

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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Newsletter
August - October 2013

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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.

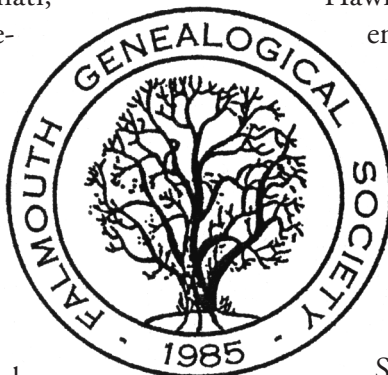
Falmouth Genealogical Society

ONE FAMILY'S ENCOUNTER WITH AMERICAN HISTORY

Program presented by Alfred Knight at the July 13, 2013, meeting

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

A Wadleigh family friend, Alfred Crocker Knight of Greenwich, Connecticut, Mayflower descendant, son of Barnstable County's former Probate Judge A.C. Knight, and member of the Society of the Cincinnati, presented a talk that brought together the genealogy of his coastal Massachusetts family and events in American history during the past four centuries. In other words, he placed his family in historical context! His principal sources were a genealogy that a family member prepared years ago, *The Mayflower* by Nathaniel Philbrick and *Albion's Seed* by David Hackett Fisher for 17th century history, his ancestor Gideon Hawley's diary and letters, 1754-1804 from the Congregational Library, as well as resources at Sturgis Library and family records.



The speaker brought to life nine generations of his family, beginning with 1620 Mayflower passengers Stephen Hopkins and Edward Winslow, followed by the Bourne, Hawley, and Crocker families of Cape Cod, and ending with the 20th century Knight and Crocker families.

Early contacts and relationships between his family and Native Americans were one focus of the talk. Edward Winslow established a peaceful relationship with Indian Chief Massasoit and members of his tribe that endured until their deaths. Seventeenth-century family members who were involved in efforts to convert Indians to Christianity included Reverend Richard Bourne who came to the Mashpee area in 1670 to lead a Praying

Calendar of Meetings for 2013

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

Sept. 14: Maureen Taylor: Identifying and Dating Family Photographs

Oct. 12: Connie Reik: Researching Your Civil War Veteran in Federal Publications and Documents

Nov. 16: David Lambert of NEHGS: Two lectures on Forging Broken Links and Closing Gaps in Genealogical Research. Joint meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society held at St. Peter's Church, Osterville.
(Note: this is the 3rd Saturday of the month.)

Dec. 14: Annual Holiday Food Fest: bring your favorite sweets and recipes from antique cookbooks.

Jan. 11: What's New On The Web?

Feb. 8: Lewis White: The Portuguese in Falmouth.

Indian Church. In 1758 the Society for the Preservation of the Gospel assigned Reverend Gideon Hawley, a Congregational clergyman, to establish a church for Indians at Mashpee. He served there for almost fifty years, supporting rights and education for the Mashpee Indians.

In 1739, Knight's ancestor Ebenezer Crocker built today's oldest Cotuit house, on Route 28, near Route 30. Another of the old Crocker houses is the present Cahoon Museum, built by ancestor Zenas in 1782.

Members of the Crocker family participated in major migrations. Zenas³ Crocker sailed around the Horn to California for the Gold Rush of 1849. He remained there as a successful merchant until 1861, when he returned to Cape Cod. His son Zenas⁴ Crocker migrated to the Dakota Territory, married there and built a hardware store before returning to Cape Cod. An early 20th century Crocker was an innovative and reform-minded sheriff of Barnstable County.

Al Knight concluded his presentation with descriptions of 20th century military service by members of his family: wars in which they fought, their military experiences, their awards, and their fates.

He explained that the past of his family is saved in traces like memorial plaques, Cape Cod place names, and craftsmanship seen in buildings, judicial decisions, and surgeon-mended bodies of soldiers. His family's actions are one tiny thread in the enormous fabric of American history.

REVIEWER'S AFTERWORD

After Al Knight's talk, I recalled that many professional genealogists propose that the ultimate goal of amateur genealogists should be placing their ancestors in historical context, as our speaker so admirably did.

Genealogists point out that there are at least three levels of genealogical research. The first is to search vital and church records to determine birth, marriage, and death dates and places for ancestors and to create family trees. The second level involves searching for biographical information about ancestors: the work they did, an idea of their economic level, what it was like where they lived, moves they made, public roles they held, and family experiences that were of interest (either positively or

negatively). This information can be found in local and county land and probate records and histories, published genealogies, family letters, and newspaper articles and obituaries. The third level is to place ancestors and their experiences into the "big picture" or into a broad historical context. Detailed time lines can show major events that occurred during our ancestors' lifetimes; scholarly histories, such as those Al Knight consulted, can provide information about people and events and historical trends and analysis.

For those of us whose ancestors were farmers or immigrants of the 19th or 20th centuries, going to level three may seem pointless or even hopeless. Yet, major events such as European wars and the Potato Famine or personal events, such as pressure from earlier immigrants to join them in the new country, are of significance in our family histories and can serve as starting points.

Dig as deep as you can!

BOOK REVIEW

by Joyce Pendery, CG

French Genealogy from Afar: Being Basic Procedures and Suggested First Steps in Research via the New Electronic Technology and Method of Communication Known as the Internet...as Presented on the French Genealogy Blog, by Anne Morddel. Self-published by the author. Order by sending an email to amerigen@yahoo.com; \$26.

Anne Morddel has been interested in genealogy since she was fourteen. Living in France for the last ten years, she has focused on French genealogy. She founded her web site "The French Genealogy Blog" in 2009. Many sections of this book are updated and enlarged blog articles. I met Anne in Paris in 2012 and know how serious she is. If you have French ancestry, you may find the help you need on one or more of the Internet sites she discusses. While the Table of Contents is detailed, there is no index. Anne writes in a conversational, tongue-in-cheek manner. Like many self-published authors, she did not consult an editor!

Anne provides some assistance in figuring out common French genealogical terms for those who do not know French. Reading the handwriting is a different issue. Patience, practice, and persistence are the answers for successful research in French records! She also explains that knowing where your ancestors were born, married,

and died is essential, as French vital records are kept on the communal level. Copies of most records from communal archives are sent to departmental (like county) archives, but there are no indexes. To deal with this “Location, Location, Location” problem Anne offers a number of web sites that may offer clues or even cite locations, before you delve into the online resources. For example, there is a web site that lists the names and brief biographies of everyone who lost their head during the French Revolution. Another lists the names and

communities of members of many different occupational groups that required registration of all workers in that field. Even family recipes, drinks, and clothing may offer clues as to place of origin.

If you would like to look at this book before you buy it, send me an email at jspendery@gmail.com and I will bring it on Tuesday afternoon or to a monthly meeting. Meanwhile, if you have French ancestry, do read “The French Genealogy Blog” at amerigen@yahoo.com.



FGS Monthly Meeting Aug 10, 2013

Tales of Our Ancestors

Reviewed by Ralph Wadleigh

Dottie Clark Davison, spoke of uncovering the truth about the Cronk Family Fortune. The story goes that three brothers came to America from Holland in 1742. Two brothers, Jacob and James established themselves and eventually fought in the Revolution against the British. A third brother, Caspar, was a Loyalist and returned to Holland during the war. In Holland he became successful and supposedly amassed a fortune. Upon his death, he willed that after 100 years the accumulated assets would be divided among all the heirs. In 1902, certain heirs located in the United States organized to claim the fortune, but alas research in Holland revealed nothing. Dottie's research led her to correspondence from Walter Cronkite who had heard of this same story. It turns out that it was all started by a rogue genealogist, hoping to extort funds from Cronk/Cronkite heirs. Too bad, Dottie!!

Lorraine Nagy, spoke about her adopted daughter, Catherine's, Cherokee ancestry. She related how she came to a FGS Tuesday session armed only with a name, Cora Sansing Pugh, and a year of death. With Jan Zlatev's help, a date and place of death was determined and a death certificate was obtained. This led to a chain of discovery including Cora's husband and parents. Lorraine will be traveling to Alabama later this year with Catherine and her birth mother, and plans to share her findings with Cora's living descendants.

Lockwood Rianhard, related how he had been researching his grandparents' ancestries and had discovered in online family trees a line of descent from the great Cape Cod Sachem, Iyannough, whose son John had supposedly married Priscilla Bearse. Knowing that online family trees need to be treated cautiously, Lockwood attempted to verify this fact through Barnstable County records. This he was unable to do. However, through further study, he learned that intermarriage between Native Americans and colonists in Early New England was extremely rare and mostly due to the capture of white settlers, who, if they stayed with their abductors, entered into familial relationships without the benefit of Christian marriage. Iyannough and his initial descendants were not found in Barnstable records as marrying outside their tribe. So, another hoax!

