



CCGS NEWS

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March Meeting Presentation Will Focus on Use of University and Local Archives

AT OUR MARCH 20 MEETING **Joanne Riley, Archivist at the Joseph P. Healey Library, UMass Boston**, will highlight the wealth of archived genealogical information that is open to the public for research. In her presentation entitled “Mining Family History Gold in University and Local Archives,” Joanne will share examples of the archival collections at UMass Boston that are goldmines for family and neighborhood historians, including records from nineteenth-century social welfare organizations, mortuary records from the Massachusetts Catholic Association of Foresters, and the “Saturday Evening Girls” collection, which documents the young women in the North End in the early 1900s who helped create the highly valued “Paul Revere Pottery” style. In addition, Joanne will provide practical pointers for gaining access to the abundance of information preserved at other local and university libraries.



As UMass Boston’s University Archivist and Curator of Special Collections, Joanne Riley initiated projects such as the “Massachusetts Memories Road Show”, which works with local communities to collect and preserve residents’ images and stories, including those of Brewster in 2008 and the “1919 Boston Police Strike Project”, which invites community volunteers to help research the lives of the more than 1,100 policemen who participated in that historic event. Joanne holds Master’s degrees in ethnomusicology, academic technology, and library and information science. She is deeply interested in family and local histories, both from a personal and professional perspective.

Our CCGS meeting will be held at the [Brewster Ladies' Library](#), Rte 6A, Brewster, on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 10 a.m. **Please consider arriving early for socializing and refreshments at 9:30.**

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S I Gs

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS are informal member gatherings for the purpose of sharing information, research techniques, data and references, regarding specific topics or geographical areas. For more information, see the society's website.

CAPE COD FAMILIES – 4th Tuesday, 1 p.m., Sturgis Library. *Next:* 27 March 2018. Bebe Brock, chairman.

COMPUTER USERS – 2nd Tuesday, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library. *Next:* 13 March 2018, David Martin, chairman.

GERMAN – 1st Tuesday, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* Tuesday, March 6, 2018: **Topic: Misery in 16th Century Germany** – **GUEST SPEAKER, Dr. Luise Speakman**, Professor, Cape Cod Community College, teacher of a World History/Middle Ages course, "Power and Pestilence".

Sharing Time: Everyone is welcome to share: a success, a brick wall, websites that are helpful, genealogy books/resources, questions, facebook updates. New Members are always encouraged to join us!

IRISH - 4th Monday, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library. *Next:* 26 March 2018. Pat Concannon, chairman.

WRITING FAMILY HISTORY – 3rd Friday, 11 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* 16 March 2018, Alice Plouchard Stelzer, chairman. We share our writing and give helpful feedback, learning from each other. You are welcome to attend even if you haven't written anything!

The DNA Group

The next meeting of the **DNA Discussion Group** will take place 6 March 2018 (first Tuesday), from 1 to 3 p.m. at the **Brewster Library Auditorium** (note the changed location). Leader Teri Grey will do a presentation: "Getting started with GEDmatch." A volunteer is needed to lead the group on April 3, when Teri will be out of town. If you are interested and willing, contact her at terigrey@gmail.com. All with an interest in the subject are welcome.

If there is something you would like to see in *CCGS News* for April, please contact Jane Fiske <janeffiske@gmail.com> no later than March 23, 2018

JOTTINGS FROM JOAN

HERE ON CAPE COD, we have had an interesting winter. Currently, we are experiencing very pleasant spring-like temperatures, giving everyone a taste of what we hope will continue.

In our Society, at this time of year, we look toward the future. Our Nominating Committee has sprung into action, determined what openings there will be on the Board of Directors, and are now scouring the list of member names, to determine eligible candidates for next year's Board. Soon, they will be talking to potential candidates.

