I own this copy,” “It’s only for my family,” “I gave the creator credit,” “I’ll wait till some-

one complains then I’ll take it down,” “I didn’t make any money on it,” or “Nobody will ever know.”

Safe items are those in the public domain, those never copyrighted or copyrighted before 1978, or items where the copyright expired. Safe items can be found on Public Domain Sherpa. Anything legally published in the US before 1923 is out of copyright.

Fair use of copyrighted materials is not infringement if used for criticism, comment, scholarship and research. But it’s a balancing act requiring explanation of why it was used in good faith—more is found on handouts. Work genealogists create is automatically copyrighted once tangible, but using the © symbol prevents others from claiming they did not know it was copyrighted. Registration is not required but you can’t sue others unless it is. The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) protects online posting. You can contact the host offending site and



“A CONSEQUENCE  
OF INFRINGEMENT IS  
THE POSSIBILITY OF  
BEING SUED.”

JUDY RUSSELL

(cont’d. on page 6)



*Family—a Link to the Past &*



*a Bridge to the Future*

## 15th New England Regional Genealogical Conference

**3-6 April 2019  
Manchester, New Hampshire**

Featuring over 70 genealogical experts and 100 informative lectures, workshops, the Ancestors Road Show, exhibits, popular Special Interest Groups, and much, much more.

### Featured Speakers



**Blaine Bettinger**

Blaine Bettinger, Ph.D., J.D., has been a genealogist for nearly 30 years and has specialized in DNA evidence since his first DNA test in 2003. He is the author of the long-running blog [The Genetic Genealogist](#), and frequently gives presentations and webinars to educate others about the use of DNA to explore their ancestry.



**Dr. Thomas Jones, PhD**

Tom is an award-winning writer, board-certified genealogist, editor of the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, recipient of honors from genealogical organizations, and author of the textbooks *Mastering Genealogical Proof* and *Mastering Genealogical Documentation*. Using his nearly lifelong career in education as a springboard, he enjoys teaching at weeklong genealogy institutes, weekend seminars, and local, national, and international genealogy conferences.



**Cyndi Ingle**

Cyndi Ingle is the owner and webmaster of *Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet*, [www.CyndisList.com](http://www.CyndisList.com), a categorized index to over 336,000 online resources. Cyndi, a genealogist for more than 37 years, is the recipient of the 2016 National Genealogical Society President's Citation and Britain's Society of Genealogists 2018 Prince Michael of Kent Award. She is a past-member of the National Genealogical Society's board of directors. Cyndi is the author of a best-selling book for genealogical research on the Internet titled, *Netting Your Ancestors*, a printed version of her web site, *Cyndi's List*, and *Planting Your Family Tree Online: How To Create Your Own Family History Web Site*.

***For more information and  
to register go to  
[www.NERGC.org](http://www.NERGC.org)  
[www.facebook.com/NERGC](http://www.facebook.com/NERGC)***

**NEW for 2019!**  
Special workshop with one of  
the featured speakers and a  
maximum of 35 attendees.  
Cost from \$25-\$30 each.

### **To Members of Falmouth Genealogical Society attending this conference:**

As a cosponsor of this event, Falmouth Genealogical Society receives substantial revenue from this conference. But we must fulfill the requisite 25 hours of on-site volunteer assistance. Please consider volunteering to help Falmouth Genealogical Society. To offer your help, call Phyllis Day at 508-274-4345 or email her [ccphyl@gmail.com](mailto:ccphyl@gmail.com)

## “THE HAMILTON AFFAIR” AUTHOR SPOKE



ELIZABETH COBBS

On October 13 author and historian Elizabeth Cobbs tempted us with fascinating details from her sixth book, a New York Times bestselling historical novel about Alexander Hamilton entitled “The Hamilton Affair.” The California native earned her M.A. and PhD in American History from Stanford University and is a fellow at Stanford’s Hoover Institute.

When Cobbs wrote the book, Hamilton was not well-known. She was told his story would *never sell*. Then the musical, “Hamilton” came out! Suddenly he was very interesting. But who was he? He was unlike other patriots. He was an illegitimate, impoverished orphan from the Caribbean whose father had abandoned him and whose mother died. But he went from being a barefoot ten-year-old orphan at his mother’s funeral to an aide of George Washington at twenty! He married Eliza Schuyler, daughter of wonderful, storied New York families, the Schuylers and the Van Rensselaers.

Cobbs wrote from both Hamilton’s and Eliza’s points of view. However, women are much more difficult because they are lightly-documented and Eliza destroyed her letters to him. She married him when she was 22 or 23 years old. He was head of the Treasury, the new country’s largest and most important position. When he was killed in the duel, she was 47 years old and lived another 50 years. They had eight children and the youngest two were still at home when he died.

He was passionately devoted to his wife and children. His letters to her are brimming with affection and love. But he had an affair. Why bring disgrace to himself and the Schuylers? To determine possible reasons, the fiction writer must walk step-by-step in his shoes. Cobbs shared her ideas with those of us in attendance.

Letters from Hamilton to his mistress were used to blackmail him by her husband and were later leaked to the papers, possibly by James Monroe or Thomas Jefferson. Eliza suffered humiliation. When the story broke, she was 8½ months pregnant in New York City. Hamilton stepped up and confessed to the affair. But why did she take him back into her heart and bed, having two more children?

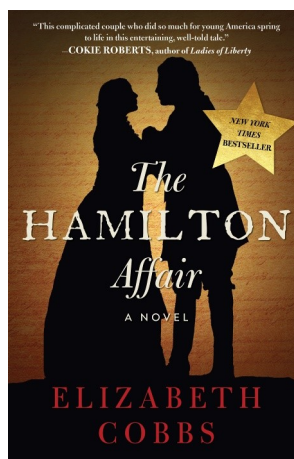
Although publicly scorned, Eliza became a public figure herself. She founded the first private orphanage which still exists as a social services project. She raised funds, talked

to people, etc. After Jefferson was out of office, she asked for her husband’s pension to support the orphan children.

Vice President Aaron Burr challenged Hamilton to a duel because he heard from someone that he had insulted his honor at a dinner party. He mortally wounded Hamilton, whose gun went off but we don’t know if he meant to fire it. Ironically, a Hamilton son also died in a duel.

“HE WENT FROM  
BEING A BAREFOOT  
TEN-YEAR-OLD  
ORPHAN AT HIS  
MOTHER’S FUNERAL  
TO AN AIDE OF  
GEORGE  
WASHINGTON AT  
TWENTY!”

ELIZABETH COBBS



Cobbs believes the best scholarship makes it feel like it’s not fiction. She went to Nevis and St. Croix, where Hamilton grew up. She found out how they lived there and in Saratoga, Albany and New York City.

Cobbs’ book answers thematic questions such as: Why did he marry her, was he after her money? Why did he have an extramarital affair? Why did he accept the challenge to duel to his death? Cobbs gave some insights during her presentation, but you’ll have to read the book to find all her answers.