Janet Burt Chalmers 1944-2013

by C. David Burt



Janet with her husband Stephen Chalmers

My sister Janet served as editor of the Falmouth Genealogical Society Newsletter from 2004 to 2012, a year before her death when she asked me to take over. I had done some preliminary genealogical work on our family tree and when Janet became interested in it, I gladly let her take over. She did remarkable work making contacts with living descendants of our relatives, including the Provincetown Burts on the maternal side of our family, on whom she reported in December of 2011. She also extended the family tree considerably through research on the internet.

Janet was born in Boston on September 28, 1944, grew up in Waban, attended The Beaver Country Day School, Centenary College, and the University of Wisconsin. She spent summers in Falmouth and became an avid sailor in the Quissett Yacht Club. She married Stephen Chalmers, another Quissett sailor, in 1969. They have two children and five grandchildren. Janet worked with her husband for many years in their business The Village Printer, and she volunteered her skills to edit the FGS Newsletter.

As a sailor, Janet excelled, winning local and regional championships. She gave up actively racing in the Quissett races because she was embarrassed about winning practically everything, and she dedicated herself to the race committee. She did the write-ups of the races for *The Falmouth Enterprise*, and they were so entertaining and well written that the Enterprise offered her job as

a reporter and feature writer. She served as a flag officer of the Quissett Yacht club from 1996-2002, serving as Commodore in 2001-2002. She continued running the races until the year before she died.

Janet was interested in tracing the maternal line of our family. Fortunately we had some records that our maternal grandmother, Gertrude Littlefield Mahady, had saved, tracing our ancestry to Elder, William Brewster of the Mayflower. Because genealogists will be interested in this, here is the female line from my records:

Abigail Young, m. John Treat 6 Dec 1716

Rachel Treat Mulford, b. 5 Nov 1725, m. Joseph Cobb
19 Mar 1750

Tamsin Cobb, b 31 Jan 1757, d 22 Nov 1794,
m. Daniel Lombard 15 Apr 1779

Tamsin Lombard, b 12 Jun 1785, m. Samuel Small
15 Dec 1803

Rosetta Small, b. 23 Mar 1817, d. 1892,
m. John Graham Burt 23 Apr 1817

Mary E. Burt, b. 23 Oct 1838, d. 8 Feb 1924,
m. Joshua Owen Littlefield 13 May 1861

Alice Gertrude Littlefield, b. 1 Apr 1875, d. 11 Jan 1960,
m. Edward F. Mahady 21 Nov 1900

Alice Gertrude Mahady, b. 5 Nov 1910. d. 24 Sep
1991, m. Charles E. Burt 25 Nov 1937

Janet Lee Burt. b. 28 Sep 1944, d. 30 May 2013,
m. Stephen Chalmers 3 May 1969

MINUTES OF THE FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

8 June 2013

Before the annual meeting, visitors were welcomed and reports of the Chairman of the Library Committee Jan Zlatev, Treasurer Ed Shibata, and Program Chairman Ralph Wadleigh were presented.

At 10:19 a.m., the Annual Meeting was called to order by President Ralph Wadleigh. Jan Zlatev read the

minutes for last year's Annual Meeting. Donna Walcovy moved to accept the minutes as read, and the motion was passed unanimously.

Donna Walcovy, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that an unnamed person had agreed to accept nomination as President for one year, provided that the duties would be shared by the First Vice President, and that no one had agreed to accept nomination for the position of Secretary.

This report was followed by a request from President Ralph Wadleigh for nominations from the floor. No nominations were forthcoming from the floor for President or Secretary, but Gerald Luby said he would be willing to run for Treasurer next year (2014), provided that the current Treasurer, Ed Shibata, would be willing to train him during 2013. This was agreed. Further, during the course of floor discussion, Dottie Priestley volunteered to be nominated as Secretary, and Mary Barry volunteered to be nominated as First Vice President, sharing duties for 2013 with the current President, Ralph Wadleigh, who would continue in office until June 2014. There was some discussion concerning the positions of NERGC Representative and Program Committee Chairman, but no volunteers made themselves available.

Based on the floor discussion, the following slate of candidates was proposed:

President – Ralph Wadleigh

First Vice President – Mary Barry

Second Vice President – Richard Harbison

Secretary – Dottie Priestley

Treasurer – Ed Shibata, who will train Gerald Luby

Editor, Newsletter – David Burt

Chairman, Library Committee – Janice Zlatev

Chairman, Publications Committee – Robert Chase

Chairman, Publicity Committee – Mary Ann Shafer

Chairmen, Program Committee – Ralph Wadleigh and Mary Barry

NERGC Representative – open

Members of the Board at Large – Joyce Pendery (General Advice), Jeramie Hammond

(Website), Gerald Luby (Budget and Finance)

When the above slate of Board Members was proposed, Maggie Rioux moved to elect the entire list of candidates. This motion was seconded by John Checklick, and passed unanimously.

Following the election of the Board, Richard Harbison announced that he planned to teach his class on internet genealogy in the Fall of 2013; members discussed GenealogyInTime, a service that gives information on recently digitized web content; a number of other free resources on the Internet; and problems with military records, particularly those relating the Civil War.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Richard Harbison, Acting Secretary for the Falmouth Genealogical Society

NOVEMBER JOINT MEETING WITH CAPE COD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

November 16, 2013, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Wianno Avenue, Osterville, MA

Our traditional November joint meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2013 from 10:00 – 1:00 at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Wianno Avenue, Osterville. To carpool, meet in the Gus Canty parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

David Lambert, Chief Genealogist at NEHGS, will present two talks under one title: "Forging Broken Links – Closing Gaps in Genealogical Research." Topics David will cover include adoptions, orphans, name changes, transferring children between families, guardianships, and dispersions of children during events such as the Holocaust.

An optional Lobster roll luncheon can be purchased separately for \$10. Details will follow.

New Members

We welcome the following new members of the Falmouth Genealogical Society:

#435: Dottie & Mac Davidson of Cotuit, researching Cronk of New York State and Simpson of DE and PA, both in the 1800's.

#436: Robert & Evelyn Barker of East Falmouth, researching Barker in KY/VA and Brooklyn, Long Island, NY from 1730 to 1975; Bethel in Spring Valley/Nyack, NY and IL from 1630 to 1930; Lycke in Bayshore, NY, from 1890; Bartels on Long Island, NY, from 1900; and Lessels in Brooklyn and Long Island, NY, from 1890.

#437: Jeremiah A. Whitaker of Mashpee, researching Whitaker in Ulster County and NY, Friedman in Hungary before 1900, Koller in Austria before 1900, and McGoldrick before 1875.

#438: Lois Parker of West Falmouth, researching Joswig of Ungerberg, Germany, 1925.

#439: Donna Nascimento of East Falmouth, researching York, Cheney, and Boston of Maine, 1700-1800.

#440: Bernadette C. Brown of Falmouth, researching Brown of Bristol County, MA, in the 1830's, Andrews of Gloucester, RI, in the 1760's; Muller of Rosbach, Bavaria, and Germany in the 1780's; O'Day of Limerick, Ireland, in the 1840's; and Crotty of Ireland in the 1820's.

#441: Alice Borden of Mashpee, researching Leven, Steinberg, Sagowitz, Lepinsky, Rubinovits, all in Lithuania/Russia in the late 1800's.

#442: Charles B. Cooper & Sara E. Bysse of East Falmouth, researching Bysse of the United Kingdom (UK); Long of Northern Ireland; Cook and Prosser of the UK or Ireland; Maiseloff (phonetic) of Galicia or Belarus; Geyser (phonetic) of Ukraine or Galicia; and Meyer (phonetic) of the Koblenz area of Germany, all in the 18th and 19th centuries.

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Falmouth Genealogical Society

IDENTIFYING AND DATING FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

Program presented by Maureen A. Taylor at the September 14, 2013, meeting

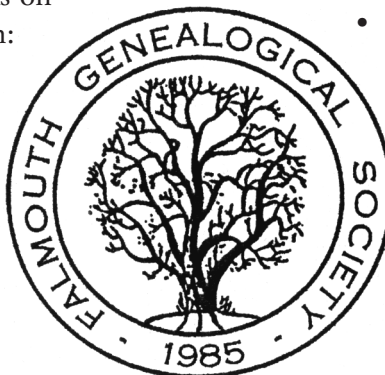
Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, C.G.

