



PATCHOGUE-MEDFORD LIBRARY

GENEALOGY RESEARCH GROUP

NEWSLETTER



“To forget ones ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root.”

A Chinese Proverb

Volume: 8 Issue: 5 Editors: Diana Erickson & Carol Proven

Dates: November-December, 2015

Happy Thanksgiving



**May you and your family enjoy the wonder, peace and goodness of the
Holiday Season.**

MEETINGS AND EVENTS
PATCHOGUE MEDFORD LIBRARY

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 10:00 a.m. AND END AT 11:30 a.m.

Getting Started Help Session: 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

For Information regarding our Genealogy Research Group or any question about genealogy: contact Jean King. Call "Adult Reference" at 631-654-4700 and leave message for Jean (our Genealogy Librarian) or e-mail Jean at: jking@pmlib.org.

Date: Saturday, November 28, 2015

Topic: "Probate Records in NY State"

Presenter: Laura Murphy DeGrazia

Date: December: No meeting

LONG ISLAND GENEALOGY PROGRAMS

Please refer to the calendar of events from the Genealogy Federation of Long Island that is sent out monthly by the library.

OF SPECIAL NOTE:

**North Shore Public Library
250 Route 25A
Shoreham, NY 11786
631 929-4488**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015 AT 7:00 p.m.

**Genealogist, Carol Proven, returns to North Shore Library to demonstrate how to "put flesh on the bones of your ancestors" by carefully examining and analyzing censuses, ship manifests and researching court records.
All are welcome - please register by calling the library.**

“AROUND THE TOWN AND OTHER PLACES!”

NEW YORK CITY
NATIONAL ARCHIVES at NEW YORK CITY

**One Bowling Green, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10004**

Toll-free: 1-866-840-1752 or 212-401-1620

Fax: 212-401-1638

Email: newyork.archives@nara.gov

Hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

As of Nov. 1, 2015, the NYC National Archives will cease offering Saturday hours.

Researchers wishing to use textual records must schedule an appointment prior to visiting. Admission is free. Visitors must show a Photo ID when entering the building.

DATES

WORKSHOP

Where you burned by the 1973 Fire?

**Nov. 10,
2015** A fire in St. Louis at the National Personnel Records Center in 1973 destroyed approximately 80 percent of the personnel records of Army officers and enlisted personnel discharged from November 1, 1912, to January 1, 1960. Former National Archives staffer Connie Potter will describe selected records from the National Archives in Washington, DC, and College Park that can provide information on individual soldiers, as well as some online sources.

Preserving Your Family History

**Dec. 8,
2015** Staff will provide an overview of the ways to preserve your family treasures, as well as provide a list of available resources to help you.

Registration: The public should register via newyork.archives@nara.gov or 866-840-1752 to reserve a space.

Cost: All programs are free and open to the public

Location: All programs will be held in the Learning Center, on the 3rd floor of the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Custom House at One Bowling Green, NY, NY.

Time: Programs run from Noon to 1:00pm.

NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

STEPHEN A. SCHWARZMAN BUILDING

Fifth Ave at 42nd Street

New York City, N.Y.

The following programs will be held at the NYPL

South Court Classrooms, First Floor

5th Ave at 42nd St., NYC

Register: www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org (If noted in description)

Or 212-626-6583

FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION: CALL LIBRARY

Thursday, November 5, 2015

Writing Your Family History

12 noon You have been collecting the information, now it is time to shape your genealogy research into a cohesive family history for others to read. Learn how to outline your story, explore the history of the places where your family lived, tips for creating a cohesive narrative, and why writing a family history is the ultimate goal of genealogy research.

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman
Building, South
Court Classroom A**

Adults

First come, first served

Thursday, November 12, 2015

12 noon **Getting Started in Genealogy**
Begin exploring your family history with the NYPL. This

**Stephen A.
Schwarzman**

Adults

introductory class will explain first steps in genealogical research. Find out best practices for getting started, learn about genealogical records, and discover how to search NYPL's collections. First come, first served

Building, South Court Classroom A

Thursday, December 3, 2015

[Researching Vital Records and the Census](#)

12 noon

Census enumerator in New York in 1930. Discover genealogical resources at the New York Public Library with an exploration of vital records and the census. First, learn how to search for and find your ancestors on birth, marriage, and death certificates. Next, we'll explore the history of the U.S. Federal Census, explore what other types of census records exist, and offer a variety of search strategies to use in your genealogy research.

