

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

Volume 14

WINTER 1995

Number 1

**MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL
ANNUAL MEETING AND SEMINAR**

By now we all should have received the flyer detailing our program for **Saturday, 4 March 1995** at the **Wayland Town Building** from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**.

We hope that you returned the coupon by Saturday, 25 February in order to obtain the **pre-registration price of \$10**, but if not, we think the **walk-in price of \$12 per person**, which also includes a box lunch, is well worth it, considering the variety and appeal of the speakers and their subjects.

"The New Massachusetts Military Museum and Archives in Worcester", by **Stephen T. Seames**, Director.

"Family History Through Their Homes", by **Barbara Thibault**, Director, Andover Historical Society.

"Resources at the National Archives Branch in Pittsfield", by **Walter Hickey**.

A BLESSED EVENT

Congratulations are due to **Bill and Kim Schoeffler** on the **February 11th 1995** birth of their first child, **William Dwight Schoeffler**. All three are reported as doing fine. **Bill** is our Past **MGC** President.

PRESERVATION-RELATED WORKSHOPS

Four of several upcoming presentations by **Gregor Trinkaus-Randall** of the **Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners**, all of them to be held from **10 AM-1:00 PM**, and each of them limited to 25, open enrollment:

Tuesday, **March 7**: "Getting It Right II: Good In-House Repairs for General Collections"; at the **Waltham Public Library**.

"Special/Local History Collections" repeated: Thursday, **April 6**, at Western Massachusetts Regional Library System headquarters, **Hatfield**; Tuesday, **April 11**, at **Auburn Free Public Library**; and

Tuesday, **May 9**, at **Whitman Public Library**.

For registration, contact your local Mass. Regional Library System.

Thanks to **Sheila FitzPatrick** for this news.

AT THE STATE HOUSE

Our **MGC** Director of Civil Records, **Shirley M. Barnes**, reports that the bill now before the Legislature has been assigned a number; it is **House No. 211**, "**An Act relating to Birth, Marriage and Death Records**". As printed, it consists of 48 pages. She recommends that you phone or write your state representative requesting a copy. The genealogical community has had some input along the way in this Department of Public Health sponsored bill, but it should have careful and thoughtful examination by each of us. **No** hearing by the Joint Committee on Government Regulations has yet been set.

MASS. VITAL RECORDS MOVE

The Massachusetts Department of Vital Statistics is moving, or has already moved, to **470 Atlantic Avenue, Boston**. Their last day of operation at the old location (150 Tremont St.) was to have been Friday, 24 February. They **HOPED** to be in operation the following **Monday 27 Feb.**, but this remains to be seen. The new location is a short walk up the street from South Station.

A NEW F. H. C. IN CAMBRIDGE

The Mormons have opened an **in-town location**, accessible to Bostonians without cars. The **Cambridge Family History Center** is located at 2 Longfellow Place, Cambridge (across from the Longfellow House on Brattle Street, a short walk west of the Harvard Square T station). Their hours (for the moment) are: Wed. 6-8 PM; Thurs. 10 AM - 12 noon; 2nd and 4th Saturdays, 9 AM - 1 PM.

