



Middlesex Genealogical Society

Vol. XXX, No. 1

Darien, Fairfield County, CT

March 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your board of directors has been busy asking itself questions about where we want to take this society. We are about to try a few things that will expand the participation of our membership.

Starting at our March 15th presentation, we will sponsor a one hour discussion session/round table starting at 1 p.m. in which all members are invited to participate. We want you to think of the most important question or issue that you have about your genealogy. It may be a brick wall that you are facing with one of your ancestors, it could be a question of wanting to know where to find a particular resource, or a success that you are dying to share with the rest of us. The goal is to share your experiences and to help your fellow genealogists and hopefully gain new insights.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Steven A. Anderson

MGS'S FUTURE

You will be getting an extra e-mail from us in the near future asking you to fill out a brief online survey. The purpose of the survey is to get your feedback as to how we can improve our society. Please take the time to fill it out so that we know what you think and what you want us to provide to you as members.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

2014 Membership dues were due on 1/01/14. If you have not done so already, please send a check payable to Middlesex Genealogical Society (or MGS) at P.O. Box 1111, Darien, CT 06820, along with any new, updated contact information.

The dues remain \$25.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for couples/families for members electing to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

The dues are \$30.00 and \$35.00 respectively for members electing to receive the newsletter by regular mail.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, we rely on dues and contributions to maintain our high-quality communications and lecture programs. Please consider adding a small contribution to your check. No amount is too small.

COPYRIGHT TERM AND THE PUBLIC DOMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES AS OF 1 JANUARY 2014

The most recent version of this useful chart can be found at <http://copyright.cornell.edu/resources/publicdomain.cfm>. The information contained should be known and utilized by every genealogist. When you write the story of your family, respect the copyrights of others and follow the rules.

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

2013-2014
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Leonard Christie	Vice President
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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 (ISSN 1936-3494). Annual membership dues are \$25 per individual and \$30 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

Website: <http://mgs.darien.org>

UPCOMING MGS MEETINGS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ALL MEETINGS SATURDAY, 2 PM, DARIEN LIBRARY, 1441 POST ROAD. COME, AND BRING A FRIEND.

15 MARCH 2014: TONI McKEEN will present **FINDING ELUSIVE FEMALES**. Locating females in our culture can present special problems when single women disappear under their husbands' surnames. Finding key information is often a challenge, but careful, methodical research can lead to successful results. Happily there are many documents and web sites that can aid in the search.



Tony has been doing genealogy research on her own extensive Italian family and her husband's Irish family for the last 28 years. For the past 10 years she has also been teaching several levels of genealogy in her hometown of Ridgefield, Conn., and has been a popular lecturer at various genealogical societies in the tri-state area and in Boston.

17 MAY 2014: VIRGINIA BANERJEE will present a **CASE STUDY: SEARCHING FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR**.

The case study concerns women of color before and after the Civil War. Virginia will share information about an unusual family: free women of color with substantial assets. Two free mulatto women, born in Georgia, appear in the 1850 Ohio census with \$5000 in real estate. Virginia, although unrelated, inherited the property from a granddaughter of the family who died at age 104½. The program includes Virginia's first-hand memories of the last generation of the family, as well as things that they remembered...such as seeing the Lincoln funeral train! Exhibits include photos, as well as documents. Virginia will also offer ideas and methodology gleaned from her experience with searching for persons of color.



Virginia is a board member of our society as well as Frisbie/Frisbee Family Association of America. She is a professional family historian with more than 40 years research experience. She teaches and lectures throughout the region and has been published by several genealogical organizations. She has proven three First Families of Western Pennsylvania.

