



Middlesex Genealogical Society

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Darien, Fairfield County, CT

January 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my third (and since my term comes to an end in April, my last) New Year's message so I decided not to bore you with my New Year's Resolutions. Instead, I'd like to share some thoughts on the Internet. It's amazing to me how far we've come in a relatively short time. It's difficult to just keep up on all of the wonderful new information that's available online. But with the good, comes the bad, so practice "safe Internet" and remember to verify and cite.

Commercial providers have stepped up this year and added census records and images. Between the two major providers, Ancestry and HeritageQuest, all US Census years are covered. HeritageQuest has also added PERSI and the Revolutionary War Pensions and Bounty-Land Warrant Applications. Ancestry continues to add multiple databases every day, but I am VERY grateful for the New York Ships Passenger lists from 1851 - 1891 (the dreaded un-indexed years!) as well as their indexing of the UK Census Records. Granted, the fees for all of Ancestry's databases are steep, but they've made a considerable investment in creating the indexes and putting the images online. Remember to read the Description of the specific database. It will tell you where the information came from and what, if any, problems have been identified with the data. Ancestry even makes it easy to cite your source, by providing the source citation at the end of the Description. If you don't subscribe to this service, you can use it at various libraries in the area, as well as at the Family History Centers. HeritageQuest is available through all Connecticut Public Libraries.

Although Ancestry and HeritageQuest are two of the better know commercial sites, there are thousands of other databases available to search online. Check out Cyndislist.com>Databases - Searchable Online for a par-

tial list. Don't forget to also check Cyndi's ethnic sites.

Besides the fee-based sites, there are also millions of free sites. These range from the FamilySearch.org or EllisIsland.org to Joe's Family. Here is where you have to be diligent about understanding where the information came from, then verifying and documenting the source. When you find something on FamilySearch, you should ALWAYS follow through to the source document. Your job is not done until you've personally viewed the original microfilm. A large part of the IGI consists of files that have been submitted by members of the LDS church and contain no sources. Unless you can contact the individual who submitted the record and obtain the source, it's just a clue, not a fact. Although Ancestral File and Pedigree Resource File usually contain the name of the submitter, that person may or may not be willing to share his or her source. As an example, information I provided to a cousin (in written form) was typed into her database (with many errors), posted on the Internet, downloaded by an individual and incorporated into a 50,000 name file (with no apparent connection) and submitted to Pedigree Resource File. Although all of the data was cited in my original, none was added to the Internet version, so none was submitted with the file. This is not a problem exclusive to FamilySearch however, so beware of all data found on the Internet until you verify it and cite the source.

Happy New Year and Happy Hunting!

Donna Moughty

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL was due 1 January 2005, and MGS treasurer Dale Pollart has mailed a reminder to those who have not yet renewed. Should it be needed, you will find a copy of our new application form on page 7 of this newsletter.

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

2004-2005 OFFICERS

Donna Moughty	President
Robert E. Kenyon III	Vice President
Dale Pollart	Treasurer
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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 \$20 per individual and \$25 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://mgs.darien.org>
E-mail: mgs3@optonline.net

UPCOMING MGS MEETINGS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ALL MEETINGS SATURDAY, 2 PM, PROGRAM ROOM AT DARIEN LIBRARY. COME, AND BRING A FRIEND!

29 JANUARY 2005: REAL WORLD DNA TESTING will be presented by **MEGAN S. SMOLENYAK**. With amazing swiftness, "genetealogy" (the marriage of genetics and genealogy) is graduating from pioneering research to standard practice. But what is it exactly and how can we use it to further our genealogical endeavors? Come hear a fellow genealogist discuss her own experience launching and managing a DNA project, including such considerations as test selection factors (e.g., Y chromosome, mtDNA, or both), vendor choice criteria (e.g., number of markers, cost, etc.), and convincing others to participate and/or contribute. Also covered are how a surname study evolved into a community project (based on descendants from a particular European village), some of the surprising results to date, and planned future initiatives.

Megan is the author of *Honoring Our Ancestors: Inspiring Stories of the Quest for Our Roots*; *In Search of Our Ancestors: 101 Inspiring Stories of Serendipity and Connection in Rediscovering Our Family History*; and *They Came to America: Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors*. She was the lead researcher for the PBS *Ancestors* series and developed much of the content for the companion Website. She also did most of the research for PBS's *They Came to America*. Since 2000 she has been a consultant with the U.S. Army's Repatriation project to trace families of servicemen killed or missing in Korea and Vietnam. Megan is also a contributing editor for *HeritageQuest* and recipient of the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors awards in 2003 and 2004. She has appeared on numerous television programs and is a frequent speaker at major genealogical meetings, such as NGS and GENTECH. Her articles have appeared in *Ancestry*, *Family Chronicle*, *Family Tree Magazine*, *NGS News Magazine*, *Everton's Family History Magazine*, and *APG Quarterly*.

