



FALMOUTH  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY

# FGS Newsletter

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 3

## Monthly Talk Recap

### Don't Be Afraid of Technology: AI for Facial Recognition

By *Caroline McKee Anderson*

On April 12, 2025, Tina LaFreniere, founder and CEO of Related Faces Technologies, presented *Don't Be Afraid of Technology: AI for Facial Recognition and Pairing*. Tina began her talk by providing tips on the “dos” and “do nots” of digitizing photos for optimal results—do use your cell phone, don't use a document scanner. She said that the Northeast Document Conservation Center (<https://www.nedcc.org/>) is a favorite resource, providing information about preserving both photographs and documents. The success of facial recognition programs is directly related to the quality of the digitized images: facial features, lighting, contrast, front portrait versus profile, etc. She briefly described that facial recognition relies on computer algorithms that are trained to geometri-



**Tina LaFreniere, CEO, Related Faces Technologies**

cally map faces by finding points of contrast on faces indicating the location and shape of features such as eyes, noses, and mouths. She recommends using the following file formats: jpg, jpeg, or png and to convert any tiff files to one of these. Tina then demonstrated how the “Related Faces” system works using photos from her family collection. She underscored that solving photo mysteries with AI software like this must often be combined with standard genealogical research methods.



CELEBRATING A SPECIAL YEAR

## Calendar of Events

Meetings are held at the Falmouth Public Library in the Hermann Foundation Room and virtually on Zoom unless noted otherwise. See [falgen.org](http://falgen.org) for updated information.

*New meeting start time is 10:00 am; 10:00—10:30 Refreshments and Socializing; 10:30—Noon: Program.*

**Saturday, July 12**

**10:00 am**

**The AI-Powered Genealogist: Working Smarter, Not Harder in Family History Research**

*Jennifer Zinck CG*

**Saturday, August 9**

**10:00 am**

**Finding the Living: Doing Descendancy Research**

*Rhonda McClure*

**Saturday, September 14**

**10:00 am**

**Workshop: Building Your FamilySearch Tree** Led by

*Tim Martin, FGS President*

## Join Us to Celebrate!

Thursday, September 11, 2025

2:00-4:00 pm

Museums on the Green, Falmouth

Space is limited. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis with RSVP and check payment. You will receive your mailed invitation later this month.

## Connecting—What Happens When We Do It?

By Tim Martin, FGS President



Our FGS tag line is *Connecting People with their Family and History*. I love that word “connecting”—the driving verb in our tagline. Let’s talk about connecting.

Helping others with their genealogy is a great service and a mutually beneficial learning experience. When you help someone build their family stories, a connection occurs. Genealogy connects people with very real bridges. Not only do you tear down

their genealogical brick walls, you also build bridges—by serving them.

Consider joining our marvelous group of consultants. We have a wonderful collaborative environment where we learn from each other. With a few more volunteers, we could add another team.

Building a comprehensive family tree, complete with siblings and cousins, often serves to connect relatives who have lost track of each other or are perhaps even estranged. Or it uncovers forgotten or unknown relationships. Our August 9 meeting will address this directly: *Finding the Living: Doing Descendancy Research* with Rhonda McClure from American Ancestors (NEHGS).

While doing genealogy, we connect with each other in an activity that is meaningful and has permanent value. It is permanent because we are building out how we are all genealogically connected—with the sto-

ries! When you connect to a large, unified tree, you will be surprised how often you are connected to others in our Society or with your neighbors and friends. Attend the September 14 workshop: *Building Your FamilySearch Tree* to learn how to connect to the unified tree at [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org).

Genealogy is an incredibly multi-disciplinary effort. We need volunteers who are familiar with various geographic regions, language skills, technology, photography, scanning and digitization, and events and meetings. We need subscribers to historical, genealogical, and archival websites; and help with website management, social media, publicity, and editing. Each individual brings their skills and passions to the group. Genealogy is our common connections.

How else can we connect?

### Monthly Talk Recap

## The Dainty/Undy Saga: Connecting Two Identities to One Person

By Caroline McKee Anderson

FGS member Stan Vincent presented *The Dainty/Undy Saga: Connecting Two Identities to One Person* at the May 10, 2025, meeting. Stan shared his research into his wife’s Carol’s family history, specifically the Dainty and Undy families of England. His research began with Carol’s great-grandfather Henry Dainty (1847-1916) who immigrated to the United States with his wife, Harriet Undy Dainty (1850-1926) and their two oldest children. There were eventually seven children, and Stan was able to research and build biographical backgrounds for six.

The seventh child—Joseph H.



**Stan Vincent, FGS Member**

Dainty—was a mystery. Stan set out to solve the mystery, making some unfortunate and surprising discoveries along the way.

An 1892 Boston marriage record found Joseph Dainty marrying Kate

Caulkin. The first unfortunate discoveries were 1895 and 1896 newspaper articles detailing Joseph’s participation (and guilty pleas) to two robberies. Stan suspects these events led Joseph to leave town since this was the last information he could find.

