

The Hancock Historian

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President's Column

We held our annual meeting earlier in January, which included the election of officers. I would like to thank everyone for voting me back in as president. It is an honor to me to be the president of a group with such knowledgeable members. I learn something new at every meeting.

I am looking for someone who would like to maintain our Facebook page. I am going to create a new one as a group. This should allow for more discussions and more information being shared. Charlene Clemons had thought she was going to do it but has found herself too busy to give it the time she feels it should have. If someone is interested, please let me know.

As you will read in another section of this newsletter, I have also been busy helping the Whitakers as we move forward to bring recognition to the cemetery in Trenton. We are trying to determine who is buried there. In a future newsletter we will publish the names that we have at that point.

Please make a note that our meetings are now the second Saturday of each month at 9:15 a.m. in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library. Our February meeting, however, will be held upstairs in the genealogy section.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Patti Leland, President
207-266-6186
or
pleland57@yahoo.com

2012 Officers

President Patti Leland
Vice-President Wayne Smith
Secretary Charlene Clemons
Treasurer Max Brenninkmeyer
Membership Charlene Clemons
Newsletter Editor Al Banfield

Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society was called to order by President Patti Leland at 9:05 a.m. at the Ellsworth Public Library. There were 15 members and guests present.

Minutes of the November 17, 2012, meeting were read and accepted.

In Max Brenninkmeyer's absence, Patti Leland handed out copies of his annual report showing a balance on December 31, 2012, of \$3,221.38. The report was approved.

Al Banfield said he would do a January issue of the newsletter and requested articles from members.

Emery DeBeck suggested that we plan on beginning the meetings at 9:15 a.m. since the doors to the library are not open until 9 a.m. Patti Leland agreed this was a good idea.

Library director Charlene Churchill introduced the new special collections staff person. Alexi will be our contact at the library.

Ms. Churchill also talked about the latest news concerning the replacement drum and cleaner for the analog microfilm reader. AMS Imaging, the company with whom the library deals, has told her the company cannot replace the drum until someone turns in an

old machine with a usable drum and cleaner. Several suggestions were made to find parts by contacting other dealers and libraries.

Patti Leland talked about the Bar Harbor newspapers being on line and able to be searched. Jesup Library wants to know about any glitches in the system.

Patti also talked about what can and cannot be done with Facebook and mentioned the possibility of creating a web page to take the place of the one we now have--one with which we would be able to do more.

Elections were held with Patricia Leland being elected president; Wayne Smith, vice-president; Max Brenninkmeyer, treasurer; Charlene Fox Clemons, secretary and membership; and Al Banfield, newsletter editor.

Merle Bragdon suggested it would be nice to have a program on using the various search engines and data bases for genealogical research presented by someone who is skilled in using them. Alexi offered to do one and it was scheduled for April. It was also suggested that we have a meeting at which we bring our family trees and see where we all are related.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 a.m. and those with an interest in the Wyatt Moore families retired to the genealogy area of the library to work on them.

Respectfully submitted
 Charlene Fox Clemons
 Secretary

2013 Meeting Dates

February 9	March 9
April 13	May 11
June 8	July 13
August 10	September 14
October 12	November 9
December -- no meeting	

Annual Treasurer's Report

Hancock County Genealogical Society

Income & Expense

1 January 2012 – 31 December 2012

INFLOWS	
Dues	700.00
Bank Interest	0.28
TOTAL INFLOWS	700.28
OUTFLOWS	
Newsletter	79.26
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$79.26
NET INFLOW	\$621.02

Balance Sheet

31 December 2012

31 December 2011 Balance	\$2,600.36
01 January 12 – 31 December 12 Net InFlow	\$ 621.02
31 December 2012 Balance	\$3,221.38

Membership Dues Due

A reminder that 2013 dues are due. They remain \$10 for either an individual or a couple. Dues may be sent to:

Charlene Clemons
 Hancock County Genealogical Society
 96 Mud Creek Road
 Hancock, Maine 04640

Hancock County Genealogical Society membership has an email address if you have any questions concerning your membership: HCGSmembership@yahoo.com. Please remember that I am no longer at the Ellsworth Library, so don't make a trip there to either leave your dues for me or to pay me your dues.

