

*The*  
***Hancock Historian***

Newsletter of the  
**Hancock County Genealogical Society**

Volume 27, No. 4  
December 2021

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES**

October 9, 2021

The meeting, led by President Ralph Harris was held via Zoom at 10:00 am. Minutes of the September meeting were read and accepted. There was no treasurer's report.

Ralph announced that Raney Bench of the MDI Trust will speak in March. Holly volunteered to check with Bill Fogle, President of Ellsworth Historical Society about speaking at one of our meetings.

Topics of discussion included the Virginia Genealogical Society Zoom meeting on the Freemans Records; town records; MGS meetings and Roots Magic v.8 pros and cons. Holly and Wayne mentioned that Ellsworth Historical Society is cleaning out the old jail and moving everything to the Chamberlain House on State St. Kevin talked about collections available at libraries including Godfrey Memorial Library.

The meeting closed at 10:38 am with a reminder of the November Annual meeting and election of officers.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Clemons, Secretary

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES**

November 13, 2021

Seven members of the Hancock County Genealogical Society plus Moose, the four-month-old Maine Coon Cat, met via Zoom for the 2021 annual meeting at 10:00 am with President Ralph Harris calling the meeting to order.

Minutes for the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and approved. No treasurer's report was available. Membership stands at 43 members paid through the end of 2021 with 20 of those paid for next year. Membership cards have been sent to everyone who has paid ahead and life members. Newsletter submissions are requested for the December issue of the newsletter.

Holly has made arrangements for Bill Fogle of the Ellsworth Historical Society to speak at our April 2022 meeting.

Kevin Williams shared the URL for Genealogy Garage from his California group:  
[www.lapl.org/whatson/events/genealogy-garage-pre-wwi-military-records-nara](http://www.lapl.org/whatson/events/genealogy-garage-pre-wwi-military-records-nara)

Election of officers for 2022 was held with Emery nominating the current slate of officers for re-election. The vote was unanimous: Ralph Harris, President; Charlene Fox Clemons, Secretary; Jean Boynton, Treasurer, and Wayne Smith, newsletter editor.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am with members staying on to chat for some time after that. During the chat it was mentioned that in January we will be joined by Moose's new doggie sister, Greta, a Bernese Mountain Dog puppy. We welcome all new members!

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Fox Clemons, Secretary.

## From the Library

DECEMBER 2021

While COVID is still keeping many folks away from doing extensive research, we have had a steady stream of questions and folks using the collection. It will be so nice when we are all comfortable being in groups again.

Several new Maine Genealogical Society books are in the works and naturally we will be purchasing them for the collection. "Vital Records of Jefferson, Maine" compiled by Marlene Groves has just come out and will be on the shelves soon. We are also purchasing "Genealogical Proof Standards", put out by the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

Our fellow HCGS member, Ron Fortier, has since 2006 been on the Library Board of Trustees, serving the last several as Chairperson. Ron is the longest serving elected trustee in Ellsworth Public Library history. This year he decided to hang up his Trustee hat. While I understand the need to step back, I am sorry to see him go. He has been an advocate on the board for the library and especially the genealogy collection and has always been a voice of common sense in good times and not so good times. There are not enough words to express my personal gratitude for Ron's support over the years. Thank you, Ron, for everything!

See you at the library,

- Charlene

## President's Corner

Hoping all is well with our membership.

We will be ending the year and starting a new year shortly. The HCGS will try to host a speaker every quarter this year. One speaker is scheduled for the March 2022 meeting and will be speaking on the holdings of the Bar Harbor Trust, and how their historical holdings can help a genealogist.

If you are not a member of our Facebook site, you should be. I have been posting several new websites that have come online in the past year as I receive them.

FamilySearch has posted several new digital files from Maine. They're only available on film, and have not been indexed yet. As of November, they had three digital cameras working in Maine uploading new files to FamilySearch.

One of our projects here at HCGS is the transcription of Hancock County deaths from the handwritten records made by the editors of the *Ellsworth American*. Wayne Smith is still typing from the ledgers and I have been the second set of eyes on the project for typos. Wayne has done an awesome job transcribing the records. I don't know how many names there are so far but it must be well into the thousands.

Another project, which I have been working on this summer and have almost completed, is the Funeral Home Records of the Edward Funeral Home in Madison, Somerset County. These ledgers date from 1901 to 1985 and have around 7,500 deaths in the area. The transcribed records will be sent to the proofreader next week, and will be available in May of 2022.

