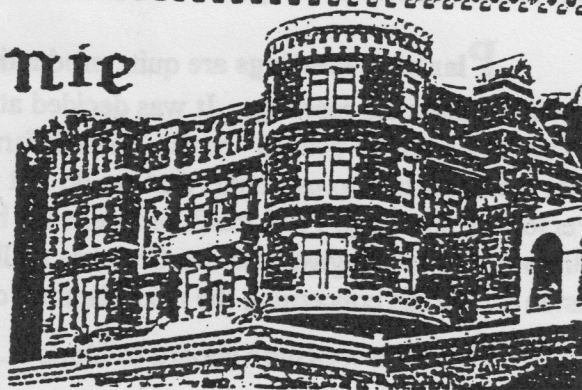


The Castle Genie

Newsletter of the Genealogy Club
Passaic County Historical Society
Lambert Castle, Valley Road
Paterson NJ 07503 (201) 881-2761

VOL. 8 NO. 2 DECEMBER 1997



CLUB NEWS

Welcome new Vice President Jean Pellegrino! Nominated from the floor by Marian Proctor during our October meeting, Jean agreed to fill the vacancy in this office. She is a long standing PCHSGC member who has contributed much to our organization over the years. Jean will make a fine addition to our Executive Officers, and we are happy to have her as our Vice-President.

Our Everton Workshop in October went very smoothly and was a great success due in large part to the contributions and hard work by many club members. Special thanks to Bernice Forrest, Marian Proctor, and Ginger Nehrings who helped with set up the day before; Warren and Marge Gould who prepared and set up a beautiful refreshment table; W. John Williams who volunteered to assist Everton with sales (which, by the way resulted in two new books for our library); Dot Galluccio, who served as our volunteer "computer assistant," and to the many others who donated the wonderful food we all enjoyed, and those who pitched in and helped with set-up and clean up.

Programming director Jean Pellegrino announces our schedule for January through June 1998. Please note postcard reminders will not be mailed prior to meeting dates, so please make note of these dates and topics which all will be held at on the second Saturday of the month, 10:00 a.m. at Louis Bay II Library, 345 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne.

- Saturday, January 10: Revolving Workshop, "Genealogical Workshop" for all degrees of skill level
- Saturday, February 14: Mr. George Sellmer, "Vernon Royle, Inventor and Photographer"
- Saturday, March 14: Mr. Joseph Hannon, "The Morris Canal, Passaic County Branch"
- Saturday, April 11: Election of Officers followed by "A Genealogical Show and Tell"
- Saturday, May 9: Cedar Lawn Cemetery Club Trip - Guided Tour by Author Howard Lanza
- Saturday, June 13: To be announced

Good Tidings! Our first annual Holiday Brunch was a resounding success! What a Bill of Fare! The Quiches, Stromboli, Deviled Eggs, Homemade Cakes, Pies and Cookies, Fresh Fruits and Cheeses (to name some) provided by our members, were expertly complimented by the festive holiday table decor presented by Warren and Marge Gould. The "Silent Auction" with Jean Pellegrino and Dick Drake at the helm, included interesting, and sometimes unusual, items and was great fun. Door prizes were distributed to many lucky winners. And there were presents for everybody! Bill Ware introduced three cases of big, big coffee mugs--one for each of us--and we all received a PCHSGC refrigerator magnet (handmade by yours truly)

And speaking of Bill Ware, thank-you's are in order to this long-time PCHSGC member for his wonderful donations of a microfilm reader/printer, two IBM II Selectric Typewriters, one-three burner coffee machine (for the Society), one-two burner warmer (for the Club), and two cases (200 pieces) of acrylic display stands. Well done, Bill!

Planning meetings are quite productive, and fun, besides! We encourage everyone to consider attending planning meetings. It was decided at the November planning meeting that they will be held three times a year or on an "as-needed" basis. These informal meetings afford us the opportunity to dialog on ideas or issues that are important to us, things that we do not normally have time to address during regular monthly meetings. Personally speaking, I feel much progress has been made in a very short time since our first planing meeting at Al Brower's house August, and our Club has really begun to move forward in a more organized fashion. Please listen for details concerning the next planning currently scheduled for early March.

A warm welcome aboard to Doris A. Bauer, Michael Bober, Florence R. Hess, and Evelyn V. Waller who became PCHSGC members this quarter. We look forward to seeing our newest members at our monthly meetings!

Some may have noticed the "Mark Your Calendar" section of *The Castle Genie* has been absent from the last few issues. I should like to resurrect that segment of the Newsletter, but unfortunately, I just don't have time to do it myself (although I did put something together very quickly, below). If anyone could help by providing me with events of genealogical interest (perhaps from other clubs or associations), please let me know, and I'll include it in our March issue. Or, if anyone is interested in writing "Mark Your Calendar" for the Newsletter themselves, please let me know. That would be a real help.

