

Hancock Historian

Newsletter of the Hancock County Genealogical Society

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I am guessing that some of you attended the MGS Conference. I would love to hear what your thoughts are on it or any other genealogy event you attended this year. In 2015 we are hoping to have our own event so all input is welcome!

The Hancock Historian is your newsletter. Please let me know if there is something you would like to submit or a topic you would like to see more info on.

I look forward to seeing all those that can make it to the October 11th meeting which is being held at 10:00 in the Village Cemetery in Surry.

The final meeting of 2014 will be held at the Ellsworth Public Library on Saturday, November 8 at 10:00.

Hey – if you are on Facebook take a minute and check out our page. We are at 138 and growing!

Patti Leland, President

From Nancy Wasson
Orland:

The Oak Grove Cemetery book is ready, along with Book One which includes all cemeteries in Orland except Oak Grove. They are \$25.00 each includes shipping. Please contact
Nancy Wasson
8 Cross Road
Orland, ME 04472

Hancock County Genealogical Society Minutes

9 AUGUST 2014

The Hancock County Genealogical Society met Saturday, August 9, 2014 in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library. The meeting was called to order at 10:08 am by President Patti Leland.

Minutes of the July 12 meeting were read by the secretary and approved as read.

The treasurer listed dues of \$30.00 along with \$.04 interest. Added on to our June balance of \$4,597.59, we were left with a 31 July 2014 balance of \$4,627.63. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Membership is listed as 80 members.

It was voted to return to the treasury, the money allocated for the purchase of indexing software for Ellsworth Public Library since the library has informed us they are no longer interested in purchasing the software.

Meetings for the rest of the year are:

September canceled so members may attend MGS in Brewer on the same day; October 11 will be at 10:00 am in the Surry Village Cemetery to update the inventory of the cemetery and inventory the new section of the cemetery. Max will have the last inventory and a plan of the cemetery ready for us although he will not be there; November 8 at the library will be a review of 2014 and plans for 1215.

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 am and members spent the next hour or so discussing the Moore Family.

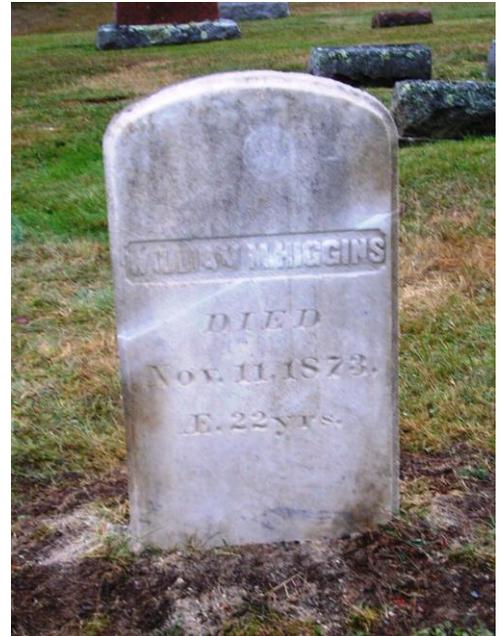
Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Clemons
Secretary

Jennifer and John Stucker of Corea work on a cemetery stone at York Hill Cemetery in Sullivan this September. Jennifer and John will use the money from their work to go back into restoration of a memorial in Gouldsboro. The work is done under the auspices of the Gouldsboro Historical Society.

Submitted by: Jeanne Edwards

The November meeting is the 8th at 10:00 at the Ellsworth Public Library. There is no meeting in December.



Query:

I am Marcelle Aldredge, and I have been researching my Bucksport roots for the past 35 years. I am interested in finding more information on John Tillock's family. He was listed in the Bucksport census of 1790, having come from Cape Cod (Truro), and his mother is listed as "Widow Tillock". I cannot find them in Truro information, and I would love to find out who his parents were.

I also research Homer (my grandfather was Horace, and had a sister Florence who lived in Bucksport for many, many years). Also, Smith, Lowell, Hill, Lake, Peabody and Snow.

Any help is appreciated.

Marcelle Aldredge

marcelle1207@yahoo.com



From the Ellsworth Historical Society:
Anyone searching for family who were from the Class of 1890 in Ellsworth? We were recently gifted a photo album at Historical Society that has some photos of the Class of 1890 - not all are named.