ADDITIONAL ONE BILLION GLOBAL RECORDS FROM 67 COUNTRIES TO BE AVAILABLE ON ANCESTRY.COM

Ancestry.com has made the following announcement:

PROVO, Utah, Jan. 21, 2014 (GLOBE NEWS-WIRE)—Ancestry.com announced today an extension of their collaborative efforts with FamilySearch International that will make more than 1 billion additional records from 67 countries available on Ancestry.com. These already digitized records, provided by FamilySearch, are in addition to the agreement the two largest providers of family history resources announced a few months ago that will help digitize, index and publish an expected one billion global historical records never before published online from the FamilySearch vault over the next five years.

These additional records, which are already digitized collections, represent a significant expansion to Ancestry.com, which hosts the largest collection of global records available online. The records also add to the aggressive international digitization efforts already in place by Ancestry.com.

As stated previously by the company, Ancestry.com has a long-term content strategy, which is committed to investing \$100 million to digitize and index new content over the next five years. The company is focused on providing access to a global collection of records and expanding family history interest in its current markets and worldwide.

The additional collections include more than one billion digitized and indexed records and over 200 million images containing birth, marriage, death, census and church records from Europe, Latin America, South Africa, South America, Asia and more. These collections will provide Ancestry.com customers with rich details that will help them discover new information about their ancestors from around the world.

"We are excited to be expanding our exclusive, groundbreaking agreement with FamilySearch. In addition to the previously announced plan to together digitize one billion records never before published online, we're thrilled to be able to provide our members with access to this additional one billion records from 67 countries," said Tim Sullivan, CEO of Ancestry.com. "These new global records will mean even more discoveries for

our members."

A focus on adding global content isn't new to Ancestry.com, which has offices around the world and 12 billion global records already on the website. The site currently hosts record collections dating back to the 1300's that include records around the census, immigration and naturalizations and military, just to name a few. In fact, hundreds of millions of records from Germany, Italy, Mexico, and Eastern Europe have been added in recent years to the billions of records from the company's primary operating markets, and record digitization projects are underway for collections from many more countries.

These 1 billion additional records are expected to be available on Ancestry.com starting in January and fully published over the next few months. To search records from around the world currently available on Ancestry.com visit www.ancestry.com.

About Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com is the world's largest online family history resource with approximately 2.7 million paying subscribers across all its websites. More than 12 billion records have been added to the Ancestry.com sites, and users have created more than 55 million family trees containing more than 5 billion profiles. In addition to its flagship site www.ancestry.com, the company operates several Ancestry international websites along with a suite of online family history brands, including Archives.com, Fold3.com and Newspapers.com and offers the AncestryDNA product, sold by its subsidiary, Ancestry.com DNA, LLC, all of which are designed to empower people to discover, preserve and share their family history.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements. These statements relate to future events and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that may cause the company's actual results, levels of activity, performance, or achievements to be materially different from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by the use of words such as "appears," "may," "designed," "expect," "intend," "focus," "seek," "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "predict," "potential," "should," "continue" or "work" or the negative of these terms or other comparable terminology.

These forward-looking statements are based on information available to the company as of the date of this press release. Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated by these forward-looking statements. Such risks and uncertainties include our ability to acquire and digitize new content, to provide desired content and product features to new and current subscribers and to otherwise satisfy customer expectations regarding the content of the collection, now and in the future. Information concerning additional factors that could cause events or results to differ materially is contained under the caption "Risk Factors" in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended September 30, 2013, and in discussions in other of our Securities and Exchange Commission filings. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any subsequent date and we assume no obligation to publicly update or revise these forward-looking statements.

FIRE UP YOUR RESEARCH...THE DIGITAL GENEALOGIST IS HERE 25 JANUARY 2014

At our well attended program meeting on 25 January Phil Hayes confessed to being a hardcore genealogist since 1998, whose interest was originally piqued by an uncle who told him as a child about an ancestor who had been a privateer. He is self-taught in both genealogy and computers, which should give the rest of us some hope for improving our skills.

Phil told us that if we limit ourselves to the most common genealogy sources, we will miss a treasure trove of information.

He talked about both hardware and software. Hardware includes computers, scanners, laptops, tablets, and smart phones. (Laptops, tablets and smart phones allow you to take your research with you wherever you go.)

