



Middlesex Genealogical Society

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Darien, Fairfield County, CT

September 2004

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm sitting here during the last few days of August wondering, where the summer went! I just got returned from taking our youngest daughter back to college in Washington for her last year; I guess it's not just the summer, but the years as well!

The summer I can explain. I had the opportunity to lecture on Census Research at the National Archives in Washington, DC, in July, and then spent over three weeks in England and Ireland. Although I had a chance to do some research in England at the Family Records Center and the Metropolitan Archives of London, as well as the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies and University of Kent in Canterbury, my entire 10 days in Ireland were devoted to research, both in Belfast and Dublin. I visited familiar places like the National Library and National Archives in Dublin and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland in Belfast, and visited some new repositories to check out their collections: the Linen Hall Library in Belfast and Representative Church Body Library in Dublin (Church of Ireland records).

Preparation and planning are the key to any successful research trip. Whether you're trying to sneak in a few hours or days of research during a family vacation, or devoting an entire trip to research, creating your research plan before you leave will ensure you have the right material with you to make the trip a success. I keep my "to-do" lists by repository or location; that way when I know I'll be visiting a certain area, I can print out the list of tasks to be accomplished. Whenever I come up with missing information, or have found something that identifies a new problem or question, I immediately add it to my to do list. Most genealogical programs have this capability, although I use a freeware genealogical note-keeping program called *By-gones*, available at <http://home.utah-inter.net/bygonex/index.htm> Always remember to put enough detail in your to-do list so you'll remember exactly what you need (this from personal experience!). If the repository has a catalog on the Web, try to note the specific resource you need to

check. This will save time. If you're going to an area that you're not familiar with, use the USGenWeb (www.usgenweb.com) or other locality site to find out what type of records are available and what archives and repositories are located nearby. You may even find the name of a local person you can e-mail to ask questions about research in the area. Conferences are a great way to combine a wonderful education experience with an opportunity to do research. The New England Regional Genealogical Conference is scheduled for 31 March to 3 April 2005 in Portland, Maine (for those of you with northern New England ancestors); the National Genealogical Society's Conference in Nashville starts 1 June (for you Southerners) and the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference returns to Salt Lake City 7-10 September next year. Now there's an opportunity to combine a LOT of research with education; last time they held the conference in Salt Lake the Family History Library stayed open until midnight every night!

As we start our new program year, I'm very excited about the excellent speakers and topics that Pete Kenyon, our VP, has put together. From Estate Records, to Irish Research to DNA and Adoption, and, finally, how to use records from the people your family "hung out with," we've got an excellent year of programs for you. I hope we'll see you at all of our meetings and that you'll bring a friend with you.

Happy hunting!

Donna Moughty

COPYRIGHT LAW

An article entitled "New Rules for Using Public Domain Materials" by publishing and entertainment attorney Lloyd J. Jassin can be accessed at:

http://copylaw.com/new_articles/PublicDomain.html

This is an excellent review of changes imposed by the most recently enacted copyright law and should be helpful to anyone considering publication of a family history. ■

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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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!

2 OCTOBER 2004: WHAT DID YOUR ANCESTORS LEAVE YOU? INVESTIGATING ESTATE FILES will be presented by **CHRISTINE CRAWFORD-OPPENHEIMER**. While an ancestor's estate generally left items only to close relatives and friends, the papers created as a result of settling that estate may contain a wonderful bequest for genealogists researching the family: their ancestors may unknowingly have left them gifts of information. Probate files are more than wills! Learn what probate files are, what kinds of documents are in them, and how they can help you.

Christine's books *Long-Distance Genealogy: Researching Your Ancestors from Home* and *Lost in Pennsylvania? Try the Published Pennsylvania Archives* have received enthusiastic reviews. Her articles have appeared in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, the *Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine*, the *Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society Quarterly*, and other publications. She has spoken on a variety of topics at national and regional genealogical conferences and meetings, and is a member of many genealogical and professional societies, including the Genealogical Speakers Guild, Association of Professional Genealogists, National Genealogical Society, and state and local societies.

