



*It's Autumn  
A New Year for PCGS  
Time to Renew Your Membership!*

Penobscot County Genealogical Society  
**Penobscot Roots & Connections**

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### *Upcoming Meetings*

**Hospitality Half Hour begins at 5:30 p.m. each month**  
*Refreshments and Conversation*

**Wednesday, October 15, 2014**

*Royal Ancestors presented by Dana Murch*

6:00 p.m., Relief Society Room, Bangor Family History Center  
639 Grandview Ave., (at corner with Essex St.) Bangor

**Wednesday, November 19, 2014**

*Heirlooms Reunited presented by Pam Beveridge*

6:00 p.m., Chapman Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
St. Joseph Hospital, Bangor

**Wednesday, December 17, 2014**

*Questions, Brick Walls and Chat: An Open Forum*

6:00 p.m., Chapman Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
St. Joseph Hospital, Bangor

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

The email address for the Penobscot County Genealogical Society is: [mepcgs@gmail.com](mailto:mepcgs@gmail.com).

### Message from our President

*As fall arrives, it reminds me that it's been an entire year since I came back to assist with the leadership of Penobscot County Genealogical Society. Let me just say it has been a tremendous year for me and I have truly enjoyed reconnecting with many of you and meeting many new members and guests at our monthly meetings. Research can be done at home, alone, late at night, in pajamas, but it's the opportunity to discuss those findings and ask questions in person that are provided from belonging to a local genealogical society. There are so many avenues available to all of us as well through the internet to learn and expand our knowledge bases in genealogy - from blogs to wikis to webinars. But, again, the chance to interact with a presenter and hit on specific areas of interest is the benefit provided, once again, by a local genealogical society membership.*

*As we roll into another year, this message really comes from your president-elect at this point (until the official election at this month's meeting). I am encouraged that so many that volunteered to help out in various areas of running the*

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*chapter last year have expressed interest in continuing that venture. We made some great strides over the past year in laying the groundwork and getting some things ironed out, and will continue to work towards those goals in the coming year. The biggest is the policy and procedure manual to help future board members serve effectively. New views and new ideas are what keep the society fresh - we welcome anyone who wants to serve in any capacity to let us know. It does provide an additional level of networking and friendship. Our board meetings are usually quite lively! So a huge thank you once again to everyone who has helped make this past year a success.*

*This past year also saw the introduction of our Facebook group. That online community continues to grow and has had some great posts - questions, links and general information.\**

*So I look forward to what is on the horizon for this coming year. I have had a sneak preview of the monthly programs we are working on putting in place. They all look very interesting.....*

*Dale Mower*



\* At the May 5 PCGS board meeting, Dale reported that the Facebook group had grown to 50 members. Five months later the group is now celebrating 118 members! Have you joined yet? Keep updated on meetings and upcoming events. Share news about resources you've found. Ask questions. Meet and connect. Let us know what you are working on. Share your Penobscot County family history connections – you may find others tracing the same family lines or just the help that you needed! Spread the word!



## *Nomination of Penobscot County Genealogical Society Officers for 2014-15*

Election of Officers for the 2014-2015 membership year will take place at the beginning of the Wednesday, October 15 regular monthly meeting.

*Nominations as put forth by the current board of directors are as follows:*

President	Dale Mower
Vice-President	Chris Johnson
Secretary	Wendy Asher
Treasurer	Jim Beckett
Newsletter Editor	Jody Chasse
Research Coordinator	Dave Flewelling
Programs Chair	Elizabeth Stevens
(Acting) Hospitality Chair	Chris Johnson
Webmaster	Dale Mower

*Nominations may also be made from the floor.*

Please note that one area where the society could use a helping hand is with the Hospitality Committee. This is the committee charged with having name tags available at meetings, welcoming members and guests at meetings, refreshments – those tasks that make attending meetings an enjoyable experience. Please consider helping us out – talk to any current or nominated officer for details.

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## BEGINNER GENEALOGY WORKSHOP

**Penobscot County Genealogical Society** is proud to have members

**Sandra Burke and Mary Banfield**

conduct an introductory class for those thinking about researching their family history and those needing a basic refresher. The goals of this class are to assist the beginner genealogist to organize a project, to help determine goals of the research project, to determine what kind of file or index system works best to record your data. Attendees will leave with handouts listing resources, both online websites and physical research centers, where information can be located.

So if you're looking for a beginner's workshop or a refresher, don't miss this one!

**Saturday, October 18, 2014, 10:00 a.m. - Noon**

**Bangor Family History Center, 639 Grandview Avenue (corner with Essex Street) Bangor**

Help spread the word; share this information with friends and families beginning their journeys.