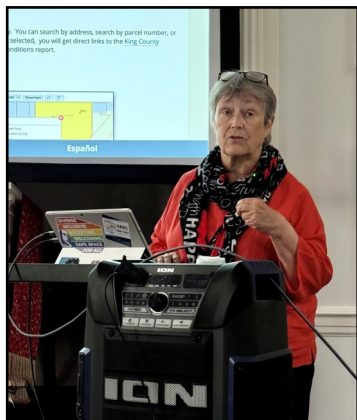
A new lead came when Carol’s aunt shared a letter from Joseph from Portland, Oregon—sent to his sister shortly after the death of their mother in 1926. In the letter he mentions his wife and two children (Etienne and Meredith)—clues! Using city directories and census documents,

**Continued on Page 11**

## Monthly Talk Recap

# If These Walls Could Talk: House Histories in Town and Country

By *Caroline McKee Anderson*



**Jill Morelli, CG, CGL**

On June 7, 2025, Jill Morelli, CG, CGL and Pam Anderson, CG presented *If These Walls Could Talk: House Histories in Town and Country*. In their dynamic and information-rich presentations, they outlined the rewarding and impactful process of researching homes—Jill focused on her city home while Pam highlighted her country home. Both presentations underscored the intertwined nature of the history of the home, the history of the place—and most important, the history of the people who owned and lived in these homes.

Jill provided a helpful research framework, indicating that there are five parts to a house history:

1. Collecting the documentation
2. Conducting the house assessment
3. Conducting the site assessment
4. Conducting the neighborhood assessment, and
5. Writing it up.

She used her Seattle home as a case study to demonstrate where to find, and how to interpret, original documents. To get started, she said one should collect the parcel number, legal description, and the names of present owners. She said that a wide variety of information—tax histories, site maps, property reports, building

schematics, photos, etc. can be found online. She urged researchers to also utilize state archives, local newspapers and directories, and libraries. She outlined how the home and site assessments provide historical context while providing details on the design (and changes) of the home over time.



**Pam Anderson, CG**

Pam said that for her researching the house is really about researching its owners and occupants. She told the story of researching her home, The Conrad Peiffer House in Pennsylvania. Oral histories often recalled it as the “The Old Bovey Farm” after one of the early owners. She then detailed her research with deeds; tax, census and probate records; maps and surveys, newspapers and similar homes nearby to tell the story of both the home and its families. These records showed how the property developed over time and often transferred from one family member to another. Map and road surveys provided critical information on ownership and site changes. And serendipity played a role when a piece of trim board was discovered that clearly confirmed that “C.F. Peiffer Built This House 1889.”

Members can access the video and handouts for Jill’s and Pam’s talks at: <https://members.falgen.org/>

## FGS Talks on YouTube: Members Only Benefit

Miss a monthly talk? Want to rewatch a presentation? Need a speaker’s handout? FGS Members can access most recorded monthly presentations and speaker handouts in the “Members Only” section of the FGS website at [falgen.org](http://falgen.org). If you need the password, contact Tim Martin at [fgspresident@gmail.com](mailto:fgspresident@gmail.com).

## FGS Website: First Stop Resource

The FGS Website ([falgen.org](http://falgen.org)) is an outstanding resource for its members and the community. You can find a myriad of helpful links to genealogical research resources as well as documents to download.

## Keep Learning: On-Line Programs

On-line lectures and courses, many free, are available on a multitude of genealogical topics. Check out the following for classes to expand your family history research.

**The Massachusetts Genealogical Council**  
[massgencouncil.org](http://massgencouncil.org)

**American Ancestors**  
[americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org)

**Cape Cod Genealogical Society**  
[wcapecodgenealogy.org](http://wcapecodgenealogy.org)

**National Genealogical Society**  
<https://conferencekeeper.org/calendar/>



**[falgen.org](http://falgen.org)**

## What Happened to Cousin Ruth?

By Dorene Sykes

Within three years of starting my family history research in 2001, I found the birth towns of my fourteen immigrant ancestors—all in Germany—taking a few lines back to the 1600s. But there was an important piece of the puzzle that I would not solve until 2013!

My mother Elaine Klersey Bodenstedt (1923-1995) often wondered what happened to her dear cousin



Ruth McCubbin and Al Zale in 1947 with first two children

(once removed) Ruth McCubbin (b. 1919). Ruth moved next door with her Uncle Ed Kopp and family—my mother's grandparents—after becoming an orphan. She ran away from home three times. I imagine life was challenging in this full household led by a strict uncle during the 1930s depression. Elaine and Ruth lost touch. So, uncovering Ruth's story was a key goal, even though my mother had passed on in 1995.

First, I posted an inquiry on ancestry.com. Then I rolled up my sleeves. I discovered that Ruth's mother, Nettie Kopp, died in 1925 of pulmonary tuberculosis. Her father, Joseph McCubbin, a collector at Singer Sewing Machine where they met, died of appendicitis in November 1929. Ruth was then taken in by her Uncle Ed. By 1940, she was a domestic near downtown Detroit, eight long miles away. In 1941 she mar-

ried, which Elaine never knew, so the cousins had fallen out of touch by then. (More later.)

