

*The*  
***Hancock Historian***

Newsletter of the  
**Hancock County Genealogical Society**

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January 2018

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES**  
November 4, 2017

The November meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society took place Saturday November 4, 2017 in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library with 5 members present.

The minutes from the October meeting were read and accepted. The treasurer was absent so there was no treasurer's report. Wayne updated us on the newsletter and requested submissions to include.

Charlene updated us on library items. The digital microform reader has arrived at the library and will be installed after the carpeting is completed. Sections of the library will be closed during the carpeting process and the entire library will be closed for at least one week as the main floor gets carpeted. She advised us to call ahead before coming in to make sure we could access the area we needed that day.

The election of officers for 2018 and the annual meeting in January was discussed.

A brainstorming session on programs for the coming year yielded the beginnings of a schedule, subject to change, in the new year. On June 9, Wayne would like to arrange an all-day gathering of area historical societies to talk about how to best preserve our records and collections. It was suggested that Adam Fisher from the state library's Digital Maine project might be a good speaker to talk about digitization of documents. Wayne will contact local historical societies, libraries, and museums to see if there is any interest.

In January, Alice Long will speak on her research using DNA and the family she has found. In February, Max Brenninkmeyer will talk about his Moses Hammond research. Other programs will be scheduled in January.

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Fox Clemons, Secretary

**HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MINUTES**  
January 13, 2018

The 2018 annual meeting of the Hancock County Genealogical Society was called to order by Charlene Fox Clemons in the absence of the president, Patti Leland, at 11:05 am in the Riverview Room of the Ellsworth Public Library with 7 members present. The meeting was preceded by an hour-long focus group with library director, Amy Wisheart, on the needs of the Ellsworth community and the library with particular interest in what the genealogy collection

needs.

Minutes were not available. Max read the treasurer's report for the year ending 31 December 2017 (reprinted in this issue). The report was accepted as read. The loss of a third of our membership was discussed. A goal of bringing back some of those who have left and attracting new members was expressed. Currently we have 17 paid members for 2018. Four more members renewed their membership at the meeting, bringing our total to 21 as of this meeting.

Officers elected for 2018 were: President, Ralph Harris; Treasurer, Max Brenninkmeyer; Secretary/Membership, Charlene Fox Clemons; Newsletter, Wayne Smith.

Plans for the June 9<sup>th</sup> all-day gathering of Hancock County historical societies were discussed.

Max reported on the status of the Surry Village Cemetery project. He or someone needs to make a trip to the cemetery to record some stones that were missed.

Ralph talked about the Family Tree Webinars offered throughout the year, a book he is working on, and videotaping programs to upload to YouTube so members from outside the area could watch them. Archivist Holly Hendricks, a new member with family ties to Hancock County, offered excellent suggestions on digitization, filming programs and making them available to the public, grant writing for special projects, and improving our web page.

The meeting adjourned at 12:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Charlene Fox Clemons, Secretary

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

**February 10: Max Brenninkmeyer** will speak about his research on **Moses Hammond of Surry**. The presentation will be in three sections: (1) The ancestry of Moses Hammond of Surry that starts with William Hammond of London and Elizabeth Penn. Elizabeth and her son Benjamin emigrated to Boston in 1634. Then I will follow the Hammonds through their descendants to Moses Hammond of Surry. (2) The life of Moses Hammond (1761-1839). He was a Revolutionary War soldier, instrumental in Surry becoming a town, Surry selectman for 10 years, town clerk for ten years. He also held a minor judicial position. (3) The story of his eight children, 1 boy, 7 girls and their children.

**March 10: Mary Gibouleau** will give a presentation entitled: "**Never Give Up**". Mary writes:

"This is the story of a 5-year old orphan whose whereabouts got lost but whose niece kept looking for her for many years. I will trace the research path from an orphanage in England to adoption in Canada to a living daughter and granddaughter in California. Fact, intuition and determination answered the question "what happened to my young sister" which was among the last words of her brother on his deathbed. There were skeletons revealed, tragedies unearthed and experiences of great joy at finding the answers so long sought by a niece and granddaughter, who until now knew nothing of each other. The story demonstrates how the good intentions of British laws to help the orphans did not turn out so well."

