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CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

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November 2020

Greetings!

**Please join us at our next Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM, EST**

Our meeting will be brought to you by **Zoom.
More details will follow before the meeting on how to register.**

NARA Website and More

by Rick Sayre

Even if you never go to Washington or one of the regional branches, the *National Archives and Records Administration* (NARA) has information to help your genealogical search. The NARA website and Fold3.com provide access to NARA's records. This website is a portal to information about records and genealogy research information, and has access to many individual records. The presentation will cover researching records, researching people, ordering publications, and ordering records. In addition, information will be given about NARA's partnership with Fold3.



Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA, is a long-time researcher and instructor in genealogical topics and is also a retired colonel having served thirty-one years in the U.S. Army. Rick and his wife Pam coordinate the *Advanced Land Course and Researching in Washington, D.C., Without Leaving Home* offered by the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG) and the *Advanced Land Course* at Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP). Rick co-coordinates with Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL, the Law School for Genealogists at GRIP and the FHL Law Library course at SLIG. He also coordinates the *Using Maps in Genealogy* course at SLIG. Rick also instructs in the *Advanced Methodology* course offered by SLIG. He lectures at national conferences and presents nationwide seminars. His areas of expertise encompass records of the *National Archives*, the *Bureau of Land Management*, and the *Daughters of the American Revolution*, including military records, land records, using maps in genealogy, urban research, and government documents. Rick is experienced in the localities of western Pennsylvania and Ohio. Rick is also a trustee of the *Board for Certification of Genealogists*, and is a past president of BCG.

A Message from the CCGS President Walter Murphy

Several months ago, the CCGS Board of Directors approved a change in the bylaws regarding officers' terms. Under the proposed changes, the terms of office for each of the five officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary) will be increased to two years. In addition, future elections will be staggered, with the President and Recording Secretary elected in even-numbered years and the other officers elected in odd-numbered years. This will bring the officers in line with the four Directors-at-Large, who are already elected to staggered two-year terms.

Importantly, the bylaws state that any change in the bylaws by the Board is "*subject to the ratification by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members at a meeting of the Society*" (Article XI, Amendments). With this in mind, you can expect to soon receive an email containing the proposed changes, as well as a copy of Article 5.3, which is the article that is being amended. The membership vote will be taken at the December monthly meeting. So please plan to attend this important December meeting.

It is appropriate that the vote be taken at the December meeting, which will be the annual "Our Members Share" get-together. In prior years, members have shared holiday goodies and stories about their genealogical journey. Obviously, we won't be sharing goodies but that doesn't mean that you can't enjoy a cookie and coffee remotely while attending the meeting. So, in addition to participating in the vote, please consider contacting our Program chair, Brian O'Donnell (BJMDOD98@gmail.com), and offer to share 10-15 minutes with a story, artifacts/photos, or a recent discovery with other members. I have already done so. (Hint: it is NOT about DNA!)

While on the subject of meetings, let me give a "shout out" to Brian. He has informed me that speakers have been lined up through July. Some of the topics have yet to be decided as a number of speakers have many areas to choose from. With that in mind, a listing of speakers can be found on the calendar.

Finally, the weather is getting colder and we are approaching a holiday season like no other. Let me offer everyone an early Happy Thanksgiving greeting. But, please, don't let your guard down -- it will be increasingly important to take care of yourself. So please remember to stay *Home* (if you can), stay *Safe*, and stay *Healthy*.

Walter (wmgenealogy@gmail.com)

These turkeys know how to lawfully cross the road;
they use a cross walk.
Photo by Pam Eaton, Newsletter Editor,
Falmouth, January 2015.



SIGs – Special Interest Groups

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGS) are informal member gatherings for the purpose of sharing information, research techniques, data and references, regarding specific topics or geographical areas. For more information, please email the SIG leader or visit our website: www.capecodgenealogy.org



Cape Cod Families

Leader **Bebe Brock** crosby1635@gmail.com advises that all are working independently. Please contact Bebe for information and additional assistance.

Computer Users

Leader **Bob Oppenheim** roppen@msn.com holds a Zoom meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. The next SIG will be held on November 10, *Security and Backup plus Maps in Genealogy*.