Now for the *surprises!* The 1920 census shows that 5-month-old Ruth was living with her parents Joseph and Nettie AND... with siblings Harry 8, Robert 7, and Ollie 5! I later discovered that Joseph had three children with his first wife Ollie who died in 1914 of pelvic abscess, two months after her daughter Ollie's birth. Harry died of pneumonia in March 1920. After their father died, Ruth's two stepsiblings were taken in by friends of their mother in Saginaw, Michigan according to Joseph's *grandson* Robert (b. 1946) who lives there today. Robert said his parents visited Ruth in California during their honeymoon in May 1945, staying loosely in touch. Around the mid-1980s, his father tried to locate Ruth but was unable to do so.

In 2013, in reply to my 2001 ancestry.com inquiry, Jeanne McCubbin Holm in Los Angeles told me that she is the granddaughter of Joseph and Nettie's son Joseph! *I knew nothing about a blood brother!* Joseph was born 26 November 1920 to Nettie and Joseph (after the 1920 census). After their parents' deaths, he was taken in by his Uncle Emil Kopp in Detroit. Emil was Ed's brother who had taken in Ruth. Later, Joe would serve in the Army during World War II. Jeanne advised that "Papa Joe" became a union organizer at Ford Motor in Detroit. After he and his family were threatened, they decided to escape to Los Angeles, settling near Ruth. Joe worked for Goodyear Tires and would later play a leading role in helping Jerry Brown organize migrant workers. He stayed in touch with Ruth's family until her death. Fast forward: In November

2017, I flew to Los Angeles and had a delightful reunion with Jeanne, her father Bob, and Bob's father Joe McCubbin to celebrate Joe's 97th birthday. He passed away the next year on 25 July 2018.



Joe, Jeanne, and Bob McCubbin in 2017

Back to 2013, Ruth's daughter Elizabeth (Betty) Zale Sheets also found my inquiry. She said her mother married Aloysious (Al) Zalewski (later shortened to Zale) on 2 June 1941. During the mid-1940s they moved to southern California to get "a fresh start". Ruth's brother Joseph followed and settled nearby. The siblings stayed in close touch until Ruth and Al moved to Phoenix, AZ after the death of their son, seeking another fresh start after being saddled with related medical bills. Sadly, Ruth died of pneumonia on 9 February 1981 at the age of 61. (No wonder her stepbrother could not find her during his 1980s search.) In 2014, I met with Betty and family in Phoenix, Arizona. They shared that Ruth was a kind and caring soul who loved children. This trait appears to have carried down this family line from Nettie's mother Wilhelmina Trettin Kopp, a deeply religious woman, to today's descendants.

## FGS News and Noteworthy

Send your brief (75 words) update to Caroline Anderson at [caroline@gregandcaroline.net](mailto:caroline@gregandcaroline.net).

### Hildegard Chase, 1928-2025

Longtime FGS Member Hildegard Bittl Chase passed away on 12 March 2025. Hildegard was born in Germany and was raised there during WWII, where she three times narrowly survived Allied bombings. After her studies in English and business, she became a bilingual officer for the Kriminalpolizei (KRIPO) and later served as a translator at the Nürnberg Trials. These experiences are detailed in her autobiography, *Memoirs in Germany*. She met her husband, Robert C. Chase (1929-2025) at a tea dance in Nürnberg where she was working for the American provost marshal and he was working in counterintelligence with the American forces. We send condolences to Robert, Karen, and Peter Chase on the loss of both of their parents this year.



### Raymond W. Howe, 1935-2025



Longtime FGS Member and Board Treasurer Raymond W. Howe passed away on 3 April 2025. Ray served in the US Air Force from 1954-1958 where he studied cryptography and was stationed in the Aleutian Islands. He received an Associate's degree from Nichols Junior College and his Bachelor's in business from Boston University. Ray worked as a field auditor for several companies including New England Mutual Life Insurance. Upon retirement, he was an active volunteer for the Shorewood Drive Beacon Association, Oak Grove Cemetery and the Falmouth Center in addition to his dedicated work with FGS. He loved genealogy, boating, and golf. He described genealogy as a "happy obsession". We extend condolences to Ray's wife Gini and their family.

## Welcome Members

We are eager to learn more about your family history research. Please join us for our monthly programs or visit us at the Tuesday Help Desk. If you have questions about your membership, contact Caroline McKee Anderson at [fgsmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fgsmembership@gmail.com) or 206-300-7020 .

**Gregory S. Gilbert**  
**Martha H. Gilbert**  
**Edward J. Sullivan**

## Membership Counts

You received your invitation to renew your FGS Membership in late May. If you have sent in your renewal, THANK YOU. If you haven't, please renew your membership TODAY. Your membership is key to our success. It supports our monthly programs, production of this newsletter, and our community outreach projects. And, this year, it helps to support our special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities. In short, **Your Membership Matters**. Please renew today. Thank you.