12 MARCH 2005: CLOSING THE CIRCLE: THE STORY OF GENEALOGISTS & ADOPTIVE PARENTS WHO FOUND THEIR CHILDREN'S BIRTH FAMILIES will be presented by **THOMAS F. HOWARD**. Tom and his wife, Virginia, are professional genealogists who adopted two children more than 30 years ago. They have reunited both children with their birth parents. Tom will explain why and how they did this, and he will also illustrate the ups, downs and outcomes of these extended relationships.

Tom is President of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council, Coordinator of the Genealogists Coalition of Connecticut, and a Director of NERGC. He is also a retired high school history teacher and a National Science Foundation Fellow. He was a Project Director of a Federal Title IV project that examined and developed local historic records for schools. He and his wife run a small business, Search: Skeletons and Heirs (tvhowsearch@snet.net).

(Continued on page 8)

U.S. WORLD WAR I DRAFT REGISTRATIONS

by Jean Nudd, Archivist

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
Northeast Region, Pittsfield, Mass.

Background

On 18 May 1917, Congress passed the Selective Service Act authorizing the President to draft men into military service. The Selective Service System (SSS), under the office of the Provost Marshal General (PMGO), was responsible for the process of selecting men for induction into the military service, from the initial registration to the actual delivery of men to military training camps.

The SSS operated under a "supervised decentralization" format. The President established district boards based on Federal Judicial Districts. The average district board had jurisdiction over approximately 30 local boards, each with an average registration of 5,000 men. The district boards had appellate jurisdiction over the decisions of the local boards in some claims and original jurisdiction in others.

Under the PMGO, the SSS was made up of 52 state (or territory) offices, 155 district boards, 1,319 medical advisory boards, and 4,648 local boards. These organizations were responsible for registering men; classifying them; taking into consideration needs for manpower in certain industries and in agriculture, as well as certain special family situations of the registrants; handling any appeals of these classifications; determining the medical fitness of individual registrants; determining the order in which registrants would be called; calling registrants; and placing them on trains to training centers.

Local boards were established in each county or similar subdivision in each state and for each 30,000 persons (approximately) in each city or county. The local boards were charged with registration, determination of serial and order numbers, classification, and the call and entrainment of draftees.

During World War I, there were three registrations. The first was on 5 June 1917, registering men between the ages of 21 and 31. The second was on 5 June 1918, registering men who had turned 21 since 5 June 1917 (A supplemental registration on 24 August 1918, registered those becoming 21 since 5 June 1918.). The third registration was held on 12 September 1918, and registered men 18 through 45. So, all men born between 1872 and September 1900 who were not in active military service by June 1917 filled out draft registration cards, whether they were native born, naturalized, or alien.

There were five World War I draft classifications, but they were not the straightforward arrangement that we all

remember from later wars, such as 1A or 4F. Every registrant was considered belonging to Class 1 until his status giving him the right of deferred classification was fully established. So, all registrants were in Class 1 unless they were granted a deferment. The remaining classes, 2 to 5, were known as the deferred classes, but that did not mean they could not be drafted. The report states, "After exhausting Class 1, men would be called from the first registration from Classes 2, 3, and 4, with practically accurate knowledge that they were being called in direct order of their availability and in inverse order of their need for the social and economic life of the country." Class 5 was the only class not subject to induction.

Each draft board used a set of standard "principles" to place men in the deferred classes, including dependency, sundry specific vocations, necessary agricultural and industrial workers, or moral disqualification. Alien citizens, termed alienage by the SSS, were placed in Class 5. Enemy aliens were also classified 5s. The rest of registered "noncombatant" and "neutral" aliens were dispersed across Class 1 and other deferred classes. Dependency deferment was based on family support needs, if someone else was able to support family members, and if the man had children or how recently he had married.