Fund raising efforts. We still have a few imprinted PCHSGC tee shirts (large and extra-large) available \$7.00. Mail order is available for an additional \$3.00 shipping and handling. (Sorry, tote bags are sold out.) Contact Bernice Forrest for more information (201) 337-4315. Three inch slant ring binders are in abundant supply and can be purchased at the bargain price of \$3.00 each. Genealogy "Start-Up Kits" are available for a donation for those of us who are new to genealogy. For binders and/or "Start-Up Kits," please contact Maryjane Proctor (973) 872-0589. Tee's, binders, and kits will also be made available at each monthly meeting.

As something of the "public relations" person, I like to ask everyone with e-mail capabilities to please me your send e-mail address to MJPROCTOR@worldnet.att.net In this way, I can keep members better advised of meetings or special announcements.

On a final note, I'd like to personally thank Joan Springwaldt, Al Brower, Jean Pellegrino, Dick Drake, and first time submitter Ginger Nehrings, who all contributed material for this issue of *The Castle Genie*. I would like wish all our members a safe, happy Holiday Season and a Joyous New Year!

Maryjane Proctor

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- FEBRUARY 16 (Monday): **48th Annual Heritage Show.** Antiques and Colonial craft show and sale sponsored by Ridgewood Historic and preservation Society, Educational Building, 660 East Glen Avenue, Ridgewood, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., \$3, 201-262-8711.
- FEBRUARY 19 (Thursday) **"Long-Time Residents Reminisce About Ramsey."** Ramsey Historical Association program presents three gentlemen who will share their recollections about growing up in Ramsey. Free, 7:30 p.m. at Ramsey Free Public Library.
- FEBRUARY 19 (Thursday) **"African-American Loyalists: What Price For Freedom,"** presented by Todd Braisted. Second Reformed Church of Hackensack, Anderson & Union Streets, Hackensack, 8 p.m., free. Sponsored by the Bergen County Historical Society. For information: 201-385-0488.
- MARCH 19 (Thursday) **"The Battleground at New Bridge Landing,"** presented by Kevin Wright, site interpreter of the Stuben House. Second Reformed Church of Hackensack, Anderson & Union Streets, Hackensack, 8 p.m., free. Sponsored by the Bergen County Historical Society. For information: 201-385-0488.

FOLK FINDER REWARD!

Submitted by Virginia "Ginger" Nehrings

I was searching for information on a Civil War soldier from Paterson, New Jersey, who was killed on 16 June 1864 in Georgia. A search in which I had sent queries to the usual locations, produced the pension records of Thomas EAVES. In those records I found the name of his second wife Eliza, whose maiden name was TYNAN.

When the September 1997 issue of *The Castle Genie* came, there in the "Folk Finder" was someone searching for a James TYNAN II. The article mentioned the March issue had another listing and more information. The searcher is an out-of-state member of PCHSGC, Margaret REED of Massachusetts. I wrote to Peggy telling her what I had found and that at one of our recent meetings I saw a book about the Tynan Throwing Company.

Her return package was a wealth of information, helping me to determine if Thomas EAVES is my ancestor. In the papers of James TYNAN II was an Eliza. Several matching facts show Eliza TYNAN is the same as Thomas EAVES wife, Eliza TYNAN ORR EAVES FERDINAND.

The volume of information she sent was wonderful. Included was a copy of the obituary of Joseph E. TYNAN, owner of the Tynan Throwing Company of Paterson. The obituary mentions some of his faithful employees, one being Peter RUIT who is related to James VAN ORDEN husband of Eleanor VAN ORDEN, a member of our club. They were thrilled to have a copy of the obituary!

My search with this new information may help solve Thomas EAVES connection to my grandfather James EAVES, son of John and Emma EAVES of New York City and Paterson, New Jersey.

The "Folk Finder" is a helpful research tool. I find myself looking at past issues; perhaps there will be someone looking for a name that I just came across. The spin-offs can extend much further than we can imagine. Taking the time to respond to an article can snowball into a great exchange of information helpful to many.

I am happy to be Peggy's helper here in New Jersey.

DECEASED PHYSICIANS FILE, 1906 - 1969

Submitted by Richard Drake via The Stacks, RIHS Library Newsletter Summer/Fall 1997

Doing genealogical research on an American physician? Well, more than two years ago, the National Genealogical Society was contacted by David Grissom, Director of Data Collection for the American Medical Association. He offered to donate a large collection of records of deceased American physicians. These records are in the process of being filmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. To date, the collection is searchable only through Joseph C. McFerran.