Scanners today are truly portable. Genealogists favor one called the FlipPal. As with other scanners, the FlipPal allows you to scan something laid on top of it. With the FlipPal, however, you can also hold it up to a frame hanging on a wall and scan the frame's contents. (While you can take a picture of a frame's con-

tents with your smart phone, the light from the phone will reflect off the glass and you will also have a slight discoloration.) Should you want to scan something larger than 8½ x 11, FlipPal comes with software that allows you to take multiple scans and then stitch them together very cleanly.

FlipPal is small, but your smart phone is even smaller and can also be used as a scanner. There is software called ScannerPro for smart phones that allows them to be used as scanners.

Ancestry.com has a mobile app that allows you to take your family trees with you. Phil has about 30 family trees on Ancestry, and he can pull any one of them up on any one of his mobile devices.

Phil discussed genealogy software, such as Roots Magic, Family Tree Maker, and PAF, Roots Magic is the most popular one with Windows users, but Phil uses Family Tree Maker because it works so well with his Ancestry trees, as Ancestry owns Family Tree Maker. (You can also carry your family tree with you on Roots Magic, but it works a little differently. You have to put it on a USB and carry it to another location where it can be plugged into a computer.)

Any genealogy software today that does not offer a mobile solution is way behind the times.

Backups are tremendously important.

Almost all software is now cross-platform.

Evernote is the easiest way to track all of your research. It is completely, 100% cross-platform. It is easy to use and free. (Evernote provides 5 gigabytes of storage free each month. When the next month comes along, another 5 gigabytes is provided free, and so on. In 12 months you would have 60 gigabytes of storage, so it is extremely unlikely that any genealogist would ever need more storage space than Evernote provides in the free version.) It helps you to stay organized, to take notes, and create voice reminders, Phil has a separate folder in Evernote for every surname. It is easy for him to place any photo, document, or bit of information into the proper folder. When he looks something in Evernote up, he will be told exactly where he was (using GPS coordinates) when he recorded that item. At any later time, he can go into that folder and add notes to any item in it. Tags can also be added to items, such as "This is valid"; "This is not valid"; "This needs more research."

Sometimes you wish to avoid a lot of extra typing, and this can be done by utilizing a program that recognizes and records in characters your spoken words. (Remember to include in your reading whatever punctuation and paragraph marks you want because these are things the program cannot know unless told.) As speech recognition programs are rarely completely accurate, always edit this material carefully.

The “cloud” word seems to frighten many people, but it is just a storage system that used to be called a server, or more properly several servers strung together. The cloud does other things as well. For example, it offers computer programs such as Ancestry.com. You can access the cloud from many different locations and many different devices.

Phil considers **Evernote** a superb program and recommends that we all get it and try it. Whatever he puts into Evernote is immediately stored in the cloud and available as soon as he opens Evernote on any piece of his hardware.

Dropbox is another cloud program. It defines a folder on your home computer and then says that anything placed in that folder will also be sent up and stored in the cloud. Whatever you store on your computer will also go to your tablet and your smart phone (on your smart phone, only an index to your Dropbox contents will appear, and the actual documents will not be downloaded to your phone until you select the item wanted and click on it.

Those who worry about security should know that anything going up to Dropbox can be encrypted. Remember, however, that these programs are not easily hackable.

Flipboard is the name of another program. If you have Flipboard and visit blogs that you find interesting and subscribe to RSS feeds from them, they will arrive at your computer in the form of a magazine.

Mac Journal (there are many other good journal programs) will help you to create a sort of diary. It can replace the record you are supposed to keep of research efforts, places visited both on the Internet and in the real world, people with whom you have been in contact, questions answered and questions not yet answered.

