

Special points of interest:

- Next meeting: Wednesday, June 18th
- Book review: Online Roots
- Society purchases *Reading Early American Handwriting* Video
- Upcoming New England Conference Information

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## Preservation of Family History Documents with Bill Cook, Local History/Special Collections Librarian

**Wednesday, June 18th, 6:00 pm**  
**Lecture Hall, Bangor Public Library**

Are you fortunate enough to have old love letters written between your grandparents? Or maybe letters from afar to home during wartimes? Maybe even an old journal, diary or family bible. Preserving those special and historical papers for future generations is a genealogist's responsibility. But how is this most effectively done without bringing in a professional archivist?

We know that storage factors, such as heat and humidity (and yes, even insects), can raise havoc with papers and books. And we've all seen products advertised as "archival." But what does that mean beyond a higher price? The composition of paper has changed over the years, from "rag" paper to the now-familiar "wood pulp" paper. What paper is best to use for long term retention? And what about those plastic sleeves that we purchase to further protect our documents.

Bill Cook, a familiar face in the Bangor Room, is well versed in archival storage. He will share his knowledge and experience with us. The goal is to maximize preservation while staying within a reasonable budget.

Bring a pen to jot down a few notes (or is it actually better to use a pencil?). Hmm.

There will be ample time for questions, so make sure to bring yours.

### President's Message

Summertime may actually be arriving. Is it possible we've had a couple days with no rain?

With summertime comes a chance to take our genealogical research out of doors. As many of you know, I have a fondness for cemeteries (coffee is not my only addiction!). To that end, I am working on pulling together a special hands-on demonstration of gravestone rubbing which will be held in a local cemetery on a Saturday in either July or August.

Additionally, make sure to stay in touch with us over the summer. In determining our meeting calendar last year, we had elected to meet every month, recognizing that a few of our members deserted their beloved Penobscot County for warmer climes in Florida during the winter. Although our meetings will be held on the usual 3rd Wednesday, we will not be meeting at the Bangor Public Library in July or August due to their summer hours. We have a couple interesting options that we are working on.

Keep the comments coming. E-mail me with any questions, concerns or recommendations [DWMower@aol.com].

*Dale*



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## Queries

Does anyone know where one can locate **Passenger Lists** from the **Bangor Custom House, ca 1840-1850**? These would be especially useful in trying to trace Irish families starting here in Bangor. If so, please contact Phil Getchell [e-mail: towncrier2@yahoo.com]

**Bryant/Hamilton** Looking for info on the family of David BRYANT Jr and Mary HAMILTON of Enfield/Passadumkeag. I am trying to make a connection with David BRYANT and his son William Cullen BRYANT (wife Angeline COOMBS). David BRYANT and family moved to Minnesota after the Civil War. Susan Wojtowicz [e-mail: fabesbabe@nyc.rr.com]

**Call** Seeking info about my grandparents, John Francis and Sarah E. (SHAIN/SHANE) CALL, and their ancestry. John was born 1863 in Vanceboro, killed by a train in Bangor in 1912. Sarah was supposedly born in 1867 in Rollendam Station, NB. Both are buried in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Bangor. [e-mail: GNickIV@aol.com]

**Cross** Looking for information on Carlton Bernard CROSS, b. in Bangor on 11 July 1850 or 1852. I believe his father was Charles CROSS and mother is unknown. Any info would be appreciated. Joan O'Leary [e-mail: oirish@attbi.com]

**Hammond** Seeking info on Joseph HAMMOND (b. abt 1810) and his wife Sophronia CLARK (b. abt 1813). In 1860 census of Hermon, they list the family with children. Am seeking obits or marriage or birth records. They had a son Charles H. HAMMOND who was b. abt 1835 in Maine, he married in Nebraska. Ken Deckard [e-mail: KDecford@aol.com]

**Hasey** Researching the descendants of Ebenezer and Lydia HASEY. He was b. 27 Feb 1736 in Chelsea, Massachusetts. I have identified 5 children, all born in Chelsea—Abigail (b. 1757), Ebenezer (b. 1758), Hannah (b. 1759), William (b. 1761) and John (b. 1763). William moved to Bangor, m. Prudence WEBSTER, dau of Andrew and Martha (CRANE) WEBSTER in Bangor in Nov 1787. I am descended through William & Prudence. Trying to determine if other children moved to Bangor area as well. Any clues would be welcome. Dale Mower [e-mail: DWMower@aol.com]

**Hudson/True** Seeking info on any children of Kenneth P. HUDSON, married to Mabel TRUE in Bangor on 4 July 1936. Believe that there were 2 sons. Any info would be appreciated. Corinne Schultz [e-mail: corinneschultz@attbi.com]

**Knowlen** Looking for record of my ggggrandfather, Thomas KNOWLEN who bought land on the Condukeag river in 1800 and first son John was b. in Levant 1801; haven't found any birth records yet. Aubrey Knowlen [e-mail: aknowlen@maine.rr.com]