What can we hope to find in this source? The cards provide the best information for doctors who died between 1906 and 1969. A few earlier cards can be found, but these include only the name of a medical school and date of graduation. The post-1906 cards typically include date and place of birth, schools and medical school attended, place of residency and internship, details of licensure, type of medical practice, and date and cause of death. In some cases, there is a citation to a complete obituary. The records include no information about parents, spouses, or children, but those that reference an obituary may lead to family information.

If you're interested, write to: National Genealogical Society, Attn: Physicians Records, 4527 17th Street, North Arlington, VA 22207-2399. Please include first and last name of physician, time period, and location (if known). A prepaid research fee of 15.00 per surname is required. (These records may also be available from your local Family History Center.)

THE IDEAL MATERNITY HOME "BUTTERBOX BABY SCANDAL"

Submitted by Joan Springwaldt as excerpted from *The Record*, 1997 Nov. 9

"They say peace comes after all of this. I would say I'm still waiting for that." --Natalie Weinstein.--

Natalie Weinstein has learned so much this year. She has learned who she was and who she is and how the one became the other. She has learned about secrets and scandals and heartache and love. She has learned how painful and joyous the truth can be. But, even more importantly, she has learned where she used to be when her teachers caught her dreaming.

She was Natalie Goldman back then, and only now, decades later, can she truly understand the significance of those long-ago daydreams. The hazily recalled interior of a rambling house in Canada where she spent her first two years of life. The thrilling half-knowledge of a woman who, perhaps, looked a lot like her. Natalie, who lives in Lakewood, is 54 now, and just coming to terms with all she has learned.

In August, she took a trip to Halifax, Nova Scotia, for a reunion of men and women adopted 50-some years ago--many by Jewish families in North Jersey--from the notorious Ideal Maternity Home, a hardscrabble place near Canada's rocky coast. A field where underbrush grows over sections of the maternity home's ruined foundation. A stretch of land beneath which, they say, the long-dead babies lie buried, each in its sad, rude coffin. It is known as the Butterbox Baby Scandal, and the passage of time has done little to dim the horror. The Ideal Maternity Home burned to the ground years ago--but in its heyday, from the 1920's until the mid-1940's, it was a baby mill. The couple who ran it sold infants for \$1,000 to \$10,000, a small fortune for the time. Former employees have told far worse stories about the home for unwed mothers, which was forced to close in 1946. At times, they said, babies deemed unmarketable--sick or otherwise "imperfect"--were starved to death on a diet of molasses and water. Their bodies were buried in wooden butter crates--22 inches long, 10 inches wide, 10 inches deep--from the LaHave Creamery in Nova Scotia. In 1992, Canadian TV reporter Bette Cahill published a book about the scandal, "Butterbox Babies."

The Ideal Maternity Home was one of the few that permitted adoptions across religious lines at a time when few Jewish babies were available. Natalie's life with her adoptive parents was good. Louis and Mabel Goldman of Newark--he, a lawyer, she, a teacher--were gentle and loving parents who called Natalie their "chosen" child. It was their devotion that made her vow to adopt children herself one day. And it was their reticence that led her to repeat the pattern of silence. Natalie told her children that they were adopted, just as her parents had told her. But she never shared her conflicted feelings about adoption. Never told them about imagining the Queen of England to be her mother. Never described the nightmares in which her real mother snatched her away from the only parents she'd ever know. Never admitted how she longed for a snapshot that let her see herself in another's face--the small, straight nose passed from generation to generation; the unmistakable arch of an eyebrow.

Natalie finally hired Joe Collins, a Morristown private investigator who specialized in adoption searches. She told him what little she knew: The name of the maternity home in Nova Scotia. The name of her birth mother, Violet Hamilton. Her own given name, Helen Hamilton. The date she thought she was born, January 26, 1944. And she admitted to herself what she never had admitted before. "I wanted my Mommy," Natalie says, in a voice gone so small that it might be a child's. "In a very real, primal way, I wanted my real Mommy."

It didn't take long before Collins unearthed the chilling scandal of the Ideal Maternity Home. He sent a copy of Cahill's out-of-print book to Natalie, with little pink markers stuck on pages that held pertinent information, such as the home's affiliation with a Newark attorney, which explained why hundreds of babies wound up in North Jersey. The past was difficult to absorb, but the next bit of news from Collins was devastating. Natalie's birth mother was dead. Violet Hamilton died in 1986. "It's unraveled her," her son, David, says.

