



Special points of interest:

- Next meeting: Wednesday, April 21st
- MGS 2004 Annual Conference Announcement
- The Counties of Maine
- Cemetery Project Update

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# Penobscot Roots & Connections

PENOBSCOT COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Editor: Patti Mower, 185 Norfolk Street, Bangor ME 04401 Phone: (207) 942-9375 E-Mail: Kruznmama@aol.com

## Maine Families in 1790

Presented by

Gerald & Janice Gower, Maine Genealogical Society

Wednesday, April 21st, 6:00 pm

Children's Story Room, Bangor Public Library

A look at the Maine Families in 1790 project of the Maine Genealogical Society, currently an 8-volume publication – a well respected and well-received series, an integral part of Maine genealogical research. The Gowers will give a history of the project, it's goal and will give advice on writing and submitting a profile for Volume 9.

Janice has completed over 33 geneagraphical sketches for Volumes 6-9, starting with her own ancestors, continuing to extended family and is now working on non-family sketches.



### President's Message

Well, I did it. I've made my first trek of the season to a cemetery. I figured the snow was pretty much gone in Bangor, but I found that in cemeteries in outlying communities, there's still snow! But it was a great trip as Patti was able to photograph some gravestones for our newest member-to-be, Sherry Larson, who lives in Idaho. You can read her comments on page 3. A couple comments of my own.

First, it's great to see a well kept cemetery. I had not had the opportunity to visit the Boutelle Cemetery in Corinth before, but was pleased with the apparent upkeep it has received. The stones we were photographing were from the mid-1800s and the epitaphs were still clearly visible and legible. Many of you know that I have a love of old cemeteries (in fact I am currently serving as Vice-President of the Maine Old Cemetery Association), and it disturbs me when I see a cemetery that has fallen into disrepair. With town budget cuts, cemetery upkeep is often times near the head of the list of services to be cut, which I find so disrespectful to the memories of our forebears.

Particularly when you think of the service, and in some cases life itself, that was given to the town or our country. So make sure that your town, wherever you live, is providing the type of care we all would like to see our direct ancestor's gravesites receiving.

Just as heart warming was the reward of being able to help someone at a long distance see a piece of their past. Giving up a little time... sharing...that's what genealogists are all about.

See the update on our Cemetery Project on page 4. Theresa Brown has done an excellent job pulling together much of the information we have thus far. But please, look at the information we have on our website and see if you have any information you can add.

*Dale*

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Queries	2
MGS 2004 Conference	2
Accuracy of Documents	2
Counties of Maine	3
Andrea C. Hawkes	3
From the Mailbox	3
New Members	3
Cemetery Project	4

## Queries

E-Mail your queries to: [mepcgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mepcgs@yahoo.com)

**BURRILL** I am going on really sketchy info currently, but found out that my 3rd great grandparents were from Maine. My aunt remembers the family always saying they were from Corinna. I was able to read a letter sent to whom I believe is the grandmother of my great-grandmother, it is signed S. J. BURRILL. The letter gives condolences to her on the loss of her son and congratulations on the birth of her second son William. I believe the letter was written by Emilie, and they mention the first son as being John. William BURRILL who is on the 1920 and 1930 census stated that his father was from Maine. John S. BURRILL and Ida K. BATES were my 2nd great grandparents, both born in Pennsylvania to my knowledge.

Patty Frandsen [e-mail: [patricia.frandsen@verizon.net](mailto:patricia.frandsen@verizon.net)]

**TUCKER/HEARD** I am looking for the ancestry of John TUCKER, b. 8 Feb 1761 in possibly Kittery, Maine and d. 1847 in Dexter, Maine. He was a Revolutionary War soldier and married Phebe HEARD/HURD in 1781 in Dover, New Hampshire. She was b. 10 May 1761. He was the second settler of the town of Dexter about 1802. They had 14 children, whose births are recorded in Dexter vital records (1782-1804). The HEARD/HURD Genealogy lists 2 Phebe HEARDS b. in 1761 and I'm unsure which Phebe married John TUCKER

Peter Smith [e-mail: [Pmsmi2002@aol.com](mailto:Pmsmi2002@aol.com)]



## MGS 2004 Annual Conference News

Penobscot County Genealogical Society is proud to host the 2004 Maine Genealogical Society's Annual Conference. This is the premier genealogical event in the state and it is an honor to have it held in our area.

So set aside the date—**Saturday, September 11, 2004**. Hermon High School will be the site of this conference.

The featured speaker will be Ann Smith Lainhart, author of *Digging for Genealogical Treasure in New England Town Records*, and more recently *A Researcher's Guide to Boston*. In addition, there will be breakout sessions with some of the more local presenters touching on a host of topics. Also on hand will be a good variety of vendors and displays of organizations related to the genealogical arena.

This is a great opportunity to pick up some research tips and ideas and meet fellow genealogists. If you have not attended a conference in the past, this is a great opportunity to check one out—and you might walk away with one of the many door prizes!

More details will follow, but set aside that date! Let's take this opportunity to show the State what a great Society we have here in Penobscot County!!

## The Accuracy of Source Documents

The "On the Lighter Side of Research" article last month brought to mind Dale's favorite source document blunder.

The 2nd individual listed on page 24 of the 1860 Census for Corinth, Maine appears to be Joseph T. Dexter, 12 years old, male. These children are listed in the household of Daniel B. & Mary Dexter, recorded on the previous page of the census. A review of this household would reveal that this is in fact, Dale's 2nd-great-grandmother, Josephine T. Dexter, born 1848! Wonder what she would think of this. . .