13 NOVEMBER 2004: FROM ACROSS THE POND: RESEARCHING YOUR IRISH KIN will be presented by **ROBERT LAW, JR.** This presentation will focus on how to identify, locate and access records on Irish ancestors through documents, microfilm and the Internet. It will be of interest to beginners and seasoned genealogy researchers alike. Even if your ancestors did not hail from Ireland, the techniques described may be applicable in your own personal research.

Bob has 25 years of genealogical research experience with particular focus on U.S.A., Canadian, German, Irish and English research. He is the Director of Genealogy at Ridgefield Historical Society and a librarian at the New Canaan Family History Center. He is a member of Ontario Genealogical Society, German Research Association, Immigrant Genealogical Society, Irish Ancestral Research Society, Ulster Historical Society, Scotch-Irish Society of the U.S., Society of Genealogists (London), Connecticut Society of Genealogists, New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, and New England Historic Genealogical Society.

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

(Continued on page 7)

SALT LAKE CITY TRIP AUGUST 2004

by Marianne Sheldon

I usually try to take a research trip with my friend Florence Wyland (also a member of MGS) to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City every year. Our husbands have no interest in genealogy so we leave them at home, which means that we can concentrate totally on research. For various reasons we hadn't been out to SLC for two years, and a lot has changed in the interim. Some of what we learned on this last trip might be of benefit to anyone headed out there now.

The biggest change is that the Family History Library is being completely renovated. The renovation is in it's last stages now, which we knew because their Website kept us informed on the status of construction. There used to be four floors of genealogical materials: the British floor (B2), the International floor (B1), U.S. & Canada books (Main) and U.S. & Canada microfilms (M2). The family history collection was housed at another building in the Joseph Smith Library because of lack of space in the library. Now, the library consists of five floors for researchers. The top floor (M3) is now U.S. & Canada books, the second floor is still U.S. & Canada microfilm, the Main floor has the genealogies that were moved back from the Joseph Smith Library and the lower floors remain the same for International and British.

Most of the work has been completed, but the Main floor was only partially open when we were there. There were no copiers yet on this floor. The International books were still in high-density storage, but they were just about to be put back on the shelves. There was no problem, however, getting anything out of high-density storage. We went to the attendant's window with the call number and it only took a few minutes. The drawback was that the shelves could not be browsed. Work was also being done outside the library building so you had to maneuver around construction to enter the building.

The hours for the library were also changed this year. They are now 8 AM to 5 PM on Monday, 8 AM to 9 PM Tuesday through Saturday, and the library is closed Sunday.

One of our problems is always planning meals when we're researching. We used to work all day and take a dinner break about 4:30, then continue back at the Library until closing. Unfortunately, the little restaurant behind the library that we used to frequent just recently closed. We found out, however, that you can get passes to eat at the cafeteria in the LDS Office Building (located on the other side of Temple Square) for the length of your stay. The food is excellent, with numerous stations (salad, grill,

soup, dessert and more), as well as a daily menu of three entrees (carved prime rib on Thursdays!). The food was extremely reasonable. It is only open for breakfast and lunch so we changed our routine, eating lunch there before 1:30 PM and picking up something for dinner elsewhere about 6 PM. One suggestion we took and enjoyed was dinner at the little cafeteria at the Beehive House, also on the other side of Temple Square. The library also has a small snack area and place to eat downstairs if you bring your own lunch.

Since we spend all our time at the library, Florence and I usually don't want to spend a lot for a room we only sleep in. We like the Carlton Hotel, a small, European-style hotel a few blocks from the library at 140 E. South Temple. We booked a double room at their special, genealogists' rate of \$59 per night. The Carlton provides a free, full breakfast off their menu, free shuttle to and from the library (the short walk is lovely, though) and a free shuttle to and from the airport. If, for some reason, they cannot pick you up at the airport, they will pay for a taxi.

