October Meeting

Researching Newspapers: Cape Cod and Beyond

Electronic Access to Historic Cape Cod Daily Newspapers

LUCY LOOMIS, Director of the Sturgis Library in Barnstable, and TERESA CARTER, Independent Researcher and Writer, along with Project Coordinator DAVID MARTIN of CCGS, will present a Special Preview of an important project now under way.

NEWSPAPERS OF THE PAST can be highly useful to genealogical researchers, and many are now indexed and already or in the process of being digitized. Births, marriages, deaths, baptisms, funerals, and social events can sometimes be uncovered. On Cape Cod, the Barnstable Patriot has been digitized for on-line searches for the years 1830-1930; and in 2017 a project started to digitize the other equally important Cape Cod newspaper—the Register, which began in 1836. This current project, funded by Community Preservation Grants, will be completed in early 2019, but a SPECIAL PREVIEW will be given at the October 16, 2018 regular Society meeting. A demonstration of how to conduct a search for genealogical information will take place, including sample questions from the audience. The combination of the Patriot and the Register is a powerful source for all who are doing research on Cape ancestors from the early 19th century forward. Included also in this session will be examples of how to search newspapers nationally and internationally. Bring an example of an ancestor that you can ask the demonstration team to search!

Tuesday, October 16, 2018, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library, Route 6A, Brewster.
Come early for socializing and refreshments at 9:30 a.m.

Due to limited parking spaces behind Brewster Ladies' Library, and out of respect to all Brewster Library patrons, we strongly encourage attendees at our monthly CCGS meetings to park in the adjoining lot behind the Baptist Church.
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SIGs

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 – Next: Wednesday [note different day], October 10, 2018, 10-11:30 a.m., Dennis Public Library. Bill Horrocks and Bob Oppenheim, co-chairmen.

DNA — Formerly a Discussion Group, this has been given permanent status as a SIG. Usually meets 2nd Tuesday, Dennis Public Library, but because of Library scheduling, next is October 2, 2018 [note different day], 1:30-3:30 p.m. Teri Grey, chairman <terigrey@gmail.com>. In November the original scheduling (second Tuesday of the month), will resume. One or more volunteers are needed to lead the group for meetings Dec. – May.

German – 1st Tuesday; 10 a.m.–12 Noon, Brewster Ladies’ Library. Next: October 2, 2018. Ann Croston, chairman. October meeting will focus on the location of family in Germany – State – City – Village – Map – Geography – Topography –Main Products & Occupations – Religion. (See important information on page 6.)


Writing Family History – 3rd Friday, 11 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library. Next: October 19, 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!

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Calendar for October

October 2  DNA SIG
October 2  German SIG
October 10  Computer Users SIG
October 10  Oktoberfest at Cultural Center (see page 4)
October 16  CCGS Monthly Meeting (see page 1)
October 19  Writing Family History SIG
October 22  Irish SIG
October 23  Cape Cod Families SIG

Looking Ahead

Friday, November 9, at 1:30 p.m.: Joyce Prince, author of a children’s book, Mary Chilton Winslow, will speak at the Brewster Ladies’ Library, about Mary’s voyage on the Mayflower, her life at Plymouth, and a bit about the Thanksgiving tradition.

Saturday, November 10: St. Peter’s Church, Osterville (CCGS joint meeting with Falmouth Genealogical Society). See notice below, page 3.

Tuesday, December 18: Brewster Ladies’ Library. CCGS Annual Holiday Meeting with informal presentations from members.
REFLECTIONS FROM RALPH

While waiting for inspiration on what to write for this month’s newsletter, I decided to lurk around in the desk drawers for something to distract me. Far in the back of one drawer, I came across a small book that my daughter had given me for Christmas back in 2013 when she was pregnant with her first child. The book is entitled “Grandpa . . . His stories. His words”. Inside are about 35 – 40 questions asked by a grandchild to evoke memories and stories from Grandpa and inspire him to write these down on the blank pages that follow each question. Well, it’s been almost five years since I received the book, my grandson is now 4-years old, and every page in that little book is still blank. Shame on me! That being said, I was struck by a sentence in the short preface to this book: “Imagine if your grandfather had been able to tuck away a similar book for you.” I knew only my paternal grandfather, but he passed away when I was just 5-years old. So, my memories of him are somewhat vague, and he left no family history stories that would help to better know him as a person. Perhaps, some of you are fortunate enough to have written records/memories left by a grandparent or even someone further back in your lineage. I’m reminded of what Dave Robison, our invited speaker back in June, expressed so well in his presentation: “get busy writing your story!”

