



# CCGS NEWS

*A Publication of the Cape Cod Genealogical Society*

Volume 5 Issue 11

December 2018



*December Meeting — Tuesday December 18<sup>th</sup>  
at Brewster Ladies' Library, 10 a.m.*

IT'S TIME FOR OUR HOLIDAY MEETING in December, and we hope that many of you will join us for this annual "informal" fiesta! We will have some unique mini-presentations by members who have already volunteered to share their genealogical gems with us, and we would welcome anyone else who has something fun, informative, or interesting to share regarding their family history or process of research. Stories, memorabilia, and photos related to your family roots will motivate all of us to continue in our own journeys of discovery. You are encouraged to let us know ahead of time if you do plan to participate (email Katharine Peace at [ladykatharine@gmail.com](mailto:ladykatharine@gmail.com)), but you may also choose to add to the proceedings of the day on an impromptu basis, provided that time allows.

Please do bring a baked item to share with fellow members prior to the meeting at 9:30.

Come and join us for a relaxing meeting of sharing our genealogical passions! See you there!



*Cape Cod Genealogical  
Society  
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**Mailing address:**

Cape Cod Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 1394  
East Harwich, MA 02645  
www.[capecodgenealogy.org](http://capecodgenealogy.org)

*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** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, Sturgis Library. *Next:* January 22, 2019, 1 p.m., Bebe Brock, chairman. **Note: No meeting in December.**

**Computer Users** — *Next:* December 11, 2018, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library. Topic: "Authorship? Haven't I Got Enough To Do Already?" Bill Horrocks, Bob Oppenheim ([Roppen@msn.com](mailto:Roppen@msn.com)), and Jim Sullivan, co-chairmen.

**DNA** — 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, Dennis Public Library. *Next:* December 4, 2018, 1:30-3:30 p.m. (Jan. meeting January 8, 2019). Walter Murphy, winter chairman.

[wmgenealogy@gmail.com](mailto:wmgenealogy@gmail.com).

**German** – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday; 10 a.m.–12 Noon, Brewster Ladies' Library. *Next:* December 4, 2018. Ann Croston, chairman.

**Irish** — 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library. *Next:* January 28, 2019. Pat Concannon, chairman. **Note: No meeting in December.**

**Writing Family History** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday, 11 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library. **Note: No meeting in December.** *Next:* January 18, 2019. Alice Plouchard Stelzer, chairman.

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*Calendar for December*

December 4	DNA SIG, 1:30 p.m., Dennis Public Library
December 4	German SIG, 10 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library
December 11	Computer Users SIG, 10 a.m., Dennis Public Library
December 18	CCGS Annual Holiday Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Brewster Ladies' Library (see p. 1)
December 25	<i>A Merry Christmas to All!</i>

## *REFLECTIONS FROM RALPH*

OUR ANNUAL CCGS HOLIDAY meeting is only a couple of weeks from now. This is the one meeting of the year where we reserve time to celebrate ourselves, our families, and our genealogies. If you've attended these meetings in past years, then you may well recall members sharing stories of uncovering the history of a specific ancestor; discovering a key family link from DNA testing; displaying photos of famous and/or infamous individuals who crossed an ancestor's path; or simply sharing memories of how these holidays were celebrated in past generations. Since this year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, I wonder if any of our members have a story they could recount about a veteran of that war or a family ancestor who may have been impacted by that war. Or, maybe someone could relay an account of how a family was impacted by the influenza epidemic of 1918. If you're a participant in one of our Special Interest Groups, have you learned something about your family as a result of your participation? Maybe you wrote a paragraph or two covering a portion of your family history? Please consider sharing.

We've already had a couple of our members volunteer to share with us at our upcoming meeting on December 18, but we need more of you to participate. No lengthy formal presentation required —just a desire to convey some of the richness from your family stories. Also, the December holiday meeting is an opportunity to enjoy baked goods and treats (maybe even something from

family tradition) supplied by our attendees.

If you should feel inspired to share a story or memory with the rest of us, then please contact me at [ryalfrile@aol.com](mailto:ryalfrile@aol.com) or Kate Peace at [ladykatharine@gmail.com](mailto:ladykatharine@gmail.com), so that we can add your name to the list.

Finally, on behalf of all the CCGS Board members, I wish all of you the happiest of holiday seasons!

—Ralph

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### *Membership Reminder*

BY NOW YOU should have received your membership renewal notification and attached renewal form for 2019. (If we have an email address for you, it would have been emailed to you on November 1st.) If you don't remember seeing it, please contact Madelyn McHugh at:

[membership@capecodgenealogy.org](mailto:membership@capecodgenealogy.org)

as soon as possible. We ask that you return your completed form and payment to CCGS no later than January 1st.

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### *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

### NANCY BUTTERWEI DANIELS

HOW DID NANCY DANIELS get to know so much about CCGS? She helped out in a lot of ways over a lot of years. But first she had to start her journey into genealogy.

The death of Nancy's father in 1985 led to her being the recipient of some genealogical research done by another member of the family. That led her to discover and write to a third cousin in Germany who provided her with her paternal family tree going back to the 1500s. Her research was off and running! Along the way, she spent twelve days in Germany in the company of this cousin and his family, only one of whom spoke English, and Nancy doesn't speak German. With the help of *Google Translate*, they muddled their way through, doing more site-seeing than genealogy.

