



Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, June 18th, 6:00 pm
Annual cookout social at Hose 5 Fire Museum
Rain Date: 25th

Saturday, July 12th, time to be announced at meeting or
email towncrier2@yahoo.com
Mount Pleasant Cemetery tour
Rain Date: 19th

Wednesday, August 20th
Fogler Library at the University of Maine, Orono
Meet there around 5:30 to 5:45 pm

*Please refer to the President's message for more information or
check out our Society's website for upcoming programs and
events.*

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY SUMMER!

Ah, at last the summer season has arrived and we are all waiting for the BBQs to begin. Well wait no longer as our June Social will be coming right up in a couple of weeks. But before we get into that I would like to recap what happened at our last meeting and at the Genealogy for Kids John Nelligan set up for 24th of May at the Bangor Public Library in the Children's Room.

For our last meeting on the 21st of May we talked about getting past Roadblocks and Brick Walls having a few members giving their stories on how and what they found. I guess the best way according to John Albertini, our V.P., is to just get you Surname out there in cyberspace on as many bulletin boards as possible and wait to see what happens. Sometimes it can be as quick as the next day or as late as the next week, month or year.

On Saturday, 24 May 2008, John Nelligan, one of our members, had a Genealogy for Kids Program in the

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Articles accepted for publication must be of genealogical nature.

Share your research experiences (your successes and your disappointments) or information about your Penobscot County ancestors.

Submissions should be forwarded to the Newsletter Editor.



QUERIES

To post a query, email mepcgs@yahoo.com

PLEASE NOTE:

We are getting an overwhelming amount of SPAM in our email account each month. To make sure a legitimate query is not missed please type the word QUERY at the beginning of the subject field. Thank you!

DAVIS

Sarah Jane Davis born 7 Nov 1817, I would like to find out who were her parents and where she was born in Maine. Sarah married Jonas Prouty in Bangor 9 Oct 1844. Jonas was from Hampden, Me. I found Mary Ann Davis born in Bangor, Me but married George Cawon in Hampden Maine. Did she marry him or did she change her name to Sarah?

Thank You

Elaine

Mag1938@aol.com

KING

I would like information about the following family: John and Mary (Devereux) King of Orrington, Maine.

John and Mary King were married 12 Apr 1834. They had 13 children; John D. b: 9 Apr 1835, George E. b: 19 Jun 1836, Martha O. b: 10 Sep 1837, Ruby b: 18 Nov 1838, Amos b: 4 Mar 1840, Abbie b: 23 Oct 1841, Jabez Wood (my ancestor) b: 5 Jun 1843, Martha O. b: 19 Apr 1845, William D. b: 25 Oct 1846, Mary S. b: 5 Mar 1849, Anna D. b: 6 Nov 1851, Edw. E. b: 6 Jun 1857, and Charles S. b: 18 Sept 1858.

All the above is per the History of Orrington Maine by H. Russell Cox and David L. Swett and on page 269. Per the above reference it states John King's parents were Samuel and Mary (Rodney) King - I would love to find some document confirming this!

Jody Gonda

JodyGonda4@yahoo.com

HURD

I am searching for the family of James Hurd and Lydia (Hamm) Hurd of Veazie. They and their children are buried at Mt Hope and I am in hopes to find information on their children's family. Their daughter, Margaret Hurd is my great-great grandmother but am searching for information on her siblings. Here is the information I have:

James Hurd (father)	B: 1841
Born 1805	Died: 1867
Died 1886	married Alvida Page
Lydia Hamm Hurd	Naomi Hurd
(mother)	B: 1845
Born 1813	Died 1932
Died 1884	never married
<u>Children:</u>	William Hurd
Margaret Hurd	B:1847
Born 1833	Died 1910
Died 1898	Married Mary C Powers
Elizabeth T. Hurd	George Hurd
B: 1835	B: 1851
Died 1905	Died 1879
married John Cutting Dun-	Married Marry Ella Hasey
bar	Emma M Hurd
Eley D Hurd	Born 1856
B 1839	Married Charles Wright
Samuel D Hurd	

Would like to find out more about the Hurd children and their families, hope that someone may recognize a name.