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, South Court Classroom A

Adults

PLEASE CALL ABOUT THIS CLASS.

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

[Researching Local History and Genealogy Using New York's City Directories.](#)

2 p.m.

In this one-off class we will explore the history of New York's city directories, stopping by to look at business directories, elite directories, and street directories. Issued almost yearly between 1786 and 1933, New York's city directories contain a wealth of information, beyond mere name and address,. All sorts of historical data (and maps and images) useful to all sorts of researcher, including biographer, historian, and genealogist. First come, first served.

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, South Court Classroom A

Adults

Thursday, December 10, 2015

Getting Started in Genealogy

12 noon **Begin exploring your family history with the NYPL. This introductory class will explain first steps in genealogical research. Find out best practices for getting started, learn about genealogical records, and discover how to search NYPL's collections.** **Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, South Court Classroom A** **Adults**
First come, first served

NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



www.AmericanAncestors.org

Leah Walczak - Director of Education and Programs

education@nehgs.org

617-226-1226

Many important and relevant programs are sponsored by the NEHGS. Please use the above website to review their offerings and you can call 617-226-1226 or 1-888-286-3447 (education@nehgs.org) .

They offer:

New Visitor Welcome Tour - November 12

Where: 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA

When: 10:00am - 11:00am

Description: This free orientation and tour introduces you to the resources available at the NEHGS research facility, located at 99-101 Newbury Street in Boston.

OTHER SCHEDULED PROGRAMS:

November 4 - [Stirring Up the Past: Puritan Beliefs About Food](#)

with Judy Lucey and Dr. Lori Stokes, 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Cost: FREE

From the porpoise that provided desperately needed sustenance for travelers to the New World to a recipe for 'French basket' and a witchcraft judge's record of the declaration of a day of Thanksgiving, NEHGS is full of treasures. Archivist Judy Lucey will reveal the lives of ordinary people through the records of food, their recipes for medicine ('against settling of cold against ye head & stomach'), and their account books documenting the cost of food in the market. The event is co-sponsored by the Partnership of Historic Boston as part of the 2015 Charter Day celebrations.

November 4, 11, 18 - [Picture It: Publish a Family Keepsake](#)

with writing & publishing experts from NEHGS

6:00 - 9:00 pm, Cost: \$125

Give the gift of family history to your loved ones this holiday season! Let the writing and publishing experts at NEHGS walk you through the steps of creating an 8 x 11 annotated photo book that can be shared with family and future generations. In this three-week workshop you will receive hands on help to define the scope of your project, scan and organize photos, layout your story and images, and print a one-of-a-kind publication. Students are encouraged to bring a laptop. Basic computer skills required.

November 14 - [Taking Your Family History Hobby to the Next Level](#)

with speakers from NEHGS and the New England Association for Professional Genealogists (NEAPG)

9:00 am - 12:30 pm, Cost: \$25; NEAPG members free ([must RSVP](#))

Whether you are a family history hobbyist or a professional genealogist, you may be wondering how to take your skills—and results—to the next level. Join NEHGS and the New England Association of Professional Genealogists (NEAPG) for a half-day seminar to learn how to hone your genealogical skills, write for a genealogical journal or magazine, and even begin your own study project.

Wanted: You! Please share your knowledge and talent. Write an article for our newsletter. We have a large group of researchers with tons of knowledge that needs to be shared.

Please e-mail dianamets@msn.com with your articles. For our next newsletter to deadline is Dec. 11, 2015

“THE HAPPY RECAP”

PART I

September 26, 2015

By Carol Proven

Using The Old Fulton New York Post Cards Website

<http://fultonhistory.com/>

Presented by Laura Congleton

We graciously welcomed our guest speak, Laura Congelton, today. Ms. Congelton was quite informative with her topic regarding the website <http://fultonhistory.com>.

Laura related the story of how the website was originated by its founder Thomas Tryniski. She went into deep explanation on how to maneuver around the site. Mr. Tryniski originally started scanning old NY post cards onto the website. Eventually, he added old photos and documents, war history and news clips. Tom controls the entire site from his home.