Hi HCGS! We are researching a historical home here in Ellsworth and looking for lineage info on the family who lived there, the House is the Joshua R Jordan house on High St. (The Old Ellsworth Motel) we are looking for possible photos of the house and family for a report the Historic Commission is doing on the house. Joshua was married to Mary Ann Austin. Looking for the ancestry of the Jordan family and their children. Update! We are now researching another owner of the house. Charles Burrill and his family. We believe he was the one to have completed most of the fancy renovations to the house during the time he owned it. So now looking for the information on the Burrill family and their photos as well. Thank you for your help. We are hoping to find pictures of the house as well.

Also looking for information on the families that lived in the Sheriffs Home - does anyone have genealogy of the past sheriffs or would the group be able to research these for us? I have a list of all the past Sheriffs to go by. Thanks!!

Terri Weed Cormier
ellsworthhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

Query:
I'm looking for info on Elizabeth "Betsey" L. Washburn, who was married to Joseph H. Jordan. They were married in 1837 in Ellsworth. He died 08 Apr 1862 in Washington, DC; she died 17 Jun 1857 in Ellsworth (I think). She was my g-g-g grandmother. Can't find anything about her parents.
Steve Day sordday@hotmail.com

Mystery:
It was reported that a diver found in Branch Lake what appears to be two gravestones with only initials and dates: ERP 1842 - 1921 and JHP 1873 - 1933. Any thoughts? If you have any info please let me know.
Thanks Richard for the post! Thanks, Patti

The Annual Meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society will be held Saturday, January 10, 2015 at the Ellsworth Public Library at 10:00. The Election of Officers will also be held.

From Terri Weed Cormier:

The Ellsworth Historical Society meeting for October 13th, Monday evening at 7:00 pm will be held at the Historical Society Museum at 40 State Street , not at City Hall as our usual meetings.

Please join us for our business meeting with coffee and pie after the meeting and a tour of the museum before we close for the season and see what the society has been working on this summer!

We look forward to seeing old friends and new, come, bring a friend and see the museum before we close for the season and enjoy some pie and recollections of Ellsworth's past.

For all you Hancock County descendants of Joshua Gray, here's the site of the Great Works sawmill in South Berwick where his grandfather George Gray worked after being shipped across the Atlantic after the Battle of Dunbar in Scotland in 1651. Thank you Steve Day for this submission. He also sent the article on this topic. I am going to try to get permission to reprint it in our next newsletter. Patti



Locating those elusive ancestors
Marie J. Abajian

We all have an elusive ancestor or two, how about hundreds of them. Depending on how deeply you are into your family records, or how common your surnames you are searching, you probably have a few people that drive you crazy because you cannot find a single record on that person. I have one such third great grandmother, Cecilia KINNIKILL. She just didn't want to be found; she went and married my third great grandfather William SMITH, which only made it that much harder to find herⁱ. I am grateful my great grandfather Charles (Charlie) Lesley SMITH made a family tree when I was a teenager and shared the family stories with me. None of the women had surnames, except those that were from my great grandmother's side of the family, she did take the time to write what she

I set my sights on finding Cecilia KINNIKILL, but I had some problems with it, first I didn't know her surname at the time. I did know she married William SMITH sometime before 1850, somewhere in Canada and that William was most likely from England. That didn't give me much to work with, but I was determined to find this record. I had been having so much success finding my Maine relatives; I needed to stretch my reach a bit. I know that my second great grandfather William SMITH was born in Reach, Ontario, Canadaⁱⁱ. So I worked from what I knew to what I wanted. I searched and searched in the Reach area learned more about the people there and the history of the area, always a good first start when searching elusive family members. I had a clue what drew people to the area and where there people were coming from.

Still didn't give me any information that I needed, but it gave me a better picture of what was available to me. The family was never mentioned in any of the literature that I read; therefore they were not pioneers of the city, or any of the Politian's, business owners or church patrons listed in the records. But I read on all records that my second great grandfather William lists that he was born there, so I know they lived there at least a short time. I did finally find in land plats a lot listed for the correct time period to a William SMITH, FINALLY some proof of their existence [sadly I didn't put it in a citation, thus cannot find it again]. I still haven't found William, Jr's birth record, but it doesn't mean anything at this time.