A large audience gathered on September 14th to hear Maureen A. Taylor's talk on "Identifying and Dating Family Photographs." An international lecturer, Maureen is also the author of many articles and books on photo identification. According to Maureen: "A family photograph collection is more than a random collection of images: each one is a story worth saving." Maureen showed many historic photos and described their significant characteristics that aid in dating photos. She talked about how to solve photo mysteries yourself by following these guidelines:

Questions to ask and try to answer include:

- WHO were the subjects of the photo? WHO

owned it before you and before they did? Has anyone supplied identifications? WHO was the photographer and WHERE was he located?



- WHAT are the subjects wearing? WHAT type of photo is it? WHAT do you know about the image?
- WHERE was the photo taken?
- WHEN was the photo taken?
- WHY was the photo taken: for a special event or reason: wedding, reunion, funeral?

Then you add up the clues:

- THE TYPE OF PHOTO helps determine the date the photo was taken – from the earliest daguerreotypes of

Calendar of Meetings for 2013-2014

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

Dec. 14: Annual Holdiday Food Fest - at Falmouth Senior Center

Jan. 11: What's New On The Web?

Feb. 8: Lewis White: The Portuguese in Falmouth.

Mar. 8: Mary Ellen Grogan: Researching your Irish Roots

Apr. 12: Alice Stelzer: Women

May 10: Paul Bunnell: Loyalist Migrations

June 14: Annual Meeting and Election of Officers

the 1830's to Brownie photos of the 20th century to recent digital photos.

- THE PHOTOGRAPHER helps determine the date and place the photo was taken.
- GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH helps predict who the subjects might have been.
- COSTUMES AND HAIR STYLES offer the most important clues for dating photos.
- INTERNAL EVIDENCE may help determine relationships, events, locations. Alas, captions written on historic photos are often wrong!

If you can't identify a photo, show the photo to as many relatives as possible and post it on the Internet. Advertise your family on a message board or in a query column with details about the photo.

Maureen shared information about many photo projects that she is working on, including preparing albums of photos of Revolutionary War veterans in their old age and a documentary about their lives.

You can contact Maureen and sign up for her free e-newsletter on www.photodetective.com and you can watch Maureen solve cases on [www.vimeo.com/photodetective.com](http://www.vimeo.com/photodetective) or [@photodetective](https://twitter.com/photodetective) on Twitter.



Maureen Taylor and Alice Batchelor

Mystery Photo

Do any FGS members recognize this family? Someone left it at last month's Maureen Taylor meeting and we want to return it. Please speak to Ralph Wadleigh or Ed Shibata.



CONTRASTING GERMAN MIGRATIONS and GERMAN FOR GENEALOGISTS

Two lectures presented by James M. Beidler,
September 21, 2013,

at Brewster Ladies' Library

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

Before a room-full of Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Society members, Pennsylvanian James M. Beidler presented two lectures on German genealogy on Saturday morning, September 21, 2013. In his first lecture, Mr. Beidler discussed the differences between 18th and 19th century German immigrants. In the second lecture he discussed German for genealogists and how to learn or find the language basics necessary for working with documents written in German.

During the 17th century, very few Germans immigrated to North America. Eighteenth-century German immigrants are dubbed "Pennsylvania Germans," as many of them arrived in or passed through that colony on their

route west. About 80,000 German speaking immigrants came to America during the 1700's. Most came from the Palatinate, Saarland, Baden, Wuerttemberg, or Alsace areas, all in southwestern Germany. Some also came from adjoining Switzerland. The majority traveled up the Rhine River to the port of Rotterdam and disembarked in Philadelphia.

Most of these early German immigrants were Protestants: Lutheran, Reformed, or sectarian Mennonite, Moravian, or Amish who sought religious freedom. Many had to buy their economic freedom from some type of serfdom, or they revolted against partible inheritance that reduced the size of land holdings each generation. The majority were poorly educated peasants, farmers or village residents, some of whom were indentured and all of whom wanted to acquire land.

During the 19th century and up to World War I, over 5 million Germans immigrated to North America. They became known as "German Americans," and the majority came from northern and eastern Germany: Saxony, Pomerania, Brandenburg, and Bavaria. Most embarked at Bremen or Hamburg and went to New York, Baltimore, or the upper Midwest and Texas, via the port of New Orleans.

These immigrants were about equally divided between Catholics and Protestants. They were looking for business opportunities, increased class mobility, fewer marriage restrictions, and avoidance of military service. In addition to farmers, some were tradesmen or businessmen with better education.

Church records are one of the best sources of information on the births, marriages, and deaths of these immigrants, in both the old and new countries. Lutherans, Catholics, and Moravians kept the best records. Anabaptists and Evangelicals did not practice infant baptism.

The speaker's Bibliography included:

- Filby, P. William and Ira A. Glazier, editors. *Germans to America: Lists of Passengers Arriving at U.S. Ports, 1850-1897*.
- Hacker, Werner. *Eighteenth Century Register of Emigrants from Southwest Germany to America and Other Countries* (Apolla, PA: Closson Press, 1994).

- Jones, Henry A. Jr. *The Palatine Families of New York: A Study of the German Immigrants Who Arrived in Colonial New York in 1710*, 2 vols. (Universal City, CA: H.Z. Jones, 1985). Jones has written additional books that extend his study.
- Schenk, Trudy and Ruth Froelke. *Wuerttemberg Emigration Index*, 8 vols. (Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry Inc., 1986-).
- Strassburger, Ralph B. and William J. Hinke. *Pennsylvania German Pioneers*, 3 vol. (Camden, ME: Picton Press, 1992).
- Web sites, include www.familysearch.org; www.ellisland.org; Hamburg passenger lists at <http://international.hamburg.de/> (click on "English," then on "LinkToYourRoots;") National Archives passenger lists at www.archives.gov/index.html (click on "Research Room").

Reading these records, written in German, can be challenging and requires some basic vocabulary and knowledge of printed, script, and hand-written German. Mr. Beidler provided a list of words and abbreviations found in German records; he showed examples of different types of records and writing; and he provided a bibliography that included:

- Humphrey, John T. *Finding Your German Ancestors: A Practical Guide for Genealogists* (Pennsylvania Genealogy Books, \$19.95).
- Thode, Ernest. *German-English Genealogical Dictionary* (Genealogical Publishing Co., \$29.95).
- Bentz, Edna M. *If I Can, You Can: Decipher Germanic Records* (self-published, \$17.25).
- Web sites, including: www.Babelfish.yahoo.com (Babel Fish Text Translation); LEO Deutsch-Englisches Woerterbush (German-English Dictionary) at www.dict.leo.org; or use Google Translator.



FORGING BROKEN LINKS CLOSING GAPS IN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

Double Presentation to Falmouth Genealogical Society and Cape Cod Genealogical Society
by David Allen Lambert, Chief Genealogist,
New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston

Osterville, November 16, 2013;
reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

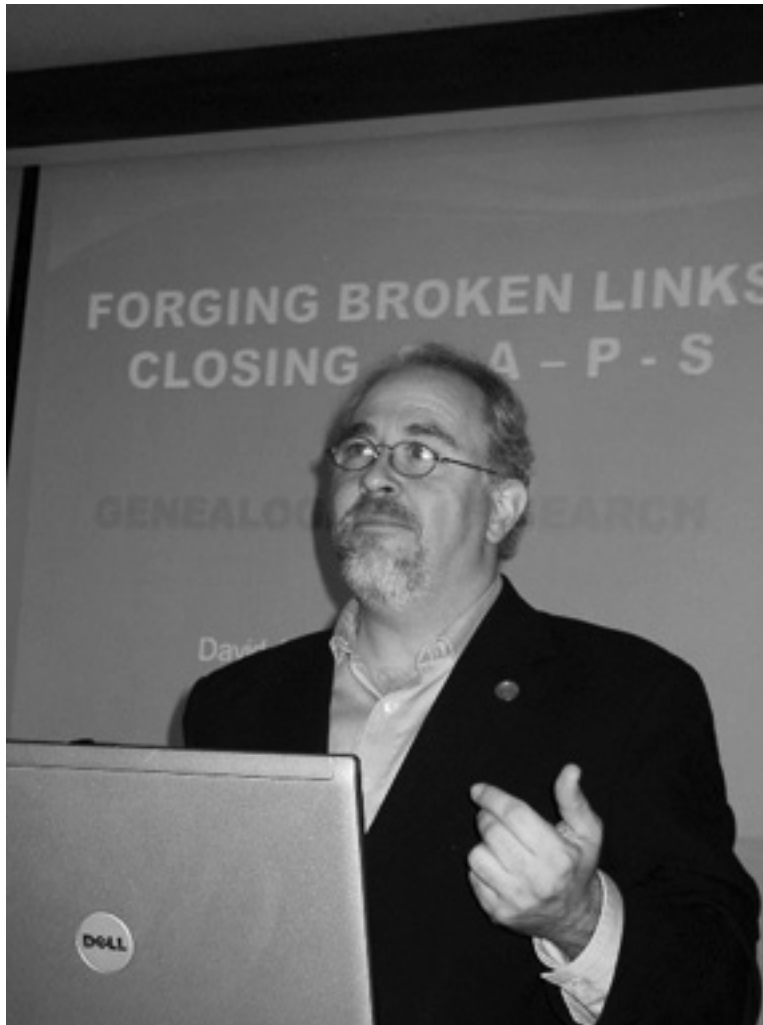
DAVID LAMBERT has an encyclopedic knowledge of genealogical resources helpful in solving genealogical dead ends. His expertise was evident during his double presentation to members and guests at the 6th Annual Joint Meeting of the Falmouth and Cape Cod Genealogical Societies held at St. Peter's Church in Osterville on Saturday, November 16, 2013.