## *GENMATES*



### **In Memoriam:** Celia McCafferty Gray

We remember one of our Society's original members, Celia M Gray, who passed away Friday, August 8, 2014 in Bangor. Celia served PCGS for several years as a director-at-large. We will miss her! The following is taken from her obituary that appeared in the Bangor Daily News. She was born in Winn, Maine on June 3, 1922 to Bernard W and Elizabeth Ann (Hanscom) McCafferty. Her recipe for a long life: keep busy, smile at people, be enthusiastic about life and embrace all its possibilities. She lived an industrious life, constantly working or volunteering and always looking for the next interesting thing to do.

The United States Census always fascinated Celia and she became a Census Taker in the 1960 Census, then continued to do so for the 1980 and 1990 Census as well. She was sad to encounter the change in people's demeanor over those years, the families in 1960 inviting her in for coffee but the families in 1990 requesting that she leave the form for them to mail. She prided herself in voting in every state and national election that came along.

A few years after Celia's husband passed away in 1981 she moved to Hampden to be near her daughter Linda. She then enrolled in computer classes at the age of 65, became a volunteer with RSVP and with the Hampden Historical Society where she developed another new passion: **genealogy**. She and Linda published two collections of stories from Hampden residents about their early days in Hampden: *Echoes from the Past* and *Echoes from the Past, Volume II*. She enjoyed the common love of history that the members shared and went on to join over 10 historical societies and genealogical societies throughout Penobscot and Hancock Counties and into Canada (home of her father's ancestors). She became a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, then enrolled her daughter Linda and granddaughter Laura. She enrolled her sons Bernard and Calvin into the companion Sons of the American Revolution, then her grandsons Sterling, Tyler and Daniel as well.

These connections led her to thousands of volunteer hours over the years with the Hampden Historical Society, the Frances Dighton Chapter of DAR and the National DAR organization for whom she entered membership information into their national databases and did computer indexing of books in their national library throughout her 70s and 80s.

In her later years she especially enjoyed celebrating all family occasions and all holidays with a lobster dinner at Angler's Restaurant in Hampden. The only exception was St. Patrick's Day when she celebrated her Irish ancestry with a traditional Irish boiled dinner at Geaghan's Restaurant in Bangor.

Celia was an avid reader all her life, instilled that love of reading and appreciation of poetry into her children at an early age and filled her homes with books, having an open one at her armchair and her bedside at all times.

Memorial gifts may be sent to the Hampden Historical Society, c/o Vivian Gresser, Treasurer, PO Box 456, Hampden, ME 04444 or to the Bangor Public Library, c/o Barbara McDade, Director, 145 Harlow St, Bangor, ME 04401.

## Navigating the Past: Sailing into the Future

What about a trip to Rhode Island to attend this April 2015 conference!

The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. (NERGC) invites you to the thirteenth genealogical conference **15-19 April 2015** at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence, Rhode Island. The Convention Center offers outstanding facilities, amenities, and service in an easy-to-reach location in the heart of historic Providence. Check out website:

[www.nergc.org/Conference-Home-Page.html](http://www.nergc.org/Conference-Home-Page.html)

The conference theme, "*Navigating the Past: Sailing into the Future*", has strong nautical connections, in keeping with the distinctive flavor of Rhode Island, while also focusing on methodology with "navigating the past" and looking towards the changes of the future (technology, passing on information, and getting kids involved in genealogy)

## Is there value in a Genealogical Society membership?

With the plethora of online resources, podcasts, webinars, blogs and other genealogical material available on the internet, is there still any reason to belong to a genealogical society? While it is true that much can be learned online, there is still the human element that adds much to increasing genealogical knowledge. Yes, we still feel there is value to interacting face-to-face with other human beings. Although online resources are great, they represent only a fraction of material that can be accessed. The big secret – knowing what materials are available, where they can be accessed and what they mean? Many of these are uncovered quite by accident – they come in conversations with other family history researchers or librarians when discussing other areas of your research. The greatest benefit that you can realize from a genealogical society is the people. So come, join in on the conversation.



*My roots are in Maine!*

## 2014-2015 State of Maine Holidays

Event	Dates Closed	
Columbus Day	Mon.	Oct. 13, 2014
Veterans' Day	Tues.	Nov. 11, 2014
Thanksgiving Day	Thur./Fri.	Nov. 27/28, 2014
Christmas Day	Thur.	Dec. 25, 2014
New Year's Day	Thur.	Jan. 1, 2015
M.L. King Jr. Day	Mon.	Jan. 19, 2015

## *GENSOURCES*

*By Dave Flewelling, Research Coordinator*

An interesting request came from a new PCGS member this summer.

