



Middlesex Genealogical Society

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Darien, Fairfield County, CT

September 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank the members of the Middlesex Genealogical Society for the confidence they have shown in electing me to serve as president. I certainly feel honored and will work hard to make the future of the society as great as it has been in the past. I will be looking for opportunities to put our society out in front of the community and to bring us to new heights.

Many thanks and congratulations go to Donna Moughty for her dedication, hard work and leadership as she served us as president for so many years.

As I look to the future I will be looking for more involvement from the membership to volunteer their time and expertise to work for this organization. It will be my goal to make us the leading organization to assist our community's citizens in seeking out and researching their ancestors and enjoying the thrill of learning their family history.

Lloyd Sturges Jr. ■

LIBRARY NEWS

by C. Scribner, MGS Librarian

Good news for members of the Middlesex Genealogical Society!

A brand new Dell OptiPlex GX520 desktop computer has been purchased for the Middlesex Genealogical Society to replace the old computer, which had been deemed unrepairable. Along with this is a new Hewlett Packard LaserJet black and white printer, Model 1320. The Darien Library staff has agreed to share the cost of the two items, costing us a total of only \$745.75. Our thanks go to Mrs. Sgam-

matto, technology manager of the Library for her help and cooperation in this matter. All that remains now is to get the computer online and to enable us to use our supply of discs.

For members who are into Irish genealogy, two new books have been added to our collection. They are *The Dictionary of Irish Family Names*, by Ida Grehan (from an anonymous donor) and *Tracing your Irish Ancestors*, by John Grenham, donated by Donna Moughty. *The Dictionary of Irish Family Names* contains over 550 family names translated to their modern form, origins and geographical distribution. It includes mini-biographies of some of the more famous people. *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors* is a comprehensive guide for tracing Irish ancestors. It details the many sources available, along with a reference guide.

Another book, for those interested in Huguenot Ancestry, *The Quarter Centenary Celebration of the Promulgation of the Edict of Nantes, April 13, 1598*, has also been added to our collection. This book was sent to us with the compliments of the Huguenot Society of America. Besides the reports from the 400th Anniversary of the Edict of Nantes, membership lists, etc., it contains an interesting history of the French Huguenots from the signing of the edict by King Henry IV of France to their emigration to this country.

The books will be cataloged by the library staff and will appear on our shelves as soon as this is done. ■

A REMINDER: Your membership runs to the end of the year. A membership application for new members will appear in our next issue, but, if you are already a member, you can renew at any time without providing information we already have.

MIDDLESEX GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

2006-2007 OFFICERS

Lloyd Sturges	President
Robert E. Kenyon III	Vice President
Dale Pollart	Treasurer
Joan Rinaldi	Secretary

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Lloyd Sturges

Donna Moughty	Past President
Charles Scribner	Librarian
Dorothy Shillinglaw	Newsletter Editor

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Emeline Fatherley
Mary Freedman
Henry Hoff
Thomas Kemp
Grant Radmall

Middlesex Genealogical Society was established for the purpose of helping those interested in genealogy to pursue the investigation of their family heritage and to provide guidance in research to that end. The society holds at least four meetings with a program and speaker during the year, has established a Genealogy Section at Darien Library and publishes a quarterly newsletter. Annual membership dues are \$20 per individual and \$25 per couple or family.

Original notices of genealogical interest and queries are welcomed for publication in the Newsletter.

Middlesex Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1111
Darien, Fairfield County, CT 06820

Homepage: <http://mgs.darien.org>

E-mail: mgs3@optonline.net

UPCOMING MGS MEETINGS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

ALL MEETINGS SATURDAY, 2 PM, PROGRAM ROOM AT DARIEN LIBRARY. COME, AND BRING A FRIEND!

7 OCTOBER 2006. IRELAND'S CHURCH RECORDS will be presented by **DONNA MOUGHTY**. How do you get past the loss or lack of Irish church records, which, prior to the start of civil registration in Ireland, were among of the very few sources of family information? Understanding the history of Ireland is important as religion in Ireland is a political issue as well as a spiritual one. For example, although the vast majority of the population of Ireland has always been Roman Catholic, because of religious persecution the records of the Catholic church begin late, usually around 1820. Donna's presentation will cover Irish history (political and religious); importance of the state church; Irish church records (what exists and where to find them—Church of Ireland, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and others, such as Jewish, Baptist, Methodist and Quaker); religious vocations; and graveyard inscriptions.