3	4	5	6
Sarah H. Dexter	18	7	
Joseph T. "	12	m	
Book K. "	16	m	
19 Daniel Sweet	57	m	

## The Counties of Maine—Part 3

Information taken from Maine Register 1966-67 and  
 "Maine Towns and Counties; What was What, Where and When"  
 by Michael J. Dennis (published 19810)

### **PENOBSCOT**

**Organized 01 April 1816**

**County Seat: Bangor**

Incorporated from Hancock County. Part taken for Piscataquis County in 1838, for Aroostook County in 1839, and again for Aroostook County in 1843.

Records for Penobscot County are located in Bangor. They include parts of Aroostook and Piscataquis Counties. Records for Penobscot County prior to 1814 are located in Ellsworth (Hancock County).

### **WALDO**

**Organized 03 July 1827**

**County Seat: Belfast**

Incorporated from Hancock and Kennebec Counties. Waldo County was enlarged 22 January 1828, and then part was taken for Knox County in 1860.

Records for Waldo County are located in Belfast. They include records for parts of Knox County as well. Pre-1827 records could be located in either Ellsworth (Hancock County), Augusta (Kennebec County 1799-1827 period), or Wiscasset.

### **PISCATAQUIS**

**Organized 30 April 1838**

**County Seat: Dover-Foxcroft**

Incorporated from Somerset and Penobscot Counties. Sixty townships were set off to Aroostook 12 March 1844

There are some copies of early records in Dover-Foxcroft, but most will be found in Penobscot and Somerset Counties. Very early records related to Piscataquis County towns may be found in either Augusta or Wiscasset.

### **FRANKLIN**

**Organized 09 May 1838**

**County Seat: Farmington**

Incorporated from Kennebec, Oxford and Somerset Counties. Records prior to 1883 may be found in Augusta, South Paris or Skowhegan. Very early records (those prior to the 1709-1809 time frame) are in Wiscasset.

### **AROOSTOOK**

**Organized 01 May 1839**

**County Seat: Houlton**

Incorporated from Penobscot and Washington Counties. Enlarged from Penobscot County in 1843 and again in 1844 from Piscataquis and Somerset Counties.

Early Aroostook records are in Machias. Very early records, if they exist, would be in either Augusta, Ellsworth and Wiscasset.



## Andrea Constantine Hawkes

On Thursday, April 8th, at 6:00 p.m., Andrea C. Hawkes, author of *The Same Great Struggle: The History of the Vickery Family of Unity, Maine 1634-1997* will be speaking at the Bangor Public Library as part of the "Meet the Author" series.

Ms. Hawkes, an educator, scholar and museum curator from Arlington, Massachusetts, will speak on her work; which was drawn in part from the extensive genealogical research of the late Bangor Historian **James B. Vickery III**. Her work tells the tale a remarkable family from it's immigrant ancestors George and Rebecca (Phippen) Vickery who arrived separately in America during the mid to late 1630s.

*The Same Great Struggle* should definitely be on the reading list of genealogists, a great example of relating family history, merging genealogical facts and figures with social context of the times.

## From the Mailbox . . .

I'd like to share the following comment we received as a result of our website because it brings home some of the benefit our group is providing to long-distance researchers trying to make their connection to Penobscot County.

*"First of all, thank you very much for your site! I recently found several of my ancestors on your website under the Boutelle Cemetery (Corinth) information. I was browsing around the website and printed out all the old newsletters and read them. You guys do a great job! I think it's great that people would take the time to write all the information down in the cemeteries for those of us that are so far away."*

*Sherry from Post Falls, Idaho*

## New Members



### **Dianne Campagna, York Maine**

Researching: Daley/Daly, Dowling,  
Kenade/Kanade/Kennedy, Batchelder

### **Thomas Coleman, Dedham Maine**

Researching: Coleman, Nelligan, Colson

### **Kathryn G. Sprague Cook, Amherst Maine**

Researching: Sprague, D'Amico

### **Sherry Larson, Post Falls Idaho**

Researching: Wyman, Folley/Foley/Folly,  
Wiggins, Tuttle

### **Glenis House Sherwood, Hermon Maine**

Researching: Kerswell, Caswell, Brawn,  
Sherwood, Atwood, Ginn

**Penobscot County Genealogical Society**

185 Norfolk Street  
Bangor ME 04401

Phone: 207-942-9375  
E-Mail: mepcgs@yahoo.com  
On the web: www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs

Officers

President:: Dale Mower  
Vice-President: Annette Roberts  
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## The Cemetery Project—An Update

The original goal of “ The Cemetery Project” that was set out in January 2003 was to begin compiling a database of all the cemeteries in Penobscot County, both their name and location. By gathering this information and making it available on the Internet, we would be providing a service to members who may want to go “cemetery hopping” to try to find an ancestor’s grave in an unfamiliar town. As we all know, often times smaller cemeteries may be “hidden” on old dirt roads, out of sight and well hidden.

With the recent update to our website, we have added all the information we currently have available on all the Penobscot County cemeteries. Please take a few minutes to visit our project pages and let us know if you can add any addresses, contact information or information to any of cemeteries. Also, let us know if you would like to “adopt” a town or cemetery (responding to any queries or requests for gravestone photos). E-Mail: mepcgs@yahoo.com

## Taconnett Genealogy Library Holds Their First Genealogy Fair

The Taconnett Genealogical Society, our sister group in the Waterville area, will hold a genealogy fair on Saturday, June 19, 2004, from 9:00 am—3:00 pm., at the Taconnett Genealogy Library in Winslow.

This is a great opportunity to take advantage of materials and information that others are willing to share. They would like you to join them and enjoy a relaxing day devoted to researching and networking.

More info will be included in the next newsletter or you may call (207) 873-5590