But some good news softened the bad. After 53 years, Natalie Goldman Weinstein was no longer an only child. Four of Violet's children still lived in Canada; a fifth had died only recently. After her initial contact, Natalie received a manila envelope stuffed with pictures--all five siblings, grinning at the camera. And here -- here was

her mother. The woman whose eyebrows arched like perfect rainbows. Whose small, straight nose was the same as her own. Her fascination with family was tempered by an adoptee's fear of abandonment. Will she siblings turn their backs if she say the wrong thing? Will they resent her as the living reminder of their mother's shame? It certainly didn't seem that way during the reunion, when they converged to welcome her. "Well, little girl, her eldest brother said, "it took you a very long time, but you finally found your way home."

Now, Natalie collects scraps of knowledge about her birth mother, piecing them together as patiently as a quiltmaker. In this, her siblings join her. One brother recalls a friend asking if his mom was pregnant. And his innocent response: "My dad's dead, how can she be?" Shirley remembered a once glimpsed letter from New Jersey, assuring Violet Hamilton that her baby daughter was fine. "I was never able to find that letter again," Shirley says, "and I convinced myself that, 'You just wanted a sister so bad, you just dreamed it.'" But, no, the letter was lying on their mother's night stand when she died. Shirley believes her mother wanted it known at last. As for Natalie's father, she and her brothers think he must have been a soldier passing through the wartime port of Halifax. One of those who bought them ice cream and took them to the movies, just to be close to their pretty mother. Meeting Natalie closed the chapter for them. We're so pleased and thrilled about it," Shirley says, on the phone from Canada. "It's like getting back a little bit of our mother."

The journey has hit Natalie Weinstein hard. She visited the site where the maternity home once stood. She found Mabel Goldman's signature on the guest resister of the boarding home next door. Its owner, now in her 90's, told Natalie how adoptive parents walked between rows of cribs -- the girls on one side, boys on the other -- and "picked out their babies like they were picking out apples in the supermarket." She paid tribute to her past by laying a wreath of violets and roses -- for her birth mother's name and her adoptive mother's favorite flower -- at the memorial to all the Butterbox Babies, living and dead.

Natalie has joined a monthly support group for adoptees and adoptive parents, begun to see a therapist, and wrestled with feelings of abandonment and guilt and loss and sorrow. She has taken a leave of absence from work to try to cope with it all. "They say peace comes after all of this," she says, "I would say I'm still waiting for that." She dwells on the life that might have been. Some days, it is a struggle just to get out of bed. But she has taken baby steps toward healing; she celebrated turning 54 in September, rather than in January -- her actual date of birth, and not the made-up one. "This is," Natalie said on that day, "like my first birthday.

HEY, SAILOR!

From Family Tree On-Line, Volume 2, Number 5, Oct/Nov

An act of Congress in 1796 made provisions for Seaman Protection Certificates, which were issued as proof of citizenship to protect United States seamen from being "shanghaied" into a navy in a foreign port. These certificates are on file in Washington, DC, having been indexed by the WPA in the 1930's. For more information, write Judicial Fiscal and Social Branch, Civil Archives, Washington, DC 10408.

MASSACHUSETTS DESOLVES COUNTY GOVERNMENTS

Submitted by Richard Drake via NEHGS Nexus Newsletter Vol. XIV, No. 6

The legislation abolishing county governments in Massachusetts, enacted 11 July 1997, should bring no noticeable changes to offices frequented by genealogical researchers. The Commonwealth will assume ownership of county courthouses, and the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth will continue to operate Registries of Deeds and Probate at their current locations.

Once significant organs of local government, counties have gradually surrendered many functions to other government branches. Citing calls to abolish counties in New Jersey, some observers predicted that Massachusetts would be followed by other states seeking greater government efficiency. Only Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island have fewer counties than Massachusetts, with fourteen, so entrenched bureaucracies may prove a greater hurdle in other states. -Andrew B. Searle-

OUR OWN AL BROWER HEIR TO A FORTUNE??

Submitted by Alfred H. Brower

Some time ago, PCHSGC member Alfred H. Brower received a letter from a Mrs. Joan Baumgarten (she being a Brower) residing at 5540 Maple Road, Voorheesville, New York 12186. The material Baumgarten had enclosed was said to be typed from Written Copy of Last Will and Testament of Anike-Jans Bogardus Brower. It read as follows:

"Here at last ending a hunt of two centuries or more is the Last Will and Testament of Anike Jans Bogardus Brower, and its' discovery in an old chest in the little town of Gap, Pa., has stirred things up in this far east town as is likely to do throughout the width and breadth of this Country and Canada, where the heirs and claimants of the property involved now number hundreds.