Charlene Clemons

Cemetery Update

By **Bob Whitaker (RI) and Bob Whitaker (Ct)**

Our work continues on the Whitaker Cemetery of the “unknowns.” Last fall we managed to clear about 80 percent of the trees from the cemetery with the much appreciated help of our cousin Daryl Whitaker (aka “Superman”) and a good friend, Wes McFarland.

It looks as if our dream for the cemetery is going to finally come true. We received correspondence from Professor Stephen Pollock (University of Southern Maine) a few days ago providing a timeline for conducting his forensic survey of the Whitaker Cemetery. The survey will take place between late April and late June of this year.

Professor Pollock is planning a three-method non-destructive survey of the cemetery grounds. In his recent note, he stated: “One would be a magnetometer survey; the second would be a survey using an instrument called an EM 31; and the third would use ground penetrating radar (GPR).”

“It will take a day or less to gather the GPR data and another day to perform the magnetometer and EM 31 surveys.”

We hope the survey will provide an indication of the number of burials at this site, which appears (in my view) to possibly be one of the oldest cemeteries in Trenton based on its proximity to the old Trenton Town House shown on the 1860 map of Hancock County.

Bob Whittaker (RI) has been working with Patti Leland to try to identify some of the names of individuals buried in this cemetery using every method we can think of.

We have tried using old newspaper obituary postings from genealogybank.com; a search of the obituary postings from *The Eastern Freeman*, *Ellsworth Herald*, and *The Ellsworth American* covering a period from April 1853 to December 1891 (See Jean’s Maine Genealogy Page -- www.mnopltd.com).

Our most recent effort involves detailed U.S. Census record reviews from the 1790 through 1900 Census Records of Trenton.

Our next visit to the cemetery will be sometime in May of this year and we will be continuing our work in the cemetery to clear brush and the remaining trees.

We hope to arrange a rededication of our cemetery in the early fall to once again make it “Holy Ground.”

We will provide periodic updates on our progress in future newsletter issues.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help in this project in any way, please contact me at rwhittaker1@verizon.net.

State Genealogical Pin

By **Richard Spinney**



The Hancock County Genealogical Society is a chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society. Some members of the Hancock society are also members of the Maine society; others are not.

The Maine society has purchased new pins, which are now available for sale. They are the same size of a penny. They are \$5 each, which includes a 5 percent Maine sales tax.

Shipping is \$2.10 per pin in the United States. If anybody wants a pin, I will bring some to meetings to save members shipping costs.

Members not attending our meetings may order from the Maine society by sending a check made out to MGS care of the Maine society’s treasurer, 5 Spencer Street, Ellsworth, Maine 04605. The Paypal account is still being set up.

Ames Query

By Dave Drabold, Athens, Ohio

I have been corresponding with Val Atwood, who has been most kind and generous in trying to help me through some of my genealogical puzzles from Hancock County.

Just so you know, my puzzle is the following:

My great-great-great-grandfather was Joseph Ames, who lived in Hancock County from about 1800 until about 1816. In a land transfer of 1814, he is said to have been of Trenton.

According to a short posthumous biography of his son, the Rev Moses Ames, a Freewill Baptist minister, this Moses was born in Surry in 1812.

Joseph Ames is a signer of an 1807 petition to annex parts of Trenton and Surry to Ellsworth. By 1816 or so, Joseph had moved to Bradford, Maine, and had several children there, among them my great-great-grandfather, James Kenniston Ames, b. 2 Feb. 1822. From a deed dated 1820, I know that Joseph's wife was Abigail, for she renounced any rights of dower to a small piece of land being sold in Bradford.

This Joseph is elusive, and on various grounds, mostly related to autosomal DNA tests, I am certain that he is ex-Rockingham County, N.H., Ames, in some way descended from Daniel Ames of Hampton/Exeter.

In addition to continuing puzzles about Joseph Ames, DNA tests consistently point up links to Garlands and Moores, especially Josiah Garland and Miriam Moore of Ellsworth, about 1800. It seems probable that Joseph Ames' wife Abigail is connected to this family. From census records, she would have been born perhaps 1785-90. It is quite plausible that Joseph might have married a local girl about, say, 1805 in Ellsworth. And it makes a lot of sense that this girl might have Garland/ Moore/ Wormwood ancestry. However, I have not a whit of proof.