Sundry specified vocations were generally federal and state officers (Class 5), ministers (Class 5), pilots (Class 5), mariners (Class 4), county or municipal officers (Class 3), firemen and policemen (Class 3), customhouse clerks (Class 3), or mailmen (Class 3). Necessary agricultural and industrial workers were classified in all classes "according to the degree of their skill and the relative necessity and importance of such an individual to a particular enterprise. In Class 2 was placed a registrant found by his district board to be a necessary skilled farm laborer in a necessary agricultural enterprise or a necessary skilled industrial laborer in a necessary industrial enterprise. In Class 3...found to be a necessary assistant, associate or hired manager of a necessary enterprise;...also a registrant found to be a necessary highly specialized technical or mechanical expert of a necessary industrial enterprise. Class 4...found to be a necessary sole managing, controlling, or directing head."

After the signing of the armistice on 11 November 1918, the activities of the Selective Service System were rapidly curtailed. On 27 November 1918, the Provost Marshal General ordered that selective service organizations be closed and that records of draft boards and state headquarters be forwarded to Washington. By 31 March 1919, all local, district and medical advisory boards were closed, and in 1919 the last state headquarters closed operations. The Provost Marshal General was relieved from duty on 15 July 1919, thereby finally terminating the

activities of the Selective Service System of World War I. Detailed accounts of the organization and activities of the Selective Service System are contained in two annual reports and the final report of the Provost Marshal General to the Secretary of War and in the Selective Service Regulations (Washington 1918).

Records Descriptions

The order of the Secretary of War of November 27, 1918, provided for the transfer of the Selective Service System records to the Adjutant General's Office, where they were administered by the Selective Service Division. Since the closing of the PMGO in 1919, the great bulk of the records have been destroyed by Congressional authority as having no permanent value or because of duplication. All the records not destroyed were transferred to the National Archives in 1942 and 1945 with the exception of the original registration cards, which were in the custody of the Bureau of the Census until 1989. At that time they were transferred to the National Archives. These records include the correspondence, reports, and related papers of the PMGO relating to the administration of the draft, draft quotas, appeals to the President, the Students' Army Training Corps, deserters, aliens, personnel, accounts, and other matters; records of the local boards consisting principally of docket books, classification lists, lists of inductees and of delinquents and deserters; docket books and forms of district boards; and vouchers. Also included in this record group and described in this checklist are the correspondence files of the Selective Service Division of the Adjutant General's Office, 1919-39, which furnished information during that period to inquirers concerning the Selective Service System and its records.

The draft registration records consist of approximately 24 million cards (about 23% of the population in 1918). They are reproduced in M1509, WWI Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-18, on 4,277 rolls of microfilm. It is important to note that not all of the men who registered for the draft actually served in the military, and not all of the men who served in the military registered for the draft. Moreover, these are not military service records. These records end when individuals reported to the Army training camp. They contain no information about an individual's military service.

M1509 is arranged alphabetically by state or territory, and then by county or city (except for Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island, which are arranged by division or counties), and then alphabetically by surname of registrant. Each of the three registrations used a slightly different type of card. Each card asks for the same basic information, posed in formats of 10, 12 or 20 questions: name, age, address, date and place of birth, race, citizenship, and name and place of employment. The 10-question

format (June 1917) also asked for the place of birth of the registrant's father and the name and address of the nearest relative. The 12-question format (June and August 1918) included the registrant's occupation, marital status, dependents, former military status, and claims of exemption from the draft. The 20-question format (September 1918) asked more specific citizenship information and name and address of nearest relative. Accompanying each is a brief physical description of the registrant.

There are some notable points to remember when using M1509. Indians, prisoners, the insane, men in hospitals, and late registrants' cards are filed separately at the end of the microfilm series. These films are not available at every NARA facility. If a man was already serving in the military, he didn't need to register. Some recent immigrants may have written their last names first, so their cards may be filed under their given name rather than their surname. Hispanics use both the father and mother's surnames, so their cards may be filed under their mother's rather than their father's surname. And lastly, remember these cards were filled out by the registrant, and some people, even in 1918, were illiterate and may not have spelled their names as they are spelled today.

Also available on microfilm is M1860, Boundary Maps of Selected Cities and Counties of WWI Selective Service Draft Registration Boards, 1917-18, on one roll of microfilm. These maps can simplify the task of finding the card of a registrant who lived in a heavily-populated area. Some of these maps are draft board maps showing the boundaries of the draft boards while others are just street and road maps. The maps are arranged geographically and cover major cities, including Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Bridgeport (CT), Buffalo (NY), Chicago, Washington (DC), Cleveland, Cincinnati, Hartford (CT), Dallas, Denver, Indianapolis, Jersey City (NJ), Kansas City (KS), Louisville, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Minneapolis, New Haven, San Diego, St. Paul, Seattle, and Toledo, as well as the New York City metropolitan area and major cities in Pennsylvania. They were filmed in their plastic sleeves, due to their fragile condition and age. Many of the maps are discolored or faded from age, and this makes them difficult to use. The highly reflective plastic sleeves caused unavoidable reflections as well.