W.H. remembers attending the funeral of his great grandmother, but he couldn't remember where she was buried. I was furnished her name, parents names, and first and second husband's name. Using this information it was quite easy to trace her from her early days to her marriage years and finally death in Old Town. What I discovered was that the relative was married to another person between the two recognized husbands. The marriage was confirmed on the WWI Draft Registration of one of her sons.

Following the descendants lines down, I could not make a connection to the requestor. His response was that the person I had researched was not his blood ancestor, but rather the only great grandparent that he could remember. She was the second wife of his great grandfather, therefore a step great grandmother. His great grandfather and great grandmother had died before the requestor was born.

W.H. had looked for his step great grandmother's grave, but had no success finding it in Milo where his great grandfather and great grandmother are buried . I looked for her second husband's grave and found her buried there with him in Old Town's Lawndale Cemetery. As it turns out, our president Dale and his wife Patti have set up a memorial to the subjects on the Find A Grave website. Soon, we will add additional genealogical info to their pages.

An interesting fact was uncovered in the 1910 census. Our subject declared to the census taker that she was a widow. Her former husband stated he was divorced. Both went on to marry again. Funny how two people regard the termination of a marriage!

**Lesson learned:** look for genealogical crumbs from other family member's information. They may point a new direction to follow in your genealogical quest.

This past year has been a busy one in the research area. We have had a total of 28 requests for information during this period. Some requests have been easily answered, and some have led to some extensive chases.

One of the more notable chases is the on-going saga of the Campbell family that I wrote about in the July newsletter. Since then, with the help of the Brewer Historical Society's maps and the Penobscot and Hancock Registry of Deeds, we have identified the areas where Hugh Campbell's family has lived and where some of the family members are buried.

Though no more information has been uncovered since July, the story of the train wreck and death of the traveling engineer in Pittsfield in 1906 still is in the forefront of my memory.

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## **GENSOURCES**

One interesting request was initiated in October of 2013. C Johnson was looking for information about Emeline Beal Percival. Through intensive digging at the local libraries and County Court House, we were able to make a logical case that Emeline was the daughter of Elizabeth and Isaac Beal and that Horatio was her brother; not her father. During the investigation we were able to recognize the emigration of lumbermen coming into Maine during the 1800s and then, as the lumbering demand and industry moved, so also did the families that were involved. Gordon Percival came to Penobscot County from upstate NY and before the end of his life was found in Washington and Oregon with one of his sons.

Research in some old families in Orono led to a surprise relationship that the family had not been aware of. It also led to being aware that records can not be replaced and need to be carefully cared for and guarded. In that regard, our Board Member, Chris Johnson can give further insight into some procedures that should be considered by individuals and organizations.

Before the days of Social Security it was possible to confuse two people with the same name, case in point. We received a request from Gadsen, Alabama. He had an ancestor, he said, who lived in Penobscot County Maine. Frank McChesney was born in either Massachusetts or Rhode Island in the 1870s and was a coffin maker. He was able to find him up to 1930 and then did not where he went or when he died. I was able to find him through the use of the city directories into the 1940s. He had moved to Old Town and was continuing to be a casket and cabinet maker. Then I found some articles in the Penobscot Times when he was hit by a car in 1948 and then his death in 1951. In his obituary it stated that he was born in Chicago, not New England! I then obtained a copy of his death certificate and it turned out that this person was not the one from Massachusetts or Rhode Island. The error which we made is that we followed the name from 1880 to 1900 and expected that we picked up the correct individual. Unfortunately, we did not, but it was fun trying to put this together. So now some one will be looking for this person in southern New England.

We are looking forward to another year of exciting adventures uncovering unsolved mysteries and finding ancestors in Penobscot County.



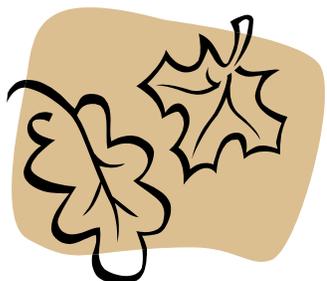
## NATIONAL ARCHIVES VIRTUAL GENEALOGY FAIR

Do you want to visit the National Archives in Washington, DC but have not been able to make the trip? Not sure what you would do there? Here is an opportunity to find out more without leaving home. Live via the internet on October 28, 29, and 30, starting daily at 10:00 a.m., you may participate in this NA genealogy fair, even asking questions at the end of each session. There will be tips and techniques for using Federal Resources at NA for genealogy research. Recorded sessions will remain online after the event.