I then decided that I needed to go a bit broader in my searches, I used FamilySearch's search feature and the variations you can easily search with and found a marriage record for a William SMITH and Cecilia KINNIKILL in Halifax, Nova Scotia. That took me months and months, along with hundreds upon hundreds of hours to find this little recordⁱⁱⁱ. I did find on Canada's official records site a copy of the original record, I ordered that copy, hoping that with it there might be something I was missing on the digital copy. Unfortunately there wasn't any hidden information, but I did have their writing, which to me is priceless. Sadly it didn't state more than their names, nothing about parents, dates of birth or even something as bland as their age. It did say he was from Dartmouth, was that Dartmouth, England or Dartmouth, Nova Scotia? Could the story he was from England only be because the record says "Dartmouth"?

Now that I had Halifax as an area to find her records, I did a more intense search, nothing with the name KINNIKILL came up. Many names that were similar, but no names that could be even close to her name of Cecilia were found. I went to the New England Historic and Genealogical Library and picked the brains of their experts, we found nothing

that was related to her records. We tried every variation of the spelling of her name, or names that could sound like that with various accents. Went through about 20 books of records, but I had no luck. It was fun, but no success. I tried the Family Tree features on FamilySearch and Ancestry.com, but didn't find much that could be helpful.

When I took a class through Boston University, it was a Genealogy Research class for a full semester, I used her as an example of an elusive ancestor, and others from the class are supposed to help find that person with the various methods we were learning, even the professor of the class came up blank. She is just hiding somewhere.

I still don't know where she was born for sure; I have a possible father named Joseph KAWICKELL and mother Sarah BOUTTLIN. I do have her death record and the fact she died from influenza in Cheboygan, Michigan^{iv}, but she is still being elusive.

I learned a lot from my lack of information found. Learn as much about the areas you believe the family member is living. Find as many vanity books written from the area, they often mention people in passing, and that elusive family member might just get a mention. Use as many sources you can get to find information, don't just stick to the usual online sources, or the same library, use lots of sources, read many books (print or online) that are of the area, whether or not listing genealogy. Ask as many people you can, if you believe they are Irish or from a specific area, ask experts from those societies if they can help you. It might cost you a bit of money, but it sure wouldn't hurt to get the help.

Good luck on your elusive family members. Remember, citations will help you, and always list your citations with your records so others can find the information when they read your work.

ⁱ Nova Scotia, Canada, 1800: 9425, William Smith and Cecilia Kinnikill marriage 1848.

ⁱⁱ Washington, 1907-1960, 27, William A. Smith death 8 Oct. 1926, film 2022314, image 145, ref. 297, 8 October 1926; database, Family History Library, *FamilySearch* (<http://familysearch.com> : online 12 April 2014); Bureau of Vital Statistics, Olympia.

ⁱⁱⁱ Nova Scotia, Canada, 1800: 9425, William Smith and Cecilia Kinnikill marriage 1848. Nova Scotia, Canada, Historical Vital Statistics, reg. year 1848, book 1800, page 9325, William Smith and Cecilia Kinnikill marriage bond, 20 May 1848; digital images, Nova Scotia Genealogy, *Nova Scotia Genealogy* (www.novascotiagenealogy.com : online 14 July 2014); Vital Statistics / Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations; The Genealogical Society of Utah; Nova Scotia Highland Village Museum; Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia; Chief Information Officer of Nova Scotia; Nova Scotia Department of Justice.

^{iv} FamilySearch, index, "Michigan, Deaths and Burials Index, 1867-1995," database online, Ancestry.com, *Ancestry.com* (<http://ancestry.com> : online 7 June 2014), Ceceila Smyth, 26 nov 1897. Michigan, Death Records, 1897-1920, 94, Cecelia Smyth, 26 November 1897; digital images online, Michigan Historical Center, *Seeking Michigan* (www.seekingmichigan.org : online 7 June 2014); Archives of Michigan.

Don't forget that the October 11th meeting is actually a work session at the Village Cemetery in Surry. We will be reviewing and updated transcription. The cemetery is location on Surry Playhouse Rd right off of 172. The fun starts at 10:00.

. There was some space left so I decided to "borrow" a couple of the photos that Terri Weed Cormier posted on the renovations on the Ellsworth Historical Society building.



Terri states that the basement windows had been missing for about 100 years!



There is now fresh paint on the steps.