DONNA MOUGHTY, a professional genealogist and former regional manager for a national technology company, has been conducting family research for over 15 years. She teaches classes for beginners and lectures on a variety of subjects, including Internet, Irish research, and computer topics. In addition, she provides consultations, research assistance, and training. Donna has attended the National Institute for Genealogical Research at the National Archives, the Third and Fourth Irish Genealogical Congresses in Ireland, and the Salt Lake Institute—Irish Research. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and coordinator for their Professional Management Conferences, treasurer of the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and a delegate to the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

18 NOVEMBER 2006. To be announced.

27 JANUARY 2007. To be announced.

17 MARCH 2007. THE IRISH COME TO NEWTOWN: A WORKFORCE FOR INDUSTRY IN A RURAL COMMUNITY. will be presented by **HARLAN JESSUP**.

This presentation is a case study specifically about the Irish immigration to Newtown, CT, in the 19th century, but it has implications for Irish immigration to other area communities. Harlan will take only a brief look at Irish immigration into Darien and perhaps surrounding towns like Norwalk, Stamford, and New Canaan. The hope is that the Newtown study will serve as a model for others to report on similar immigration to their own towns.

Harlan Jessup is a professional genealogist whose research focuses on Connecticut, western Massachusetts, and the lower Hudson Valley. He is editor of Connecticut Ancestry and past president of that Society. He is also an accredited researcher at the Connecticut State Library, and he has published the Civil War letters and diaries of his

(Continued on page 8)

MESSAGE BOARDS: POSTING A NEW QUERY

Have you read stories about people who put a message in a bottle and tossed it into the ocean only to receive a reply years later from someone continents away? Posting on message boards is somewhat similar. When you post your genealogical research, along with a query listing the information you hope to learn about your ancestors, on an appropriate message board, you might receive an instant reply from long-lost family members, cousins you never knew you had, or hear from complete strangers with information you have been seeking. You might not hear from anyone for weeks, months, or even years. However, researchers find and search the messages, both new and old, every day. Surprising connections and wonderful discoveries happen daily. But you have to post to let others know what information you seek about which ancestors. Sharing your information is the quickest way to get others to share theirs. Start here to find a message board for posting your query: <http://boards.rootsweb.com>.

You want to reach as large a number of interested researchers as possible, and you want those with information for you or looking for the data you have posted to be able to find it and you. That's why it is important to post your message on the most appropriate board. The boards are divided into Surnames, Localities, and Topics. You can locate a board either by typing in the subject or surname of the board upon which you wish to post a new message using the "Find a Board" search box, or by navigating through the board hierarchy using the index pages accessible from the main board page. If your query primarily concerns a surname or single family, post it on the message board for that surname or request a board for your surname spelling (if none currently exists) by clicking on the "Request New Board" link at the bottom of each board page. If your query pertains to several families or generations all living in the same geographic area, or if it is about a specific place, post on the locality message board. Pick the most specific locality board possible—the county as opposed to a U.S. state ("Unknown County") board, for example. "Unknown County" boards are only for posting when you do not know the county, or where more than one county is involved. If your message is more closely tied to a genealogical research topic such as an ethnic group, a religious body, or an occupation, you may elect to post on a message board for that topic. Pick the message board that most closely fits the subject about which you are writing. It isn't necessary, in most cases, to post your message on multiple message boards at RootsWeb/Ancestry because they are globally searchable. To post: You must be viewing a message board that

has public posting enabled (designated by an icon showing white sheets of paper) or be viewing a message posted on such a board in order to post a new message. Note: You cannot post a message while on an index page for a category or subcategory (represented by a yellow file folder icon) and you cannot post a new message if you are viewing an admin board for which you do not serve as an administrator. (There will be a black circle with a line through it and the notation, "You are not an administrator on this board.") Occasionally you will come upon a "Read Only" board designated by an icon showing yellow sheets rather than white ones. Such boards are special ones and public posting on them is not permitted. Look for the "Post New Message" link.

