

The Hancock Historian

Published six times per year at Ellsworth, Maine, by The Hancock County Genealogical Society
Volume XVI, Number VI © November 2010

President: Patti Leland
Secretary: Lois Johnson
Membership: Charlene Clemons
Vice President: Charlene Clemons
Treasurer: Max Brenninkmeyer
Newsletter Editor: Richard Spinney

President's Column

Can you believe it - we are almost in the holiday season! I hope everyone had a productive summer and fall. By now all of you must have heard of the new law Maine has on vital records access. It has been confusing for many. I would be interested in hearing any experiences you have with the new law and obtaining records.

As we look forward HCGS meetings in 2011 we have been discussing speakers and programs for upcoming meetings. If you have any suggestions for a speaker or program please let me know. We would like to schedule several throughout the year.

Many of our meetings end in a swap and share. We hear stories of breaking through brick walls or interesting discovering from members attending the meetings. I know many of you are not able to attend the meetings. If you would like to share a success story or interesting genealogy research please send it Richard Spinney or me. We will see that it is printed in an upcoming newsletter.

Happy Holidays to all
Patti Leland, President

Secretary's Report

September 18, 2010

President Patti Leland called the meeting to order with 12 members and guests present.

The minutes for the June, July and August meetings were read and accepted as read.

Max Breninkmeyer, Treasurer, reported dues of \$50.00 during the month of August with printing costs of \$13.23 and postage of \$8.80 for a net outflow of \$22.03. Balance 31 July was \$2515.42 with \$27.97 added in August making the 31 August 2010 balance \$2542.39. Treasurer's report was accepted.

Patti reminded everyone about the MGS meeting in Northport on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010.

Articles of incorporation were discussed. Max will put the application together and bring it to the October meeting for signatures.

Jean Boynton mentioned an interesting program held by the Penobscot County Genealogical Society with James Neptune. He is willing to speak to groups but asks for a small stipend to cover his costs. After a short discussion, Charlene Clemons made a motion to "Set aside \$200.00 from the treasury to pay speakers per year." Jean Boynton amended the motion to add, "if we need more we can come back to the group". After an opportunity for discussion, the motion was passed.

Patti will get in touch with Mr. Neptune to see if he could speak in November, which Charlene pointed out is Native American History Month.

A motion as made and seconded to close the meeting at 2:46 PM. After the meeting, members and guests shared a question and answer session.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene Clemons
Acting Secretary (in Lois's absence)

From the Library

It is difficult to believe it is November already. Where did the summer go? I hope you all had as much success in your personal genealogical quest as I did this summer and fall. I was fortunate enough to be directed to a wonderful lady who runs a small historical society, open year-round on Thursdays, and who was able to give me two lines of my family back to the 1600's and the immigrant ancestor. Perhaps my siblings will get that completed genealogy by Christmas this year.

In our little corner of the world we were able to solve the mystery of Charles Ingalls, whom I asked about in the last newsletter. Turns out he was born a McLane and adopted by David and Rebecca Ingalls of Waltham. The clue to his identity came when an old family letter surfaced with the information. Patsy Jordan was able to confirm the facts and his family is very grateful to have the information we were able to uncover.

The Whitmore Collection is now the home of four notebooks compiled by Sally Welch Jordan containing obituaries of Ellsworth High School Alumni. Sally worked tirelessly to complete the notebooks in time for the Alumni Reunion this fall and passed them on to us so that they would be readily available. *We Remember: A List of Deceased Ellsworth High School Classmates 1910 -1999* is organized by year of graduation, many years complete with the graduation pictures from the yearbook or the *Ellsworth American*. Not sure what year your ancestor graduated? Not to worry, we have the *Ellsworth High School Alumni Directory : 1888 - 2000* listing each class by year living in Maine. Sally will continue to update the notebooks and will compile a fifth notebook for the years after 2000.

Until next time, I wish you all a joyous holiday season. May all your genealogy wishes come true.

See you at the library
Charlene

November 20th Meeting

The Hancock County Genealogical Society will present a program on The Care of Gravestones on November 20 at 2:30 PM in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library. Darlene Springer, long associated with her family business, H. W. Dunn & Son Monuments in Ellsworth, will share her knowledge of caring for gravestones, old and new.

This is the last meeting of 2010. Members, please join us and show your support.

Queries

Nellie Coombs Dodge (b. abt. 1880 probably in Deer Isle) collected information about the Coombs family in Hancock County. In 1915 she lived on High Street, Ellsworth, Maine and corresponded with my g-g-grandfather, George Nelson Coombs. Nellie is referred to as "a fine writer and Coombs family enthusiast", by Dr. B. L. Noyes in his *Genealogies of Island Families*. I am very interested in finding what other information she gathered about this family. Does anyone know what might have become of her letters, notes and/or papers?