DNA

Leader **Walter Murphy** wmgenealogy@gmail.com holds a Zoom meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:30 PM. The next SIG will be held on November 3. Walter sends out an agenda and a Zoom invitation to register for each session. If you are interested, but are not yet a member of this SIG, send Walter an email. All sessions begin with a question-and-answer roundtable discussion, divided into two sections: DNA analysis 101 questions/problems followed by time for more intermediate/advanced topics. November's roundtable will be followed by two presentations: methods used to cluster DNA matches and *MyHeritage's* "Theory of Family Relativity."

German

Leader **Ann Croston** acroston125@comcast.net holds a Zoom meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. The next SIG will be held on November 3. The meeting will explore Sampubco Indexes and the substantial resources available on *FamilySearch.org*.

Irish Research

Leader **Pat Flaherty** patcarole@gmail.com holds a Zoom meeting on the fourth Monday of the month at 10:00 AM. The next SIG will be held on November 23.

Writers

Leader **Pippa Dodd Ryan** pippa.doddryan@gmail.com holds a Zoom meeting on the third Friday of the month at 10:00 AM. The next meeting will be held on November 20. This is a forum to share your writing about ancestors or current family members (and pets), anything historical, current event topics, articles of personal satisfaction and more. We also discuss the possibilities of publication and explore many styles of writing and narrative, even poetry. Everyone is welcome to share their story, writing tips and techniques in a caring and gentle, mutual-critiquing format. If you do not have anything to share, join us anyway!

**Cape Cod Genealogical Society
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**Cape Cod Genealogical Society Plans
Gala for 50th Anniversary**

Save These Dates!

CCGS will be celebrating its 50th anniversary on August 25, 2021. We have an anniversary committee that has been busy planning our celebration and we want to update you on what is going to happen. Our committee members are **Phyllis Day, Judy Fenner, Joan Frederici, Kathy Kaldis, David Martin** and **Chair, Robert Ward**.

This will be a year-long celebration! After all, 50 years is something special; but, also, with the current state of the world, we want to make sure that we can celebrate together, *not* virtually!

Although we do not have many of the details confirmed, we do have a few dates for you to set aside. These are all being planned as “in person” events; but most will also have a “Plan B” just in case.

August 25, 2021, Wednesday

Kick-off Event in the late afternoon/early evening

October 16, 2021, Saturday

Fall seminar, all day event

April 30, 2022, Saturday

Gala Anniversary Dinner!

August, 2022, date to be determined

End of the celebration—start of the next 50 years!

Please Welcome New Members

**Barbara Raynor
Andrea L. Forbes
Pamela Burman**

A Message from Librarian Carol Magenau

During the pandemic, **New England Historic Genealogical Society** (NEHGS) has kindly arranged to provide direct access to members of institutional subscribers. This means you can search **American Ancestors** from home using a special CCGS login! (If you are an NEHGS member, you already have access through your own membership.)

According to the NEHGS website:
AmericanAncestors.org provides access to more

than 1.4 billion records spanning twenty-two countries covering the United States, the British Isles, continental Europe, and beyond, including one of the most extensive online collections of early American genealogical records, the largest searchable collection of published genealogical research journals and magazines, and the largest collection of United States Catholic records online.

To take advantage of this offer, please feel free to contact Carol Magenau for login information at librarian@capecodgenealogy.org. This will be in effect while the library is closed, thanks to NEHGS.

~Carol Magenau

NERGC Update, November 1, 2020 Joan Frederici

Plans to transition our Spring 2021 conference from in-person to virtual are finalizing. Our theme will be “**Springing from the Past into the Future**” and as a result of Covid-19, we will be using the technology of the future to provide our usual great conference, but in the safety of your own home.

The NERGC Conference will be presented online from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on six days:

Thursday, **April 1**
Friday, **April 9**

Saturday, **April 17**
Saturday, **April 24**

Saturday, **May 1**
Saturday, **May 8**

Also, recorded lectures AND the virtual Exhibit Hall will be available online **every day** from April 1 through May 31.

Plans are to present 72 lectures, along with many of the other features you have enjoyed at previous conferences – Ancestors Road Show, Society Fair, Special Interest Groups, Queries.

Our nationally recognized speakers for this conference will include:

Angie Bush, a Master genealogist and Professional Molecular Genealogist

Pat Richley-Erickson, also known as DearMYRTLE

John Grenham, Irish research specialist and author of *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors*

Stay up-to-date by checking the NERGC website www.nergc.org and their blog at <http://nergc.blogspot.com> for more information as it becomes available.