- Ralph Harris

## **RULES FOR TEACHERS**

### **1872**

1. Teachers each day will fill lamps and clean chimneys
2. Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.
3. Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.
4. Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly
5. After ten hours in school, teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.
6. Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.
7. Every teacher should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.
8. Any teacher who smokes, uses liquor in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.
9. The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.
- 10.

I come from a long line of teachers, a profession I had no interest in following. Two aunts, my grandmother, and her three sisters taught in Hancock County between the late 1800s and the 1960s when the last one retired after 40 years in the same school in Orland, Maine. This would have been too early for them, but my great grandmother, Susan Saunders Stover (known as Toot), who lived from 1840 to 1913, would have been teaching at this time. The day the Superintendent of Schools came to the house to tell her she had been hired to teach, the story goes, she was in the attic playing on the swing with the other children. With no formal training she began teaching children who were probably very close to her own age. She would have worked under these rules until she married her husband Harvey Jackson Cunningham in 1875 when, according to rule number six, she would have been dismissed.

Submitted by Charlene Fox Clemons

## Asylum Admission Rules

### REASONS FOR ADMISSION

1864 TO 1889

INTEMPERANCE & BUSINESS TROUBLE	DISSOLUTE HABITS
KICKED IN THE HEAD BY A HORSE	DOMESTIC AFFLICTION
HEREDITARY PREDISPOSITION	DOMESTIC TROUBLE
ILL TREATMENT BY HUSBAND	DROPSY
IMAGINARY FEMALE TROUBLE	EGOTISM
HYSTERIA	EPILEPTIC FITS
IMMORAL LIFE	EXCESSIVE SEXUAL ABUSE
IMPRISONMENT	EXCITEMENT AS OFFICER
JEALOUSY AND RELIGION	EXPOSURE AND HEREDITARY
LAZINESS	EXPOSURE AND QUACKERY
MARRIAGE OF SON	EXPOSURE IN ARMY
MASTURBATION & SYPHILIS	FEVER AND JEALOUSY
MASTURBATION FOR 30 YEARS	FIGHTING FIRE
MEDICINE TO PREVENT CONCEPTION	SUPPRESSED MASTURBATION
MENSTRUAL DERANGED	SUPPRESSION OF MENSES
MENTAL EXCITEMENT	THE WAR
NOVEL READING	TIME OF LIFE
NYMPHOMANIA	UTERINE DERANGEMENT
OPIUM HABIT	VENEREAL EXCESSES
OVER ACTION OF THE MIND	VICIOUS VICES
OVER STUDY OF RELIGION	WOMEN TROUBLE
OVER TAXING MENTAL POWERS	SUPERSTITION
PARENTS WERE COUSINS	SHOOTING OF DAUGHTER
PERIODICAL FITS	SMALL POX
TOBACCO & MASTURBATION	SNUFF EATING FOR 2 YEARS
POLITICAL EXCITEMENT	SPINAL IRRITATION
POLITICS	GATHERING IN THE HEAD
RELIGIOUS ENTHUSIASM	GREEDINESS
FEVER AND LOSS OF LAW SUIT	GRIEF
FITS AND DESERTION OF HUSBAND	GUNSHOT WOUND
ASTHMA	HARD STUDY
BAD COMPANY	RUMOR OF HUSBAND MURDER
BAD HABITS & POLITICAL EXCITEMENT	SALVATION ARMY
BAD WHISKEY	SCARLATINA
BLOODY FLUX	SEDUCTION & DISAPPOINTMENT
BRAIN FEVER	SELF ABUSE
BUSINESS NERVES	SEXUAL ABUSE & STIMULANTS
CARBONIC ACID GAS	SEXUAL DERANGEMENT
CONGESTION OF BRAIN	FALSE CONFINEMENT
DEATH OF SONS IN WAR	FEEBLENESS OF INTELLECT
DECOYED INTO THE ARMY	FELL FROM HORSE IN WAR
DERANGED MASTURBATION	FEMALE DISEASE
DESERTION BY HUSBAND	DISSIPATION OF NERVES

## Hancock County Genealogical Society 2022 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 2022: \$10.00 per individual or family:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional tax-deductible contribution:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_



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

Hancock County Genealogical Society  
c/o Charlene Clemons  
96 Mud Creek Rd.  
Hancock, ME 04604

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. Until the Covid-19 pandemic is over, all meetings are being held via Zoom. Meetings are open to all those who have paid their dues for the current year. Invitations to the Zoom sessions will be sent out a few days before each meeting.

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

*hcgsmembership@yahoo.com*

Hancock County Genealogical Society  
c/o Wayne Smith, Newsletter Editor  
15 Jellison Ridge Rd.  
Sury, ME 04684-3340