**MacLean** Looking for descendants of Blair Fielding & Lottie MacLEAN. I have sons Donald, Frederick and Norman. I believe there may have been a sister, Sandra J. SPEAKER or KNOWLES. Frederick lived and is buried in Old Town; Norman at Middleboro. I cannot seem to locate Donald or Sandra. Would appreciate any help as I am trying to complete this line for their grandmother Annetta Currie Dykeman. Lorraine [e-mail: taffyholder@aol.com]

**Oakes** Searching for the parents of Joseph OAKES, b. 28 Sept. 1815 in Hancock, d. 22 July 1881 in Brewer. He married Margaret H. HODGDON of Nobleborough. Their children were George Harrison OAKES, Joseph Dudley OAKES, Sophia OAKES and Clara A. C. OAKES. Atherton OAKES b. 30 May 1765, d. 19 May 1842 in Brewer. Atherton lived in or near Hancock in 1815 and sold his land to Joseph in 1842. Atherton and his 2nd wife Hannah BLAISDELL are buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in Brewer, as are Joseph and his family. I suspect that Atherton and Hannah are Joseph's parents but would like proof of relationship. Mary Mossman, 60 Montgomery St., Bangor ME 04401 [e-mail: MaryHSSC@yahoo.com]

**Stevens** Seeking the parents of Amasa T. STEVENS (b. 15 Apr 1814 or 1816 in Hudson; d. 15 Dec 1856 in Glenburn). 1850 Kirkland (Hudson) census lists him, as well as Edwan (12), Emily (11), Rufus (7) and Caroline (6). The Rufus listed in the census was b. 20 July 1841 and d. 12 June 1927 in Old Town. These children were from a 1st marriage to Almira LANCASTER, b. Glenburn. Amasa T. STEVENS' 2nd marriage was to Judith ROW(E) JONES (previously married to Rufus Jones) on 24 Sep 1854. She was b. 9 Feb 1816 in Moscow, Maine; d. 14 Oct 1900 in Bangor. They had one child, Amasa Taylor STEVENS, b. 1 Jul 1855 in Glenburn, d. 19 Oct 1898 in Bangor. He married Elizabeth P. FOWLER, b. 6 Apr 1857 in Cardville (Greenbush), d. 29 Mar 1932 in Bangor. This STEVENS family may be connected with the STEVENS that lived in the Exeter/Corinth area. Laura Gould [e-mail: Geno3@hotmail.com]

**Washburn/Farnham** Looking for information on Edward WASHBURN (1786-1872) and Betsey FARNHAM (1797-1887) who married 5 Apr 1814 in Sangerville. Both are buried in Corinna Center Cemetery, Corinna. They moved from Guilford sometime between 1850-1870 to live near their youngest daughter, Achsay L. (WASHBURN) PHILBRICK, wife of Jacob PHILBRICK. Edward & Betsey had abt 11 children, but the only names I know are Ira, Mary, Jane N. and Achsay L. I'm trying to find evidence that Edward is the son of Stephen WASHBURN (1736-1812) of New Gloucester. Amy Maceo Wooten [e-mail: maceo4@msn.com]

## Sites to Surf & Genealogical Highlights Across the State

We're going to combine these two sections this month as we list some newly revised USGenWeb pages that are definitely worth a look. Although these are for non-Penobscot County towns, some are close to our area and all contain some genealogical information. They are:

Winterport Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/winterport.html>

Frankfort Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/frankfort.html>

Prospect Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/prospect.html>

Blue Hill Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/bluehill.html>

Brooksville Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/brooksville.html>

Anson Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/anson.html>

Madison Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/madison.html>

Norridgewock Genealogy and History  
<http://www.mdwsweb.com/megenweb/norridgewock.html>

Additionally, take a surf over to the Genealogy Site for Andover, Maine, which contains births, deaths, marriages, obituaries, cemetery inscriptions, photos, graduates and other historical information. It is located at <http://andovermaine.com>.

## On Dale's Bookcase

This month I defer to a recent book review by our newest member, Dick Eastman.

### Online Roots: a Book Review

This week I had a chance to review a new book, entitled *Online Roots, How to Discover Your Family's History & Heritage with the Power of the Internet*. This book is one of the new series from the National Genealogical Society published by Rutledge Hill Press, Nashville, Tennessee.

Author Pamela Boyer Porter has undertaken a big task with this book in trying to describe the hundreds of thousands of genealogy sources on the Internet. She has done this well. She hasn't actually listed all the sources. Instead, she describes in considerable detail how you can search to find the sources of interest to you. While she does list the major online repositories, the focus is always on how to search for yourself and especially WHERE to search.

The chapters in this book include:

1. Getting Your Feet Wet (an introduction to the Internet)
2. Doing the Right Thing (describing the need for source citations, verification of data and much more)
3. Wading In Deeper
4. Finding People in the Modern Era (Social Security records, telephone books, etc.)
5. Revealing Family Sources
6. Acquiring Vital Records
7. Finding Ancestors in the Census or Other Lists
8. Visiting the Courthouse
9. Coming to America: Immigration, Naturalization and Ethnic Sources
10. Finding Clues to Military Service

11. Discovering Ancestors at Work and Worship
12. Finding Ancestors in Unusual Places (lists of poor, orphans, insane, divorced and in criminal records)
13. Using Libraries and Archives Effectively
14. Putting Your Ancestors in Context
15. Seeing Your Ancestors – in Pictures and in Print
16. Sharing with Others
17. Now That You're Hooked...

