



Special points of interest:

- Next meeting: Wednesday, July 16th
- Open positions on the Executive Board
- New Column: Resolving Research Riddles
- Information on Upcoming Maine Genealogical Society Conference

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PENOBSCOT COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Penobscot Roots & Connections

Editor: Patti Mower, 185 Norfolk Street, Bangor ME 04401 Phone: (207) 942-9375 E-Mail: Kruznmama@aol.com

Quandaries, Questions & Quizzical Quests .. a roundtable discussion with fellow members

Wednesday, July 16th, 6:00 pm

Conference Room, Department of Human Services, Bangor, Maine (see directions on page 4)

In our quests to expand our ancestral pedigrees and learn about our forebears, both their identities and their lives, we inevitably come across gray areas if we are lucky, and gaping black holes if we are not so lucky. When we stumble into these regions, it is great to have a guiding hand, or at least, someone to talk through your hypothesis to see if it makes sense. Sometimes, we just feel like we are hitting our heads against a brick wall and are not sure how to break through or enough confidence to start trying to climb over it. This month we are going to gather 'round and discuss each other's research quandaries, questions and, yes, even successes.

One of the greatest assets within our group is the experience that each of us has had along our own re-search path. We've all had our share of disappointments and victories. Sharing our stories can help others avoid the bumps and hopefully direct at least someone onto an avenue of triumph.

This is a great opportunity to get to know one another, and maybe connect with another member researching either the same family or the same town records that you are.

The success of this meeting depends on you. We think it can be a great chance to pick up some research hints. So bring your quandaries, questions and quizzical quests and lets talk about them. And remember, tales of your conquest are just as important to share.

President's Message

First, an apology for the tardiness in the issuance of this month's newsletter. Between work and a vacation in New Brunswick I neglected to get the information together for Patti to pull this together.

While in New Brunswick I experienced a true benefit of someone unselfishly sharing information on the internet. I had been searching for the grave of my 2nd great grandmother Jane (Thompson) Terrill, her husband being buried in Old Town. The only information I had been able to collect was that she had died in Eel Lake River in New Brunswick—a town that fails to appear on most New Brunswick maps, although I suspected it was near the First Eel Lake and the Second Eel Lake in York County. I happened upon a website at rootsweb.com during a routine internet search that listed the few individuals buried in the Chapman Cemetery in Maxwell, New Brunswick. Lo and behold, there was my Jane Terrill, along with two of her children who had died young. A Bill Boone had recorded the information and included directions on how to locate the cemetery. So we set off, Maxwell not appearing on maps and the information centers not sure of it's location, but the directions had been reliable enough that we had no trouble locating it on an old dirt road. The cemetery was actually near the Maine border, but kilometers off any road I would have traveled on. I was excited and I thought how great that someone sharing such a small piece of information, perhaps trivial to them, could aid someone else so much.

It exemplified so well my philosophy that knowledge is useless unless it is shared.

Dale



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Queries

Brown/Palmer Seeking info on Hannah C. BROWN who married Charles H. PALMER about 1860. She was born in Brooklyn, New York; died 1902. Charles was born 13 Nov. 1835; died 1926. Both are buried in Exeter Mills Cemetery, Penobscot Co., Maine. Does anyone know her exact date of death as this would help in getting her death certificate? Does anyone know anything about her parents, William and Sarah BROWN? William BROWN was born in Massachusetts; his wife Sarah was born in New York. William BROWN served in the Navy during the War of 1812 but there appears to be no official record from the period. His ship was captured and he was taken to England as a prisoner of war. His wife was of "Knickerbocker lineage." Andrew Hendricks [e-mail: drh@carolina.net]

Gillpatrick/Gilpatrick Researching Benjamin GILLPATRICK who married Lydia CROSS on 2 Mar. 1810 in Orono. Also interested in any GILLPATRICK or CROSS that might have lived in this area. Benjamin and Lydia had the following children: Anna; Amanda; Jacob (b. 28 Sep. 1817 in Bangor); Sarah; and Thomas (b. ca. 1822 in Ohio). It appears that Benjamin and Lydia left Maine between 1820-1822 from the last 2 births. Benjamin's father's name possibly Thomas GILLPATRICK and he left Maine about the time Benjamin did. Chris Landes [e-mail: bclandes@iland.net]

Heiskell Looking for info on Mildred FOSTER and her husband William HEISKELL. She d. 22 Apr. 1917 in Bangor. They had a dau. Ethal who married Henry WOOD; she d. 17 Nov. 1965 in Bangor. Rhonda [e-mail: ilihny@aol.com]

Hilmershausen Does anyone know of any info on a HILMER-SHAUSEN in Penobscot County, unsure of the name or names of who they could be. There was a book published by a Lydia Harmon in which a HILMERSHAUSEN was mentioned. Herman Hilmershausen [e-mail: herjoy@dwave.net]

