



# Middlesex Genealogical Society

Vol. XV, No. 1

Darien, Fairfield County, CT

January 1999

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Birth, marriage and death information provides the bare framework of family history. Adding other information to this framework provides charm and spice. Was an ancestor a shoemaker or a bell maker, a revolutionary or a royalist, a hero or a villain? During recent years genealogists have moved to stricter standards for documentation and proof. I reviewed some of the apparently outrageous claims about my relative John Floyd (1750-1783) with considerable skepticism. He proved to be a colorful character.

According to one book, John Floyd was descended from a John Floyd who fought the Spanish Armada and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I (almost certainly false). His immigrant ancestor was Nathaniel Floyd who came to Virginia in 1623 in his own ship (false). John Floyd was descended from Princess Nicketti, a sister of Pocahontas (an interesting but questionable family tradition).

When several of the claims about ancestors proved to be unsupported, I was prepared to be skeptical about the rest of John Floyd's colorful life. Surprisingly, the following circumstances proved to be true, as documented in the Draper Manuscripts at the University of Wisconsin and other records.

John Floyd was a pioneer in Kentucky and friend of Daniel Boone (true). He established Floyd's Station, now part of Louisville, Kentucky (true). In 1776 Floyd and others rescued Boone's daughter Jemima from Indians who had kidnapped her (true).

During the Revolutionary War, Floyd and 19 others purchased the schooner *Phoenix* for use as a privateer against British ships (true). They captured a British ship and, while returning to Virginia, were captured by a British Man-of-War and taken in chains to England (true). He escaped to France, where the

American Commissioners gave him money for his passage home (true). While in Paris, Benjamin Franklin presented him to Marie Antionette, who gave him a pair of silver shoe buckles (true). He bought a scarlet coat in Paris, which he took to Kentucky (true). He wore this scarlet coat on his way to a duel with Col. Greene (true), but was killed by Indians en route to the duel (true). His posthumous son became Governor of Virginia (true).

If you have researched some interesting or outrageous claims about colorful characters in your own family, I hope that you will submit some of them for the interest of other readers.

David L. Mordy

□

## MGS AT DARIEN LIBRARY

by C. Scribner

The Darien Library staff has moved about three dozen "929." reference books from other sections of the library and placed them in their genealogical collection next to ours in the Business Reference Room. To make room, business reference books were moved and replaced by books from the first three shelves of the library's genealogy collection. Those books newly moved into the genealogy area include the following:

- Book of Names, American, English and Irish Surnames, African Names.
- Dictionaries and Encyclopedias of American Family Names, English Christian Names, First Names Nicknames and Pseudonyms.
- Books on the Royal Family, Royal Genealogy, Heraldry, Peerage, Armory (Family Coats of Arms) and more.

This is a fascinating collection of books, which should be of interest to anyone interested in genealogy and

(Continued on page 2)

## MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### 1998-1999 OFFICERS

David L. Mordy	President
Donna Moughty	Vice President
Ruth R. McGrath	Treasurer
Mary Ellen Gleason	Secretary

### BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE

R. Geoffrey Blain  
Charles Cotter  
Jane Edmundson  
Emeline Fatherley  
Robert E. Kenyon III  
Philip Morehouse  
Kim Paterson  
Richard Sarr  
Marianne Sheldon

David Bowley	Immediate Past President
Charles Scribner	Librarian
Dorothy Shillinglaw	Newsletter Editor

### TRUSTEES

Mary Freedman  
Henry Hoff  
Thomas Kemp  
Grant Radmall

Middlesex Genealogical Society was established for the purpose of helping those interested in genealogy to pursue the investigation of their family heritage and to provide guidance in research to that end. The society holds at least four meetings with a program and speaker during the year, has established a Genealogy Section at Darien Library and publishes a quarterly newsletter. Annual membership dues are \$15 per individual and \$20 per couple or family.

Original notices of genealogical interest and queries are welcomed for publication in the *Newsletter*.

