

Maine Genealogical Society Newsletter

December 2024 Vol. XXXIX No. 4

President's Welcome

Happy Holiday everyone! The end of the year is drawing near and I hope all of you are ready for the busiest time of the year and able to be with your families.

Sadly, we lost some two notable MGS members this year, Jack Battick, who was a former MGS President and History Professor at the University of Maine and past President of the Wassebec Chapter of MGS. He and his wife, Nancy had published the 3 volume set of the Vital Records of Dover-Foxcroft, Maine. There was also the passing of Flossie (Harnden) Dere, who had been a long-time member of MGS and active in the Sandy River Chapter of MGS as well as several other Historical and Genealogical Societies.

This past year we had some great speakers at our Spring Workshop and our Fall Conference in Bangor and some great speakers.

We also began our first big donation of \$1000 to local Maine organization, the Exeter Historical Society. I look forward to 2025 and NERGC in the Fall in Manchester, New Hampshire.

I wanted to extend my thanks to the MGS Board members and our Events Committee for all the hard work they do behind the scenes all year round and also thank our members for your continued support of MGS.

Happy New Year to all.

Peter Smith President

Officers and Editor

| President | Treasurer | Corresponding Secretary Charlene Fox Clemoms Foxtail10000@yahoo.com | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Peter Smith Pmsmi2011@yahoo.com | Terry A Gerald eucliddanson@twc.com | | | |
| Vice President | Membership Secretary | Newsletter Editor | | |
| Jesse Casas | Deborah Nowers | Jayne A Jordan | | |
| jessecasas@fairpoint.net | debnowers@gmail.com | jalisonj@hotmail.com | | |

From the Membership Secretary

We ended the year with 764 members.

Welcome to eleven new members to end 2024:

Brent Bubar, Woodland, ME 5721 Paula Harvard, Woolrich, ME 5727

Kelly Neptune, Bangor, ME 5722 Judith Geer, Brunswick, ME 5729

Roger Ring, Purcellville, VA 5723 Melvina Annis, Lewes, DE 5730

Colin Kane, East Lyme, CT 5724 Diane Deci, Topsham, ME 5731

Ryann Russell, Vassalboro, ME 5725 Heidi Patton, Arlington, MA 5732

Wendi Tomlinson, Fayetteville, GA 5726

We also welcome back Ernest Helliwell, and Bethe Clark-Urban

Sadly, we also note the passing of long-time members:

Flossie Deer, September 2024

John Barrick, Past MGS President, October 2024

Daisy Thomas, October 2024

Thanks to those who have renewed for 2025. The checks and Pay Pals have been coming steadily. I have mailed new membership cards for those who requested them. If I missed you, let me know.

Also, remember that if you enjoy the emailed newsletter and would forgo a printed copy, you can reach me at debnowers@gmail.com. You may also request TMG in electronic form only. If you have already made either request, you need not do it again. I have your name on my growing "newsletter-email only" and "TMG" lists.

MGS Awards \$1000 to the Exeter Historical Society



Peter Smith, President of MGS, Petra Helbig, Board Member of Exeter Hist Society. Samantha Gudroe, President of Exeter Hist Society

The first recipient of the Ernest Helliwell Fund is the Exeter Historical Society. Petra Helbig and Samantha Gudroe of the Exeter Historical Society joined members at the MGS Fall Conference. President Peter Smith presented them with a \$1000 check. The Exeter Historical Society plans to purchase a scanner to help with the preservation of their records.