**April 14: Wayne Smith** will make a presentation on the research that he carried out in the late 1980s while he was searching for information about his immigrant ancestor Francisco Manoel Gaspar who came from the Azores and settled in Surry around 1816. His search involved crawling around in the old district archives located in the tiny "city" of Horta on the island of Faial, learning how to decipher ancient Portuguese handwriting, learning about the confusing naming patterns used at the time, and eventually meeting actual cousins still living in the Azores.

**May 12: Swap & Share:** We'll be meeting on the third floor in the Whitmore Collection and will spend the time sharing information and comparing notes on our own research.

**June 9: Hancock County Genealogical Society** will host a gathering of representatives of the many genealogical and historical societies, libraries, and museums in Hancock County. Location to be determined. This will be an opportunity to take a county-wide look at all the organizations that support genealogical research in our part of Maine. An event not to be missed!

**Hancock County Genealogical Society**  
**Income & Expense**  
**1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017**

**INFLOWS**

Dues	410.00
Bank Interest	<u>0.42</u>
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>410.42</b>

**OUTFLOWS**

Donation Ellsworth Public Lib. Help Purchase Printer	2,500.00
Donation Mark Honey Ancestry Subscription	299.00
Newsletter & Postage	25.00
Newsletter (Copy Card)	26.38
Postage	18.80
Web Domain Renewal	25.00
Web Site Hosting	<u>12.50</u>
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>2,906.68</b>
<b>NET OUTFLOW</b>	<b><u>\$2,496.26</u></b>

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 December 2017**

31 December 2016 Balance	\$4,649.17
01 Jan 17 – 31 Dec 2017 Net Outflow	<u>2,496.26</u>
<b>31 December 2017 Balance</b>	<b>\$2,152.91</b>

**Eastern Maine DIG (DNA Interest Group)**

DNA for genealogy? What test should I take? Which company should I test with? What do the results mean?

Beginning this year, the Ellsworth Public Library is sponsoring the Eastern Maine DIG (DNA Interest Group). Meetings will be held on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until noon in the Riverview Room and are free and open to anyone interested in DNA testing and research. There are no dues or officers, just a group of like-minded people sharing their DNA questions and experiences. Bring you successes, failures and questions to share with the group.

If you are on Facebook, join the MaineDIG Facebook Group for all the latest information on meetings and new developments.

For more information call Charlene Fox Clemons at the library 667-6363 or email: [cclemons@ellsworthlibrary.net](mailto:cclemons@ellsworthlibrary.net)

# By-Laws of The Hancock County Genealogical Society

Approved as amended Aug 20, 2005

**Note:** RED AND ALL CAPITAL LETTERS ARE PROPOSED ARTICLES TO BE APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING  
ALL BLACK PRINT ARE THE APPROVED 8-2-2005 BY LAWS

## ARTICLE 1 -NAME AND PURPOSE

The name of this organization, established in 1986, is “The Hancock County Genealogical Society.” Its purposes are: to promote an encourage interest in genealogy and family history pertaining to Hancock County; to assist family researchers; to collect and exchange genealogical information; and to assist the Ellsworth Public Library and other area non-profit organizations preserve and make available genealogical information for research by the public.

## ARTICLE 2 - AFFILIATION

The Society is a Chapter of the Maine Genealogical Society.

## ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Society is open to anyone upon payment of annual dues.

**ARTICLE 3.1 – MEMBERSHIP WILL BE FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR (JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31)**

## ARTICLE 4 - DUES

The amount of annual dues will be established by the Society as will the date of payment.

## ARTICLE 5 – OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of this Society shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting for a period of one year. The Officers shall perform those duties normally associated with each position and such additional duties as may be assigned by the membership.