"As nearly everyone knows, the principal property involved this famous case consists of real estate on lower Broadway, now involved at \$600,000,000. Also, there is about \$12,000,000 on deposit in New York banks awaiting claimants which has been difficult to divide until the long Last Will could be located. Then in a bank in Haarlen, Holland there is reported to be a dowry of \$40,000,000 guilders ready to be distributed to the legal heirs. The Kiersteads of Past Port are included among the heirs. Among them is professor Joe Patterson, now nearing 70th birthday. He was born in East Port, his mother having been born in Nova Scotia in 1835. She was a Kierstead, coming to East Port. When a girl, she was married at the age of 17 to George H. Patterson. For more than 50 years, he was a "Trouper," being a solo banjo player and showman. After traveling 64,000 miles throughout Canada and the United States in show business, he had retired and is back in his home in his native town of East Port. He has spent many years of his life trying to locate the long missing Will and is eagerly looking forward to receiving a share of the great fortune yet unsettled. He is very familiar with all the information so far gathered and gives his story of the celebrated case.

"The New York property includes the Singer building, Stock Exchange, Little Trinity Church, and other valuable lands along lower Broadway. Anike Jans was a daughter of William of Orange who later became William the Third, King of England. He was Stadholder of Holland. This daughter of a royal family fell in love with Everadus Bogardus. He was a private citizen of Amsterdam, Holland. Such a match was not looked upon with favor by King William, so the happy young couple came to America and where married. Soon after arriving in New York, Bogardus became Rector of the now known as Little Trinity on lower Broadway. The 226th anniversary of the church was celebrated this year in May. It was the anniversary five years previous to the death of William III. It is said he relented before his death and did not want to leave his runaway daughter forgotten.

"He had left in trust in a bank in Holland, a large sum of money. Everadus Bogardus started on the voyage across the Atlantic to secure the dowry, but was drowned while making the trip. His widow later married the next Rector of the little church. His name was Brower or as sometimes Brouwer. His mother was a Kierstead. It is here that the East Court heirs can trace claim to the vast estate. As far is as known, Brower did not go to Holland to claim the dowry of his wife, Anike-Jans Bogardus. She had granted a 99 year lease of her large amount of valuable New York lands along lower Broadway. It is stated in the Will that at the expiration of the 99 year lease, these lands shall be sold and proceeds distributed among all the heirs living.

"The Will had evidently been deposited in the archives of the Little Trinity Church which acted as trustee. It disappeared in later years but in May 1922, it was reported found in an old chest in a church in the little town of Gap, PA.

"A farmer of Holland descent, William Schnept, was credited with its discovery. The celebrated document contained four written pages of parchment. It is now wrinkled and worn and in spots with mildew showing effect of considerable handling during the past two centuries. From the big red wax seal, worn and faded ribbon, the Brower Will has been declared original."

---End of Letter---

THEIR VOYAGE TO AMERICA

Submitted by Maryjane Proctor and Joan Springwaldt

The transatlantic voyage to America was a often terrible ordeal for the emigrants. Sailing ships were designed to carry cargo, not passengers, and there was little effort to adapt them for human comfort. Apart from bringing on provisions - flour, potatoes, oatmeal, tea, some salted fish, and water (often stored in rancid casks used previously for oil or other containment's), a captain merely would lay down a temporary deck over the cargo and construct narrow, flimsy berths that could be dismantled after the voyage.

Passengers were packed tightly, often with no more than a few square feet of space per person. There were no toilet facilities and no windows, so sanitation and ventilation were serious problems. Conditions varied among vessels, but nearly all emigrants on sailing ships, regardless of class, had to suffer overcrowding and disorder, seasickness, a foul atmosphere, and poor food. A trip took anywhere from five weeks to two months; a few recorded trips took 100 days or more. Storms made things much worse. With the ship pitching and creaking, decks awash, hatches battened down, people were sick everywhere; it was a miserable experience.

Worse yet was the knowledge that at any moment disaster could strike in the form of fire, shipwreck, or epidemic. On a wooden ship, lighted candles and open cooking fires were a constant hazard. It was not unusual for more than 100 people to die of shipboard fires in a single year. Shipwrecks, too, took their toll. In the terrible winter of 1853-54, 200 German immigrants drowned when their ship was driven onto the New Jersey shore, and 480 emigrants and their ship out of Glasgow disappeared altogether.

Much more common and lethal were epidemics. Typhus or "ship fever", spread by lice, produced a frightful mortality rate. In 1847, the worst year of the Irish Famine, a total of 7,000 emigrants died of typhus at sea and 10,000 more after arrival in Quebec. Another scourge was Asiatic cholera, caused by an intestinal microbe and spread in contaminated water. The worst year for cholera was 1853, when ten to fifteen percent of the passengers on some ships succumbed to the disease.