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth  
Genealogical  
Society**

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ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN  
THE PERFORMANCE OF  
GENEALOGICAL  
RESEARCH

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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  
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*FINDING THE LAW*

*(cont'd. from page 2)*

Judy found the revised 1836 Massachusetts law, Section 4; Chapter 79 that showed a guardian was assigned until age 21. So Polly Poole (from the beginning of this article) would have been any age up to one day before 21.

Judy mentioned so many helpful resources in this lecture, but this newsletter editor hesitates to list them because of the statement below and distribution of this newsletter beyond the society's membership.

*Judy generously allowed her copyrighted handouts from both presentations to be posted on Falmouth Genealogical Society's website for members' usage but not to be shared or redistributed. See "Note" on page 2.*

*COPYRIGHT LAW*

*(cont'd. from page 3)*

demand it be taken down. To enforce your copyright, you need to use a cease and desist notice and sue, which are not fun or cheap. Evaluate your risk without underestimating or overstating. Use common sense. Judy has used the DMCA six times.

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Editor's Note: The images in this newsletter are our own, from public domain, free of copyright, or permission was received as was the case with the book cover used on page 5 and the cartoon below.

**COULD YOUR FAMILY'S BIBLE BE HERE?**

The following comes from the website, [BibleRescue.org](http://BibleRescue.org):

The family bible is a family's connection to the past and future. It connects an entire family across generations to their history, to their faith and provides an understanding of who their ancestors were. Family bibles often contain locks of hair, photographs, newspaper articles in addition to names, dates of birth, death and marriages.

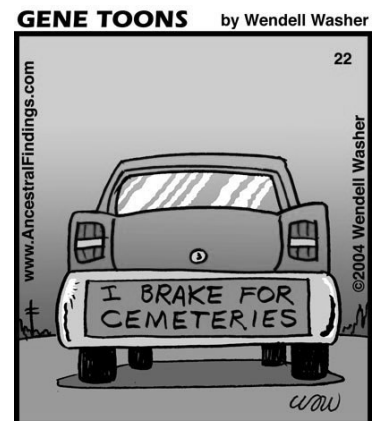
BibleRecue is a non-profit project of disruptUp. We seek to rescue family bibles to preserve the family history inside, reunite these bibles with living family members and help young people restore and strengthen their faith.

At BibleRescue we acquire family bibles (through donation or purchase) and reunite them with living family members.

When you purchase a family bible from BibleRescue, 100% of those proceeds are

reinvested to purchase another family bible. We save a digital copy of each family bible and make those available in order to connect and strengthen the ties that bind us together as the human family."

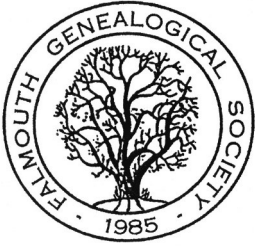
*Thanks to Mary Barry for this info.*



Genealogists on the road.







SINCE 1985

# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

SPRING 2019

VOL. 31, ISSUE 2

## MEMBER TELLS US ABOUT "FINDING MINNIE"

On March 9<sup>th</sup> Ann Hieser told us how she found Minnie's information by being creative. A member of Falmouth Genealogical Society, she is also co-founder and secretary of the genealogy club, Digging for Family Roots, based in Plymouth where she lives. Minnie is the great grandmother of Ann's second cousin Bruce and isn't related to Ann. Not only that, Bruce and Ann have never even met. But Bruce is unable to travel. So lucky for him, Ann offered to help because she was going to Prince Edward Island (PEI) where the great grandmother had lived.

Millicent ("Minnie") Connell was born 24 Jan 1865 in PEI. She married Jesse Trafton in Boston and had two children. After he died, Minnie went back to PEI and remarried a year later to Edward McCarville. She had two more children and lost a baby named Claude. But her death date remained elusive.

Ann began at home online with the Public Archives and Records Office (PARO) for PEI. She found family records, but none for Minnie. She wasn't sure how to spell McCarville, so she used wild cards, M\*cCarvil\*\* and a date range. She found Minnie's second husband's death in Wellington, PEI.

Once in PEI, Ann and three staffers at PARO went through all available records, but nothing turned up. She did find husband Edward's death certificate and a McCarville family history book with his birth.



ANN HIESER

FindAGrave showed Milton was buried in Hillside Cemetery in Wellington. Cousin Bruce heard Minnie died at her farmhouse and was buried on the farm. But where was that? A plat book showed that Ed McCarville had 220 acres.

Ann used other wild cards and finally turned up Millicent McCarville's death in 1948 and burial, also at Hillside Cemetery. Ann went there and walked it twice, never finding Minnie. She did find the son, Milton, and someone had placed fresh flowers at his grave. The village had a population of only 409, so someone might know who. She went to a café but it was closed. Minnie belonged to the United Church of Canada, so Ann went there, but there was no answer. She went to the park office where a teenager suggested someone at the nursing home. But that person had gone out to dinner. Ann left her contact info and headed to the gas station where she found another high school kid. He gave her a telephone number. No answer.

Ann filled the time by taking photos for Bruce of Minnie's hometown. The telephone number was for a Claude – the same name as Minnie's baby who died. Claude's wife called back and invited her to their house. It turned out Claude was Minnie's grandson. And they had a family group sheet and photos. Ann called Bruce so he and Claude could talk. They said Minnie is buried in an unmarked grave next to Milton and his second wife, Annie. Edward is

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Unless Otherwise Noted

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**"USA Migration Westward: 1840-1900"**  
With Ann Lawthers, New England Historical Genealogical Society

**Saturday, May 11**

**"The Mashpee Archives"**  
With Richard DeSorgher, Mashpee Historical Commission

**Saturday, June 8**

**"Leaving a Psychological Legacy"**  
With Susana K. O'Hara, PhD Psychologist from Easton, MA

**Saturday, July 13**

**"Dissecting Civil War Pension Records"**  
5th Annual Presentation Of Seattle's Jill Morelli, Certified Genealogist



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buried in the Catholic cemetery in an unmarked grave.

Ann's suggestions: go to the source; use land records, maps, online wild cards; Google names with time periods, use FindAGrave and government records; research before a trip; and...when you can't find records, remember people in small communities know each other and maybe in city neighborhoods too.

Thank you, Ann, for sharing your story and tips with us!

*WEBINAR TOPIC IS "BAGGING A LIVE ONE"*

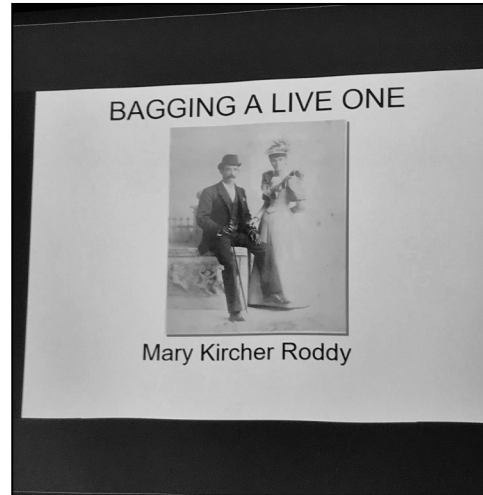
"OUR ANCESTORS  
WOULD WANT US TO  
FIND OUR FAMILY."

