



Middlesex Genealogical Society

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the days get shorter and the weather colder, I, for one, start to spend more time working on my genealogy. All of the activities of the summer are over (although there will probably be a few more rounds of golf if the weather holds), and the kids have left for school and jobs. My lecture schedule has picked up, and I have more clients calling about research. I spend a great deal of time helping my clients figure out where to go next when they've hit that "brick wall." That's why I'm constantly looking for new information and ideas for research.

If you attended our October meeting, like me, you probably had some buzzers going off in your head as Dick Roberts talked about the material in the Connecticut State Library (see page 3). Even if you're not doing Connecticut research, you learned that there is material beyond Connecticut available in Hartford and, also, might have made a connection to similar material you could look for in another state library or archive. That's one of the great benefits of attending MGS meetings, getting ideas from the speakers and talking with like-minded people.

As Middlesex Genealogical Society celebrates its 20th anniversary, the purposes set forth by our founders still ground the organization: to promote interest in genealogy and family history; to disseminate information; to educate and to encourage the exchange of information. We strive to provide excellent speakers and educational programs to continue the traditions of the organization. With our newsletter we share information among our members and keep the membership informed of upcoming activities that we feel could be of interest.

Unfortunately, our costs continue to rise. At the September board meeting, therefore, it was voted to increase the dues (which have not been raised in many years) to \$20 a year for a single membership and \$25 for a couple, effective 1 January 2003. Those who wish to renew their membership prior to 1 December 2002, will be able to renew at the current rates of \$15 for an individual, \$20 for

a couple. Your membership supports five excellent educational programs, four newsletters, access to the society's library, as well as the Fatherley Collection of electronic media; and, best of all, access to vital records throughout the State of Connecticut by showing your Middlesex Genealogical Society membership card to the town clerk in any Connecticut town (this alone is worth the \$20!).

Don't forget to check out the upcoming meetings (see page 2) and mark them on your calendar. Bring a friend with you, and encourage your friend to join as well. Not only will you have a great learning experience at the meeting, but you'll have a research buddy.

Happy hunting!

Donna Moughty

JANE EDMUNDSON LEAVES BOARD

Because of heavy commitments elsewhere, Jane Edmundson has resigned from the MGS board of directors. Her wise counsel will be sorely missed. Jane served as our volunteer coordinator and has contributed a number of major articles to this newsletter. Thank you, Jane!

2003 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal is due 1 January 2003. *Please consider this to be your renewal notice.* You may use the form on the last page of this newsletter, or any piece of paper with the requested information on it. You may bring your renewal to our 16 November meeting, or drop it in the mail addressed to Middlesex Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 1111, Darien, CT 06820. *Please note:* Until 1 December you may pay your 2003 dues at the 2002 rate, i.e., \$15 individual, \$20 couple. After 1 December the new rate will be in effect: \$20 individual, \$25 couple.