

The
Hancock Historian

Newsletter of the

Hancock County Genealogical Society

Volume 25, No. 3

May(-ish) 2019

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
13 APRIL 2019**

Eleven members of the Hancock County Genealogical Society and guests enjoyed a slide show and talk by Liz Ashe and Rhonda. entitled Walking the Veazie Railroad. The ladies recounted how they became interested in the Veazie Railroad's history and the various hikes they undertook to trace the exact route of the railroad – only the second successful railroad in the United States.

Due to the length of the program the business meeting was postponed until the next meeting to be held May 11 at the Ellsworth Library, 10:00 am as usual. The May meeting will include the presentation of the Hancock County Genealogical Society Award of Excellence.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Fox Clemons
Secretary

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
11 MAY 2019**

The May meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society was called to order by President Ralph Harris, at 9:59 am in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library with eight members present.

Minutes for the April meeting were read and approved pending the addition of a last name for one of the April speakers. Notation was made in the minutes that an actual meeting was not held due to the length of the excellent program.

Current membership stands at 48 members.

Max, who is in the process of moving, gave a total at the end of April in our treasury of \$3191.00. The report was accepted as read.

During the old business section of the meeting the Hancock County Genealogical Society Award of Excellence was given to Emery DeBeck. Emery has been a member of our group since the beginning and has spent countless hours researching the families and history of his hometown, Franklin. He has been unfailingly generous with his help to other researchers both in and out of our group looking for their ancestor's history. We are pleased to be able to honor his service to the genealogical community with this award.

Under new business, Max reminded us that we will need a new treasurer by mid-October. The duties of the treasurer were discussed and the item will be added to the agenda for June.

Ralph showed a flyer he has created for HCGS and suggestions were made for corrections or additions. This flyer will be used at MGS functions along with other chapter flyers as a way of promoting our groups.

The history of Catholic Cemeteries – particularly the one on High Street – was discussed.

The 2020 Maine State Bicentennial was discussed with Charlene filling the group in on plans being worked on around the state. It was suggested that we document the families living in Hancock County in 1820 with each of us adding any information we might have from our own research. Ralph said he though Pam Beveridge was doing something along those lines but he would check with her to see what the scope of her project was. Another suggestion was to find out which houses were here in 1820. Since it is a yearlong event we have time to decide what we might want to do to commemorate the anniversary.

Ralph brought up the subject of an indexing project Wayne Smith has undertaken to index books of obituaries he has borrowed from the Ellsworth American. He suggested we might want to publish the indexes since they go beyond the years of the Jean Ward indexes which end in 1892. Ralph will look into publishing costs and report back to us.

Wayne mentioned a book of newspaper clippings also from the archives of the *Ellsworth American* that he has indexed and that now lives in the Whitmore Collection at the Library. The clippings cover everything from vital records, to local and national events.

The June meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8 at 10:00 am at the Ellsworth Public Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am with members staying on to chat amongst themselves for several minutes after the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Clemons
Secretary

HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
June 8, 2019

Hancock County Genealogical Society meeting started at 10:05 in the Riverview Room at the Ellsworth Public Library. Present at the meeting were 4 members and 1 guest. The minutes for the May meeting were read and approved by the membership as read. There was no treasurers report this month. Current membership stands at 48 members.

A copy of the May minutes, a new flyer promoting HCGS and 1820 Census form was given to the members present. The 1820 Census project was discussed in general, and to do every town is going to be a big undertaking by just the active membership. Emery handed out what he had done. Members will wait for Patsy's ideas about the census project.

Bob Whitaker spoke about Whitaker Cemetery and the condition was falling back to nature again. He was going to contact another member of the family, to see about getting it cleaned up again.

Voting in a new treasurer was tabled until the next meeting.

Ralph gave information on the upcoming MGS Genealogical Fair at the Maine State Library, Saturday, June 29 from 9 to 3, and information on the Annual Conference in September in Portland.

Members will be thinking about the August meeting whether to cancel the Sept meeting because of the MGS Conference is the same day.

A guest at the meeting, Femke Harvey from Orland, was looking for help to get started in researching her family in the Netherlands. It was recommended to ask Max if he would help her get started and give pointers. Ralph will email Max.

On publishing a book on the Death Index of the *Ellsworth American*, I received one estimate and am waiting for MGS to respond with an answer. Jiffy Print in Bangor will do a Plastic Spiral Bound Book, 200 pages (5 1/2" X 8 1/2"), for around \$540.00; 300 pages for around \$640.00.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Ralph Harris
President – acting Secretary

Maine Genealogical Society

MGS will be holding meetings Aug 24 and Nov. 16. There will be a Genealogy Fair this year on June 29 at the Maine State Library, along with the annual meeting and conference in the fall. The conference will focus on DNA.