Scanner Pro allows you to take anything that has a camera along on a research trip (such as your tablet, smart phone) and scan documents, photos,

etc. Among the things that Scanner Pro will do: if scanning a page from a book, it will correct the curve of a page; allow you to stand on a chair while perhaps scanning something large on a table; do color correction. You can switch from color to black and white or to gray scale. It will also scan a document as a PDF and can scan multiple PDFs. Scanner Pro senses the edges of pages, which may be skewed. If you tell it to process the image, it will straighten the pages. Whatever you do on Scanner Pro can be automatically saved to Evernote and/or to Dropbox.

There is a piece of software that can be put on a home computer that will enable printers to accept instructions to print material that has been transferred into the home computer from mobile devices, thereby making printing from a mobile possible.

Evernote saves scanned photos of documents in OCR (optical character recognition) documents. You can request the program to find a document, and the program will scan everything, including the items created from OCR, until it finds a match.

Screen capture software: Snag It is a popular program

Time line programs can help to analyze the data available. Wolfram makes an application just for genealogists. Visit their Website and look up Family Relations. It will tell you how people in your family relate to one another and also provides interesting facts about their surnames..

Call Recorder is another app with time-saving potential. Remember that if you are recording a conversation with someone else you should have the permission of that person to record.

Phil has already spent many hour-filled days **scanning family photos**. Today there are commercial processors that will scan boxes of photos at a modest cost. Because a scanned photo can be enlarged, Phil has found some gems, For example, a framed photo on a table or wall that appears within a photo of others might be a family photo never before seen. The scanner picks up the tiniest details.

Apple’s Aperture and PhotoShop are two of the best photo editing programs on the market. Both can preserve the original intact while you experiment with changes. Both have facial recognition, which can be enormously helpful in identifying additional photos of an ancestor.

Google, as do most search engines, uses Boolean search terms to define a query. Understanding what

they are and what they will do will help in finding relevant information. If they are not used, or used incorrectly, a search may produce an astounding number of results, yet few would relate to your specific research problem. Phil explained how to make a query more effective and provided us with a “tip” sheet of Boolean terms to help.

UPCOMING SEMINARS

National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, New York City, Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House at One Bowling Green, New York, NY 10004. Their *Finding Family* programs, which are held in the Learning Center on the 3rd floor, are free and open to the public, and take place the second Tuesday of each month, from noon to 1 p.m. Seating is limited so registration is required and can be accomplished by telephoning 866-840-1752 or e-mailing newyork.archives@nara.gov.

- “Ancestry Presents Ancestry,” 1 April 2014.
- “Finding Family: Using Fold3,” 13 May.
- “Finding Family: Using *FamilySearch*,” 10 June.

National Archives and Records Administration, Northeast Region, Boston, Frederick C. Murphy Federal Center, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 02452-6399, phone 781-663-0130, fax 781-663-0154, e-mail boston.archives@nara.gov. Programs are free, but reservations are required. Telephone toll-free 866-406-2379 or e-mail the address above.

- 1 April, 2 p.m., “**Researcher Forum.**” Learn about the new and exciting initiatives for researchers, and use this open forum opportunity to tell NARA how the National Archives experience can be made better for you.
- 8 July, “**Passenger Lists, Censuses & Naturalizations: The Big 3 Sources for Family History.**” In this workshop you will learn how to locate and use NARA resources. Then you will be free to start your research with the assistance of archives staff and volunteers.

New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, 36 W. 44th Street, 7th fl., New York, NY 10036-8105; telephone 212-755-8532; fax 212-754-4218. **NYG&B’s Repository Tours:**

- **Municipal Archives Tour #1: Basic Orientation**, Fri., 11 April, 1:30-4:30 p.m.
- **Municipal Archives Tour #2: Beyond the Basics**, Fri., 2 May, is already sold out.