## Volunteer Today

FGS relies on volunteers to advance its mission, produce programs, and manage all aspects of this nonprofit organization. Our goal is to match volunteers with areas of interest: research, programs, publicity, outreach, membership, cemetery project, finance, website, or your special interest. Our commitment is to tailor the activity to your time available. To explore opportunities, please contact Dottie Priestley at: [rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net).

## Join the FGS Facebook Group

Engage with others who share your interest in genealogy and family history. Click with Control key on Facebook Logo to go to FGS page.



## Up Next: We're Asking You.

Family gatherings—and family meals—play a significant role in memories of our ancestors. Today, we invite you to share a family memory that involved food. Or better yet, share a family recipe with us. If you have the original, handwritten recipe, include that too.



Please send your story and/or recipe to Caroline Anderson at [caroline@gregandcaroline.net](mailto:caroline@gregandcaroline.net)

## We Asked. You Responded.

# Our American Revolutionary War Ancestors



Thank you to Steve O'Brien and David Martin for sharing their stories about their ancestors with Sandwich and Falmouth roots respectively. And, thanks

### Captain Stephen Smith

by *Steve O'Brien*

The end of the story is my discovery that Revolutionary War Patriot Stephen Smith (1739-1806) is my 5<sup>th</sup> great-grandfather.

Based on family lore and stories, Stephen Smith was not the expected or anticipated Revolutionary War ancestor. My genealogical journey shows how seeds of truth in family history when combined with solid research can provide surprising results.

My genealogical journey started when I was a young boy of 12, listening to adults telling stories and bragging about our ancestors. My parents were similar to that children's book with a country mouse and a city mouse. My maternal line (Morrisette/Smith) was all country, out of very rural Maine into French Canada and Acadia. My maternal relatives spoke of conquering hard times such as waiting until everyone left the fish market and whispering to the fishmonger "can we get some lobster?" In the beginning of the 1900s, lobster was fed to prisoners and what poor people ate when they needed to stretch their grocery budget. Mainers were often embarrassed to be eating lobster. My paternal line (O'Brien/Brown) came from Boston. My father spoke as if we were descendants of royalty. And, he bragged that we must be descended from Captain Jeremiah O'Brien, the famous Captain who won the first Naval battle of the American Revolution.

While researching a link to rumored Mayflower descendancy through my Maternal side, I discovered the truth! Not only did I discover I am a direct descendant of a Mayflower passenger

(John Howland, c. 1593-1673) is my 9<sup>th</sup> great grandfather), I learned I am also a direct descendant of Revolutionary War sailing captain, Captain Stephen Smith, who was born in Sandwich Massachusetts no less.

So, while the story does start with Jeremiah O'Brien, there is no ancestral link. The patriots were emboldened by Jeremiah's naval victory. Captain Stephen Smith was sent to lead 40 men in a small four-gun ship to St. John, Newfoundland to disrupt Britain's supply chain. Captain Stephen Smith took the large British Brig, the *Loyal Briton*. This ship had 120 tons of sheep and oxen for British forces in Boston. Stephen served honorably in the Revolutionary War and was rewarded with an appointment by George Washington as tax collector in Machias, Maine.

So, in the end, it is my maternal line that provides ancestral connection to early America—through John Howland on the *Mayflower* and Captain Stephen Smith, my 5<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, as a Patriot. Alas, there is no link to Jeremiah O'Brien. All my Paternal relatives showed up in North America in the late 1800s.

### Abraham Swift, Revolutionary War Veteran—Gravesite Dedication Ceremony, 18 May 2019

By *David Martin*

Abraham Swift was born in Sandwich, MA 17 October 1762, and married Olive Lawrence on 4 May 1799 in Falmouth. He died 19 March 1846 and is buried at the Old Town Burying Ground in Falmouth. He was the son of Jabez Swift (b. 1732) and Hannah Perry of Sandwich. His death date in Falmouth Vital Records is given as 19

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**Continued from Page 6**

November 1846, and that date is on his headstone, which was restored previously by the Falmouth Historical Society and the Falmouth Genealogical Society.

Abraham enlisted in 1779 as a private in Captain Joseph Palmer's Company of Colonel Freeman's Massachusetts Militia Regiment (DAR III: 191). His Pension Index number is 11501, indicating that he enlisted at Falmouth. His Federal Pension Application is 27151. His annual pension was \$33.08, as of 1833.

*Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution*, pp. 310-311, describes his service as eight days on an "alarm" at Dartmouth and Falmouth in September 1778, followed by nine months and 28 days for a company stationed at Falmouth to guard the shore and during which he acted as a fifer, and later for two months at Falmouth. He was discharged 20 September 1781. The story of the April 1779 alarm is of interest.