**Middlesex Genealogical Society**  
**P.O. Box 1111**  
**Darien, Fairfield County, CT 06820**

Homepage:  
<http://www.darien.lib.ct.us/mgs>

E-mail: [dbowley@concentric.net](mailto:dbowley@concentric.net)

## UPCOMING MGS MEETINGS MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**6 FEBRUARY 1999: ANNUAL WORKSHOP and INTERNET WORKSHOP**, jointly sponsored by MGS and Darien Library.

**12:00 NOON TO 1:30 PM: FAMILY HISTORY ON THE WEB.** This presentation, in conjunction with Janet Rhein of the Darien Library, will focus on surname and geographical resources that can be found on the Internet to assist family historians with their research. Genealogy sites are some of the most popular sites on the web. Typing the word "genealogy" into the Alta Vista search engine returns 1,253,252 "hits." We will look at how to focus your web activities to get the most effective results.

**2:00 PM: COMPUTERS AND GENEALOGY; DATABASES AND BEYOND.** Many family historians already use a computer to collect and store genealogical data. But what else can your computer do to help you enhance and share the information you have researched? Most software provides the ability to print multiple reports and charts. We will look at how to enhance those documents with photographs captured by either scanning or digital photography. In addition, we will look at how some other software, not specifically created for genealogy, can be used.

**10 APRIL 1999: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.** Speaker to be announced.

**15 MAY 1999:** Speaker to be announced.

**ALL MEETINGS SATURDAY, DARIEN LIBRARY: 6 Feb. 12 noon and 2:00 PM. Come, and bring a friend!** □

*(Continued from page 1)*  
family history.

### LIBRARY

I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to Lynn Hanks for his many years of work with the Saturday Morning Workshop. Lynn has resigned due to other commitments. He is very knowledgeable and, when it comes to genealogy, will be sorely missed.

We are still looking for a few more volunteers for Saturday mornings. It is for just two hours (10:00 AM to noon) with a frequency of only once every couple of months. If interested, contact Charles Scribner at 655-4830, or any other member of the Board of Directors. □

**SATURDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS, 10 AM TO 12 NOON: AN MGS VOLUNTEER IS WAITING AT DARIEN LIBRARY TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR RESEARCH.**

## NATHANIEL DRAPER'S PENSION FILE

by Dorothy Shillinglaw

Nathaniel was the fourth son of Moses Draper and Mary Aldis Allen Draper of Roxbury, MA, where he was born in 1753, and grew up on the family farm. When the call to Lexington came in April of 1775, he and his older brothers were among those who responded. He was my husband's third great-grandfather.

I found him in the *DAR Patriots Index* and discovered that the small "p" in his entry indicated that he had applied for and, perhaps, been awarded a pension. A paragraph in *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files* told me more and gave me the number of his pension file.

Copies of files based on federal military service before World War I can be obtained for a modest fee by submitting a filled-out NATF Form 80 to the National Archives Trust Fund, P.O. Box 100221, Atlanta, GA 30384-0221. The form can be requested by e-mail addressed to: [inquire@arch2.nara.gov](mailto:inquire@arch2.nara.gov) NATF Form 80 offers two options for fee payment. You can either provide a credit card number, or wait for confirmation that the file of interest has been found and can be copied, and then send in the fee requested. Either way, no fee is charged if no file is found. (The usual fee for copying a file is \$10, although copying a very large file would cost more.)

I used a credit card and sent off the completed NATF Form 80 marked "copy entire file." (Without that instruction, only "selected" records will be copied.) In two weeks, an envelope containing 43 pages copied from Nathaniel's microfilmed pension file arrived. (Such promptness may be exceptional.)

These were primarily legal documents, depositions and affidavits sworn to before a judge in a local court who gave his signed opinion as to the truthfulness of the document. Then the clerk of the court certified the judge's signature.

An Act of Congress dated 18 March 1818, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war," enabled those who had served to apply for a pension. Nathaniel applied 10 November 1819, at which time he was 66 years of age and a resident of Claremont, NH. He listed his wife, Ann

(age 61), and daughters Anna (35), Sally (31), and Betsey (22) as dependents who were living with him.

