



**Special points of interest:**

- PCGS to Celebrate it's 2nd Birthday
- Read Member Spotlight
- MGS Conference hosted by PCGS Declared a Success
- PCGS to Man Booth at Bangor Mall on November 7th

## President's Message

Wow! It's hard to believe that we're 2 years old!! It seems like just yesterday we were holding the organizational meeting to see if there was enough interest in starting a genealogy group in the Bangor area. Today, we have over 160 members, from not only Maine but 19 other states and Guam as well! At our October meeting, we will be celebrating our birthday and the accomplishments we have made so far.

Plans are underway to make the 2004-05 year just as exciting. You'll find details for a variety of programs and plans throughout this newsletter. The only major change will be with the newsletter, which is changing to a quarterly publication. On page 3 you will find details for the next three membership meetings. Make sure to mark your calendars! Also, with the quarterly format, we want to include more information about our members and what they are working on. You'll see a great article in this newsletter from member Terri Weed Cormier. Please consider writing up a brief article on a family history project or problem you are working with. Through this sharing, it will help us to get to know one another a little better!

I'm continually reviewing what we have going and making sure that we are meeting the needs of our membership. If you have any ideas, concerns, criticisms or thoughts to share to help make Penobscot County Genealogical Society better, please take a couple minutes and share them with me.

*Dale*

## September Meeting Recap Dr. Fessler a Huge Hit!

Last month, the membership in attendance elected a new slate of officers for the 2004-2005 membership year. Those elected:  
**President: Dale Mower**  
**Vice-Pres: Annette Roberts**  
**Secretary: Jacque Rump**  
**Treasurer: Phil Getchell**  
**Programs: John Nelligan**  
**Newsletter: Patti Mower**  
**Research: John Albertini**  
**At-Large: Celia Gray**

Dr. Gary Fessler shared a history of the bagpipe and illustrated the different styles of bagpipes. He then performed a sampling of

music for the group. He was well received and hopefully we can have him return in the future.



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## Meet Your Executive Committee

### **PRESIDENT Dale Mower**

Dale is, by occupation, an accountant, being part-owner and CFO of Creative Print Services, a business forms distributorship in Bangor. He lives in Bangor, is married to fellow PCGS member Patti and the father of 3 children. Dale has been a genealogy addict for four years. His interest began when his mother-in-law passed away in August, 2000; at which time the family realized that not much was known of her heritage and ancestry. His research touches on English, Scottish, Irish and French-Canadian roots. His focus currently is on the remaining numerous brick walls as well as researching historical context relating to Patti's 2nd great-grandmother in expectation of writing a book about that individual and her descendants. Dale is the 6th (and last) generation of Mowers to live on the family farm in Bangor, so his roots are solidly in Penobscot county, his ancestors located mainly in Bangor and Glenburn. The family names in his pedigree are Vickery, Richardson, Eastman, Gould, Gibbs, Webster, Hasey, Terrill, Estabrook, Grant and Dow. Dale is actively involved in several genealogical organizations besides his involvement with PCGS, which he was instrumental in founding. He currently serves as 2nd VP of Maine Genealogical Society, VP of MOCA, Webmaster of Wassebec Genealogical Society, USGenWeb Volunteer for the Town of Greene, Maine. He is also a member of Hancock County Genealogical Society, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, NEHGS, NGS and the Association for Gravestone Studies.

### **VICE PRESIDENT Annette Roberts**

Annette Flynn Roberts, is originally from South Portland, Maine. She has been married to Bob for nearly 36 years and have no children. They have lived in Glenburn for almost 31 of those years. Annette has been a teacher in Bangor for 36 years, currently teaching second grade at Fruit Street School in Bangor. Prior to teaching 2nd grade for 22 years, she taught special education for 14 years. Annette has been involved in genealogy for the last 6 years, although there was an interest much earlier that was only in the question stage.