We spend countless hours searching databases, old newspapers, paper records, libraries, and more to find information about our ancestors and how they lived. Then we build family trees with hundreds, maybe thousands, of names and dates. These will surely make for treasured gifts to our descendants. But, it’s difficult to dispute that leaving memories, in your own handwriting or perhaps in audio version, would create a cherished family heirloom. Something to consider as we enter this time of year with approaching holidays and family gatherings. I’d be negligent if I failed to mention our “Writing Family History” Special Interest Group that meets monthly and provides a sharing forum for writers of all experience levels.

As far as that little book I found in the drawer, I now have it prominently placed on top of my desk, and yes, I’ve already started making entries. I guess the Muse intended for me to not only find and use the book, but also try to encourage others to “get busy writing!”

— Ralph
— ryalfrile@aol.com

Planning Ahead For Lunch
The November 10 Joint Meeting
with Falmouth Genealogical Society

Our joint meeting with the Falmouth Genealogical Society will be held Saturday, November 10, 2018 at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, Osterville. Choice of lunch menu must be made NO LATER THAN Saturday, November 3: lobster roll ($15), or chicken salad roll ($9); both include chips, homemade brownie, and beverage. Please let Judy Fenner know your selection, no later than November 3, by e-mailing her at <bfennerpgm@comcast.net> or phoning 508-776-9401 (leave a message if no answer).

Our invited speaker for the joint meeting on November 10 is Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL. Ms. Russell will be giving two presentations:

1. Finding the Law (relating to genealogy records), and
2. Facts, Photos, and Fair Use: Copyright Law for Genealogists

The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m.

Library Resources

DID YOU KNOW that there are online databases available at the Cape Cod Genealogy Library?

These include Ancestry, AmericanAncestors, FindMyPast, and FamilySearch.
DNA News

THE DNA DISCUSSION GROUP has graduated to the status of Special Interest Group (SIG). The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 2, 1:30-3:30 p.m., at the Dennis Public Library.

This meeting will be a DNA Painter Workshop. Please bring your charged laptops, as we will be Painting Segments on our DNA. See page 6 for special instructions.

Chairperson Teri Grey reports two news items that may affect those of us who have had a DNA test with Ancestry or MyHeritage:

- **Ancestry** has released updated Ethnicity estimates. [Ed. note: Mine changed quite a lot! I lost Iberian and picked up Norwegian.]
- **MyHeritage** is changing its policy: “As of December 1st 2018, our DNA upload policy will change: DNA Matching will remain free for uploaded DNA data, but unlocking additional DNA features will require an extra payment for DNA files uploaded after this date. All DNA data that was uploaded to MyHeritage in the past, and all DNA data that is uploaded now and prior to December 1, 2018 will continue to enjoy full access to all DNA features for free. These uploads will be grandfathered in and will remain free.”

Volunteers are needed to lead the group for the winter, starting in December. Contact Teri Grey <terigrey@gmail.com> if you are interested and willing.

The German Special Interest Group

Chairman Ann Croston calls our attention to an event at the Cultural Center:

OKTOBERFEST 2018.
Wednesday, Oct. 10, from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Chef Joe Cizynski will prepare an authentic German Oktoberfest dinner. Buffet style, it will include butternut squash soup with chestnuts and ham, assorted German cured meats with cambozola bleu cheese, smoked salmon with a dill cucumber sauce, sauerbraten with cabbage, apples, and spaetzli, German wursts with homemade sauerkraut and beets, and poached shellfish in lager broth. For dessert, we will have chocolate German cake, apple strudel, and assorted cheeses. This is a BYOB event, so feel free to bring your favorite wine or beer. Price: $35. Place: Cultural Center of Cape Cod, 307 Old Main Street, South Yarmouth. Call 508-394-7100 to register.

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Welcome to New Members

Carolyn Parker
Patricia Henry
Rosemary LoVuolo
Cheryl Gardiner
Grace Galvin

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Publicity News

Deborah Ryall has agreed to assume the role of Publicity Chairperson for CCGS. In this role Deborah will be facilitating all aspects of the Committee that has been working to publicize our activities in the monthly Newsletter, mailings, social media outlets, and newspapers. Deborah may be contacted by email at <RyallDeborah@aol.com>.