The duty of Board of Directors is to oversee the activities of the Society, to ensure that we are following the mission of the organization. Board members are required to attend a monthly 2 hour meeting, and may be asked to meet, on a rare occasion, at an additional time for future planning purposes. The five officers, elected every June at our annual luncheon, do have additional duties, relative to their specific positions, that will require additional time (for details, see our bylaws, found at: <http://www.capecodgenealogy.org/2016-bylaw-revision.pdf>). More information concerning the time requirements and responsibilities for any of these positions can be obtained from any member of the Nominating Committee, myself, or the individual currently holding that position. The Nominating Committee for 2018 consists of Ellen Geanacopoulos, Carol Wister, and Steve Seymour. Two Directors-at-Large are also elected at the same time. Besides attending the monthly Board meeting, they may be asked by the President to

take on additional responsibilities, as needed.

We currently have two additional openings, not officers, on our Board, which need to be filled. The remainder of our Board members are made up of the chairs of Standing Committees. We have an opening for a Publicity Chair, following the recent resignation of Alice Stelzer. She has been overseeing a very capable group of committee members, as they complete their assigned duties each month. We will also be needing a replacement for our Technology Communications Committee chair. David Frederici, our current chair, is now living off-Cape and his professional duties have increased substantially, making it difficult for him to attend Board meetings and perform other committee duties. His replacement would require someone who has a familiarity with the technological communications currently available, including websites, social media, and their enhancements. Again, for further information on these positions, you may contact the previous chairperson or me.

Please do not be too quick to turn down an opportunity if, and when, you are contacted by a Nominating Committee or Board member. New points of view and fresh ideas are needed if our Society is to continue to grow and serve the needs of our members.

— Joan

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Welcome to New Members

Jane Garland
Carol Cameron and Russell Anderson

Calendar for March 2018

- March 6 DNA Discussion Group ,
Brewster Ladies' Library.
- March 6 German SIG: Guest Speaker
Dr. Luise Speakman.
- March 13 Computer Users SIG.
- March 16 Writing Family History SIG.
- March 20 CCGS Monthly Meeting.
Joanne Riley, Speaker.
- March 26 Irish SIG.
- March 27 Cape Cod Families SIG.

Some Coming Events

April 3 – German SIG: “History of Jews, Romani People (Gypsies) and Other Groups before WWI in Germany”.

April 7 & 8 – Massachusetts Genealogical Council’s Conference at Westborough. Saturday speakers include Karen Mauer Jones on New York State records; Jean Maguire and David Lambert of NEHGS; Jennifer Zinck on DNA topics; and librarians from the American Antiquarian Society, the Springfield Library, and the Massachusetts Archives. On Sunday Thomas W. Jones, FASG, will lecture on four different topics. To learn more, visit www.massgencouncil.org.

April 9, 2018 – CCGS: Dr. Thomas W. Jones will conduct a workshop, *Finding Immigrant and Migrant Origins*. \$10 for

members; \$15 for non-members – pre-registration required.

April 10, 2018 – CCGS regular monthly meeting (rescheduled from third Tuesday just this time). Dr. Thomas W. Jones will speak.

May 30, 2018 – CCGS Bus Trip to Boston/NEHGS. Stay tuned for details.

In Case You Missed It –

At its February 2018 regular program meeting, the Society enjoyed a webinar from genealogist **Thomas MacEntee**, from his base in Illinois. He outlined a number of procedures for the use of *Facebook* features for genealogical research.

First, he explained *Search Functions*. Among those is the *Graph Search*, for connecting with other researchers; for example, one could put the phrase “People who live in Massachusetts” in the Search box, and list the responses. A next feature to explore is the *Explore All Results* capability; when a result comes back, one should click on “see all results”, including surname and location, and then if more information would help, send a query to the sender. Another feature is known as *See More*, which may consist of pages that others have “liked”.

The *Content* was discussed next. Every post has a link to use, which can be found by using the cursor to hover over the dates and time; a link will then appear for that post, which in turn can be shared with others. A user can send something to anyone who has a *Facebook*

account. One should be careful to ask for permission for posting another person's text, illustrations, or photographs. Citations for *Facebook* are sometimes a challenge; *Facebook* is not the ultimate source, because those data on *Facebook* come from elsewhere; however, in citing *Facebook*, one should include the author's name, the date of accession, and the name of the link. Remember to "like" the page that is being used.