### **TREASURER Phil Getchell**

An Orono, Maine, native, Phil has been involved in genealogical research for about 16 years. He is a volunteer at the Bangor Public Library, a position which he gladly took on as a means of repaying for all the help he received from the library when he was just starting out. As a volunteer, he has received queries from as close to Bangor to as far away as British Columbia, Brazil, the UK and Sweden. The Fall of 1996 marked the beginning of his next

adventure—as instructor of a genealogy course through Bangor Adult Education. Along with the class, he has done numerous speaking engagements, his first with WLBZ-TV which went for 8 weeks, one night a week on their “Alive at 5:30” spot. He has had the pleasure of talking with very young researchers, the Girl Scout Troop in Levant, to the Seniors at the Philip-Strickland House and Bangor Senior Citizen Center. He has also given talks to the Bangor and Brewer Historical Societies and the Bangor Chapter of the Professional Women Society of Maine. Phil lives in Corinth, with his very understanding wife, Carole.

## Notes from the October 6th Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee met at the Bangor Public Library on October 6th at 5:30. Present were: Dale Mower, Annette Roberts, Phil Getchell, Jacque Rump, John Nelligan and Celia Gray.

Phil Getchell updated the committee on details regarding the booth PCGS will man at the Bangor Mall on Nov. 7 (see page 7).

John Nelligan updated the committee on the Bangor Museum Project. It was noted that the following volunteers have worked hard to make this a success: Theresa Brown, Jim & Carol McCarthy, Celia Gray, Jacque Rump, Jeanne Finley and John Nelligan.

The program for the upcoming 6 months was reviewed. (Oct-Dec presented on page 3). Details will be posted on the website.

The Society will host an half-day “Introduction to Genealogy Workshop” on Saturday, April 9th. Details will be forthcoming.

A research trip to NARA in Waltham, Massachusetts, was discussed. Walter Hickey of NARA had indicated at the MGS conference that if a group wanted to visit, the archives could be opened up at a time it is otherwise closed. John will check with Cyr Bus on the cost of transportation. A prompt will be included in the newsletter to see if there is sufficient interest (see page 7).

Dale reported that there are continuing difficulties uploading revised information to the website.

There was discussion about the PCGS logo and the possibility of obtaining lapel pins for members.

Ideas for encouraging members to submit articles to the newsletter were discussed.

## Upcoming Meetings

### Property Deed Research with V. Ann Files

**Wednesday, October 20, 2004, 6:00 pm, Bangor Public Library Lecture Hall**

This is an encore presentation of the session Ann presented at the MGS Annual Conference last month. Land deeds can provide many clues and a host of valuable information for the genealogist. Ann, a PCGS member, is uniquely qualified and able to blend her professional knowledge as a paralegal and former abstractor with her interest in genealogy. This session will take a look at how to find this information, what it means and how it fits into genealogical research. Ann is also a former museum teacher, interpreter and role player at Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The evening will end with a birthday celebration!

### A Visit with David Swett and a Look at his Projects

**Wednesday, November 17, 2004, 6:00 pm, Bangor Public Library Lecture Hall**

David Swett is probably best known among the genealogical community for his editing and publishing of historical records found in the Orrington Historical Society and town office—12 volumes thus far with most of it being in the 1800's.

A retired teacher, having taught 38 years at the elementary level, Dave's areas of interest include genealogy, history, music, photography, and doing volunteer work at Center Drive School in Orrington. He is also involved with Camp Mechwana, the United Methodist Camp in Winthrop. He has developed an interactive program for kids in K through 5th grade using the computer lab in a math extension program. Dave has been scanning the camp archives and indexing the materials, and has also served as dean or counsel several weeks each summer there.

His focus for the evening will be twofold. First, he will touch briefly on his personal library. Second, he will talk about how he has been town records more available to the research community, not just genealogical records but others of a more historical nature.