Terri Weed Cormier

dukenell@verizon.net

PHOTO OF PINE TREE HALL

A library patron would like to find a photograph of Pine Tree Hall on Eddington Bend, Maine. Back in her youth, this structure used to be a dance hall. It burned down on November 1, 1936. This structure was built as a Universalist Church originally in 1790. In 1845, after a schism or such, the church members opted to move to another building. The Town of Eddington acquired the building and rented this space to various entities. At one time, the Good Templars Order of Eastern Maine held meetings there. Other activities also took place within, like dancing, dancing, dancing.

If anyone has an image of the Pine Tree Hall, please contact Elizabeth at esteve@bpl.lib.me.us

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 President's Message continued...

Children's Area at the Bangor Public Library. He had worked with Ann Mundy, the Children's Librarian to have a program for young people between the ages of 10 and early teens to get them interested in Family History. Well that Saturday he got three young men to attend and sit through the Dale and Phil Show for an hour, which was a feat in itself. Well they did and were rewarded with a lunch that John had provided via a donation from Leadbetter's Subs and they also got a Society mouse pad, pen, and 15 generation chart. A follow up on what they have found in researching back in their family's history over the summer will be asked for and hopefully if a good report has been done, it can get printed in the Bangor Daily News under the Family Ties column. We are also hoping to do another program maybe in the late fall/early winter.

Now in the coming summer months we are having our annual cookout social at the Hose 5 Fire Museum located at 247 State Street in Bangor on the 18th of June at 6 O'Clock in the evening. It will not be a meeting per say, just a get together for some hot dogs, hamburgers and onion rings and have some fun. We'll have Bill Tuck there too to tell us some tales of yesteryear and the fires of Bangor. A tour of the fire house can be arranged as well. We're waiting for a rain date if needed.

In July on Saturday the 12th, we'll meet at Mount Pleasant Cemetery for a tour of the old Irish Section with John Frawley. We tried this last year and it rained that day which cut down on the number who came. This year we have a rain date of the 19th just in case. So those who missed it last year, come this year as John gives a great talk on the area and some of the folk buried there.

Our August meeting on the 20th will be at the Fogler Library at the University of Maine in Orono. We should meet there around 5:30 - 5:45 P.M. so that the librarian assigned can get us up to the Special Collections Room first and show what they have available and then downstairs to the Microfilm area and Vital Records/ Census files on film. If rides are needed, contact me by 01 August and we'll get a car pool together. Parking will be at the Lord Hall Visitors Parking Lot and you can request a map from me at towncrier2@yahoo.com.

Best Regards

Phil



At my request my mother wrote the following summary of the February meeting, "Organizing Your Info: Contrasting Views" Presented by Phil Getchell & Dale W. Mower. Those of us who attend PCGS "in spirit" would welcome meeting summaries from other attendees. Just email them to me. Thanks! Jacque

It was a hair pulling contest between Phil & Dale (clearly Dale was at a disadvantage) as they were on opposing sides on how to best organize one's genealogy material. Phil being the "paper" person and Dale all for the computer. I'm sure those in attendance would benefit from both sides. Phil (mainly due to lack of time) is researching only direct ancestors. He maintains folders for each of his families and uses a variety of forms. Many can be downloaded for free from Ancestry.com. On the other hand, Dale scans his info into his computer and eliminates the paper file. He does not destroy legal documentation but once he scans it into the computer may never look at it again. His documentation files are based on surnames and locations, with subcategories such as marriage, deaths, probate etc. Files are based on a 0001-999 numbering system, such as: birth B001; marriage M001 etc. He is fond of his Deluxe Legacy genealogy software.

Cynthia Rump

Queries continued...

I am looking for newspapers from 1801 in Penobscot County. I am especially looking for the articles about Joseph Inman allegedly murdering Oliver Homes (source came from [The New York Times](#), 10/25/1887).

The article I have reads:

A Live Man's Ghost

From the Lewiston (Me) Journal, Oct. 18.

