



# NEWSLETTER

## GENEALOGY WORKSHOP OF THE HUNTINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Member, Genealogy Federation of Long Island

Member, Federation of Genealogical Societies

**MARCH 2015**

**Vol. 38, No. 3**

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Visit the Genealogy Workshop's Rootsweb website at <[www.rootsweb.com/~nygwhhs/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~nygwhhs/)>  
Visit the Huntington Historical Society's website at <[www.huntingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.huntingtonhistoricalsociety.org)>

**Saturday, April 4, 2015 at 10:00 am**

**at the Conklin Barn (it's heated) ~ ~ ~ Free admission**

The barn is located behind the Conklin House, which is at the southwest corner of High St. and New York Ave. (Rte. 110).  
Enter the parking lot from the west side of New York Ave., behind the house.

***Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue:***

### **USING RECORDS TO FIND CLUES TO YOUR ANCESTOR'S APPEARANCE**

Speaker: Kathleen McGee

Did you ever wonder what your ancestor looked like? Kathleen will show you records that have pictures of your ancestor. She will also show you how to find out what your ancestor may have looked like when there are no pictures available.

Kathleen is a Plainview Family Search Center volunteer, a former board member of the Irish Family History Forum (IFHF), and is the moderator of the popular Irish genealogy help sessions given at the IFHF meetings. She is also a board member of the Genealogy Federation of Long Island.

**Sunday, April 26 to Sunday, May 3, 2015:** Annual Salt Lake City—Family History Library Research Trip. For information, contact office (see above).

**No May meeting in Huntington**

**Saturday, June 6, 2015:** Annual Picnic

Due to the expansion of our facilities, **our library and archives are closed and we are unable to take research requests.**

#### **Inside this issue:**

- 150 Years Ago — in April 1865
- New Searchable Database—Suffolk County Civil War Veterans
- ATT&T Makes Donation to Conserve & Digitize Documents From 1911 New York Capital Fire
- Heritage Quest Online Now Provides Data From Ancestry
- Denmark's Largest Digital Archive Now Open
- Google Translate
- The Netherland to Give a Face to 10,000 Killed U.S. WWII Soldiers
- Findmypast Discount Increased for Our Members
- Origins.net has Closed—Records now on Findmypast
- NARA and Long Island Genealogy Programs; Conferences; Help Wanted; Membership Renewal

All materials have been moved to temporary storage are not currently available, our "Guide to the Archives" can still be accessed at the historical society's website (see above).

The Historical Society's office is temporarily located at the Conklin House. Parking is in front of the barn.

## 150 YEARS AGO—IN APRIL 1865



150 years ago, on April 9, 1865 in a house in the town of Appomattox Court House in Virginia, General Ulysses Grant and General Robert E. Lee signed the document ending the Civil War.

On April 12, 1865, the troops gathered. Grant chose Major General Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain to command the surrender ceremonies. Lee chose Major General John B. Gordon to lead the Confederate troops.

This year, 2015, the event will be re-enacted at Appomattox. Joshua has no living descendants. His role will be portrayed by a relative, Ted Chamberlain of Michigan, who is active in Civil War re-enactments.

### AT&T MAKES DONATION TO CONSERVE & DIGITIZE DOCUMENTS FROM 1911 NEW YORK CAPITAL FIRE

In the early morning hours of March 29, 1911, a fire started in the 3rd floor Assembly Library of the New York Capital Building and quickly spread throughout the building.

Thousands of books and manuscripts were damaged or destroyed. Some survived. They relate to the colonial history of the state of New York. The documents shed light on many topics, such as the French and Indian War in Orange and Ulster Counties, and counterfeiting in the Hudson Valley.

AT&T has donated \$20,000 to conserve and digitize the documents, which would eventually make them accessible to the public.

*The above article includes information from Laurence Hauptman, SUNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus of History and from Marissa Shorenstein, New York State president of AT&T.*

### HERITAGEQUEST ONLINE NOW PROVIDES DATA FROM ANCESTRY

HeritageQuest Online, a division of ProQuest, supplies information to libraries. Many Suffolk County public libraries subscribe to HeritageQuest Online and make the information available to patrons working from their home computers.

HeritageQuest Online has replaced its genealogy content with information from Ancestry.com. This includes replacement of the HeritageQuest menus and search engine.

The change has resulted in an expansion of available genealogy data, as well as an expanded collection of family and local history books. Much if not all of the data is also available on the Ancestry.com library edition, which is not available for use on home computers. This means that the information can now be accessed from home when using HeritageQuest.

Comments posted to Dick Eastman's website indicate that the new menu is harder to use, and search results are less accurate. It has been reported that some records easily found by HeritageQuest cannot be found by Ancestry.

### DENMARK'S LARGEST DIGITAL ARCHIVE NOW OPEN

Denmark's largest digital photo album with nearly two million images is now open to the general public.

The online database at <Arkiv.dk> includes 1,841,254 documents such as photos, diaries, letters, and sound and video recordings. The Association of Local Archives estimates that Danish archives contain some 50 million images and more than 100 kilometres of shelves with original documents. Every month, 25,000 new photos will be added to the database.

All documents in the digital archive are covered by the general rules of copyright. Some date back to the 1600s. Two-thirds of the costs needed for the development of the website has been covered by a donation.

This website is in Danish. When opened in Google, English translation is available (see separate article on next page).

***New Publications from our Members:*****NEW SEARCHABLE DATABASE—SUFFOLK COUNTY CIVIL WAR VETERANS**

Over 3,700 Suffolk County Civil War Veterans can be found on a new searchable database created from Bob Farrell's research. Available information consists of basic military data including Regiment, Company, highest Rank attained and a county location, which may be either his Town, Post Office, Village or Cemetery.

This database can be accessed on either: The German Genealogy Group:

<[http://www.germangenealogygroup.com/records-search/Civil\\_War\\_Veterans.php](http://www.germangenealogygroup.com/records-search/Civil_War_Veterans.php)>

or the Italian Genealogy Group:

<[http://italiengen.org/records-search/Civil\\_War\\_Veterans.php](http://italiengen.org/records-search/Civil_War_Veterans.php)>

Note: Use an underline character where indicated – empty spaces are not permitted.

Should you find your ancestor or any other veteran and you wish to obtain copies of research documents you can contact Bob at <[suffolk.ny.cw.vets@verizon.net](mailto:suffolk.ny.cw.vets@verizon.net)> . Available are Federal, State, County, Town, records and indexes as well as local newspaper articles, including obituaries. Burial data from local and national websites are also available. Data on a Regiment or ship involvement are also available as background information. Not only can you find your man but you can find out where he was engaged with the confederates.

Happy searching!

**THE NETHERLANDS TO GIVE A FACE TO 10,000 KILLED U.S. WWII SOLDIERS**

Note: In the Netherlands, May 4<sup>th</sup> is Memorial Day and May 5<sup>th</sup> is Liberation Day.

*The following article is from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter dated March 16, 2015.*

The American War Cemetery in the town of Margraten, the Netherlands, contains the remains of more than 10,000 U.S. servicemen who gave their lives to keep the Netherlands and the rest of the world free from tyranny. Through The Faces of Margraten project, during a Memorial Weekend from the 2nd till the 5th of May 2015, the Dutch will pay special tribute to these soldiers by decorating their more than 10,000 graves and names on the Walls of the Missing with personal photos of the soldiers. The project has started a quest to locate more soldiers' photos. Perhaps you can help.

"Maybe you're related to one of the soldiers, and have a photo tucked away in an album you haven't looked through in years. Please look again, and if you find one, help us honor the sacrifices of thousands of other Americans by contributing the photo to The Faces of Margraten," said Sebastiaan Vonk, chairman of the Foundation United Adopters American War Graves. "Each photo matters, even if the quality is not great, because it means another soldier who will be honored."

You can read more about this project in an article at <<http://goo.gl/qm09Yt>> as well as in the project's web site at <<http://www.thefacesofmargraten.com/index.php/en-US/>>.

**GOOGLE TRANSLATE**

This is a free service that enables you to write out text in any of 90 laptop languages, which it will immediately translate into any of the other 89 languages. For example, if you copy the text of a French court record, the program will return the English language translation.

You won't see the "Translate" icon when you go to Google. Click on the Apps icon (a square with 9 dots) in the upper right corner, then select "more", then select "Translate". Alternatively, type in the address: [www.translate.google.com](http://www.translate.google.com).

### NARA-NYC FINDING FAMILY

All programs run from noon to 1:00 pm in the 3rd floor Learning Center. All programs are free and open to the public. Please register at <newyork.archives@nara.gov> or 866-840-1752 to reserve a space.

April 14: *Using A-Files*. Learn about the A-files and how these mid-century records contain a wealth of biographical data, including immigration visas, photographs, applications, affidavits, correspondence and more.

May 12: *Records of the U.S. Custom Service*

June 9: *Americans in the Great War*

### UPCOMING CONFERENCES

#### 36th Annual Lancaster Family History Conference

“Celebrities and Cellmates: Finding that famous or infamous ancestor”

23-25 April 2015 at Lancaster, PA

<www.imhs.org>

#### Eastern European Family History Conference

11-15 August 2015 at Salt Lake City

<http://feefhs.org/>

**For additional conferences, please see last month's Newsletter**

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal notices have been mailed. Don't forget to include \$10 for the Genealogy Workshop Newsletter.

Genealogy Workshop members are eligible for the following discount programs:

**FindMyPast** database: a \$100 discount on the annual world subscription fee.

**Dell:** Discounts on Dell products.

For passwords and additional information, please contact your Newsletter editor (see box in next column.)



### FINDMYPAST DISCOUNT INCREASED

Findmypast has increased the discount available to members of the Huntington Historical Society Genealogy Workshop. We previously received a \$50 discount on the annual world subscription rate. The discount has been increased to \$100, effective with new subscriptions on or after March 13, 2015 and with renewals taking place after that date. That's a 50% discount on the regular annual World subscription rate.

It is necessary to use a promotional code, which is available from Bill Chamberlain, your Newsletter editor.

### Origins.net has closed.

**All records formerly available on Origins can now be found on Findmypast.**

### GENEALOGY PROGRAMS ON L. I.

A list of this month's and next month's genealogy meetings at various L.I. locations can be found on the Genealogy Federation of Long Island website at <<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~gfli/>>

### HELP WANTED

The ever-expanding indexing and digitalization projects coordinated by John Martino, which started with Long Island and New York City records, have expanded, not only within that area, but also to New Jersey and upstate.

A project of this magnitude requires many helpers and incurs substantial expenses, which include copying, postage, paper, ink or toner, software upgrades and hardware upgrades. John is in need of both volunteers and cash.

If you can help, please contact John at JohnM16881@aol.com

Next month's Newsletter will be issued earlier than usual. Articles for publication must be received by Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at our 2 High St. office, attn.: Bill Chamberlain (or Genealogy Newsletter), or by Monday AM, April 13<sup>th</sup> via e-mail to <[wachamb@verizon.net](mailto:wachamb@verizon.net)>.

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**See you 10:00 am Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Conklin Barn.**