Nellie was the daughter of Eliza Ellen (also called "Nellie") Welch (b. Isle Au Haut, 15 Nov. 1859) and Walter Leslie Coombs (b. Vinalhaven, 6 Dec. 1858). I do not know what her "real name" was. I can find no record of a marriage of Nellie Coombs and anyone named Dodge in Maine Marriages, nor can I find a Maine or Massachusetts resident of that name in the Social Security Death Index. Both the 1910 and 1920 Federal Census' include a Nellie E. (and Herbert L.) Dodge living in Bar Harbor, Hancock County, Maine. This could be the lady I'm looking for, but the place of birth given for both of her parents is incorrect. Harold C. Dodge is listed as a child, born about 1905.

Reply to: adurgin@myfairpoint.net

1. Seeking info about **HENRY EVERETT DAVIS** b. 27/29 July 1904, Machias, ME, s/o JAMES W. and LUCY M. (FOSS) DAVIS of Machias, ME.

2. Seeking info about anyone with surname of **SWAN** in Franklin and / or Eastbrook areas from mid to late 1700's to present. They came from Charlestown, Massachusetts originally, I think.

Reply to: Ms. Kathy (Swan) Sprague P.O. Box 605 Bath, ME 04530-6905
spraguekathy@yahoo.com 207-442-8462

Researching the family of SAMUEL & SUSAN (**LORD / LORDS**) **BONSEY** and their ancestors, descendants & allied families. They were primarily in Ellsworth & Surry. Also the **YOUNG** family of Surry - LYDIA YOUNG married SAMUEL D. BONSEY. Looking to speak with other researchers of the same families. Thank you.

Liz Loveland 42 Warner St. Medford, MA 02155-1365 781-874-0313
hecate@gis.net

Charlene forwarded this query to Max upon receipt and Max has this to say:

Ruth is a descendant from Samuel Bonsey senior the father of Samuel mentioned in Liz's email. The Bonsey's first appear in Oxford, Massachusetts.

The ancestor is Peter Bonsey who had all his children in Oxford, Massachusetts, he and two of his sons bought land from Colonel Black in Mariaville. Peter and his oldest son returned to Worcester Co. While Samuel Sr, and two younger Brothers and a sister stayed in Hancock Co. He is called a Hessian in the Oxford Town History but he is from Brunswick (Braunschweig) in Northern Germany; now Lower Saxony) (from the Naturalization record 1812 in Worcester, MA).

It was once a large family in Hancock County, but now only one branch remains and they live in Surry.

Miscellaneous Stuff

(And I Do Mean Miscellaneous)

Internet Links Etc.

While investigating the Toothaker family on line, I found that one of several William Toothakers was born on Islesboro, *Long Island, New York*. Interesting. It amazes me the stuff one can find on the internet. I bet a lot of you didn't know that in recent history Islesboro somehow made its way from Long Island, New York to Penobscot Bay. Also, I found this link: <http://www.royalblood.co.uk> which may or may not be of value to you.

Late 1840, the senior William Toothaker went with his wife and several children to Ohio and Illinois leaving behind two sons and a daughter. The daughter is Terri Cormier's ancestor and one of the sons is my ancestor. Do you see the family resemblance?

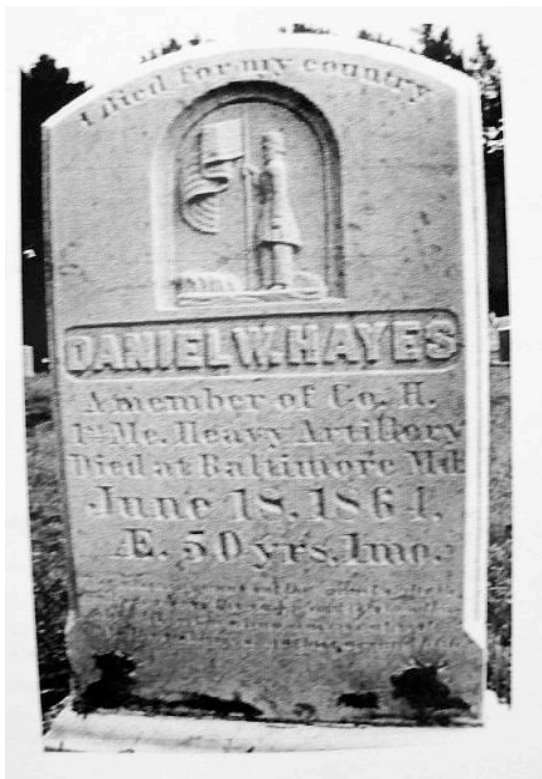
Back in those days, the United States Government owned the land and sold it to the early settlers. Now, many of those original Land Patents and surveys can be found at the website of Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records. Click on Search Land Patents and Surveys at <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

Somebody sent me a link to a site where one can print large genealogical charts – some are 8 feet by 4 feet wide. That's the size of a piece of plywood. The link is: http://www.obituarieshelp.org/large_charts_family_trees.html?utm_source=online_pr_media&utm_medium=press_release&utm_campaign=oversized_charts (Note: if you're typing this into your browser, the blank spaces are an underscore “_” which doesn't show up here.) Perhaps I should remind everybody that HCGS does not endorse any commercial product.

