



Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, February 18th

Guest Speaker: Richard Shaw (see page 4 for details)
Bangor Public Library, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, March 18th

Guest Speaker: Roxanne Moore Saucier
Bangor Public Library, 6:00 pm

Wednesday, April 15th

Guest Speaker: Jack Battick
Bangor Public Library, 6:00 pm

Please check out our Society's website for up-to-date information on events and programs
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mepcgs/>

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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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now with January 2009 gone we can start to look for the warmth of the coming spring and leave the harsh cold to Old Man Winter. As we continue into our 7th year I hope to make use of the funds we have to aide other genealogical groups and libraries in the county, seeking advice and assistance from all of you to take to the Executive Board for their approval. So if you have any ideas, please pass them on to me at towncrier2@yahoo.com.

Our December meeting was cancelled due to the lack of members showing up due to weather and time of the season. I do want to thank the few who braved the elements to attend. This winter season has been rather nasty and a re-look into future December meetings may be discussed at the next Exec. Meeting. It's usually a hard time of the year between the weather and holidays.

John Nelligan's Gen 4 Kids program in December went off very well. He had me give my Introduction to Beginners talk and had 14 youngsters ranging from ages 10 to 15 along with their parents and/or grandparents. He is hoping to do a summer program and is looking for others to assist him in this endeavor. If you are interested please contact him at jnell79gr@verizon.net and he'll be very happy to listen to you.

The January meeting went off very well with our Show and Tell/ Bring a Friend Night. Several members

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THE GEN-TRIPPER

Well, it's February 2009, that dreaded month. During this time of the year, we Mainers typically struggle to become acclimated to the frigid temperatures, and to walk atop the ice at a pace just beyond a crawl without managing to fall on our backsides. Years of experience suggests a particularly disturbing pattern in my case: before I've quite managed to adapt to the seasonal challenges of our environment, I find that the temperatures rise, the ground thaws, and almost certainly I will get a nasty cold! My fate would seem to suggest that the forces at work in our universe are driven by some great cosmic irony. If you believe in a personal God, then surely you must confess that he/she possesses a great, immutable sense of humor. I mean, almost every February within recent memory, finds me sneezing, and snuffling my way through St. Valentine's Day.

Let those hopeless romantics have their fun dancing, and dining. I refuse to feel sorry for myself! Inspired by last month's Penobscot County Genealogical Society "show and tell" meeting, I plan to take my passion for genealogy to new heights. My ecstasy will not depend upon devouring chocolate candies nonstop, as is my usual custom. No! This year, I plan on doing something fun that I can share with my family, and friends (chocolate hardly qualifies in this regard)! I will sift through all my family heirlooms: mementos, photographs, grandmother's relish dish: anything that might provide some insight into my own life, and my connection to the lives of my ancestors.

In the November 2, 2001 edition of George G. Morgan's "Along Those Lines" column, the author rightly feels concerned that "no one else in the family living today knows the story of Cousin Maggie's dishes." Mr. Morgan's efforts to recover the history behind this family heirloom actually led to his gaining more knowledge about his extended family. He in turn vows to pass on not only the information about the people, but promises to preserve the stories about these objects heirlooms they left behind. Likewise, local genealogists hope to preserve the meaning behind their family treasures. For example, John Nelligan holds dear his grandfather's shillelagh, Mr. Dickey cherishes the sampler stitched by his grandfather's great-great aunt, Olive Colby, and Cynthia Rump passed on her great-grandfather Clough's sterling silver spoon to her daughter, Jacque.

When she graduated from Bowdoin College, my daughter, Kim, received an old copy of Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe as a gift. This item is not in the best condition, nor is it a first edition copy. Suffice to say that it wouldn't invite a very high appraisal on Antiques Road Show. But to her, its value is priceless. You see, the inside front cover is signed by her great-great-great grandfather. Although I have nothing of similar family-value, I intend to identify, photograph and keep a record of those items dear to my heart for posterity.

Now that I've conveyed the importance of passing on the stories behind our family treasures, I would recommend that all my readers preserve these items. Kimberly Powell, writing on About.com, a genealogy site, tells us the importance of displaying or storing out items in a stable, clean environment. Your heirlooms should be stored away from heat sources, outside walls, basements, and attics. Any archivist will tell you that dramatic changes in temperature and humidity will hasten the deterioration of fragile items. Sunlight and fluorescent light fades and discolors many items, especially fabrics, paper, and photographs. If you own an old faded painting, or a creased photograph, you would do well to consult a professional conservator for advice instead of attempt-

President's Message Continued from page 1

shared stories and some of their Family Treasures with the group as did some of the "Friends" who joined us that evening. It was fun to see and hear from the group and maybe we can do it again next winter.