MARY KIRCHER  
RODDY

January 12<sup>th</sup>'s presentation was a webinar with Mary Kircher Roddy from Seattle. Mary earned a certificate in Genealogy and Family History at the University of Washington and is a member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild, The Association of Professional Genealogists, and the National Genealogical Society.

Mary started by saying that every time she connects with a cousin she never knew, she says to her husband, "I bagged another live one!" She looks for family members who might share memorabilia such as Bibles, photo albums and personal stories; she locates relatives who'd potentially test DNA; and she makes new friends.

She traces each generation of siblings. Her favorite "live one" was a third cousin of her dad's. She had no idea her Ahern ancestor, who had immigrated during the Irish famine, had seven brothers. This cousin shared a wonderful photograph of all seven. And, he told her the story of how the only girl in the family was stuck doing the cooking and



cleaning. He learned this by hanging out with the family elders.

Mary uses the standard genealogical tools, [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org), census records, birth indexes, city directories, church records, deeds, assessors' offices, obituaries, [www.SteveMorse.org](http://www.SteveMorse.org)'s One Step links to research sites and Social Security death records. Public libraries have HeritageQuestOnline available free to cardholders (as does Falmouth Public Library). She then creates a spreadsheet of all descendants' birth and death dates and all census addresses with hyperlinks to trace their whereabouts and possibly find living descendants in the same areas.

Newspaper obituaries list survivors, so look in local town and university libraries.

If you can't physically go, local librarians may look up an obituary for you. Use [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com) and [www.GenealogyBank.com](http://www.GenealogyBank.com). Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness ([www.RAOGK.org](http://www.RAOGK.org)) has volunteers who perform look-ups for the cost of expenses.

[www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com) has death indexes by state and the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) <https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/>. Also use [www.FindAGrave.com](http://www.FindAGrave.com) and [www.BillionGraves.com](http://www.BillionGraves.com).

The major sources for living relatives are [www.WhitePages.com](http://www.WhitePages.com), [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com), [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org), [www.PIPL.com](http://www.PIPL.com) and [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com) (where you can find cousins and siblings under friends). [www.FamilyTreeNow.com](http://www.FamilyTreeNow.com) includes living people with landline and cell numbers but may not be up to date. You can even search an ancestor's town or your least common surname. Descendants might still be living nearby. If they had a business, look at business records.

(cont'd. on page 4)



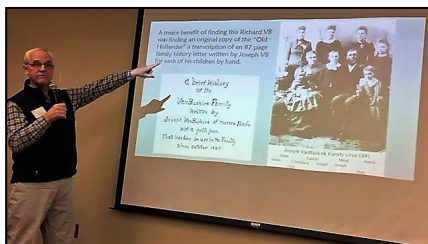
## TIM MARTIN TALKS ABOUT HIS AMAZING VAN BUSKIRKS

Falmouth Genealogical Society Vice President, Tim Martin, gave a very interesting and informative talk at the February meeting about tracing his Van Buskirk line back from his 3rd great-grandfather.

His ancestor, born in Denmark in 1625, was Laurens Andriesson, who migrated to Holland. When he moved to America, Laurens added Van Buskirk to his surname to better fit in with the local population. In Nieuw Amsterdam his presence was noted via land purchases in 29 May 1656 and again on 29 Jan 1662, when he was using Laurens Andriesson Van Buskirk. The second purchase was on the western shore of the Hudson River. However, in 1664, the Dutch surrendered Nieuw Amsterdam to the English and the settlement became New York City.

A lot of research was done on the Van Buskirk family as it grew and as its descendants spread across the US. During the American Revolution, Loyalist branches of the family moved to Nova Scotia. There are even two Facebook groups for family members.

Using Y-DNA, Tim traced his ancestry back to Laurens.



The fact that Laurens Andriesson Van Buskirk created a new surname for himself aided the research. The Van Buskirk or Buskirk surname was unique and lends itself to a family case study. Tim contacted living Van Buskirk males to ask if they would be interested in doing a Y-DNA test. With Y-DNA every few generations a mutation may occur which is then passed down. These mutations helped to place the descendants with the correct line leading back to the common ancestor. This study is hoping to distinguish between varied Van Buskirk descendants using Y-DNA haplogroups. Families were large with



SOME DISTANT VANBUSKIRK COUSINS EVEN SHOWED UP!

several siblings in each generation. Tim mentioned one descendant as being the 4th child of the 11th child

By Jan Zlatev

of the 9th child. Joseph Van Buskirk made 87-page handwritten family histories for each of his children.

Another research tool Tim used was newspaper archives. Online databases of digitized newspapers gave him stories of ancestors in many different states. One ancestor, Captain David Van Buskirk, born in Indiana, was the tallest man in the Union Army at 6'11". His unit, Company F of the 27th Indiana Infantry, was formed of men at least 5'10" tall and were very intimidating in battles. Other ancestors made the newspapers of their time in court cases. The news items give a view into their lives and makes them more interesting.

### SOCIETY BY-LAWS REVISION COMING SOON

The Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) Board of Directors has been working on updating the by-laws to better reflect FGS's current organization and management. The by-laws were last amended in 2004. The Board plans to present the new proposed by-laws at the June annual meeting for full membership approval.

#### Note:

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



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ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN  
THE PERFORMANCE OF  
GENEALOGICAL  
RESEARCH

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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.*

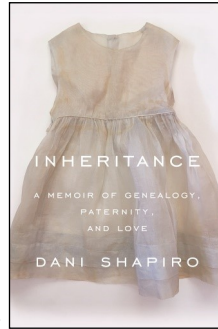
Editor: Dottie Priestley  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

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**BOOK REVIEW:  
INHERITANCE - A MEMOIR OF GENEALOGY,  
PATERNITY, AND LOVE**

*By Ralph Wadleigh*

Are you struggling to understand the results of your DNA test? This wonderful book may help you work through any surprises. It is a beautifully written rendition of one woman's experience when her DNA results unexpectedly turn her world upside down.



An Ancestry.com DNA test reveals that her DNA does not match that of her half-sister. They must have different fathers. Facing this reality, Ms. Shapiro skillfully takes the reader through all the phases of denial, investigation, acceptance and finally love. Fortunately, she is able, through dogged pursuit of records, to discover her actual, still living, father. But this process forces her to disassociate herself from her Conservative

Jewish upbringing and reconcile herself to the difficult choices confronting her parents who, at the time of her conception, were determined to have a child. Here is a personal crime scene investigation written with deep personal insight and sincerity.

If you have had or are considering having a DNA test, this personal memoir examines all the questions that might arise if your results contain unexpected results. It is strongly recommended reading for all those interested in the effect of DNA testing on family relations and traditional genealogy. You will find it available throughout the Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing (CLAMS) system.

**BAGGING A LIVE ONE**

*(cont'd. from page 2)*

Whether you call or write, identify yourself and explain what you're researching. If writing, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Share a little info and be friendly. One person told Mary that her brother Richard might help. He did, he called Mary and talked to her for half an hour or more, two times a month, sharing many wonderful stories before he died.

Caveat: Although you need to use online information to find the living, you may not want your own info online. You can scrub yourself clean from sites. Google "Computerworld doxxing" for steps to take. And make your own Facebook friends private.