Ghost seem to have played an important part in the early trials of this state. In 1801 a man named Joseph Inman had a preliminary trial at Eddington for murder. He and one Oliver Homes, both residents of Orono, had quarreled, and soon after it was discovered that Homes was missing. One of the most important witnesses against Inman was his own son William, who swore he saw his father strike Homes, The Bangor Historical Magazine has a piece of testimony of this William Inman, as follows:

"I, William Inman, being at a place called Mash's Island on Penobscot River in a house of Joseph Treat, and John Spencer came in with a pint of rum and told me if I would detch some watter I should have some grog to drink with him. I took a pail in my hand and stepped out toward the watter and something appeared before me but I went on and looking about it seemed to be a Gost. I dipped some watter and turned about to go back. It rose right up before me and seemed to go backward. It spoke to me and said you may now no what you wanted to no. Your father was the very man that killed me, and walked away and this I am willing to take my oath of."

Notwithstanding this convincing piece of testimony signed by William Inman's mark, and the fact that Inman was confined in Pownalborough Jail to answer to the charge of murder, the ease never came to trial, for the reason that one day Homes appeared at Orono, having seen in a paper an account of Inman's arrest, to "show people that he was not dead."

INMAN/HOLMES

I am looking for information on Jonathan Inman

born in 1803 in Orono and later moved to Kirkland Twp (now Hudson). He had a daughter named Rosina born in 1830. I am trying to find birth or church records proving he is the father of Rosina.

Jonathan's father is Joseph Inman (died about 1830 in Newburgh, ME) and his wife Lucy Holmes (living in Newburgh about 1840). I am looking for death or Will/Probate Records for them.

Lastly, I am looking for a connection for Lucy Holmes to a father. I have hypothesized that her father may be Jonathan Holmes (she named one of her sons Jonathan). Lucy married Joseph on the Cobentown Plantation (where is this?).

Any advice or suggestions?

I am also interested in any historical facts to show why so many people migrated from MA to ME in the 1780s-1800's. What was the incentives?

Thanks,
Brenda Ozog
ozog@comcast.net

The Gen-Tripper

Keeping with the theme of our last PCGS meeting, Mac Young dumped a pile of bricks at my feet, figuratively speaking, as if to say, "you've got to pave the path first." I suppose I should not have used the term brick wall without first knowing just what this phrase described. In my case, I had sought help from Mac in an effort to find more information on my Great-Great-Great-Grandfather, Isaac Ham. When I had a little trouble tracing back his whereabouts before the 1850 Census, I jumped to the mistaken conclusion that I had encountered the dreaded brick wall. Is it any wonder? My family members had earlier informed me that they simply could not trace the elusive Isaac back, before his arrival in Lakeville (North of Bingham), Maine. Additionally, common knowledge dictates that genealogists, at some point or another, will find him/

Gen-Tripper continued...

herself up against this infamous, and seemingly insurmountable, barrier at some point in their research. Mac's generous offer of advice was to research several more sources to find Isaac's origins: (Census Mortality Schedules, Maine Census records, Lakeville area deeds and probate records, county and local histories, town records (town meetings, etc.), PERSI, the MGS (esp.. the 1790 Census series of early residents), among others. Then, and only then, can I know that I am really up against it!

So, now that I have defined brick wall, I will discuss how other PCGS members broke through it. One common thread ran through their stories, and it had less to do with agency, than destiny. Either genealogists are at heart a fatalistic bunch, or this brick wall phenomenon manifests itself as a quest of epic, if not spiritual proportion. As I listened, I determined that fate, and fate alone, had led my friends to their crucial breakthroughs. One PCGS member shared an unbelievable twist of fate that led them to the promised land. While searching for some trace of ancestors in a cemetery (okay, so maybe I should rephrase this terminology. I don't think that I like where the imagery is going here), he just happened to look up to find a gravestone of interest, with the name of an ancestor whose whereabouts had eluded him for years. His brick wall had been instantly bashed through by the swift, and mighty, hand of Provenance. I, for one, am a true believer in the role of divine intervention on conducting successful genealogical research. Why wouldn't I? I can barely get started with my own!

Another PCGS member shared the amazing tale of a friend who experienced their breakthrough after posting an internet query on rootsweb, I believe (*okay, so I'm not sure. I would have heard it if I hadn't been talking*) that a friend, who lived in the Midwest, or Southern United States was contacted by a person who lived in Canada, maybe in Manitoba or Saskatchewan (*yes, I promise to work on my listening skills*), who asked them if they were related to a certain thus-and-so from their family (*note taking too, yes, I think I would benefit through note taking*). Once again, name-similarity trumps geographical distance to make a believer of the doubtful! Now, these kinfolk regularly correspond (well, regularly may be a stretch, but they did exchange lineage information), and the wall came tumbling down!