David began with the topic of finding adoption records: original, amended, corrected, with name changes, or with a missing parent, suggesting illegitimacy. Information can vary according to the record date and location. There were few adoption records before the Civil War, and many adoption records are closed for up to 100 years. Adoption can be a delicate topic, as some adoptees are unaware of their status.

Both adoption and guardianship records can sometimes be found in the original dockets of probate files. Online indexes to probate indexes and files are available for many states. Guardianship records can be for young, old, incapacitated, and mentally ill persons and among other information, they may include accountings of expenses for personal care. Sometimes

children were transferred between families without filing of legal documents, and orphans who were siblings were sometimes separated and sent to different families or to orphanages. Sources of information about guardianships and adoptions might also be found in diaries, letters, obituaries, newspaper articles, and divorce proceedings.

Clues for locating orphans may be found in probate records, guardianships, military pension files, census records, obituaries, court cases, newspapers, and orphanage records. The majority of Orphan Trains, destined for the west, originated in New York and Boston from 1854 to 1929. Due to high infant mortality rates, families often welcomed orphans as foster children. Orphans traveling on Catholic orphan trains were given to Catholic families. Non-Catholic orphans were often picked out upon arrival to help with work and family chores with both positive and negative results. Cyndi's List web site has information on Orphan Trains, and the web site for the National Orphan Train Complex in Concordia, Kansas, is [www.](http://www.orphantraindepot.org)



www.orphantraindepot.org.

World events, including wars, genocides, fleeing refugees, famines, and natural disasters also led to the dispersion of

children. While more difficult to trace, some information may be found at the United Nations International Refugee Organization and in U.S. National Archives files Record Group 59, covering the years 1939-1945.

David proposed that everyone put themselves under a microscope through DNA testing. The long-established web site he suggests is www.familytreedna.com. David explained the main types of tests: Y-DNA for males, MtDNA for females, Autosomal DNA to determine evidence of non-European DNA (for example, American Indian ancestry), and the SNP test that analyzes particular markers within surname groups.

David concluded by talking about unusual genealogical sources that may provide clues or even direct information that will help forge broken links or close gaps. These include coffin plates that contain birth and death information, hand written cook books and recipe cards that show hand writing and can indicate recipe preferences and possibly suggest areas of origin, address books, account books, family samplers, birth date books, wedding gift books, funeral books, old checks, tax bills, old telephone books, and letters and postcards with messages and postmarks on stamps that establish dates.

The moral of the story is that we should never overlook or throw away any possible source of family information!

Informative Website reported by Ralph Wadleigh

Are you having trouble keeping up with the constant changes on the web? Perhaps you are interested in database additions or changes in certain geographic areas you follow. If so, you should take a look at the weekly Genealogy in Time Magazine Newsletter. This free newsletter arrives weekly in your email and consists normally of two parts, first an interesting article on a genealogical related subject and second a list of all the websites that had new data posted during the past week. So, for example, if you are interested in finding out about new data on Ireland, you would have learned about two new items in the 9 November 2013 issue. More importantly, the issues are archived so you can review several issues at one sitting. A plus to the site are two search engines that you will want to try. To get started, just go to www.genealogyintime.com. You'll be glad you did!

Library News from Janice Zlatev

Falmouth Genealogical Society member Lockwood Rianhard has donated a book to the Falmouth Public Library. The title is: *Female Index to Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England* by James Savage, compiled by Paty Barthell Myers. Lockwood had noticed, while doing his own research, that the library did not own this book. This title is currently in cataloging at the library.

BEYOND PENSION FILES! DISCOVER YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS IN FEDERAL PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS

Program presented by Connie Reik at the October 12, 2013, meeting

Reviewed by Susan Hutchinson

Connie Reik, Research and Instruction Librarian for History and Government Publications Coordinator at Tisch Library, Tufts University, spoke about using Congressional and other governmental agencies' publications to gather and supplement information about Civil War ancestors. She presented an extensive bibliography including numerous website references.

Connie began by pointing out that the first step in researching a Civil War ancestor is to "know" your soldier. This includes the full name of the person (and his spouse's name), full date of birth, place of birth, and residence before and after the conflict. Both the 1910 and 1930 U.S. censuses have questions on military service. The 1890 U.S. Census's Veterans' Schedule for states beginning with letters K-W is available on Ancestry.com [Note: Most of the 1890 Census burned accidentally.]

The next steps in researching a Civil War ancestor are to find out which branch of the service he was in, whether he was in the regular army or a state volunteer unit, and whether he was an officer or an enlisted man. She also mentioned that some people served as "contractors" who contributed to the war effort. It was also common for a soldier to pay a substitute to take his place!



Marianne Shafer and Connie Reik

The National Archives has many publications that will help in this area. Several that she recommended are:

- Plante, Trevor K. Military Service Records at the National Archives: <http://www.archives.gov/publications/ref-info-papers/rip109.pdf>
- National Archives and Records Administration. Finding Information of Personal Participation in the Civil War: <http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/civil-war/resources/research-brochure.pdf>
- National Park Service Soldiers and Sailors Database: <http://nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

Many other Federal publications will enable a researcher to gather information on an ancestor's regiment and any campaigns and battles in which he participated. At this point, Ms. Reik mentioned the advantage of using online commercial versions of the U.S. Congressional Serial Set. This set is available from the Boston Public Library via an e-card. Many volumes of this set have been scanned by Google, so do a Google search for the people involved to determine the names that are available online.

In addition, there are many U.S. Agency/Dept. Publications which are a vast source of information. These include:

- List of Pensioners on the Roll, January 1, 1883 (U.S. Pension Bureau)
- The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (U.S. War Dept., Gov. Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 1894)
- Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion (U.S. Naval War Records Office, Gov. Printing Office, 1894.)

During this fascinating presentation, Mr. Reik showed us that by using additional websites such as for the National Park Service, Centers for Military History, "How To" guides, and online databases, we can actually trace our ancestors through the entire Civil War while researching the War itself.



David Martin at the Joint Cape Cod and Falmouth Genealogical Societies meeting on November 16th.

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

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Newsletter
February - April 2014

President: Ralph Wadleigh
Editors: Joyce Pendery, CG
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C. David Burt cdburt@comcast.net

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.

Falmouth Genealogical Society

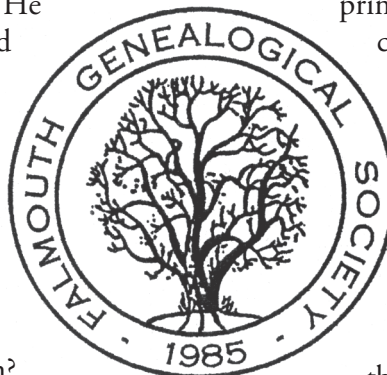
THE PORTUGUESE IN FALMOUTH

Program presented by Lewis A. White on February 8, 2014

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, C.G.

Curious Falmouth native and would-be genealogist, Lewis A White told how he embarked on a multi-year study of the history of the Azores, home of his ancestors, and Falmouth, their more recent home. He visited the Azores in 2001. An engineer and mathematician by training and profession and an amateur historian, he also had to learn about genealogical methodology and resources to reach his goal.

During his research, he hoped to answer these questions: Why would anyone leave the Azores and why are there so few Portuguese in America and so many in Falmouth? Census records were very helpful in determining when Azoreans came to America and where they settled, although he found many problems having to do with accuracy, completeness, and inconsistency. There was little



immigration from the Azores, agricultural islands 850 miles west of Portugal, until the mid-nineteenth century.

