



CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

Volume 4 Issue 4

APR 2017

Tuesday, APRIL 18, 2017, 10 AM

Brewster Ladies' Library

"Finding Cousins Using Autosomal DNA"

Pamela Guye Holland

Pamela Guye Holland has been researching family roots found in Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, England, Germany and Ireland since 2001. She serves on the board of the Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) and is a certificate holder from the Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate program. In 2013 she became a professional genealogist and currently takes private clients and works for Research Services at the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS).



Pamela's research specialties are Irish and Genetic Genealogy, including DNA results from AncestryDNA, Family Tree DNA and 23andMe. Her website is www.GenealogyByPamHolland.com

Come at 9:30 for coffee, tea, donuts and socializing. Please use the door directly entering the auditorium as the rest of the library is not open.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, May 18

Bus Trip to NEHGS

**More info and reservation form
coming your way soon.**

CCGS Connections

Website - [Cape Cod Genealogy Society](http://CapeCodGenealogySociety)

Facebook, check out the CCGS pages. Just put "Cape Cod Genealogical" in the search box.

Follow CCGS on **Twitter**@capecodgensoc

Mailing Address: Cape Cod Genealogical Society. P.O. Box 1394 Harwich. MA 02645

Jottings from Joan

It's April! – We have a couple of big events coming up this month that you will not want to miss. First is our monthly meeting, scheduled for April 18, with Pam Holland, who will speak about your DNA test results. Second is the New England Regional Consortium Conference (NERGC Conference) in Springfield, MA.

You have heard a lot about NERGC already, but I want to mention a few updates before I move onto DNA. This year's conference should prove to be our biggest and best! We have already surpassed the 2015 total number of registrations, which had been a record breaker. In our Exhibit Hall, we will have several new vendors, including Ancestry, coming from Utah, My Heritage (home-based in Israel, with a strong emphasis on Jewish and worldwide records), ArkivDigital (Swedish genealogy), as well as the Essex Record Office... not MA, but from England.... No, we are not a "local" conference anymore! Registration is still open... I previously reported that the DNA workshop on Thursday was sold out – the wait list was so long, Jennifer Zinck agreed to do another on Wednesday evening; but that was quickly filled and a third was scheduled for Saturday morning at 8 A.M. If you are interested, move quickly-- as of Saturday, there were only 10 seats left! I will continue to give updates on the CCGS Facebook site, so keep tuned for the latest news.

Now, on to DNA... Pam Holland will be our speaker on April 18, at Brewster Ladies Library, and will be talking about "Finding Cousins Using Your Autosomal DNA." This will be a great topic for anyone who has already tested, but you will still find the information valuable if you have not already tested and are wondering if it is worthwhile.

Autosomal DNA is, in my opinion at least, the most valuable DNA test that you can do to supplement your research. It is important to remember that it is only a supplement! Without your research of the records and completing a family history, the DNA does not prove anything. Autosomal, because it is inherited from both parents, will help you to locate close relatives, those unknown second, third and fourth cousins that are still living. Pam will talk about how to do this.

Although it is advertised to a great degree that DNA will tell you "your ethnicity" and "where your ancestors came from," this is not the way to learn this info. What they do not tell you in the ads, is that these are only estimates, and are not very accurate. Why? They are giving you information from a thousand years ago, and will reflect the migration of our ancient ancestors all over Europe and elsewhere. These estimates are done by comparing your results to a "Reference Panel," which is a panel of individuals, currently residing in a country and whose ancestors have resided in that "locality" for a number of years. Sounds good, but what they do not explain is the range of that locality. Look at the maps that Ancestry provides, for example... Native American ancestry includes not just US natives, but also those from Central America, South America, Canada..., so if your test states you have Native American ancestry, it might not be Sioux or Wampanoag, for example, but rather Inca, Aztec, or Eskimo! "Great Britain ethnicity" maps on Ancestry cover not only England, Scotland, and Wales, but also France, Germany, parts of Scandinavia, and Belgium.

The moral of the story is to make sure you know what you are looking for before you test!

Joan

Cape Cod Genealogical Society Officers 2016-17

Joan Frederici – President, **Ralph Ryall** - Vice-President, **Margo Lewis** - Recording Secretary, **Bebe Brock** - Corresponding Secretary, **Wayne Van Buren** – Treasurer

Website - [Cape Cod Genealogy Society](http://CapeCodGenealogySociety.com) **Mailing:** Cape Cod Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1394, Harwich, MA 02645.

