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CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

Volume 9 Issue 2 February 2022

**Please Join us at our Next Meeting
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM, Eastern Time
Important: Please Note *New Time!***

**Our meeting will be brought to you via [Zoom](#).
More details will follow before the meeting on how to register.
Non-members are asked to email us at
info@capecodgenealogy.org to receive a registration link.**

Tips and Tricks for Finding Elusive Individuals in the Census with Jenna Smith



The U.S. Census records can provide a snapshot of the lives of an individual, but what if you can't find the person you're looking for? Jenna will discuss case studies with tips and tricks for finding elusive individuals.

Jenna Smith is a forensic genealogist who specializes in solving complex cases involving probate, real estate, and oil and gas. She started college as a math major with a computer science minor who took genealogy classes for fun. After many detours, she graduated from BYU in April 2016 with a bachelor's degree in family history and genealogy (and a minor in math). She has thirty-five years of research experience and enjoys helping friends and family solve tough research problems. She worked as an intern and a contract researcher for over four years at Legacy Tree Genealogists, where she mostly solved Midwestern and Southern brick wall problems and tracked European immigrants back to their homelands.

Message from the CCGS President, Walter Murphy

Are you still having fun with the snow? I think the lead up to the blizzard had many folks fearing for the worst. And some did get hammered. My maternal roots (five generations) are in Stoughton; I still have cousins there and they hit the jackpot – 30.9 inches. I live in Harwich; I only got 8 inches and lost power for a total of about ten minutes. Thanking my lucky flakes.

As a reminder, the deadline for payment of 2022 membership dues was January 1. We are running a bit behind on renewals, so it is important to note that if dues are not paid by March 31, membership will no longer be active. I realize that the prices for lots of more essential items are higher now than they were a year ago, but at \$30, our dues have been unchanged for at least six years and are a value that can't be beat with all the benefits of membership the Society provides. So, if you haven't sent in your \$30, please do so. If you have sent in your dues, thank you. I look forward to seeing you – either remotely or (hopefully) in person – at one event or another in 2022.

I am happy to report that the January's monthly meeting, at its new 7:00 PM starting time, was a success. The number of people who registered was on par with what we normally got for the previous 10:00 AM meetings. Moreover, we saw people who had not attended the morning meetings. While there are folks who now cannot attend the evening meetings, the recording is in the members section on the CCGS website. We are trying to make it so that no one misses these informative – and often entertaining – presentations. Please make sure that you check out the speaker schedule on the calendar on the last page of this Newsletter.

It's a bit early, but I think it is worth reminding everyone that the 1950 census will be released in April. Initially, searching for people will not be user friendly -- no street and house number for you. Searches will be done via enumeration district. Thankfully, there is a website for that: <https://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>. So, get a head start and look up the EDs that you will need. (I have; 1950 is the first census I will be in.)

Our Genealogy Room is in great shape and Library Chair, Jo Anne Makely, has been making regular trips there to organize and also to help folks who have asked for assistance and made an appointment. In addition, the room is getting closer and closer to being opened one-day-a-week for walk-ins. In the meantime, if you need help, contact Jo Anne for an appointment - librarian@capecodgenealogy.org .

That's all for now, except for **Happy Valentine's Day!** Please remember to stay *Safe*, and stay *Healthy*.
Walter (wmgenealogy@gmail.com)



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***Special Announcement
from Computer SIG Leader, Bob Oppenheim***

The new schedule of **LEGACY Family Tree Webinars for 2022** has been released. When you see this, some will have passed, but there are 116 of them! Peruse the offerings at:

https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars/?list_view=true&multiple=true

These are quality offerings, worth your time if the subject is of interest. Note that if you register, there are options to watch the recorded presentation if you forget to attend (I've done this more times than I care to admit). There is also often a printed syllabus available for download.

What do you call an old snowman?

Water.

**Please Welcome
New Members**

**Wayne & Lorel Farber
Deborah Levine
Duane Harding**

Journal Publication Survey

The Society's Publications Committee is interested to know reader preferences for the printing of surnames in articles. As of now, all surnames and maiden names have been **bolded** in the text of all articles. We would appreciate a response from interested readers on their preference for one of the following three options:

1. Continue using bold typeface for all surnames and maiden names every time they appear in an article.
2. Bold surnames and maiden names only for the first time that they occur in an article.
3. Discontinue bolding of surnames and maiden names, and just consult the index for occurrence of names.

Please send a quick email to: davidmartindr@aol.com stating your preference for option 1, 2, or 3 (one sentence will do fine).

Responses would be helpful by Friday, February 18, 2022. Thank you!

CCGS Books for Sale

The Cape Cod Genealogy Society has the following books for sale.