If you are viewing a message on a board and wish to post a new message unrelated to the one you are viewing, select the "Post New Message" link above the message box. After you have composed your message and completed all required items, select either the "Post Message" button (if you are absolutely certain that the message is exactly as you wish to post it) or the "Preview Message" button (if you would like to view the message as it will appear on the board before it is actually posted). The preview screen allows you to select from "Edit Message" or "Post Message" buttons. Use the "Edit Message" button (and not your browser's "Back" button) to make any changes to the message prior to finally selecting the "Post Message" button, which will put your message on the message board. After your message is posted, sit back and relax and wait for a reply, which may come immediately or might arrive weeks, months, even years later and when you least expect it—just like the message in a bottle drifting in the ocean until someone finds it on a distant shore. Board messages remain searchable and findable. There is no time limit for someone to find you and your query, or to post the information you have sought.

Previously published in RootsWeb Review: Vol. 7, No. 19, 12 May 2004. ■

UPCOMING SEMINARS

National Archives and Records Administration Northeast Region is offering free programs at two locations:

New York City, 12th floor, 201 Varick St. will present **Finding Family: Using NARA's Underutilized Resources** on Tuesdays, 10 Oct., 14 Nov., and 12 Dec. 2006, 12:30-1:30 PM.

For more information and to register, e-mail newyork.archives@nara.gov

Waltham, MA, 380 Trapelo Rd., These free lectures last for approximately 90 minutes and begin at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays. Behind-the-scenes tours of the archives take place a half hour before the lectures. Light refreshments will be served. For more information and to register call (866) 406-2379 or e-mail waltham.archives@nara.gov

- **Local History in Federal Records**, 3 Oct. 2006.
- **Passenger Lists and Canadian Border Crossing Records**, 14 Nov. 2006.
- **Naturalization Records**, 5 Dec. 2006.
- **Customs House Records**, 9 Jan. 2007.
- **African-American Resources in the Records of the Freedmen's Bureau**, 6 Feb. 2007.
- **Introduction to Genealogy**, 6 March 2007.
- **Census, Naturalization & Passenger Lists**, 3 April and 7 Aug. 2007.
- **Introduction to Preservation**, 1 May 2007.
- **Records Related to Military Service 18th, 19th, and 20th Centuries**, 5 June 2007.

Fairfield Historical Society is sponsoring a lecture on **Tracing Your Hungarian Ancestors** by Hungarian genealogist Victor Berecz at 9:30 a.m., Sat., 14 Oct. 2006, at the **Pequot Library**, 720 Pequot Ave., Southport, Conn. Coffee and donuts will be served starting at 9:00 a.m.

New York Genealogical & Biographical Society, 122-126 E.58 St., New York, NY 10022; telephone 212-755-8532. NYG&B will sponsor another of its popular **Albany Research** programs Wed. through Fri., 15-17 Nov. 2006—three days of guided research at the New York State Library, State Archives, and other Albany repositories. This program features orientations conducted by library and archives staff; three days of research assisted by the library and archives staff, volunteers from the Capital District Genealogical Society, and NYG&B experts from our staff and Education Committee; a Wednesday banquet at the hotel with a talk by Meldon Wolfgang III; and a wine and cheese reception on Thursday evening. The program fee, including the banquet, reception, and all other arrangements, is \$100 for members, \$125 for nonmembers. We have arranged a special room rate at the Crowne Plaza Albany City Center Hotel, of \$99 per night, single or double. Please call the hotel directly at 518-462-6611 and mention that you are attending the NYG&B program to get this rate. To register online visit www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org.

New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newberry St., Boston, MA 02116; toll-free 888-286-3447. NEHGS's 28th annual research tour to Salt Lake City will

take place Sun. to Sun., 29 Oct. to 5 Nov. 2006. Participants will receive assistance in their research from experienced staff genealogists and other recognized experts in the field. In addition, there will be orientations to the tour and to the Family History Library and its computer system, personal one-on-one consultations and guided research in the library with NEHGS staff. NEHGS staff genealogists David Allen Lambert, online genealogist, and Ruth Quigley Wellner, research services coordinator, will serve as tour leaders. They will be joined by Christopher Child, NEHGS genealogist, and Scott Steward, NEHGS director of scholarly programs. Guest consultants include former staff person Jerome E. Anderson and Maryan Egan-Baker. Staff will be stationed on each floor of the Family History Library for scheduled personal research consultations. Participants will be able to sign up for consultations early in the program and there will be plenty of time in the course of the week to confer with NEHGS staff about research questions and concerns. For more information, visit www.newenglandancestors.org/education/main/slc06_main.asp.