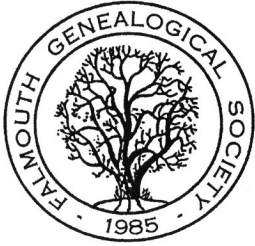
Mary's website is [www.mkrgenealogy.com](http://www.mkrgenealogy.com). Mary said she believes, "Our ancestors would want us to find our family." So get out and bag 'em! See "Note" on page 3.

**EAGLE SCOUT  
SPONSORED**



Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) board member David Burt poses with newly-installed, and deservedly-proud, Eagle Scout

Matthew Krause. The society sponsored Matthew's project, an ambitious research of burial places of Falmouth firefighters. The resulting list, complete with GPS coordinates of each gravesite on Google Earth, birth and death dates and some further information, will be posted on the FGS website for people researching these firefighters.



SINCE 1985

# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

SUMMER 2019

VOL. 31, ISSUE 3

## *ELECTIONS BRING "NEW" OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR*

The June 8th annual meeting included committee reports of the year's activities, election of officers and bylaw changes.

The "new" officers elected



THOM GREVE AND JERRY LUBY  
EXCHANGE POSITIONS

are actually current officers who've stepped up to fill voids. Outgoing president Thom Greve was elected Treasurer and Jerry Luby, former

*(cont'd. on page 5)*

## *BYLAW CHANGES APPROVED*



For some time, it was apparent to the Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) leadership that

the bylaws were not reflective of the Society's present method of operation. Accordingly, last winter, former presidents Ralph Wadleigh and Mary Barry volunteered to recommend appropriate updates. Their proposed changes were approved by the FGS board in April, circulated to members in May and approved by the membership at the June 8th Annual Meeting.

Summarized below are the most important changes:

Standing committees have been reduced from eight to two. The former bylaws had called for eight standing committees which, in the absence of enough volunteers, were

essentially inactive. The committee work is being done by individual board members. This will continue in the future. The two future standing committees will be Nominating and Audit.

The advent of technological advances like the FGS website, social media and email necessitated the addition of a technology director.

FGS's participation in the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium or NERGC has become a director's specific assignment.

Liability protection for officers and directors has been added.

The second vice president position was eliminated as officer succession can be managed without it.

We are confident that these changes will improve FGS's operation.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**Saturday, July 13**

**"Dissecting Civil War Pension Records"**  
*5th Annual Presentation  
With Seattle's Jill Morelli,  
Certified Genealogist*

**Saturday, August 10**

**"The USA and the Holocaust"**  
**Finding People During the Third Reich & Holocaust**  
*With Norah Schneider, PhD  
Humanities and Member*

**Saturday, September 14**

**"1620: The First Year"**  
The trials and tribulations of the Pilgrims  
*With Christopher Daley*

**Saturday, October 12**

**"Leaving a Psychological Legacy"**  
*With Susana K. O'Hara,  
PhD, Psychologist*

**Saturday, November 9**

*Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society*  
**Topics to be Announced**  
*With Michael Strauss  
10:30 am  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church,  
Osterville*

**Saturday, December 14**

**Annual Holiday Fest**



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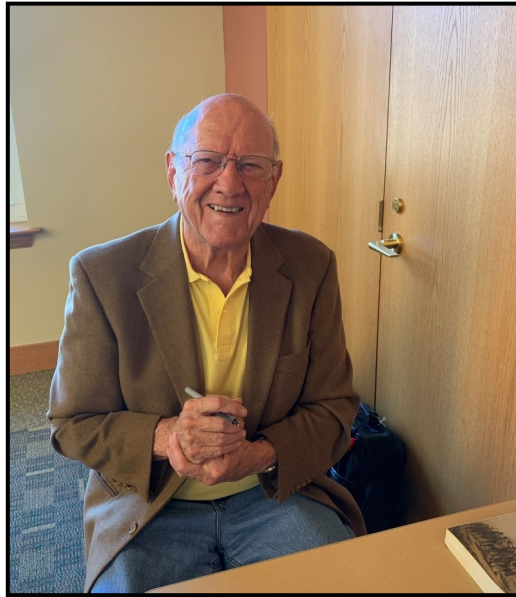
Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc



## GLOBE'S ED QUILL TALKS ABOUT THE MASSACHUSET

"TODAY THE TRIBE IS TRYING TO BE RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS."

ED QUILL



ED QUILL SIGNS HIS BOOK

Our June 8<sup>th</sup> speaker, Ed Quill, was educated at Boston University and Harvard and was with The Boston Globe as former Chief Librarian, editor of "Ask the Globe" column, feature writer and City Hall reporter. He was appointed Boston's first Archivist.

Our state is named after the Massachuset tribe, who are much less known than the Wampanoag, though both were here when the Pilgrims landed. We know about the Wampanoag, the Narragansett and the Pequot because of wars in the 1600's. Who were the Massachuset? Ed learned about them when he joined the Pembroke Historical Society. He was inspired to write the first full book about them, "When Last the Glorious Light - Lay of the Massachuset" to tell the

Natives' version of the story. Before the settlers came, almost 90% of the 12,000 Massachuset, 12,000 Wampanoag and 12,000 Pawtucket died when afflicted with what was probably hepatitis A, a liver disease brought in the

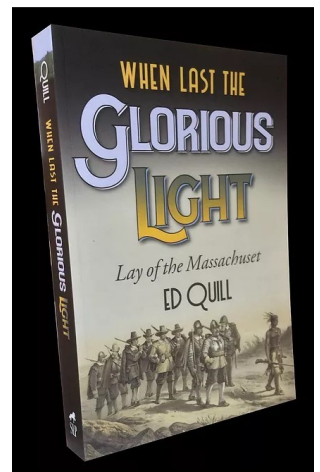
hull of fishermen's ships. When planks were removed, rats diseased with smallpox and hepatitis A escaped. People in the Old World had an immunity that the Natives did not.

Massachuset Chief Chickataubut lived in Wessagusset, now Weymouth. He and Obbatinewat of the Wampanoag signed two peace treaties. The Massachuset kept peace with the settlers for a generation, but Chickataubut didn't like when they desecrated his mother's gravesite. His mother's ghost haunted him and told him that Sachems are honorable and civilized – not savages but royalty who shouldn't be treated like common people. "Take revenge or I will continue to haunt you," her ghost told him.

Myles Standish fought Chickataubut's warriors and wounded him.

When the newcomers deforested the state for lumber, fur animals went west, leaving Natives with only land to trade. Chickataubut's son, Sachem Wampatuck, sold his land on the South Shore, which was almost all he had. The newcomers became so land hungry they didn't Christianize for four years.

During King Phillip's War, settlers turned against all Natives including those Christianized, and sent them to Deer Island, Boston where half froze to death. Others were sent to Clark's Island, Plymouth.



This left the Massachuset scattered and disoriented, unable to gather again as a tribe until now. Today the tribe is trying to be recognized by the state and federal governments as are portions of the Wampanoag and Pequot tribes.

