November Joint Meeting of CCGS and Falmouth Genealogical Society to Feature Presentation from Mary Tedesco of Genealogy Roadshow

MARK YOUR CALENDAR to join us for the annual joint meeting of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society (CCGS) and the Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) on Saturday, November 11, 2017, at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Osterville. The featured speaker at this year’s meeting will be Mary M. Tedesco, co-host/genealogist on “Genealogy Roadshow” (PBS TV series).

Ms. Tedesco’s presentation, entitled “Social Media for Genealogists”, will provide effective tips for using Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Pinterest, and other social networks to foster connections with fellow genealogists; boost blog readership; generate business leads; and more.

MARY TESDICO is a professional genealogist, speaker, and author. She is a Co-Host / Genealogist on the PBS television series “Genealogy Roadshow” (season 2 & season 3) as well as the Founder of ORIGINS ITALY. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics from Boston University and a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University’s Center for Professional Education. In addition to her Italian ancestry on her father’s side (Calabria, Trentino-Alto Adige, and Tuscany), she has deep American roots on her mother’s side (German, Irish, Danish & English). Mary is a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and is the Second Vice Regent of the Paul Revere Chapter NSDAR. She is a member of a number of local and national genealogical societies and is on the Council of the New England Historic Genealogical Society.

Optional Lunch: Lobster roll lunch with fixings and beverage - $15, or chicken salad with fixings and beverage - $10. Please make lunch reservations no later than Nov. 8 by contacting Judy Fenner at bfennerpgm@comcast.net or 508-776-9401, and please specify lunch choice.

Date: Saturday, November 11, 2017
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon, followed by optional purchase of Lunch and informal discussion.
Place: St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 421 Wianno Ave., Osterville, Mass.
Parking: Behind and on side of Church, and on Wianno Ave.
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If there is something you would like to see in CCGS News, please contact either Alice Stelzer <alice.stelzer@capecodgenealogy.com> or Jane Fiske <janeffiske@gmail.com>.

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Scheduled Events

Education Course at Whelden Library

The CCGS Education Committee will conduct a course in genealogy at the Whelden Library in West Barnstable (Route 149, close to the junction of Route 6A):

Three sessions, Mondays, November 6, 13, and 20, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Please plan to be present at 1 p.m.

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.


Computer Users – 2nd Tuesday, Dennis Public Library. Next: 14 November 2017, 10 a.m. David Martin, chairman.

German – 1st Tuesday; 10 a.m. – 12 Noon. Next: 7 November 2017. Ann Croston, chairman.


Writing Family History – 3rd Friday, 11 a.m. Next: 17 November 2017, Brewster Ladies’ Library. Alice Plouchard Stelzer, chairman.

DNA Group

No meeting in November.

The next meeting will be 5 December 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Dennis Public Library. Teri Grey will lead a discussion on X-DNA, and Dick Rich will walk the group through a surname project done with Y-DNA. Bring your questions and problems as there will be lots of time for discussion.

Teri has volunteered to act as moderator for the Winter meetings (except for January). We still need a volunteer to moderate the January meeting (tentatively planned for January 2nd). Please contact Teri if you are willing to help with this: terigrey@gmail.com.
Although the temperatures on Cape Cod are unseasonably warm, the calendar is telling me that November is already here…. The end of daylight savings, the beginning of the holiday season are both rapidly approaching. Along with those events, we will soon begin receiving our 2018 membership renewal forms.

Although CCGS follows a fiscal year that runs from July through June, our membership year follows the calendar – January through December. We are very appreciative of the support you give CCGS. It is through your support that the Society is able to function and provide all our members a variety of benefits.

Without the funds that your membership brings into the Society, we would not be able to bring the wonderful speakers that we schedule every month. We are also able to present an occasional webinar. The best part of a webinar is that our non-local members can attend the program, either live or through watching a taped video afterwards. I hope to see more webinars in our future.

Membership dues also allow us to assist you with your research by providing access to Ancestry, AmericanAncestors, and Fold 3 to members, and to the public, at our Research Library at the Dennis Public Library in Dennisport. We also subscribe to a variety of genealogical magazines and journals for your benefit. It gives us the funds needed to provide our Journal to you twice a year, with interesting genealogically related articles. In addition, did you realize that we have just published a revised edition to the Cape Cod and Islands Resource Book? It contains updated information on resources available locally for your Cape and Islands research, for a low cost.

Other benefits of membership include our Special Interest Groups, which are restricted to members-only, and occasional discussion groups, such as the very popular DNA group that began during the summer, and Exploring Technology.

For myself, I think one of the best benefits of membership in this great organization has been the wonderful people I have met over the years and all the support our members give to one another throughout the year.

When your renewal form arrives, make sure you do not forget to return it to us in a timely manner, so you won’t miss anything in 2018.

– joan.frederici@capecodgenealogy.org

New Resources Book for Cape and Islands Genealogists!

The second edition of the Society’s Resource Book for Cape and Islands Genealogists is now available.

Like the first edition, this one lists a variety of informational sources for genealogical research on Cape Cod, the Islands, and southeastern Massachusetts. Included are websites for genealogical repositories, the genealogical content of Cape and Islands libraries, historical and genealogical societies, town histories, and more.

To order through print-on-demand, at the price of $15, go to www.lulu.com and enter the title in “search.” The book should arrive within about two weeks. We hope you will find it to be a useful tool!

A few printed copies will be available at meetings.
HELP WANTED! — The Education Committee of the Society invites interest in joining the Committee. The work of the Committee includes planning and assisting with the teaching of our genealogy-education courses at different locations on Cape Cod for the general public, developing ideas for advanced workshops on genealogy for members, and any other areas related to genealogy-education. The Committee meets monthly on the first Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. in the smaller Conference Room in the lower level of the Brewster Library.

Questions? Contact David Martin at davidchina_2000@yahoo.com or call 508-527-0460.

Thank you!

Participate in Holiday Meeting

HAVE YOU UNCOVERED family stories, artifacts, memorabilia, or photos that reveal a slice of your family history? Maybe you’ve discovered new family members through DNA, broken through a brick wall in your research, or assembled an photo album covering one or more ancestors. Please consider sharing with fellow members and researchers at our annual CCGS holiday program meeting on Tuesday, December 19, at the Brewster Ladies’ Library. Contact Ralph Ryall at ryalfrile@aol.com if you would like to share a facet from your family history.

Lead the January DNA Group

We still need a volunteer to moderate the January meeting of the DNA Discussion Group, tentatively planned for 2 January 2018 (first Tuesday), Dennis Public Library. (See Notice on page 2.) Please let Teri Grey know at <terigrey@gmail.com> if you would be willing to lead a discussion based on your experience.

Bits of Suggested Reading

ARE YOU AVOIDING DOING RESEARCH IN COURT RECORDS? You might be inspired to begin by the lead article in Your Genealogy Today (Sept./Oct. 2017) which traces a ne’er-do-well family’s appearances in 19th-century court records in the Carolinas. It makes a good read and gives you a flavor for the kinds of things you might come across. For fans of Genealogy Roadshow, there’s an interview with co-host Mary Tedesco, including her tips. If you had 19th-century ancestors in Ireland, you might want to read the description of a typical school. A couple of obscure record types are explained: apprentice records (for learning trades), and road overseers (did you know they used to conscript local citizens and sometimes their animals to work on roads and bridges?). State-based WWI records are covered in some depth, and probate records other than wills are the subject of a column.

Mayflower descendants, check out the latest issue of The American Genealogist. The correct English background of Pilgrims William White and Dorothy (May) Bradford has at long last been found and published (TAG 89 [April 2017]:81-94).