For the two news items immediately above, we are indebted to our **MGC** Vice President, **David Dearborn**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4 March, Saturday - Massachusetts Genealogical Seminar and Luncheon, Wayland.
- 10 March, Friday - The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA): The Archives Director of The Boston Archdiocesan Archives speaks on its holdings. In Room 307, Higgins Hall, Boston College, Chestnut Hill campus, 7:30 PM. Free to public.
- 15 March (Wednesday, at 6:00 PM) and 16 March (Thursday, at 10:00 AM) at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newbury St., Boston: "Jewish Genealogy in Europe and America", by Michael Brenner. Free.
- 18 March (Saturday) - NEHGS Sesquicentennial Anniversary Open House, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, with library tours; appraisals of antiques and fine arts; box lunches for sale, and ending with a wine and cheese reception. For more information, call Christina Wellington, NEHGS Education Dept., 617-536-5740, Ext. 202. Guests welcome.
- 18 March (Saturday) - "Dig For Your Roots" Family History Seminar at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Family History Center, 110 Concord St., Nashua, NH, 9:00 AM to 2:10 PM. Three sessions with choice of four subjects each. No registration fee; materials fee \$2.00; bag lunches available at minimal cost. For more information, call FHC at 508-649-9233.
- 19 March (Sunday) - The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston hears Bruce E. Kahn, Ph.D., on "Computers and Genealogy: Genealogy on the Information Superhighway" 1:00 - 5:00 PM at The Boston Computer Society, 101A First Avenue, Suite 2, Waltham. Free for members, \$3.00 for non-members.
- 19 March (Sunday) - at 2:00 PM in the Assembly Room of the Belmont Memorial Library, 336 Concord Ave., Belmont: Henry Deeks, photograph dealer and historian, will speak on "photographs of the Civil War".
- 25 March (Saturday) - New Hampshire Society of Genealogists Semi-Annual Meeting, 8:30 AM-4:00 PM at the Holiday Inn, 172 North Main St., Concord, NH. Members' pre-registration by March 20 (includes lunch) \$16.00; non-members and walk-ins, \$20.00.
- 7 April (Friday) - The Irish Ancestral Research Association (TIARA) hears Cornelia Jenness of the Association for Gravestone Studies on "The Use of the Graveyard as a Genealogy Tool". Room 307, Higgins Hall, Boston College, 7:30 PM.
- 8 April (Saturday) - MSoG Middlesex Chapter meeting at Bemis Hall, Lincoln, with Marcia Estabrook in the character of Ellen Craft. 1:30 PM.
- 19-22 (Wednesday through Saturday four-day program) or 22 April (Saturday program); the New England Historic Genealogical Society presents "English Family History for Americans" with Dr. George Redmonds of England at the Hawthorne Hotel on the Common, Salem, MA. For more information, phone NEHGS Education Dept.
- 24 April (Monday) - NEHGS Sesquicentennial Annual Meeting at the Harvard Club of Boston, 374 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. Following 4:00 PM reception; meeting with Prof. William M. Fowler, Jr., speaking on "Thinking New Englandly" at 4:30 PM.
- 6-7 May (Saturday and Sunday) - Cape Cod Genealogical Conference at Sea Crest Oceanfront Resort, North Falmouth, MA.
- 12 May (Friday) - TIARA to hear Elizabeth Bouvier, Head of Archives at the Supreme Judicial Court, on "Genealogical research in the 19th and 20th Century Massachusetts State Court Records". Usual place and time.
- 13 May (Saturday) - Middlesex Chapter, Mass. Society of Genealogists: a field trip of Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, led by Jan Hayward, 1:30 PM
- 10 May (Wednesday) - 6:00 PM at the NEHGS, Boston: "Heraldry in America and the story of the NEHGS Committee on Heraldry" with Henry L.P. Beckwith.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE

Another exciting and interesting genealogical conference occurred in Manchester last April. If you participated with the 700 attendees, you received a wealth of printed information, spent your time meeting new or familiar friends, buying new books, maps or pamphlets and/or listening to one or more of the eighty lectures. This is an excellent way for **MGC** to raise funds while giving a volume of knowledge to the participants. As one of the **NERGC** charter organizations to help create and support the Conference, the **Massachusetts Genealogical Council** has shared in the rewards.

But things do not end there. The same day the Conference ended, the Presidents of the various groups met to start planning the next Conference in **Burlington, Vermont**.

Although 18 months away at that time, decisions were being made. Subsequent meetings have brought forth stimulating activities: formally organizing into a Board with subcommittees, discussions of incorporation, insurance coverage and activities for the Burlington Conference have kept everyone involved and busy. It is no easy task putting together a significantly large, influential program that requires input from everyone. **Kay Sheldon** and **Bill Schoeffler** have been the driving force behind the scenes and have carried the major portion of the burden of responsibility. Now this responsibility will be spread among the many sponsoring organizations.