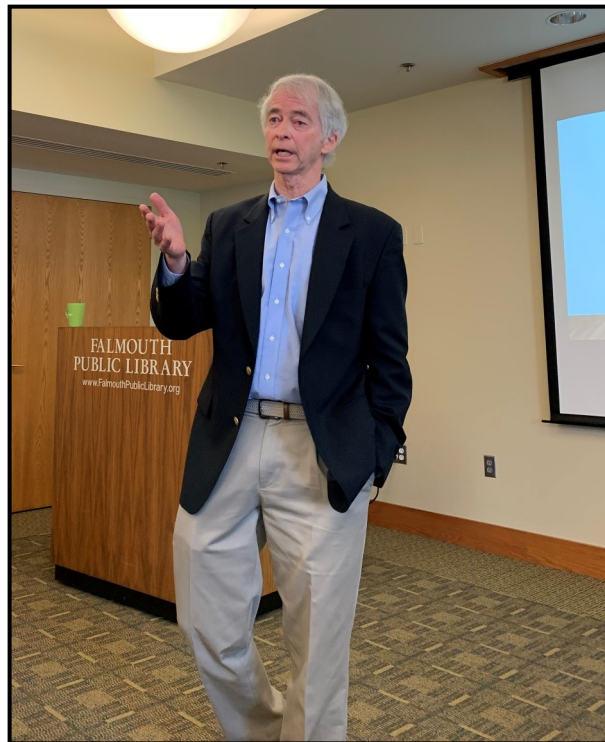
(cont'd. on page 6)

## MASHPEE ARCHIVES DETAILED

Our May 11 speaker was Richard DeSorgher, an award-winning history teacher, author, news correspondent, former Medfield Town Historian and Medfield Selectman. Now with the Mashpee Historical Commission, he spoke to us about the Mashpee Archives. Mashpee has no historical society.

The town's records are held in the Archives rather than the town hall. Mashpee became a town in 1870, but Richard found that its reports before 1910 were missing. He discovered the State House had the reports beginning in 1872, but their condition was so fragile they couldn't be put in a scanner. When scanning the pages with his cellphone, Richard discovered something else—his own name, DeSorgher! He is the only one in the country with this Belgian surname. His own great grandmother, Mary Lee DeSorgher, had lived in Mashpee between 1887 and 1890 and he never knew it. Richard's wife told him her spirit must have dragged them from Medfield to live there.

Minister Richard Bourne came to Christianize the "South Sea Indians" and make sure their Native lands were not taken away. Land was deeded to the Indians



RICHARD DESORGHOR OF  
MASHPEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

forever in 1665 and recorded in Plymouth Colony court. Later, however, Rev. Hawley took away the Wampanoag's rights and instituted a board of governors to oversee them, depriving them of their civil rights.

DeSorgher elaborated on the many times land changed hands, changing Mashpee's boundaries with those of Falmouth, Barnstable and Sandwich. Even today, to get to the part of Mashpee north of Wakeby Pond, you must travel through the town of Sandwich.

A 2015 Obama decision which placed their land in

trust was reversed, concluding Mashpee Wampanoag did not qualify as Indian. DeSorgher lamented that the Wampanoags had welcomed the Pilgrims. Rep. William Keating sponsored the bill to give land and status back to Wampanoag. Days after DeSorgher's presentation, the bill passed the House and now goes to the Senate and the President, who is against it. There is great concern among Wampanoags.

Mashpee's population has grown from about 700 in the late 1960's to the current 15,000. The post office,

*(cont'd. on page 5)*

MIGRATION WESTWARD IN THE US FROM 1840-1900

On April 13 Ann Lawthers from New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) discussed westward migration. She stressed that important factors besides “push and pull” were advances in transportation and federal policies and incentives that encouraged people to move.

During Colonial times, people who were “kicked out” because they disagreed with Puritan/Pilgrim beliefs could move and set up their own communities with their own rules. But they couldn’t go far on the few existing Native paths. By 1840 crowded cities, crop failures and financial disaster pushed others out. The main pull was land, followed by the discovery of gold, employment, ease of getting there and newspapers touting land.

Boats were early transporters; then Colonial roads sprang up such as the Boston Post Road in 1673 from New York to Boston. Later came the Mohawk Trail, the Erie Canal and others. Military roads were later constructed. Post the Revolutionary War, turnpikes were built by companies selling shares and charging tolls.

A major migration trail, the Oregon Trail, was laid out in 1811 by fur trappers, and, by 1836, was a wagon trail to Idaho. Another was the



ANN G. LAWTERS, NEHGS

Mormon Trail, begun in 1846 from Nauvoo, Illinois to Salt Lake City. The Santa Fe Trail was blazed in 1821 to trade with Mexico. And the California Trail with many branches, which began in 1844, took off during the Gold Rush.

A huge factor in better transportation was the construction of canals, which were smoother than roads and preferred for glass shipments. Once railroads came, they proved better than canals because they were less expensive and didn’t freeze in winter. The first railroad was the Baltimore & Ohio in 1830 with 23 miles of track, which began a string of short railroads in the east. But with track gauges not uniform, it was impossible to connect tracks. By 1850 every state east of the Mississippi had a railroad but it wasn’t until 1863 that the gauge was standardized. The Transcontinental Railroad was first discussed

in 1830 and completed in 1869 when the Golden Spike was set at Promontory Point, Utah where the Central Pacific and Union Pacific lines met. The Irish built tracks in the East and the Chinese, in the West.

Federal Policies and other stimulants, which are outlined on the handout chart, included several that removed Native tribes from land.

Thomas Jefferson believed the Natives were barbaric and encouraged them to stay in one place and adopt European culture and policies. These included the Georgia Compact in 1802, the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

(cont’d. on page 5)

“IMPORTANT FACTORS BESIDES “PUSH AND PULL” WERE ADVANCES IN TRANSPORTATION AND FEDERAL POLICIES AND INCENTIVES THAT ENCOURAGED PEOPLE TO MOVE.”

ANN LAWTERS

SWEDISH ANCESTORS?

Jan Zlatev recently purchased the “Swedish Death Index, 1860 –2016.” Persons must have died in Sweden to be included. Jan is graciously offering to perform lookups for Falmouth Genealogical Society members. If you’re interested, you can email her [janicez2@hotmail.com](mailto:janicez2@hotmail.com) or see her at the Falmouth Public Library on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in the research department.



## MASHPEE ARCHIVES

(cont'd. from page 3)

which opened in 1871 in a hotel, was moved several times including into postmasters' homes. For six years there was no post office at all. In 1959 it was moved into a former needlecraft shop. The current post office in Mashpee Commons opened in 1975.

Plans are underway to build a Veterans Memorial next year before the 150<sup>th</sup> town anniversary. It will list the names of residents who served since the Revolutionary War. Of the 61 Wampanoag who fought in the Revolution, 16 died. Massachusetts and Connecticut had the highest percentage of a state's

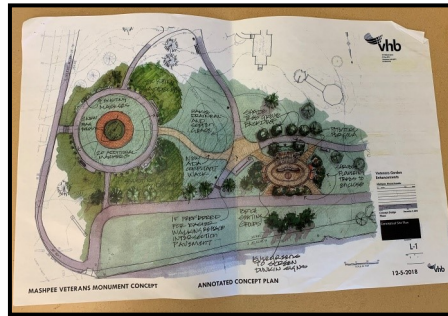
population who served, one for every seven people. Mashpee had one for every five.