With all dire possibilities, there still were pleasant moments at sea. Certainly, no entertainment was provided by the shipping lines but in good weather, passengers could go on deck. Men and boys might help the sailors haul sail or make repairs. Women and girls sat on deck reading or chatting. Children played with homemade toys, marbles, cards, and dominoes. There were worship services, sometimes music and dancing.

With the advent of steam, the quality of transatlantic passage was gradually elevated from potentially deadly to merely uncomfortable. By the 1870's the trip had been shortened to ten to fourteen days on the average, reducing the threat of epidemics. Typhus and smallpox still cropped up occasionally, but at least all ships by then had physicians on staff, and conditions in steerage had been improved enough to control contagion to some degree.

To learn more about Their Voyage to America, try contacting these institutions which hold Maritime Collections:

Center of Military History,

20 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20314 Ph: (202) 761-5420

Independence Seaport Museum,

211 S. Columbus Blvd. & Walnut Street, Phila. PA 19106 Ph: (215) 925-5439

Inland Rivers Library,

Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, Eighth & Vine, Cincinnati, OH 45202 (513) 369-6957

Voyage, Continued from Page 7

Mariners' Museum,
Newport News, VA 23606 Ph: (804) 595-0368

Mystic Seaport Museum,
Blunt White Library, Mystic, CT 06355 Ph: (860) 572-0771

National Maritime Museum at San Francisco,
Foot of Polk Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 Ph: (415) 556-8177

Peabody Essex Museum,
East India Square, Salem, MA 01970 Ph: (508) 745-1876

South Street Seaport Museum,
207 Front Street, NY, NY 10038 Ph: (212) 669-9400

Naval History Center,
Building 57, Washington, DC 20374 Ph: (202) 433-7880

U.S. Army Military Institute,
Carlisle Barracks, PA 170-5008 Ph: (717) 245-3434

"DEAR ABBY"

Submitted by Jean Pellegrino

Dear Abby: When my mother died in 1995 at the age of 83, she left behind five cartons of loose photographs that she had intended to sort and label. "Sometime when I have time," she always said. I couldn't identify half the people in the pictures, but I knew who could.

After the funeral and lunch at the small country church, I spread the photographs on two tabletops and invited the gathered relatives to dig through them to select those photos they wanted for themselves or for others they know who were in them. For more than three hours, the survivors marveled, laughed, and reminisced about days gone by. My uncles and aunts identified the individuals in the frames, sought out the person to tell them the occasion and setting when the picture was taken, and then handed them the pictures. Everyone left with a handful of precious memories.

-Bill B. from Minnesota-

BOSTON PASSENGER LISTS AND NEW ENGLAND NATURALIZATION RECORDS, 1791 - 1906

Submitted by Richard Drake via The Stacks, RIHS Library Newsletter Summer/Fall 1997

Until recently, the only local source for passenger arrival lists and naturalization records was the National Archives Branch in Waltham, Massachusetts. However, due to a gift from Broderbund Software, the New England Historic Genealogical Society has acquired the following microfilms:

- Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels arriving at Boston, MA, 1848 -1891
- Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels arriving at Boston Jan 1 1902 - June 30, 1906
- Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels arriving at Boston July 1 1906 - Dec. 31, 1920
- Index to New England Naturalization Records, 1791 - 1906.

The "new" library in Boston is now open for business and is located at 101 Newbury Street. Hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Tues., Fri., and Sat. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wed. and Thurs.

ALBUMS

Submitted by David L. Mishkin

Everyone in the family knows about your strong interest in the family history and genealogy. That's why those photo albums were left in your care, to preserve and protect them for future generations. But some of those albums have the black paper that someone told you is not acid-free and is not good for the longevity of the photographs. In addition, you also have some of the more modern "magnetic pages" albums which you also heard were not good for photographic storage. Since you have been asked to be the family depository, you need to make some important storage decisions yet can't afford to spend a lot of money doing so. There are several ways to properly store your photographs and documents and this can be done without spending lots of money (unless you want to do so).

The oldest type albums (about 1860) were usually made of cloth or embossed leather, with numerous adornments (painted insets, porcelain knobs, brass, and sometimes gold latches) and housed either tintypes or albumen photographs. (Albumen, the white of a chicken egg, is used in photography as a base for holding light sensitive silver solutions to a paper.) Each page was a very heavy card stock with a thin paper backing. There was usually a slot that allowed the photographer to slip the print or tintype into this pocket. The front was cut out just to the image area allowing the viewing of the photograph. This style of album would remain popular into the next century.