On April 3, a fleet of British ships were intent on retaliation against the Patriots for having been repulsed on April 1 in a previous attempt at an attack. The British had occupied the Elizabeth Islands and were using Tarpaulin Cove on Naushon as a harbor for a small fleet. On the night of April 2, several British ships' officers were "enjoying a frolic" at the home of John Slocum, a Tory, on Pasque Island, west of Naushon. But when Slocum overheard the British plan to firebomb and invade Falmouth, his British sympathies gave way, and he sent his son to row at night the four miles to Woods Hole and warn the militia that the British were planning an attack.

The following morning, the British unsuccessfully firebombed Falmouth and then sent boatloads of soldiers to land at Surf Drive beach. They were "greeted" by Patriots' gunfire from

behind sand entrenchments on the beach and were repulsed. Two days later after firing on Falmouth in several other locations, the British moved off to Nonamesset Island and then later Martha's Vineyard... Falmouth was saved!

### **Joseph Dimmick (Dimmock, Dimmuck), Revolutionary War Patriot** *By Ralph Wadleigh*



**Joseph Dimmick's tombstone**  
Photo by Caryn VanBuskirk Bowles

Falmouth, 2 March 1734, the son of Theophilus Dimmick and Sarah Hinckley and was baptized at Falmouth 19 December 1736.

Shortly after his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, he married in Falmouth, 17 April 1759, Mary Meigs, born bef. 14 October 1739, the daughter of Joseph and Martha (Chadwick) Meigs.

His Revolutionary War service was extensive. As a leader of the local militia, he raised and trained a company of minutemen and answered the call for troops following the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775. On 30 August 1775, he was commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Major, in Colonel Joseph Otis's 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstable Regiment. On 20 February 1776 he was chosen 1<sup>st</sup> Major, 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstable Co. regiment; also Major, Colonel John Cushing's regiment. During 1776, 1778 and 1779, he commanded militia units answering frequent alarms along the coastlines of the Elizabeth Islands and Falmouth's shores. Notably on 2-3 April 1779, he was instrumental in repel-

ling the British invasion along Falmouth's Surf Drive. Not to be limited to land-based action, Joseph and his brother Lot engaged in privateering, owning five ships between them.

His sons Braddock (1761-1845) and Prince (1763-1841) also are Revolutionary War Patriots who answered with their father the numerous alarms along Falmouth's coasts. Both are buried in Falmouth's Old Burying Ground.

In 1794 he was promoted to Brigadier General. He does not appear to have actively served in the War of 1812 but is said to have moved women and children to safety when the town was bombarded by the *HMS Nimrod* on 28 January 1814.

He and Mary spent their lives in Falmouth raising a family of ten children between 1761 and 1779. He was enumerated in the Federal Censuses of 1790, 1800, 1810 and 1820. His home, no longer standing, was located on the north side of East Main Street two houses east from today's intersection with Gifford Street. Always an active member of the community, he served as High Sheriff of Barnstable County for 25 years and as a State Senator just before the War of 1812.

His wife Mary died 4 January 1817 aged about 78. She is buried in the Old Burying Ground.

As a widower, on 20 June 1820, Joseph prepared a will, naming sons John, Braddock, Prince and Joseph as well as daughters Martha, Temperance, Mary and Tabitha. His sons Ansel and William died prior to the creation of his will.

Joseph died in Falmouth, 21 September 1822, aged 88. He is buried near his wife in Falmouth's Old Burying Ground.

*The writer wishes to express his appreciation to Meg Costello, Archivist, Falmouth Historical Society for her research suggestions.*

## The Reading Room

Send book recommendations to Caroline McKee Anderson at [caroline@gregandcaroline.net](mailto:caroline@gregandcaroline.net)

### Coming Summer 2025

#### ***The Revolution on Cape Cod and the Islands***

#### ***The Antecedents, the War, and Its Aftermath***

FGS Member David Martin along with Nancy Shoemaker and Ron Petersen formed the Cape and Islands Historians Committee (chaired by Martin) to produce this book centered on Cape Cod's unique contributions to the Revolution.

#### ***The Revolution on Cape Cod and the Islands***

*The Antecedents, the War, and Its Aftermath* gathers previously published historical society articles into a single publication. It reveals new findings by Cape historians on skirmishes, shipwrecks, and privateering. It also includes recent research on the roles of the Cape's African Americans and Native Americans in the war. To Be Published by West Barnstable Press, Summer 2025.

#### ***Taking Manhattan: The Extraordinary Events That Created New York and Shaped America***

In *Taking Manhattan*, author Russell Shorto, tells the riveting story of how New York City came to be. In 1664, Charles II of England set his sights on Dutch-controlled New Amsterdam to expand his empire. The book reveals the founding of New York to be an invention, the result of creative negotiations that blended the multiethnic, capitalistic society of New Amsterdam with the power of the rising English Empire. The book draws from newly translated materials and illuminates neglected histories—of religious refugees, Indigenous tribes, and free and enslaved Africans. Published by W.W. Norton & Company, 4 March 2025.