The town will also design a new town seal to replace the one the state gave them in 1898, which is very similar to the state seal and not reflective of Mashpee itself.

Some other Archives' holdings besides town meeting minutes include photographs of buildings in town; school registers, attendance records and diplomas; lots of maps; newspapers; rare books; family Bibles; early

histories of the Mass Bay Colony; paintings; a 1910 ballot box; sports memorabilia; and tax records.

The Mashpee Archives, which opened in 1985, are located across from town hall at 13 Great Neck Road North. They are open on Mondays and Thursdays from 10 am to 2 pm.



VETERANS MEMORIAL PLANS  
FOR 2020

## MIGRATION

(cont'd. from page 4)

The Pre-Emption Act of 1841 allowed squatters to purchase up to 160 acres at \$1.25 an acre with conditions. The Homestead Act, 1862, offered up to 160 acres to those who lived on land for 5 years and improve it.

The California Gold Rush began at Sutter's Mill in 1848 and attracted 300,000 miners.

There were four financial panics in the mid to late 1800's which contributed to the push: 1837 lasted six

years; 1857 lasted two years, 1873 shareholders financial panic which lasted five years; 1893 was so bad, one in six Americans lost their job.

When researching ancestors who moved, consider push and pull factors and look for transportation modes and time periods for clues.

Ann's handout with pages of resources and links is available to members on the FGS website. See the note on the far right.

## ANNUAL MEETING

(cont'd. from page 1)

treasurer, was elected President—essentially exchanging positions. Thom served as temporary treasurer for several months. Ralph Wadleigh was elected Secretary.

We also welcome Clyde Tyndale to the board. New board members are appointed by the President. If you'd like to help, let us know or come visit a board meeting, the Monday before general monthly meetings.

### Note:

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

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth  
Genealogical  
Society, Inc.**

PO Box 2107  
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107  
Website: [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org)

COMMITTED TO  
PRESERVING PUBLIC AND  
PRIVATE RECORDS AND  
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Jerry Luby
- Vice President*  
Tim Martin
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Ralph Wadleigh

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## NERGC 2019 WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

*By Ralph Wadleigh*

The New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) was a great success for Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS). Thirteen members attended, ten of which were busy gathering volunteer hours to bolster the FGS treasury. Thanks to Thomas Greve, Norah Schneider, Tim Martin, Wenda Windbigler, Jan Zlatev, Clyde Tyndale, Deborah Winograd, Sue Hutchinson, Phyllis Day and Ralph Wadleigh for their volunteer hours.

Everyone enjoyed this unique educational and social experience. We're all looking forward to NERGC 2021 in Springfield.



*IN BOOTH PHOTO:  
NORAH SCHNEIDER AND THOMAS GREVE  
WITH WENDA WINDBIGLER  
Photos by Joan Frederici, Cape Cod Genealogical Society and used with her permission*

**Free Time?  
Volunteer With Us!**

**If you would like to contribute your talents to assist the chairs of the following committees, please let us know:**

**Director  
Newsletter  
Treasurer  
Publicity  
NERGC Conference**

**Email Dottie Priestley at  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)**

## ABOUT THE MASSACHUSETT

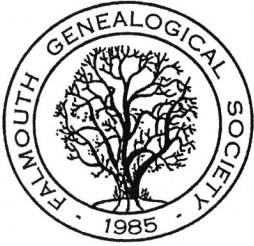
*(cont'd. from page 2)*

Ed was unsuccessful finding descendants of Chief Chickataubut. Our own VP Tim Martin found an obituary for the last remaining descendant, who died a single man with no issue. If Ed's book has a second edition, Ed will give credit to Tim and Falmouth Genealogical Society.

Settlers didn't want to live with Natives who wore hardly any clothing and rubbed pig grease on their skin for warmth and to detract bugs. They thought they were smelly. But the English, who wore wool year-round and rarely, if ever, took baths, were dirty and smelly themselves.

The settlers also thought it was terrible that the Natives scalped enemy dead to make trophies of their hair. However, the settlers decapitated Natives and put their heads on stakes. Who was more barbarian?

Ed's book is available online from his website: <https://www.quillcloud.net/>.



SINCE 1985

# FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

FALL 2019

VOL. 31, ISSUE 4

## “1620: THE FIRST YEAR” PRESENTED

Appropriate as we near next year’s 400th anniversary of the Mayflower landing, Chris Daley, history teacher in Kingston, spoke on September 14 about the Pilgrims’ first year. He is a lecturer and author and holds a BA and an MA from Bridgewater State University in Political Science and History.

Chris took this morning’s audience through a day-by-day, first-hand account of the Pilgrim’s first year using Edward Winslow’s “Mourt’s Relation” and William Bradford’s “Of Plimouth Plantation.” Along with these original words, Chris displayed maps of locations given. The dates are Old-Style Julian.

He lamented how school children learn a story of a Thanksgiving feast with Natives but not much of the real story. As he spoke in Winslow or Bradford’s words, it was easier to imagine being with these extreme Puritans and the Merchant Adventurers who funded the colony for trading purposes (only 37 of the 102 passengers were Pilgrims).

From their sailing on September 6, 1620 through the first months of 1621 in Plymouth, they faced hardships, dangers and death. Once they arrived, they set up the Mayflower Compact to avoid anarchy. Beginning on November 11 after landing at Provincetown, they hiked on old Native paths through the dunes and woods. They found a skull with yellow hair



CHRIS DALEY

along with the bones and head of a child and a sailor’s canvas. Chris’ theory is the blond person could have been a Frenchman taken captive after a shipwreck in 1619. The Pilgrims took the prettiest things from the graves and covered the corpses back up.

One find that saved their lives the following year was corn they later planted. The first thing the women did the first day, which was a Monday, was wash their clothes. This may be the origin of Monday being laundry day.

When they called the Natives “savages,” the Pilgrims meant close to nature.

On December 8th while camped at what’s now First Encounter Beach, Eastham, they heard Natives and shot off their guns. The captain of the Natives shot arrows avoided by the Pilgrims. No one was hurt, but they decided they were not going to live there. On the next day they landed at Clark’s Island and a few days later at Plymouth. Despite

*(cont’d. on page 4)*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**Saturday, October 12**

**“Privacy, DNA, and Genealogy: Handling the Double-Edged Sword”**  
Webinar with  
Thomas MacEntee

**Saturday, November 9**

Joint Meeting with Cape Cod  
Genealogical Society  
**“Research Your World War II Ancestors” and  
“Following the Armies:  
Researching Military Maps  
(Colonial through  
Vietnam)”**

With Michael L. Strauss  
Accredited Genealogist  
10:30am—about 1:30 pm  
(No parking before 10am)  
St. Peter’s Episcopal Church,  
421 Wianno Ave., Osterville  
RSVP required by Nov. 1  
[bfennerpgm@comcast.net](mailto:bfennerpgm@comcast.net)  
\$15 lobster/\$9 chicken salad  
Pay at the door

**Saturday, December 14**

**“Member Family Stories  
& Holiday Treats”**  
Contact Tim Martin to speak  
[timmartin@timfo.com](mailto:timmartin@timfo.com) 15 min. max

**Saturday, January 11**

**“Telling Their Stories When  
They Left No Stories”**  
Webinar With Mary Roddy, CG

**Saturday, February 8**

**“No Irish Need Apply”  
The Irish Experience in  
Boston From Mid-1700’s to  
the Great Potato Famine**  
With Christopher Daley

**Saturday, March 14**

10 am Meet at Oak Grove  
Cemetery, Falmouth  
**Topic to be Announced**



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Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc



*FALMOUTH REVOLUTIONARY WAR  
VETERAN HONORED*



On May 18, 2019 at the Falmouth Old Town Burying Ground, Abraham Swift (1762-1846) was honored with a special ceremony conducted at his grave. Falmouth Genealogical Society Member David Martin is the 4<sup>th</sup> great-grandson of Swift.