If you are interested, please reply to librarian@capecodgenealogy.org.

OUR FAMILY HISTORY

A fill-in-yourself genealogy book with ancestry charts, births, marriage, deaths, divorce, addresses, etc.

\$5.00

ROOTS, by Alex Haley, fiction

Was given to Brooks Library, deaccessioned.

\$2.00

LIFE OF CHARLES SUMNER, by Elias Nason, 1874, 1st Edition.

\$10

FAMILY REUNION HANDBOOK, 2nd edition

Everything you need to know to plan unforgettable get-togethers.

Gift 2014 from Marjory Campbell, Harwich.

\$5.00

Program Summary, January 18, 2022

Written by *David Martin*

The meeting recording is available for viewing in the Members Section of the CCGS website.

www.capecodgenealogy.org

Researching the History of Your Cape Cod (and Beyond) House with Marian Pierre-Louis

The January 2022 program of the Society featured professional genealogist Marian Pierre-Louis presenting how to research the history of a house. She explained that the process involves following the house history and not a family. Local resources are highly valuable in the process, including non-people records such as land records. Houses of any era may be traced. Multi-family houses can be highly interesting. Although she explained that her points apply specifically to New England houses, on the other hand they can be easily adapted to houses elsewhere. She listed 11 points as guidelines for the researcher. She used a house in Harwich as the prime example.

1. Find the book and page of a deed at the town level, starting with the present owner. The Assessor's Office at the town hall will have this information, and sometimes also includes permits issued for any renovations done on the house.
2. Next, go to the County Registry of Deeds office (on Cape Cod, *Barnstablededeeds.org*) to find all of those people who had owned the house, tracing backward in time. On Cape Cod, pre-1686 deeds would be in Plymouth. The 1827 fire at the Barnstable Courthouse (which burned many deeds) is an obstacle, but many have been reconstructed. Remember that deeds transfer property, not houses; the grantor (who sold the house) and the grantee (who bought the house) are listed. Each entry refers back to

the previous owner. Sometimes probate records can also shed further light on the chain of title. *Familysearch.org* has the Barnstable County deeds up to 1870 as another means of reconstructing lost records from the 1827 fire.

3. Next is the "chaining" of the deeds. Sometimes the book and page numbers are referred to, while another alternative may be to search the index for grantor and grantee names. It is useful to create a deed chart.
4. Take advantage of the U.S. Population Census to learn the names of those living in the house at the time of each Census; the 1950 Census becomes available in April 2022.
5. Check Probate Records, which list family members in wills; Barnstable County Probate Court is in Barnstable Village. Pre-1686 records are at Plymouth.
6. Check vital records (birth, marriage, and death information) in order to build the story of the occupants of a house. Cemeteries can be useful sources of this information also. Try to research everyone who has lived in the house, not just the owner.
7. Use historic maps which show streets and house symbols that have surnames next to the house symbol for the occupants at the time that the map was made. One can compare this data with census information. A useful resource is *DavidRumsey.com* for an excellent collection of historic maps.
8. Use the state historic commission's house inventory forms, which contain a photograph, a drawing of a map for the house location, and a chain of title. It is also very useful to consult local historical

societies' records. For Massachusetts, the system is MACRIS, Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (please Google).

9. Use city directories to check house-occupancy information; data is arranged according to neighborhoods as well as alphabetic listings of the residents of the city.
10. Look at tax records for the property, which will give the assessed value of the house and other buildings on the property.
11. Check newspaper articles on newspaper websites. Remember that for Cape Cod, the issues of the *Barnstable Patriot* are available in digitized form from 1836 forward, and the

issues of the *Yarmouth Register* are available from 1840 forward—through the Sturgis Library website. If a house has been moved, that information may well be in the local newspaper. If a house does not have a fieldstone foundation, it was probably moved from an original foundation to a cement foundation.

12. Use Google to look up any available information on the occupants of the house. Also check local historical societies for old photos and other related miscellaneous items.

Ms. Pierre-Louis reminded everyone to remember that town boundaries and town names changed numerous times throughout the years, meaning that one may have to broaden the search beyond what appeared to be the original town name.



Cape Cod Winter Storm
Aftermath 2022

What happens when you cross
a snowman with a vampire?

Frostbite.

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 at www.capecodgenealogy.org.



Cape Cod Families

Leader **Bebe Brock** crosby1635@gmail.com advises that all are working independently, and carefully watching the on-going announcements from Sturgis Library, whether it will be open or not (where the group meets). If all goes well, Bebe will be holding meetings, post-COVID on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 PM and will let her group know.