A big attraction to this site is the old newspaper articles. Although most are not entered in date order, it is in some sort of sequence. He enters the articles as he receives them. Tom has a *Chart Room* on this site and a *Help Section*. The home page is where you can watch old “*Amos and Andy*” TV Shows. To reach Tom one can CLICK on “PAGE ME” or “EMAIL ME” buttons.

If you have any memorabilia that you think Thomas would be interested in scanning, go to his site and contact him. Thanks to Laura for educating us with various tips on how to use this site.

“THE HAPPY RECAP”

PART II

October 24, 2015

By Carol Proven

“Hidden Genealogy Resources of Suffolk County”

Presented by Linda Metzger

We had the opportunity to have Linda Metzger join us today at our Genealogy Group meeting to present us with information on the availability of research resources that are at our disposal.

Ms Metzger made us aware of the various historical societies in Suffolk County noting the contents and contact person for each. They include the Suffolk County Historical Society; East Islip Historical Society; Lake Ronkonkoma Historical Society; Southampton Historical Museum; Huntington Historical Society and DSDAR, DAR located in Washington, D.C. and SAR.

Linda suggested researching Suffolk County newspapers and also noted not to overlook the following libraries:

East Hampton Public Library for LI Collection of deeds, maps, books

Queens Library in Jamaica, NY for newspapers/periodicals; Suffolk County telephone directories; 1890 Civil War Census for L.I.

Family History Library Salt lake City, UT, www.familysearch.org

Other resources include: Suffolk County Surrogate’s Court, Riverhead, NY for probate databases; probate hard files and deed research.

Need we not forget our own Patchogue Medford Library with an enormous amount of material at your disposal.

We thank Ms. Metzger for coming and sharing her knowledge with us.

“INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW !”

QUESTION: “Are conferences a good experience for family researchers?”

ANSWER: Recently a family history conference was held in Syracuse. A report on the conference is submitted by Clare Gunning.



The second annual NYS Family History Conference took place September 17th-19th in Syracuse. It was a sold out event with 600 attendees. The first day of the conference, Thursday, was devoted to genealogy societies. All three tracks had offerings on building up society membership.

I did not attend the first day but arrived late in the day in time to check out the vendor's hall and go to the delegate's reception. The vendor's hall had multiple book sellers, genealogy items, society booths, Find My Past booth, NYG&B booth, Family Tree DNA booth, and an Irish travel company. I made my way through all the booths and stopped to make several purchases at the FunStuffForGenealogists.com booth.

Day Two started with 3 tracks of 5 sessions each with presenters that we are familiar with along with representatives from the New York State Library, New York Public Library, New York State Archives, and FamilySearch.org. It was great to see and hear D. Joshua Taylor, Curt Witcher, Judy Russell, and Thomas W. Jones.

Dick Eastman was the guest speaker at lunch. He spoke about building up your personal library on your computer with eBooks. Judy Russell was the dinner speaker, her topic being “Blackguards and Black Sheep: The Lighter Side of the Law.”

One track of the day was on New York researching and materials available at New York Library and the New York Archives. The other tracks were not so place specific but very informative. I got a lot out of the session “Tips for Using FamilySearch.org Most Effectively”. There was a bonus session before dinner on the records online at the New York State Archives.

Saturday, Day Three, was another 3 tracks of 5 sessions each. One was devoted to New York research, one was more general research and the third was entirely on DNA.

I attended most of the DNA track. The DNA sessions were lead alternately by Judy Russell and Blaine Bettinger. Mr. Bettinger presented the basics on DNA starting with an Intro to DNA session followed by one on Y-DNA and mtDNA and ending with a session on autosomal DNA. He was very good and I finally ordered my mtDNA kit from Family Tree DNA. Judy Russell presented a DNA ethics session and applied DNA to solve a genealogical problem in her second session.

D. Joshua Taylor was the lunch guest speaker talking about the elusive English ancestors we have.

Michael Hall finished his run/walk/swim for the “Preserve The Pensions” fundraising effort at the conference. Enough money was raised on Judy Russell’s website - with matching funds from FGS and Ancestry.com - and literally money on the tables at lunch to preserve and digitize 72,804 pages of the War of 1812 pension files. I was very disappointed to come home and discover that the library system may not be renewing their subscription with Fold3.com where these digitized records are located.

