



CCGS NEWS

A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society

Volume 6 Issue 2

February 2019

February Meeting — Tuesday February 19th
at Brewster Ladies' Library, 10 a.m.

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO GEDMATCH

THOMAS GREVE

Individuals who have purchased an autosomal DNA test from any company can upload their data to GEDmatch, a third-party database. Doing so gives access to a much larger pool of data, increasing chances of finding significant matches.

In addition to a basic overview of genetic inheritance, find out how to create an account and take advantage of free tools including DNA matching and comparison, ethnicity estimates, a chromosome browser, and more! Premium features such as matching segment and triangulation tools and their uses are also discussed.



THOMAS GREVE is a genealogical researcher and speaker from Cape Cod, Massachusetts. After pursuing the history of his own family for over 10 years, Thomas began researching professionally in 2016. He holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University and serves as president of [Falmouth Genealogical Society](#). He is also a proud member of Unclaimed Persons, a group of volunteer genealogists who donate their time and research skills to help medical examiners, coroners and investigators find the next-of-kin of deceased individuals whose relatives have proven difficult to trace.

Come at 9:30 to socialize — coffee and donuts available

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Mailing address:

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SIGs

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS are informal member gatherings for the purpose of sharing information, research techniques, data and references, regarding specific topics or geographical areas. For more information, see the Society's website.

Cape Cod Families – 4th Tuesday, Sturgis Library. *Next:* February 26, 2019, 1 p.m., Bebe Brock, chairman.

Computer Users – 2nd Tuesday, Dennis Public Library. *Next:* February 12, 2019, 10 a.m. The focus will be on mapping. All are welcome. Bill Horrocks, Bob Oppenheim (Roppen@msn.com), and Jim Sullivan, co-chairmen.

DNA – 1st Tuesday, Dennis Public Library. *Next:* February 5, 2019, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Walter Murphy, winter chairman.
wmgenealogy@gmail.com.

German – 1st Tuesday, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* February 5, 2019, 10 a.m.–Noon, Ann Croston, chairman.

Irish – 4th Monday, Dennis Public Library. *Next:* February 25, 2019, 10 a.m. Pat Concannon, chairman.

Writing Family History – 3rd Friday, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* February 15, 2019, 11 a.m. Pippa Ryan, [new] chairman. We share our writing and give helpful feedback, learning from each other. You are welcome to attend even if you haven't written anything!

Calendar for February 2019

February 5	DNA SIG, 1:30 p.m., Dennis Public Library
February 5	German SIG, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library
February 12	Computer Users SIG, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library
February 19	CCGS Monthly Meeting, Brewster Ladies' Library (see page 1 for program)
February 15	Writing Family History SIG, 11 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library
February 26	Cape Cod Families SIG, 1 p.m., Sturgis Library, Barnstable
February 25	Irish SIG, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library

REFLECTIONS FROM RALPH

DO A GOOGLE SEARCH for the least favorite months of the year and February frequently ranks as the most dreaded month. Here on the Cape it's cold, bleak and overcast, and snow storms are a constant threat. The best thing that can be said about it is that it's the shortest month of the year. Apologies to those of you celebrating February birthdays and/or important anniversaries. On the bright side, February can be a productive month for genealogists. All that's bad with the month, for those of us stuck in the Northeast, provides a good excuse to stay sheltered at your desk or at the library catching up on all things genealogical.

Here are some things to consider while filling in your calendar for February. Be sure to join us at the Brewster Ladies' Library auditorium on the 19th for a presentation by Thomas Greve on the topic of GEDmatch. Thomas is a member of CCGS as well as the current President of the Falmouth Genealogical Society. Also, for those of you inclined to write about various aspects of genealogy, I would encourage you to consider a submission to our semiannual Journal. The first submission deadline for inclusion in the Spring issue is February 28. As usual, be sure to check the CCGS Newsletter or website for the schedule of Special Interest Group meetings during February. It's worth noting that RootsTech 2019 will be taking place in Salt Lake City from February 27 through March 2. You may want to visit the RootsTech webpage (www.rootstech.org/salt-lake) since some of the content will be live-streamed.

Finally, I would like to invite you to consider sharing your experiences by submitting a short article to our monthly newsletter. It might be a brief review of a genealogical book you've read, a webinar you've attended, or a recap of a breakthrough in your research.

Articles, queries, and suggestions from members are always welcome! You may contact either me, at ryalfrile@aol.com, or our Newsletter editor, Jane Fiske, at jane.fiske@capecodgenealogy.org.

—Ralph
— ryalfrile@aol.com

Going, Going, Gone . . .

The Deadline for payment of your 2019 membership dues was January 1st. Don't miss an issue of the Newsletter or the *Journal*! If you haven't already done so, please send your check and completed renewal form to CCGS today. If you didn't receive or have misplaced your renewal form, please contact Madelyn McHugh at membership@capecodgenealogy.org

A Reminder about Parking

IT WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED by the staff of the Brewster Ladies' Library if we use the adjacent church parking lot, if possible, when attending a CCGS Meeting. It is important to leave room in the library's parking lot for library patrons.



Volunteer Highlights

WALTER MURPHY

QUOTING WALTER, "I started out as a child," and he just kept going! The death of his grandfather in 1973 sparked an interest in family history, but his father was not particularly forthcoming. All he told him was they were from Cork. That wasn't enough for Walter, and this became his first brick wall. Where *exactly* were they from? Fortunately, his Grandmother Murphy was a bit more talkative. After Walter had been unsuccessfully searching for the marriage certificate of his second great grandparents on his Murphy line who had immigrated to Boston in the 1840s, he approached her on this subject. His grandmother pursed her lips and said, "Don't you tell anyone else about this...."