If the NARA facility nearest you doesn't have the roll of M1509 you need, the Atlanta office provides reference services for draft cards. There is a form available on NARA's web site, <http://www.archives.gov/facilities>, which researchers can use to request a search. You must know the man's full name, complete home address at the time of registration (including county), and name of nearest relative, at a minimum. Additional information helps them find the right card, including birth date, birth place,

and occupation. Cost is \$10 for each search.

In addition to these microfilmed draft registration cards and boundary maps of registration boards, records of the PMGO are available, but most are not microfilmed. The administrative records of the PMGO, including correspondence, personnel records, and opinion records, may not interest most genealogists. Some researchers may find their ancestors in the records relating to citizenship status, Presidential appeals, or delinquents and deserters. Perhaps most interesting are the records of local boards, including docket books and classification lists, list of inductees, and delinquent and deserter forms.

The administrative records of the PMGO consist of several series, including general files, states files, miscellaneous files, office files, alien files, passport files, historical files, subject index to the PMGO's files, person and place index to the PMGO's files, orders to state draft executives, local board experience files, sample forms and form correspondence files, newspaper clippings, information file on court decisions, complaints file, list of U.S. residents serving in the British Expeditionary Forces, list of U.S. residents serving in the Canadian Expeditionary Forces, lists of registrants living abroad, personnel records, vouchers, appropriations received and spent for military service, and financial statistics of the Selective Service System. Some of these series are indexed.

The general, states, miscellaneous, and office files consist mainly of correspondence, reports, and related administrative papers relating to preparation, interpretation, and enforcement of the Selective Service regulations, state activities, and members of Congress. The alien files and its index are correspondence with foreign representatives about the registration of aliens residing in the United States. The passport file contains correspondence with draft registrants who desired passports to leave the United States. The historical file consists of papers withdrawn from the other files because they were considered to be of historical value. The local board experience file holds questionnaires filled in by local boards and sent to the PMGO on various provisions of the Selective Service Act. The complaints file consists of cards digesting correspondence received about draft dodgers, unfair classifications, and similar subjects, giving the name of complainant, summary of complaint, number of form letter sent in reply or notation of referral to the Department of Justice. The personnel records include cards of state draft board members and state draft officials, as well as PMGO personnel. The financial statistics are in two volumes and consist of lists of Selective Service appropriations with amounts expended by offices and boards for salaries, traveling expenses, equipment, rentals, supplies, and other purposes. The second volume is a chronological summary of

expenditures of all states, followed by a summary sheet for each state.

Records of the district boards are also available. These include Forms 185 and 1006, which list the cases received in the district boards, either on appeal or as claims based on engagement in agriculture or industry. These forms give names of registrants, order and serial numbers, dates on which actions were taken, and classification. Many forms are incomplete. They are arranged by state and then by district board.

The records of local boards include docket books, classification lists, lists of inductees, individual induction forms, and lists of delinquents and deserters. Some have indexes. The docket books are lists of registrants in the first registration, giving, for each man, his order and serial numbers, date on which the questionnaire was mailed to him, date and result of physical examination, date on which the registrant was sent to mobilization camp, and notation of acceptance or rejection there. There are notations if an appeal was made. The volumes are arranged numerically by code numbers assigned to each local board. Within each volume, the arrangement is numerical by the order number of registrant. These order numbers are on the original draft registration cards. Many local boards destroyed their docket books since they reproduced this information on the classification lists.

The classification lists are lists of the registrants in all three registrations, giving the order and serial number for each man, race, dates on which the questionnaire was mailed to him and returned, classification, date of appeal, action taken by both local and district boards, date of physical examination, date of entrainment for mobilization camp, and notation of acceptance or rejection there. The volumes are arranged like the docket books. [These records are not currently available. Most are stored in NARA's Atlanta office and will not be available until after the move into their new facility. Check with the Atlanta office for further information.]

Lists of inductees are forms 164-A and 1029, used by the local boards to list men summoned for entrainment to mobilization camps. Each form contains the name of the local board, the mobilization camp, and the date on which men were to report. It lists the men with notations on acceptance or rejection at the camp or their failure to report. These are arranged within each state by local board and then chronologically by date of entrainment.

