



CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

Volume 7 Issue 2

February 2020

*February Meeting — SATURDAY, February 15th, 2020
10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library*

ADDING SPREADSHEETS TO YOUR GENEALOGY TOOLKIT

by Susan O'Connor

SPREADSHEETS AREN'T JUST FOR NUMBER CRUNCHING! With Excel or another spreadsheet program in your genealogy toolkit you can create research logs, produce parallel time lines for multiple individuals, analyze data to identify patterns and problems, and design diagrams depicting complex family and inter-family relationships. Examples of each of these will be presented in the context of actual research along with tips and tricks for creating them.

SUSAN O'CONNOR teaches and coaches genealogy and family research in addition to her client work. She has over 25 years' experience developing and teaching computer training programs. She is a certificate holder from Boston University's Genealogy Research Program and is a member of multiple genealogical associations. Susan's research interests include Ireland, French Canada, Acadia, Australia, and the United States (19th and 20th century). Susan was involved in beta testing Lotus 1-2-3 and has been using spreadsheets in ways they were never intended to be used ever since.



Coffee & Donuts at 9:30

Parking

For the regular meetings at the Brewster Ladies' Library, in consideration of the Library's regular patrons, we ask that you park in the adjoining parking lot, behind the Baptist Church, next door to the Library, unless you are disabled and need to park close to the building.

Cape Cod Genealogical Society
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Mailing address:

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East Harwich, MA 02645
www.capecodgenealogy.org

Special Interest Group Information

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 meeting: February 25, 2020.*
Leader, Bebe Brock (crosby1635@gmail.com).

Computer Users – 2nd Tuesday, 10 a.m. - noon, **Brewster Ladies' Library****. *Next meeting: February 11, 2020.* Leaders: Bill Horrocks ([wuh2@psu.edu](mailto:wah2@psu.edu)), Bob Oppenheim (roppen@msn.com), and Jim Sullivan (thesignco@outlook.com).

DNA – 1st Tuesday, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m., **Brewster Ladies' Library****. *Next meeting: February 4, 2020.*
Leader, Walter Murphy (wgmgenealogy@gmail.com).

German – 1st Tuesday, 10 a.m.–noon, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next meeting: February 4, 2020.*
Leader, Ann Croston (acroston125@comcast.net).

Irish – 4th Monday, 10 a.m. - noon, **Brewster Ladies' Library****. *Next meeting: February 24, 2020.*
Leader, Jim Sullivan (thesignco@outlook.com) has graciously agreed to facilitate meetings through May while leader Pat Flaherty (patcarole@gmail.com) is away.

Writers – 3rd Friday, 10 a.m. - noon, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next meeting: February 21, 2020.*
Leader, Pippa Ryan, (writers.sig@gmail.com).

** Note the change in venue; the usual meeting room at the Dennis Public Library is still out of service.

Please Welcome New Member

Mary Rosenbach

Membership Reminder

The deadline for payment of your 2020 membership dues was January 1st. Don't miss an issue of the Newsletter or the Journal! If you haven't already done so, please send your check and completed renewal form to CCGS today. If you didn't receive or have misplaced your renewal form, please contact Madelyn McHugh at membership@capecodgenealogy.org or print one from the CCGS website. (Click on the "Join CCGS" tab to find the form.)

A Message from Walter

HAPPY LEAP FEBRUARY! And Happy Birthday in advance to any of you who were born on Leap Day, February 29. Overall, February marks the turn to increasingly warmer temperatures from January, which is typically the coldest month of the year. So take heart; spring training and daylight savings time are not far off.

This February is important for another reason. Our monthly meeting will be on February 15, which is a SATURDAY. To my knowledge, this has not happened in a long time, if ever. Hopefully, this will give those who cannot attend weekday meetings a new opportunity to socialize with fellow CCGS members and hear our featured speaker, Susan O'Connor (whose talk is titled "Adding Spreadsheets to Your Genealogy Toolkit").

Speaking of programs, VP/Program Chair Brian O'Donnell has also booked interesting speakers for March and April (also a SATURDAY meeting). All details can be found on page 6.