Computer Users

Leader **Bob Oppenheim** roppen@msn.com holds a meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM (except in July and August). When the library reopens, post-COVID, the meeting will be held at the Dennis Public Library, 5 Hall Street, Dennis Port. When we convene at the library, meetings will be simulcast on Zoom and all of the SIG members will get an invitation to participate virtually. Any changes to this arrangement will be emailed to the membership and published in the next Newsletter, time permitting.

*The next Computer SIG will be held on **Tuesday, February 8 at 10:00 AM**. It will be a Zoom meeting and may possibly be held at the Library Omicron-permitting. Jim Sullivan will give us an update on the security measures that we should be taking to prevent the loss of all the data we have produced and recorded on our computers in support of our genealogy.*

DNA

Leader **Walter Murphy** wmgenealogy@gmail.com holds a Zoom meeting every other month on the first Tuesday at 1:30 PM. Prior to the Zoom meeting, he sends out both an agenda and a Zoom invitation to register. This is an active group that typically attracts participants of all levels of interest and expertise to each meeting. All sessions begin with a question-and-answer roundtable discussion, divided into two sections: DNA 101 questions/problems followed by time for “old hands.” The discussion period is followed by topics of interest.

*The next DNA SIG will be held on **Tuesday, March 1 at 1:30 PM**. February was supposed to be the first meeting of the year, but it was cancelled. In order to make up for that, we will hold meetings in March and April, then revert to alternating month schedule. **March’s meeting is expected to focus on triangulation and DNA Painter.***

German

Leader **Ann Croston** acroston125@comcast.net holds Zoom meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. Ann communicates via email and on our Facebook page, Cape Cod Genealogical Society - German SIG, when items of interest come up.

The next German SIG will be held on [Tuesday, March 1 at 10:00 AM](#). Due to weather related conditions, the February session was cancelled. SIG members have received information from Ann and will continue “Putting your ancestors in context in America” with the worksheets that have been provided. There is a new one focusing on the FAN Club which fits with American research.

Irish Research

Leader **Pat Flaherty** patcarolegenealogy@gmail.com usually holds a Zoom meeting on the fourth Monday of the month at 10:00 AM, however, gatherings will now be quarterly. Anyone with an interest in Irish genealogy is most welcome. We have members with lots of experience who can help those with little experience. It is a good combination. Our sessions usually include a presentation from a member on available records (either in the United States or in Ireland). We also share strategies for finding those elusive Irish ancestors wherever they may be lurking. There is always time for good discussions during which questions are answered and experiences are shared.

The next Irish SIG will be held on [Monday, March 28 at 10:00 AM](#).

Writers

Leader **Pippa Dodd Ryan** pippa.doddryan@gmail.com holds a Zoom meeting on the third Friday of the month at 10:00 AM. Anyone with an interest in sharing their writing with the group regarding personal genealogy or about family members (including pets), anything historical, current event topics, articles of personal satisfaction and more are most welcome. We explore many styles of writing and narrative, even poetry and discovered family letters, as well as discuss the possibilities of publication. Everyone is welcome to participate and share their work, writing tips and techniques. If you do not have anything to share, join us anyway. You may become inspired!

The next Writers SIG will be held on [Friday, February 18, 10:00 AM](#).



Dear CCGS Members and Friends,

You are invited to bring your talent, expertise and scholarly knowledge to participate as a presenter for the **May 2023 NERGC Conference** in Springfield, Massachusetts. This is a great opportunity.

The following is the official **Call for Papers**, which details topics NERGC is looking for (requested by past attendees), advice on presenting in person or virtually, remuneration specifics and a how-to submission link (the NERGC **program portal form**). You have from now until 30 April 2022 to present your proposals.



CALL FOR PAPERS
17th New England Regional Genealogical Conference
3-6 May 2023
MassMutual Center, Springfield, MA

Missing Branches Are Not the End of the Line

Presentation proposals are welcome from **now until midnight eastern time on 30 April 2022** for the *17th New England Regional Genealogical Conference* to be held 3-6 May 2023 in Springfield, MA.

This exciting conference will emphasize resources, methodologies and the missing branches on a family tree.

We are looking for:

- One-hour lectures, including questions & answers, during the conference or for presentations in a Wednesday pre-conference event.
- Mealtime presentations of 45 minutes
- Two-hour workshops (a session in which all participants get the opportunity to utilize the new methodology, tools, website, or technique under the tutelage of the presenter) with hands-on activities in one of these formats:
 - Guided Research
 - Flipped Classroom
 - I Do, We Do, You Do
- Wednesday's pre-conference event will feature 4 session tracks on the following topics, with the options for other tracks depending upon the submissions received:
 - Sharing Your Research Results – videos, articles, books, conversations, gifts
 - Military Research
 - Technical tools that evolved or emerged during the pandemic
 - Advanced uses for DNA research (things for those who started using DNA at least six years ago)

