

The

Hancock Historian

Newsletter of the
**Hancock County Chapter of the
Maine Genealogical Society**

Volume 1, No. 3

November 1997

Alice Long to Speak on Genealogist Certification in November

November Meeting

On November 15 we will hold our last meeting of 1997. (There is no meeting scheduled in December because of the holidays.) Our guest speaker at the November meeting will be Alice MacDonald Long, who will be speaking on the procedure to become a certified genealogist. Mrs. Long, who edited *Hancock County Marriages*, has been involved in genealogy for a number of years and will give us a real insight into what is involved in becoming certified. We hope you will all plan to attend.

President's Corner

I want to thank everybody involved with the Genealogy Fair in August. It was a great success!

We plan to have another one next year the same weekend in August but a little earlier in the day. We are looking for a larger area in which to have it.

If you have any ideas or wish to volunteer to help, please contact Wayne and Janet Patten, co-chairs.

Quite some time ago, Beverly Pinkham gave me a list of sites on the Internet where one can find information about genealogy. A copy has been placed in the vertical file at the library. Although you still want to check sources, the Internet can sometimes prove to be a quick way to find information. There is also a 'Helplist' available (under Bookmarks on the Genealogy Computer) where you may find someone willing to help you

find selected information from other parts of the world.

I was fortunate to find such a person in California who actually went "beyond the call of duty" and discovered a lot of information about a great-great grandfather of mine. In 1853, he went to California leaving wife and six children behind. According to a couple of sources he "was never heard from again." A more complete version of the story will appear in the November issue of *The Maine Genealogist* thanks to the help of three Californians and a great editor.

The article actually started out as a letter to my two daughters. As I added more detail, rather than generalities, it grew. I can tend to go on and on. Anyway, the point is that anyone who has a story to tell is invited to share it with other members of the Maine Genealogical Society. You don't have to be a Steinbeck; just write as though you are telling someone your story. You will find it tremendously satisfying and easier than you think.

For those of you who have stuck with this so far - and for those of you who skipped ahead -the program for the November meeting will be a presentation by Alice Long: How to Become a Certified Genealogist. I would like to see a good turnout. This will also be our last meeting in calendar year 1997. Hope to see you there!

C Richard Spinney

QUERIES

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Names in this edition:

**Alexander, Austin, Condon, Davis, Frazier,
Jellison, Joy, Maddocks, Mitchel, Patten,
Quigley, Tourtelotte, Young**

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Query 105: I am interested in sharing research with anyone working on the following early **Hancock County** families. In **Ellsworth**: Joshua and Susannah (**Austin**) **Maddocks**, Joseph and Mary (**Quigley**) **Alexander**, Benjamin and Agnes (**Patten**) **Jellison**, Abraham and Rebecca (**Maddocks**) **Tourtelotte**. In **Surry**: Samuel and Sarah (**Joy**) **Young**. In **Dedham**: John and Mary (**Conden**) **Mitchel**.

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Query 106: I am looking for the parents of **Maria Perry Davis**. According to Ellsworth vital records, Maria was born 2 May 1830 in Steuben, ME and died 30 March 1882 in Ellsworth, ME. She married the following four Ellsworth area men: Sabin Jellison, Sylvester Jellison, George L. Frazier, and Joshua T. Jellison. By Sylvester she had Chester, Ellis, and Charles. By Joshua she had Olive.

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WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY

At one of our recent meetings, it was suggested that a list or column in our newsletter be devoted to new additions to the Alvin S. Whitmore memorial collection. Since I always enjoy talking about my favorite subject, I agreed to do it.

This month we have several recent additions, including the Albert Hill Papers, a gift of the Surry Historical Society and photocopied for us by Wayne Smith. These papers detail families of early Surry and parts of Ellsworth. Unfortunately, Dr. Hill did not site his sources in most cases, however they are still an invaluable tool to researchers looking for these families. I personally found my g-g-g grandmother Cunningham's maiden name and place of birth in them, and had not found the information in any other place.

From Brenda Kennedy Means we have *The Kennedy Family with Allied Families*. This book is one of the few that I could not possibly list all the included families in the catalog. (With most books, I try to do this, so that a subject search in our computers will come up with "Cunningham family", or whatever family name you are looking for.) The book covers the area around Sedgwick and is really worthwhile if you have family in that area.

Two real gems arrived this month. *Evidence: Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian* by Elizabeth Shown Mills is a fairly thin book but packed with information of how to correctly record your sources. We all say that we know we should do a better job, but few of us know how. Not only does Ms. Mills tell us how to cite the source, she gives wonderful examples using all types of materials --books, papers, microforms, etc. She also goes into great detail on evaluating the information you find and makes the very good point that we should always go back to the original source if at all possible. Don't just

say that the date is in a particular genealogy; go back to the source that author cites. If the author does not cite a source, or the source is no longer available, make sure you state that clearly, so that 50 years from now you are not blamed for including the wrong information in your genealogy.