As many of you know, February will mark yet another month that we will not have the full services of the Dennis Public Library as it continues to recover from water damage. Thankfully our Genealogy Room has been spared, but the Meeting Room has been closed. As a result, some of our SIGs have had to temporarily move to the Brewster Ladies' Library, so please look elsewhere in this Newsletter for details of the February meetings for the Computer, DNA, and Irish SIGs.

Meanwhile, our "Cape Cod 400" committee is busy making plans for the first Genealogy Day on Sunday, March 29 at the Eastham Public Library from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We

have booked all the conference rooms in the library and are planning an extensive program of talks and genealogy help sessions. The main themes will focus on the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrims' landing on Cape Cod, Native American history, the Cape's First Families, and Women as Bridges. Look for upcoming publicity notices, mark your calendars, and tell your friends.

Looking ahead, we are also beginning to work on the the CCGS's 50th anniversary in 2021. Past President Bob Ward has kindly volunteered to chair a new "CCGS 50" committee. If you are interested in helping plan for this important event, please contact either Bob (arlinkwa@yahoo.com) or me.

Finally, our Nominating Committee will soon begin to determine what openings there might be on our Board of Directors in advance of June's annual election of five officers and two directors-at-large. The Board, which also includes the chairs of our standing committees, gathers monthly for a two-hour meeting to manage the various CCGS activities. I am mentioning all of this now in order to give our members time to consider being part of the Board and helping the Society remain the vibrant organization that it is. On a personal note I can say that being a Board member has been a great way to meet people and be part of the spirit of this Society. So, if one of the Nominating Committee members (Joan Frederici, Pippa Ryan, and Marla Vincent) approaches you, please just say "yes." You won't regret it.

See you on SATURDAY, February 15!

Walter (wgmgenealogy@gmail.com)

What's up with the Communications Technology Committee?

THE COMMUNICATIONS Technology Committee is responsible for applying technology to benefit CCGS and its members. At this time, we maintain a Society website (<http://capecodgenealogy.org/>), a blog (<http://capecodgenealogysociety.blogspot.com/>), and have both a Facebook page and a Facebook group.

We investigate other ways that technology can be of benefit. Related to this has been the digitizing of past and current issues of the *Journal*, as well as prior issues of *The Bulletin* from 1977-2010. These digitized issues are available to our members through the website.

We are a very small committee and are in need of additional volunteers in order to explore and apply other technologies as well as help to support our present endeavors. Currently, we could use your assistance in:

- photography at our events and meetings;
- writing articles for the blog;
- maintaining and updating our website; and
- investigating other technologies (videography, podcasting, webinars, digitization are all examples that have been discussed).

You do not have to be an expert to be able to assist us!! We will train you in the use of these software programs.

If you have an interest in assisting us, or can recommend someone who you feel would be an asset to our committee, please contact Joan Frederici, committee chair, at joan.frederici@capecodgenealogy.org.

SIG News

The DNA SIG

THE FEBRUARY 4 MEETING will once again take place at the Brewster Ladies' Library, at 1:30 in the downstairs meeting room. The room only has capacity for 20 and January's meeting was full, so come early. John Griener and Walter Murphy will cover chapter three, "Genealogical Applications for Y-DNA," in the group's study book. Time will also be available for the usual round table discussion and Q&A session.

Computer Users SIG

Temporarily relocated to the Brewster Ladies' Library, the group will meet from 10 a.m. to noon, February 11, 2020. The topic will be "**Exploring a DNA Cousin Match Report (without getting too technical): What do you do with what you get?**" We are exploring the possibility of getting a principal contributor from the DNA group to open this discussion. Otherwise look for actual examples contributed by Bob Oppenheim and Jim Sullivan. All are welcome.

German SIG

Our February meeting, at Brewster Ladies' Library at 10 a.m., Tuesday, February 4 (in the upstairs auditorium, will focus on **German Genealogy Resources On-Line**. This will be the first of several meetings loosely based on the topics in James M. Beidler's book, *Trace Your German Roots Online*.

INFLUENCES ON NATIVE PERSPECTIVES---MYTHS, LEGENDS, and REALITIES

Summary of January Program

AT ITS REGULAR MEETING ON January 21, 2020, the Society had the benefit of an important historical presentation by Ron Petersen, an expert in Native American history as it relates to Cape Cod history. In this quadricennial year of the *Mayflower* arrival, it is important to separate falsehoods, half-truths, and real truths about the particular period between 1600 and 1630 on Cape Cod.

