



CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

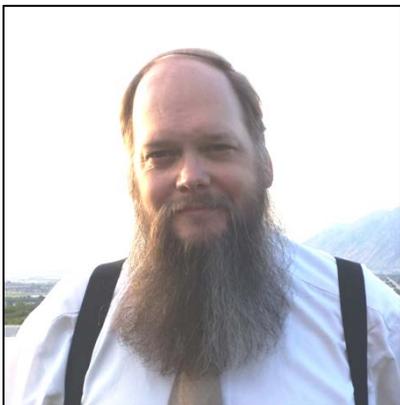
Volume 6 Issue 10

November 2019

November Meeting – Saturday November 9th, 2019
annual joint meeting with the Falmouth Genealogical Society
at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 421 Wianno Ave., Osterville

Michael L. Strauss, AG. Mr. Strauss will be giving two presentations:

- ★ "Researching your World War II Ancestors"
- ★ "Following the Armies: Researching Military Maps (from Colonial to Vietnam)"



MICHAEL L. STRAUSS, AG, is a professional Accredited Genealogist (ICAPGen), and a nationally recognized speaker. A native of Pennsylvania and a resident of Utah, he has been employed as a Forensic Investigator for more than 25 years. Strauss holds a BA in History and is a United States Coast Guard veteran. He is a qualified expert witness in the courts in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Michael is featured on Lisa Louise Cooke's *Genealogy Gems* with his monthly segment of "Military Minutes." Strauss is a faculty member at SLIG, GRIP, and IGHR where he is the Military Course Coordinator.

The meeting will start at 10:30 a.m. Please *do not* arrive before 10 a.m.

The Meeting includes an optional lunch, but Friday, November 1 is the cut-off date for placing your order.

Choice of lunch menu must be made **NO LATER THAN Friday, November 1:**

Lobster Roll (\$15), or Chicken Salad Roll (\$9); both include chips, homemade brownie, and beverage. Please let Judy Fenner know your selection by e-mailing her at <bfennerpgm@comcast.net> or phoning 508-776-9401 (leave a message if no answer). Judy prefers that payment be made on the day of the event. Checks should be made out to Masona Chapter – *not* to Judy.

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Mailing address:

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East Harwich, MA 02645
www.capecodgenealogy.org

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.

Cape Cod Families – 4th Tuesday, Sturgis Library. *Next:* November 26, 2019, 1 p.m., Bebe Brock, chairman.

Computer Users – 2nd Tuesday, Dennis Public Library, 10 a.m. - noon. *Next:* November 12, 2019. All are welcome. Bill Horrocks, Bob Oppenheim (Roppen@msn.com), and Jim Sullivan, co-chairmen.

DNA – **Different Time:** 2nd Tuesday, November 12, Dennis Public Library, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (normally meets 1st Tuesday).

German – 1st Tuesday, 10 a.m.–Noon, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* November 5, 2019. Ann Croston, leader: acroston125@comcast.net. (See notice, page 4.)

Irish – 4th Monday, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library. *Next:* November 25, 2019. No meeting in December. Jim Sullivan has graciously agreed to facilitate meetings January through May while leader *Pat Flaherty*: (patcarole@gmail.com) is away.

Writing Family History – 3rd Friday, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* November 15, 2019. Pippa Ryan, chairman.

Membership News

KEEP AN EYE OUT! The 2020 membership renewal period begins November 1st.

Renewal notices will be sent the first week of November – by email if we have your email address, by U.S. mail if we don't.

Please renew promptly and continue to enjoy all the benefits that come with membership. If you don't plan to renew, we would like to know the reason why. If it's a problem we can fix, we'll try to do so.

Do you have a notice for the next *Newsletter*? SIG News, or perhaps a webinar or conference to call to members' attention? Please contact the editor at janeffiske@gmail.com by November 22.

A Message from Walter

I AM WRITING THIS MESSAGE a bit earlier than usual as I prepare to head off Cape for a family wedding for the second time in three weeks. The first was in New York City and the upcoming celebration will be in Washington D.C. No rest for the weary! As a result, I did not readily appreciate the fact that November is right around the corner. This, in turn, brings to mind three things.