The small first wave of immigrants, ca. 1840-1870, was primarily male: comprising whalers who were recruited as crew members for whaling vessels that stopped there during voyages to the Pacific Ocean. Whalers often settled in the New Bedford area at the end of those voyages. Second wave immigrants, ca. 1870-1920, were often recruited as families of unskilled laborers to work in factories and mills in southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. It was members of the more numerous third wave of more skilled immigrants, ca. 1950's to 1980's, who settled in Falmouth. The Azores are volcanic islands, and frequent seismic events during those years led to increased immigration to America.

Calendar of Meetings for 2014

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

May 10 - Paul Bunnell: *Loyalist Migrations*

June 14 - Annual Meeting, Round Table Discussion, and Election of Officers

July 12 - TBA

August 9 - Ralph Wadleigh: *Writing a Genealogical Sketch*

September 13 - Beginners' Workshop

October 11 - Donna Walcovy: *How to Plan a Family Reunion*

November 8 - Joint Meeting with CCGS: Rhonda McClure of NEHGS: *Immigration Research*

December 13 - Annual Holiday Food Fest



Lewis White (left) with state representative David Viera

Lewis White discovered that the first Azoreans in Falmouth settled in Waquoit. In 1870 there were three families there, all from Faial. By 1900, forty-three families from the Azores were scattered throughout Falmouth. By 1930, Portuguese comprised 31.5% of the population of Falmouth.

At that time in the Azores, there was almost no possibility to own land. Here, the Portuguese worked and saved to buy land and a house. The majority were self-sufficient farmers who also worked part-time. After World War II, the expansion of the economy brought more opportunities for work and moving from blue collar to white collar jobs. One of the traditions the Azoreans brought to Falmouth was the formation of a Holy Ghost Association with a parade and feast at Pentecost. They also formed the Falmouth Portuguese-American Association in 1979.

Many Portuguese first names and surnames were changed during and after immigration, making genealogical research difficult. With much humor, Lewis White explained the many changes in his names and why they are no longer Portuguese. Indices on Ancestry.com require using any or all name and spelling possibilities. In addition to U.S. census records, Portuguese parish records are available on microfilm. Lewis White also suggested using the web site www.georgepacheco.com and going to the New Bedford Public Library Genealogy Room, Paul Cyr, Director, and the New Bedford Whaling Museum, James Russell, Director.

Lewis A. White is the author of the article "The Portuguese in Falmouth," published in the Winter-2013 edition of Spritsail, publication of the Woods Hole Historical Society. The standing room only audience enjoyed and appreciated his fascinating lecture.

WHAT'S NEW on the INTERNET

Falmouth Genealogical Society Program,

January 11, 2014

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

Several members and guests of FGS discussed their favorite genealogy web sites, with enthusiastic comments and questions from the audience. Web sites discussed included:

- www.genealogyintime.com opens to the Genealogy in Time Magazine. This web site, founded in 2008, is free and very large. It lists new data sets coming onto the web each week. Anyone can sign up for their free weekly newsletter, as well as for queries.
- www.gengathering.com opens to a menu and explanation of this site, dedicated to genealogists who are willing to share genealogical information or help others with their research. A great deal of information has been posted on this web site.
- www.olivetreegenealogy.com, another free web site, specializes in ships' passenger lists for ships leaving U. S. ports, as well as those arriving; obituaries; records from many national and ethnic groups; and much more.
- www.familysearch.org has been redesigned (again), has much new information, and should be checked out again.
- www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk is the largest online source for basic Scottish genealogical information.
- www.ancientfaces.com features memories, photos, and obituaries from the past.
- www.deadfred.com has photos, vital records, genealogical records from Scotland and more.
- www.sturgislibrary.org is the web site for the Sturgis Library in Barnstable Village with its large library and archives dedicated to Cape Cod history and genealogy.
- www.nnyln.com focuses on northern New York newspapers, but has much general and international

genealogical information, as well.

- www.findagrave.com should always be checked for deaths and grave stone inscriptions.
- And don't forget the old standby www.cyndislist.com with links to most major genealogical websites, worldwide.

SOURCES of INFORMATION

Joyce S. Pendery, C.G.

With traditional genealogical research, as well as with increasing dependence on tracing our lineages on genealogy web sites, it is important to know how to evaluate and prove the information found, especially if it is undocumented or conflicting information.

Sources are the principal means through which we find, evaluate, and document genealogical information. You have probably heard the advice to find original sources to document all the facts in your lineage. Alas, much online genealogical information has little or no source documentation

Genealogists and historians use the terms primary sources and secondary sources. Sometimes genealogists also refer to original or derivative information. Information from a primary source or original information is the most sought after and reliable, although on occasion, it can be incorrect.

PRIMARY SOURCE: Information that was provided by the subject or a witness to the event, at the time the event occurred or later. It can be written or oral.

- Birth: vital record of birth; church christening or baptismal record.
- Guardianship or orphan record; court adoption or name change.
- Marriage: vital record of marriage; church record of marriage; marriage bond or license
- Death: vital record of death is both primary and secondary, as the subject of the record did not provide all the information. What occurred at the time of death is primary information about the subject (told or recorded

by someone else). Information about the decedent, such as date and place of birth and parents, is considered secondary information, since the subject of the record did not provide that information.

- Bible records, if information was entered when events occurred or later by a participant or observer of the event.
- Deeds and land records
- Probate records and administration papers
- Censuses that show family relationships, although information may have been provided by someone other than the subject and might be incorrect.
- Tax assessments and exemptions
- Military and pension records
- Contemporary correspondence; diaries
- Ship passenger lists

SECONDARY SOURCE: Information not provided by a participant or witness of the event.

- Birth: newspaper accounts
- Marriage: newspaper accounts
- Death record (see above); obituaries; tombstone inscriptions and cemetery records
- Samplers
- Censuses that don't show family relationships
- Abstracts or transcripts of official records; court records
- City directories. telephone directories
- Family histories and undocumented genealogies
- Online genealogy databases

One other possibility is to assemble several pieces of indirect and/or circumstantial evidence that do not directly answer the question but do relate to the question and do provide a reasonable answer. I used this method to prove one generation for my Mayflower Society applica-

tion. Only after moving to Cape Cod, did I learn from a distant cousin, whom I met online, that I had Crosby ancestors from Cape Cod, who descended from Mayflower passengers. My new cousin sent me photocopies of family correspondence from the mid and late 1880's with references therein to several Crosby family members and their spouses, information I knew to be correct. I could document births for every Mayflower ancestor but one, my ancestor Sabray Crosby, whose family had moved from the Cape to the Catskills in the early 19th century. The births of all her siblings were recorded in church records there, but hers was not. In one of the old letters, that one of Sabray's brothers wrote, he referred to Sabray Crosby's husband, Abraham Ridlen, as "Brother" Ridlen, indicating that he was married to one of his sisters. Another bit of circumstantial evidence strengthened the argument and led to a reasonable and acceptable proof of the relationship. My ancestor's somewhat uncommon first name of Sabray was also the first name of her granddaughter, who was my grandmother.

Be persistent and continue your search, until you are reasonably sure that you have adequate and correct documentation!



From the President

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

What's going on? From where I sit, our organization continues to roll along. Regular board meetings have improved communication. The website committee has been revived and is beginning the exciting task of refreshing our current site. The many chores that keep FGS alive and relevant are being better shared. This is especially true with respect to program, membership and NERGC planning. For all this I am grateful.

As I look ahead to the rest of 2014, this seems to be a reunion year. In October, Donna Walcovy will be speaking on Organizing a Family Reunion. Many of you are probably having reunions this year as well. These are wonderful opportunities for you to share your research with your cousins. For myself, I attended one family reunion last month and in June will be attending another. For the June reunion I have devoted a great deal of time

and energy into compiling a family photo book as well as writing eight individual personal sketches on a great great grandfather, a great grandfather, a grandfather and his five siblings. I am also learning how a web site can be used to pull the family together. I plan to share the sketch writing experience with the membership in one of our monthly meetings. Maybe you will find this a good way to share your family knowledge.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of FGS through your energy and enthusiasm.

NEXT NERGC – NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

It is not too soon to start thinking about attending the next NERGC to be held at the Convention Center in downtown Providence, R.I., from April 15 – 19, 2015. The conference theme is "Navigating the Past: Sailing Into the Future." Providence is accessible for a one day attendance, while connecting hotels make a longer stay convenient. The 2000 NERGC in Providence was a rousing success. Let's make it a tradition!

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

The FGS Newsletter is a quarterly publication, published the last month of each quarter: In October, January, April, and July of each year. The Newsletter is available to members online or by mail. Each member is requested to select their preference – or to choose both means of delivery. Contributions are very welcome.