He addressed several myths:

- The Pilgrims named Plymouth—in fact, the location had been previously named by Captain John Smith when he visited there in 1614.
- Freedom of religion was the prime reason for the immigration—less than half of the passengers were “Separatists”, while the rest were “Merchant Adventurers” interested in exploration and economic gain; the Pilgrims already had had religious freedom from their years spent in Leiden, Netherlands. They came to the New World out of concern that things were changing in the Netherlands and their children were growing up Dutch more than English.
 - The Pilgrims were the first to land in New England—the first colonial landing was actually in 1607 in Maine.
 - The Pilgrims first set foot on Plymouth Rock—Plymouth Rock is not mentioned until 1741 as a landing point; the first arrivals from the ship were actually the exploring party that came in the ship’s

shallop on their 3rd exploration of Cape Cod Bay.

- The Native American Squanto was essential because he knew English—Squanto indeed did help the Pilgrims to survive, but Massasoit and Governor Bradford both mistrusted him to some extent for his suspected double-dealing.
- The first Thanksgiving was in 1621—actually the first Thanksgiving as a religious observation was in 1619 in the Virginia Colony; the 1621 Thanksgiving event in Plymouth was really on the date of a local holiday in England that was associated with a harvest festival; only 53 passengers attended that event, while there were more than 90 Wampanoags there.

Ron Petersen noted the continuous marginalization of the Natives, which had a huge impact on their eventual survival. Nothing, of course, was in written form from the Natives. The two major historians were William Bradford, who wrote about the period 1608-1647, and Edward Winslow, who wrote two works—one for the period 1620-21 and known as “Mourt’s Relation” and then another work known as “Good News from New England,” covering the period 1623-1624. A published history was by William Morton, Secretary of the Colony, in 1669. Later histories were written by Protestant clergy, such as Cotton Mather in 1702.

—David Martin

**EVENING HOURS
AT THE GENEALOGY LIBRARY**
sound like a good idea?

You could make it possible if you volunteer to help staff them. We would need a couple of people who are familiar with using *Ancestry.com* and are willing to be at the Genealogy Library one or two times a month on Thursday evenings from 4 – 7. You will receive training about the Library’s collections. If those hours don’t work for you, we could also use help on Saturdays from 10 - noon and the second Thursday of the month from 1 – 4. If you can help with any of these staffing needs, please contact Carol Magenau, Librarian, at librarian@capecodgenealogy.org

The CCGS Genealogy Library
is located in
the Dennis Public Library
5 Hall Street, Dennis Port

Hours:
Tuesday 1–4 • Thursday 10–4
Saturday 10–12

*Access to Ancestry.com, AmericanAncestors.org,
FindMyPast and more!*

***Future CCGS Monthly Programs
Brewster Ladies’ Library, 10 a.m.***

MARCH:
Margaret Fortier, “A Whole New World of Catholic Records,” TUESDAY, March 17, 2020.

APRIL:
Ray Sears, “On Demand Publishing” and “Making a Family Tree,” SATURDAY, April 25 2020.



**THE CCGS 50 COMMITTEE
NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS**

A few more members to join the current committee of three would help to get the planning process going for the 50th anniversary of the founding of CCGS. Although not until 2021, we hope to hold event(s) worthy of the significance of this milestone – and that takes time. If you are willing to share your talents in the planning for this event, please contact Walter Murphy (wgmgenealogy@gmail.com).

CCGS Calendar for February 2020

- February 4 **German SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library, Downstairs conference room (*see page 4*)
- February 4 **DNA SIG**, 1:30 p.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library (*see page 4*).
- February 11 **Computer Users SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library (*see page 4*).
- February 15 **Monthly CCGS Meeting, SATURDAY** – 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library (*see page 1*).
Coffee & Donuts at 9:30.
- February 21 **Writing Family History SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library.
- February 24 **Irish SIG**, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies’ Library.
- February 25 **Cape Cod Families SIG**, 1 p.m., Sturgis Library.