Odd Names found in genealogy

Humor in genealogical research is often found in the names our ancestors had to bear. One of my favorites is one from my early years in the field of genealogy. A man named Hatevil Hall. I wondered what would possess a parent to give their child such a name. Hatevil was apparently a popular first name among the Quakers and Puritans in the 17th and 18th centuries. Then there are the ancestors who share names with celebrities. Residing in my tree are a Julia Roberts and a Betty White. My eighth great grandfather gave eight of his twelve children 'emotional' names. Sedate, Serene, Meek, Bliss, Verity, Lenity, Polite and Lowly. Sedate had a son and grandson named Sedate. That is my line – Sedate, Sedate, Sedate. Anyone who knew me as a youngster would wonder how I could come from a line of Sedates. The first Sedate had a great aunt whose name is one of my favorites – Desire Bacon. F

Many of the names that we find a bit odd were quite common in their day. Peter Smith has found quite a few within his tree. In fact, the Bliss I mentioned who was a sibling to my Sedate is one of Peter's ancestors. It was Peter's suggestion for this topic. Who knew we would learn we are cousins. Within his tree you will find Charity, Content, Deliverance, Desire, Experience, Faith Fear and Grace. There is Harmony, Honor, Hope, Love, Mercy, Preserved, Prudence, Recompence, Remember and Gift. You will find Silence, Submit, Sufferance, Temperance, Trial and Wealthy. One of my favorites in Peter's line is a young lady named Thankful Lord. She is reported in one document as Thanks ye Lord. Though as Peter reports that may be a bit much to believe.

In the course of my research, I have seen the names Preserved Fish and Ima Bird among the oddities. I would love to hear about the strange names you have found in your trees or research. Perhaps they will be featured in a future article. Please email me: jalisonj@hotmail.com

Chapter News

From the Editor:

Within the Maine Genealogical Society there are 11 chapters. As editor I would like to have information about what your chapter has been doing. What events are planned? Who have you had as speakers or will have at future meeting? What subjects are your members interested in/working on? Has your chapter found an interesting website or repository? Some meet in public libraries. What records of special interest do those libraries hold? Has your chapter been involved in solving a mystery that has been brick wall? Was this mystery solved through an unusual source or record? Make 2025 the year your chapter becomes an active participant in the Maine Genealogical Society Newsletter.

Some information may need to be edited or go unused because of space. Apologies in advance.

Email your information to: jalisonj@hotmail.com

Wawenoc Chapter

We continue our hybrid meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at 2 pm at the Belfast Library. Nate Clifford presented on his family research in September. Our postponed trip to the State Library happened in October. November is our annual family history show and tell where we bring treasures from our ancestors and share the stories that go with them. We take December off and will start January with our annual meeting.

All are welcome in person or on ZOOM and most of our programs are recorded and available on the Belfast Library YouTube account.

Maine Genealogical Society Chapters

Penobscot County Genealogical Society

Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow Street,

Bangor, Me

Meets: 3rd Wednesday of each month

FB: www.pengen.org

Chapter Rep: Julie Brownie jsgbrownie@gmail.com

Wawenoc Genealogical Society

Belfast Free Library, 106 High Street, Belfast,

Me

Meets: 2pm, 3rd Wednesday of each month

Chapter Rep: Deborah Nowers

debnowers@gmail.com

Aroostook County Genealogical Society

Archival Room, Caribou Public Library, 30 High Street, Caribou, Me

[FB] www.ac-gs.org

Meets: 6:30 pm (social time 6:00), 4th Monday

of each month, (except May and Dec)

Chapter Rep: Donald Savage Dsavage7@maine.rr.com

Wassebec Genealogical Society

Thompson Free Library

Main Street, Dover-Foxcroft, Me **Meets:** on select Sundays at 2 pm **Contact for dates:** Shirley Wright

Swright345@gmail.com
Chapter Rep: Ken Beach
Kenandann.beach@gmail.com

Hancock County Genealogical Society

Riverview Room, Ellsworth Public Library, 20 State Street, Ellsworth, Me [FB] https://hancockgenealogy.me

Meets: 10 am, 2nd Saturday of each month

Chapter Rep: Ralph Harris CVFD4208@outlook.com

The Sandy River Valley Chapter of MGS

Cutler Memorial Library (Farmington Public) or Farmington LDS Facility,

www.sandyriver.maineroots.org

Contact: Flossie E Dere flossiedere@gmail.com (207) 645-2257

Greater Portland Chapter of MGS

First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Road, South Portland, Me