Leonard Seeking info as to the parentage of Maria LEONARD, who married Lewis POMROY 1806 in Hampden. Ruth Leathers [e-mail: r.leathers@attbi.com]

Lunt Looking for info on Albert William LUNT, b. 24 June 1836, last seen on the 1860 census in Bangor. Rhonda [e-mail: ilihny@adelphia.net]

Lunt Looking for info on George and Hattie LUNT from Norridgewock. He d. 7 Jan. 1965. They had 3 daughters: Genevive (LUNT) STYMAN b. ca. 1908; Persis (LUNT) DEVINE b. ca. 191; and Viona LUNT b. ca. 1909. All born in Bangor area and at one point when young lived with their grandmother Genie HOWES in Bangor. Rhonda [e-mail: ilihny@adelphia.net]

Pumroy/Brown/Doyen Seeking info on Joseph PUMROY (b. 1770 in Hampden) who married Susanna BROWN at Hermon in 1799. Both Joseph and Susanna probably died in Levant. Their children: Dilly, Elijah, Asa, Betsey (who married Ebenezer DOYEN in 1869 in Levant), ?olin, Gideon, Olive, Susannah H., Abigail, Joseph, and Lusanna(?). Dot Walker [e-mail: bozrah@aol.com]

Titcomb/Young/Dearborn Looking for cemeteries that the TIT-COMB, YOUNG, and DEARBORN families would be buried in. I know that at one point in time they all lived in Corinna, Maine, but am lead to believe that they may have moved to Exeter, Maine. Any leads would be appreciated. Debbie Whitehouse [e-mail: dwhitehouse@prexar.com]

Scribner Seeking information regarding Aaron and Diadoma SCRIBNER and children. They operated a half-way house in Patten in 1856 or 1865? Several deaths by fire in either of those years took place-possibly both of them and some of the 11 children they had. Looking to locate the burial place and more info on what a half-way house was. Marilyn Winter [e-mail: landm.winter@sasktel.net]

Sewall/Call Looking for the family of George SEWALL born 10 May 1818; sons George Frederick (b. 5 May 1842, living in Orono in 1904); Rinaldo and Stephan. George F. was married to Louise CALL b. in Bradley 27 Sept. 1842. They married in Penobscot County 25 Nov. 1861. At some point she moved to Milford and lived on Call Rd. Appreciate any info on any of these folks as they hide real well. [e-mail: Ofhmhe@aol.com]



GenBytes...Recommendations for Internet Research

The first ever international virtual genealogy conference is taking place in cyber space right now and has been extended until the middle of August. Family History Radio is the host for "Genealogy Research in the Digital Millennium, Finding Your Ancestors Without Leaving Home." Here you can attend a multitude of sessions and lectures, as well as visit vendor exhibits and booths at your own convenience and from the comfort of your own living room, front porch or wherever you connect to the internet. For more details, visit www.familyhistoryradio.com.

An interesting site to take a look at for those with English ancestry, or for the curious, is The Proceedings of the Old Bailey London 1674 to 1834. This is a fully-searchable database of accounts of criminal trials held at London's famous central criminal court. 22,000 trials from 1714 to 1759 are currently available. The Old Bailey website is www.oldbaileyonline.org.

Genealogical Highlights from Across Maine

MOCA (Maine Old Cemetery Association) will be holding it's Summer Meeting on July 19th at the Enterprise Grange Hall in Richmond, Maine. Jay Robbins will be giving a brief history of that region as well as an architectural walking tour of Richmond's Historical District. For more information, visit MOCA's website www.rootsweb.com/~moca or contact Dale Mower at 942-9375.

On Dale's Bookcase

I recently finished reading **After Long Silence** by Helen Fremont [1999: Delacorte Press, New York] after becoming aware of the book during a visit to Champlain College where it is the required reading for all their students this summer.

Helen Fremont captures her unique and extraordinary genealogical quest superbly. Her first hurdle was coming to grip with the fact that her parents were Jewish, despite the fact that Helen was raised as a Roman Catholic. She discovers that both of her parents are Holocaust survivors, inventing new names, identities and taking on a new religion to hide from the past.

Helen and her sister are dogged in their search to unearth their family roots. This memoir captures their trail as they slowly chip away at the powerful bond of secrecy that her parents have cloaked themselves in for four decades. Despite what might have been an insurmountable brick wall to many, Helen digs for answers and travels to her parents' homelands for clues.

Helen Fremont offers up a compelling chronicle of breaking through barriers and getting at the truth of her family's history, capturing the tragedy of the Holocaust and its devastation. The author does interweave her coming to terms with lesbianism into the story of coming to understand her parents' history. I understand why she includes this, as her family has lived with secrets for her entire life and she wants them all exposed and the veil lifted from her family in its entirety. That withstanding, **After Long Silence** is an emotional read, an insightful look into one person's genealogical travels to uncover her unspoken roots, as well as a poignant look into the tragedies of the Holocaust.