2007 Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy will take place 8-12 January 2007 at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Salt Lake City. Choose one of 10 courses of study: American Records, Focus on Localities; Midwest Research (Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin); Irish Research; German Research (Germany, Switzerland, Austria); Migration, America on the Move; Effective Software Use for Genealogy; Advanced New England Research (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont); Producing a Quality Family Narrative; Operating a Successful Business; and Problem Solving. For more information and to register online, visit the Utah Genealogical Association website at:

<http://infouga.org/site>

2007 National Genealogical Society Research Trip to Salt Lake City, Sun.-Sun., 14-21 January 2007. The trip package price (\$595 for a shared room, \$915 for a single room, slightly more for nonmembers) includes seven nights at the Salt Lake City Plaza Hotel, located next door to the library. As in previous years, the trip will be co-led by Dereka Smith, MLS, and Shirley Langdon Wilcox, CG, FNGS. For registration and more information, visit <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/edutripsaltlake.cfm> Questions can be sent to lund@ngsgenealogy.org.

New England Regional Genealogical Conference, New England CONNECTIONS 2007 will be held Thurs.-Sat., 26-29 April 2007 in Hartford, CT. For more information visit the conference website at www.nergc.org. ■

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES 2006 CONFERENCE BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

by Donna M. Moughty

Over the years I've written numerous times about the advantages of attending large regional or national conferences. No matter where you are in your genealogical journey, there is something for everyone at these conferences.

The 2006 FGS Conference in Boston from 30 August to 2 September was no exception. As a matter of fact, with over 500 lecture offerings, it was probably the largest conference I've ever attended. Sponsored by the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the New England Historic Genealogical Society, it provided up to 20 simultaneous tracks of lectures on methodology, sources, computer topics and ethnic resources. It even included a large contingent of Irish lecturers straight from the Emerald Isle. One of the major announcements at the Conference was launch of the Historic Mapping Web Service by Ordnance Survey Ireland. This was even covered by the *Boston Globe*. You can read the story at:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2006/08/29/online_map_archive_an_irish_genealogists_pot_of_gold/?pl

For those of you who didn't attend the conference, all is not lost. Lecturers were offered the opportunity to have their lectures taped. The lectures for those signing an agreement and release were digitally taped and placed on a website where they can be downloaded to your computer for \$1.99 each. What a deal...iTunes for Genealogists!

To check out the program for the conference you can go to the FGS website at www.fgs.org and select "FGS Conferences" from the top menu line. After selecting "2006 Boston Conference," click on "Program Information" on the right and browse through the conference program. Once you find a program that interests you, note the session number. The website hosting the digital recordings is called Lulu, an on-demand publisher at:

<http://stores.lulu.com/fgs2006>

By using the "Find" command on your computer you can search for the session number (or the name of the speaker), then click to place the lectures you wish to purchase in your shopping cart. After paying on their secure website, you click to download. Once lectures are on your computer, you can listen to them, save them to a CD to play in your car, or download them to your iPod or other MP3 device. It's important to remember that the download of these lectures is for your personal use only

and cannot be shared with others.

With so many lectures going on at the same time, I've purchased about 20 that I wanted to hear but couldn't get to because of a conflict. I've found the quality to be very good, although no editing has been done. Some lectures have background noise prior to the start of the lecture, or continue through some one-on-one conversations after the lecture. Also, some lectures tend to be more visual than others, which may cause some missed points. (Each lecturer could provide up to four pages of syllabus material, which was bound in four books, one for each day.)

Whether you have a brick wall to break through, or are just interested in a specific topic, I hope you'll take advantage of downloading lectures of interest to you. It's a wonderful way to build your personal library and get the advantage of hearing national speakers. Indeed, it's the next best thing to being there. ■

SKYPECASTS

Dick Eastman has written on this subject several times recently in his online genealogy newsletter. Since 10 August he has had a regularly scheduled Thursday evening (10 p.m. Eastern time) Skypecast for broad-ranging genealogy discussions. Skypecast is a free conference call service provided by Skype that allows voice conversations to be held over the Internet, using VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) technology for as many as 100 participants at one time.

If you are interested in joining these sessions, there are a few things that you will need: a computer with Internet access, the latest version of free Skype software (downloadable at <http://www.skype.com>), and a microphone and speaker (or preferably headphones or headset). Dial-up connections will work, although audio quality will be much better with broadband connections. Please note that there is no charge for basic Skype service, which is all you need for participation in Skypecasts.

Once your software is installed, Skype offers a test option, which can be accessed at Skype:echo123. You will be able to record up to 10 seconds of audio, and then listen as the audio is immediately played back to you, which is a good way to test your microphone and headphones/headset.