First, the annual joint meeting between CCGS and the Falmouth Genealogical Society will be held on November 9 with guest speaker Michael L. Strauss, AG. However, it is important to note that **November 1 is the deadline to order one of the optional lunch choices (lobster roll or chicken roll)**. So, as you read this, time is of the essence if you plan to attend and still need to place a lunch order. Details of both the meeting and how to order lunch can be found elsewhere in this issue and on the CCGS website

(<https://capecodgenealogy.org/>).

Second, in addition to the deadline for lunch choices, November marks the beginning of the 2020 membership renewal period. Renewal notices will be sent out beginning on November 1. Please renew as quickly as possible in order to continue enjoying – without interruption -- the benefits that come with being a CCGS member. Those benefits include:

- Informative speakers and webinars at our monthly meetings.
- Access to *Ancestry.com*, *American Ancestors*, *Find My Past*, and *Family Search* at our Research Library at the Dennis Public Library in Dennis Port. Our library also contains numerous books, publications and records.
- Our six Special Interest Groups (SIGs).
- The semi-annual *Journal*.
- The opportunity to meet new friends.

- An opportunity to volunteer so that CCGS continues to be a vibrant organization.

Third, November of course brings to mind Thanksgiving and, in turn, the 1620 journey of the Pilgrims from England to Cape Cod (and then on to what is now Plymouth). As it happens, the November 9 CCGS/FGS joint meeting will also mark the 399th anniversary of the sighting of the tip of Cape Cod after 66 days at sea. In that regard, our “Cape Cod 400” committee has already had two meetings. The goal is to provide activities to help our members commemorate the Pilgrims’ visit to Cape Cod’s shores. In addition to offering our own events, we will monitor the Plymouth 2020 and Provincetown 400 calendars for other opportunities. If you have any suggestions, please let me know.

While on the subjects of anniversaries and committees, I would like to put out an early call for help on planning a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society. The anniversary is some way off in 2021, but I believe that we should get a head start on arrangements for something that is worthy of the significance of the event. Please email me if you want to be part of this new committee.

Finally, I will close with another reminder about our February 15 and April 25 monthly meetings. They are both on a Saturday – not the usual third Tuesday. So please mark your calendars now.

I hope to see many of you at the November 9 joint meeting with Falmouth. (I ordered the lobster roll!)

— Walter

(wmgenealogy@gmail.com)

News from CCGS Special Interest Groups

DNA SIG

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED for November 12 at 1:30 at the Dennis Public Library in Dennis Port. Note that this is the *second* Tuesday of November, not the usual first Tuesday of the month.

The SIG recently placed an order for 40 copies of *Genetic Genealogy in Practice* by Blaine T. Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne. The book will be used as a basis for at least a portion of future meetings. In addition, it should also help allow members to participate in the SIG even if they cannot physically attend meetings. It is hoped that the books will be received by the November 12 meeting for use at the December meeting.

In addition to distributing the books, the November meeting will devote time for a question and answer round-table session. This is an opportunity for people to ask for help, get guidance from the group, or to demonstrate new finds and breakthroughs. No question is too elementary. This is becoming a regular feature of the SIG meetings. In addition, the meeting will examine tools – both old and new – provided by DNA Painter (dnapainter.com).

Irish SIG

The November 25th meeting topic is “Twitter for Genealogists” and a report on Donna Moughty’s 2019 Dublin Research Trip – both by Joan O’Donnell. There will be no meeting in December. The January through April meetings

will be facilitated by Jim Sullivan, topics to be determined. Each meeting includes a discussion during which participants bring up questions, describe brick walls and announce exciting finds. Please e-mail Pat Flaherty with any queries or to be added to the mailing list – patcarole@gmail.com.

German SIG

Please join us at the Brewster Ladies’ Library at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, November 5 (in the upstairs auditorium).

Our November meeting will focus on our immigrant families’ neighbors, friends, and neighborhood. By exploring these individuals, we may find clues as to the German village of emigration. And/or explore the life and times of our immigrants.

We ask that you fill out a worksheet concerning your immigrant family and neighborhood. *Members already registered with this group received the worksheet by email; if you didn’t, and want one, contact Leader Ann Croston (acroston125@comcast.net).*

(Note: do not despair if you are unable to complete the “assignment”. Alternatively, we hope that you will share some new and interesting developments in your research or will prepare to query our members for research advice).