It was a great conference. There was so much learning, networking and goodies to be had that my brain was exploding by the time it closed. I would do it again. They have already opened early bird registration for next year’s conference for NYG&B members.

Yours in sleuthing,

Clare Gunning

“GRANDMA’S KITCHEN”



Food Editor: Maureen Gallagher



SOUTHERN CORN BREAD IN A SKILLET

“Perhaps no bread in the world is quite as good as Southern cornbread and perhaps no bread is quite so bad as the Northern imitation of it.” Mark Twain

Perhaps the most significant time for America in the 19th century was the period of the Civil War. Soldiers needed food that was easy to prepare, and would stay fresh for long periods of time. Both the North and the South prepared cornbread, but in very different ways due to the availability of ingredients. Wheat flour was not readily available in the South; thus, the soldiers used white cornmeal (<http://www.totalgettysburg.com/civil-war-recipes.html>)

SOUTHERN CORNBREAD

**2 eggs
2 cups buttermilk
1 tsp. baking soda
2 cups white cornmeal
1 tsp. salt**

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Generously grease iron skillet with 3 tablespoons lard and heat in oven while mixing batter. Beat eggs and add buttermilk. In another bowl, stir cornmeal, baking soda, and salt. Add egg mixture all at once and beat with rotary beater until smooth. Pour hot lard into batter and mix. Pour mixture into heated iron skillet and bake in hot oven 20 to 25 minutes or just until set. Slice pieces and serve hot with fresh butter.

Makes 9 servings. Note: Some southern women add 1 tsp. sugar to the dry ingredients.

YANKEE CORNBREAD

**1 c. sifted flour
1/4 c. sugar
4 tsp. baking powder
3/4 tsp. salt
1 cup yellow cornmeal
2 eggs
1 c. milk
1/4 c. soft lard**

Sift together in bowl, flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Stir in cornmeal. In a small bowl beat eggs with fork, add milk, and lard. Add all at one time to cornmeal mixture. Stir with fork until flour is just moistened. Even if batter is lumpy, do not stir any more. Pour into well-greased 9 inch square pan. Bake in hot oven, 425 degrees, for 20 to 25 minutes, or until done.

Cut into squares and serve with butter.

<http://www.justapinch.com/recipes/bread/other-bread/southern-cornbread-and-yankee-cornbread.html>

Try both, and see which one you prefer.

(http://nortonsafe.search.ask.com/search?q=Cornbread+in+cast+iron&geo=US&prt=NSBU&locale=en_US&o=15527&ctype=pictures&ver=22&chn=1001190&tpr=2&ts=1446063359217)

GENEAOLGY COUSIN

"THE 20th CENTURY"

PART THREE

By Diana Erickson

A TIME-LINE OF THE 20TH CENTURY

1940-1950

Adapted from: About.com:History Timeline of the Twentieth Century

The 1940s a decade of great tribulation and change.

An editorial note about the 1940s: This was truly the worst of times and the best of times - the inhumane atrocities committed by the leaders and military governments of Germany and Japan (and in secrecy the Soviet Union) forever mar this decade. Millions and millions of people died in death camps, bombings, from famine, disease and in massacres in Europe and Asia. It is hard to comprehend the enormity of such evil - but the world responded to remove this evil and restore sanity. Millions of people died to stop these atrocities and this is a beacon of light in the darkest part of the 1940s.

1940 :

Auschwitz Opens

The Dunkirk Evacuation

Battle of Britain (Air Warfare)

Warsaw Ghetto Established

Franklin D. Roosevelt Elected to an Unprecedented Third Term as U.S. President

Leon Trotsky Assassinated

Katyn Forest Massacre (genocide of Polish soldiers and civilians approx. 20,000 -by Soviet Secret Police-initially blamed on Nazis),

Paris falls to Germans

Western Europe is under Nazi control-exception Great Britain

On the lighter side:

Bugs Bunny debuts in first cartoon

Nylons are first sold in stores

Stone Age Cave Paintings found at Lascaux in France

1941: Atlantic Charter, Lend- Lease Act passes, Babi Yar Massacre (a horrific mass murder of over 33,000 Jewish people-men, woman and children by the Nazi), Nazis Begin Killing Adults and Children With Mental and Physical Disabilities as Part of Their Aktion T-4 Program, Operation Barbarossa (invasion of the Soviet Union by Nazi Germany), Siege of Leningrad, German Battleship Bismarck Sinks HMS Hood, Japanese Attack Pearl Harbor, US declares war on Japan and Germany declares war on the US-we respond by declaring war on Germany, Nazi Rudolf Hess Flies to Britain on a Peace Mission, Enigma Cryptography Machine Captured, Ho Chi Minh Found the Communist Viet Minh in Vietnam, Japanese troops land in the Philippines, French Indochina (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia), and British Singapore. By April 1942, the Philippines, Indochina, and Singapore are under Japanese occupation.

On the lighter side:

Captain America Comic First Appears

Cheerios First Introduced

Jeep Invented

Joe DiMaggio Begins His 56-Game Hitting Streak

M&Ms Created

Mount Rushmore Completed

1942 : Anne Frank Goes Into Hiding, The Bataan Death March (Filipino and American POW forced to march 60 miles under brutal conditions-many, many deaths occurred-judged to be a War Crime), Battle of Midway, Battle of Stalingrad, Japanese-Americans Held in Camps, Manhattan Project Begins (Development of the Atomic Bomb), Nazis Raze 2 Towns in Retaliation for Reinhard Heydrich's death and murder thousands of people, Allies make military advances in Africa and in Asia.

On the lighter side:

T-shirt Introduced

1943:

French Resistance Leader Jean Moulin Killed,

Grave of Katyn Forest Massacre Found

Italy Joins the Allies

Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

US and British troops land on Sicily

On the lighter side:

I was born!

1944:

June 4, 1944 - Allied troops liberate Rome

D-Day: Allies invade Western Europe-6/6/1944

First German V1 and V2 Rockets Fired

Hitler Escapes Assassination Attempt

Paris is liberated by the Allies

Battle of the Bulge-last major German attempt to push Allies back

First of the Nazi concentration camps (death camps) liberated by the Soviet Army.

On the lighter side:

Ballpoint pens go on sale

**1945 : Yalta Conference, FDR Dies, Firebombing of Dresden, March, 1945-
US troops cross the Rhine River into Germany, Americans liberated
Buchenwald-the first of several death camps, First Atomic Bomb Tested,
Soviets surround Berlin, Hitler commits suicide, Germany surrenders,
Swedish Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, Who Saved Tens of Thousands of
Jewish Lives, Was Arrested and Never Seen Again (captured by Soviet
forces), U.S. Drops Atomic Bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan
surrenders, United Nations founded, Nuremberg War Trials begins (Nazi War
Criminals)**

On the lighter side:

First Computer Built (ENIAC)

Microwave Oven Invented,

Slinky Toy Hits Shelves

1946 :

Jews Are Massacred in the Post-Holocaust Kielce Pogrom in Poland

Bombing of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem

Juan Perón Becomes President of Argentina

Nuclear Testing at Bikini Atoll Begins

UNICEF Is Founded

Winston Churchill Gives His "Iron Curtain" Speech

On the lighter side:

Bikinis Introduced

Dr. Spock's *The Common Book of Baby and Child Care* Is Published

Holiday Movie *It's a Wonderful Life* Premieres

Las Vegas Begins Its Transformation With the Building of the Flamingo Hotel

1947:

Chuck Yeager Breaks the Sound Barrier

Dead Sea Scrolls Discovered

Jackie Robinson Joins the Dodgers- Becoming the First Black Baseball Player in the Major Leagues

Jewish Refugees Aboard the *Exodus* Turned Back by British Marshall Plan (Stop Communism spread in Europe)

Polaroid Cameras Invented

1948 :

Berlin Airlift (thwart Soviet Isolation of West Berlin,)

"Big Bang" Theory Formulated

"Dewey Defeats Truman" in the Newspaper

Gandhi Assassinated

Policy of Apartheid Begun (South Africa-severe racism policies by the government of South Africa)

State of Israel Founded

1949:

China Becomes Communist

First Non-Stop Flight Around the World

George Orwell Publishes *Nineteen Eight-Four*

NATO Established, Soviet Union Has Atomic Bomb

1950:

First Modern Credit Card Introduced

First Organ Transplant

First "Peanuts" Cartoon Strip

Korean War Begins

Senator Joseph McCarthy Begins Communist Witch Hunt

U.S. President Truman Orders Construction of Hydrogen Bomb

1951:

Color TV Introduced

South Africans Forced to Carry ID Cards Identifying Race
Truman Signs Peace Treaty With Japan
Officially Ending WWII
Winston Churchill Again Prime Minister of Great Britain

1952:

Car Seat Belts Introduced
Jacques Cousteau Discovers Ancient Greek Ship
Polio Vaccine Created
Princess Elizabeth Becomes Queen at Age 25

1953:

DNA Discovered
First *Playboy* Magazine
Hillary and Norgay Climb Mt. Everest
Joseph Stalin Dies
Julius and Ethel Rosenberg Executed for Espionage
Korean War ends with an armistice

1954 :

Britain Sponsors an Expedition to Search for the Abominable Snowman
First Atomic Submarine Launched
Jonas Salk's Polio Vaccine Given to Children in Massive Trial
Report Says Cigarettes Cause Cancer
Roger Bannister Breaks the Four-Minute Mile
Segregation Ruled Illegal in U.S.

1955 :

Disneyland Opens
Emmett Till Murdered (young African-American teenager brutally murdered by white racists in Mississippi)
James Dean Dies in Car Accident
Montgomery Bus Boycott Begins
Ray Kroc Opens his first McDonald's
Rosa Parks Refuses to Give Up Her Seat on a Bus and Warsaw Pact Signed
Brooklyn Dodgers defeat NY Yankees in World Series (first and only World Series won by Brooklyn Dodgers)

1956 :

Elvis Gyrate on Ed Sullivan's Show
Grace Kelly Marries Prince Rainier III of Monaco

Hungarian Revolution (spontaneous uprising against the Communist regime which was eventually crushed by Soviet military forces,)

Khrushchev Denounces Stalin

Suez Crisis (Israel, Great Britain and France invade Egypt-the US, Soviet Union and UN make the countries withdraw from Egypt.)

T.V. Remote Control Invented

Velcro Introduced

1957 :

Dr. Seuss Publishes *The Cat in the Hat*

European Economic Community Established

Soviet Satellite *Sputnik* Launches Space Age

Laika Becomes the First Living Animal to Enter Orbit

The Brooklyn Dodgers play their last game as the Brooklyn Dodgers and move to Los Angeles.

1958 :

American Bobby Fischer Becomes Youngest Chess Grandmaster

Boris Pasternak Refuses Nobel Prize (Russian government forced him not to accept the Nobel Prize in literature for *Dr. Zhivago*-the Soviet government banned the book in USSR,)

Chinese Leader Mao launches "Great Leap Forward"

Hope Diamond is donated to the Smithsonian

Hula Hoops Become Popular

LEGO Toy bricks first introduced

NASA Founded

Peace Symbol Created

1959 :

Castro Becomes Dictator of Cuba

International Treaty Makes Antarctica Scientific Preserve

Kitchen Debate between Nixon and Khrushchev

***The Sound of Music* Opens on Broadway**

U.S. Quiz Shows found to be fixed

In our next newsletter (January-February, 2016) travel through the '60s and '70s! Getting closer-our memories are a little better!

Looking at the 1950's-it is a wonder that the world survived! Do you remember the Civil Defense practice drills?

At school we went under desks and covered our heads with our arms to protect ourselves from the atomic bomb!!!! Did your parents consider getting a "home bomb shelter?" My parents talked about it. Finally my mother said she could not "choose" which neighbors would come into the shelter with us and which neighbors would be left out! So we went without the bomb shelter.

GENEALOGY RESEARCH

"MORE TIDBITS FROM THE NYS FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE"



From the pen of Jean King

Friday was a busy day with programs from morning to night. In the morning I attended a talk by the Genealogy Center Manager of the Allen County Public Library, Curt Witcher, who discussed how important it is to place our families in historical context in order to get a more complete idea of how they lived their lives.

I attended the luncheon where Dick Eastman discussed how to increase your personal genealogy library by taking advantage of free genealogy-related eBooks and what sites are useful in locating these books.