Nathaniel enlisted in the Continental Army 12 December 1775 for one year under Capt. Moses Draper (Nathaniel's eldest brother), in the regiment commanded by Col. Bond. Three accounts of his service are part of his original application—one by Nathaniel and depositions from two men who served with him. They place him in specific places at certain times, but are not otherwise enlightening. Nathaniel states, "We remained [in Cambridge] until the British left Boston. Then we marched to the City of New York and from there to Albany and from there to Ticonderoga and from there to Crown Point and from there to Point Lovell and so on from place to place until I had served my time out and was dismissed." The deposition of Moses Jackson (also living in Claremont) adds that they were camped on Prospect Hill "in or near the town of Cambridge" during the siege of Boston. "The day after the British evacuated Boston [the British left 17 March 1776] we were marched to New York where we arrived about the first of May." Moses Jackson was discharged in New York, "And left said Nathaniel Draper in said company, which was about to march for Canada. I afterward enlisted into Col. Whitcomb's Company and was marched to Mount Independence [across from Fort Ticonderoga], when I saw the said Draper, still a soldier in said Moses Draper's company." The deposition of Jacob Wright (of Charlestown, NH) adds that in the fall of that year (1776), "The said Draper marched from the Northern Army for Morristown.... I was knowing that the said Draper did his duty as Sergeant to the satisfaction of his Company."

The most fascinating piece of Nathaniel's application is the required "Schedule" that lists everything he owned with the exception of "necessary clothing and bedding." It is a snapshot of a small New England farm of the time. He lists:

The home farm consisting of 50 acres	\$1,000.00
A lot in Cornish	100.00
Luther Millen & R Farnsworth note	72.52
Aaron Warts note 10. William York do 4.	14.00
Stephen Ives note 15. D. Danforth do 40.	55.00
About 60 acres of land in the town of Washington [NH] being swamp land	60.00
About 40 acres more which was a part of my home farm when I lived in Washington	160.00
A yoke of oxen 50. 2 cows 28. 4 _____ 50.	128.00
1 lame cow 5. 1 heifer 10. 1 _____ 4. 2 calves 4.50	23.50

24 sheep & 1__ lambs 36.	1 old horse 20.	1 colt 25.	81.00
6 swine 14.	3 cherry tables & 1 stand 6.50.		
6 dining chairs 6.			26.50
9 dining chairs 4.	6 do 2.	1 old oak clock 12.	18.00
Crockery & glassware 3.68.	1 fire shovel, 2 pr tongs & 2 stal irons 2.50		6.18
2 pair of [firedogs?] 1.50.	1 looking glass 1.50.		
18 [ensthirn?] milk pans 2.25			5.25
2 tin pails .83.	4 old candlesticks, 1 [Panide?] muffin .50.		
2 old kitchen tables 1.			2.33
Loom & apparatus 3.	[Churs?] prep hoops & following 1.50.		4.50
1 ox sled & parts 1.25.	2 wash tables & small chest 2.34		3.59
Sundry dry casks 2.	6 old barrels 1.50		3.50
2 old chests corn 4½ bushel 1.34.	1 vinegar keg .50		1.84
3 spinning wheels 3.	31 [fill hats?] 15.50.		
4 [knafi?] do 15.			33.50
4 [castor?] [hats?] 12.	2__ do 5.	5 swarms bees 10.	27.00
Knives, forks .75.	a pleasure carriage 30.		
old wagon and harness 2			32.75
Sleigh and string of bells \$2.	1 old cart 4.	1 old harrow 1.25	7.25
2 old shovels and a dung fork .83.	2 ox yokes and irons 1.	5 rakes .67.	2.50
3 pitchforks .58.	3 old plows 5.	old chains, horse harness 3.	8.58
Iron _____ 1.75.	3 _____ .50.	5 old _____ 1.	3.25
1 Potash kettle 3.	old iron 1.	3 old saddles 6.	1 bench .67.10.67
13 old chairs 1.62.	1 brass kettle 2.00.	2 old pots .42.	
3 iron kettles 2.			6.04
			\$1,906.23

\$1,906.23 is the total property value used on Nathaniel's Schedule, but there is a small error in addition. The correct total is \$1,897.25.

