



Penobscot Roots & Connections

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Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, June 17th
Annual BBQ
Hampden Historical Society, 6:00 pm

Check out the Society website for the
summah schedule.

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

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Articles accepted for publication
must be of genealogical nature.

Submissions should be forwarded
to the Newsletter Editor.

WHAT: Annual B-B-Q
WHERE: Hampden Historical Society,
83 Main Rd S, Hampden
WHEN: Wednesday June 17th, 6:00 pm

MENU

Hamburgers / Cheeseburgers /
Cajun deep-fried turkey /
Strawberry Shortcake

Tours will be given

Enjoy the Summer!

Phil

Now that summer is almost here, I find myself reliving the annual rite of passage of my youth, daydreaming. In my reverie I experience hot summer days spent building sandcastles on the beach, swimming in the lake and playing baseball in the field. And the eating: wild blueberries, fresh garden peas and potatoes cooked in a pot together, homemade strawberry shortcake served on Grammy's homemade biscuits, hot dogs and chicken cooked on the grill, marshmallows toasted to perfection (or hideously charred) in the crackling evening campfire, and mounds of ice cream of every flavor and color...I can just taste it all now! I'd better put an end to this reminiscing straight away. Unlike my younger years, I now find a direct correlation between succumbing to the dictates of my ravenous appetite, and measuring more inches on my hips.

Bathing suit figures aside, most of summer's best aspects remain timeless. We either look forward to, or recall, the times that we go on our summer vacation with our loved ones in order to share delightful experiences. Every year, I eagerly anticipate planning my vacation together with my daughter, Kimberly. Because she lives so far away, I usually fly out west to Portland, Oregon, so that we can spend some time together. This mother and daughter have attended and enjoyed many local festivals, and regional events in our travels together. Buying trinkets at Portland's Belmont Neighborhood Street Fair and watching the performance of Two Gentleman From Verona at Ashland's world-renowned Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Where else could one enjoy a hilarious, revisionist performance of the Bard's classic set to music in the time period of the Wild West?

This year, I had really hoped to share something of my daughter's, and my, common heritage. Because Kim is one of the few family members that actually shows an interest in tracing our genealogy back through our Swedish ancestral line, I often wish that I could plan our vacation earlier in the summer so that we might attend Astoria, Oregon's Scandinavian Midsummer Festival. I must confess that, in part, my motivation is entirely selfish. You see, although I supposedly embody a higher percentage of Swede (after all, I am more closely related to my great great-grandmother, Hadda Blomquist), I cannot help but notice that my daughter possesses more Scandinavian features than myself. Kim is a striking young woman with lovely alabaster skin, blond hair and blue eyes. I, on the other hand, provide a living testimony to the existence of recessive genes with my darker skin, brown hair and brown eyes. As a result, I often wish that Kim could attend a Swedish event with me, so that I might

THE GEN-TRIPPER

be spared any questioning glance from those who suspect that I may be an interloper, come to "crash" their Swedish celebration.

Now, I realize that readers may consider my little hang-up a frivolous concern. Be that as it may, I really believe that I might fit-in a little more at these events if only I looked more the part, given my woeful lack of Swedish family history gathered to date. My situation does not border on phobia. I had a great time when I attended the Swedish Reunion near Monson a couple of years ago. The people were really nice, and the food was great. I met some Swedish kin, like Tony Larson. Still, I could not help but feel a tad out-of-place when attendees' spouses, who prefaced their introductions with the phrase "I'm not Swedish," appeared more Scandinavian than me! Perhaps, my difficulty in accepting my fate has less to do with my self-consciousness than with my actual disappointment at not appearing undeniably Swedish. I mean, everyone knows that Swedes are supposed to be sexy. In my heart of hearts (or maybe my ego), I would really love an ironclad claim on that adjective! Okay, so instead of lamenting over my genetic shortcomings, maybe I just need to focus more on my Swedish "have's," than on my Swedish "have-not's."

To reach this lofty goal, I plan to immerse myself in Swedish culture. It will be a fun way to gain a better understanding of my Swedish heritage, and to find a much-needed reprieve from long hours spent researching in the stacks of the Bangor Public Library. Much like my Swedish ancestors, I also feel compelled to take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the warm summer sun while it lasts. Now that I think of it, I could attend the 138th Swedish Colony Midsommer Celebration that takes place right here in Maine! I'll just drive up to Aroostook County, and find the little town of New Sweden. This year's Summer Solstice celebration lasts from Friday June 19 through June 21. I've got that weekend off. This event offers the perfect chance for anyone and everyone to get in touch with their Inner-Swede.