In the 19th century, most of the photographs that were printed on paper, were printed on a very thin paper stock. They were usually mounted on a thicker board to prevent curling or cracking of the photograph. With the turn of the century, photographs were being printed on a much heavier stock. Because the print itself was more stable, the prints were able to be presented in a scrapbook type of album. These albums frequently had black pages and the collector or photographer identified these images using a quill type pen with white, opaque ink. For many years photographers were gluing the photographs to the black pages until the usage of corner mounts made it very easy to insert and remove photographs from the album pages. Although this was a much preferred method for inserting into the album, the album and pages themselves were the problem in the preservation of photographs. Some of the reasons that this paper was bad for storage was that it contained a sizing chemical which had a high acidic content; it contained lignin which breaks down into acids and peroxides; and the black paper was made black from dyes which are also destructive agents. Besides the paper problem itself, some of the glues used had a high acidic content. In addition to the backs of the photographs being attacked by all this acid and other chemicals, the front of the photographs frequently came in direct contact with the black paper from the adjacent side of the album when the page was closed.

One simple solution to this problem is to remove the photographs from the album. While this will certainly preserve the photograph, it does nothing to help preserve the memories or the integrity of the album. After all, there is usually some important information written in the albums describing the photographs, and if the person that wrote in it is a relative, it is nice to have their handwriting preserved as well as the photographs. An easy, yet fairly inexpensive, alternative is to use a piece of acid free paper in between each page to prevent the migration of acids from the paper to the photograph. This technique is called interleaving and the paper can be purchased at any archival supply house. A similar method is to purchase sheets of Mylar and slip these in every page of the album. While this is more costly, it has the advantage of allowing you to see both sides of the page without removing the interleaving sheet. This method is helpful to both of the previously mentioned albums.

About 25 years ago many album manufacturers came out with a new product called magnetic pages. These were made from a thick paperstock and coated with glue strips. There was a Mylar plastic covering both sides of this stock and it was claimed that this was a good way to preserve photographs. After being on the market for about 15 years, conservators recognized that the glue being used had a high acidic content. So much so, that after only 10 to 15 years in storage, new photographs were starting to show signs of deterioration. The acid was eating through the backs of the photographs and the Mylar was sealing in the acidic fumes causing a deterioration on the image side as well. In addition, some manufacturers were using PVC (Poly-Vinyl Chloride) instead of Mylar.

PVC is a plastic that has poor storage qualities and accelerates deterioration. Although most manufacturers have discontinued making these magnetic pages, there are still some out there that are producing them. There are much better systems available to store your photographs today and many of them make provisions for identifying your photographs. Below is a list of archival supply catalogs that you can order at no charge. These catalogs have several different types of photo albums from the no-frills and less expensive type to the ornate and quite expensive.

Now suppose that you have several of these albums, and they contain some important family photographs that you are trying to preserve. Because they are using glue to hold down the photos, it is going to be difficult to remove them from the album. In fact, you should try to lift up one corner and GENTLY lift to see if you can remove it easily. If you can't and try to force it, you will more than likely rip the photograph. An easier method is to dissolve or melt the glue so you can once again try to lift it from the page. One method of removal is to place a page into a microwave oven and turn it on for five seconds. You need to wait five to ten seconds and turn it on for another five seconds. Follow this procedure for five to six cycles. You MUST do this intermittently because if you just try to hurry the process and turn on the microwave for thirty+ seconds, the glue will become so hot it will probably burn the print. Once the glue is dissolved, then you can try to lift up the corner again VERY CAREFULLY. Do not force it or you may rip the print. If this technique does not work, then you will be better off leaving the print in the album, rather than forcing its removal.

The most important details that you need to remember about albums are that they are used to protect and preserve your photographs. The aesthetics of the album are only secondary to the preservation qualities of the album. The costs of these albums may seem high, but you are not only paying for archival properties, you are also paying for research and development of these products. Make sure the materials that are used in manufacturing are approved for longevity and always purchase your supplies from reputable sources. Here are some suggestions:

University Products, Inc.,
517 Main Street, P.O. Box 101,
Holyoke, MA 01041-0101
(Telephone: 1-800-762-1165)

Gaylord Brothers,
POB 4901
Syracuse, NY 13221-4901
(Telephone: 1-800-634-6307)

Conservation Resources International, Inc.,
8000-H Forbes Place,
Springfield, VA 22151
(Telephone: 1-703-321-7730)

Light Impressions,
439 Monroe Avenue, POB 940
Rochester, NY 14603-0940
(Telephone: 1-800-828-6216)

Note: Submitter David L. Mishkin is President of "Just Black & White," specializing in copying, enhancing and restoring family photographs, and also offers timely advice for preserving memories. Visit: <http://www.maine.com/photos> or telephone 1-800-827-5881. (E-mail: photos@maine.com)

DROP IN WEDDINGS

From Family Tree Online V2, #5, Oct Nov

In the early 1900s, many counties required waiting periods or pre-marital tests before a couple could legally marry. Sometimes the couples did not want to wait, so they would travel to another, more lenient, county.