The second gem of the month is *Virtual Roots* by Thomas Jay Kemp. This is a guide to genealogy and local history on the World Wide Web. I tend to be a bit skeptical when it comes to Internet guides; so many of them make great promises but do not deliver. This one delivers. The book estimates 30 million sites on the Internet devoted to genealogy. Of course, he does not cover all of them, but he does a fair job. The book is divided into:

1. General Subjects

African Americans, Census Records,
Church Records, Obituaries, Women's
History

2. United States

with each state being given a section

3. International

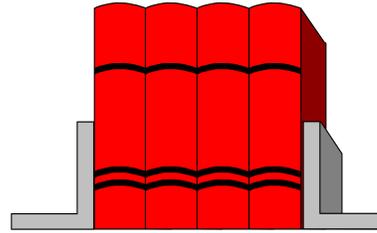
from Albania to Venezuela

4. Family Associations

from Abercrombe Family Association to
Zielinske Family Journal

There are also ratings for some of the sites: *Outstanding Site* or *Extraordinary Site*. I know many of you have been searching the Web and have come up with great sites on your own. This book will take some of the guesswork out of the search.

- Charlene Fox Clemons



**Hancock County Chapter of the
Maine Genealogical Society**

Minutes, July 19, 1997

The Hancock Country Chapter of the Maine Genealogy Society met July 19, 1997 at the Ellsworth Public Library with 18 members present.

The Secretary's report was read and accepted. Due to the absence of Austin Carter, there was no Treasurer's report.

The majority of the meeting was spent in finalizing plans for the August 16 Genealogy Fair. Joann Levin reported that progress was being made on the inventory of Mt. Calvary Cemetery. Richard Spinney discussed Mike Rice's Helplist on the Internet.

A motion to adjourn was made and accepted at 3:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Clemons
Secretary

**Hancock County Chapter of the
Maine Genealogical Society**

Minutes, September 13, 1997

The Hancock Country Chapter of the Maine Genealogy Society met Saturday, September 13, 1997 at 2:30 P.M. at the Ellsworth Public Library with 20 people present. President Richard Spinney opened the meeting. The Secretary's report was read and accepted. Austin Carter reported a total of 61 members and a

balance of \$645.45 in the treasury. He also reported a profit of \$50.00 from the sale of food at the Genealogy Fair in August. Charlene Clemons made a motion that the \$50.00 from the Fair be donated to the fund to purchase a voice-activated computer for Mark Honey, the money being raised by Patty Hutchins of the Penobscot Historical Society. The motion was carried.

A discussion was held on the Genealogy Fair and plans were made to repeat the Fair again next August, the same weekend, August 15, 1998 in a larger space, and from 10 to 3. Wayne and Janet Patten agreed to co-chair and begin searching for space now.

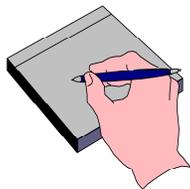
Joann Levin reported that Mount Calvary Cemetery is done being inventoried and just needs to be put into a database. Suggestions were made as to format, and she asked for suggestions for the next cemetery to record.

There was a discussion of the next Newsletter with the hope that it will go out in October. Richard Spinney called for members to write articles for the Newsletter and spoke of an article he has just written for the *Maine Genealogist*.

After the business meeting, Wayne Smith presented an impressive program with slides of his most recent trip to the Azores and his genealogy research there.

Adjournment took place informally at 4:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Clemons
Secretary



Hancock County Chapter of the

Maine Genealogical Society

Minutes, October 18, 1997

The October meeting of the Hancock County Chapter of the Maine Genealogy Society met October 18, 1997 in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library at 2:30 P.M. with 13 members present.

In the absence of President Richard Spinney, the meeting was called to order by the Secretary. Austin Carter read the Treasurer's report, noting that we have 61 members and a balance of \$660.00 in the account. A motion was made and seconded to accept the report as read. The Secretary's report was read and a correction was made in the membership numbers from last month, noting that we added three people who signed up that day. The actual number of members for September should have been 58. The Secretary's report was then accepted.

In the absence of the chairpersons for the cemetery project and the 1998 Genealogy Fair, there was little old business to discuss. A request was again made for people to write articles for the newsletter. Charlene Clemons reported that she had sent the \$50.00 to Patty Hutchins for the Mark Honey computer fund. Mark reported that he has the computer and is learning to use it.

The formal meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M. and members discussed various genealogy questions and answers until about 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Clemons
Secretary

Genealogy Fair

On August 19 we held our first annual Genealogy Fair. The Fair was held in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Library, which is designed to hold about 85 people. We "guesstimate" that we had about 100 people through the room between 12 and 5 P.M. when we closed up. Most of us had never been to one

before so we had no idea of what we were doing but I guess the saying "If you build it, they will come" is true. We did limited advertising (because of space constraints), set up tables, and they came!

Not only was Hancock County genealogy covered, but Washington County was well covered as well as tables set up with information on foreign genealogy and LDS Family History Centers. Many of us with smaller areas of focus made invaluable connections with others searching the same family lines.

The food sales netted us \$50.00 thanks to the able efforts of Ron Phillips and others who helped out there.

In addition to our tables, Marty Lyons had a table to advertise his photograph restoration and Carol Fortier also had a table to advertise her line of acid-free albums. They were both pleased with the response they received from the afternoon.

We will do it again next year! Mark your calendars now for August 15, 1998 from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (placed to be announced). We will have a larger space and perhaps be able to have Picton Press and other dealers from around the state present as well. And, of course, we will all be as organized as some we saw at the fair this year. (Yeah, right!)



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