I do feel a little guilty at not sharing this experience with my daughter, Kim. Maybe, I should have insisted that we vacation earlier in the summer to attend events in Astoria. I have a feeling that my daughter is resilient enough to get over it. When I broke the news, she didn't seem all that disappointed at the prospect of missing this year's headliner, Kerry Christiansen, the Alpine Yodeling Master. It's really too bad that Kim couldn't come to Maine this summer. Aside from celebrity performers, we've got all the best festival features to offer right here. The Swedish Colony celebrates with costumes, dancing, mu-

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!

MCPHETERS/AMES

I am looking for any information pertaining to Louisa McPheters (b. 1842, my gg grandmother) and James Kenniston Ames (b. 1822, her husband, my gg grandfather). I only know that they lived initially in Penobscot County (and I have since learned that Louisa at least had deep roots there). I believe that Louisa was a daughter of Warren McPheters and Mary Coam (or Coan).

Any comments appreciated!

Dave Drabold
Athens, Ohio
ddrabold@gmail.com

HARRIS

I'm researching family history and came across some information about a very distant relative that supposedly was born in Indian(?), Penobscot, Maine in 1800.

This person was Carter Harris, son of Jeremiah and Lydia Harris who left Virginia possibly as part of the underground railroad. The family later left and moved to Ohio; however, Carter apparently was born in Maine.

So, on a whim, I'm just curious if you might have any resources that could confirm this and possibly provide any other information on this family.

Thank you in advance and I hope to hear something back either way.

Best Regards,
M. Hammond
mchammond88@gmail.com

HEARD/TUCKER

I am looking for the children of John Tucker b. 8/ Feb/1761 and Phebe Heard, in particular a Joel Tucker b. 8/Nov/1796 in Dexter Penobscot Co. Me. I need confirmation that he was the child of John and Phebe.

Thank you!

Gail Blaske
dglaske@clearwire.net

TUCKER

I am working on the Tucker side of my family and I have a record of marriage for Charles F Tucker & Myrtle Keezer Dyer. Their intentions were filed in Brook, Me on 15 Aug 1918. They listed parents as Charles Tucker of Dover, Maine and Annie McLaughlin (deceased birthplace of Winn Maine). I can't seem to make any headway on either Charles or Annie. Any help would be appreciated

Best Regards,
Bob Bonney
rbonney81313@roadrunner.com

WILLEY

I would like to find Hannah Willey's birth or marriage records so I can find her parents. In the 1870 census Josiah, her son, said she was from New Hampshire

The is the additional information I have found: Josiah Willey, b 1834 In Harmony, Maine. Possibly his mother Hannah lived with James Neal in Harmony, Me.

In the 1850 Census James Neal, Hannah Willey; children: Albert Neal and Josiah Neal.

On Josiah Willey's war record he use Willey not Neal. When James Neal died in his will he asked Cyrus Cole to take care of Hannah. He left everything to his son Albert Neal.

In the 1870 census Hannah Willey lived with Josiah Willey and called her mother.

Thank you,
Elaine Goode
mag1938@aol.com

GenBytes by Dale Mower

How often have you surfed on over to RootsWeb and looked for relatives in their World Connect database? If you are like me, the answer would be "very often". Well, have you ever considered putting your genealogical information into that database so perhaps it could help out another fellow researcher? We are going to do something different this time and discuss how to give rather than just take from the growing electronic collection of resources. After all, if you use any of the popular genealogical software packages to keep track of your family tree, you can accomplish this quicker and easier than you may think.

A gedcom file is the key, acting as a bridge. A gedcom file (a computer file ending with the .ged suffix) is the standardized genealogical format file (gedcom being an acronym for Genealogical Data COMMunication). There shouldn't be anything intimidating about it – your software does all the hard work in generating it. Typically, within your software, from the file menu, you should be able to choose to Export your data using a .gedcom file. Once you've selected to do this, your software will probably open a screen with various options to help customize your file. There are generally 3 major decisions you'll need to make:

1. Which individuals do you want to export? You may want to include every individual in your database, but you may not. Perhaps you have a particular line that you want to share. Your software should be able to help you select just the individuals you want, through the use of individual tags or relationships to a certain individual.
2. You will want to check to make sure to remove information about any living individuals in your database. As a rule you can do this by either removing them altogether or by suppressing details (i.e. changing the name to "living"). This step is important as you never want to publish any information about living individuals on the Internet. If you have no death date entered for someone, your software will make a decision as to whether that person is alive based on birth or any other information you have entered about the individual or their family unit.
3. You will also need to decide if you want to share your source material. The World Connect database includes both sourced and unsourced family trees. It is your decision. Some view non-sourced info as questionable, but that is not the case as even sourced references should be double-checked. I normally do not include source citations – that does not mean I am not willing to share it, I just want more control over who I am sharing it with and I do not want anyone to just go and copy my entire research product.