A trip to Salt Lake City is so easy. The library is a dream to work in. Staff members go out of their way to help, and all the books and microfilms are open to the patrons—no call slips! Copy centers are situated on all floors with numerous machines of all types and staff to help. You initially buy a card to use in the copiers for 60 cents and then continue to put as much money as you want on it. The cards don't expire so you can use them again on your next visit. There are hundreds of microfilm readers available, so you never have to wait. Each floor has at least fifty computer stations, which permits you to access the FHL Catalog and *FamilySearch*, as well as subscription services such as Ancestry.com and Gayles London Times newspapers site. There is no problem finding a place to plug in your computer and some plug-in points are Internet accessible.

We never seem to have the time to see much of Salt Lake City because we spend all our time in the library. If you need a break, however, a walk in the beautiful gardens of Temple Square or going to hear the Mormon Tabernacle Choir sing on Thursday evenings can clear your head. If you have to bring someone who doesn't understand the call of the library, there is a wealth of things to do in Salt Lake City, so plan a trip now and enjoy! ■

"Ferdinand was born a prince and had become a sovereign. But he had clearly never been a gentleman; and that, quite simply, was that."

Royal Sunset, Gordon Brook-Shepherd (Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, NY, 1987).

SCOTTISH FAMILY HISTORY SERVICE

Scotland On Line has announced the setting up of a new Scottish Family History Service to be fully operational in 2006, which will create a "one-stop-shop" for genealogy research by bringing together services currently provided separately by project partners: the National Archives of Scotland, General Register Office for Scotland and the Court of the Lord Lyon. There will be a family history "campus" centered on the General Register House and New Register House buildings in Edinburgh.

As part of this project, early in 2005, online facilities currently provided by the partners will be integrated to provide a seamless and enhanced service to family historians through a redesigned ScotlandsPeople Website at: <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/> which is being provided by Scotland On Line. The new site will offer improved availability and ease of navigation, together with easy access to the records of the project partners.

The new ScotlandsPeople site will give access to indexes and images of statutory registers of births, marriages and deaths, census and old parish registers, but will bring these resources together with the indexes and images of Scottish wills and testaments 1500-1901 currently provided on the Scottish Documents Website <http://www.scottishdocuments.com>. The new, integrated site will allow customers to search the index of Scottish wills, 1500-1901, view the wills of famous Scots and do searches free of charge, as is the case now. There is a charge for downloading an image of a will, which remains the same, £5. The payment structure for access to indexes and images of statutory registers of births, marriages and deaths, census and old parish registers will also remain as it is on the current ScotlandsPeople site. ■

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEEDS ONLINE

Sullivan County land records back to 1827 are the latest addition to <http://www.nhdeeds.com> which already contains the records for Belknap, Cheshire, Hillsborough, Rockingham, and Strafford Counties. Choose the county of interest, then click on "Search County Records." Once the search form appears, decide whether you wish to search grantor or grantee records in either the old index or the new one, and add whatever additional information you have, e.g., surname, given name, town, search-year range. Click "View Document" for one item in the list of records that appears (hopefully), and you will be looking at the original document. The search and view of the document are free, but, if you want to print a record, it will cost you \$1 per page. ■

ATLAS OF HISTORICAL COUNTY BOUNDARIES

The William M Scholl Center for Family and Community History at the Newberry Library in Chicago is producing and making available on the Internet *The Atlas of Historical County Boundaries*. The first three interactive state maps are available now at www.newberry.org/ahcbp. Researchers can now view and print information from the interactive maps for California, Virginia, and West Virginia historical counties. Maps can be customized by choosing a date or by adding or deleting layers. According to the news release:

For each county or equivalent the Atlas provides chronologies of changes, references to the authorities for those changes (compilation is based upon original research in the laws and other primary sources), county areas in square miles resulting from each change, and a map of every different configuration....In addition to the basic boundary information, the Atlas includes the attachments to organized counties of unorganized counties and non-county areas and full data on unsuccessful proposals for new counties. Changes in county names also are included. County equivalents, such as the "parishes" of Louisiana and the independent cities of Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, and Virginia, receive the same treatment as conventional counties.