Reading Early American Handwriting

The Society has a copy of the VHS tape by Kip Sperry "Reading Early American Handwriting" that is available for members to borrow.



If you'd like to get on the list to borrow this tape, e-mail mepcgs@yahoo.com

Resolving Research Riddles

In keeping with the theme of this month's meeting, we are going to try starting this new column in our monthly newsletter to attempt to answer those questions related to research. We are all familiar with the Queries section where we try to find more information related to specific individuals or families. What is lacking is a place to ask questions related to research—for example: where are certain records located, how to access that information, or how do you differentiate between conflicting information. If you have a question, send the specifics to us and we will run the question in the newsletter. Then we will follow up with responses we receive from other members so that all can benefit from your question.

For example, one of our queries this month contained the question about half-way houses in the mid-1800s. Does anyone know what a half-way house was—was it a home for recovering addicts or possibly a house half-way between two towns where travelers could rest? If anyone can shed some info on this, please let us know.

Please Consider...

because we need your help!



As we look forward to the upcoming membership year, we are seeking people interested in helping PCGS continue to move forward. To help achieve the variety and quality of programs that we offer at our monthly membership meetings, it is essential that we have a good mix of volunteers on our Executive Committee.

For the upcoming membership year we have the following positions which we will need to fill:

Vice-President: This position works closely with the president to ensure that the Society is meeting member needs and expectations, assists with planning and serve in the President's place should he/she be absent.

Cemetery Project Chairperson This position will continue to expand the information the Society has as to locations and contact information for Penobscot County cemeteries and work with interested members to set up a network for answering queries related to gravestones in Penobscot County towns.

Research Chairperson This position shall help establish and coordinate a committee to assist with queries and requests for research in the Penobscot County area.

This is a great way to become involved. If you are interested please contact Dale Mower [942-9375 or DWMower@aol.com].

New Members

David Ellis
23 West St, Dolgeville, New York

Laura Gould
PO Box 1525, Hillsboro, New Hampshire

Robert Henderson
456 Pleasant St, Dracut, Massachusetts

Orlando King
PO Box 23, Steuben, Maine

Evangeline Mitchell
17808 73rd Pl W, Edmonds, Washington

Judy Tozier
PO Box 66, Guilford, Maine

R. LaVerne Williams
26127 NW Williams Canyon Rd, Gaston, Oregon

Penobscot County Genealogical Society

185 Norfolk Street
Bangor ME 04401

Phone: 207-942-9375
E-Mail: mepcgs@yahoo.com



Officers

President: Dale Mower
Vice-President: Annette Roberts
Treasurer: Phil Getchell
Secretary: Beth Davis
Newsletter Chair: Patti Mower
Program Chair: John Nelligan
Nominating Chair: Janiece Enriquez



“Telling Their Stories”

is the theme for this year's Maine Genealogical Society's Annual Conference will be held on Saturday, September 6th in Fairfield, Maine.

Nationally acclaimed speaker Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG will be featured. Ms. Hatcher is a nationally recognized author and lecturer. She is the author of the recently released book [Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestors Using Land Records](#).

Not only will she be discussing what it takes to produce a quality Family History, but she will give ideas about how to “Turn Paper into People—Adding Context.” Databases and family group sheets encourage us to treat our ancestral families as data—just names, dates and places. But they were people, real people. How can we share that in our family histories?

There is still time to register:

For more info, call Dale at (207) 942-9375

or visit

www.rootsweb.com/~memgs/MaineGS.htm

Car Pool Information

For those who want to attend, but need a ride to the conference, Dale still has a couple seats available for those interested in joining his group. If you would like to claim one, contact him soon.

Of Note to Greenlaw Descendants

We have received correspondence from “Greenlaw 250” which shares detailed information on the 250th anniversary celebration of the arrival of the Greenlaws on the coast of Maine in 1753, and the US/Canadian reunion for all of the descendants of William and Jane Greenlaw.

This event is scheduled for August 14th-16th, with activities on the 15th devoted to Greenlaw genealogy.

If you are interested in learning more, Dale has the packet of information [DWMower@aol.com or 942-9375] or you can contact Stephen Holmes Snell, Coordinator for Greenlaw 250 at 1106 Belle View Blvd, #C2, Alexandria, VA 22307, telephone 703-768-4708

Directions to Department of Human Services

DHS is located on Griffin Road, near the Union Street intersection.

From downtown, go out Union Street until you get to set of lights just past the Airport Mall (Fleet Bank will be on your left). Turn left.

From Route 15 (or Broadway), at light by Kevlan, turn left if coming from town (right if coming from Glenburn/Dover), travel straight through. Third set of lights is at intersection of Union Street.

Once past the intersection, DHS is 3rd building on the right. Take the first driveway between USAthletics and DHS, go around back and park in large lot. There are stairs and a ramp that lead up to back door which will be open. Conference room is just inside to the left. Signs will be up.