Swift served as a member of the militia on at least three different “alarms” in both Falmouth and Dartmouth during the Revolution (as well as in the War of 1812). A painting depicting an event in which he was involved hangs on the wall at Falmouth Town Hall.

Two weeks before the ceremony, a person repairing the gravestone was thought by a neighbor to be stealing it and was arrested by police. Newspaper reports of the arrest provided surprise advance publicity for the event.

The ceremony, with color guard from the Falmouth Police Department and the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), included prayers, a brief description of Falmouth local historical context in 1779 when Swift was serving in the militia, the singing of the “America the Beautiful” hymn composed by Falmouth’s own Katharine Lee Bates accompanied on saxophone by David’s brother, the laying of flowers and a wreath by David’s grandniece and grandnephew, the reading of a biography of Swift, and four musket volleys.

FGS members Tom Greve and Bebe Brock also attended the ceremony. Thank you to David Martin, shown in photo on the left at the mic, for providing information on this event. Anyone interested in further details or with questions may contact David at [davidmartindr@aol.com](mailto:davidmartindr@aol.com).



*Welcome Members*

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

- Starr Bartlett*
- Patricia Beckenhaupt*
- and Mary Cordle*
- Hope Christy*
- Ed Enos*
- Judith and Clifton Genge*
- Ellen and Scott Gerstman*
- Susan Gilbert*
- Mary Beth Goodwin*
- Catherine Gwynn*
- Linda Heald*
- Ann Hieser*
- Bernard and Jane Ignos*
- Ann Keller*
- Laura Mc.Mahon*
- Kathy and Brian*
- Murphy*
- Mary O’Keefe*
- John O’Neil*
- Lynn Parks*
- Meredith Persson*
- Christopher and Pamela*
- Polloni*
- Barbara Rountree*
- Ralph Ryall*
- Ed and Donna Scahill*
- Norah Schneider*
- Shari Sears*
- Barbara Silva*
- Marguerite Sullivan*
- Lawrence Swift*
- Judith Terry*
- Alan Waggoner*

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

## MEMBER DISCUSSES THE HOLOCAUST

On August 10 member Norah Schneider provided a disturbing look at what the US knew about the atrocities being committed against Jews in Nazi Germany and when. Norah is Collections Manager at the Falmouth Historical Society. She holds a bachelor's degree in history from DePauw University, a master's degree in American and European history from Providence College, and a doctorate in humanities from Salve Regina University.

She explained how history affects ancestor searches. It was thought the US didn't know what was going on, but in the past decade we have learned that they did know. The weekly Jewish-American newspaper, the Sentinel from Chicago, was read by President Roosevelt and chronicled the rise of the Holocaust.

The first time things were mentioned in the Sentinel: in 1930 it mentioned Hitler; in 1933, concentration camps and the discussion of plans for mass killings of Jews; in 1934, the first use of the word "holocaust;" in 1941, medical experiments and Auschwitz; and in 1942, gas chambers. Though discussed in some mainstream newspapers, it was not as heavily publicized. Jews were targeted before the antisemitic Nuremberg Laws. But in September 1935 these Laws meant Germans were separated into non-Jews and Jews as a

race as well as a religion, and Jews were targeted.

US quotas existed for all countries and consulates were told not to fill them. Immigration quotas in Germany, Austria, and Poland were often lower than other countries, including during the time when the Nazis were in power. In 1939 when war broke out, the US still took refugees.

Kristallnacht in November 1938, with the first mass arrest of Jewish men for being Jewish, was highly covered in newspapers. It wasn't until December 18, 1942 that the New York Times published the story, "Eleven allies condemn Nazi War on Jews." This came after months of the US Government's gathering info on the extermination of the Jews.

Although difficult, you could get out of Germany before 1938, but coming to the US was nearly impossible. You needed a US sponsor who declared his savings and earnings and swore he'd take financial responsibility for you. Without a sponsor or a visa, you were sent back. By 1938 it was almost impossible to leave. In an example from Norah's family, the Nazi government had to be paid a year in advance. The older generation tended to stay more than the younger generation. By 1944 many refugees who might have



NORAH SCHNEIDER  
HOLDS HER FAMILY  
RECORD BOOK

gone to the US had already been killed.

When the war ended, info came flooding out but not all was accurate. Jewish papers had more news and lists of American relatives and Europeans searching for each other. There were displaced persons all over the war-torn countries of Germany and Austria.

Some civil records didn't survive, and some Jewish records were destroyed. Synagogues didn't keep birth, marriage and death records like churches did. The Nazi government required family history documentation stating there was no Jewish blood for Aryans to keep jobs. These were sometimes falsified. Family sponsor paperwork is hard to find. Most families didn't keep copies. If a Family Record Book was smuggled out it could be all you have sometimes. Ancestry provides free access *without membership* to holocaust records at

"WE WILL NEVER  
KNOW THE ENTIRE  
STORY, BUT WE WILL  
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NORAH SCHNEIDER

# 1620 THE FIRST YEAR

(cont'd. from page 1)

romantic paintings and a granite monument, there was never any mention at the time of stepping on a rock in Plymouth.

The Pilgrims found skulls above ground, a "very sad spectacle to behold." So many Natives were wiped out in a great plague, the living couldn't bury them all. Thousands (80 to 90%) of Natives had died between 1616 and 1619.

Finding corn, springs, a good harbor and fish, they decided to settle on high ground in Plymouth and began building homes on Leyden Street. Over half of the Pilgrims died that winter.



"INTERVIEW OF SAMOSET WITH THE PILGRIMS"  
BAHARRIS.ORG, PUBLIC DOMAIN

They saw signs of Natives but never met any until Samoset boldly presented himself on March 16th. He welcomed them in

English he'd learned from fishermen in Maine. He told them how the Patuxet were wiped out during the plague and how the Nausets had been attacked.

On March 23, 1621, Samoset returned with Squanto, Wampanoag Chief Massasoit and 60 warriors. In their first treaty of alliance, both sides agreed to defend each other.

You can retrace the Pilgrims' steps utilizing this link from Chris' website. It has GPS coordinates and current location names: [1620-The First Year](#). Locations may have markers; some are private property.