To put together our quarterly Newsletter, we need to have a variety of articles to interest our readers. That is to say, more than reports on presentations at meetings that usually provide interesting and useful genealogical information.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

You do not have to be an experienced writer! Just be you! We can edit it for you.

You could write about:

1. A BRICK WALL you solved or cannot solve
2. A RESEARCH TRIP – NEAR OR FAR AWAY
3. AN AMUSING ANECDOTE about your research

4. YOUR FAVORITE BOOK OR WEB SITE AND WHY.

5. References to other helpful publications.

You could submit GENEALOGICAL JOKES, TRIVIA OR CARTOONS for filler we sometimes need.

August-September-October issue: Deadline is October 1st

November-December-January issue: Deadline is January 2

February-March-April issue: Deadline is April 1

May-June-July issue: Deadline is July 1



RESEARCHING YOUR IRISH ROOTS

Program Presented by Mary Ellen Grogan
Falmouth Genealogical Society
on March 8, 2014

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

MARY Ellen Grogan presented a lecture on the basics for Irish research. She pointed out that for Irish researchers, the destruction of the Public Record Office in Dublin during the Civil War in 1922 created a major problem. She then discussed many other possible sources of information about Irish ancestors. To receive a copy of Mary Ellen Grogan's handout with more detailed information, send an email marked "Falmouth Lecture" to megrogan@ix.netcom.com.

Tips for success include searching every record source available in the U.S. before going to Ireland; looking for information about every member of the family, as any one may have left valuable clues; being flexible in spelling of surnames and places; and learning about both civil and religious administrative districts.

Mary Ellen discussed available vital records and church records and showed examples of the information on each type of record. Most records begin in the mid-19th century, and most of the indexes through 1958 are available

on www.familysearch.org. Microfilms of the records can be obtained through LDS libraries. Our nearest is in Cataumet. Griffith's evaluation tax records (ca. 1840's – 1860's), provide information about property rentals, while census records are available only for 1901 and 1911.

A list of the types of records available when you visit both Ireland and Northern Ireland was presented. Going there should only follow in depth research in this country.

SELECTED IRISH RESEARCH REFERENCE LIST

Falley, Margaret Dickson, *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research: A Guide to the Genealogical Records, Methods and Sources on Ireland*, 2 vol. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1988).

Grenham, John. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*, 4th edition. (Dublin: Bill & Macmillan Ltd., 2012).

MacLysaght, Edward. *The Surnames of Ireland*, 6th edition. (Dublin: Academic Press, 1991).

Mitchel, Brian. *A New Genealogical Atlas of Ireland*, 2nd edition. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2002).

Mitchel, Brian. *A Guide to Irish Parish Registers*. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc., 1988).

Ryan, James G. *Irish Records: Sources for Family & Local History*, 2nd ed. (Dublin: Flyleaf Press, 2000).

PRINCIPAL WEBSITES FOR IRISH GENEALOGY RESEARCH

www.ancestry.com. Indexes to Griffith's Valuation and to the Tithe Applotment Books for Ireland.

www.familysearch.org. Birth records, indexes to civil records; microfilms rented through LDS libraries.

www.findmypast.ie. Detailed information on many registers, records, directories, marriages, wills, etc.

www.irish-roots.ie. Catholic church records primarily.

www.irishgenealogy.ie. Church records for parishes in Carlow, Cork, Dublin, and Kerry.

www.irishorigins.com. Definitive version of Griffith's Primary Valuation records and maps; Irish Will Index (1484-1858); 1851 Dublin City Census, and more.

www.nationalarchives.ie; 1901 and 1911 census records, tithe applotment maps.

www.pronic.gov.uk. Public Record Office of No. Ireland with information on collections and databases.



BOOK REVIEW

Janice Zlatev, Library Chair

I recently read *Advanced Genealogy Research Techniques* by George C. Morgan and Drew Smith. In addition to their other genealogical credentials, they are the co-producers of “The Genealogy Guys Podcast.” I read about this book in an online review and borrowed it through the library’s CLAMS network.

This book is about ways to get through brick walls in your genealogical research. Once beyond the early research of your ancestral lines, most genealogists encounter one or more brick walls. The authors offer a broad range of options for finding a breakthrough in those walls. They emphasize accurate record keeping of your searches and sources, as it may be that through reviewing your sources you might see something you missed previously. New data is constantly coming online. Also, it can help you not to go down a dead end again.

It is important when reviewing records to check that they are original sources. Often errors occur in transcription of records and abstracts or excerpts may leave out information that is important to your research. In using family trees posted online, you should check the citations for each entry and read them yourself. Some trees are very well documented, but others may be copies of earlier misinformation.

Research FANS--family, associates, neighbors of your ancestor. Sometimes their footprints can lead you to your ancestor. The authors also suggest discussing your research with others. This is one of the benefits of society membershi. Other members may be researching in the same geographic area or ethnic group, and you may learn about new resources.

DNA testing and other new technologies are discussed and

ideas presented on how to take advantage of them. Authors suggest electronic message boards, social networks, and specialized genealogical software. They include ideas on how to most effectively post information on electronic message boards and social media. Specialized software mentioned includes GenSmarts, Clooz, and Evidentia.

If all your hard work does not lead to success, it may be time for professional help, and the authors discuss how to find the best option for you.

I found this a very interesting book with a wealth of information.

OPPORTUNITY

My name is Lexie Fleege and I’m contacting you from EF High School Exchange Year. I was referred your way by Julie Madden and wanted to get in touch with you to see if there is a way to let members of the Falmouth Genealogical Society know about a flexible, part-time employment opportunity? EF High School Exchange Year is a non-profit high school foreign exchange program and we’re currently hiring exchange coordinators throughout the U.S. to bring this program to their local communities. We find involved community members thrive in this role, as our International Exchange Coordinators work locally with schools, networking, and student supervision during the school year. This is something that can be done while working full time, and taken on as more of a side project, since the coordinator decides their level of involvement.

It’s a great program and we would love any help in getting the word out. Please let me know if this is something we can notify members about through methods such as email, bulletin board or newsletter. I’m looking forward to hearing from you soon! *Lexie.Fleege@EF.com*

FGS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership dues for fiscal year FY15 (June 2014 through May 2015) of \$20.00 per year is due on June 1, 2014. Kindly remit your check made payable to Falmouth Genealogical Society P.O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA. 02536-2107 or bring your check to the next monthly meeting.

The Falmouth Genealogical Society

Newsletter

Vol. 25 Number 4
P. O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA 02536
www.falgen.org

May - July 2014

President: Ralph Wadleigh / Mary Barry
Editors: Joyce Pendery, CG
jspendery@gmail.com
C. David Burt cdburt@comcast.net

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.

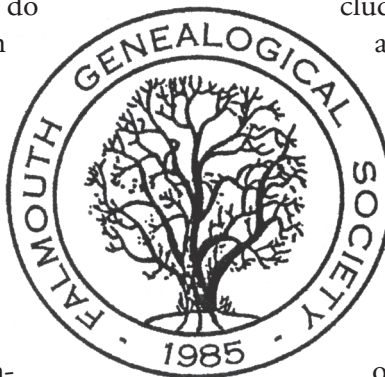
Falmouth Genealogical Society CHALLENGES OF RESEARCHING WOMEN

APRIL 12, 2014 PROGRAM PRESENTED BY ALICE PLOUCHARD STELZER

Reviewed by Joyce S. Pendery, CG

The invisibility of women in the records genealogists consult presents a challenge to researchers. Few early documents refer to women, and those that do often omit their full names. Often women are referred to as "wife" or "daughter" of the man who is the principal subject of the document.

The research approach that Alice Stelzer recommends is to "follow the men" and examine probate records, wills, inventories, and settlement agreements for insights into family relationships and possible names of family members of the deceased. Property in America was usually divided among surviving children, and the widow had the right to one-third of her husband's estate during her lifetime, if she did not remarry. It was rare



for a woman to own property in her own name. Family members are often named in probate documents, including married surnames of daughters. However, attention must be paid to references to "in laws," as their relationship to family members was often different in the past.

Few 17th and 18th century women left wills. Surviving wills may reveal the literacy level of the testator, including whether she signed her name or used an "X." Probate records can also help establish death dates of family members. Finding exact or even approximate death dates for women can be difficult.

Early estate inventories can give insight into family wealth and possessions. For example, since cloth was not produced

Calendar of Meetings for 2014

Saturdays, 10 a.m., Falmouth Public Library

July 12 - *Tracing Your Family Health History*, Carol Bosworth

(Carol is a Worcester County RN and an instructor at Quinsigamond Community College.)

