

Connecticut Ancestry eNews - delivered January 15, 2011

Dear Connecticut Ancestry Members,

As I write this, Fairfield County is experiencing its third snow storm of the winter season. With snow blown onto every window in the house, I'm expecting to find drifts of the white stuff when I begin the shoveling process.

Program News

Your board has been busy making some changes in the area of programs. First, we have established program hubs—locations where we will hold member meetings twice a year. The eastern hub is the Trumbull Public Library, the northern hub is the Danbury Public Library and the western hub is the Stamford Historical Society. Each of these locations is easily accessible and has plenty of parking.

Second, we have established a rough schedule for our meetings at these hubs: April and November in Trumbull, March and October in Danbury, and February and September in Stamford. In addition, we will have our annual meeting in May at a location that may change every year.

Third, the format for these meetings will be similar, but the content will vary. We will meet on Saturdays with a 30-minute sign-in period followed by the featured program. At the end of every meeting there will be an organized discussion period in which attendees can ask questions of the group and receive answers from the group. This is a chance for people with similar research interests to connect. We expect to have one formal lecture at each hub once a year and an informal member-meeting with group discussions at the other meeting at each hub. We also plan to introduce the concept of Special Interest Groups for the discussion meetings. SIGs would be formed around particular topics of interest to the members. Examples are Fairfield County Founding Families, ethnic research (Irish, Polish, etc.), Beginning Genealogy, Famous Women of Fairfield County or Connecticut, or whatever interests you.

Scheduled Programs

February: Melanie Marks, CAS member and house historian, will give a presentation on researching the “genealogy” of your house. This is a great topic for folks who want to know about the previous occupants of a home and it can be a good tool for selling a house, too. Melanie has been instrumental in getting seven houses listed on the State Register of Historic Places.

Saturday, February 5, 10:30 to 12:00.

Stamford Historical Society, 1508 High Ridge Road, Stamford, CT

March: Nora Galvin will give us a preview of her talk on Migration Out of Connecticut Before 1850, a lecture she is scheduled to present at the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) conference in April.

Saturday, March 12, 10:30.

Danbury Public Library, 170 Main Street, Danbury, CT

April: Informal discussion meeting—bring your ideas, successes and brick wall problems
Saturday, April 16
Trumbull Public Library, 33 Quality Street, Trumbull, CT

Annual Meeting

We are excited to share our plans for the program at the annual meeting. The theme this year will be Immigration, and we will have two speakers. Marine historian Norman Brouwer is an expert on Ellis Island, Castle Garden and the conditions of immigration. He previously worked at the South Street Seaport Museum and is now at Mystic Seaport. He will give two lectures on aspects of immigration. Leslie Huber is a genealogy writer and lecturer. She will give a talk based on her book *The Journey Takers* and will present information on her own research and tips on researching immigration records. More information will be available closer to the date.
Saturday, May 21
Pequot Library, Southport, Connecticut

I hope you can join us at one or all of our free programs. Bring a friend and some ideas.

Best wishes for your genealogical journey.
Nora Galvin
President