[FB] https://facebook.com/groups/gpcmgs

Meets: 1PM First Saturday of the month Sept through

June

(except Dec) Meets by Zoom: January, February,

March

Chapter Rep: Diane Holden gpcmgs@gmail.com

Mid Coast Chapter of MGS

Rockport Public Library, Limerock Street, "downtown"

Rockport, Me

Meets: 6:30 pm, 4th Wednesday of the month

Chapter Rep: Helen A Shaw helenshawme@gmail.com

Washington County Historical and Genealogical

Society

Meets: Quarterly See website:

https://mail.maineroots.org/chapters/washington-

county-historical-society

Contact: Washington County Manager: rgmanager@washingtoncountymaine.com

Taconett Falls Chapter of MGS

Genealogical Library, 10 Lithgow Street, Winslow. Me **Library open**: Wed 1pm-4pm, Sat 12pm-3pm (except

Jan, Feb, Mar)

taconettfalls11@yahoo.com

[FB] www.maineroots.org

Meets: 2 pm 3rd Sunday of the month

Chapter Rep: Bruce Hanson dkbjorn@beeline-online.net

MGS-DIG (DNA Interest Group)

VIA Zoom

Meets: 10am – Noon, 3rd Saturday each month

"Due to the sensitive discussions and materials on family member's DNA, this is a closed group, monthly

invitations are sent out to group members and to those to

ask to join"