BURLINGTON CONFERENCE

The Conference will be **Friday and Saturday, October 13-14, 1995**. **Thursday** will have pre-conference activities at no extra cost. These sessions require pre-registration. Buses will be available from various parts of New England to Burlington, VT. The exact routes, stops and times will be announced soon. **Thursday** evening registration will be from 7 PM to 10 PM. During this time a cash bar and complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be available to all conferees and their guests.

Friday morning will start with an opening session at 8 AM and general sessions at 8:30 AM. Lunch break will be from noon to 2:30 PM. Luncheon will be

served in the exhibition hall (but in order to allow the staff a chance to set up, conferees are asked NOT to save tables or to sit at a table until the Hotel announces lunch. This was a problem in Manchester that caused problems which we wish to avoid in Burlington). This will be a chance to really shop or to stop in your room.

Rooms are LIMITED!!! In October 1994, all the rooms in the **Burlington** area were sold out - even in mid-October. There are only 150 rooms available at the **Burlington Sheraton**. Although the cost of the room may seem high at \$99 a night, they normally cost \$109 for a single, to \$140 for a double. For the \$99, up to FOUR people can share the room without extra cost. The reservation number is **1-800-677-6576**. **Be sure to mention the conference**. For those who wish to combine the conference with some vacation days, these rates will be available from October 10th to the 16th. Several services are provided by the Hotel: a complimentary shuttle to and from the airport; rooms will be held until 4 PM unless guaranteed by credit card or first-night deposit, and then the room is held until noon the next day; the Front Office can arrange to hold luggage until guest's departure if you wish to visit elsewhere on Sunday.

Special activities include a sunset dinner cruise on Lake Champlain, ethnical music entertainment, a day of research in Montreal, and a Sunday visit to the Shelburne Museum. Other surprises are in the works. Be sure to respond early to get into all the activities you want.

A generous list of national speakers are slated, as well as several local amateurs and professionals selected by the supporting organizations. **MGC will be sponsoring Gratia Mahony, MGC Executive Board Secretary, speaking on "Land for Service: The Narragansett Land Grants in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts and their Claimant/Grantees"**. Other speakers include Joy Reisinger, Robert C. Anderson, Nora Hickey, Stephen White, Barbara Merriman and **our own David Dearborn**.

The **officers** of the Board of the **New England Regional Genealogical Conference** are as follows:

President: **William H. Schoeffler**
Vice-President: **Kay Gardner Westcott**
Secretary: **Judy Fenner**
Treasurer: **Pauline Cusson**

**NEW HOURS AT NEW HAMPSHIRE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY**

The New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord announces new hours for its library at 30 Park Street, Concord, to coincide with the grand opening this spring of its second facility, the new Museum of New Hampshire History. As of June 1, 1995, the library hours will be Tuesday through Saturday from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, on a year-round basis. The library will be closed Monday, May 29, and all Sundays and Mondays thereafter.

-----§-----

MGC NEWSLETTER REPRINTS FOR SALE

Mass. Divorce Records: Where to Find Them by Roger D. Joslyn \$1.00

New England Naturalization Records Index by Roger D. Joslyn \$1.00

Records of Massachusetts Congregational Churches by Mary F. Morgan \$1.00

Civil Records: Massachusetts Updated 1988 by Melinde Lutz Sanborn \$1.00

MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

Wheaton Wilbar, Editor

P. O. Box 5393

Cochituate, MA 01778

Genealogical Research at the Boston Public Library by William Schoeffler \$1.50

Genealogical Research at the Boston Public Library: An Update of Microtext Holdings by Alice Kane \$1.00