As I said in my last message the Renewals have been coming in wonderfully and I thank you all for your continued support in the society." In a lot of cases I am getting the messages back as the e mail address I have in the file is no longer any good. So I am requesting from all who read this: if you have an email address email me at towncrier2@yahoo.com. Even if you haven't changed your email in the last 7 years. That way I can update the information on my system and pass it on to our Treasurer as she keeps a second list, in case one gets lost.

February: Richard Shaw*see page 4
 March: Roxanne Moore Saucier: Topic TBA
 April: Jack Battick: Topic TBA
 May: Cheryl Patten: Grave Stone Cleaning
 June: Annual Cook out Hose Five Fire Museum
 JULY & AUG Open at this time

I hope to see as many as possible at our 18 February 2009 meeting at the Bangor Public Library, 6:00 PM. Richard Shaw will be giving a talk on Bangor History.

Best Regards

Phil



With the great success of the Genealogy for Kids program (GEN 4 KIDS) and the support we have receive from local business we are seeking members who would be interested in helping with this exciting and fun project. Our meetings will be held one hour before our regular scheduled PCGS meetings in March, April and May. The next GEN 4 KIDS DAY will be a Thursday sometime this summer held in the Story Room, Bangor Public Library at 10:00 am. If you would like to help educate and inspire young children in the exciting hobby of genealogy please contact me at one of our regular scheduled PCGS meetings or by email at jnell79gr@verizon.net

I would appreciate hearing from you with your suggestions and ideas.

Thank you,

John Nelligan

Gen Tripper Continued from Page 2 ing to make amateur repairs that could put your artifact at risk. *Continued on Page 3*

If you cannot find listings for such specialists in the Yellow Pages, then you may want to contact your local library, or an area museum, for assistance or advice. Hopefully, staff would be able to locate, or share the names of trusted conservators who work in your area. As a beginning step, you might consult the Northeast Document Conservation Center of Andover, Massachusetts for advice. On their website's home page, you can click resources to find any pertinent preservation leaflet to download, or just click on "ask NRDCC" to find the appropriate specialist to contact with your preservation question.

So remember, when the winter nights are cold, and long, you need not feel blue. Just lovingly sort through all those treasured items that recall your connection with the world. Take care of them, revere and record them for the love of those who came before, and those who follow. You will find that this occupation will be its own reward. Once your treasured items are safely tucked away, you might break out those choco-



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!

RICHARDSON Searching for my great grandfather, a Richardson of Mount Desert Island, who would be the father of Leslie A. Richardson (my grandfather) who died in 1957 at age 66, and also of George Richardson and Arthur Richardson, all born on Mount Desert Island. Last known residence of Leslie A. is Rockland Maine last known residence of George was Stonington, Owner of Richardson's general merchantile, Stonington, Maine. I have been pursuing the Richardsons on Mount Desert Island. The first settlers in 1761 were James Richardson and Abraham Somes by Grant of the governor of Massachusetts. James Richardson had a son George Richardson. If George Richardson had sons, then one may possibly be my great grandfather. So far that is the only family I can locate on Mount Desert Island, by the name of Richardson. Another possibility is maybe following my mothers birth record Kathryn Louise Richardson, daughter of Leslie A. Richardson and Louise Richardson. Born in Bangor, Maine, lived in Rockland, siblings were Leslie A. Richardson jr., John & Robert Richardson.

Appreciate the help.

Bob Cox

Bobdenise@gmail.com

MATHEWS, Sumner / ROUNDS, Lucia

Sumner Mathews married Lucia Rounds on 5 July 1945 in Lincoln, Penobscot, Maine. They first appear together on the 1950 census. Sumner is listed as

33 and born in Maine. His tombstone shows death in 1885. Sumner and Lucia are buried together in the Riverside Cemetery, Stillwater, Maine. When

standing on the road facing the cemetery, the grave site is in the back right corner, down a small slope from the main cemetery grounds and in a small clearing with a few other graves. Prior to 1850, I cannot find in any census a "Mathews" family with a male child in the correct age group to be Sumner. My wife is descended from Sumner; however, we no longer live in Maine which limits our access to local records. Has anyone stumbled across this person in their research?

Gary Hatfield

Allen, Texas

garyhat@att.net

February Program

Bangor teacher and historian Dick Shaw will present a slide show featuring a collection of the families and events that he has researched in his 56 years as a Bangor resident. Included will be 19th century timber tycoons Sam Veazie and Rufus Dwinel and their neighborhoods; the Penobscot River log drivers; the Paul Bunyan mystique; the people who fought and were displaced by the 1911 Bangor Fire; Vice President Hannibal Hamlin; 20th century personalities such as Flavius O. Beal; the Al Brady Gang; Urban Renewal; and presidents and other dignitaries who visited Bangor.

An educational and entertaining evening!



Save the Date!

The 2009 MGS conference will be on Saturday, September 26, 2009, and is going to be held at the Bangor Civic Center. Yea!! Stay current with all the details by visiting www.maineroots.org