A raffle, brought to you by John Nelligan, will take place for a chance to win a turkey—actually two chances to win. Raffle tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

### Favorite Ancestor or Black Sheep Relative Night

**Wednesday, December 15, 2004, 6:00 pm, Bangor Public Library Lecture Hall**

This is an opportunity for members and guests to share stories with the group about their favorite ancestor. Of course, we also leave it open in case someone wants to instead talk about a relative that's out there on one of those family tree branches that might have a little rot or other disease. The floor is given up to anyone that wants to share their research about their relation and why that ancestor is important to them; it might be because of fond memories or unique stories that have come down through generations, it might be because the ancestor was a brick wall that you finally got past, or it might be for another reason. Bring your story and make this evening a success!

## Member Spotlight

*Editor's Note: A new column...a new chance to meet your fellow members. Each issue we will highlight members willing to share information about themselves and their genealogical interests. If you would like to be featured, please send in your information.*

**Joanne Brogan** works as a Financial Analyst for a school district in southern Westchester County, New York. She and her husband Jerre Holbrook live on City Island, a small island off the coast of the Bronx—part of New York City and yet very much like a New England fishing village. Joanne has been doing genealogy for about 20 years now and also teaches and lectures (she says she can't believe anyone would pay her to talk about her passion). Joanne's family are recent immigrants—1880s. They hail from Ireland, Scotland, France, Germany and Switzerland. Jerre's family is all Maine, primarily Penobscot and Piscataquis Counties. His family names included: Holbrook, Libby, Wyman, Huff, Richardson, Bonestall, Stone, Cutler and Young. Jerre will soon be applying to the SAR under the service of patriot Henry Wyman.

**Ellen (Baldwin) Campbell** of Holden, has been intrigued with genealogy since an 8th grade project uncovered a chart kept by her grandmother, Marian Vaughn Hill of Nobleboro. It revealed an extensive record of ancestors from England and Germany (Hall, Engley, Vinal, Hilton [major brick wall in Waldoboro], Vaughn, Chapman, Simmons, Winslow), including 7 Mayflower passengers. Naturally, over the years, the trail has branched to her father's parents originating in Connecticut (Baldwin, Hildebrandt), and then on to the family she married into (Campbell, Mossey [brick wall from Magdalen Is.], Leland, Jordan, Colby, Richardson, Smith and Allen [brick wall in Brooksville], Tardiff, Browning [brick wall in Athens], etc.). She wishes she had the time to pursue this obsession in order to have a document worthy of passing on to her three adult daughters, but employment and serving on town committees takes priority for now. Her notebooks bursting with family group charts, the computer program full of data, and research notes from hours of welcome distraction in libraries and town archives will have to do for now!



## New Members

**John C. Bailey** Olathe, Kansas  
*Researching: Bailey, Philbrook, Melvin, Ring, Dudley*

**Patricia Kearns Gilsvik** Warba Minnesota  
*Researching: Kearns, Doyle, Keefe, Amesbury, Dolan, Driscoll*

**Berla A. Lawrence** Dedham Maine  
*Researching: Lawrence, Holmes, Patterson, Smith, Jellison, Hanscom, Fowler*

**Carol A. McCarthy** Holden Maine  
*Researching: Harvey, Cunningham, Nickerson, Arey, Ulmer, Eames*

**James E. McCarthy** Holden Maine  
*Researching: McCarthy, Nelligan, Coppinger, Driscoll*

**Carolanne Nelligan McDonald** Margate Florida  
*Researching: Nelligan, Gilman, Conant, McLaughlin, Dudley, Bailey*

**Kenneth Rowell** Bangor Maine  
*Researching: Dwyer, Dunton, Rowell*

## Renewing Members

Barbara Barooshian, Phyllis Carmichael Bartlett, Lawrence Blethen, Joanne Brogan, Sharon Buswell, Ellen R. Campbell, Leigh Cowing, Marilyn (Welch) Cronin, Helen Damuth, Mary Ann E. Gaudreau, Celia Gray, Ruth Gray, Peg Hanson, Connie Hawkins, Bernice Heath, Janet Hooke, Sherry Larson, Gary L. Lowe, Richard "Rick" E. McCafferty Jr., Leland "Pete" McClarie, Paul McClay, Ruth Millner, Evangeline S. Mitchell, Dale Mower, Patti Mower, John J. Nelligan, Jeannine Peters, Annette F. Roberts, James G. Sargent, Jacquelyn Smith, Ed Stoermer, Judy White, and Richard Wyman

**THANK YOU!!**

To

**BROWN & WHITE PAPER COMPANY**  
 24 Larkin Street, Bangor Maine

For their donation of paper goods & party supplies to the MGS Conference

## “Finding Jane”

### By Terri Weed Cormier

As most of us who do genealogy research know, finding information on our female ancestors is always a challenge! So I thought I would share this success story with you in hopes that maybe it would help you find your missing family, or give you hope to keep looking!

It started with finding Cyrus and Jane Seavey in the 1840 census in Eddington, Maine, then finding out the Cyrus had died around 1850 and was buried in the Pine Tree Cemetery on Rt. 46, no marker, no death record, nothing but a probate record that listed Jane and his children as heirs. That was the first time that Jane disappeared from me. I searched for her with no avail—then thought I would check back in Exeter where both she and Cyrus were born and had families, and there I found her in the 1860 census, living with her brother Benjamin Atkins who had lost his wife. I lost her again after that—she had disappeared again! I wondered if she was buried in the cemetery in an unmarked grave with her brother and his family, each Memorial Day I always wondered where she was.

I searched through all the records I could and I still found no trace of my Jane, no marriages for here, and no death record to be found! Then one day I thought, like most of us girls we are close to our mothers—that made me decide to start searching for Jane and Cyrus’s daughters thinking that just maybe she had ended up with them. Sadly, I had very little information on the girls and who they had married, but on the probate record it listed Emily Caswell when Cyrus died. Not knowing who Emily Seavey had married it was a long shot—but I put a query on [www.GenForum.com](http://www.GenForum.com) asking for information on an Emily Seavey who married a ? Caswell.

I didn’t think I would hear a thing, but a few months went by and one day I got an e-mail message from a gentleman in Washington state who was researching the Caswell family line and his ancestor, Thomas Caswell, had married an Emily Seavey! Of course I wondered—could this be her? But he had all the documentation and records to back it up, and after some checking of my own, I found that it was indeed her. I checked the 1870 census for Emily and Thomas Caswell, but sadly no Jane was with them. Then my e-mail helper e-mailed me back and said that after he looked at the entire census, he found Thomas’s father living next door and there was a Jane that was his wife!!! It made us wonder, could this be her?

So after making some calls and checking with the Corinna town records, lo and behold, I found the marriage record of a Jane Seavey married to a Lyman Caswell in Corinna. I found my Jane!!! With an e-mail to the town office I was able to locate where Jane was buried and last week I traveled to Corinna to find the cemetery, not knowing if I would finally find her, but as I stepped out of my car at the edge of a back road and crossed the cemetery fence, there was Jane!

On another note, after my friend from Washington and I did more research on his family we found that the Caswell he thought was his missing grandfather was not the same one, but we enjoyed being “cousins” for awhile. I am now helping him find his family, “Kerswell,” here in Maine, and hoping that I can only return the help that he gave me. So for all of you out there looking for missing family, don’t give up!

*Editor’s Note: Terri Weed Cormier is a member of Penobscot County Genealogical Society and Hancock County Genealogical Society. Also, see this month’s Queries to see if you can help with the search for the Kerswell family.*

## Do You Have

an interesting story related to genealogy? Help make our newsletter successful by submitting it for inclusion!

Share your experiences, others may learn from them—or share in your frustration—or laugh along with you!!

Need a topic to get the brain cells working?? Why not try—

My favorite ancestor (perfect idea as this is what our December meeting is about!)

The black sheep in my family

The toughest brick wall I knocked down!

The biggest reward I’ve received doing genealogy

My favorite website

My favorite place to research

My famous relative

The funniest piece of family history I’ve uncovered

A family secret unearthed

My ugliest family photo (don’t forget to send a copy of the photo so we can include it!!)

I can’t believe this relative had this many children!

New cousins I’ve met and how they’ve helped me

Oh my! Inbreeding on my family tree

### Newsletter Deadline

To Guarantee Inclusion in the January 2005 Newsletter, please submit your article by January 2, 2005

Patti Mower  
185 Norfolk Street  
Bangor ME 04401-3466

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

## The Maine Genealogical Society's Annual Conference Hosted By PCGS on September 11, 2004, in Hermon, Maine

Dear Dale,

I wanted to extend my congratulations to you and the Penobscot Chapter for the wonderful work you did with this year's Maine Genealogical Society conference. It was an excellent conference in every meaning of the word. The speakers were knowledgeable, the facility itself was perfect (no stairs or long walks), the vendor area was centrally located as was the cafeteria, and the lunch was delicious! I heard nothing but compliments throughout the day which as you know is nearly miraculous.

I also liked the touch of allowing people to choose among the door prizes. I could tell the winners were enjoying the fun of picking their own prize and it added to the excitement.

I know how much work goes into creating such a well-run conference.

Please give your members my personal thanks for their efforts and please give yourself a much-deserved pat on the back for your leadership and hard work.

Nancy Battick  
Incoming President  
Maine Genealogical Society

P.S. An especial thank you to Patti and Derek. He was such a help and a good sport as well.



*Dale & Ann Smith-Catbert*



*Annette Roberts & Janet Spencer*



*John Nelligan*



*Hannibal & Phil Getchell*



*Ruth Milner*



*Jackie Smith & Mary Gaudreau*

**A special thank you goes out to PCGS members who volunteered and helped make the MGS Conference:**

John Albertini, Nancy Battick, Jack Battick, Theresa Brown, Mary Gaudreau, Phil Getchell, Christina Graves, Janet Hooke, Patti Mower, John Nelligan, Annette Roberts, Jacque Rump, Jackie Smith and Janet Spencer.

## Queries

To post a query, e-mail [mepcgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mepcgs@yahoo.com)

**KERSWELL, William & Susan J.** Looking for information on William KERSWELL (KASWELL), born 1804, and Susan J. BRAUN, born 1815, both in Maine. Married 9 Sep in Bangor Maine. They are in the 1860, 1870, 1880 census for Glenburn Maine. Researching one of their children J. Henry A. (or L.) KERSWELL, born 1859. May be my great-great-grandfather that married Affie E. ANNIS in Bradford 19 Oct 1887; they had one child Truman W. ANNIS (legal name change), born on 25 Dec 1888. Affie died in childbirth and the infant was raised by his maternal grandmother; he never met his father. Any info would be helpful.

Michael Woncha  
1902 A St. SE #6309  
Auburn WA 98002  
E-mail: [mike.woncha@gsa.gov](mailto:mike.woncha@gsa.gov)

### PCGS at Bangor Mall On November 7th

On Sunday, November 7th, our Society will be at the Community Service Booth at the Bangor Mall. This is our second year having a presence there to help promote genealogy.

Phil Getchell is heading up this project and he would love to have some volunteers come forward to help man the booth. The booth will be running from 11:00-6:00 that day. If you can spare a half hour or longer, please contact Phil. Reports from last year were that the volunteers had a great time—so join in now. Phil's email address is [towncrier2@yahoo.com](mailto:towncrier2@yahoo.com)

## NARA Research Trip??

The Society is considering a one-day research trip to Waltham, with transportation via Cyr coach. Attendees will have exclusive access to the Archives at a time when it is otherwise closed to the public. The price at this point is undetermined—details will be worked out if there is sufficient interest.

If you are interested, please e-mail [mepcgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mepcgs@yahoo.com) and let us know.

## Correspondence Received

September 30, 2004

Hello President Dale,

A few generations ago, in 1774, my ancestor John Marsh Jr. was reportedly the first white settler in the area.

He was an Indian Agent for the Penobscot Indians, from whom he bought the Orono island. Marsh Island was where he lived with his wife Sarah Colburn.

John was a patriot during the American Revolution.

One of his sons, William, became a ME minister. William's son, William, was a doctor in the town of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. Doctor William S. Marsh, and his son, Charles Franklin Marsh served in the 25th Iowa Infantry as surgeons under Grant during the Civil War. Charles became a surgeon, and Doctor as well. The Doctors lived in a house that still stands (the Brazelton House) and is in the National Register of Historic Homes, where they entertained the likes of Fredrick Douglas, Susan B. Anthony, and P.T. Barnum. The house was used as an office, and it was there that the broken leg of Abraham "Jack" Lincoln, grandson of President Lincoln, was set.

Franklin Charles Marsh, son of Charles, served in the Spanish American War, and moved to Michigan. Franklin C. Marsh had two sons that served in WWII. Franklin C. Marsh also had a daughter (actually two daughters), and that's where I come in.

Thought I would let you know that the line didn't die out. I have cousins, John and Frank Marsh, that live a couple counties away.

Just reaching back through the centuries to say hello.

Best regards,

J. L. Dewan  
E-Mail: [cmp25kg5@comcast.net](mailto:cmp25kg5@comcast.net)

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October 4, 2004

Patti,

Just wanted to say that I ordered the Corinth Census CD and it's great! It cleared up a little mystery I had with one of my gg grandmother's sons and I also found another child she had by her first husband (my gg grandfather was her second husband). Thanks for adding that information to the newsletter!

Sherry Larson

## Penobscot County Genealogical Society

c/o Bangor Public Library  
145 Harlow Street  
Bangor ME 04401

TRICK  
OR  
TREAT

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

[www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs](http://www.rootsweb.com/~mepcgs)  
E-Mail: [mepcgs@yahoo.com](mailto:mepcgs@yahoo.com)

Or contact President Dale Mower  
185 Norfolk Street, Bangor ME 04401  
Phone: (207) 942-9375  
E-Mail: [dale@mower-family.com](mailto:dale@mower-family.com)



## Madonna, Celine Dion, and Camilla Parker-Bowles: Relatives

*The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright 2004 by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.*

What do pop queen Madonna, Canadian singer Celine Dion, and the Prince of Wales' mistress Camilla Parker-Bowles have in common? One genealogist claims that they are all related.

Camilla and Madonna are both descended from Zacharie Cloutier (1617-1708), while Camilla and Celine descend from Jean Guyon (1619-1694) - both of whom died in Chateau-Richer, Quebec.

You can see William Addams Reitwiesner's work at: <http://members.aol.com/eurostamm/camilla.html>.

You can also view Madonna's ancestry on Genealogy.com's Web site. In fact, you can even download a GEDCOM file from that site to your hard drive and then import that data directly into your Windows or Macintosh genealogy pro-

gram. That certainly saves a lot of manual typing! Look at <http://www.genealogy.com/famousfolks/madonna/index.html> for details.

NOTE: All of the information presented on the Web pages mentioned is offered on an "as is" basis. Accuracy of the information is not guaranteed by anyone. As with any genealogy information, it is up to you to verify the accuracy of the data by independent means.

By the way, the writer of this newsletter is also descended from both Zacharie Cloutier and Jean Guyon, sieur du (Lord of) Buisson. In fact, almost everyone with French-Canadian ancestry can find these two men in their family trees as well. If you can find these two men in your family tree, you, too, are a distant cousin of Madonna, Celine Dion, and Camilla Parker-Bowles.