The excellent researcher of ancestry,

Val Atwood, has found that a daughter of Alexander B. Moore (son of Edward Proctor Moore) and Temperance Garland was named Abby Ames Moore. This is too much to be a coincidence, especially in view of the DNA match. This lady was quite probably named after my Abigail Ames (nee ?). As Donna pointed out, this is all the more likely given the identity of Temperance's parents (John Garland and Sarah Wormwood).

I have have some certain, albeit murky, connections to Hancock County that I would love to understand more completely.

Voices Book Review

By Richard Spinney

In the December issue, I mentioned the Ellsworth Public Library had ordered a book that might help me confirm my ancestor, Moses Littlefield, had marched to Quebec with Benedict Arnold. Mid-December, I was notified the book had arrived.

Voices From a Wilderness Expedition: The Journals and Men of Benedict Arnold's Expedition to Quebec in 1775 by Stephen Darley is a paperback book of some 305 pages, plus 18 pages of introduction and acknowledgements.

It is not a rehash of previously published material. Rather, it contains the first ever bibliography of all printings of thirty journals written by the participants; three newly discovered journals plus two other journals written by privates which have not been previously published; new biographical information about seven lesser known officers; identification of Captain Scott, a previously unknown company commander; and perhaps most importantly a comprehensive roster of the names and biographical details of 1,125 officers and men who enlisted on the expedition. This, according to the author, "is the first time such a roster of the participants has been published."

The roster appears in Appendix II. The listings are arranged by company:



Art Query

Terri Cormier of the Ellsworth Historical Society showed the above portrait at the January meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society. The historical society recently received this donation and is in hopes of finding out more about the girl's family. Terri Cormier said that in researching the portrait, it appears the girl's family is of Blue Hill origin. On the back of the picture is written: Edith Mable Lord Chase, June 7, 1866, to Sept 16, 1945. Newton and Edith Wood (Hinckley) Lord, Obed and Lousa (Cushing) Hinckley, Nehemiah and Edith (Wood) Hinckley, Joseph and Ruth (Haskell) Wood. The first settlers.

Headquarter's Company, Thayer's Company, Dearborn's Company, Ward's Company, Hendrick's Company, Smith's Company, etc. (Note: Interestingly, company names are not in alphabetical order.)

Within each company, officers' names are arranged by rank with seniors appearing first. Privates, of whom there were many, are arranged alphabetically.

Scouring these rosters, I found no person by the name of Littlefield. In his introduction, the author explains that some men who marched to Quebec did not share that information with family or friends. Therefore, their family history and town history does not make any reference to their being in the expedition.

Others did not mention their service in the expedition in their pension application because of their defeat; plus they did not want to be associated with the traitor, Benedict Arnold.

So, my proof that Moses Littlefield "marched though the wilds of Maine with Arnold to Quebec" is still lacking.

Stephen Darley's book is an important resource for anybody researching the expedition to Quebec and is a welcome addition to the Ellsworth Public Library's holdings. My hope is that it will soon find a home in the genealogy section.

I have to mention one glaring omission. As I mentioned, all the known names of the officers and men who went to Quebec appear in the rosters in Appendix II. What is missing is an all-name index of people who are mentioned within various journals which appear in this book.

To find information about a specific person --if it is there at all--can be taxing. "The Reverend Mr. Spring our chaplain" and Colonel Conlon, for example, appear on page 114 in Dearborn's journal, but they do not appear in the index. There are many other examples as well.

More on Serendipity

By Richard Spinney

Serendipity. There have been at least a couple of books written about serendipity in genealogy by Henry Z. "Hank" Jones Jr., a fellow of the American Society of Genealogists.

This is not a new topic. Several people I know will speak of events that make it seem

as though their ancestors reached out to them in order to be found.

In the past, I have written about a book in the Ellsworth Public Library that would not stay out of my way. Eventually, I relented, picking it up and opening it to a page that took me back 14 generations to King John of England. Now, what are the chances?

About a month ago, I found a woman on ancestry.com who, among other families, is researching the Burt family. My paternal grandmother was Edna Burt. She died when my father was one year old. I've also written about her in the past--about how I finally had to read my own father's birth certificate with eyes wide open to discover Edna Burt was born in Woodstock, New Brunswick, Canada, just across the border from Houlton, Maine, rather than in Lynn, Massachusetts, as stated on her death certificate.