## Book Review

### ***Life After Power: Seven Presidents and Their Search for Purpose Beyond the White House*** Jared Cohen

By Ralph Wadleigh



Just what are Presidents of the United States to do after they leave office? That question is examined in the lives of seven former presidents in this well-researched and well-written work. The United States is almost unique in producing ex-presidents. Many other leaders refuse to step down and remain in power, sometimes until their deaths. So far, except for Franklin Delano Roosevelt, our Presidents have voluntarily followed George Washington's example by leaving office after a maximum of two terms. This limit is now stipulated in the Constitution's 22nd Amendment.

Each of the seven presidents profiled handled their life after power differently, with varying results, but maintaining their personal values.

Thomas Jefferson created the University of Virginia in his "retirement". John Quincy Adams left the Presidency, ran for Congress and as a Congressman from Massachusetts, became a leader of the Abolitionist Movement. Grover Cleveland left the

Presidency after one term, took four years off and returned to the Presidency, a feat that until Donald Trump had not been repeated. William Howard Taft didn't want to be President, but was elected, served an unhappy term and then waited nineteen years to be named Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the position he sought all along. Herbert Hoover, historically blamed for the Great Depression, returned after his single term to his earlier humanitarian efforts and successfully saved many lives across the world. Jimmy Carter, another one-term President, is today recognized internationally for his work improving housing and public health. Lastly, George W. Bush, unlike the other past presidents covered, retreated from the world stage to find meaning and enjoyment through a combination of faith, family, and painting.

In his narrative, Jared Cohen skillfully ties their careers with past and future presidents, outlines their successes and failures, and demonstrates how each solved their "unemployment" problem. How interesting it was to learn about these notable people. Anyone interested in American history will enjoy this book. It is available locally on the Library CLAMS network.

# We Honor Our Volunteers

FGS was founded by volunteers and has counted on their contributions throughout its 40-year history. We thank and honor our Presidents and all of the volunteers who helped them establish and nurture a dynamic and successful genealogical society.

## We Thank Our Presidents

FGS was founded by volunteers and has counted on their contributions throughout its 40-year history. We thank and honor our Presidents—and all of the volunteers who helped them—establish and nurture a dynamic and successful genealogical society.

Eleanor Baldic, 1985-1990  
Ted Karlson, 1990-1993  
Judy Fenner, 1993-1997  
John Peri, 1997-1999  
Donna Walcovy, 1999-2003  
John Caspole, 2003-2007  
Joyce Pendery, 2007-2009  
Ralph Wadleigh, 2009-2014  
Mary Barry, 2014-2017  
Thomas Greve, 2017-2019  
Jerry Luby, 2019-2023  
Tim Martin, 2023-present



**Founding Members Marge Riley and Eleanor Baldic in 2009**



**Past Presidents Joyce Pendery and John Peri**

## We Thank Our Volunteers

Volunteers make it **all** happen! Your efforts are deeply appreciated (and needed). You have joined the Cemetery project, contributed to the newsletter, given a presentation, shared an Artifact, consulted at the Help Desk or Senior Center, volunteered for the Road Race or Arts Alive and so much more this past year.

Eleanor Baldic	Ann Keller	Lynn Parks	Rich Stadtmiller
Steven Benton	Cindy LaRuffa	Elizabeth Pierce	Sandra Sullivan
Bruce Bumpus	Paul Lombardozzi	Bob Priestley	Dorene Sykes
Betsy Cross	Shirley Lombar-	Lockwood Rianhard	Kathleen Taylor
Phyllis Day	dozzi	Margaret Rioux	Christine Tuttle
Dorene Dias	Kathleen Mac-	Elaine Rondeau	Stanford Vincent
Judy Fenner	Donald	Charlet Roskovics	Ashley Waddington
Ingrid Frank	Betty Mercurio	Daniel Roy	Donna Walcovy
Bill Gilbrook	Deborah Pickett	Gregory Sanborn	Mary Ellen Williams
Meredith Golden	Mills	Deborah Shaw	Wenda Windbigler
Robert Gunning	Kathy Mortensen	Elizabeth Sheehy	Deborah Winograd
Catherine Gwynne	Michele O'Brien	Barbara Silva	Ann Worthington
Sandra Hadamard	Stephen O'Brien	Lynn Slapsys	Ray Worthington

## With Gratitude from FGS Board

FGS has enjoyed a busy, productive, and successful year thanks to you. We value and are thankful for both our volunteers and donors.

Timothy Martin, President	C. David Burt
Clyde Tyndale, Vice President	Mary Anne Conboy
Ralph Wadleigh, Clerk	Linda Heald
Diana Stadtmiller, Treasurer	Gerard Luby
Caroline Anderson	Dottie Priestley



**Current Board Members:  
Diana Stadtmiller and  
Mary Anne Conboy  
at Arts Alive**

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list for the period June 1, 2024-May 31, 2025. Please send corrections to Caroline Anderson at [caroline@greganddaroline.net](mailto:caroline@greganddaroline.net). We apologize for any errors.*

## Get Equipped: Genealogy Tips

### Archive.org and the Wayback Machine

By Tim Martin

The Internet Archive at <https://archive.org/> is a resource we can all use to both recover important historical documents and also to save what you digitize for others to use. I have for instance stored there an important set of vital records taken from Town of Falmouth Annual Reports for the time period 1872-1987. After all, the well-known “tan book” of vital records by Olive Brown for Falmouth, Massachusetts to the year 1850 is also at archive.org. So, create a free login at [archive.org](https://archive.org/) so you too can upload useful content to this world-wide source of digitized content.