Officers who are absent from three (3) or more consecutive monthly meeting may be replaced by majority vote of the Advisory Committee.

### ARTICLE 5.1 TERM LIMITS OF OFFICERS

THE OFFICERS MAY SERVE A MAXIMUM OF THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE ONE (1) YEAR TERMS. THE MEMBERSHIP MAY VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING TO WAIVE THIS ARTICLE IF THERE ARE NO OTHER CANDIDATES.

### ARTICLE 5.2 TERM OF OFFICE

THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR OFFICERS WILL BE FROM NOVEMBER TO NOVEMBER FOR A TOTAL OF TWELVE (12) MONTHS.

**ARTICLE 5.3. THE PRESIDENT OR VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE MAINE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. THE PRESIDENT OR VICE-PRESIDENT MAY BE REIMBURSED BY THE SOCIETY FOR MAINE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DUES WITH APPROVAL OF THE MEMBERSHIP AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING.**

### ARTICLE 5.4 TRANSFER OF SOCIETY PROPERTY

AT THE END OF THE ELECTED TERM, AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING, ALL OFFICERS WILL BRING ALL SOCIETY PROPERTY TO THE MEETING AND TRANSFER IT TO THE NEWLY-ELECTED OFFICERS.

### ARTICLE 5.5 TREASURER

THE TREASURER WILL BE REQUIRED TO TRANSFER ACCOUNT(S) TO THE NEW TREASURER WITHIN A TWO (2) WEEK PERIOD OR OTHER AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE NEWLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER. THE TREASURER SHALL WORK WITH THE NEWLY-ELECTED TREASURER FOR THE YEAR-END FISCAL YEAR REPORT.

#### **ARTICLE 6 – COMMITTEES**

Committees shall be formed as necessary and the chairs of such committees shall be elected at the Annual Meeting or upon formation of a new committee.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The President may convene, as needed, an Advisory Committee composed of the officers and the chairs of no more than three (3) other committees.

#### **ARTICLE 8 - VACANCIES**

Vacancies in any officer or chair of any committee shall be filled upon recommendation of the Advisory Committee and vote of the Membership.

#### **ARTICLE 9 - MEETINGS**

Meetings shall be held on a regular basis at such time and place as the membership shall decide. An annual meeting is required.

MEETINGS SHALL BE HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY AT THE ELLSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY, UNLESS POSTED ONE (1) MONTH IN ADVANCE IN THE NEWSLETTER AND MEMBERS NOTIFIED AT THE REGULAR MEETING THE MONTH BEFORE.

CANCELLATIONS OF MEETINGS SHALL BE POSTED ON FACEBOOK AND IN LOCAL MEDIA BY 8 AM THE DATE OF THE MEETING. IN THE EVENT THAT THE ELLSWORTH LIBRARY IS CLOSED DUE TO WEATHER OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES, THE MEETING IS AUTOMATICALLY CANCELED.

#### **ARTICLE 10 - AMENDMENTS**

These by-laws may be amended by the membership provided that the proposed changes are published in the newsletter immediately preceding the voting date.

#### **ARTICLE 11 - ANNUAL MEETING**

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD EACH YEAR IN NOVEMBER.

#### **ARTICLE 12 - SPEAKERS – TRAVEL PAY**

SPEAKERS SCHEDULED BY THE SOCIETY MAY RECEIVE A STIPEND OF UP TO \$25.00 MAXIMUM TO HELP PAY FOR TRAVEL UNLESS THE MEMBERSHIP AGREES TO OVERRIDE A SET STIPEND. THIS SHALL APPLY TO NON-MEMBERS OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY. MEMBERS OF THE HANCOCK COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY STIPEND.

### ***Hancock Historians***

We are doing a pretty good job of collecting copies of our missing *Hancock Historians*. We are now only missing copies of the following editions. If you happen to have any of them, we'd love to borrow them to make copies and put them on our website: [hancockgenealogy.me](http://hancockgenealogy.me).