I have been looking for descendants of Edna's siblings without success. I knew there were other cousins or second cousins out there, but have not been able to make the connection.

I grew up with a cousin, Edna Spinney. She is either a day older than I am or a day younger. I can't seem to remember. Edna Spinney was named for her paternal grandmother, Edna Burt. I've not spoken with her in about a year or so. She also has a daughter with whom I have not spoken in well over a year. Edna is interested in her Burt ancestors, but does not actively participate in genealogy. She accepts with interest any information I might provide.

This morning, I received an email from the woman on ancestry.com whom I had found about a month ago. She gave me the name and phone number of a man in New Hampshire who is the grandson of one of Edna Burt's brothers.

I called him at about 2 p.m. and we spoke for nearly an hour. We have agreed to share family photos and information about the family. I have a photo of a girl in her mid-teens. My mother told me, "This is your father's cousin, Minnie."

The man on the phone today told me, "Oh, Aunt Minnie! She was a concert pianist, you know."

No, I didn't know. I am so looking forward to receiving information about this branch of the family.

While looking on ancestry.com at the census records gathering as much about the Edna Burt siblings and offspring as I could, I looked at the family of Edna's brother, Eddie, also known as Edmund or Edmond depending upon how you view the "u." He had two daughters: Minnie (who turned out to be the concert pianist) and Pearley.

My maternal grandfather had a brother named Perly. Different spelling, different sex --just like Francis and Frances. While on the telephone with the fellow in New Hampshire, I mentioned Pearley. I asked, "This must be another aunt?"

"Oh, no!" he replied, "That was my father." OK, so much for believing everything you read in the census.

Oh . . . and serendipity? Within two hours of that phone call, Edna Spinney's daughter called me on a whim.

"What's going on with you?" she asked.

I told her and then I said, "I need to call your mother. She will want to know about this."

"Oh," she replied, "I'll give you her new phone number."

I love genealogy!

Moore Family Discussion

Hancock County Genealogical Society members discussed the Moore family at the January meeting, with members mentioning Moore family members in Ellsworth and other Hancock County towns, oftentimes not knowing whether they were in the same tree. Members who receive the newsletter on line will find the tree of the descendants of Robert M. Moore as a separate attachment. Those who receive their newsletter by mail may pick up a copy of the tree at the next meeting.

In the meantime, members may forward any information they are aware of on the Moore family--or families--to the newspaper editor, Al Banfield, or bring the information to the next meeting. The dialogue on the Moore family/families will continue as information becomes available.

A Moore Query

Perhaps as an associated topic, Charlene Clemons received the following query from Margaret Bronson:

Could you please ask whether anyone knows whether anyone knows what happened to:

Moore, Ralph W., b. 1878, Ellsworth, son of Edwin (1832-1890) and Josephine Cousins (1846-1921).

Ralph W., m.1, Mildred V. Young (1886-1912), daughter of George W. Young and Helen McFarland.

One son, Leslie, b. 1911. (He survived but I can't trace him).

Ralph W., m. 2, Louise L. Jordan, b. 1879, daughter of George W. Jordan and Roxanne Hodgkins.

Ralph lived in Green, Maine, with Louise. His son Leslie lived there, too.

1947--Last year (I think) for Louise.

1930--Last year for Ralph. Ralph was a railroad agent.

P.S.--Patsy looked for this and didn't find any more information except that Louise is buried in California.

Forward any information to Charlene or the newsletter editor.

New England Conference

The 12th annual New England Regional Genealogical Conference, Woven in History: The Fabric of New England, will be held April 17-21 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester, N.H.

Genealogists and family historians from a variety of backgrounds will lead numerous sessions on many topics. Keynote speakers will be Dr. Colleen Fitzpatrick, recognized for her forensic and DNA approach to genealogy, and Dr. Stephen Morse, creator of the one-step website.

For more information, go to www.nergc.org.

Post-Trip Writing Flurry

In recent weeks I have used information gathered from my second cousin in Long Beach, Calif., and additional information collected on line based on her information to expand the Banfield English Roots chapter of my family genealogy. The chapter deals with three generations in England leading up to Henry Banfield's migration to the United States in 1850 and the families of Henry's children, minus the family of my direct descendant, Henry's son, Alfred F. Banfield.

