

# CONNECTICUT GENEALOGY NEWS

A Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

Fall 2009

Vol.2, No.3

**In This Issue:**

*African  
Americans  
in  
Connecticut*

*Native  
Americans  
in  
Connecticut*



# Connecticut Historical Society

At the Connecticut Historical Society you'll find a helpful staff and an outstanding collection for genealogists including:

- Printed local histories and genealogies with an emphasis on CT and MA
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"On our visit to the Connecticut Historical Society, we found a 1782 church record that proved a connection we had searched for, for four years!"

-Bruce and Connie Rova, Gulf Breeze, FL

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Hartford, Connecticut  
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Tuesday - Friday, 12:00-5:00  
Saturday 9:00-5:00

Connecticut Historical Society  
museum & library

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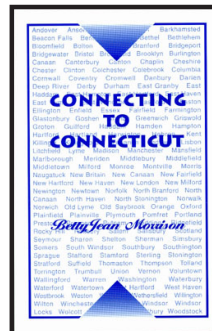
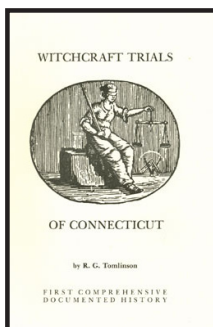
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## *Witchcraft Trials of Connecticut*

by R.G. Tomlinson

Using original depositions and other primary records covers all the major events in CT from 1633-1692, including the Great Hartford Witch Panic of 1662-3, 30 years before Salem. 80 pgs.



## *Connecting to Connecticut*

by Betty Jean Morrison

Key information for genealogists on each of Connecticut's 169 towns. Local holdings of vital and probate records and other data sources. Includes contact data. 350 pgs.

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# Connecticut Genealogy News

*A Quarterly Publication of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.*

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## News & Comment

<b>President's Message</b> .....	2
<b>Editorial</b> .....	2
<b>News</b> .....	2
<b>Calendar of Events</b> .....	3

## Features

<b>African Americans by the Numbers</b> .....	4
<b>Native Americans by the Numbers</b> .....	5
<b>Genealogical Research and the Mashantucket Pequot Museum's Information Resources</b> .....	8
<b>African American Genealogy in Connecticut</b> .....	9
<b>Native American Genealogy in Connecticut</b> .....	11
<b>The Indian and Colonial Research Center</b> .....	13
<b>A Man Called Sampson</b> .....	14
<b>Hester C. Whitehurst</b> .....	17

## Need to Know

<b>Donors</b> .....	20
<b>Book Reviews</b> .....	21
<b>Queries</b> .....	22
<b>Advertisements</b> .....	23

## Coming Issue

**Winter Issue: French Canadian in Connecticut**

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## President's Message



**PUBLISH OR PERISH!** I'm sure you don't have to be scientists or academics to recognize that phrase.

As genealogists, we are always looking behind us and as I mentioned in my last message, we need to do more looking forward. Many of you have spent

10, 20 or 30 years on your research. As most of you know, your children or grandchildren have little interest in all the "dead people" you've collected along the way. Oh yes, there will be the random cousin along the way with whom you have had correspondence, but their work faces the same fate.

Consider publication as a legacy to all of those descendants, direct and collateral. Most of us have enough material for a full genealogy, but lack the time, energy or resources for the production of a full scale publication. Consider a more limited work, a manuscript for limited distribution to a local library, historical or genealogical society.

If that is still too daunting a task, break it up into smaller working units. Do you have a favorite ancestor? – focus on them and their descendants. Have you found errors in previously published material? – write up a correction. Have you found previously published works that end with your third great-grandfather? – write up the extension. All of these are good practice sessions for a longer work.

You may say, "Well I don't have this long American lineage. My great-grandparents came from the old country." All the more reason to preserve their legacies. You could very well have the knowledge of the family which will be lost in another generation. Most immigrant families were just too busy with the business of life to record their family's history.

The Connecticut Nutmegger is always seeking out these pieces of your past for publication. Many of you have developed extensive background knowledge of broader research topics including ethnic groups, migration and settlement pattern or holdings of certain repositories. All of these are suitable for inclusion here in Connecticut Genealogy News (who knows you may generate the theme for an entire issue.)

In addition, in preparing an article for publication, you narrow your focus on a particular group and/or geographic area. You then really take a good look at the research you have done – Do my conclusions make sense? What information needs better documentation? As a result you will improve your own research techniques.

As a final word to readers, I encourage you to approach all articles in our publications as learning tools. While the author may not be discussing your own family, he/she may be researching in an area your ancestors lived or attacking a problem similar to one you face. These article can give insight into research techniques and leads on resource materials and repositories which can aid your own research.

*Edward W. Strickland II*  
*President*

## Editorial

In this issue we address two important groups in Connecticut-Native Americans and African Americans. In many respects pursuing family history and genealogical research for ancestry in these groups presents unique challenges and sometimes limited data sources.

Fortunately, we were able to enlist Vicki S. Welch, a leading genealogist specializing in people of color, as the principal author for this issue of Connecticut Genealogy News. Vicki was the 2008 CSG Literary Award Grand Prize Winner for her book, *And They Were Related Too, A Study of Eleven Generations of One American Family*.

We are also grateful to Will Ottery for allowing us to reproduce some material from the terrific book he co-authored with his wife, Rudi, entitled *A Man Called Sampson, 1590 - 1989*."