You can also call anyone else who has Skype installed and running in his or her computer. All computer-to-computer voice calls among Skype users are free of charge, anywhere in the world. You do, however, need to know the Skype user name of the person you are calling, and that person's computer must be turned on with Skype

running.

To take part in one of Dick Eastman's regularly scheduled Skypecasts, open your web browser at 10 p.m. on any Thursday evening, and go to the Skypecast Directory at <http://skypecasts.skype.com>. You will find the EOGN Genealogy Skypecast listed as active. Double-clicking the link will admit you to the genealogy voice chat session—if you are one of the first hundred to seek admission. Try to connect from a quiet room as household noises in your location (e.g., radio playing, slamming door, barking dog, crying baby) will be received by every participant.

The Thursday evening Skypecasts are open-subject sessions on whatever genealogy theme participants bring up. However, Dick has already had one session (Saturday, 16 September, at 3 p.m. Eastern time) devoted to UK Genealogy and anticipates holding future sessions on a variety of other topics. ■

NEED HELP WITH RESEARCH? Make an appointment through the Information Desk at Darien Library for a personalized consultation with an MGS volunteer.

LINKPENDIUM REACHES 5 MILLION GENEALOGY LINKS

Linkpendium recently announced that it has found and categorized more than five million links to genealogical data on the Internet. They currently categorize a total of 5,032,855 links:

- 4,492,238 sorted by surnames worldwide; and
- 540,617 sorted by U.S. states and counties.

Linkpendium claims to be the largest directory to genealogical resources on the Web. They state that it is the second-largest human-edited directory of any kind on the Web.

Linkpendium welcomes suggestions from genealogists of sites that should be included in the directory. Most submissions are reviewed and added to Linkpendium within one to two weeks.

Linkpendium expects to continue growing its surname and U.S. localities collections, and to eventually provide locality directories for other countries and to find and categorize genealogical resources that cannot be easily categorized by surname or locality.

For more information, visit the organization's website at <http://www.linkpendium.com>. ■

STANDARDS FOR SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHERS

Recommended by the National Genealogical Society

Conscious of the fact that sharing information or data with others, whether through speech, documents or electronic media, is essential to family history research and that it needs continuing support and encouragement, responsible family historians consistently:

- Respect the restrictions on sharing information that arise from the rights of another as an author, originator or compiler; as a living private person; or as a party to a mutual agreement.
- Observe meticulously the legal rights of copyright owners, copying or distributing any part of their works only with their permission, or to the limited extent specifically allowed under the law's "fair use" exceptions.
- Identify the sources for all ideas, information and data from others, and the form in which they were received, recognizing that the unattributed use of another's intellectual work is plagiarism.
- Respect the authorship rights of senders of letters, electronic mail and data files, forwarding or disseminating them further only with the sender's permission.
- Inform people who provide information about their families as to the ways it may be used, observing any conditions they impose and respecting any reservations they may express regarding the use of particular items.
- Require some evidence of consent before assuming that living people are agreeable to further sharing of information about themselves.
- Convey personal identifying information about living people—like age, home address, occupation or activities—only in ways that those concerned have expressly agreed to.
- Recognize that legal rights of privacy may limit the extent to which information from publicly available sources may be further used, disseminated or published.
- Communicate no information to others that is known to be false, or without making reasonable efforts to determine its truth, particularly information that may be derogatory.
- Are sensitive to the hurt that revelations of criminal, immoral, bizarre or irresponsible behavior may bring to family members.

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THE REAL ANNIE MOORE

Those of us who have visited Ellis Island are familiar with the touching statue that stands there of Annie Moore and the two young brothers that accompanied her to the U.S. First down the gangplank at the new Ellis Island on 1 January 1892, Annie was greeted with great excitement and given a \$10 gold coin to commemorate the event. We probably also learned the story that, after her arrival, she went west to Indiana, New Mexico and Texas, married a descendant of an Irish patriot, had children, was widowed, became a businesswoman, and died in an accident in Texas. Interesting story; wrong Annie Moore.

The true story of Annie Moore's life was revealed at a 15 September press conference at the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society auditorium by genealogist Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, NYC Department of Records Commissioner Brian G. Andersson, and members of the real Annie Moore's family.