August 9 - *Writing a Genealogical Sketch*, Ralph Wadleigh

September 13 - *Workshop for Beginners*, a panel discussion

October 11 - *Organizing a Family Reunion*, Donna Walcovy

November 8 - *Immigration Research*, Rhonda McClure of NEHGS (Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Society, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Wianno Ave., Osterville)

December 13 - Annual Food Fest and Holiday Party



Speaker, Alice Stelzer (showing her book) with members of the Falmouth Genealogical Society.

in America until well into the 18th century, great value was placed on imported clothing, and household linens are often listed, evaluated, and sometimes described in detail.

Original wills and other probate records are usually kept in official county repositories. Personal or family copies have often been lost. In many European countries it is necessary to know the parish of death to find original or digitized probate records.

Ms. Stelzer is the author of *Female Adventurers who Helped Colonize Massachusetts and Connecticut*, wherein she created brief biographies of twelve women based on records she located and analyzed. She encourages others to trace the histories of women in their families, as well. See David Burt's review of Ms Stelzer's book on page 23 of this newsletter.

For keeping track of probate records being digitized consult Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter at <http://blog.eogn.com> and Michael Leclerc's blog at <http://blog.mocavo.com>.

Many onsite and digitized wills can be found on NEHGS' web site <http://americanancestors.org>.

For wills in the United States: www.archives.gov.

For English wills drawn up since 1858 consult: http://www.familyrelatives.com/information/info_detail.php?id=109

For Irish wills: http://www.familyrelatives.com/search/search_irishwills.php

For Quaker wills: http://familyrelatives.com/search/search_quakers.php



LOYALIST MIGRATIONS LEAVING & RETURNING TO THE STATES

MAY 10, 2014, PROGRAM PRESENTED BY CHIEF
PAUL BUNNELL, UE

Paul was so grateful to return to his Genealogical Society beginnings at Falmouth. He began his talk on how the American loyalists were affected after the end of The American Revolution in 1783. Detailed statistics, dates, and numbers were presented which explained how 150,000 loyalist soldiers, their families, and refugees were removed from the United States. Many new homes were carved out by these fleeing loyalists in England, Bermuda, Bahamas, Sierra Leone, Jamaica, Dominica, Islands of St. Vincent, and mainly in Canada.

Support from the British for these loyalists fell short; very little material support and nearly no compensation for all their losses in the States was delivered. Saint John City (Parr Town), Nova Scotia, (later to be New Brunswick) became a city of 10,000 tents with many starving loyalists, little food, and the rich stealing from the small garden patches the farmers grew. Around 1786 in New Brunswick, unhappiness over unfair land grants nearly led that province to become the 14th state in the U.S. Instead, it became the Loyalist Province with Saint John City becoming the Loyalist city.

Black loyalists got their freedom for serving the King, but their rewards were nothing close to what their white counterparts received. This led to riots in Shelburne, Nova Scotia. Until the 1790's, when hard negotiations with England were finally successful, the Blacks were given a few ships to sail to their new life in Sierra Leone, Africa. This proved a bigger disaster for them with 90% of them dying there of disease or starvation.

From 1830 to 1860, many of the descendants of the loyalists returned to the U.S., seeking new lands, jobs, and opportunities. After 1784, many loyalists themselves snuck back into the States, not to their home towns, but they came across and settled just over the border in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and also New York and Michigan.



Jerry Luby and Paul Bunnell

Paul ended his talk by listing the names of many Cape Cod loyalists and where they ended up, as well as other Cape engagements and historical notes. He also outlined some notorious loyalists who stood out.



FGS JUNE 2014 ANNUAL MEETING

President Ralph Wadleigh opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. Reading of the minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting was dispensed with by general agreement.

Treasurer Ed Shibata reported approximately \$5,500 in the checking account and CD's for \$4,000 and \$5,000. Dues for the current year are now due. The Society presented Ed a gift in thanks for his nine years of service as treasurer and membership chair.

Library Chair Jan Zlatev reported that there were about 1/3 fewer clients in 2013-2014 than in the previous year for research assistance at the library on Tuesday afternoons. FGS continues to pay part of the yearly fees for Ancestry and Heritage Quest to be available on library computers.

A Publicity chair is needed.

Donna Walcovy needs volunteers to honor veterans of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, by researching their biographies.

Past officers of FGS, present at the meeting included Eleanor Baldic, Robert Rice, and Joyce Pendery.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT
PRESENTED AT JUNE 2014
ANNUAL MEETING

Ralph Wadleigh

whplar@comcast.net

Today brings an end to my term as President. With your new, about to be elected President, Mary Barry, I am confident in the future of our society. Mary will be a great leader thanks to her organizational skills and the support of our energetic board of directors. Without a doubt, the Society will continue to provide educational, research, and social support to area genealogists and family historians.

Looking over the past five years, we accomplished a number of significant things. Most importantly we survived in a world where a number of other similar societies have dropped from the scene. We published an index of the obituaries from *The Falmouth Enterprise* from 1960 to 2012, we continued to work on the cemetery transcription project, we invited a number of important genealogical speakers to Falmouth, we continued to support and benefit from NERGC, and we maintained and even grew our sound financial condition. We also assisted numerous folks at our Tuesday afternoon help session here at the library. The one, somewhat frustrating, unfinished task is the introduction of a new website, but work is again underway on that project.

I want to express my thanks to all the members of the Board of Directors who served with me. I could not have carried on without your guidance and support. I also want to thank our faithful members who come to our meetings. Their attendance proves that we are doing something of worth.

Finally, I am pleased to report that I will continue to serve on the Board as Program Chair. Hopefully we will continue to attract noteworthy speakers and a wide variety of topics.

Thank you again for allowing me to be your leader and representative for the past five years.

Ralph



Ralph Wadleigh and Mary Barry

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS, JUNE 2014 – JUNE 2015

OFFICERS

President	Mary Barry	Secretary/Clerk	Dottie Priest
1st Vice President	Open	Treasurer	Gerard Luby
2nd Vice President	Richard Harbison		

DIRECTORS

Library	Jan Zlatev	Publications	David Burt
Membership	Ray Howe	Publicity	Marianne Shafer
NERGC Representative	Phyllis Day	Website	Jeramie Hammond
Newsletter	Joyce Pendery	At Large	Robert Chase
Nominating	Donna Walcovy	At Large	Joan Croce
Program	Ralph Wadleigh	At Large	Susan Hutchinson

BOOK REVIEWS

Hite, Richard: *Sustainable Genealogy: Separating Fact from Fiction in Family Legends*. The author is State Records Coordinator of the Rhode Island State Archives and started his own family genealogy in 1979, working with his father. The book is available through CLAMS.

Hite explains how to avoid the pitfalls of believing family legends as truth. Just because your surname is that of someone famous, it does not follow that you are related. We are all told to start with ourselves and work backwards, but sometimes family stories claim an ancestor who is not really yours. Getting sidetracked keeps you from finding the true story of “your” family.

Sustainable Genealogy has 11 chapters, each dealing with a specific topic that can lead the researcher astray. The first chapter is on oral history, the stories told about your ancestors, and the errors that creep into these tales as they are passed on. Hite also tells about “written” oral histories which are published in county or family histories (usually with no documentation). Even a primary source such as a death certificate may be wrong if the person giving the information is not familiar with the deceased.

Other chapters deal with ethnic origins of surnames and maiden names of female ancestors. The author points out that claims to relationships to royalty or wealth are difficult to prove. Claims of Native American ancestry are usually unfounded. Only in certain geographical parts of the US is this a feasible choice. In Canada there is more of a chance of having a Native American ancestor. Some researchers unable to find a maiden name “decide” the ancestor was Native American and this information gets printed in a family history.

Military service of an ancestor is another area open to misinformation. Great-uncle John may have served in a war, but he was a private, not a major. Check birthdates and dates of supposed service. Sometimes the veteran is of a different generation or not a direct ancestor.

Hite writes about using DNA to help solve some questions of ancestry. He uses many examples from his own family history showing how “facts” can change over time in retelling. There is a lot of “food for thought” in this book.

Jan Zlatev

Stelzer, Alice Plouchard: *Female Adventurers, The Women who Helped Colonize Massachusetts and Connecticut*. 2013 Merriack Media, ISBN 978-1-939166-21-0.

Alice Stelzer gave an interesting talk to the Falmouth Genealogical Society on April 12, and had a number of her books to sell. I picked one up because since my father came from Connecticut, I am practically sure that I am related to some of these women if not most of them.