Finally, we are pleased to acknowledge the contribution of Joe Frawley, the Librarian at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum, discussing information resources found there. We also note the useful conversations with Joan Cohn about the valuable databases available at The Indian & Colonial Research Center in Old Mystic, CT.

*Richard G. Tomlinson*  
*Chair, CSG Publication Committee*

## 2010 Literary Awards Contest

The 2010 Literary Awards Contest will open in September 2009. See [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org) for entry rules and an entry form at that time.

## NEW ON THE CSG WEB

The Fourth Release of the Joint CSG/NEHGS Project to digitize the past forty years of *The Connecticut Nutmegger* has been posted to the CSG web at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Volumes 1-26 are now searchable online.

**COVER PHOTO CREDIT** Photo from the Rochester Public Library of Hester (Whitehurst) Jeffrey (1842-1934). She was a social activist and an associate of Susan B. Anthony in the suffrage movement. (See article in this issue.) Photographer unknown.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SAVE THE DATES & MARK YOUR CALENDAR ✓

For reservations, or more information or directions, please contact the CSG Office 860-569-0002 or go to the CSG website at [www.csginc.org](http://www.csginc.org). Please register for programs early to aid facilities planning. For those events with a cost, please make checks payable and send to: CSG, Inc., P.O. Box 435, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Your cancelled check is your confirmation.

### ALL PROGRAMS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

**19 SEPTEMBER 2009: ORPHANAGES AND ORPHAN TRAINS** with **Speaker** John Kenney, a retired Maloney High School teacher of Meriden, CT. Having grown up in orphanages in Massachusetts & New Hampshire, he is uniquely qualified to speak on this topic. **Place:** Chowder Pot IV, 165 Brainard Rd, Hartford, CT. **Time:** Registration: 11:30 a.m. **Lunch:** Noon, Speaker at 1:15 **Meal Choices:** Baked Scrod, Chicken Parmesan or Shrimp Scampi. **Cost:** \$30 with lunch, \$20 Speaker Only. Advance Registration Required. Deadline for Registration: September 14, 2009. Please no walk-ins.

begins at 8:45 a.m., Lunch at Noon, afternoon sessions begin at 1:00 p.m. **Lunch is not a buffet this year, meal choices are:** Chicken Marsala or Pasta Primavera (vegetarian). **Cost: Registrations received by 30 September 2009: \$45. Registrations received after 30 September 2009: \$55. Deadline for registration is 12 October 2009 by 3 p.m.** If you do not have a registration form, just send in a note with your name, address, phone number, CSG number (if you're a member) and meal choice with your check. See full page announcement on page 23.

**\*\*\*BUS TRIP\*\*\*    \*\*\*BUS TRIP\*\*\***  
**SAVE THE DATE**

**3 OCTOBER 2009: BUS TRIP TO NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY,** 101 NEWBURY ST., BOSTON, MA. **COST:** \$35 person, **Departing** from Wethersfield Park & Ride at 7 a.m., then Manchester Park & Ride, then the Willington Commuter Lot (Exit 69 off I-84E). Leaving Boston at 5 p.m. **Lunch** is on your own. **There is a \$10.00 admission charge for non-NEHGS members, payable at the door. DEADLINE TO REGISTER:** 30 September 2009. For questions, call or email the CSG office. Directions will be provided. You will be required to sign a liability release form to participate in this trip.

***Space is Limited - Register Today!***

**17 OCTOBER 2009: CSG ANNUAL SEMINAR,** Holiday Inn North Haven, 201 Washington St., North Haven, CT. **Directions:** EASY ON & OFF I-91 either North or South. Take Exit 12, turn right off the ramp, then take first left. **Speakers & Topics:** (Leslie Huber, the speaker we had originally scheduled for the first morning topic is now unable to attend. We have scheduled Dan Lynch to speak on a similar topic). Catherine Zahn, "*They Left Connecticut and Went...Where?*" and *Online Genealogical Sources*; author of the best-seller, *Google Your Family Tree*, Daniel M. Lynch, *Exploring Sources, What's New ? .... What's Changed?* **Time:** Registration begins 8:00 a.m. with coffee & danish, Program

**21 NOVEMBER 2009: WHEN YOU HIT THAT BRICK WALL - STRATEGIES FOR SOLUTIONS**

**Speaker:** A retired High School teacher and professional genealogist, Thomas Howard is a frequent speaker at regional and national genealogical conferences. He is a long time member of CSG and has served several terms on its Board of Governors. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford 06118. **Cost:** Free.

**NOTE: Beginning February 2010, CSG has deemed it necessary to charge a nominal fee for our otherwise free programs to help defray the costs of utilities and other expenses. We are sorry for this inconvenience.**

**20 FEBRUARY 2010: COMPUTERS FOR DUMMIES (Computer Techniques, How-To's and other problem solving issues).**

**Presented by:** CSG President and Technology Committee Chair, Edwin W. Strickland II & Lisa Vasas. **Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$3.00 CSG members, \$5.00 non-members.

**MARCH 2010: CSG AND THE HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF BRIDGEPORT, CT. Topic, Date and time to be determined at a later date.**

**17 APRIL 2010: UNDERSTANDING DNA AS AN AID IN OUR ANCESTRAL RESEARCH**

**Speaker:** Genealogist & Historical Researcher, Nora Galvin. She is also a member of the Board of Governors of CSG, a member the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council and the Connecticut Ancestry Society. **Time:** 1:30 p.m. **Place:** CSG Library, 175 Maple St., East Hartford, CT 06118. **Cost:** \$3.00 CSG members, \$5.00 non members.