1997 - May, July, September

1998 - January

1999 - January & November

2004 - March & July

2006 - March, May, & July

## **From Our New President: Ralph Harris -**

First, our many THANKS to Patti Leland for all she's done as president of the Hancock County Genealogical Society over the past 15 years. Here are but a few of the many accomplishments that Patti has made over the years: working on genealogy fairs, keep up our Facebook presence, and filling in as newsletter editor. On behalf of the entire HCGS membership, I wish to express our thanks to Patti for her help and devotion to HCGS.



I'm excited about becoming HCGS president. When I got involved in genealogy about 10 years ago, I never dreamed I would be in this position. I love this beautiful state of Maine and doing genealogy and woodworking. What a great opportunity for me to work with the membership to guide us to achieve many accomplishments in the years ahead.

I have a few goals in mind for the membership and myself, and will be bringing them before the membership and board of directors for consideration.

Let me tell you a little about myself. I was raised in Hermon and resided there until 1996 when I moved to Charlotte, North Carolina. I later returned to Gorham, Maine and lived in Augusta until 2012. During this time, I was employed by Hannaford Bros. as a meat/seafood cutter, assistant manager and meat manager. In 2009, I was injured and retired. I now split my time between Carmel, Maine and Fort Myers, Florida.

From 1971 to 1996 I served as a volunteer firefighter, starting out as a Junior department member, then serving in the ranks of Secretary, Treasurer, Captain, and Chief. In 1975, I went into the Senior department and held the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain, and training advisor for the Junior department for about 10 years. During this time, I was also on the Ambulance and Rescue Squad for 11 years as an EMT attendant.

I held a couple of part-time jobs in 1987-1988, working as dispatcher for the Hampden Police Department and as a cashier and stock clerk at a local store. I was elected to the Hermon Town Council where I served from 1986-1988.

As far as education goes. Graduated from Hermon High School in 1975, where I was involved in the business and industrial arts programs. I have attended UMO, UMA, UMG, EMVTI, EMTC, Husson and the National Fire Academy in Maryland and have also taken several Adult Education classes in the following areas: Fire Fighting, Photography, Business Accounting, Maine Real Estate Brokerage, Welding, Plumbing, Electrical Engineering, and Woodworking.

From 1975 to 1997, I held memberships in the National Federation of Firefighters, Penobscot County Firefighters Association, and the Maine State Federation of Firefighters.

I have been a member of the following organizations: the International Freelance Photographers Organization since 1986, the Oxford Club Chairman's Circle in Baltimore, Maryland in 2001, and the Carmel Historical Society since 2014.

Among the projects I am now working on are family genealogy and the digitization of town reports, and I will soon start digitizing the Carmel High School Yearbooks for DigitalMaine.com.

Awards that I have received include the Junior Firefighters Excellence Award, 2nd place in the USA in 1987, from the Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Service, advising and training the Junior Department, and Outstanding advertising in the New England area for the Classic Chevy's of Maine, for an antique car show with all proceeds donated to Ronald MacDonald House in Bangor.

My hobbies are woodworking, travel, investments, camping, and being outside and, while trapped inside, doing genealogy and research. I am currently a member of the Maine Genealogical Society, the Penobscot County Genealogical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and the Lee County Genealogical Society in Fort Myers, Florida.

I will hold an open door policy to all of the membership of HCGS. Please email me at [CVFD4208@msn.com](mailto:CVFD4208@msn.com) or call me at 207-242-5533 to voice your concerns.

## **President Harris Reports on the Maine Genealogical Society Board Meeting in Augusta on Jan. 27**

On Jan. 27, I attended the Maine Genealogy Society Board of Directors meeting in Augusta. There were 19 in attendance including representatives from all but Aroostook County. All members were approved for the Board of Directors. The Events Committee recommendations for the Saturday, April 21 Writing Family History workshop at the Augusta Elks Club were approved. Admission for MGS members: \$45.00, non-members: \$55.00. Key speaker will be Joe Anderson. Watch the MGS website for application forms and more information which will be posted by early February.