I have expanded the chapter from 17 pages to 37 pages in length, writing about relatives I now know much more about, such as Esther Mugan Bush, and adding some interesting photographs.

Esther Mugan Bush was a writer, editor, and a composer of more than 100 vocal and instrumental musical pieces, including the "Silver Strand Waltz," to which legend says Wallis Warfield Simpson and the then Prince of Wales danced the night they first met at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, Calif. Subsequently, Edward VIII of England gave up the throne to marry Mrs. Simpson.

When Esther Bush was struck and killed by an automobile at the age of 77 on July 18, 1952, *The San Diego Union* in its news story credited Esther Bush with writing the waltz to which the couple danced the night they met.

In addition to that chapter, I was able to expand the Appendix of my genealogy, which contains listings of factual information gleaned from sources, from 21 pages to 36 pages.

And then just yesterday I received by mail a CD loaded with documents from another second cousin, in the Seattle, Wash., area, who is related to my great-great-grandfather Robert Hunter. Thus I can now expand the Hunter chapter of my genealogy.

Included was the obituary of Robert Hunter's son, Francis P. Hunter, which in part states he "was born on the farm at 23rd and Grand where his father homesteaded after coming in 1859."

That was part of the confirmation I sought to verify the family tale that Robert Hunter owned a chicken farm at the site of the current Washington Square Park next to the Union Station in downtown Kansas City, Mo., and across the street from the Hallmark Card complex.

Also confirming the tale was a Jan. 2, 1919, letter from the law firm of Cooper, Neel, and Wright, in effect billing the Robert Hunter Estate and three other landholders one and a half percent interest for handling "the Union Station Approaches case." The fee was \$718.30 on the \$57,464 paid the Hunters, a very substantial amount in those days.

In addition, there was a bill from the Sloan Norris Realty on Dec. 13, 1913, with regard to the "Depot matter." Part of the bill was for a survey of Robert Hunter's property. Enclosed also was a copy of the survey of the land enclosed by Grand Avenue, 24th and 23rd Streets, and the Old Westport Road. Also on the CD was a recent letter from the Kansas City Parks Department detailing the history of the Washington Square Park, and some history on the Union Station construction. So that seemed to confirm the family tale.

Another item included was a warranty deed dated March 2, 1871, on the sale by Couradin Otto and husband Adolph Otto of lot 195, block 14, of McGee's addition to the City of Kansas, recorded in Book 81, page 218. That likely is the family homestead at 3301 McGee in the old Westport section of Kansas City. Robert's son, Frank P. Hunter, lived in the home until his death.

A document "issued in accordance with the provisions of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Missouri approved March 19th, 1874" awarded Robert Hunter \$139.69 for his service during the Civil War.

A very early article from the *Kansas City Genealogist* mentions Robert Hunter as one of four men who established a freighting company with 101 wagons and with large government contracts. The article also spoke of vigilantes capturing mule trains in 1860, and burning one partner's home, and at another time 16 homes burning and a gun battle waged against the marauders, who fled in the direction of Kansas.

The CD collection included birth and marriage records, death certificates, census records, and photos of cemetery headstones, including that of Mary McMahan, the mother of Robert Hunter's wife Agnes.

There were photos, including those of Anthony G. Hunter, my second cousin's father, standing in front of a 1930s airplane in his early flying days, wearing his Distinguished Flying Cross, sitting behind his desk in North Africa as commander of a B-25 bombardment group that set the all-time record of 500 combat missions over German-occupied territory, and standing with Bob Hope and other performers in North Africa in 1943.

A number of items involved Robert Hunter's daughter Lulu, who lived with her mother and then entered the Visitation Convent in St. Louis as Sister Mary Liguori. In a 1925 quit-claim deed, she gave the proceeds of the sale to the Redemptorist Fathers. In her will she divided up the proceeds of the sale of one parcel of land to her brothers and sisters; the proceeds of a second parcel to St. Anthony's Baby Home, the Catholic Colored Church, the Little Sisters of the Poor, and the Catholic Working Girls' Home, all of Kansas City; and the proceeds of a third parcel to nieces, nephews, and cousins, including nephew Henry J. Banfield, my grandfather, \$500.

Well, this and more should keep me busy writing on the Hunter chapter the next few weeks.