The real Annie Moore spent her entire life in Manhattan. She lived with her parents in a tenement on Monroe Street until she was married at nearby St. James Catholic Church to a German immigrant, Joseph Schayer, who worked at the Fulton Fish Market. Annie and Joseph lived in several Manhattan tenements, including one on Cherry Street. They had 11 children, only five of whom survived to adulthood, and only three of whom had children.

Annie died in 1923, age 47, of heart failure. She is buried in an unmarked grave in Calvary Cemetery, Queens, NY, with six of her children. A campaign has been launched to place a suitable headstone on her grave.

Although many people contributed to the search for the real Annie Moore, major credit unquestionably belongs to Megan Smolenyak, who became interested in Annie's story while doing research for a PBS documentary on immigration. ■

NEW YORK PASSENGER LISTS

OliveTreeGenealogy.com has announced that a cooperative effort with Ancestry.com is making available, free of charge until 4 October, Ancestry's New York Passenger Lists 1851-1891 and 1935-1938. You can search these records as often as you like, with no obligation to purchase anything and no credit card required, by using this special URL:

<http://olivetreegenealogy.com/ancestry/free.shtml>

Registration is accomplished by providing your name and e-mail address. Free access to the data sets is only available through this URL, as a guest of Olive Tree Genealogy. You might also want to visit Olive Tree's website at: <http://olivetreegenealogy.com> where you will find free

access to many other genealogy sites. ■

ENECLANN GENEALOGY ESSAY COMPETITION

Eneclann has announced a genealogy essay competition on "Why My Family History is Important to Me":

Do you enjoy researching your family history? Have you discovered anything surprising, unusual or unexpected during your research? What has the experience of finding out who your family were and how they lived meant to you?

If your family history is something that is important to you, why not write it down and submit it to our Genealogy Essay Competition.

Eneclann and *Irish Roots*, Ireland's leading genealogy magazine, are sponsoring the competition.

The winning entry will be awarded €500 (US\$650/UK£350) and will be published in *Irish Roots*. [There are also prizes for runner-up essays, which will be published on the Eneclann website.]

Essays entered in the competition must be less than 500 words each and will only be accepted by e-mail. The e-mail address is comp@eneclann.ie.

The closing date for accepting entries is 15 October; entries will not be accepted after that date.

Essays must be the original work of the named entrant and must be in English. Only one entry will be accepted per person.

The subject matter does not have to be restricted to Irish genealogy, but one of the judging criteria is that the essay should be of interest to readers of *Irish Roots* magazine.

Every entrant will get a €5 discount on any purchase from Eneclann or Archive CD Books.

The judging panel will be chaired by John Grenham, author of *Tracing your Irish Ancestors*, and will include Tony McCarthy, editor of *Irish Roots*, and Fiona Fitzsimons, APGI member, and Director of Research at Eneclann.

For full details see the Eneclann website at www.eneclann.ie. **And remember:** Your newsletter would welcome your entry for publication here at any time, even if it is not a winner. ■

MGS CALENDAR

Virginia ancestors.

(Continued from page 2)

12 MAY 2007. HIDDEN IN VAULTS: LESSER KNOWN TREASURES FOUND IN TOWN HALLS will be presented by **THOMAS HOWARD**. Local governments have for years collected and stored many diverse and valuable genealogical gems. We know about vital records and land records, but towns have touched citizens in many other ways leading to significant and sometimes illuminating paper trails.

A retired high school teacher, Tom is now a full time professional genealogist. He has taught genealogy classes, lectured at social studies regional and national conferences, including last year's NERGC regional conference in North Falmouth. He has lectured on several genealogical topics to the Daughters of the American Revolution, Westchester County Genealogical Society, Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor, the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Southington Genealogical Society, Naugatuck Valley Genealogical Club, Middlesex Genealogical

Society, and others. He is chairman of the Connecticut Genealogical Coalition, a founding member of the Town Clerks and Genealogists Action Group, president of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council, and is on the board of directors of NERGC and the Connecticut Society of Genealogists. He will co-chair NERGC's 2007 Hartford conference. He is a member of APG, NEHGS, Connecticut Ancestry and numerous other genealogical or historical organizations. He is a former president of the East Granby Historical Society and currently is president of the East Granby Land Trust. He and fellow genealogist wife Virginia have two adopted children and four grandchildren. ■

Deadline for next newsletter
24 October 2006

MEETING
7 SEPT. 2006
DARIEN LIBRARY

Middlesex Genealogical Society
PO Box 1111
Darien CT 06820-1111