This is a resource that will grow enormously in value as additional states are added. ■

NEHGS LIBRARY HOURS CHANGE

The New England Historic Genealogical Society has announced that starting 1 September the library will no longer be open to the public on Sundays. (This means that the library will be closed Sundays and Mondays.) Also, beginning 7 September the library will open one hour later at 10 AM on Tuesday through Friday. Saturday opening time will remain 9 AM. ■

NYG&B HOURS CHANGE

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society has announced that starting 9 September it will be open on Thursdays from 12:30 PM to 8 PM, instead of the usual 9:30 AM to 5 PM. It is hoped that this change will satisfy a long-expressed desire by users for evening hours. ■

THE TERRITORIAL PAPERS OF THE UNITED STATES

by John Stemmons

John (Jack) Stemmons is an accredited genealogist specializing in the Southern States and LDS Records. He is also a certified genealogical record specialist for the New England States. He was employed at the Family History Library for 13 years and has been an author and publisher of family history materials for more than 30 years.

After the Revolutionary War, many people desired to move west and obtain inexpensive land in the vast areas acquired by their new country from 1783 through 1803. The period following our nation's independence witnessed one of history's greatest migrations as a large percent of U.S. citizens and foreign immigrants moved from the Eastern Seaboard to the territories. Very few records were kept until an orderly form of government was established. Of course, record destruction took its toll. Therefore, many of our most difficult genealogy problems bog down in the period of the first territories of the United States. And, as luck would have it, many of the missing federal censuses prior to 1830 are for the territories before they became states.

One of the best resources for this period is *The Territorial Papers of the United States* (listed below), which contains a wealth of information on many thousands of individuals, making it an excellent substitute for lost census records. Numerous records not made by states or counties are contained in these volumes:

United States, Department of State, compiled and edited by Clarence Edwin Carter, *The Territorial Papers of the United States* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1934-1962. 26 volumes. National Archives microfilm publications: M0721:

- Vol. 1. The Territorial Papers of the United States, General.
- Vols. II & III. The Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, 1787-1803. [Includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.]
- Vol. IV. The Territory South of the River Ohio, 1790-1796. [Includes Tennessee.]
- Vols. V & VI. The Territory of Mississippi, 1798-1817. [Includes Alabama and Mississippi.]
- Vols. VII & VIII. The Territory of Indiana, 1800-1816. [Includes Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and part of Minnesota.]
- Vol. IX. The Territory of Orleans, 1803-1812. [Includes Louisiana.]
- Vols. X - XII The Territory of Michigan, 1805-1837.

[Includes Michigan, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.]

- Vols. XIII – XV. The Territory of Louisiana-Missouri, 1803-1821. [Includes Missouri, Arkansas, and the states north and west that were in the original Louisiana Purchase.]
- Vols. XVI & XVII. The Territory of Illinois, 1809-1818. [Includes Illinois, Wisconsin, and part of Minnesota.]
- Vol. XVIII. The Territory of Alabama, 1817-1819. [Includes Alabama.]
- Vols. XIX – XXI. The Territory of Arkansas, 1819-1836. [Includes Arkansas and part of Oklahoma.]
- Vols. XXII – XXVI. The Territory of Florida, 1821-1845.

These books, are one of the most underused resources for the U. S. territorial period because many researchers are unaware of their existence and they are to be found usually only in the larger libraries. Many territorial records were filmed by the National Archives and are available at the Salt Lake City, Utah Family History Library and its various centers. There are few inventories and no indexes to the filmed records. They may contain information not published in *The Territorial Papers of the United States*.

Since there are so many volumes, it is really time-consuming to search them all, especially for common names, but one should review each book because many persons migrated through several territories.

To make using *The Territorial Papers of the United States* more convenient and time-saving, the names and relevant information attached to the names before 1825 is being extracted to help one determine if the name has any meaning to their research.