*Cape Cod Genealogical Society is a qualified section 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Membership Dues and Donations are Tax Deductible as permitted by law.*

CCGS Genealogical Library

The CCGS's Genealogy Room, located in the [Dennis Public Library](#), 5 Hall Street, Dennisport, **Hours:** Tuesday 1 – 4, Thursday 10 – 4 and Saturday 10 – 12.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) 2017

Mass Mutual Center
Springfield, MA
April, 26-29, 2017

Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past

Download the 20-Page Conference Brochure (*may include a few blank pages due to software conversion issues*).

Check NERGC.org for updates & join their e-zine mailing list! Find out more information about the lectures, speakers, exhibitors, hotel, research facilities, and the City of Springfield. Check out the blog to get the most out of the Conference at www.NERGC.blogspot.com.

Donations

We continue to be able to keep our membership fees low because some of our members add a donation when they renew. In future issues, we will continue thanking members who have donated to the Society.

Marion Bowers Natale, Maureen Quinn, Elizabeth & James Radloff, Joanne & William Reade, Susan Rhilinger, Dorothy & Francis Robinson, Dorothy & Ernest Schatz, David Schmidt and Alice Stelzer.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

In the CCGS Genealogical Library

The Feb./March 2017 issue of *Internet genealogy* features an article on organizing your family photos. The author suggests that photo management software is very worthwhile, allowing images to be tagged according to their many different aspects, and therefore findable no matter how you choose to organize the collection. Examples discussed are: Adobe Photoshop Elements, Adobe Photoshop Lightroom, Apple photos, and Google photos. Numerous other topics are addressed in this issue:

- Google My Maps (free, customizable)
- Civil War damage claims
- resources for researching circus performers
- maximizing clues from the records you find, and from city directories
- Northeastern Pennsylvania genealogical resources
- the Italian Ancestors Project on FamilySearch
- forever.com (a service to help your research survive you!)

Members of the German Interest Group may wish to take a look at the featured article in *Your Genealogy* (Jan.-Feb. 2017), which discusses calendars and religious feast days. Were you aware that in Germany there were competing calendars in use in the late 1500s and through the 1600s? and that the old names for months established by Charlemagne prevailed until the 1700s in some parts of

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Germany. David Norris reviews the history of unisex naming practices. The restoration of a cemetery in Iowa is described by Constance Cherba. The United States Federal Mortality Census was taken in many counties and states in 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1885, and gives "A wealth of information" on those who died in the year leading up to the Federal Census.

Calling All Volunteers

If you haven't already seen it, check out your mailbox (email or snail depending) for your invitation to the CCGS volunteer recognition event. Hopefully you're planning to join in the fun. This is a perfect opportunity for you to meet and chat with other volunteers, as well as members of the Board who will want to hear what you think about our ongoing activities. If you have volunteered since July 1, 2016, and have not received an invitation, please contact Suzanne Walton, CCGS Volunteer Coordinator (SEWalton@capecodgenealogy.org). Looking forward to see you there.

Writing Family History SIG

The Writing Family History Special Interest Group is expanding. In addition to our monthly meeting, some members are going to start exchanging their writings through emails. In this way members who cannot commit to the specific time and place of a meeting, can still receive assistance and encouragement from other writers.

This change will make the Writing Family History SIG available to all CCGS members, not just those who live on the Cape. If you would like to know how the email exchange works or are interested in being part of this group, please contact me at alice.stelzer@capecodgenealogy.org

Exploring Technology

Are you intimidated by the term "Technology"?

Join us once a month, on the 4th Friday of the month, as we try to answer all your questions together! We will be meeting at the Brewster Ladies Library, downstairs, at 10AM. **NOTE: This Committee is separate from the Computer SIG.** As always, we need feedback from you on what classes you want to do. Contact Chair at joan.frederici@capecodgenealogy.org

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 at capecodgenealogy.org.

Cape Cod Families – 4th Tuesday, Sturgis Library; **Computer Users** – 4th Tuesday, 10 AM, Dennis Public Lib;

German – 1st Tuesday; 10 Am *BLL; **Irish** - 4th Mon; 10 AM, Dennis Public Library;

Writing Fam Hist – 3rd Friday: 11 AM, BLL*

*BLL is Brewster Ladies Library.

Volunteer Needed

As you can see from the format of this newsletter, I have computer problems and need someone to do the newsletter. This person would be on the Publicity Committee and have only one responsibility: take the materials given by the chair and turn it into a 4-page newsletter and then return newsletter to chair who will handle distribution. If you can help, please email Alice at aliceplouchardstelzer@gmail.com.