All participants must agree to follow our Code of Ethics

To get a Zoom Invitation: Contact Nancy LeCompte
MaineDNA@outlook.com

MGS Pubications

| | | Printed | # of | MGS | Non | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|-------|---------|---------|---|
| Title | Author | Year | pages | Member | Member | Description |
| | | | | Price | Price | |
| Arrowsic VR | Grana, Debra I | 2016 | 244 | \$25.00 | \$33.00 | Vital Records up to 1939, 7070 Every Name |
| | Groves, Marlene A | | | | | Index |
| Boothbay-Southport VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2018 | 864 | \$40.00 | \$50.00 | Includes Never Microfilmed Records; map; |
| | | | | | | 30,512 Every Name Index |
| Bowdionham VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2019 | 800 | \$40.00 | \$50.00 | Vital records 1759-1892; Includes church and |
| | | | | | | pauper records; 20,403 Every Name Index |
| Bragdon Genealogy | Eaton FASG, Priscilla | 2023 | 776 | \$40.00 | \$55.00 | 17,411 Every Name Index; 3,003 Place Name |
| | | | | | | Index |
| Burpee Funeral Records | Groves, Marlene A | 2022 | 436 | \$25.00 | \$30.00 | Vital Records 1882-1903; 15,660 Every Name |
| (soft cover) | Beane, Cindy Perkins | | | | | Index, Rockland |
| Buxton VR | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 2023 | 800 | \$30.00 | \$35.00 | 28,795 Every Name Index |
| Canton VR | Childs, Gregory S | 2018 | 448 | \$30.00 | \$40.00 | 1759-1892 Includes Never Microfilmed |
| | | | | | | Records, 11,218 Every Name Index |
| Cushing VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2016 | 512 | \$35.00 | \$45.00 | 1735-1940; 15,628 Every Name Index |
| | Sullivan, Steven E | | | | | |
| Durham VR | McCoy PhD, Carol P | 2018 | 556 | \$30.00 | \$40.00 | 1767-1892; 15,063 Every Name Index Plus |
| | | | | | | Location and Subject Index |
| Eddington VR (soft cover) | Perry, Candy McMahan | 2023 | 184 | \$30.00 | \$35.00 | 1800-1922; 5,299 Every Name Index |
| | | | | | | |
| rd | Convert Mandage A | 3045 | 774 | 635.00 | 635.00 | 4774 4000 40 040 Comp. Name Index |
| Edgecombe VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2016 | 334 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | 1721-1900; 10,848 Every Name Index |
| Enfield-Greenbush VR | Nowers, Deborah K | 2019 | 223 | \$18.00 | \$25.00 | 5,170 Every Name Index |
| Etna VR | Sylvester, Arthur G | 1998 | 128 | \$20.00 | \$25.00 | 4,344 Every Name Index |
| | Spinney, Richard E | + | ļ | | | |
| Greenville-Shirley VR (soft | Groves, Marlene A | 2018 | 170 | \$18.00 | \$25.00 | 3,342 Every Name Index, map – Low |
| cover) | Constant Mandage A | 7000 | | £35.00 | **** | Inventory |
| Islesboro VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2000 | 512 | \$35.00 | \$45.00 | 16,261 Every Name Index |
| Jefferson VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2021 | 394 | \$30.00 | \$40.00 | 1757-1891, 12,370 Every Name Index |
| Lincoln County Deeds | Groves, Marlene A | 2021 | 736 | \$30.00 | \$35.00 | Master Deeds Index 1-100; 1760-1818; 88,00 |
| Index | | + | | * | | Entries |
| Littlefield Genealogy 2 nd | Eaton FASG, Priscilla | 2024 | 1063 | \$50.00 | \$65.00 | New 2 Vol Set – Updated and Expanded; |
| edition | | + | | 4 | * | 24,478 Every Name Index; 4,266 Place Index |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 1 | Gray, Ruth | 2016 | 384 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | 16,285 Every Name Index – Low Inventory |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 2 | Gray, Ruth | 2016 | 416 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | 18,049 Every Name Index – Low Inventory |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 4 | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 2016 | 416 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | 12,115 Every Name Index |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 6 | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 1998 | 608 | \$30.00 | \$40.00 | 14,291 Evey Name Index |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 7 | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 2001 | 672 | \$40.00 | \$50.00 | 15,147 Every Name Index |
| Maine Fam 1790 Vol 12 | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 2021 | 848 | \$40.00 | \$55.00 | 20,120 Every Name Index |
| Mount Vernon VR | Nelson, Sally F | 2016 | 544 | \$33.00 | \$40.00 | 17,237 Every Name Index |
| | Weymouth, Janet M | | | | | |
| Newcastle VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2015 | 381 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | 12,156 Every Name Index |
| Piscataquis County | Battick, John F and Nancy | 2020 | 426 | \$30.00 | \$40.00 | 1838-1891; 12,991 Every Name Index |
| Marriages | Groves, Marlene A | | | | | |
| Richmond VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2019 | 708 | \$35.00 | \$45.00 | 20,587 Every Name Index; Includes Pauper |
| | | | | | | Accounts, Tax Lists and Church Records |
| Stetson VR (soft cover) | Brownie, Julie S | 2022 | 250 | \$20.00 | \$25.00 | 1800-1939: 9,150 Evey Name Index |
| TMG Retrospective (soft | Anderson II FASG, Joseph | 2023 | 252 | \$20.00 | \$20.00 | Included are 25 main articles, at least one |
| cover) | | | | | | originally published each year from 1994- |
| | | | | | | 2015. Also articles from all the Contributing |
| | | | | | | Editors and most of our past presidents. |
| | | | | | | |
| Woolrich VR | Groves, Marlene A | 2015 | 646 | \$35.00 | \$45.00 | 1742-1892; 17,239 Every Name Index |

To ensure member pricing, accurate shipping charges and ME State sales tax (if applicable) please sign into the MGS website to place your order: maineroots.org

Not a Member? Join at maineroots.org Annual dues \$25.00

Wish to pay by check? Please e-mail <u>mainegenealogicalsociety@gmail.com</u> Please provide membership number (if applicable) and items you wish to order. We will email you with order total, including shipping and Me State sales tax.

No internet/e-mail access? Please contact Terry Gerald: 207-467-5557 to coordinate your order and payment.

Obituaries

Daisy Josephine Thomas July 1, 1933 – October 22, 2024

Daisy Josephine Thomas, 91, of Gorham, ME, died on October 22, 2024.