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

Jane Fiske
Newsletter Editor

THE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE does a lot for CCGS. From our membership brochures to ads in the Cape Cod Times, this Committee keeps our name in front of the public and keeps our members informed. Doing this requires a fair bit of coordination. One of the vehicles we use to do this is the monthly Newsletter which you’re reading now. While various people contribute content, one person puts it all together from file creation to printing. This person is Jane Fiske.

Jane joined CCGS about three years ago, shortly after she and her husband moved to Cape Cod. A neighbor, David Martin, invited her right away to join the Society. A year or so later when Alice Stelzer, then chair of the Publicity Committee, appealed for help with the Newsletter because she was having a computer glitch that month, Jane volunteered. Well, one month led to another, and last year Jane took it over entirely. This turned out to be lucky timing: at her first face to face meeting with Alice—the reception for volunteers at Kingsway—she won a door prize.

Though at heart she’s a genealogical researcher and writer, Jane has had a lot of editing experience. During six of her fifteen years at the New England Historical Genealogical Society (“HisGen”) as editor of the Register, she was also Director of Publications. She edited Rhode Island Roots for eleven years and, for the past nine years, has been editor of The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey. She has formatted, edited, and indexed a lot of books. (If you’re a long time member of CCGS, you might remember her speaking at an annual luncheon, about publishing, using one of her own books, Thomas Cooke of Rhode Island [a maternal ancestor] and His Descendants, as an example.) She’d never done a newsletter before, though, and figured it would be an interesting challenge — and so it has proved to be.

When asked for something humorous that had happened during her years of editing, Jane recalled the time that the HisGen, as usual, sent several sets of four quarterly issues of The Register to be bound into single annual volumes, and there was shock and consternation all around when the books came back from the bindery, neatly stamped in gold: New England Historic and Gynecological Register. Thanks to great proofreaders on our committee, nothing like that is going to happen in the Newsletter!

One of Jane’s two sons is hooked on genealogy and some years ago was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, an honor Jane received in 1983. They are the first mother and son affiliation among the FASG, and share an interest in tracing English origins.

She views genealogy generally and her work on the Newsletter in particular as a way to meet people. She says, “Any project is more fun if you can share it with others who are interested. Genealogy includes so much variety, and degree of involvement can range from the casual hobbyist to the scholar working in a single time period. There’s something there for everybody, and since it can never be finished, you’ll never get bored.”

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Jane (seen here enjoying a lovely late summer afternoon, far from the computer) could use a little help collecting material and notices for the Newsletter. If you think you’d like to help out with this task — it can be done from home — please contact jane.fiske@capecodgenealogy.org.
Homework!

GERMAN SIG: Please join us at the Brewster Ladies’ Library at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, October 2. A Worksheet, Researching Your Ancestor’s Homeland, was sent to all members of the Group, but if you didn’t receive it for any reason — or just want one to see what we’re doing — please call Ann Croston right away (508-385-3173) or email her at <acroston125@comcast.net>. There isn’t space to include all the questions in this Newsletter.

We ask that each of you fill out the worksheet giving location information for an ancestor. If you have not found an ancestor’s location, fill in & research what you know, take a good guess & research generally, or trace a famous person from the general area. Also, if you would like a second pair of eyes to look at your ancestor, please send me your gathered information. Perhaps we can help.

Then we ask that you add a brief report or highlight of the location that you find interesting or revealing. At our meeting we will ask members if they are willing to share their research and report (and map or pictures if you have them).

We will build upon the Location Worksheet in our November thru March meetings. Please make 2 copies – one for you to retain for future reference and one for our German SIG Notebook.

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call Ann or email her. We look forward to seeing you!

The DNA SIG will also meet Tuesday, October 2, at the Dennis Public Library, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. This meeting will be a DNA Painter Workshop. Please bring your charged laptops (there may not be enough wall plugs) and we will be Painting Segments on our DNA. In preparation, please set up an account at DNA Painter (see handout from the September meeting). Make sure you have your DNA at one of these sites: MyHeritage, Family Tree DNA, 23andMe, or GEDmatch, so that you can obtain the segment data. Please email Teri at <terigrey@gmail.com> if you plan to attend so that she can have enough tables set up.