Once those choices are made, you just need to click the button to create the gedcom file and you are halfway there.

We'll continue next time with how to get your gedcom from your computer out to the Internet. In the meantime, if you haven't previously created a gedcom using your software, go ahead and give it shot. If you have questions, email them to me at dale@mower-family.com and we'll try to address those next time as well.

Dale

President, Maine Genealogical Society

50 Most Popular Genealogy Website for 2009
<http://www.progenealogists.com/top50genealogy2009.htm>

Explorer Genealogy—United Kingdom website:
<http://www.exploreancestry.co.uk/>



Gen Tripper Continued from Page 2

seum and house tours, genealogy research advice, a Majstang (May Pole), and best of all...food! The Stockholm Legion Hall will serve up Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes and homemade desserts. The Lutheran Happy Followers will again be scooping out their famous, homemade ice cream. Yummy! Best of all, the Covenant Church Women are selling a limited amount of advanced tickets to their Smorgasbord. When I hear that beautiful word of my ancestral native tongue, I begin to get this warm, happy feeling inside that tells me, despite appearances, I must be a true Swede.

Valkommen Summer!



GET CREATIVE WITH YOUR FAMILY TREE

Friday July 17th
10:00 am- 11:30 am
GEN 4 KIDS

Children between the ages 8 - 14 are invited to learn the proper way to use the micro film and card catalog in The Bangor Room as well as using the computer to research their ancestors.

If you know any children who are interested in learning about the exciting hobby of genealogy, Please call or visit the Bangor Library's Children's Desk.
947-8337, Ext 110
Registration is requested.

Past Program Notes

I asked my mother to be a PCGS "reporter" at some of the Wednesday night programs. As a "from away" member I miss not being able to attend. To the right is information from a handout passed out at Jack Battick's program, "Handy things to know about calendars in genealogical research".

Mom commented that Mr. Battick is a terrific and humorous speaker but that the subject matter was a little too

Julian Calendar: Julius Caesar, from 43 BC, year starts 1 January, 12 months of 28 to 31 days, every 4th year a Leap Year, ie add February 29th. Also called "Old Style"

Christian Calendar: from the 7th century, it is the Julian Calendar but the year begins 25 March.

Gregorian Calendar: Pope Gregory XIII, AD 1582, year begins 1 January same as Julian except "century years" are not Leap Years (eg 1900) and years evenly divisible by 400 are Leap Years (eg 2000) and days dropped from calendar. Also called "New Style"

Example of the days dropped

By papal decree: 4 October 1562 followed by 15 Oct

By parliamentary enactment: 2 September 1752 followed by 14 September

Things to watch for in dating

Double dating: 12/22 April 1702

Year Disjuncts 3/13 Feb 1695/6 = 3 Feb 1695/13 Feb 1696

Style Notations: OS = Old Style; NS = New Style

Latin designations: SV (*Stylo Vetero*) = Old Style;

SN (*Stylo Novo*) = New Style

Different ways of expressing dates

US: month/day/year April 12 1932

UK day/month/year 12 April 1932

German: day/month (roman numeral)/year

12.IV.1932

Month abbreviations

7^{ber} = September (7th month of Christian Calendar),

8^{ber} = October (8th month of Christian Calendar), etc

for November and December

The Quaker Week

1st Day=Monday, 2nd Day=Tuesday, etc...

Lord's Day = Sunday

Some common abbreviations

BC = Before Christ also BCE = Before the Common Era

AD = *Anno Domini* "Year of the Lord" also CE = Common Era

Some useful websites

To compare Julian and Gregorian calendars

<http://www.webexhibits.org/calendars/calendar-christian.html>

<http://www.tondering.dk/claus/cal/>

Gregorian Calendar

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/gregorian1.html>

http://www.wordiq.com/definition/Gregorian_calendar
www.polysyllabic.com—

on the left side of website, about halfway down click on The Gregorian Conversion link. Under that link is a link called Dates of Gregorian Reform—this has a table of when countries switched from OS to NS