Perkins Family Reunion This Summer

"Calling all descendants of John and Phebe Perkins, or their siblings. The Wilson Museum will host a Perkins Family Reunion on Saturday June 29 from 1 to 4 pm at the historic John and Phebe Perkins House at 111 Perkins St. in Castine. The afternoon's activities will include house tours, cooking demonstrations, unveiling and dedication of the home's National Register of Historic Places plaque and more. Get in touch with the event's organizers at 326-9247 or info@wilsonmuseum.org. Your email will be added to the mailing list and an invitation will be forthcoming to join the Perkins Family Reunion Group on Facebook."

Query:

Is there an Albert E. Springer (1913-1977) and Alfort Springer (1914-?), both sons of Annie Eliza Tinker (1882-1957) and Edgar Thomas Springer (1871-1957)?

- Helen M. Haines, dd705sk3@yahoo.com

Searching Springer, Tinker, Hodgkins, Googins - All Hancock County.

A Birthday Adventure

- Charlene Fox Clemons

One of the lessons I have learned from my much-adored step-mother is that a birthday should be not just a one-day celebration, but a week or preferably the entire month. I really think this is a good idea and much less traumatic than that one day when you are suddenly a year older. So, after one has spent 70 years on this planet, a person should be able to dictate how they wish to celebrate that accomplishment. By the way that translates into 2,209,075,200 seconds – 70 years doesn't sound so bad, does it?



So, as a part of my celebration of the month of May, I took a journey to two places where my ancestors lived, fought and died. The first stop on my journey was the Old Village Cemetery in York, Maine. In 1691/2 on Candlemas Day, the Abenaki Indians attacked the village of York and killed or kidnapped 300 townspeople, burning the buildings in town and marching many of the victims north to Canada. Among those fighting the Indian attack that day were my 6th great-grandparents, George Stover (1668-1748) and Abigail Elwell Stover (1676-1741). They were not among the 300 kidnapped or killed that day, and family story has it that Abigail and other women and children held the fort while George went for help. It was Abigail's story that got me interested in genealogy when I was 11 years old.

The morning was perfect for walking through the graveyard, reading the stones from the early 1700s which were in remarkably good shape for being 300 years old, and while none of the museums were open yet, it was fun to ride around town and see the old buildings.



From York, I headed south on I-95 to a place I have wanted to visit ever since I learned that I am descended from John and Elizabeth Proctor, my 8th great-grandparents. First I had to convince my GPS that there is life outside the borders of Maine, but finally it gave in and I was off to Salem, Massachusetts. First stop was the John Proctor House in Peabody. Still standing on the same spot as when John and Elizabeth lived there, it is now a private residence. The two-story house bears a plaque simply reading “John Proctor House.” It was an amazing feeling to know I was standing on the same ground they had stood on 300 hundred years ago.



From Peabody, I headed back to Salem in time to visit the Witch Museum and see the production they put on depicting the events leading up to, during, and after the witch hysteria. The show is well worth the admission and half an hour it takes. The auditorium is dark, and as the voice tells the story, scenes are lit around the room showing the characters and events. After that a second performance takes place in another room giving the story of the witch hysteria through the ages.

The final stop on my day in Salem was the Witch Memorial. The wall, a recent addition to the cemetery, is an unbelievably moving tribute to the innocent victims of the Salem Witch Trials.

One could easily spend two or three days exploring the various historic sites and perhaps one day I will return and do just that. Below is the cemetery with stones from the 1700s and 1800s.



In Memory of Agnes Carr

Agnes Dolliver Carr left this life on April 10, 2019 at a Bangor Hospital. Agnes was the long-time Deputy Clerk of the Hancock County Probate office and was known for her knowledge and willingness to help anyone who came in.

She was a founding member of our genealogy society, then known as Mount Desert Island Genealogical Society and was active until recent years. Her research was mainly on the Dolliver and Carr families, but she was always willing to branch out and look for that small piece of information that connected your search to something she had done. And if you had a question about a probate record, Agnes was the go-to person. The answers were always accompanied by that wonderful smile of hers.

Our sympathies go out to her family and friends. She will be missed in our community.



Hancock County Genealogical Society

2019 Membership Application

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____
Families/Areas being researched: _____

Please list any queries that you have:

Dues for 2019: \$10.00 per individual or family: \$ _____
Additional tax-deductible contribution: \$ _____
Total enclosed: \$ _____

Please print out this form and mail it with your payment made payable to HCGS to:

HCGS Membership
c/o Charlene Clemons
96 Mud Creek Rd.
Hancock, ME 04640



Please check one of the following:

- I give permission for my contact info to be shared with Society members.
 Please do not share my contact info.

Monthly meetings are held the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 A.M. except in December. Meetings are held at the Ellsworth Public Library & other locations in Hancock County. Changes in the meeting location are posted in advance in the newsletter, on the Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/521976737919662/>

and on the website:

<http://www.hancockgenealogy.me>

Please remember to notify Charlene of any email or address changes:

hcgsmembership@yahoo.com

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