She was born on July 1, 1933 the daughter of Eric and Frieda (Kahle) Tentscher in Des Plaines, IL. After her graduation from Maine Township High School in Des Plaines, IL, Class of 1951, she met and married Fred E. Thomas on June 2, 1956, at NAS Wold-Chamberlian Air Field in Minneapolis, MN. They were married for 65 years and 1 day before Fred's death in June of 2021.

After raising her five children, Daisy returned to the workforce, working for a number of years in the healthcare and legal fields. She developed a passion for doing genealogy research of Fred's family and sharing all this information with many of the family members. Her largest challenge in this research was to find her own history which she recently found some distance relatives. Daisy was a member of American Ancestors, New Hampshire Historical Society, Maine Historical Society, and Maine Geological Society.

Daisy and Fred retired in the '90s and sold their farm on Oak Hill Road in Standish, purchased a RV and traveled for the next 20 years, making nine round trips from Arizona to California to Maine, always finding a different route to travel. Through their various travels they made many friends around the country and the world.

Daisy is survived by her daughters Linda Kellett, Susan Beliveau (Tom), Judy Kendrick (Kevin), and Diana Burgess (Steven). She is also survived by several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She was predeceased by her husband, Fred; her beloved son Dan; son-in-law Stephen Kellett; and her sister, Elenore Fiedler.

The family wishes to extend their gratitude to the many healthcare providers at the Gorham House that provided the comfort she needed during her stay.

At her request there will be no services at this time. To share memories and condolences with the family please go to www.DolbyBlaisSegee.com.

John "Jack" Francis Battick, Ph.D. April 12, 1932 – October 22, 2024

Dover-Foxcroft - John Francis Battick, Ph.D., 92, died October 22, 2024, at a Bangor hospital. He was born April 12, 1932, in North Haven, Connecticut, the son of Frank J. and Dorothy (Otto) Battick. As a child he traveled widely due to his father's career in the U.S. Navy, living for a while in San Diego, California, Shanghai and Tsintao (Quidao), China, San Francisco, Meriden, Connecticut, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Norman, Oklahoma, and Hawaii.

Over those years he attended ten different schools, graduating in the class of 1950 at Roosevelt High School in Honolulu. He attended Yale University and Boston University, receiving the Ph.D. from the latter in 1967. He was appointed instructor at Massachusetts Bay Community College in Boston, then Assistant Professor of History at the University of Maine, retiring as Associate Professor at UM in 1997.

He served on active duty in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1954, being appointed Recruit Chief Petty Officer (Commander of Company 2019) at the Recruit Training Center, San Diego, attended enlisted submarine school at New London, and served on board the U.S.S. Hardhead (SS-365) where he qualified in submarines, entitled to wear the coveted silver "dolphins" of that service.

In his career he taught basic courses in European and English history, Europe in the Renaissance, and E=Reformation, the Early Modern period, and finally his favorite subjects, maritime and naval history. He published articles in scholarly journals and was a popular speaker off campus. Following his retirement from UM he gave courses at the Piscataquis Valley Adult Education Center in Dover-Foxcroft.

Jack was a proud lifetime member of Maine Sub Base 1 and a Holland Club member. He was a former member of the Orono-Old Town Kiwanis Club where he served as President, 1986-1987. He was a member of the Maine Genealogical Society and served as President as well as President of the Wassebec Genealogical Society in Dover-Foxcroft. He was an Associate member and Camp Commander of the Daniel Chapman Camp, Department of Maine, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. As a member of the Dover-Foxcroft Historical Society he served as co-curator of the society' museum with his wife, Nancy. He and Nancy jointly published the Maine Genealogical Society three volume Vital Records of Dover-Foxcroft and the Vital Records of Piscataquis County. He served as a member of the Maine Historical Records Advisory Board, was a former trustee of the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath and the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport. Over the last years of his life, he wrote the histories of his paternal and maternal families in America, published