A distinction is made between *Facebook* pages and *Facebook* groups. A *Facebook* page is done by an organization or a company. *Facebook Groups* are formed by a circle of individuals who plan to collaborate for some purpose—in this case, sharing genealogical information. It is necessary for a person to join the *Group*, and a *Group* benefits from someone who is willing to monitor the users to ensure propriety of expressions and the following of whatever rules the *Group* has decided upon. Posts can be updated and then re-posted. A user can add a *Group* to what was until recently called "Favorites", and is now called "Shortcuts". It is possible to check the File section to learn what is new.

Putting a hashtag in front of a surname then allows the label to become a kind of search engine. A *Group* is created by deciding on a purpose, then selecting a privacy level (never make a *Group* public), then writing an accurate description of the *Group's* purpose, and then creating and posting a "Read First". It is possible to "pin" an item to be read first, but one can only pin one post at any one time. Sometimes a

"vanity URL" is created so that users can email the *Group*. An administrator should be designated, with a procedure for adding members. Also, one should be on the lookout for "spammers" who will post bogus messages. A *Group* creator has to have been a *Facebook* user for at least one year beforehand.

For creating a *Page*, the process is similar to that for creating a *Group*, but a *Page* is public, and there is no need to have a separate account. It is possible to wall off personal information, specifying only those individuals you want to have your personal information. It is also possible to schedule when you want a post to appear; and the same is true for *Groups*.

More details about *Privacy* were discussed. A *Privacy Checkup* or *Privacy Settings* can be used. It is possible to have a post go only to one's Friends.

Mr. MacEntee suggested that the age group of over-55 comprises the greatest percentage of *Facebook* users; the so-called "millennial" age group has largely left *Facebook* and is now using processes such as *Snapchat* and *Instagram*.

The Society has both a *Page*, whose coordinator is David Frederici, and a *Group*, whose monitor is Nancy Daniels. Mr. MacEntee can be reached at hidefgen@gmail.com.

— David Martin

The CCGS Genealogy Room
is located in the Dennis Public Library
5 Hall Street, Dennisport
Hours: Tuesday 1-4 • Thursday 10-4
Saturday 10-12



Volunteer Highlights

Ellen Geanacopoulos

LIBRARY STAFF

How many people does it take to staff the CCGS Library? Lots! Ellen Geanacopoulos is one of them who has been a member of the staff for over ten years. She was attracted to do this because she enjoys working in a library environment and she likes helping other people with their genealogy research, particularly people who are just getting started.

One of her most memorable stories involves a man who came in to do some research and discovered he was related to a Revolutionary War soldier. One thing led to another and Ellen was able to help him discover that one of his 20th century ancestors had applied for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution based on this soldier. The application was online and revealed many facts about these and other ancestors that he had never known. All in a day's work for Ellen and the other volunteers at the Library!

THE CCGS LIBRARY HAS RESOURCES well suited for this endeavor. Subscriptions to a number of databases are available on the Library computers including *Ancestry*, *American Ancestors* and *Fold3*, in addition to free sites such as *FamilySearch*. Many visitors to the Library are anxious to utilize these online resources, and Ellen and the other volunteers are there to help. In addition to a substantial collection of genealogical texts, numerous periodicals, journals, magazines, and unpublished manuscripts are part of the collection that Ellen helps people to navigate using the online catalogue.



**Ellen at the computer
on the *American Ancestors* homepage.**

The Library staffing is done in 2 to 3 hour shifts on the days that it is open (see page 5 for times). Ellen typically covers 3 shifts a month. She often has time to work on her own research during these shifts, which she sees as a real bonus.

If you're comfortable working with computers and have a working knowledge of *Ancestry*, you should consider joining Ellen and the other staff volunteers at the Library. Training will be provided to familiarize you with all of the other Library resources, so what's stopping you?

Is Ellen ready to help you with your research or to become a Library volunteer? You bet! You just need to ask her.

Bus Trip to Boston, May 30

If you are planning to go on the trip, please consider being one of two people who will check in the other passengers to make sure no one is accidentally left behind. It's easy and won't require any extra time on your part. Please contact Jane Hester to let her know that you can help (jane.hester@capecodgenealogy.org).