Nancy's research into her maternal heritage led her to Sligo Ireland. Here she was starting from scratch because her mother had never spoken about her family history. By researching, she learned that her maternal great grandparents moved to Liverpool, England. DNA testing has identified a living relative, who through further testing proved to be a descendant of Nancy's great grandfather's sibling who also migrated to England and then migrated with him to the U.S. Nancy continues to look for other relatives through DNA.



Nancy had been doing genealogy research for seventeen years when she and her husband moved to Cape Cod in 2002. Having already belonged to several genealogy groups, it was a natural for her to join the Society even though she had no Cape Cod ancestors. She quickly discovered that CCGS was about more than Cape Cod and that her daughter-in-law did have Cape Cod ancestors, the Bangs. Soon thereafter there was a need for a new treasurer and Nancy stepped up. She saw this as a good way to meet new people, and it was right up her alley having a financial background in banking. It was a job she could largely do from home, which fit her life style at the time. This position automatically put her on the Board of Directors and her long record of volunteering for CCGS had begun.

After serving as treasurer, a position she truly enjoyed for many years, she vacated that position so that another member could become involved at the Board level. But this didn't mean that she stopped volunteering. Next she became a member of the Education Committee where she helped to develop the workshop programs and conducted the technology segment. This was a stretch for her because she did not enjoy

public speaking, but she did it successfully nonetheless.

Currently, Nancy manages the Facebook Group page and serves on the Library staff. Why does she do all this? Even given all that she has done for CCGS, Nancy feels that she gets more out of volunteering than she gives. Working with other people interested in genealogy has made her a better genealogist. Their questions and ideas get her to thinking about her own research in different ways and may even help to break down a brick wall. What's better than that?

Apart from CCGS, Nancy has done research in Salt Lake City, which she highly recommends doing. She likes the fact that we have started the practice of webinars with national speakers and would like to see more programming on DNA and countries of origin. Her interest in technology has her thinking about ways to utilize the website for education and members only features. Maybe her next volunteer position is in the making!

If YOU would like to volunteer to help with CCGS activities, contact Suzanne Walton at:

[SEWalton@capecodgenealogy.org](mailto:SEWalton@capecodgenealogy.org)

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### *DNA SIG News*

NOW THAT TERI GREY, chairman of the DNA SIG, has headed off to warmer climes, Walter Murphy has volunteered to lead the group during the winter months.

Walter provides a bit of history, hoping for some assistance with the task

of heading this active group. "As most of you know, Everett Johnson and Mike Carroll started this group. Teri took over from them but handled it all by herself. I would like to go back to the Everett & Mike model and hope someone will volunteer to help out. Alternatively, anyone can step up and volunteer to make a presentation to the group."

At the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, there will be a discussion of the Leeds Method of sorting our matches. While the focus of this method is on *AncestryDNA*, the technique can be used with data from other sites such as *23andme*, *My Heritage*, etc. The following link describes the method in some detail:

<https://www.danaleeds.com/leeds-method-dna/>

The results of a DNA test are fascinating, but can be confusing. Multiple matches show up, of persons supposedly cousins, but many of those people don't have trees posted and, if contacted, have no more idea than you do about how you're related. Working with it takes valuable time and can be extremely frustrating. If you, like me, have felt intimidated by the topics of the last few meetings of the DNA SIG, this one might help you to simplify the problem of how to organize all those "cousins."

For new participants, the time and place is 1:30-3:30 at the Dennis Public Library, 5 Hall Street, Dennisport. While not necessary, it might be helpful to bring your computer.

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*Welcome to New Member*

Priscilla Young

### *Looking Ahead*

**January 8, 2019:** German SIG, topic "Village & Church websites – Online Searching" (Repeat).

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

**April 3-6, 2019:** 15<sup>th</sup> NERGC Conference, in Manchester, N.H.

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### *German SIG News*

The next meeting, Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, Brewster Ladies' Library, will include the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual German SIG Christmas Party. Members will bring decorations and food. Vicki Blair-Smith will provide Christmas decorations and an Oberammergau Nativity Set.

Also on the agenda is the topic: "News from the Land of Freedom – German Immigrants Write Home at Christmas – How did your Emigrant family celebrate Christmas in Germany and in America?"

If you have a German Christmas item to show, or a food item to share, please email Ann Croston:

*acroston125@comcast.net.*

### *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

### *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 *davidchina\_2000@yahoo.com*, or to 10 Colonial Farm Circle, Marstons Mills 02648.

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!!

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### *NERGC – Save The Date!*

REGISTRATION IS NOW open for the 15<sup>th</sup> New England Regional Genealogical Conference, *Family – A Link to the Past & A Bridge to the Future*, to be held in Manchester, New Hampshire, April 3-6, 2019. Brochures will be available at our December CCGS meeting.

Featured speakers at the Conference will be Blaine Bettinger, Thomas W. Jones, and Cyndi Ingle (of *Cyndi's List*), but over 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.