Nothing like the story school children learn, a true Thanksgiving Day would have had the Pilgrims quietly giving thanks by going to church three times and fasting!

"NOTHING LIKE THE STORY SCHOOL CHILDREN LEARN, A TRUE THANKSGIVING DAY WOULD HAVE HAD THE PILGRIMS QUIETLY GIVING THANKS BY GOING TO CHURCH THREE TIMES AND FASTING!"

CHRIS DALEY

# THE HOLOCAUST

(cont'd. from page 3)

[www.ancestry.com/always\\_remember](http://www.ancestry.com/always_remember) through a partnership with Arolsen Archives (International Center on Nazi Persecution). Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, has a database with Holocaust (Shoah) victims' names and stories from survivors' testimonies at <https://www.yadvashem.org/>.

Norah likes Family Search Wiki to find types of records, where to get them and the cost by keying in a location. She said UK outgoing passenger lists and declarations of intent for naturalization can be valuable.

Norah's great grandmother from Berlin, who left in October 1938, weeks before Kristallnacht, went to Southampton, England. Most Jews came to the US from England not Germany. One of Norah's great grandfathers forbade anyone from talking about the Holocaust. A grandmother who would talk didn't remember much because she was only four years old. So she didn't even consider herself a Holocaust survivor.

Norah's 2x great grandmother's original Nazi Third Reich passport with a large red "J" (Jew) on it indicated she went through Amsterdam to England then to the US.

When one great grandfather received notice his mother had died, he didn't want to find out how because he didn't want to connect her to Auschwitz. With permission from her grandmother, Norah found her name in a list of Jews murdered in the Shoah. She also found a 20-page displaced person file for her great grandfather's brother who went to Shanghai, as did large numbers of Jews because no visa was required.

Norah says the online camp records she has translated are gut-wrenching. Six million Jews plus 5½ million others were killed. Norah says we will never know the entire story, but we will put the puzzle together and never forget.



## JILL MORELLI RETURNS TO TALK ABOUT CIVIL WAR PENSION RECORDS

By Ralph Wadleigh



VP TIM MARTIN AND PRESIDENT JERRY LUBY POSE WITH JILL MORELLI, CG

On July 13, 2019, we were again treated to a wonderful talk by Jill Morelli, CG. At Tim Martin's request, she first defined the term CG or Certified Genealogist. The process to become a CG is a demanding skill-building exercise for those either interested in developing better research and/or writing skills or becoming a professional genealogist. She recommended that anyone interested visit the Board of Certified Genealogists website, [www.bcgcertification.org](http://www.bcgcertification.org).

Her talk was entitled "Dissecting Civil War Pension Records: Union or Confederate." Using the records of Union soldier William H.H. Link and Confederate soldier John C. Cobble, she extracted evidence and placed events in historical context to develop a narrative about

their personal lives and respective military service.

Her presentation covered five how-to steps: Identify possible Civil War participants (1860 census is useful as all engaged were alive at that point) familiarize yourself with the various pension laws; dissect the information contained in the pension packet; analyze the information contained therein (she recommends using a spread sheet) by inventorying each item and identifying them in detail; and finally obtain the pension records. Union Army information is at the National Archives, while Confederate Army information is at the various states.

Jill brought Union soldier William Link's record to life by showing him to have been captured and

imprisoned. While in prison, in understandably horrific conditions, he was recruited into the Confederate Army and served with it a few months until, at war's end, he "escaped" and showed up at a Union camp. Interestingly, the details of his imprisonment were left out of his 1892 pension application! He did however receive a pension and so did his widow. His packet contained a marriage record and the names of all his children.

John Cobble's Confederate record was much sparser, showing only proof of service, proof of marriage and proof of death. It did name his wife.

Jill graciously answered a good number of questions. She recommended hiring a professional to obtain the records from NARA – less expensive and results arrive in electronic media. If an ancestor was a draft substitute, that fact is contained in the pension record. Confederate soldiers who served in the US Army before the Civil War were eligible for Union benefits.

For additional details and a list of valuable sources, see the note to the right.

Thank you, Jill for this informative and entertaining talk.

### Note:

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

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## *MEMBER OFFERS INFO ON MANY EARLY NEW ENGLAND ANCESTORS*

One of Falmouth Genealogical Society's (FGS) member genealogists extraordinaire, Lockwood Rianhard, has generously shared his direct early ancestor list, "Some Early New England Ancestors" on the FGS website. Updated in July, it lists about 1,800 of his early New England ancestors, many from Cape Cod. It includes birth, marriage and death dates as well as spouses.

The purpose of this FGS website posting is to possibly help anyone who might be researching their family history and to become the basis for a mutually beneficial exchange of family history information.

It can be found on [www.falgen.org](http://www.falgen.org) under the tabs "Membership," "Members Only," "Member Papers and Publications." See "Note" on page 4 for password info.

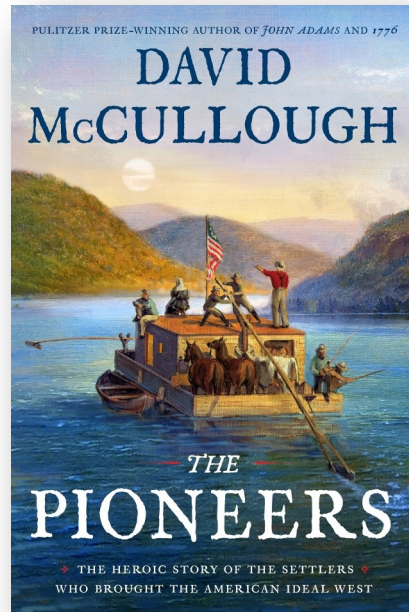
If you are interested in anyone listed, click on the link provided on the site to email Lockwood. Send him the info you know on the person and their close relatives. Although not offering to do research for you, Lockwood will send what he has in his computer file related to that person and that person's close relatives and ancestors.

What a wonderful example of membership benefits. Thank you so much, Lockwood.

## *THE PIONEERS—A BOOK REVIEW*

*By Ralph Wadleigh*

David McCullough's latest uncovering of a part of America's history takes the reader to Marietta, Ohio, a focal point of the initial wave of settlement down the Ohio River just after the Revolutionary War. McCullough was fortunate to have been introduced to a treasure trove of primary documents left by the first settlers of Marietta and Washington County now archived at Marietta College. Using these letters, diaries, newspaper articles and local histories, he illustrates how pioneer leaders instilled their New England values of abolition, education and religious freedom into the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 and the Ohio Constitution of 1802.



General Rufus Putnam and Dr. Samuel Hildreth. Read how these relatively unknown personages interacted with known leaders of their times like Benjamin Franklin, John Quincy Adams, Aaron Burr, Marquis de Lafayette and Benjamin Silliman, President of Yale University.

Those readers having ancestors who made a similar westward migration via the Ohio River will vicariously enjoy experiencing

their trials and tribulations. Others will learn how they can enliven their personal family histories by interweaving historical records of the day. *The Pioneers* is available through CLAMS at area libraries.

The featured pioneers are Manasseh Cutler, his son Ephraim Cutler, Joseph Barker,

*(Cover artwork provided by Simon and Schuster Publicity)*