privately for family members. He was also a former member of the City of Old Town Planning Board, serving as Chairman, and then he served on the Dover-Foxcroft Planning Board.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 49 years, Nancy (Klimavicz) Battick; three sons of a previous marriage, Geoffrey (Gretchen) of Bangor, David and Lee Battick of Orono; three grandchildren, Jakob Battick and Milo Moyer-Battick of California, and Joanna Moyer-Battick of Portland; nephew, Luke Harold Vinson and great-nephew, Nigel Vinson, both of Honolulu; former daughter-in-law, Rebecca Moyer of Vermont; two goddaughters, Alicia Marini of Oregon and Angie Marini of South Portland; as well as many cousins and friends. He was predeceased by his sister, Stephanie Simpson. A memorial service with military honors will be held 11 a.m. Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at Lary Funeral Home, 62 Summer St., Dover-Foxcroft. Arrangements are in the care of Lary Funeral Home. Messages of condolence and memories may be expressed at laryfuneralhome.com.

Flossie Dere

We bid farewell to Flossie Dere (Farmington, Maine), whose journey of life gracefully concluded on September 13, 2024 at the age of 98. Flossie touched countless lives with warmth and kindness, leaving behind cherished memories that will forever echo in hearts. Family and friends are welcome to leave their condolences on this memorial page and share them with the family.

She was predeceased by: her parents, Earle Harnden and Minnie Buker Harnden; her spouse Christoper C. Dere of Grand Valley, Colorado.; and her brothers, Harland M. Harnden and Stanley N. Harnden.

She is survived by: her children, Crystal Dere Rienth (Fred Rienth) and Christopher E. Dere (Alfreda S. James); her grandchildren, Jason F. Rienth (Amanda Moss Rienth), Devon C. Rienth Hamidi (Joseph W. Hamidi) of Christopher, M. J and Samira S. J. Dere; her great grandchildren, Aiden, Ethan, Gavin Hamidi and Theodore Rienth; and her children, Dawn Harnden Smith (Royce "Rudy"), Cher Harnden Leclair, Vickie Harnden, Ben Harnden (Peggy), Debra Harnden Noyes (Charles), Heidi Harnden Beale, Nathan Harnden (Kandi), Samuel Harnden, Robin Harnden (Julie) and Jeanna Harnden. She is also survived by several nieces and nephews, including her brothers.

Jane M Macomber

Blanchard - Jane M. Macomber, beloved wife of William G. Macomber, died at Northern Light Mayo Hospital, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, surrounded by her family on December 19, 2024. She was the daughter of James H. Mealey and Virginia (Gardner) Mealey Judkins.

She was a 1958 graduate of Foxcroft Academy and also St. Mary's School of Nursing, Lewiston in 1961, receiving her RN in December of that year. She retired from the State of Maine, as a Public Health Nurse II, after 26 years. She found that retirement was not fulfilling and returned to nursing part time. She was a Past Worthy Advisor and Past Mother Advisor of Guilford Assembly #17, Order of Rainbow for Girls, and a holder of the Grand Cross of Colors, and was Grand Fidelity for the Grand Assembly of Rainbow for Girls in the state of Maine. She was also a Past Matron of Miriam Chapter #40, Order of Eastern Star in Dover-Foxcroft: was a Member of Susie Carr Chapter 181, where she received her 50-year lifetime membership; and Almeda Chapter #149. She served the Grand Chapter as a District Deputy Grand Matron, for District #17 in 1973-75; Grand Adah 1984-85; and Grand Representative to Georgia 1994-96.

She was the beloved wife of William G. Macomber to whom she was married for 61 years; beloved mother of James Lyle Macomber, his partner, Callie Moran, and grandmother of Crystal Rose (VT) and Virginia Jane (Boston); beloved mother of William George Macomber II, and grandmother of Meagan Jubinville and her husband, Jason (Ripley), William G. Macomber III (Sanford); and great-grandmother of Lila Jane Macomber (Destin, FL), and Benjamin Joseph Macomber (Atkinson). She is also survived by a special niece, Kimberly Smallidge of Ellsworth; three nephews; and a sister-in-law, Betsy Kopyc (Brunswick). She outlived her beloved sister, Dr. Marjorie M. Devine; as well as her daughter-in-law, Linda; and her parents.