**Day 1:** intro to genealogy; preserving your personal records; when saying "I do" meant giving up your citizenship; and overview of American Indian records and resources on the NA website

**Day 2:** Great Granny Eunice came from Ireland, Grandpa Fred was in the War, can Access Archival Databases (AAD) help me?; WW1 Draft Registration Cards; Ancestry.com; Finding the correct ancestor using Civil War & census records; FamilySearch; US citizen & Immigration Services; Federal Land Records at NA

**Day 3:** Family History & the FOIA—researching the 20th century FBI records; Discovering your family's past in military & early Veterans Administration personal data records & selective service records; Individual deceased military personnel files (IDPFs); Alien ancestors during times of war; patently amazing—Finding your family in patent records  
Check out [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov)—pension files, ships' passenger lists, census & Freedmen's Bureau materials and more.



## GENEALOGY ON TV

**Finding Your Roots** with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. continues on PBS stations, Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m. through November 25. Can't watch on Tuesday evenings? Full episodes are available online after the initial airing.

## REMINDER

October 1, 2014 signals the start of an exciting new year at Penobscot County Genealogical Society. It's time for members to pay their dues for 2014-2015—\$10 for individuals and \$15 for family membership. See the form below. Don't miss any 2015 newsletters and meeting announcements, renew your membership now!

### PENOBSCOT COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DUES FOR 2014-2015

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Surnames researching: \_\_\_\_\_

**\$10 for individuals, \$15 for couples**

**Please remit check payable to PCGS to:**

Jim Beckett, PCGS Treasurer  
Bangor Public Library  
145 Harlow Street  
Bangor, Maine 04401

## QUERIES

To post a query, email [mepcgs@gmail.com](mailto:mepcgs@gmail.com)

**PLEASE NOTE:** type the word QUERY at the beginning of the subject field. Thank you!

No new queries for this newsletter—got any brick walls—someone else may have just the clue you need to break through. Send that query.

## WEBSITE HIGHLIGHT

[www.pengen.org](http://www.pengen.org)

One of the benefits of connecting with other genealogists is the help everyone is willing to extend to others. This is very important, particularly for those long-distance members and friends, who are trying to locate a resource. There is a page on our website designed to help connect to the right people who have volunteered to help out. But unfortunately at this point, there are very few people listed (as of 9/30/14, only one in fact!). If you click on the Research Help tab, you'll see heading "LOOK-UPS." If you have access to specific records, books or other resources and are willing to look up information in those for others, please drop us a line at [mepcgs@gmail.com](mailto:mepcgs@gmail.com) and get yourself added to the list.

## PENGEN'S LIST

Do you have genealogical books or other resource material that you no longer want or need. Are you looking to downsize by weeding out some of your personal holdings that you just don't use, but would like to see those in the hands of a fellow genealogist?

We're starting a new column in our newsletter. It's like a Craig's List within our society. It's a place to connect to try to sell, swap or buy genealogical overflow.

Send in your listing today - it's free. Simply send the listing of the books, CDs or other material you are looking to find a new home for, along with your contact information. In contrast, if you are looking for something genealogical, post that as well and perhaps a fellow member may share or do a look-up for you.

Submit listings to [mepcgs@gmail.com](mailto:mepcgs@gmail.com) - use "PenGen's List" in the subject line.

## OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

The email address for the Penobscot County Genealogical Society is: [mepcgs@gmail.com](mailto:mepcgs@gmail.com). Please check out our Society's website for up-to-date information and events: [www.pengen.org](http://www.pengen.org) and join our open group on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/groups/pcgenealogical/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/pcgenealogical/)). There is also a link to the Facebook page on our website; look for the Facebook logo in the upper right corner.

## MAINE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Stay in touch with the Maine Genealogical Society. Check out their website at [www.maineroots.org](http://www.maineroots.org), follow their blog at <http://mainegenealogical.blogspot.com> and join the Maine Genealogical Society Group on Facebook.

## BANGOR FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

### Upcoming Class Schedule

**Saturday, October 11, 10:15-11:15 a.m.**, "Irish Genealogy" with Nina Brawn

*Here is a sneak preview for 2015*

**Saturday, April 25, 2015** - 2015 Bangor Family History Fair featuring video presentations from the RootsTech Conference held February 11-14, 2015 in Salt Lake City plus live classes. During the first hour, we will also hear James Shupe play his fiddle and tell ancestor stories. His presentation in April, 2014, was very enjoyable and we expect it will be in April, 2015, as well. This event will be free (as are all our events).

The center is located at 639 Grandview Avenue in Bangor (at corner with Essex Street). Hours: Tues., Wed., & Thurs. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Be sure to ring the buzzer and someone will come to open the door. Closed: Bangor school snow days, holidays and holiday weekends and during church conferences.