Nathaniel also listed the debts that he owed. They totaled \$1,071.59 and included a \$512.50 mortgage on his farm. Interest cost was about \$60 per year.

The difference between what Nathaniel owned and what he owed, if you use his property value total of \$1,906.23, is \$834.64. If you use the correct sum of \$1,897.25, the difference is \$825.66.

In any event, all of the proper papers were sent off to the War Department in Washington, and on 29 November 1819 Certificate 16,072 R was issued to Nathaniel Draper, placing him on the Pension Rolls at the rate of \$8 per month, payable semi-annually, commencing 10 November 1819.

Pensions may have been costing the government more than anticipated, however, because a new Act of Congress was passed 1 May 1820 that apparently had more restrictive property limitations. As a result of that Act, Nathaniel was stricken from the Pension

Rolls after receiving \$30.40.

In January 1821 Nathaniel sent a petition for reinstatement on the Pension Rolls to John C. Calhoun, Secretary of the War Department. It included a statement signed by three selectmen of Claremont—Rufus Windemere, Joel Goss and E. Asher Stile[hern?]-who described 12 years of Nathaniel's post-war service as lieutenant, captain and major in a New Hampshire regiment, and mentioned the expense to Nathaniel of such service, along with his advanced age, infirmity and diminished property. Nathaniel, in reviewing his service to the country in the Revolutionary War, mentioned the hardships of the Canadian campaign, as well as time spent in New Jersey and two subsequent enlistments. He said: "I served my country in the military from 16 years old to 47. [Most of this would have been militia service.] In 12 years I held commissions. All this don't entitle me, but I think it makes me more worthy of pension." A printed form letter from the War Department rejected his request for reinstatement.

Acts of Congress that related to Revolutionary War pensions were also passed 1 March 1823 and 7 June 1832. On 1 August 1832 Nathaniel, now 78, reapplied for a pension under the Act of 7 June 1832. This application contains a somewhat more informative account of his service, adding that after being at Albany, Fort Ticonderoga, St. John's in Canada, and several places I cannot decipher, they returned to Albany and, "Took boats and landed at Kings Ferry, from there to Morristown in New Jersey where I remained my time and we were there short for men. I was there requested to stay half a month until Gen. Washington's troops could arrive at their headquarters in Morristown which I did. I was then discharged and returned home to Roxbury the first of Feby 1777, making in the whole 13 months and 18 days. In the summer of 1778 I enlisted for six months in Capt. Hoskins' Company and joined Col. Jacobs' Regt. in Rhode Island at several places and was stationed at short periods. I was discharged at Fall River and returned home at Roxbury having served out the time I enlisted for. In the fall of 1779 I enlisted for three months and went to [Clansach?] on North River [the Hudson]. The officer I do not recollect. I remained at [Clansach?] almost one month and returned home at Roxbury. The service not being wanted, I was dis-

charged before the time of enlistment was used.”

The War Department returned Nathaniel's 1832 application as incomplete. I sympathized with him when, in some frustration, he informed them that the items they now wanted had been sent to the War Department with his 1819 application.

On 1 February 1833 the War Department issued a new pension certificate (5046) to Nathaniel Draper, placing him on the Pension Rolls at \$91.33 per annum, retroactive to 4 March 1831—too late for Nathaniel, however, as he had “departed this life” 1 October 1832. Documents so informing the War Department were sent from Claremont 10 and 12 November 1832. Eventually, the \$142.91 due Nathaniel for the period 4 March 1831 to 1 October 1832 (the date of his death) was paid to his widow.

Another Act of Congress was passed 7 July 1838, entitled “An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows.” On 13 August 1838, Nathaniel's widow, Ann (now almost 80), made application for a widow's pension under this Act.