Lists of delinquents and deserters contain various forms, including 146-A and 1013 forms listing men who failed to report for induction or to return the questionnaires. They give the name of the local board, date, and list of registrants with order and serial number, addresses, dates due to appear, and reasons for failure to report.

Forms 4003 are the final lists of delinquents and deserters of each local board, giving name, order number, and notations of action taken by local boards and state headquarters. Forms 1018 are the lists prepared by the local board or the state Adjutant General of who failed to report for military duty; they give names, addresses, and dates of induction. Forms 148-B, 146-C, 4003-A, and 1012, each filed separately, are similar to those above but do not duplicate them. Forms 1013-A are Delinquent Classification Lists for States, giving the delinquent's name, local board, order number, delinquent order number, dates of mailing forms, and date of induction. Some do not show action taken. An index to delinquents and deserters forms is a card file that includes the name, local board, order number, and number of form on which each delinquent was reported. These index cards are filed by state and then in general alphabetical order by name of delinquent.

Researchers wanting to use these World War I draft registration records should first determine which records they require and then determine where the records are stored for the state they are seeking. Some of these records are available on a regional level, but others are only available in College Park or Atlanta, Georgia. For information on where to find each type of record, see the Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives of the United States, or visit <http://www.archives.gov> and search the on-line catalog (ARC). ■

FROM ACROSS THE POND: RESEARCHING YOUR IRISH KIN 13 November 2004 Meeting

Bob Law gave an excellent presentation on Irish research at our 13 November meeting. He identified some myths that have too often been accepted as facts and urged us to learn something about Irish history, particularly within the last 400 years. He also explained the difficulties of Irish records and the substitutes that should be sought for those that no longer exist.

Bob recommended that we consult a "how-to" book on Irish genealogy, such as *Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research* by Margaret Dickson Fally, *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* by John Grenham, *Irish Records: Sources for Family & Local History* by James G. Ryan, *Irish Church Records* by James G. Ryan, and *Directory of Irish Archives* by Seamus Helfery and Raymond Refalfe.

He reminded us that thorough research in the U.S.A. is essential before attempting to find anything in Ireland. Most important of all is to determine where within Ireland your ancestor was born. Sadly, the usual answer is simply "Ireland," with no mention of county, townland or parish. Actual birthplace can *sometimes* be found in cemetery/burial or immigration records, passenger lists, obituaries, military and church records.

You need to know something about the territorial structure of Ireland: four provinces, 32 counties, 325 baronies, 2447 civil

parishes, and about 64,000 townlands—and to learn which records can be found in each. Many Irish records have been destroyed, but you can accomplish quite a lot by working with what exists rather than grieving for what has been lost.

Most civil registration did not start until 1864. It is important to remember that there was an established church in Ireland (Church of Ireland), and that it was perfectly legal to discriminate against nonmembers. Under the Penal Laws a major portion of the population was criminalized, and it was not until 1829 when they were repealed that Catholics were able to keep church records. Church of Ireland records were largely destroyed by fire in 1922 during the civil war. Your how-to book should tell you which ones still exist. The Presbyterian Church was introduced in Ireland with the establishment of the Ulster Plantation, but it had to cope with some restrictions in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Bob shared his experiences (and frequent successes) in researching members of his own extended family. ■

UPCOMING SEMINARS

The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society is again offering its New York City Repository Tours: (1) N.Y. Public Library, Wed., 26 Jan., 9:30-11:00 a.m.; (2) National Archives Northeast Region, Tues., 8 Feb., 4:00-8:00 p.m.; (3) NYG&B Library, Wed., 23 Feb., 4:00-7:00 p.m.; and (4) Archives of the City of New York, Fri., 11 March, 1:30-4:30 p.m. You may register for all four tours, or for single tours.

NYG&B has also scheduled a series of programs on genealogical writing. The first of these will be a two-lecture program presented by Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG, on Sun., 27 Feb., 1:00-4:00 p.m.

For more information or to register for NYG&B programs, visit www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org or call Lauren Maehrlein at (212) 755-8532.

Connecticut Ancestry is celebrating its 50th anniversary with an all-day genealogical seminar, to be held Sat., 26 Feb. 2005, 10 AM to 4 PM, at Christ Church Parish Hall in Greenwich, Conn. Patricia Law Hatcher who is coming from Dallas will present "Monographs—Reviving a Respected Publishing Format," "Look Again! What Did You Miss?" and "Evaluating Evidence—A Methodology for Every Day." John Konvalinka will present "Are You Using the Internet to Its Full Potential." The fee (\$45 before 12 Feb., \$50 after 12 Feb. [sic]) includes a box lunch. For more information, telephone 203-637-0437.