A time of visitation will be held 4-6 p.m. Sunday, December 22, 2024, at Lary Funeral Home, 62 Summer Street, Dover-Foxcroft, with an OES service at 5:30 p.m. A memorial service will be held 1 p.m. Monday, December 23, 2024, with Pastor Ellen Bridge officiating at United Methodist Church, 156 East Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, with refreshments after the service in Harter Hall. Donations may be made to the James H. and Virginia G. Mealey Fund, Thompson Free Library, 186 East Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426. Arrangements are in the care of Lary Funeral Home. Messages of condolence and memories may be expressed at laryfuneralhome.com.

The following is an excerpt from an article on genealogy.com entitled 'Tips for Reading Old Records: Dangerous Dates and Word Meanings Where Does the Time Go?' by Genealogy.com The entire article may be found at:

https://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/75 reading.html

Genealogy.com has a variety of forums and articles for beginners and advanced genealogists. The site can be browsed by article, topic or country.

Wily Words

Some of today's most familiar words had different meanings previously, and the change in meaning quite often occurred in words referring to social relationships. For example, the word "cousin" often meant niece or nephew; and the title "Mrs." could show high social status, not necessarily marital status. There are a few other relationship terms that you should look out for:

- The terms "niece" and "nephew" spring from Latin words which meant "granddaughter" and "grandson," so you may find them used in that context.
 - When we use the words "junior" and "senior," we normally think of a father and son relationship. However, in the past, these words were used much more liberally and could refer to an uncle and nephew, or even to two people with the same name who were unrelated.
- The words "brother" and "sister" also were used in different ways. Members of the same church often referred to each other as brothers and sisters, and a married couple would refer to their brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law just as brothers and sisters.
 - If you see "good brother" or "good sister," the creator of the document wasn't playing favorites. It's just another way of saying "brother-in-law" or "sister-in-law." You might also come across "good son" or "good daughter" which are "son-in-law" and "daughter-in-law."
- The term "in-law" can also cause problems. In the past, "in-law" relationships could be either step relationships or the regular in-law relationship that we think of today.
- An "infant" didn't necessarily refer to a babe-in-arms. In many cases, this meant that the person in question was a person under legal age.

Misunderstanding and misinterpreting these terms can really twist the branches of your family tree, so when you're reading older records it is important to be cautious. When it is possible, verify information with other records. This is the best way to make sure that you have the correct information. In addition, look at the rest of the language in the document. The more arcane terms and spellings you find, the more careful you should be.



MAINE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 2602, Waterville, ME 04903

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP YEAR IS FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

| INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| First Class Mail (Optional – mail arrives sooner) | \$30.00 | | | |
| Standard Mail | \$25.00 | | | |
| All mail to foreign countries is required to be by First Class | s. | | | |
| Canada | \$34.00 | | | |
| Other countries | \$39.00 | | | |
| Name | | | | |
| | City | | | |
| Address: Street Zip + | | | | |
| Telephone: () (for official MC | GS use only) | | | |
| | dress: (for official MGS use only) | | | |
| | | | | |
| Amount Enclosed for Membership | \$ | | | |
| I also wish to contribute to the MGS Publications Fund | \$ | | | |
| I also wish to contribute to the MGS Speakers Fund | \$ | | | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: | (US FUNDS) \$ | | | |
| Please make checks payable to MAINE GENEALOGICAL | SOCIETY. | | | |
| Mail to: The Maine Genealog | ical Society | | | |

Join or Renew Online: https://maineroots.org/shop/membership

P.O. Box 2602 Waterville, ME 04903 Maine Genealogical Society PO Box 2602

Waterville, ME 04903

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. POSTAGE

MOVING?

Please keep the Society informed of your change of address.



The Maine Genealogical Society Newsletter