To find this resource go to the www.censustrail.com database. This may help determine residence when one record doesn't list a locality, but another does. This remarkable database can be used at home without going to the library. It also provides multiple ways to search the data, including by soundex. This is helpful since the variety of spellings for names is unusually large. In addition, it provides a means of searching names by the boundaries of the territory or by the state that later came from the territory. Although there is a fee for using this Website, it is small compared to the wealth of information now contained therein and which will be added to from time to time.

Many of the names in these volumes are contained in petitions submitted to various governmental agencies. While most often just a name is given, there are many things you can learn about the persons listed, such as:

- Clues that provide details about one's ancestors.

- The migration trail of an ancestor through multiple territories or states.
- Insights into personal feelings, cultural settings, literacy, hardships, and historical details about an individual.
- Names of potential family members that may have signed the petition also.
- Information about individuals who lived in the area prior to its becoming a part of the United States.

While not on the Website, the signature in the original petition can be used to compare with other known signatures of your ancestor to help identify individuals. This is especially helpful with common names. The Website www.censustrail.com is very helpful in determining what petitions to search for to see the original signature.

Many other records besides petitions are contained in these volumes, such as an 1809 census for Madison County, Alabama.

A partial solution to your research problems for this period may be found in the information contained in *The Territorial Papers of the United States*. ■

UPCOMING SEMINARS

Family History Fair, Sun., 17 Oct. 2004, 12 noon to 5 PM at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Ave. at 34th St., Manhattan. Admission is free. In addition, free, 15-minute, one-on-one consultations with professional genealogists will be offered to attendees who bring in a specific genealogical problem on which they need assistance.

Learn how to research your family history, care for photos and papers, use libraries and archives, locate missing relatives, and interpret and translate documents. Speakers will be Jordan Auslander, Susannah Benson, Felicia Bentine, Ariel Blondet, Leslie Corn, June DeLalio, Philomena Dunn, John Konvalinka, Gary Mokotoff, Donna Moughty, Ernest Owens, Arthur Sniffen, John Walter, Malika Lee Whitney, and Mel Wolfgang. For additional information, visit <http://www.nycarchivists.org/fhf.html>

New England Historic Genealogical Society Research Tour to Salt Lake City, Sun.-Sun., 10-17 October 2004. For more information e-mail tours@nehgs.org or telephone 1-888-286-3447.

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society Research Trip to Albany, Wednesday through Friday, 17-19 Nov. 2004. For more information e-mail Lauren Maehrlein at education@nyg&bs.org or telephone 1-212-755-8532, ext. 36.

NARA, Northeast Region, 10 Conte Drive, Pittsfield, MA 01201, is offering a series of free workshops in coming months. Call 1-413-236-3600 for more information or to register.

- **"Beginning Your Genealogy Research at the National Archives"** on Wed., 5 Oct., 9 AM; Mon., 1 Nov., 12 noon; and Wed., 1 Dec., 5 PM. (Note: Because these workshops include a tour, they are limited to 20 participants.)
- **"Using Census Records"** on Tues., 12 Oct., 9 AM; Mon., 8 Nov., 12 noon; and Wed., 8 Dec., 5 PM.
- **"Using Military Records"** on Tues., 19 Oct., 9 AM; Mon., 15 Nov., 12 noon; and Wed., 22 Dec., 5 PM.
- **"Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors"** on Tues, 26 Oct., 9 AM; Mon., 22 Oct., 12 noon; and Wed., 22 Dec., 5 PM.

Presentations by MGS Members:

MGS board member **Virginia Banerjee**, an experienced speaker and researcher, will present two programs at the Southington Library, 255 Main Street, Southington, CT.

- Family History for the Whole Family, Saturday, 16 October 16, 2004, 10 AM.
- Wonder About Your Ancestors? Getting Started in Genealogy, Saturday, November 6, 2004, 10 AM.

MGS president **Donna Moughty** has seven presentations scheduled in Connecticut, and will also be a speaker at the Family History Fair in New York City 17 Oct. and at the New England Regional Conference in Portland, Maine, next spring.