In keeping with our conference theme, "*Missing Branches Are Not the End of the Line*" successful proposals will address at least one of these topics:

- Something requested by our attendees from the list at the right
- DNA methodologies, case studies, etc.
- New England records and repositories
- Problem solving, methodology, and new approaches to traditional research
- Sharing and preserving your family history through writing, photography, digital media, etc.
- Research planning and project implementation

Our attendees are looking for information on the following topics:

Boston Finder Newspaper
Colonial Laws on Property
Connecticut Native Leaders
Copyright Law
Crossing from Canada
DNA Painter
Forensic genealogy
Founding reservations in Connecticut
Genetic genealogy
Land Records
Loyalists in Quebec
Manuscripts
Migration within New England
Newfoundland –New England
Connections
Occupations and Vocations
Protestant Records
Publishing vs. Vanity Press
Repositories in New England for
Researching outside of New
England
Settling New Hampshire
Social History
Technical Terminology
Traps and Pitfalls of Research
Triangulation
Vermont in the 18th & 19th Century
Women and Citizenship
Writing for Family History Publications
And Ethnic Presentations for:
Acadian
African-American
Canadian
French
French Canadian
Irish to Canada
Jewish
Scottish

- Technology: Providing solutions to improve genealogical research
- Understanding historical context related to genealogy
- Interesting uses of records including religious, civil, land, probate, military, maritime, and newspapers

All presenters receive one complimentary conference registration. **NERGC does not cover travel, hotel, or per diem expenses. NERGC also does not provide a projector for the speaker's use during presentations.** Remuneration is based on \$225 per hour with a bonus for timely submission of syllabus material that meets NERGC guidelines.

We are considering a provision to allow notable presentations to be given remotely/virtually to a live audience in cases where the speaker would otherwise be unable to attend the conference in person. If you want to be considered for this option, please indicate this as your preference when completing the portal form.

We are also asking that you consider carefully the audience level you associate with your presentation. Our portal offers the following levels:

- Novice – Someone new to this topic, ethnicity, or record type
- Intermediate – Someone with some experience in this topic, ethnicity, or record type
- Advanced – Someone with general experience in this topic, ethnicity, or record type
- Experienced – Someone with widespread experience in this topic, ethnicity, or record type
- General Interest – More informational and not related to research experience

You must submit your lecture and workshop proposals through the NERGC Program Portal. This mechanism permits you to enter up to **six** presentation proposals. To submit your proposals, visit our portal at: <https://tinyurl.com/nergc2023submissionportal>

Enter for each proposal:

- Speaker's full name, address, email, and telephone numbers.
- Brief speaker biography (50 words or less) for conference brochure.
- Previous lecture experience.
- Requirements such as audio/visual, whiteboards, or other special requirements.
- Your social media links (to assist with conference publicity).
- Potential for employer compensation/sponsorship.
- Preference between in-person and virtual presentation.
- Title (limited to eight words).
- Short lecture summary (limited to 60 words) for conference website/brochure.
- Comprehensive outline or abstract connecting to conference theme.
- Value added considerations (ways that your presence will help enhance the attendee experience).
- Audience level: beginner, intermediate, advanced, experienced, general interest (For whom is your presentation appropriate?)
- Participating Society or Organization sponsorship (if applicable).
- Check applicable box: Lecture in the regular program, Wednesday pre-conference, Workshop proposal.
- If a workshop, please indicate the presentation type.

Program decisions will be made by 1 August 2022.

Program Committee – NERGC 2023, program@nergc.org

CCGS Calendar

Tuesday, February 8
Computer SIG, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, February 15
Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM
Jenna Smith
Finding Elusive Individuals
in the Census

Friday, February 18
Writers SIG, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, March 1
German SIG, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, March 1
DNA SIG, 1:30 PM

Wednesday, March 2
Board Meeting, 2:00 PM

Tuesday, March 8
Computer SIG, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, March 15
Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM
L. Ray Sears
DNA and Endogamy

Friday, March 18
Writers SIG, 10:00 AM

Monday, March 28
Irish SIG, 10:00 AM

Tuesday, April 19
Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM
Carol Kostakos Petrene
Alien Registration Files

Tuesday, May 17
Monthly Meeting, 7:00 PM
Dennis Picard
Daily Life in the U.S. Lifesaving Service
Along the Coast of New England in the
19th Century

Tuesday, June 21
Annual Meeting, 7:00 PM
Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL
NARA MythBusters:
Your Family IS in the Archives

Do you have a comment or suggestion?

Perhaps you would like to have an article considered for submission in the Newsletter?

If so, please drop an email to info@capecodgenealogy.org and in the subject line, write:
For Newsletter Editor

Thank you,
Newsletter Editor, Pam Eaton