



THE DUTCHESS NEWSLETTER

Dutchess County Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 708, Poughkeepsie, New York 12602-0708

<<http://www.dcgs-gen.org>>

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• DCGS Meetings

N.b. Bring a friend! -- meetings are always open to the public. If Spackenkill schools are closed, meetings are canceled.

January 20, 2004

"Members Sharing with Members"

An open forum where attendees can discuss their research problems and see if others have suggestions to help them. Attendees are also invited to share research breakthroughs and tell how they did it. We especially encourage questions and discussions of problems related to computers at this meeting.

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Tue 18 Nov 2003

Linda Koehler <lckoeblr@optonline.net>

DCGS Meeting, 18 Nov. 2003: "I Know It's There Somewhere! Finding What You Want on the Internet." **Donna Moughty** discussed using the Internet to maximum advantage. Begin with an objective for your search, and keep a research log of searches to avoid wasting time by duplicating searches. If you find useful information, be sure to document the source. Much of the information on the Internet should be regarded as clues only, and used as a referral to original source material, so be skeptical and go to the original source whenever possible. There may have been transcription errors, or important material could have been omitted. Try your search in different search engines, as each has a different set of retrieval criteria. Read the help screens for search engines to learn how to optimize searches. Search for a surname or person's name limited by locations, dates, or topic to minimize retrieval of irrelevant material. Do locality searches as well to find information related to the area where

your ancestors lived. Don't be scared of pages in foreign languages that you don't understand; use Internet tools such as Google http://www.google.com/language_tools?hl=en or Babelfish <http://babelfish.altavista.com/> to translate them.

Donna Moughty, a former regional sales manager for a technology company, has been conducting family research for over 10 years. She teaches genealogy classes for beginners and lectures on a variety of subjects including Internet and Irish research.

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Tue 16 Sep 2003

Linda Koehler <lckoeblr@optonline.net>

"Using HeritageQuest Online for Genealogical Research."

Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer spoke about Heritage Quest Online, a service available through libraries. It currently includes two databases:

- fully indexed scanned versions of over 20,000 books such as family and county histories, city directories, etc. Most of these are related to the United States, but HQ is adding Canadian and European content.
- Scanned images of the US Census from 1790 through 1930. Most, but not all, of these censuses are indexed; the remainder are available for browsing.

HQ Online plans to add more files, including newspaper obituaries from 150 newspapers in recent years, Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Application files, the Freedman's Bank records, and others. The Periodical Source Index (PERSI), previously available through Ancestry.com, will also be added soon.

HQ Online has ample help pages available. While in some cases, it may be hard to fine tune searches, it gives users access to a huge amount of material.

Libraries can purchase this service and make it available to their patrons; some societies have also made arrangements to purchase it for their members. The great thing about HQ Online is that libraries and societies can give their members a password to access it from home. In the Dutchess County area, we know for sure that the Greater Poughkeepsie Public Library, the East Fishkill Library, and the Marlboro Library have this service available. If your local public library doesn't offer HeritageQuest Online, you can gain access by joining The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 122 East 58th Street, New York, NY 10022 or their web site at <http://www.nygbs.org/> (yearly dues start at \$60.00,

depending on level of membership) or the Godfrey Memorial Library, 134 Newfield Street, Middletown, CT 06457, URL <http://www.godfrey.org/> Godfrey says, "... enjoy remote access to thousands of digital records for an annual fee of \$35.00. If you are not a member and would like to subscribe, either download the application form and mail it in, or call the library to register (860) 346-4375."

• DCGS Officers for 2003-2004

Roland E. Ormsby, Membership VP <wf-are@juno.com>

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• Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery

Contributors: Linda Koehler <lckoehlr@optonline.net>

Jan Foster <jfos@fosterswebsite.com>

Bruce Hustis who works for Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery told us in August of plans for a re-dedication ceremony on the cemetery's 150th anniversary to be held on Sun 14 Sep. They were hoping for about 300 people to attend, with catered food and 2 tents set up at the north end of the mausoleum on the Central Hudson end of the cemetery.