- "Introduction to Genealogy: Putting the Pieces Together," Ridgefield Library, Ridgefield, Conn., Sat., 16 Oct., 10 AM.
- "Irish Research: Where to Begin," Family History Fair, New York City, 17 Oct. (see above).
- "Internet Genealogists Toolkit: FamilySearch.org," Seymour Public Library, Seymour, Conn., Mon., 18 Oct., 6:30 PM.
- "Introduction to Irish Research," Fairfield Library, Fairfield, Conn., Tues., 19 Oct., 7 PM.
- "Introduction to Genealogy: Census Records," Ridgefield Library, Ridgefield, Conn., 23 Oct., 10 AM.
- "Internet Genealogists' Toolkit: HeritageQuest," Seymour Public Library, Seymour, Conn., Mon., 25 Oct., 6:30 PM.
- "Introduction to Genealogy: Immigration & Naturalization," Ridgefield Library, Ridgefield, Conn., Sat., 30 Oct., 10 AM.
- "Internet Genealogists' Toolkit: Ellis Island," Seymour Public Library, Seymour, Conn., Mon., 1 Nov., 6:30 PM.
- "Lights, Camera, Action: Using Video to Enhance

Your Family History" and "Searching the Ellis Island Database" will both be presented at New England Regional Genealogical Conference, Portland, Maine, 31 March to 3 April 2005.

MGS board member and Family History Center librarian Lloyd Sturges will present "Using the FamilySearch.org Website" at Greenwich Library, Greenwich, Conn., Tues., 28 Sept. at 10:30 AM. ■

UNIQUE GENEALOGICAL TREASURES FOUND IN SCHOOL, COLLEGE AND ALUMNI YEARBOOKS

Annual Meeting, 1 May 2004

by LaVerne Burzynski

There was a brief business session at the start of our 1 May meeting, during which MGS officers and board members were elected/re-elected. (See page 2 for a complete list of current officers and directors.)

Tom Howard then spoke to us on "The Unique Genealogical Treasures Found in School, College and Alumni Yearbooks." When researching someone we first look for basic information on birth, marriage and death. Beyond that, we try to fill in details about the person, and that is where yearbooks can be of immense help. They are time capsules and they can be very visual. You will find actual photos of the people being researched, and there may even be baby and family photos. There are personality clues, character traits, attitudes and interests on display. Academic standing, extra-curricular activities, achievements, ambitions and associations are commonly shown. Additional contents may be addresses, schools attended, school to be attended, relations and relationships, friendships, military connections and alumni news.

Yearbooks came about to highlight for parents and the community the accomplishments of the graduating class and to show activities of the under classes in the school.

Tom used a number of excellent slides to illustrate the points he was making. He also pointed out that often the facts learned about an individual from a yearbook are a link to additional sources. ■

STORYCORPS UPDATE

StoryCorps, which was described on page 7 of our January 2004 issue, is the subject of an article that begins on page 52 of the June 2004 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine. Entitled "Hear Here," the article describes the experiences of some of the people that have used the StoryCorps facility in Grand Central

Terminal, the site of more than 600 recorded interviews at the time the article appeared. ■

NEED HELP WITH RESEARCH? Make an appointment through the Information Desk at Darien Library for a personalized consultation with an MGS volunteer.

MGS MEETING SCHEDULE

(Continued from page 2)

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*.

2 APRIL 2005: To be announced.

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. ■

**Deadline for next newsletter
5 October 2004**

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

MEMBERSHIP

- Renewal
- New

ANNUAL DUES

- Individual (\$20)
- Couple (\$25)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please consider adding a contribution toward our genealogical resource maintenance and expansion, e.g., subscriptions, books, CDs, etc.



Middlesex Genealogical Society
PO Box 1111
Darien CT 06820-1111

MEETING
SATURDAY, 2 OCT. 2004, 2 PM
DARIEN LIBRARY