A new problem arose. On 17 August 1838, Nathaniel Prentiss, Town Clerk of Roxbury, submitted a sworn statement that, “I have diligently searched the Record of Marriages in the town of Roxbury, and the marriage of Nathaniel Draper and Ann Jones has not been entered in said Records.” Ann had to prove she had been married to Nathaniel. Fortunately, Nathaniel's younger brother David (age 76) was still living. On 18 August 1838, he deposed that he had been present at the marriage of Nathaniel and Ann in July 1780 (Ann says 3 July 1781), and that they had been married by the “Reverend Thomas Abbott, a settled and ordained minister of one of the parishes in said Roxbury.” Another deposition by a Claremont neighbor and justice of the peace, Uriah Dean, stated that Ann had not remarried.

Apparently it was enough. The last item in the file is Certificate of Pension 1601, issued 9 January 1838 in Ann's name. Ann was to receive \$91.33 per annum, retroactive to 4 March 1836. Arrears from that date to 4 September 1838 are shown as \$228.38, which was to be added to her first semi-annual allowance of \$45.66 due 4 March 1838.

And there the file ends. Hopefully, Ann continued on the Pension Rolls until her death 11 September 1841 (age 83) in Claremont, by which time she should have received an additional \$319.65.

I found no startling new information in the pension file, nor did I identify any family members previously unknown. I did, however, learn more about Nathaniel and about the time in which he lived. That alone made the effort worthwhile.

Continental soldiers were hard used and ill paid, as Nathaniel well knew. Writing of this in his 1821 appeal to the War Department he said: “The Continental money had so depreciated that when [I] received pay that amounted nearly to nothing. The finances of the Country was so low at that time that we did not expect such pay as we ought to have, but was [mustered?] very sufficiently for the good of the cause.” It is good that this was so, for Nathaniel himself received little help from his country. □

---

## CONGRATULATIONS CHARLES COTTER!

MGS board member Charles Cotter has produced an 8½"x11"x1¼" hardcover genealogy of his mother's family entitled *Ancestry of Beatrice Fairbanks; Noyes, Van Kleeck, Leeds* that he has styled a “scrapbook.” In addition to pedigree charts and a surname index, it contains essays, letters, photographs (often in color), maps, drawings, newspaper clippings, tax papers, heritage society applications, a list of sources consulted for each surname covered, and much more. This book represents an enormous amount of meticulous work, and we congratulate Charles on successfully completing it. (For an example of the thoroughness of Charles's work on this subject, see his article on page 3 of the September 1995 *MGS Newsletter*.) Charles has donated a copy of his book to the society, and it will soon be on the MGS shelves at Darien Library. Thank you, Charles. □

---

## HALBERT'S LATEST PLOY

A number of articles on Halbert's (mail drop Bath, Ohio) have appeared in our *Newsletter*—the most recent a little over a year ago in November 1997.

Now, according to an article in *The Family Tree*, Dec. 1998/Jan. 1999, Halbert's is soliciting orders for their “family histories” from a new address and using a new name: The US Information Bureau, NUMA, 3220 N Street NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20007-2829. Currently being promoted is a book

about "all the people with your surname in the Civil War." (*Editor's note:* Halbert's parent company, actually is "Numa Corporation," 1566 Akron Peninsula Road, Akron, OH 44313-5154; telephone (330) 923-5000; FAX (330) 923-5595. The new Washington address in the article that I read lacked a zip code, so I looked it up at the Internet site maintained for that purpose by the U.S. Postal Service and discovered that the address is for Mail Box Etc.—yet another mail drop.)

*In the meantime:* A contributor to the Northeast Roots List has reported receiving *unordered* merchandise from Halbert's, Bath, OH—a book with some generic Civil War information and photographs, and listing men with his surname who had "purportedly" served in the Civil War—along with an *invoice* for \$54.38. The recipient, understandably, feels no obligation to pay for unordered merchandise and is certainly reluctant to incur the expense in money and time of returning it—and under law has no obligation to do either. There is also, however, some concern about what effect the sending of repeated invoices by Halbert's might have on his credit report. Halbert's, no doubt, counts on such concern.