At the New York Public Library, Stephen A. Schwarzman Bldg., Fifth Ave., between 40th and 42nd Sts., NYC, sponsored by NYG&B:

- “**Making Discoveries With Surname Variants**,” Wed., 19 March, 5:30 p.m.
- “**Andiamo in Italia: Italian Family Research in Italy and From Home**,” Wed., 23 April, 5:30 p.m.
- “**Family Timelines With Treelines.com**,” Tues., 13 May, 5:30 p.m.
- “**Looking for Your New York Tenant Farmer: Little-Used Resources**,” Tues., 20 May, 5:30 p.m.
- “**The Essential Role of Gazetteers in Genealogical Research**,” Wed., 28 May, 5:30 p.m.
- **Research in Albany 2014**, Wed., 29 Oct., 6 p.m., to Sat., 1 Nov., 5 p.m.

National Genealogical Society, 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22204; toll-free phone 800-473-0060; fax 703-525-0052; e-mail conference@ngsgenealogy.org; Website www.ngsgenealogy.org.

The NGS 2014 Annual Conference is entitled “Virginia: The First Frontier,” and will take place in Richmond, Va., Wed.-Sat., 7-10 May. Conference events will take place at the Marriott Hotel at 500 East Broad St. in Richmond or at the Greater Richmond Convention Center across the street. Discounted, early-bird registration ends 24 March; pre-registration ends 22 April 2014.

New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116-3007, toll-free telephone 888-286-3447, Website www.NewEnglandAncestors.org.

- **Organizing Your Family History: Expert Strategies From Start to Finish**, Sun., 27 April, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at 99-101 Newbury St., Boston. NEHGS experts will offer strategies for organizing your research as you go, using technology to keep track of your genealogical information, gath-

ering your research for publication, and preparing your family treasures for donation.

- **Writing and Publishing Seminar**, Thurs. and Fri., 15-16 May at 99-101 Newbury St., Newbury St., Boston. Learn from a team of skilled writers and editors with decades of experience in publishing family histories. Two one-on-one consultations with NEHGS publications staff are included in the registration.
- **Nantucket: "That Famous Old Island,"** Thurs. to Sun., 12-15 June. Experience the incomparable beauty and rich history of this island.
- **Nova Scotia Research Tour**, Sun. to Sun., 22-29 June. Trace your ancestors in Atlantic Canada with the assistance of NEHGS experts and local historians. The tour includes lectures, consultations, and group events.
- **Albany, NY, Research Tour**, Wed. to Sun., 23-27 July. Explore the vast resources of the New York State Library and New York State Archives.
- **Heritage Tour—Coastal Maine: Remarkable History, Magnificent Beauty**, Thurs. to Sun., 11-14 Sept. Encounter the various legacies left by Maine's noteworthy inhabitants.
- **Salt Lake City Research Tour**, Sun. to Sun., 2-9 November. This will be NEHGS's 36th annual research tour to Salt Lake City. The organization is experienced.

Westchester County Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 518, White Plains, NY 10601, presents speakers on genealogical subjects on the second Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. (Premeeting networking starts at 9:30 a.m.) Unless otherwise indicated, meetings are at Aldersgate Memorial United Methodist Church, 600 Broadway, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. (across from Mercy College on Route 9). A \$3 donation is requested of nonmembers. Visit the society's website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~nywcgs>.

- "Tips & Tricks for Using *Family Tree Maker*," 12 April, presented by Toni McKeen.
- "Records of St. Malachy's Home, an Orphanage in Brooklyn Diocese," 10 May, presented by Joseph Coen, C.A.
- "Fire Up Your Research: The Digital Genealogist is Here," 14 June, presented by Phil-

ip Hayes.

Friends of Cos Cob Library. The library is at 5 Sinawoy Rd., Cos Cob, Conn. (located behind the firehouse on East Putnam Ave.); telephone 203-622-6883. On 29 March, Sat., at 10:30 a.m., in the library's community room Anthony Lauriano will present "Intermediate Genealogy," which will cover naturalization, probate, wills, and school records.

MGS Past President Donna Moughty will again lead a research trip to Ireland in 2014. The trip to Dublin will take place 12-19 October. While in Dublin, time will be spent at the National Library of Ireland, General Register Office, National Archives of Ireland, Registry of Deeds, and the Valuation Office. More information on this trip can be found at <http://www.moughty.com/2014-irish-research-trip/dublin-research-trip-brochu.pdf>.