As she did in her talk, the author explains the frustrating fact that colonial women are not treated the same as the men in the records that are kept. More often than not, the maiden name of a woman is totally missing from the records, and hence it becomes very difficult to trace the maternal line. Unfazed by this inconvenient fact, the author manages to cull enough information about a dozen women to paint vivid pictures of their lives and the difficulties they encountered.

The result is a series of stories based on facts in the record, but filled in with plausible conjecture based on what the author knows about the conditions of the times. This is a history of colonial women, and the resulting picture is one of true heroism. While the men of the period showed great strength of character, the women are often the unsung heroines, sometimes as the wives of two or more of the men, and the mothers of many in a tremendous period of our New England History.

Probably from a genealogist’s point of view the most valuable thing is the extensive set of notes and bibliography following each chapter.

C. David Burt

Woodard, Colin: *American Nations – A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America*, Viking – Penguin Books, New York, 2011.

This broadly brushed cultural history of North America takes the reader from the first European arrivals right up to the present day and presents a thesis of why today’s political structures are the product of seeds sown centuries ago when immigrants of different cultures came to America. The eleven nations discussed are First Nation, New France, Yankeedom, New Netherlands, Tidewater, Greater Appalachia, Deep South, El Norte, Midlands, Far West and Left Coast. Each nation is shown to have a particular set of values, some shared and some opposed. The friction and

competition between the values and goals of each nation are evident in both historic and current events.

Most interesting to the genealogist is the concise reporting on the origin and make up of each nation, especially with respect to the importation and establishment of their respective values here in the United States. Each nation is covered by a founding chapter. Reading the details makes it possible to place immigrants in broad historical perspectives.

For example, Woodard writes: "Greater Appalachia started as a civilization without a government." It was peopled by Borderlanders, a "clan-based warrior culture from the borderlands of the British Empire." New Netherland was "an unabashedly commercial settlement with little concern for either social cohesion or the creation of a model society."

If one has a particular ancestor who immigrated as part of or into one of these nations, it is possible to begin to understand what that individual may have valued as part of his or her social/economic environment. This book is a good choice for family historians and is available through CLAMS.

Ralph Wadleigh



THE HIRAM HALL FAMILY OF NORTH FALMOUTH

By Charlet Roskovich

[Editor's note: Discover how Charlet's act of genealogical kindness turned into a significant find for someone she did not know.]

In February 2014, I volunteered to take a FindAGrave (www.findagrave.com) photo of the Hiram Hall headstone in the North Falmouth Cemetery for "Joyce" who lives in Texas. When I saw that two of the Hall children died in 1904 at very young ages (7 and 3 years old), I became curious and wondered if it was due to influenza or a horrible accident. My husband, Ed, knew where the Hall family had lived, so in addition to the photo of the headstone, I took a photo of the Hall house, currently owned by George and Barbara Hampson. Barbara Hampson shared the obituary for young Marjorie and Walter Hall, which reads:

The Falmouth Enterprise, October 8, 1904: "Very sad event occurred in the village this past week. Hiram F. Hall's three children were taken very sick and poisoned by eating horse chestnuts. One child [Marjorie] aged 7 died at 10:25 a.m. Monday and Walter at 10:45 p.m. Funeral in the church on Thursday."

After that, I decided to find out why their son, Norman Hall, died at age 20. His very long obituary states, in part:

The Falmouth Enterprise, February 14, 1920: "The Community was greatly saddened on Wednesday, Feb. 14th, to learn of the death of Norman Francis Hall, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram F. Hall, which occurred that day at the Relief Hospital, Cambridge, with pneumonia following an attack of the influenza. At the outset of his illness, while at the home of his uncle in Watertown, his mother was sent for to help care for him. Soon after Mrs. Hall's arrival she contracted the prevalent epidemic and both were removed to the hospital....The deceased was in his 20th year, born in this village Feb. 24th 1899. He graduated from Lawrence High School in the Class of 1919. [Many biographical details follow.] Owing to the lack of train service, his remains were not able to arrive until Monday. The funeral was held that day from the village church.... Internment was in the family lot... A small sister with his parents, to whom the deepest sympathy is extended, are the close surviving relatives."

Hiram F. Hall's obituary was in *The Falmouth Enterprise* on June 11, 1948. It states, in part:

"For many years prominent in the church and social life of North Falmouth, Hiram Frederick Hall died yesterday at Tobey Hospital after an illness of five days. Mr. Hall was 78 this past January. He was born in North Falmouth, the son of John W. Hall and Mary P. Nye Hall and had lived there all his life....He is survived by his wife, Ada C. Hall, a sister, Mrs. Bertha E. Wright, both of North Falmouth and one daughter, Mrs. Robert H. Potts of Cobleskill, N.Y. The funeral will be held Monday in the North Falmouth Congregational Church at 2 p.m. The Rev. Phillip Adams Job will officiate. Internment will be in North Falmouth Cemetery."

And lastly, part of the obituary of Ada C. Hall, from *The Falmouth Enterprise*, April 10, 1953:

"Mrs. Ada C. Hall, 76, life-long resident of North Falmouth, died Wednesday at the home of her daughter,

Mrs. Vera Potts, in Cobleskill, N.Y., after a long illness. She had lived with her daughter since the death of her husband, Hiram F. Hall, in 1948, when she sold her North Falmouth home to Frank Oglivie of Newton to move to Cobleskill. Born in Cataumet in January 1877, Mrs. Hall was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Chadwick. She attended Cataumet school and was wed on New Years Eve, 1897, at Cataumet Methodist Church. Mr. and Mrs. Hall celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1947 at a community Reception.... One son, Norman, died in 1920 of influenza.... [Note no mention of two children who died in 1904.] Survivors include Mrs. Potts and a granddaughter, Ellen Louise Potts; two sisters, Mrs. Myra Merritt of Cataumet and Mrs. Estelle Elliott of Woods Hole; a brother James F. Chadwick of Cataumet, and several nieces and nephews.

Charlet continues: "Luckily, Ada and Hiram Hall had a fourth child who survived, Vera (Hall) Potts, born in 1910. At least one horse chestnut tree stands on Old Main Road near the four corners. It makes one wonder how many other children ate poisonous horse chestnuts that fell from those trees in North Falmouth and are also buried in the cemetery."

[Editor's Note: Charlet's account of her curiosity and additional research shows how much genealogical, personal, and community information can be found in obituaries - in this case, covering members of four generation of a North Falmouth family, plus many details about the community and life there.]



MEMBERS: We need your contributions for the Newsletter! A book review, such as those by Ralph, David, and Jan in this issue; a description of research you have done, like Charlet's article; a web site you love; how you met cousins online, etc., etc. etc. You can send them anytime to the Editor.



DIGITIZED NEWSPAPERS

Digitized versions of many newspapers, including *The Falmouth Enterprise* from 1896 to 1962, are available online. Google the newspaper name, or enter the email address, such as www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org and on their home page, look for the digital archive link.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

#443: Jean E. Whitten of Marston Mills, MA. Jean is researching Britten in New Brunswick/Nova Scotia in 1780-90; Pierce in Bridgewater/Middleboro before 1775; Geggate in Falmouth in the 1790's; and Fish in Falmouth/Sandwich in 1750-1800.

#444: Paco de la Fuente of Tallahassee, FL. He is researching Lewis. George arrived in 1632 and his grandparents Arthur R. and Grace Hall Lewis, etc., are buried in the family plot at Oak Grove Cemetery, Falmouth.



JOHN COLLETTA TO SPEAK IN BREWSTER, Saturday, August 2, 2014

Cape Cod Genealogical is sponsoring a special presentation on Saturday, August 2nd, at Brewster Ladies Library, featuring well known genealogist and author John Colletta. John, a professional genealogist, is the author of several books on genealogy and family history research and an instructor at the Boston University Summer Genealogical Institute. Long-time members may remember that John was the featured speaker at the 2003 Falmouth Genealogical Society Conference held at Seacrest Resort.

From 10:30 a.m. to noon, John will speak on 'Putting Your Ancestors in Historical Context,' and from 1:30 to 3:30 he will conduct a workshop on "Writing Your Family History." The fee for each lecture is \$15 if paid by June 30; after that it is \$20. To register, send your check made out to CCGS, with indication of which lecture(s) you will attend, along with you name and mail or email address to CCGS, Box 1394, Harwich, MA 02645.

FGS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership dues for fiscal year FY15 (June 2014 through May 2015) of \$20.00 per year is due on June 1, 2014. Kindly remit your check made payable to Falmouth Genealogical Society P.O. Box 2107, Teaticket, MA. 02536-2107 or bring your check to the next monthly meeting.