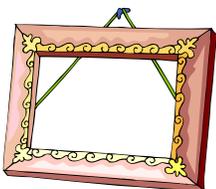
The book ends with the National Genealogical Society's *Guidelines for Using Records, Repositories and Libraries*, followed by the NGS *Guidelines for Publishing Web Pages on the Internet*. The book also has a glossary of terms and an index.

Despite the book's title, this is not a book that focuses only on online genealogy research. Instead, it is a book about how to conduct genealogy research in the age of the Internet. It covers both online and offline uses. For instance, the chapter on "Visiting the Courthouse" describes in-person visits, not virtual visits. However, that chapter describes how to find the correct courthouse by doing some online research in advance of your visit. By using the Internet first, you save wasted time and thereby increase your research productivity.

Pam Porter has a winner here. *Online Roots, How to Discover Your Family's History & Heritage with the Power of the Internet* contains 310 pages of information of value to the American genealogist in an online world. I'd strongly recommend it to newcomers researching U.S. ancestry. It does not, however, contain much information about other countries.

*The previous article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.RootsForum.com>.*

## Photo of Charles Stone Jr. Needs to be Reunited with Family



We received the following correspondence from Marge Rice of Joliet, Illinois:

"I recently purchased a ca. 1890 Cabinet Portrait of "Charles Stone Jr.", who looks to be about ten years old. The photo was taken by **Gilmore Photo Artist, Old Town, Maine**. It is my wish to reunite this "rescued" photo with the descendants or family members, for only my costs, and to that end, I solicit your assistance and/or advice. This is a grand old photo and one that should be

with the Stone family instead of sitting in a dusty antique shop in Waukesha, Wisconsin (which is where I bought in March). Look forward to hearing from someone who might be interested in the photo.

If you can offer any assistance or information to Marge, her e-mail address is [margerice@prodigy.net](mailto:margerice@prodigy.net).

## Reading Early American Handwriting

As announced at our May meeting, the Society has purchased a copy of the VHS tape by Kip Sperry "Reading Early American Handwriting." The tape will be available for members to borrow.

Topics covered include the history of quill pens, inks, and paper; a detailed explanation of each letter of the alphabet; sample historic documents and how to decipher them, including the date; and how to find historic documents on the Internet.



If you'd like to get on the list to borrow this tape, e-mail [mepcgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mepcgs@yahoo.com).

## New Members

Art Blue  
240 French St, Bangor, Maine 04401

Ellen Campbell  
783 Eastern Ave, Holden, Maine 04429

Dick Eastman  
55 Brigham St, Northborough, Massachusetts 01532

Peg Hanson  
311 Maine Rd South, Hampden, Maine 04444

Frances Martin  
7927 Limoges Dr. S., Jacksonville, Florida 32210

## Penobscot County Genealogical Society

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We're on the web!  
[www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs)

### Officers

President: Dale Mower  
Vice-President: Annette Roberts  
Treasurer: Phil Getchell  
Secretary: Beth Davis  
Newsletter Chair: Patti Mower  
Program Chair: John Nelligan  
Nominating Chair: Janiece Enriquez



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## Educational Opportunities...

Maine Genealogical Society's Annual Conference will be held on Saturday, September 6th in Fairfield, Maine.

"Telling Their Stories" is the theme, and Patricia Law Hatcher, CG, FASG is the featured speaker. Ms. Hatcher is a nationally recognized author and lecturer.

Not only will she be discussing what it takes to produce a quality Family History, but she will give ideas about how to "Turn Paper into People—Adding Context." Databases and family group sheets encourage us to treat our ancestral families as data—just names, dates and places. But they were people, real people. How can we share that in our family histories?

For more info, call Dale at (207) 942-9375 or visit

[www.rootsweb.com/~memgs/MaineGS.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~memgs/MaineGS.htm)

The New England Regional Genealogical Conference will be held in Falmouth, Massachusetts, November 6-9, 2003.

The schedule promises a wide array of programs and speakers.

This is a great opportunity for a late-fall vacation on the Cape.

For conference schedule and more, visit the official website at [www.rootsweb.com/~manergc](http://www.rootsweb.com/~manergc).

## and Opportunities for Involvement

Are you enjoying being a part of the Penobscot County Genealogical Society and would like to be a little more involved in the Society?

The Executive Committee is looking for a few good people, in particular:

**Cemetery Project Coordinator:** This position would assist in obtaining locations and directions to cemeteries in Penobscot County towns, along with contact people at town offices, etc. Also, coordinate volunteers willing to find graves, take photos of gravestones, etc. for out-of-area researchers contacting the Society.

**Research Help Coordinator:** This position would be responsible for directing requests for look-ups and research to the appropriate members volunteering to do research. The ultimate goal of the Executive Committee is to establish a committee of volunteers to help with research requests.