Recap of the October Meeting

Written by *David Martin*

The presentation and handout are currently available in the Members section of the CCGS website.

www.CapeCodGenealogy.org

A WHOLE NEW WORLD OF CATHOLIC RECORDS

Presentation by *Margaret Fortier*, October 2020



The Society's monthly program for October 2020 was provided by Margaret Fortier, an expert in Catholic genealogy; she provided a variety of useful

recommendations and facts about present-day Catholic records and their accessibility.

A survey of Society participants indicated that a majority have found that the main obstacle they face in doing Catholic research is not knowing where to locate the records themselves. Margaret provided an informative handout which included charts showing the locations of different kinds of records.

The reason for the creation of the records traces back to the Council of Trent in the mid-1500s at which the Catholic Church, in response to the Protestant Reformation, decreed that parishes were required to record information about the seven sacraments taken by parishioners. It became Church Law that pastors would keep a book of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and deaths, and would keep that information in the parish's archives. To indicate the growth of the importance of Catholic records in genealogy, we know that in 1900 there were about 226 million Catholics, whereas presently there are 1.26 billion Catholics.

Prior to current-day centralization and digitization of records, many steps were required in the past in order to access such information as marriage data. Weeks would sometimes be required for the numerous steps to be taken. Now, however, the researcher first identifies the diocese where the parish was located, then searches or browses

according to surname, date, and place. From the thirteenth century to 2017, fifty-three countries have records that can be searched, although privacy restrictions were enacted after 1900.

Records may be found on *Familysearch* (particularly their Wikis), *Ancestry*, *FindMyPast*, and *MyHeritage*; also, *AmericanAncestors.org* has the records of the Boston Archdiocese. The National Library of Ireland (NLI) also has records. For those who are researching Azorean roots, the Portuguese site *tomo.pt* has records. From the fifteenth century, records of slaves in numerous countries in North and South America can be found in the *Slave Societies Digital Archive*. *FamilySearch* has digitized the parish records which were originally microfilmed in many parishes around the world and the actual images may be seen online.

Fortier explained different types of records. First are Sacramental records, which are often in Latin and are private; these include Baptisms, First Eucharist, Confirmation, and Last Rites; names of godparents and witnesses which are written on these documents can be a useful genealogical tool.

Next are Cemetery records, including gravestone data, lot records, and perpetual-care information. Then come Institutional Records, such as from orphanages, homes for the aged, unwed mothers, schools, colleges, and fraternal organizations such as the Foresters. Next are Parish Histories, which include names of parishioners and the history of the parish itself; by looking at the recurrence of the same name in two different locations, one may find information on possible immigration of individuals.

Also, the records of some Catholic orders for priests and nuns may be useful, although they are usually organized by country rather than by any local basis. Last are Catholic newspapers, published by dioceses; information here would include obituaries, school information, and ordinations. The website *AncestorHunt* is particularly useful in these searches.

400 Years Ago Pilgrim Timeline



November 1620

9 November 1620

Pilgrims spot land, the tip of Cape Cod



11 November 1620

The Mayflower anchors in what is now known as Provincetown Harbor.



11 November 1620
Signing of the Mayflower Compact



20 November 1620

Birth of Peregrine White, the first known English child born to the Pilgrims in America.



CCGS Calendar

November 3, Tuesday
German SIG, 10:00 AM

November 3, Tuesday
DNA SIG, 1:30 PM

November 4, Wednesday
Board Meeting, 2:00 PM

November 10, Tuesday
Computer SIG, 10:00 AM

November 17, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM EST
Richard G. (Rick) Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA
NARA Website and More

November 20, Friday
Writers SIG, 10:00 AM

November 23, Monday
Irish SIG, 10:00 AM

December 15, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Our Members Share
Bylaw Vote

January 19, Tuesday
General Meeting 10:00 AM
Donna Moughty

February 15, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Ray Sears
Self-publication

March 16, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Todd Kelley and Marcus Hendricks
Two Worlds: Overview of First People

April 20, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Diana Elder

May 18, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Diane Beaumont

June 15, Tuesday
Annual Meeting, 10:00 AM
Rick Sayre
Land Records

July 20, Tuesday
General Meeting, 10:00 AM
Ari Wilkins

August 25, Wednesday
CCGS 50th Anniversary
Celebration