The Home for Destitute Catholic Children by Ann S. Lainhart \$1.00

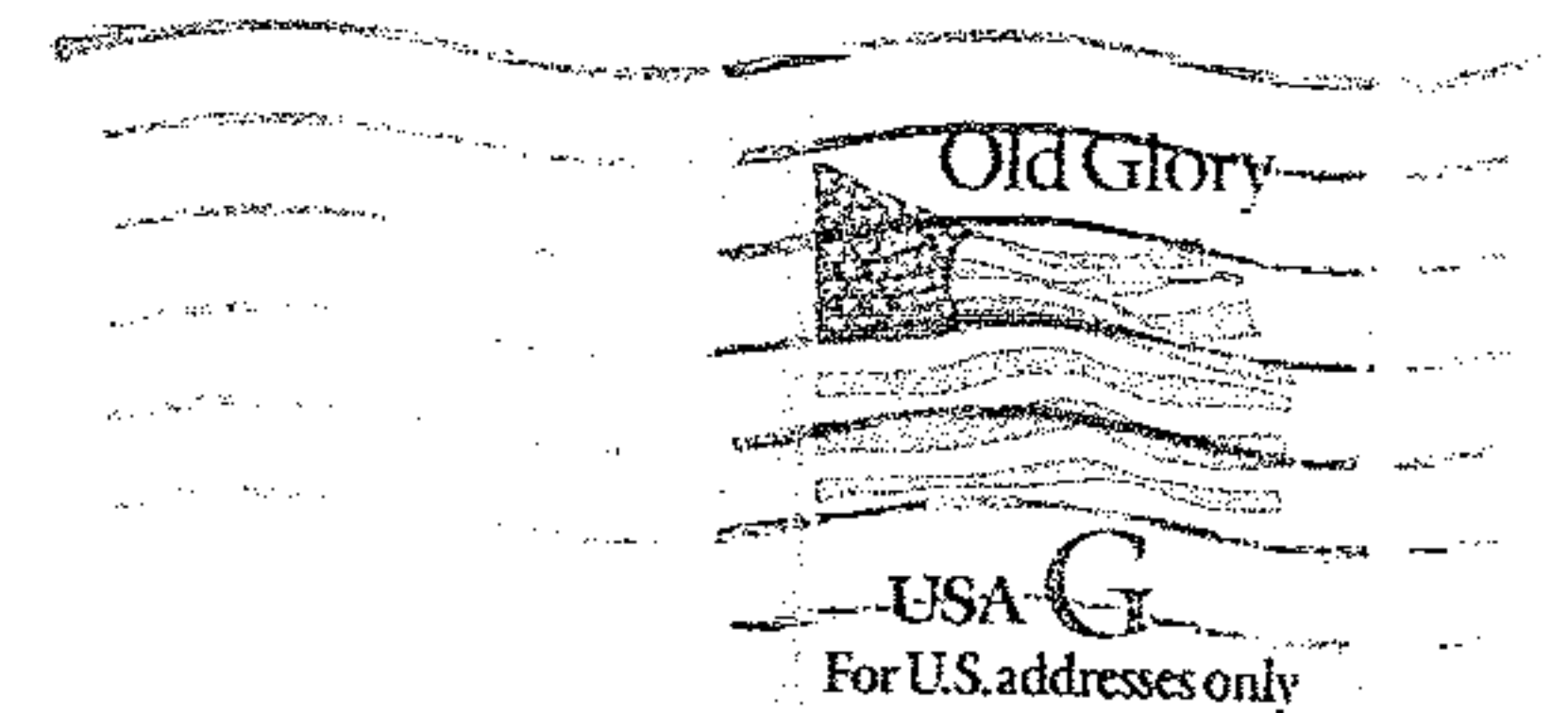
How to Join the Mayflower Society by Alicia Williams \$1.00

17th and 18th Century Massachusetts Court Records of the Supreme Judicial Court by Ann S. Lainhart \$1.50

Order from:

MGC Reprints
P. O. Box 5393
Cochituate, MA 01778

Please make check payable to MGC (Mass. Genealogical Council).



Dearborn, David C. & Maureen
Markt 94
1514 Beacon St. #55
Brookline, MA 02146-2621