Also on Friday I attended two lectures by librarian and curator Matthew Knutzen of the New York Public Library map division. He spoke about the digitized maps that are available on their web site and indexing projects that the public can participate in.

There was also a "bonus" session with an archivist from the New York State Archives who discussed the digitized records online through the State Archives website.

The Friday night dinner featured The Legal Genealogist, Judy Russell, as the speaker. She had everyone laughing as she talked about “Blackguards and Black Sheep: The Lighter Side of the Law.”

On Saturday, I attended a lecture by Henry Hoff on Research Strategies for Upstate New York. The presenter was very knowledgeable and his hand-out cited many excellent sources pertaining to New York research.

I also went to two programs on DNA which was very interesting. One was about the law and ethics regarding DNA testing and the second was about DNA testing and using the results to help find living relatives.

Finally I attended a very informative program in the afternoon by Laura Murphy DeGrazia about researching your New York City ancestors. She will be a speaker for our November meeting when she will talk about probate research in New York.



From the pen of Clare Gunning

Elizabeth Shown Mills posted on Facebook:

Somewhere amid some posting, someone has defined "proof" as "source." Can we tinker with that thought and build on it? “Source” and “proof” go together like salt and pepper, but they are two different things.

Having a source is not the same as having proof. A source may lie. A source may be confused. A source can simply imagine something. A source may offer evidence so subtle that most users don’t even see a connection between the source and the point for which it is cited.

A source provides only *evidence.* Nothing more. Nothing less. Yes, for every “fact” or “assertion” we take from a source, we should attach a citation that (a) identifies the source; and (b) provides relevant information about its known or apparent strengths and weaknesses. But, no matter how well we cite whatever source, and no matter how well we analyze its reliability, that one source alone is not proof.

Proof requires a *body of evidence* that meets the Genealogical Proof Standard (the GPS). That standard has 5 criteria:

- **Reasonably exhaustive research**
- ***Quality* sources, adequately cited**
- **Adequate correlation & analysis of all the evidence**
- **Adequate resolution of any conflicting evidence**
- **Some kind of written statement as to how that body of evidence “proves” whatever we are asserting.**

Exactly who is Elizabeth Shown Mills? From Family Search bibliography:

Elizabeth Shown Mills, [CG](#), [CGL](#), [FASG](#), [FNGS](#), [FUGA](#) has been recognized as "the genealogist who has had the greatest impact on American genealogy in the post-Roots era." Among her many notable accomplishments, she edited the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* for 16 years.

Mills pioneered research methodology classes for genealogy courses. Her Advanced Research Methodology track, launched in 1986 at Samford's Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, became the standard approach used by many genealogical instructors. Rather than simply exposing students to sources and explaining where to find them, Mills began to teach students "how to use those records to wring every clue from them and to piece together bits and shards of evidence that, by themselves, mean nothing at all; yet, *together*, they resolve the toughest stalemate."^[1]

In her instruction, Mills stresses the importance of the Genealogical Proof Standard.

PHOTO PARADE

By Carol Proven

Antonio DeAngelis

1870 - 1939

I never knew that my grandfather, Pasquale, had any siblings until I started researching my ancestors. After many years of research, I discovered that Grandpa had two brothers: Antonio and Vito. He also had three sisters: Sabina, Giuseppa, and Angela Rosa. This story is about his

brother, Antonio, born in 1870 in Sanza Salerno, Italy, fifteen years prior to my grandpa.

Antonio married *Agnese* Torre in 1893. They had four sons named Giovanni, Demetrio, Giovanni Francesco and Francesco (Frank) before leaving Italy in 1902. His first three sons died but Francesco (Frank) travelled to America with his mother in 1906 to meet Antonio. In 1907, Antonio paid the passage for his brother, Pasquale to come to America.

Through the 1920 U.S. Federal Census, I found Antonio living on Withers Street in Brooklyn, NY. He was employed as a Junk Dealer for over thirty years with the NY Department of Sanitation. I found him again on Frost Street in the 1925 NY State Census. Finally, accordingly to his death certificate, he showed up on Leonard Street Brooklyn, at the age of 68, living with his son Frank. He died at Kings County Hospital on Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn.

Antonio is buried not far from his brother Pasquale in St. John's Cemetery, Middle Village, Queens County, NY. Just recently I had the opportunity to visit the cemetery and capture this photo.