Should you receive a similar package through the mail, contact your local Postmaster. If such a package is shipped to you in any other way, contact your State Attorney General. Connecticut's Attorney General, Richard Blumenthal, is at 55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06141-0120; telephone: (860) 566-2026. □

---

## MAKING SENSE OF PRE-1850 CENSUSES

At our well attended meeting 14 November 1998 Roger Joslyn, CG, FASG, presented an excellent talk entitled "Three Females 10 to 16; Making Sense of the Pre-1850 Censuses."

He reported that he often heard statements such as: "I don't bother with them; they don't tell me anything"; when people talked about pre-1850 censuses. The 1790-1840 censuses have been described as the "silent" or "quiet" censuses, and yet there is information to be gleaned from them.

Access to the 1790 census is easy because it is widely available in printed form. Roger told us, however, that a colleague of his had estimated a 20% error

rate in transcription of the original records to the printed form, so if you did not find what you were looking for in the printed version, check the original which is available on microfilm. When assessing information in the 1790 census, remember that in some areas the 1790 census was still being taken in 1791!

A project called "Maine in 1790" is soliciting information from descendants of 1790 Maine ancestors about the person listed in the census.

The microfilm of the 1800 census shows names segregated by initial letter, i.e., all "A"s together, all "B"s together, etc. This arrangement makes people easier to find, but again introduces transcription errors, and isolates people from their neighbors. Many 1800 census records have been published, and some actually contain more information than the federal government requested. Manufacturing information was collected and an employment column was added. The number of foreign-born who had not been naturalized was requested. A "Males 16-18" column was added, while the "Males 10-16" and "Males 16-26" columns were retained, so you may find that a male 16-18 was counted more than once.

In 1830 questions were asked about literacy and navigation, and occupation was listed. In both the 1830 and 1840 censuses the names of still-living Revolutionary War pensioners were listed. Two copies were made, one for retention locally, and one sent to the state which was then sent on to Washington. The one sent to Washington is on microfilm at NARA, and the one retained locally is probably now in a state library or archive and may also be on microfilm. Again, remember that transcription introduces error, so checking both copies might be wise.

While we usually think of the occupants of a household as being members of a nuclear family, two families might have been living together, but the name of only *one* head of household would be listed.

Look at the listings and consider how people might have been related. Make a table with question marks after possible identifications (e.g., daughter?, son?) and estimated birth years. Do a composite chart for several censuses. Try working backwards from the 1850 census, and you may be able to put names to those numbers in the earlier censuses.

And remember that your research is not complete until *all* censuses have been checked. □

## COMPUTER CORNER

by David Bowley

ROOTSWEB is a wonderful tool that computer genealogists have created for themselves on the Internet. First, you can register your name with Roots-L, the surname for which you are searching, the period of time, the state/county and country applicable, and the emigration or movement pattern that applies.

Second, you can go to Rootsweb sites already in place, and there register your surname for that particular county or state with similar information to that required above.



Third, there are mailing lists with Rootsweb addresses, which I discussed in the November 1998 issue of the *Newsletter*, and you can join these at either the complete or digest level. I prefer the digest level, which brings you via e-mail a header with a digest of the letters. Then, if I want to read any of the letters, I scroll down and open them. If you would like to check the Worldwide Rootsweb page, go to:

<http://rootsweb.com>

For instance, if you want to find the Fairfield County Rootsweb USGenweb page, go to:

<http://www.rootsweb/~ctfairfi/>

and send an e-mail to:

[CTFAIRFI-L-request@rootsweb.com](mailto:CTFAIRFI-L-request@rootsweb.com)

with nothing in the subject or text boxes. You will automatically join the FAIRFIELD mailing list. If you click ROOTS-L, you will be told how to register your name both worldwide and locally in Fairfield County.

I have joined the Jersey, Channel Islands; Sussex, England; and Fairfield County, Connecticut, mailing lists. The Jersey and Sussex lists produce about 20 messages a day and have provided me with a number of leads. The Fairfield list has just started up and produces fewer messages.

I have registered my names in the Roots-L list, which is worldwide, and also in several Rootsweb sites in Cumbria, Jersey, Sussex and a couple of Welsh counties.