For instance, in the mid 1930s, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Illinois all had some kind of time restriction. But Iowa, did not. As a result, an unusual number of weddings took place in the court house of Winneschick County, at Decorah, in Northeast Iowa.

If you are bewildered in your search for a marriage license for a couple you know did marry, check the nearby areas. Maybe the couple "dropped-in" for a more lenient reception!

FOLK FINDER

Bernice L. Forrest

The Folk Finder Column is devoted to helping genealogical researchers locate Northern New Jersey ancestors/descendants. We invite researchers to submit requests for help, inquiries about family names, or queries concerning the exchange of information. Requests and inquiries may be e-mailed to me at 102114.155@CompuServe.COM or faxed to me at 201-337-1679. Queries by mail should be sent to Passaic County Historical Society, Lambert Castle, Valley Road, Paterson, NJ 07503 Attn: Bernice Forrest - "Folk Finder." If you can help any of our submitters, please contact them directly.

1. **SUTHOFF**: Looking for relatives or information about Henry J. **SUTHOFF** b. Dec 1850 in PA., d. 15 Jul 1912 in Preakness, Passaic Cty., NJ.; m. Jennie **WRIGLEY** abt 1880. Owned property on Ratzer Road in what now is Wayne NJ; at that time it was known as Preakness. He is found in the 1895 NJ Census, 1900 US Census, and the 1905 NJ Census. I am also looking for information about his mother and father. His mother was Mary A. **SUTHOFF** (maiden name unknown), b. 8 Oct 1817, d. 3 Dec 1885 in Preakness, Passaic Cty., NJ. Submitted by Barney Byle, 1465 Kooser Road, San Jose CA 95118-3429, Email: INTERNET: barendb@earthlink.net.

2. Searching for information on these family names in Passaic County: **ALEXANDER, ALLBROOKS, BROPHY, BROWN, CARROLL, CLARK, DECKER, DESTAFANO, DOUGHERTY, DWYER, EGAN, FRITZ, GEANEY, GLASS, GRANT, HANNA, HOURIHAN, HUNT, KUNZEN, LAGOS, LAWLER, LEE, LEONHARD, MCHUGH, MCNAMARA, MILLIGAN, MULROONY, O'BRIEN, POST, QUIGLEY, QUINN, ROJEK, SAVASTANO, SPERNOW, TRUMIUS, WALL, WALTER, WOLEK.** Submitted by: R. James Mulrooney, 301 County Road 446, Bovey, MN 55709 Telephone: (218) 247-3161

3. **BERGSTROM**, Hannah: Searching for information on Hannah **BERGSTROM** born in Paterson, NJ and buried in Cedar Lawn Cemetery. Parents are Walter and Ella **VAN KEUREN BERGSTROM**. Submitted by Robert G. Stephenson, 1142 Pine Bluff Avenue, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742 Ph: 908-899-4422

4. **DIXON**: Looking for any information on Martha **STEPHENSON DIXON** (b. abt. 1812 - d. 1875). May be possible sister to my great-grandfather, Waterhouse **STEPHENSON** of Paterson, NJ. At Batley, England in 1832, Martha married James **DIXON** (b. 1810 in Leeds area of England; d. 1879 at Gildersome). The union produced ten children; Joseph (b. 1833), Sophia (b.1835), Emma (b. 1837), Andrew (b. 1838), Mary (b. 1840), Elizabeth (b. 1842), Ann (b. 1844), Caroline (b. 1846), Johnathan (b. 1848), and Charlotte (b. 1850).

Daughter Emma **DIXON** married George **DIXON** in 1861 in Gildersome, England. Two of Emma and George **DIXON**'s children, Alice and Amy **DIXON**, traveled to Paterson, NJ in 1895 and stayed with their "cousin," Waterhouse **STEPHENSON** until they returned to England. Submitted by: Robert G. Stephenson, 1142 Pine Bluff Avenue, Point Pleasant, NJ 08742 Ph: 908-899-4422

OF THAT ILK

From Family Tree Online Volume 2, Number 5, Oct/Nov

Many times in our Scottish literature, we come across the term, "of that ilk." Most of the time it follows the name of a Clan Chief. Some are puzzled about the term.

The Old English word, "ilca" means "same." The term "of that ilk" was used in both Scotland and England but over time has come to have different meanings in both countries. In England, the term "ilk" means "kind" or "class." However, in Scotland, the phrase has more to do with kinship. According to the Concise Scots Dictionary by Mairi Robinson, "of that ilk" designates the head of a landed family. For example, the head of the Macpherson from the Macpherson estate would be referred to as "Macpherson of that ilk."