Elizabeth Shown Mills has developed a new form: *QuickSheet: Genealogical Problem Analysis*. A Strategic Plan, Evidence, Style. It offers a ten-step solution to genealogical problems. More information can be found at (remember the “_”): http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3862&NLC-GenPointers1

WANTED!

Information leading to the identification and documentation of Civil War Veteran Portrait Gravestones in the State of Maine.



Independent Maine researcher, Kimberly J. Sawtell, is seeking information about the location of gravestones depicting portraits of Union Soldiers “standing picket.” The portraits depict soldiers dressed in uniform, some show rank insignia. If you have seen this style of stone, or see it in the future, please forward information about the cemetery name, location and additional details to either KimberJS4@earthlink.net or to her at KimberJS@gmail.com

Do You Use Legacy and Have an Ipad or Iphone?

Fellow member, Ann Durgin, shares the following: For those who use Legacy and have an ipod or Iphone, there's an app that will convert Legacy files so they can be sync'd between desktop and mobile. “It's really cool.” The app is \$14.95. I didn't know how or understand what I was doing, so the installation was daunting and frustrating. Now, that I've got it, it's “really neat.”

Maine Genealogical Society Workshop

This is the last reminder this year to mark your calendar for April 23rd 2011, for John Philip Colletta's full-day workshop in Winslow. He has been asked back to Maine after many requests from people who saw him at the MGS Conference a few years ago. If you missed him then, don't miss him now! The Workshop will be held at Grandeur Sun in Waterville. More details will be provided next year as time approaches.

The Annual Conference

will be held at the Special Events Center in Bangor in September 2011.

North Surry Men Who Went to California

Fellow member Roberta Cunningham has been digging in the *Ellsworth American* microfilm and found an interesting article in the August 12, 1897, issue on page 7. It lists 64 people from North Surry who went to California from 1849 to 1875. In 1897, North Surry had 22 voters (male of course), 25 pupils and population of under 100.

The article was written by L. T. Smith. The names of the people are:

1849

P. J. Milliken Henry J. Milliken George E. Milliken

1850

Daniel B. Milliken	Mrs. Eliza Milliken	Carlton	Joseph F. Smith	Joseph Smith
Julia Smith	Lucy Smith		Capt. Richard Carlton	George P. Clark
George P. Clark	Rodney Phillips		Will Phillips	Willard Phillips
Rufus Phillips	Mrs. Rodney Phillips		Agnes Phillips	Miss Retta Phillips
Emery N. Flood	Henry Flood		Ed Gaspar	James Gaspar
Huch Ray	Alva Buker		Nathan Wilson	C. L. Means
Horace Wood	Edward Wood		Frank Wood	

1852

Horace Milliken Luther T. Smith

1854

Thomas Smith Mrs. Thomas Smith

1856

Joseph S. Milliken	Robert Milliken	Henry Smith	Leander Smith
Lewis Smith	George D. Smith		

1859

Mrs. Charlotte Milliken	Mrs. Clara Milliken	Smith	Charles Miller	Newell Miller
Mrs. Louise Miller	Fred Milliken		Lillian Milliken	

1861

Ashie Smith	Francis Smith	Helena Smith	Ruel Smith
Gorham Smith	Mrs. Maria F. Smith		

1862

Edward Milliken	Frank C. Milliken	William Milliken	Howard Milliken
William R. Milliken	Robert Smith		

1863

Charles Smith Hezekiah Smith

1864

Mrs. Sarah E. Milliken Smith Mrs. Clara Milliken Dr. James Milliken

1875

Horace Milliken 2d

If any of our members are related to or know more about these individuals, please share the information with us. Thank-you.

Historic Society Stuff

For the better part of the week of October 25th, I had the pleasure to trapse around the countryside with a distant Toothaker cousin from St. Louis, MO. She arrived to increasing clouds which resulted in rain and drizzle for three days and departed in the sun. Yet, we had a blast walking to the Toothaker Cemetery on Deer Isle and visiting the Searsmont Historic Society where we found some new Toothaker information. Although the Town Records and Vital Records are at town offices, there are often other records at the Historic Societies. Historic Societies are often overlooked in genealogical research.

The Sullivan-Sorrento Historical Society is open year-round every Tuesday except holidays from 1:00 to 3:00 PM. There you will find copies of the original town records from 1789 – 1848; Baptist Church Records 1810 – 1852; Cemetery records, tax records and town reports from 1895 to the present; obituaries; Sullivan Intentions of Marriage 1864 – 1882; 1865 Sullivan Census with family members, birth and marriage dates; Sullivan Census records 1790 – 1910; Quarry records, store and business records; Shipping and school information; Family genealogies, photo and autograph albums; personal letters; and photos of people, places and things.

Pay them a visit and pay a visit to the other Historical Societies in towns where your ancestors lived or may have lived. And, as you leave, remember to offer a generous contribution. They survive on volunteers and donations.

From Your Editor

I wanted to fill the end space here by thanking everybody who submitted articles, queries, tid-bits of information, etc. during 2010. I will be asking *all of you* to send me something for the Newsletter in 2011. Make it your New Year's Resolution to share something with your fellow genealogists! Who knows? You may find we're related.