The mailing lists are automated, but have to be supervised by a site manager. I wonder whether there are any members of Middlesex Genealogical Society who would be interested in setting up a Lower Fairfield County Rootsweb presence. □

## THOMAS J. KEMP TO SPEAK AT GENEALOGY '99 SEMINAR

On 27 February 1999 Thomas J. Kemp, M.L.S., who is Library Director at New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston—and also an MGS Trustee—will be a featured speaker at “Genealogy '99—New Dimensions to Research.” This is an annual full-day genealogical seminar sponsored by the Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich, the Stamford Historical Society, and the Connecticut Ancestry Society. The subject of Tom’s first talk will be “Let Me Show You: Resources on the World Wide Web,” with a demonstration on how to access academic libraries and archives worldwide via live Internet access. Later, he will give a second talk entitled “Let Me Tell You—Keeping Current with the Latest Tools in Print and on the Computer.” Tom is an expert on genealogical research with computers, and his book *Virtual Roots: A Guide to Genealogy and Local History on the World Wide Web* has sold over 10,000 copies.

Leslie Smith Collier, M.S., of Dallas, TX, will also give two talks during the day: “In Deeds I Trust (and So Should You),” will tell how land records can substitute for missing genealogical records; and “Sherlock Holmes and the *Write Way* to Research,” will help you to step back from your problems and identify new records to search.

Connecticut Ancestry Society board member Robert Spiers will demonstrate the use of CD-ROM disks for genealogical research before and after the seminar, and during breaks.

These annual seminars at Christ Church Parish Hall in Greenwich are always excellent and not to be missed. The registration fee (\$45 for registrations sent by 15 February; \$50 for registrations postmarked later) covers the entire day and includes a boxed lunch. Call (203) 329-1183 for more information. □

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It’s time to renew your membership. Notices have been mailed, and it will be helpful if your renewal form is returned promptly, along with your dues check. □

**Deadline for next *Newsletter*  
23 March 1999**

## SURNAMES

ATWATER, David	d 1692	Eng>New Haven. CT
SAYRE, Damaris	d 1691	Eng?>New Haven. CT
ALLING, Sarah	b 1666	New Haven. CT
TUTTLE, Abigail	b 1692	New Haven, CT
BALL, Sarah	b 1723	New Haven. CT?
COTTER, Thankful	b 1761	New Haven. CT?
GOODYEAR, Mable	b 1788	New Haven. CT?>Genoa. NY
BEERS, Julia Ann	b 1826	Fairfield, CT?> Ithaca. NY
" Josiah	bef 1680	Eng?>CT
FAIRCHILD, Gloriana	m 1777	Stratford. CT
LEWIS, Abraham C.	m bef 1780	Stratford. CT>NY
HALL, Nathan	m 1818	CT?>Ithaca. NY

Note: b=born; bef=before; d=died; Eng=England; m=married.  
Submitted by Kim Paterson.

## QUERY

Elaine (Bell) Wilson—3016 L Ave., Anacortes, WA 98221; telephone (360) 293-1153; e-mail: [gooday@ssisp.com](mailto:gooday@ssisp.com)

—would like to contact anyone researching the MILLS family of Darien and Rowayton, or anyone from the SMITH or SHEFFIELD families of Sheffield Island. She is aware that the family of Millard Fillmore Smith did a lot of research on the family about 40 years ago, but does not know how to contact them.

Elaine reports that she has a growing database of names, including quite a few BELLS, SCOFIELDS, LEEDS, REEDS, HOWS, and other related families of Darien. She submitted some of them to the LDS a few years ago, but has subsequently added hundreds of names—and is willing to share.

If you have information about the families Elaine is researching, or would like more information about people she has already researched, please get in touch with her.



**Middlesex Genealogical Society**  
**PO Box 1111**  
**Darien CT 06820-1111**

**SATURDAY, 6 FEBRUARY 1999**  
**LIBRARY COMPUTER PROGRAM 12 NOON**  
**MGS WORKSHOP MEETING 2 PM**  
**DARIEN LIBRARY**