The email that went out to members included part of a “nugget” of information from Jonathan Marwil’s History of Ann Arbor, Michigan, concerning German immigrants to Washtenaw County, Michigan, in the mid-1800s. It was cited as an example of the kind of resource that might be found.



Volunteer Highlights

REGINA (“GINA”) MULLEN

SOMETIMES THE ROAD to doing family history is long and twisted. And so it was for Gina. As a college student in her hometown, Newton, Massachusetts, Gina happened upon the book containing the tercentenary history of the city in the college library. She knew that her family had lived there for four generations, and in the book she found information about a fifth generation, William T. Mullen, a Civil War volunteer from the city. That was interesting, but life was moving along toward earning her college degree in History. Gina then went on to earn her Law degree at the University of Virginia and began practicing in the office of the Delaware Attorney General.

In her position there, she was responsible for counseling and litigation relating to the business of the State agencies. She served for four years as the Chief of the Civil Division and argued a case in the Supreme Court of the United States. The State Archives was one of her first “clients”. This gave Gina exposure to many of the things genealogists pursue and the discipline required but within a different context. While this was good background for her later genealogical pursuits, as Gina says, “You don’t need such a background. You just need to be curious, open to serendipity, willing to revisit your research, and careful when evaluating and citing your sources.”

Like so many of us, Gina did not have the time to focus on genealogy until she retired, and in her case, moved to Cape Cod. She

attended one of the CCGS workshops as a non-member and soon joined the Society. That was about six or seven years ago. Soon thereafter, she agreed to support CCGS’s sponsorship of the NERGC Conference by volunteering as a room monitor which she has repeated at couple of conferences. You may have seen her taking photos at various Society meetings. For the last several years she has been a member of the Communications Technology Committee, posting photos and information about Society events on our Facebook pages as well as reposting interesting articles from other Facebook pages. Gina also contributes an occasional article to the Society newsletter. These are some volunteer activities that can be done remotely, which works well with her snowbird schedule.

While working in the AG’s office, Gina more or less stumbled upon the 1889 City Directory of Newton in an old bookstore. In it she found an advertisement for her great grandfather Mullen’s farrier business. She acquired the book, but again, life was moving along, and the book joined others on her bookshelf. About two years ago, Gina took that



directory off the shelf and discovered more information about her paternal grandmother's Flynn ancestors. More recently, searching in the Boston College Library digital index, she found the 1940's memoirs of a collateral relative which contained references to the Linnehans, another line of her paternal second great-grandparents who lived about eight-tenths of a mile from the library where, almost 50 years ago, she found the reference to their in-law, her Civil War ancestor. Slowly but surely, the pieces are falling into place.

Given her Irish ancestry, Gina has been an active member of the Irish SIG. When a non-member attended one day needing help, the group provided him with many suggestions of on-line resources he could use. However, it came to be known that the man was legally blind and could not avail himself of these suggestions. Gina was finding helping friends with their genealogy work to be something she enjoyed doing and she extended her help to this man. While not an official volunteer activity, it's an example of what Gina says about volunteering, "There's a lot to be done to maintain and grow a volunteer organization like the Society and I find that volunteering makes me feel more invested in its success and my research."

CCGS Calendar for November 2019

- November 1 **DEADLINE** for **menu choice** for November 9 joint meeting with Falmouth Genealogical Society (*see page 1*)
- November 5 **German SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library, downstairs conference room
- November 9 CCGS Monthly Meeting, **Annual Meeting with Falmouth Genealogical Society**, St. Peter's Church, Osterville (*see page 1*)
- November 12 **DNA SIG**, 1:30 p.m., Dennis Public Library
- November 12 **Computer Users SIG**, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library
- November 15 **Writing Family History SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library
- November 25 **Irish SIG**, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library
- November 26 **Cape Cod Families SIG**, 1 p.m., Sturgis Library, Barnstable
- November 28 **HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

The CCGS Genealogy Library
 is located in
 the Dennis Public Library
 5 Hall Street, Dennis Port
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 Hours:
 Tuesday 1-4 Thursday 10-4
 Saturday 10-12
 Access to *Ancestry.com*, *AmericanAncestors.org*,
FindMyPast and more!