For this Genealogy Tip I also want to focus on the [Wayback Machine](https://archive.org/), hosted at Archive.org, which saves web pages from the past for our use today. Enter any desired URL (that allows “crawling”) and you will be pre-

INTERNET ARCHIVE

WayBackMachine

sented with yearly calendar pages showing on which dates that website was archived. You will for instance find web content for our [falgen.org](https://falgen.org/) site from various times from its inception in the year 2000 until recently: what speakers we had, who the officers were, etc. The amount of content actually saved as you drill-down into a website varies widely. ALSO IMPORTANT—if you want to cite the content of a current webpage and be sure that the content will be available in the future, go to <https://web.archive.org/> and enter your desired URL in the “Save Page Now” box at the far right. This curates that web page content for the future.

## Falmouth Cemetery Project Update

By Linda Heald and Ralph Wadleigh



Gregory Sanborn, Linda Heald and Ralph Wadleigh at Old Burial Ground, Mill Street, Falmouth

The Cemetery Project has been moving right along during the summer. Much of our work has focused on GPS work in Woods Hole and the Old Burying Ground. In Woods Hole, which is now finished, we have achieved a 97% GPS rate. At press time, for the Old Burying Ground, we had a completion rate of 67% with plans to finish in late June. We hope to achieve a rate close to the photographed rate of 81%. Over the remainder of the summer, we will be working in Oak Grove Cemetery, which with 5,582 memorials is a major undertaking in terms of time and volunteers. All members who have a knowledge of FindaGrave.com and would like to help are encouraged to contact Linda Heald ([heald30@gmail.com](mailto:heald30@gmail.com)) or Ralph Wadleigh ([whplar@comcast.net](mailto:whplar@comcast.net)).

In addition to GPS activities, the project will continue to make certain the Falmouth Veterans who are interred in Falmouth cemeteries are appropriately recognized with a memorial flag and marker. This would especially include Veterans of the War of 1812, the Civil War, and the Spanish American War.

We also are actively advocating for Falmouth's cemeteries by developing and maintaining contacts with Falmouth Town Management, the Department of Public Works, the Falmouth Historical Commission, the Community Preservation Committee, and the Falmouth Historical Society.

If this type of work appeals to you, let us know. We would love to have you on our team.

## Artifact Spotlight—Share Your Family Treasure

Do you have a family artifact, photo, or ephemera you'd like to share? Highlight your item and its history at an upcoming monthly meeting. We'll help you put together a fun and short (5 minute) presentation. This is a great way to start telling your family's history! Volunteer today—send an email to Tim Martin at [fgsresident@gmail.com](mailto:fgsresident@gmail.com).



**LEFT**—On April 12, FGS members Dottie and Bob Priestley shared this Victorian Crazy Quilt made by Bob's 2nd great grandmother, Anna Sporleder, prior to 1900. She decorated the 20 colorful blocks of silk, wool and cotton with lovely embroidery including a swirly inscription, the letter "S", for Anna's surname. Photos of her and six generations of her descendants are on the screen. Dottie recounted a family story of how Anna and her husband's love triumphed despite the objections of both sets of parents.



**RIGHT**—On May 10, FGS member Lynn Noyes Parks shared a collection and a brief history of Civil War discharge documents that detail the difference between Union and Confederate documents. She then shared family documents. First, the original discharge certificate of her late husband's (William Chandler Parks, Jr., 1947-2002) great-grandfather, Henry C. Patrick (1845-1910). She also shared the discharge papers and tintype photo of her Civil War ancestor, Stephen Emery Noyes (1840-1907). Her Noyes ancestors arrived in Newbury, Mass. in 1634 and she has enjoyed visiting family sites and researching this family.



## Arts Alive

On June 14 and 15, FGS joined the annual Falmouth Arts Alive celebration. FGS members encouraged attendees to connect with their family and history. They did "lookups" in census documents and world family trees to inspire interest.

## Get Help with Your Family Research

### Monthly Talks

Each month FGS hosts a talk on some aspect of genealogy or history. Expert speakers—drawn locally and nationally—dive into a wide range of topics from research strategies to interpreting DNA results. Meetings also provide an opportunity for members and guests to meet others interested in family research. Meetings are generally held on the second Saturday of the month from 10:00 am – noon at the Falmouth Public Library. Most talks are also available via Zoom. View the calendar at [falgen.org](http://falgen.org).

### Tuesday Help Desk

Just getting started in family history research? Have you hit a brick wall? Want to learn how to research at [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) or [FamilySearch.org](http://FamilySearch.org)? Visit the FGS Help Desk.

FGS volunteers assist both members and community individuals with their genealogical questions. Sessions are held every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 pm at the Falmouth Public Library on Main Street. No appointment is needed for this complimentary drop-in session.