At that meeting, I even gained insights though I had only a small bluff to hurdle. Well, as I was talking with another member (*the editor's mom*) I learned that she was related to me through not one, but two family lines! (*I guess listening does pay-off!*) I recalled the name of "Clough" from research that I conducted months ago. I know what you are thinking; it seems horribly unfair, since I have barely begun my own genealogical research. Now, I have a ton of information coming my way, and I even learned that I am descended from European Royalty! Hey, Isaac can wait for now.

I know that such a twist of fate seems terribly unfair and perhaps slightly irritating for those who have struggled for years for such a breakthrough. I don't mean to go on so, but I truly feel blessed to have learned so much with such little effort on my part. I feel awe-struck that I should receive this undeserved gift of Grace. Did I tell you that I just might frame those charts once they arrive? It would be fitting after all: my friends, and family, have always lovingly referred to me as a "Royal Pain!"



Gentle readers, kindly be advised that no secret formula can dissolve, dismantle, or destroy a brick wall. Even after years of painstaking research, one may never find their way through this impenetrable barrier. Do not let your heart be troubled, even though other genealogists effortlessly fall into a seemingly eternal amount of information. You too may find some exciting epiphany on what seems to be an uneventful, wayward path. You just never know when the Genealogical Fates will smile upon you. My advice is for you to pray for a loving, benevolent force to guide you in your quest, or you just might rely upon good old-fashioned dumb luck, the most enduring force in the universe!

Elizabeth

GenBytes by Dale Mower



What do you get when one of the oldest American institutions jumps aboard the Internet superhighway? Well, new avenues to do your cemetery research, of course! With the increase in digital information being uploaded, chances are that you may be able to locate not only the sites of your ancestors' graves, but photographs of their headstones. I've been thinking a lot about this lately as I've been trying to locate the final resting places of some of my Mower relatives in Minnesota.

But let's start with the big news for those of us researching in Bangor. The Portland Diocese has added the interment database from Mt. Pleasant Catholic Cemetery to its website. Surf over to http://www.portlanddiocese.net/genealogy_main.php to access this. I searched the database and quickly located Patti's great-grandfather, Stephen Thibeau. Although the database is only searchable by name, I was able to identify other Thibeaus buried in his lot – there are no gravestones. This is a great resource. A big thank you goes out to Maureen Cormier for bringing this to my attention.

Beyond Bangor, a couple of the larger popular websites that come to mind are <http://www.findagrave.com> (where contributors can upload both transcription info and a photo) and <http://interment.net> (transcription info).

One site that I recently discovered that I think is pretty impressive is www.gravematter.com. I landed there as a result of googling for the gravesite of my 6th-great-grandparents, William and Abigail (Hathorn) Hasey. I found them listed here in the Rumney Marsh Burying Ground in Revere, Massachusetts. The site included a map and a brief history of the Rumney Marsh area. I also discovered that William's parents were buried there as well. And lo and behold, photographs of their slate gravestones with the winged death heads – major cool! But back to the site – its focus is on local New England history and the genealogy of the early ancestors who settled in the area. It does have some interesting stuff, so you'll want to set aside a little time to poke around.

Another standby for me is www.earlymaine.org. You can browse cemeteries in the state or search for individuals. I've even submitted photos to the gravestone project connected with this site (a quick and easy process).

Of course, I also recommend visiting the USGenWeb site (www.usgenweb.com) for the location you are researching, many have cemetery listings or contact info for volunteers in the area that may be able to locate the gravesite for you. Don't forget trying to connect with a volunteer at Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness (www.raogk.com). And do try googling for a genealogical society, historical society or library in the area of interest as well. I've seen cemetery listings in all kinds of places.

And remember, these are by no means comprehensive sites; the info included depends on what others have submitted for inclusion. I close by challenging each of you to upload just one gravestone picture or transcription to one of these websites.

Dale



Tombstone Inscription in a cemetery in England:

Remember man, as you walk by, As you are now, so once was I, As I am now, so shall you be.
Remember this and follow me.

To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:
To follow you I'll not consent ...until I know which way you went.