8th New England Regional Genealogical Conference will take place 31 March to 3 April 2005 at Holiday Inn By-the-Bay Hotel and Convention Center in Portland Maine. A stunning number of subjects will be covered by excellent, nationally known speakers, including MGS president Donna Moughty who will present "Lights, Camera, Action: Using Video to Enhance Your Family History"; and "Searching the Ellis Island Database" on Sat., 2 April.

If you register early (postmarked by 1 March 2005), you can attend the entire conference for \$99. For more information or to download a brochure and registration form, visit the conference Website at www.nergc.org ■

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 1111

Darien, CT 06820

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues: \$20/individual, \$25/couple or family. Photo I.D. (e.g., driver's license), required. If joining/renewing in person, show photo I.D.; if via mail, send copy of photo I.D. Please consider adding a contribution to support our genealogical resource expansion.

Code of Ethics: In consideration of being accepted as a member(s) of the above society and in order to protect the integrity of Public Records and Library Books, I/we am/are ethically bound and hereby agree that I/we will research Vital Records for Genealogical or Historical purposes only. I/we also agree:

1. That I/we will treat with the greatest care and respect all Public Records and Library Books that may be made available for my/our use;
2. I/we will respect the privacy of the individuals whose information I/we may encounter in my/our research;
3. I/we will respect the custodians of the records.

This pledge is freely made by me under penalty of forfeiting my membership in the society.

Signature of applicant

Date

Previous Member Yes No

Signature of co-applicant

Date

Previous Member Yes No

(Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.)
Full Name of Applicant

(Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.)
Full Name of Co-applicant

Street Address (mandatory): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ 9-digit Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Date and Place of Applicant's Birth: _____

Date and Place of Co-applicant's Birth: _____

Occupation of Applicant: _____

Occupation of Co-applicant: _____

I/we belong to the following Historical Societies: _____

I/we belong to the following Genealogical Societies: _____

I/we belong to the following Lineage Societies: _____

Reason for interest in genealogy: _____

Dues enclosed: _____

Contribution enclosed: _____

MGS use only.
Photo I.D.

MGS MEETING CALENDAR

(Continued from page 2)

7 MAY 2005: KEEPING UP WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS: LEARN ABOUT YOUR ANCESTORS FROM THE PEOPLE THEY ASSOCIATED WITH will be presented by **JOHN KONVALINKA, CGRS, CGL**. One way to fill gaps in our ancestor and family research is to focus on the people to be found near or associated with our subjects in various kinds of records. Learn how to identify neighbors and associates and explore those records that offer the greatest potential.

A professional genealogist who has been actively involved in genealogy for 25 years, John is particularly interested in effective use of computers and the Internet in supporting (not replacing) traditional genealogical research. He has worked extensively in the British Library, the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, and other major genealogical libraries in the U.S., U.K. and other countries, as well as in the Public Record Office and Society of Genealogists (London), and the (U.S.) National Archives, New York City Archives, New Jersey State Archives, the NYG&B, and many smaller libraries, record offices, and private collections. ■

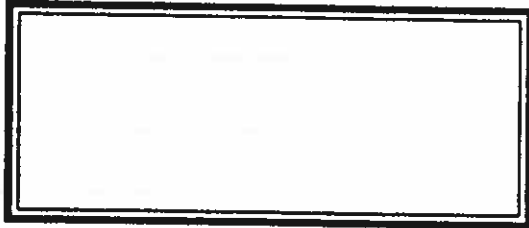
TOWN CLERKS & GENEALOGISTS ACTION GROUP MEETING WITH CONNECTICUT DEPT. OF HEALTH HEAD

The new federal 911 recommendations have been passed by Congress, and a meeting was held in mid-December among the above entities to consider how this would affect Connecticut genealogy. Although a quick look-see by the attorney general's office was not encouraging, nothing is supposed to change until he has had an opportunity to review the new requirements thoroughly. The Dept. of Health, of course, must follow his guidance.

Expect to see restrictions on any devices capable of copying or reproducing an image; it is unlikely that they will continue to be permitted within records access areas.

Stricter security measures surrounding public records are probably inevitable. Be patient as these changes are worked through; your society will pass on information as it becomes available. ■

**Deadline for next newsletter
5 April 2005**



**MEETING
2 PM, 29 JAN. 2005
DARIEN LIBRARY**

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