### Team Up!

Is your genealogical question complex? Might your topic be of interest to others? Are you researching a specific country of origin or time in history? Schedule a Team Up! consult.

Based on your question, we'll identify one or more members with expertise in this area of research. Team Up! sessions are free for FGS members and are available in person or via Zoom. To schedule a Team Up! consult, contact Tim Martin at [fgsresident@gmail.com](mailto:fgsresident@gmail.com).

Continued  
from Page

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## The Dainty/Undy Saga

Stan made a BIG discovery. Joseph DAINTY had changed his name to Joseph DAVIS.

The search for Joseph Davis began. Stan successfully tracked Joseph Dainty/Davis who he described as a "real character" from Boston to Philadelphia to Los Angeles and to the Pacific Northwest. Using published resources, Stan described Joseph's colorful exploits in family life, the armed services, and difficulty with the law after leaving Boston.



**FALMOUTH  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY**

**Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc.**

PO Box 2107  
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107  
[falgen.org](http://falgen.org)

**Officers**

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Tim Martin

*Vice President*  
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*Treasurer*  
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*Clerk*  
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Mary Anne Conboy  
Linda Heald  
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**FGS Newsletter**

**Caroline Anderson, Co-Editor**  
**Dottie Priestley, Co-Editor**  
[rpriest1567@comcast.net](mailto:rpriest1567@comcast.net)

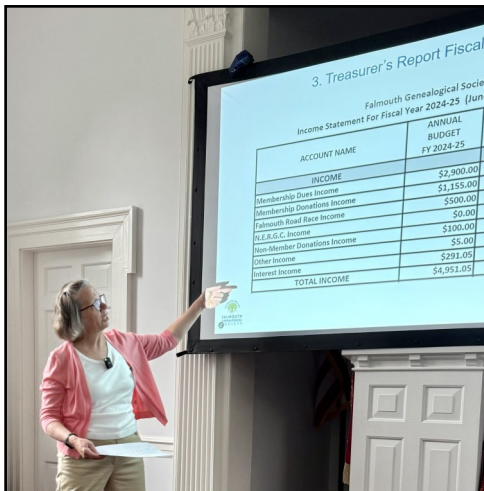
The Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. Newsletter is published four times per year and is dedicated to news, events, and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.

Internet addresses contained in this publication are provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. of any of the products, services, or opinions of the corporation or organization or individual. Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality, or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.



**Meet Your Board**

**FGS Annual Meeting Held**



**Newly-Appointed Treasurer Diana Stadtmiller Presents Her Report at the Annual Meeting**

recalled the wonderful line-up of monthly speakers and encouraged attendance at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event in September.

He thanked Board members for their efforts to expand and enhance programs. He said that FGS is strong because of its members and encouraged their continued involvement in programs and activities.

Members unanimously approved the minutes of the June 8, 2024, Annual Meeting and the Proposed Budget for FY 2025-2026. Members unanimously approved changes in the bylaws, intended to streamline activities and provide the Board with greater flexibility to fulfill its mission and responsibilities. Also, by unanimous vote, Tim Martin and Ralph Wadleigh were elected to serve two-year terms as President and Clerk respectively. He announced that additional officers for 2025-2026 are Clyde Tyndale as Vice President and Diana Stadtmiller as Treasurer. Diana was appointed by the Board to fulfill the term of Treasurer Ray Howe who resigned in March 2025 shortly before his death.

The FGS Annual Meeting was held on June 7, 2024, at Oak Grove Cemetery with 33 members attending in person or by ZOOM. President Tim Martin provided a brief report on FGS activities during the 2024-2025 fiscal year. "It's the sweetest time ever for Genealogy," he said. Tim said that FGS had a banner year in membership, publicity, and community connection. He highlighted FGS' comprehensive cemetery project, the Tuesday Help Desk sessions, and the newest effort at the Senior Center. He

3. Treasurer's Report Fiscal

Falmouth Genealogical Society  
Income Statement For Fiscal Year 2024-25 (June)

ACCOUNT NAME	ANNUAL BUDGET FY 2024-25
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,900.00</b>
Membership Dues Income	\$1,155.00
Membership Donations Income	\$500.00
Falmouth Board Race Income	\$50.00
NERGC Income	\$100.00
Non-Member Donations Income	\$5.00
Other Income	\$291.05
Interest Income	\$491.05
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$4,951.05</b>

**NERGC Conference**

**October 29-November 1, 2025**

**Manchester, NH**

*New Englanders Here, There, and Everywhere*



**Register Today!** At last! The 18<sup>th</sup> New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) is accepting registrations. The cost of full registration is \$200 on or before September 13 and is \$230 on September 14 and after. Online registration closes October 17.

Go to [www.NERGC.org](http://www.NERGC.org) to register online where you can pay by credit card. Or complete the registration form in the conference brochure that is available for download at <https://nergc.org/nergc-program-2025>. You will be able to indicate the sessions you want to attend.