There also would be presentations by people representing Poughkeepsie residents buried in the cemetery, the Germania Singers, the "County Trolley," and short bus tours of the cemetery. They invited a number of groups including DCGS to set up tables; and the newly-established "Friends of Pok. Rural Cemetery" (for fund-raising for the cemetery), the DC Historical Society, Fred Schaeffer who has a large collection of Pok. post cards, etc.

We have heard that they are receptive to genealogists, and that they try to collect additional material about people buried in the cemetery as the occasion arises. I figure it is a good idea to establish good relations between each other as

organizations, particularly if they get an active Friends association going (I'm dreaming published records, here).

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(report by Jan Foster)

The 150th Anniversary and Rededication of the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery was held on September 14th of this year. This cemetery is beautifully located on the eastern bank of the Hudson River just south of the City of Poughkeepsie. It can be reached via US Route 9. Among the activities of the day were trolley tours of the cemetery grounds and displays and tables of several local civic and historical organizations including our own. Linda Koehler, Rod Link and I hosted the table for the Dutchess County Genealogical Society and were pleased answer questions and speak with several visitors there. This cemetery, one of many in the local area, is deserving of a visit by locals and out-of-town visitors alike, so if you are in the area and have a bit of time, consider a stroll through the grounds.

The following information is from Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery Historic Landmark 1853-2003 Rededication, which was published specifically for the event. It provides a brief history about this major Dutchess County Cemetery.

"In 1852 the concerned and public spirited citizens of Poughkeepsie saw a need to locate and purchase suitable land for a cemetery. As the church cemeteries, which currently existed in the village, were rapidly filling up, there was an urgent need to find a sizable piece of property which could be purchased and laid out to accommodate the burial needs of families of all faiths for the 19th century and beyond..."

"A Committee was formed... The Rural Cemetery Association was organized on the 31st day of December, 1852..."

"In May 1853 the Rural Cemetery Association purchased the homestead of the Late Supreme Court Justice, Honorable Smith Thompson. This beautiful property consisted of fifty-four acres and was laid out under the competent direction of Mr. Howard Daniels, (1815-1863) a noted landscape designer of that time. On November 2, 1853, the cemetery was dedicated to its present purpose.... In 1883 the cemetery was enlarged by the purchase of an additional one hundred and six acres of land to the south belonging to the estate of Samuel G. Wheeler..."

If you are interested in further information regarding the Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery, you can contact them at (845) 454-6020 or visit their website at <http://www.poughkeepsieruralcemetery.org>.



Jan Foster & Linda Koehler at the DCGS table, 14 Sep.



Sign marking our table at the Cemetery event on 14 Sep.

- **Savage's Genealogical Dictionary Online**

from Jan Foster, 9/7/03:

If your research extends into New England, James Savage's "*Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England, Showing Three Generations of Those Who Came Before May, 1692*" is one of the greatest resources for anyone doing genealogy research in colonial New England. These books were originally published during the U.S. Civil War and still remain today as one of the greatest resources we have. They are available on CD for under \$50.

Thanks to the efforts of David Blackwell, the same volumes are available online at no cost. You can even download the volumes and store them on your own hard drive. You can also copy-and-paste information from the Web site directly into your genealogy program, word processor or other program. For instance, here is a copy-and-paste of the first immigrant to North America who bore my surname:

ROGER, Salisbury, an orig. propr. ancest. it is believ. of all of the name in our land, d. 16 Dec. 1694, aet. 83; and his wid. Sarah d. 11 Mar. 1698. They had John, b. 9 Mar. or Apr. 1640; Nathaniel, 18 May 1643; Philip, 20 Dec. 1644; Thomas, 11 Nov. 1646; Timothy, 29 Nov. 1648; Joseph, 8 Jan. 1651; Benjamin, 12 Feb. 1653; Sarah, 25 Sept. 1655; Samuel, 20 Nov. 1657; and Ruth, 22 Mar. or Apr. 1662. Sarah m. 13 June 1678, Joseph French jr. and next, 4 Aug. 1684, Solomon Shepherd, by both had ch. and d. a wid. of gr. age 1 Dec. 1748. That he came from Southampton 1638, on board the Confidence, in comp. with many wh. sat down at Salisbury, and neighb. towns, as presum. from a paper supplied by Henry Stephens of London, in Geneal. Reg. II. 108-10, after some correct. of errors found by H. G. Somerby, giv. in Geneal. Reg. V. 440, would be rec. as prob. in spite of the name being in the latter chang. to Robert, and the other circumst. of his being call. serv. 15 yrs. sold, for the numeral should be 25, and the designat. may well

seem only a deception to get clear from the orders in coun. to embarrass emigrat.

You can do the same: find information on your early New England ancestry and then easily copy-paste it into your database. The online version of Savage is available at:

<http://www.usgennet.org/usa/topic/newengland/savage/>

Like most genealogy books, Savage's Dictionary did contain errors. Professor Robert Kraft's 1994 transcription with many corrections of James Savage's 4 volume work may be found at:

<http://www.usigs.org/library/books/ma/savage/savage.htm>

(The above is abstracted from an article in Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, copyright 2003 by Richard W. Eastman. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.)

- **Membership**

By Roland E. Ormsby, Membership VP
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Membership listings are a benefit of membership. Updates are published in the written versions of this newsletter which are distributed to all current members

- **For your Irish ancestry...**

www.irishorigins.com

To access the data, enter a Surname and Year range on the [home page](#), where you can [search](#) the entire database for free. The search will return a list of the datasets with the number of records matching the search criteria found in each.

To [view the records](#), you will need to [signup](#). Access costs:

- 300 credits: 7 days continuous access €9, US\$9 or GB£6.
- 600 credits: 14 days continuous access €14, US\$14 or GB£10 (check [currency converter](#)).
- 1 credit will enable you to retrieve one index record. (Note that these are first displayed in a shortened form, which doesn't include all of the index data, but there is no extra charge to viewing the full details of these records.)
- 20 credits will enable you to view an image of the original Griffith's Valuation.

The access period (7 days or 14 days) starts from the moment your credit card details are accepted.

- **WEB THREADS**

<http://www.dcgsgen.org>

Jeanette (Jan) Foster <jfos@fosterswebsite.com>

I have made the latest updates to the website. They include the most recent addition of library updates, upcoming Nov.

meeting announcement, new phone number for the library and new internet ID for Queries Editor.

Thanks to the wonderful response we have had to the recent call for volunteers, work has begun on two new website projects. The work of these volunteers will enable us to provide additional new information on the website that will

benefit all visitors. If you are able to devote just a couple of hours of time to assist by inputting data (cut, paste, type) and/or proofreading pages before they are added to the site, please contact me directly.

And, once again - a reminder. We are unable to take inquiries of any kind at the website. We encourage you to use the e-mail address provided on the webpage to submit corrections, improvements or suggestions for changes to the website. All other inquiries should be addressed to the society at:

• **EDITOR'S NOTES**

J. Douglas Leith <jdleith@comcast.net>

Everyone is invited to two events at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library, 4079 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, New York 12538 (1-800-FDR-VISIT):

On 6 Dec 2003: **Holiday Open House 1-5 pm at the FDR Library** (email roosevelt.library@nara.gov, or 845-486-7745)

On 30 Jan 2004: **Happy Birthday FDR ceremonies at the FDR Library Rose Garden**, 3 p.m., followed by birthday cake. Both items from FDR Library 'Rendevous', Summer 2003 issue, p. 3. Also, www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu

