



WHO are you?

GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



JUNE 2018

Rhode Island State Archives Field Trip Wednesday, June 13th – 2:30-4:30PM

As our first field trip of the year, we have been invited to the State Archives where many precious papers and items are stored from the earliest days of Rhode Island. As of this writing, I have only 2 spaces left! Here is how it will work:

- Meet at the Archives at 2:30 sharp.
- 337 Westminster Street, Providence.
- If you drive, park at the lot diagonally across from the Archives.
- Tell them where you are going, and ask for a voucher.
- Get the voucher stamped at the Archives, so you will not have to pay.

Attendance is limited (per the Archives) so let me know you are coming.

- If you sign up and find later you are unable to attend, please call me (not email) and let me know so I can release the space to someone else.



NO Meeting at the Library in June

Families are like fudge... mostly sweet with a few nuts. ~ Author Unknown

We owe it to our ancestors to preserve entire those rights, which they have delivered to our care; we owe it to our posterity, not to suffer their dearest inheritance to be destroyed.

*~ The Letters of Julius
(a pseudonym for unknown author)*

Descendants of Roger Williams Books – for your use:

The donated books from the Roger Williams Family Association are on top of the catalog next to the Reference Desk. These books are Reference materials and do not circulate.

July program: Wednesday, July 11th 5:30 Gravestones Restoration with the Mencuccis



Betty and Carlo Mencucci will join us for a program that has been requested for quite some time and that is **Gravestone Rehabilitation**. The Mencuccis are the authors and producers of the DVD “West of the Seven Mile Line: a history of Glocester” (RI). According to a ProJo article:¹ The Mencuccis are not amateurs. They have taken numerous workshops on the art of grave conservation. They know what biological cleaners should be used to remove moss and lichen from marble. They know how deep to dig to install a stone. They know which epoxy to use to repair a broken headstone.



Most of our ancestors were not perfect ladies and gentlemen. The majority of them weren't even mammals.

~ Robert Anton Wilson

Mohr Library Genealogy Group

2nd Wednesday, 4:30 Special Program times vary

Library Hours

Mon – Thurs 9-8/ Friday 9 – 6// Saturday 9 -5

**Congrats on new book!
Diane Boumenot
& Maureen Taylor
"Research in
Rhode Island"**



The book offers a broad discussion of Rhode Island's founding and how its unique history has shaped the development of the kinds of records that genealogists use – vital records, cemeteries, deeds, court records, newspaper, military, census, and probate. The availability of published and manuscript record sets is investigated. 🌸

The great gift of family life is to be intimately acquainted with people you might never even introduce yourself to, had life not done it for you.
~ Kendall Hailey
The Day I Became an Autodidact



If you have hit a brick wall, and think it is time to consult an expert, you can get some help from the folks at Ancestorseekers.com. From their partner at Family Tree Magazine:

Please share your research problem with us. One of our experts will carry out an initial investigation and send you a free research assessment and price estimate by email. We will conduct some preliminary work at no charge in which we will: 1) Review your current information. 2) Check which records are at the Library [Family History Library – Salt Lake City] might provide information on your ancestors. 3) Prepare a suggested research plan, including how much any further research would cost. 4) Email this to you for your consideration.

**Thanks! Saturday, May 5th
Diggin' Your Roots Genealogy Workshop**

🌸🌸 The recent Genealogy program was a rounding success! **Michelle Chiles**, Manager of the Robinson Research Center, Rhode Island Historical Society (RIHS), and **Kate Wells**, Curator of Rhode Island Collections, Providence Public Library (PPL) planned the event. We were limited to about 20 people because of the size of the room – everyone had a computer of one sort or another – either their own laptop or PPL brought ipads.

🌸🌸 **Phoebe Bean**, RIHS Librarian and **Kate Wells**, PPL dug right into the subject with a key list of how to get started. They made this complex subject come to life with simple straightforward tips that made it sound easy! Speaking with your own living relatives – whether or not the tales are true, understanding primary versus secondary sources, what a pedigree chart looks like and how to construct it were some of the starters. Later setting goals, how to start your organizing along with record keeping and citations kept everyone huddled with their notepads.

🌸🌸 Diggin' Your Roots was a fascinating program that kept everyone's attention for the full 2 hours. It was a beginner's basic program, but even those more advanced learned a lot. We adjourned for some fresh pressed cider (thanks Deb) and some anise frosted egg biscuits (Thanks Diana).

🌸🌸 As I write, I find my mailbox stuffed with great compliments for the program. **A hearty thanks to our presenters Phoebe and Kate!**

Some thoughts on Immigration

So at last I was going to America! Really, really going, at last! The boundaries burst. The arch of heaven soared. A million suns shone out for every star. The winds rushed in from outer space, roaring in my ears, "America, America!"
~ Mary Antin, *The Promised Land*, 1912

.....
Immigrant, n. an unenlightened person who thinks one country better than another.
~ Ambrose Bierce, *the Devil's Dictionary*, 1906

From the Magazines –

Family Tree Magazine offers a **FREE DOWNLOAD** on **Surnames**. This may help answer what the surname means, spelling variants, and how to investigate female maiden names. **Oct/Nov 2017**
In an article titled, "Busted!" a variety of myths are debunked. We hear of the Ellis Island change of name myth. The article states that immigrants themselves changed the spelling, changes were made at ports of departure, or mistakes were made. **May/June 2017**

1. "A view from Burrillville: Bringing abandoned graveyards back to life" Linda Borg, Journal Staff Writer, posted Sep 6, 2014, 9:11pm.



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