Should there be sufficient interest, Donna will also escort researchers to Belfast 5-11 October, where time will be spent at the Public Records Office of Northern Ireland, General Register Office of Northern Ireland, and the Linen Hall Library. More information on the Belfast portion of the trip can be found at <http://www.moughty.com/2014-irish-research-trip/belfast-research-trip-broch.pdf>

Genealogy Cruises

Fifth Unlock the Past Cruise—British Isles Discovery (www.unlockthepast.com.au) will take place 19-29 July 2014 aboard the *Marco Polo*. With a passenger capacity of 800, the *Marco Polo* will provide a more intimate cruising experience than many other ships. It is fully stabilized and air conditioned, and has eight passenger decks serviced by three main lobbies and four elevators. Departure will be from Tilbury, London; with stops at Invergordon, Scotland; Kirkwall in the Orkney Islands; Stornoway in the Outer Hebrides; Tobermory, Isle of Mull; Dublin, Ireland; St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly; St. Peter Port, Guernsey; Honfleur, France; and return to Tilbury, London. Although talks will not be scheduled while the ship is in port, it is expected that about 40 genealogical topics will be covered in 25 sessions while at sea.

The 6th Unlock the Past Cruise will be a four-day cruise in the waters near Sydney, Australia, Thurs. to Sun., 23 Oct. to 26 Oct. The program will offer 25 topics in up to two streams, with an optional 5-day tour of Norfolk Island to follow Mon. to Fri., 27-31 Oct.

The 7th Unlock the Past Cruise will be only a two-day affair in the waters of southwestern Australia around Freemantle, Albany, and Esperance, and will take place in 2015. Again, they expect to offer 25 topics in up to two streams. Fifteen different sessions are anticipated.

There are plans in the works for a cruise in the Baltic, and a trans-Atlantic cruise some time in the future has also been mentioned.

Cruising With Legacy Family 2014—Legacy Asia:

- **First Cruise, 26 Oct.-9 Nov. 2014;**
- **Second Cruise, 9 Nov.-23 Nov. 2014.**

The first cruise will be packed with genealogy classes on each sea day. The second cruise has no genealogy classes. It is for those who want to continue on and see more of Asia.

The first cruise will depart from Tokyo (Yokohama) on 26 Oct. 2014 and visit Mt. Fuji (Shimizu), Kobe, Kagoshima, and Nagasaki, all in Japan; then visit Shanghai (Boashan), China, Taipei (Keelung), Taiwan; and Hong Kong, China, where the first cruise ends 9 Nov. 2014.

The second cruise starts at Hong Kong, where and when the first cruise ends. (If you are doing

both cruises, you simply stay in the same state-room.) The second cruise departs Hong Kong 9 Nov., then visits Hanoi, Hue (Halong Bay); and Ho Chi Minh (Phu My), all in Vietnam; Bangkok / Laemchabang, Thailand; and Singapore, where the cruise ends 23 Nov. 2014.

For more information on either or both of these cruises, visit:

www.legacyfamilytree.com/CruiseInfo_2014.asp

Eastern Caribbean Genealogy Cruise will take place 7-14 Dec. 2014 aboard the Celebrity *Silhouette*. There will be genealogy events every day, hosted by Gary and Diana Smith, with special guest speakers Dick Eastman and Jana Sloan, CG. The cruise will depart from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., 7 Dec., then visit San Juan, PR; Basseterre, St. Kitts; and St. Maarten; before returning to Fort Lauderdale on 14 Dec. For more information, call Cruise Everything Today! at 800-959-7447 or 239-275-1717 or visit:

www.cecruisegroups.com/genealogy-cruise-

Deadline for next newsletter

28 April 2014

DARIEN LIBRARY
15 MARCH 2014
MEETING

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