



Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday, February 17th
 Guest Speaker: Roxanne Moore Saucier
 Family Ties Columnist for Bangor Daily News

Wednesday, Marcy 17th
 Guest Speaker: Dr. Janet Tebrake
 University of Maine History Lecturer will speak about early Irish settlers in Bangor

Wednesday, April 21st
 Guest Speaker: Dana Lippitt
 Curator for Bangor History Museum and Center for History

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Articles accepted for publication must be of genealogical nature. Submissions should be forwarded to the Newsletter Editor.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Now with January 2010 behind us we can look for the warmth of the coming spring and leave the harsh cold to Old Man Winter. We are pretty much set for programs for the first half of the year. We are looking for ideas for the remaining months. If you have any ideas for speakers or topics you - as members - would like to have please pass them on to me at towncrier2@yahoo.com or John Van Dyke at dvandyke@roadrunner.com

Our January meeting was a nice way to start the 2010 year off with Wayne Reilly of the Bangor Daily News coming to speak on the differences in Maine's Immigrants between the 1910 and 2000 census and how the Immigrants of the past were seen and treated by the local community.

John Nelligan's Gen 4 Kids program in December was cancelled due to the weather and will be rescheduled. So if you are interested in helping John please contact him at jnell79gr@verizon.net and he'll be very happy. J

Another note from John Nelligan and the Cookbook Committee, they purchased several books that can be seen on the front table as you enter the Bangor Room. Some are to replace and update older Reference Materials and some are for Vital Records research. Many thanks to John and the Cookbook Committee for their work on the cook book. We benefited from great recipes and the ability to purchase the resource materials to enjoy now and in the future.

Roxanne Moore Saucier is our speaker for February and will join us in the Lecture Hall at the Bangor Public Library. The meeting starts at 6:00 P.M. on 17 February 2010. Refreshments will be served. I do hope to see you all there.

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The Gen-Tripper

Genealogy,

You've Got to Love It!

I'm feeling a little blue today, not because I haven't got a date yet again this Valentine's Day, but because my genealogy languishes even MORE than my love life! Well-meaning relatives, who have inherited valuable genealogical items, have placed them on the shelf. Cousin Barbara has yet to unearth her father's extensive genealogy notes, while Uncle Phil has lovingly placed the Lindsay albums bequeathed to him in an old truck. Though the keys to our collective past literally lie within relatives reach, I must travel far and wide to get my hands on this great stuff. I rummage through notes and photocopy aplenty when I come to call, though my relations clearly do not enjoy going to the trouble of extracting these treasures from their secret hiding place.

I'm not trying to complain here. Really. I simply adore my kin, and very much enjoy my visits with them. Blood is thicker than water, after all. Besides, who else would be willing to claim me as a relative? Though in truth, sometimes, I worry that they put up with my annoying genealogical questions in order to scapegoat me, so they can justify making me into the little black sheep of the Ham/Lindsay clan. Trust me, I have this role down pat! Before you jump to the wrong conclusions, let me stress that I have not really been bad. It's just that my prolonged, and somewhat incessant, questioning about our family tree tends to perturb my relations, who demonstrate a rather low saturation point in my estimation. By now, I'm sure that it goes without saying that many of my kinsfolk are not too enthralled with genealogy.

Given the exasperated sighs and bewildered shrugs that my inquiries have elicited from annoyed loved-ones, I now suspect that my impending visits are not always anticipated with

the ideal, sentimental affection. Rather, I suspect that Uncle Phil's initial response might sound more like, "ye gads, she's coming WHEN?" Nonetheless, I must pursue my quest for information. Armed with my family history charts, and newly acquired vital record statistics I descend upon him with new fodder for pestering the heck out of him. It wasn't enough that my unfortunate uncle was forced, by my maternal grandmother, to include his young nieces and nephew in his playtime, but now as an adult, he must again endure the boring amusements of one of the little nippers. Poor Uncle Phil! He will never escape the ties that bind!

The above situation presents a real ethical dilemma for me. I don't want to torment my dear uncle. It's just that I have a duty to perform as family historian for the sake of all those ancestors who came before us. Far be it from me to shirk my duty. If only Uncle Phil really liked genealogy then I wouldn't feel guilty for bothering him. I mean, it's not like I'm asking him to play "Cowboys and Indians." I tell you, the pursuit of genealogy is not a task to be undertaken by the faint-hearted. Knowing that on some level my family cringes as they welcome me in the fold is not a happy place. Sometimes, love hurts. Genealogists must be prepared to undertake one of the most difficult demonstrations of tough love known to humankind ironically for the sake of the family. In a perfect world, we'd get a little respect for taking on the awesome task of unearthing the family history. But we are not living in some utopia where genealogy is always valued and St. Valentine's Day comes replete with dozens of red roses and adoring spouses. No. In the real world, you'll have to pay the price if you ask reluctant relatives to show you family records, or want to ensure that you receive a heart-shaped box of chocolates. Let's face it; it's less of a stretch for Cupid to draw back his bow, than for us to generate any interest in our family history among certain kin. You share genes - not chemistry.

I hope to visit my Uncle Phil again this February. Because love conquers all, he'll put up with my endless questions *Gen-*

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Genealogy For Kids

The next Genealogy For Kids Day (Gen4Kids) will be Friday, April 23rd, between the hours 11:00 - 12:30 in the Children's Story Room at the Bangor Public library.

It is open to all children between the age of 8 - 14. A Bangor Public Library staff member will provide a guided tour of the "Bangor Room", to see what is available, how to use the microfilm, card catalog and how to start climbing their "Family Tree" to preserve memories for the future.

Registration may be made at the "Children's Desk" or by calling 947-8337, Ext.110.

Refreshments will be served.

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!

THE QUERIES BELOW ARE REPOSTS FROM APRIL & JUNE 2009

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

DAVIS/PROUTY

I need help with Sarah Jane Davis, b 7 Nov 1817 maybe in Bangor? She married on 9 Oct 1844 in Bangor to Jonas Prouty. She died 4 March 1869 in Veazie, Maine. I have a Mary Jane Davis (b 1844 Bangor) but she married a Cowin. Can someone please help me, I have spent 30 years on this.

Thank You!

Elaine Goode

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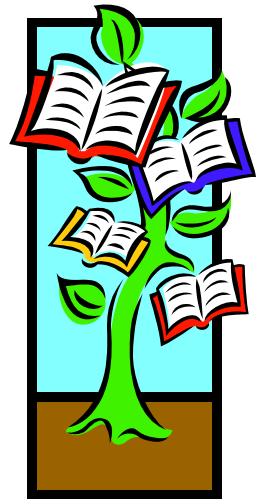
amidst feigned protestations, but in actuality, absolutely adores a good excuse to chide me a little. I'm sure that we'll have a marvelous time reminiscing about the good times and the bad, and remembering family members who have passed. I feel all warm and cozy just thinking about it. But then, in my zeal to find some new genealogical tid-bit, I'm sure to blow it! Uncle Phil's response is actually all too easy to imagine: he'll either turn a deaf ear to me, yawn, or just stare blankly into my eyes as if I had two-heads, not unlike the behavior manifested by my usual St. Valentine's date. Alas.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Elizabeth

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As I said in my last message the renewals have been coming in wonderfully with our population staying around 85 strong thus far. I have tried to tell all who have email addresses "Thank You for your continued Support in the Society." In some cases I am getting the messages back as the email address on file is no longer any good. So I am requesting **from all who read this** to send me your email address, if you have one, regardless if you have had a change in the last 8 years or not. That way I can update the information on my system and pass it on to the Treasurer who keeps a second list, in case one gets lost. I can be reached at towncrier2@yahoo.com so I hope to hear from one and all.



Phil

GenBytes by Dale Mower

Winter and flu season has hit and I can report that I've been an active participant in both. Needless to say, my recent research has been limited to what can be done from the warmth of home. One could take that home time and organize, or one could visit the Internet and see what additional info can be found to add to the piles. Guess which I chose!

As I've been trying to fill in a few blanks, I am constantly amazed by the number of cousins that I discover served in the Civil War. Many of us make a note of the military service, indicate the dates, the company they served in and perhaps their rank. But I like to include a bit more information by putting that information into a little historic context so I better understand the part they played in the war and an appreciation for what they went through.

There are a couple good sites to learn some basic information about the Maine regiments – when and where they were organized and mustered, the service record including the battles they were involved in and the casualty numbers. The first is of these is the Maine State Archives. Their site contains “A Summary of Unit Histories and Related Materials,” located at <http://www.maine.gov/sos/arc/archives/military/civilwar/reghis.htm>. While at the Archives, you can also check out the types of records that they hold relating to each regiment, should you want to plan a visit and visit with actual paper. An alternate site which has much of the same information can be found at The Civil War Archive (<http://www.civilwararchive.com/unionme.htm>). This site is especially useful if you have a relative that served in the regiment of another state. Ancestry.com also has some very good databases related to the Civil War which I have found very helpful as well. For those without a subscription, those can be accessed free of charge at participating libraries (i.e. Bangor Public Library).

Don't forget Google books (books.google.com). Do a search with keywords “Maine Civil War” or “Maine War Rebellion” and you'll get some selections. Perhaps there was a book written about the regiment your relative served in. One comprehensive, full view book you will find is “Maine in the War for the Union: A History of the Part Borne by Maine Troops.”

And, for those who have heard me talk about researching on the Internet, do not overlook the obvious – Google or whatever basic search engine you use. Sometimes we forget that which is right in front of us. But that is THE tool to discover information outside of the major database sites. Here's an example of what you might find. I was working on my 2nd cousin 3 times removed – John Mower Jackson of Lewiston. I did a random search using “John Jackson Civil War.” One of the hits caught my eye – *John M. Jackson Letters, 1862-1864*. The link (http://www.rarebooks.nd.edu/digital/civil_war/letters/jackson/) was to the University of Notre Dame Rare Books and Special Collections. Clicking on the link, I discover this is indeed related to my distant cousin. There is some brief biographical and service information, then some extensive background on the letters – most of which were addressed to his mother and sisters. There are not only transcriptions of the letters but digital images of them as well. What a treasure trove – and what an unexpected place for these to have ended up. Without that basic search using Google these would definitely would not have become a part of the resources I have accumulated for this particular family line.

Dale

President, Maine Genealogical Society

2010 Spring Workshop

Genealogical Research into England, Scotland and Wales with George G. Morgan
Saturday, April 17, 2010, Spectacular Events Center, 395 Griffin Road, Bangor, Maine
Check <http://www.maineroots.org/> for details