The consummate genealogist, Walter did not take Nanny's word for it. He ultimately did find the marriage certificate, which documented the marriage as having taken place a month after the baptism of their first child. And Walter solved his first brick wall when the internet provided him with access to databases disclosing that the Murphys were indeed from Bandon, Inishannon, Cork.

Raising a family and moving to New York interrupted this avocation, but his interest never left him. Later he started a genealogy group for a club to which he belonged in New Jersey, and he got his daughter, the eldest of three children,

interested in the subject. She is now looking to join the D.A.R. Walter has many Revolutionary War ancestors in his mother's Burnham line, and he is himself waiting for approval of his application to the S.A.R. He is already a member of the Mayflower Society, with a line on his mother's side going back to Francis Cooke.

By the time Walter and his wife, Lorraine, moved to Cape Cod in 2016, he was again actively pursuing his passion for genealogy. It was a natural for him to join CCGS, and being a new neighbor of Ellen and Chris Geanacopoulos sealed the deal. Soon thereafter he joined the Irish SIG, and upon its formation, the DNA group. So that you'll recognize him when you see him, here is a recent photo of Walter before a monthly meeting at the Brewster Ladies' Library.



When the Nominating Committee asked him to accept an appointment to fill an empty seat as a Director-At-Large, Walter immediately said yes. Even though he'd been a member for only a year and a half, he didn't hesitate because he believes it's only right to help out. "Every organization needs people to keep things going. . . . It's unfair if the same people constantly carry the weight over and over." Furthermore, he saw this as an opportunity to meet people and learn about the workings of the Society. He enjoys his involvement and would like to see more members do likewise.

Walter found his time commitment as a Director to be very manageable and was willing to take on more responsibility as winter chairman of the DNA SIG. This is the Society's newest and one of its largest SIGs, and leading its meetings requires a lot of preparation. With all this, he hasn't forgotten how important smaller contributions can be. Thank him for your seat at the next monthly meeting. He's part of the team that arrives early to set things up. And apart from his volunteering, you may recognize his name because you've read his several published articles in the *Journal*.

As you can see, it's the small things as well as the big ones that keep CCGS going. You won't be surprised to hear that Walter is president of his homeowners' association, involved in pond water testing for the Town of Harwich, and bicycles about 1000 miles a year. Catch him if you can!

German SIG News

AFTER SIGN-IN, WELCOME, and ANNOUNCEMENTS, the topic for the February meeting will be: **Inheritance Patterns, Inventories and Divisions of Property, and the Memberships of our Forefathers & Sons in German Society** — A Portrait of your Emigrant Ancestor (Male)

Members of the group have already received a work sheet by e-mail. Everyone is welcome to share: a success; a brick wall; websites that are helpful; genealogy books or resources; questions; Facebook updates.

—acroston125@comcast.net

DNA SIG News

THE DNA SIG WILL BE HELD at the usual time -- the first Tuesday of the month -- for the first time since October. For February, that is the 5th at 1:30 in the Dennis Public Library in Dennisport. We will start by discussing some of the finer points of what to do once you have received your DNA results. That will be followed by a discussion of Genetic Communities on AncestryDNA. We will also take a brief look at three different types of DNA-related family trees. Finally, and time willing, we will examine two very helpful DNA tools that can be found on the Chrome browser.

Welcome to New Members

Dianne Duffy
Sheila Howe
Mary Beth Goodwin

Looking Ahead

February 28, 2019: Deadline for submitting articles for the CCGS *Journal*.

February 28, 2019: "Early Bird" pricing for NERGCC ends.

April 3-6, 2019: 15th New England Regional Genealogical Consortium Conference, in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Journal Seeking Writers!

YOUR SOCIETY'S *JOURNAL* is seeking contributors of articles for the Spring 2019 issue. Two specific categories are of interest:

- one-page reflections on "How I Got Interested in Genealogy," and
- articles about either a Brick-Wall that you have solved or a Brick-Wall that you have not yet solved and would like help with.

First drafts of either of these, or any other genealogical article that you would like to submit, are due **February 28, 2019**, and should be sent to David Martin at 10 Colonial Farm Circle, Marstons Mills 02648, or by email to davidchina_2000@yahoo.com.

If you'd like to discuss an idea or ask any questions in the meantime, just send an email message or call 508-527-0460. Thanks for considering a contribution — a good way to get yourself in print!!

Save the Date! Celebrate Spring!

April 3-6, 2019

THE 15TH NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONSORTIUM CONFERENCE will take place in Manchester, New Hampshire — only about 125 miles away for those of us who live on the Cape. If you haven't made plans to attend at least some of the presentations, why not check to see if some of your friends are interested in going?

Speakers include Blaine Bettinger, Thomas W. Jones, and Cyndi Ingle (creator of *Cyndi's List*). More than 70 other genealogical experts will also be making presentations. *Ancestors Road Show*, numerous exhibits, workshops, and more, will help make this an experience not to be missed.

"Early Bird" pricing ends February 28.

Brochures will be available at the CCGS monthly meeting. The Conference also has a website with details: www.NERGCC.org.

The CCGS Genealogy Library

is located in
the Dennis Public Library
5 Hall Street, Dennisport

Hours:

Tuesday 1-4 • Thursday 10-4
Saturday 10-12