We also discussed speakers to represent MGS in Nashua, NH at next year's NEHGS conference.

The web masters of MGS are working on the slow response of the MGS website, and it should be resolved soon. And problems experienced with the website, please contact the webmaster.

Washington County was accepted as a new chapter of MGS.

A new committee of Chapter Presidents was formed to discuss how the MGS can help support their Chapters. Please send any comments or concerns to me.

## **New Books in the Whitmore Collection**

The following items have been added to the Whitmore Collection since December 1, 2017:

1. *International Vital Records Handbook - 7th edition* by Thomas Jay Kemp
2. *Family Tree Cemetery Guide: how to find, record and preserve your ancestors' graves* by Joy Neighbors
3. *Vital Records of Addison, Maine 1850 - 1892* compiled by Angela M. Foster
4. *Vital Records of Boothbay and Southport, Maine* compiled by Marlene A. Groves
5. *From Water to War: a Murch Family History* with the supplement *Chronology of Immigrant Arrivals* compiled and written by Dana Paul Murch

## Internet Research Sites

### The Grand Lodge of Maine

In Maine, when a man petitioned to join Freemasonry, a three-by-five membership card was created. Below you will find links to the nearly 200,000 of them that record those deceased members who joined between 1820 and 1995. There are also cards for some who joined prior to 1820 before Maine became a state and its own Grand Lodge was formed.

<https://www.mainemason.org/genealogy-family-information/>

### Early Vital Records of Massachusetts, 1600-1850

The Massachusetts Vital Records Project, in an ongoing effort, presents here the transcriptions of over 1,500,000 records from over 150 of those towns. Indexed by town and by surname, the transcriptions provide genealogists with an easy to use interface to search for their roots in Massachusetts. For proper documentation, the project also provides the images of the books from which the transcriptions are done. <http://ma-vitalrecords.org/>

### Index to Deaths and Marriages in the *Ellsworth American*, 1851-1891

The Digital Maine website now has an index to marriages and deaths published in the *Ellsworth American* between 1851 and 1891. They are grouped as follows:

Deaths and Marriages as Published in the Ellsworth Herald / Ellsworth American 1851 to 1864  
Deaths and Marriages as Published in the Eastern Freeman April 22, 1853 through July 28, 1854  
Deaths and Marriages as Published in the Ellsworth American 1866 thru 1874  
Deaths and Marriages as Published in the Ellsworth American 1875 thru 1883  
Deaths and Marriages as Published in the Ellsworth American 1884 thru 1891

The information can be accessed at: [http://digitalmaine.com/ellsworth\\_american\\_indexes/](http://digitalmaine.com/ellsworth_american_indexes/)

## Queries:

**Dottie England** from Bangor writes: "I am having difficulty finding records on my great-grandfather, **Emery Almon Smith's** (1851-1930) parents. I have his father listed as William Smith of Ellsworth, 1807-about 1854, according to censuses. Possibly married to Betsy (Elizabeth) Herrick, and I am stuck there. I can't find anything else." You may contact her at: [dottiejo@outlook.com](mailto:dottiejo@outlook.com).

**Wayne Smith** from Surry writes: "I am working on the family of **Benjamin S. Brooks**, shoemaker of Ellsworth, b. 1818-1820 in English-speaking Canada, and his wife Christiana, b. 1820-1821 in Maine. They had six children, all born in Maine, probably Ellsworth): Caroline E. (1842-), Harriett E. "Hattie" (1844-1922) who married William Bartlett Wallace, William W. (1848-), Angelia Maria (1851-1926) who married George Willis Ray of Surry, Ada (1854-), and John S. (1855-). I'm looking for both ancestry and descendants." You may contact him at: [wayne@mrlanguage.com](mailto:wayne@mrlanguage.com).

# Hancock County Genealogical Society

## 2018 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 2018: \$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. 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](mailto:hcgsmembership@yahoo.com)

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