



WHO are you?

GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



APRIL 2019



Wednesday April 10th 6 PM

Meet Colonel Ron Barnes --- "Lineage Societies"

Colonel Barnes has a complex relationship with societies being that he is a member or head of many of the most notable. Col. Barnes will speak to what lineage societies mean to our country and to you, how our historical memory is being preserved (to keep our nation on track?), what it means to be a participant in a society, and if it is for you and yours.

Wednesday April 10th 4:30 PM

Thanks to a gift from the **Rhode Island Genealogical Society (RIGS)** I will be attending the Librarian Day of the **NERGC** conference in NH – so I will share with you a bit of that trip.

From My Window

Spring: the first morning when that one true block of sweet, laminar, complex scent arrives



from somewhere west and I keep coming to lean on the sill, glorying in the end of the wretched winter.

The scabby-barked sycamores ringing the empty lot across the way are budded – I hadn't noticed.

and the thick spikes of the unlikely urban crocuses have already broken the gritty soil.

~ C. K. Williams

Feedback requested for upcoming genealogical tours...

Please vote for your favorite tour for July!

- Judicial Records Center, Pawtucket
- Family History Center, Warwick
- American French Genealogical Society, Woonsocket

Organizing and Preserving...

I was asked recently if I could come up with a program on organizing and preserving materials. Preserving involves keeping the integrity of ephemera such as photographs and documents by saving the materials in a manner that saves them as close to their original quality. Organizing is concerned with where you save and can take many forms depending on what works for you (See "finding aids" on page 2). You can save digitally on a computer or materially in folders and boxes. The question of digital organization can add a layer of difficulty to the organization process. Often we have spoken about the variety of software available such as Family Tree Maker, but beyond that you may have letters, postcards, pictures, passports, business cards, forms or any other print materials, all that may need to be scanned and the actual materials need a safe home. Even Librarians and Archivists strive for better solutions to organizing and preserving. At the NERGC conference, I will be looking for new solutions.



Thanks! to Michelle Chiles and Jen at the **Rhode Island Historical Society** for the tour of the *Robinson Research Center*. We now are more comfortable starting our research work.

Mohr Library Genealogy Group

2nd Wednesday, 4:30 Special Program times vary

LIBRARY Hours

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

Spring is like a perhaps hand
 (which comes carefully
 out of Nowhere arranging
 A window, into which people
 look while
 people stare
 arranging and changing placing
 Carefully there a strange
 thing and a known thing here) and

Changing everything Carefully

spring is like a perhaps
 Hand in a window
 (carefully to
 And fro moving New a
 Old things, while
 people stare carefully
 moving a perhaps
 fraction of flower per
 an inch of air there) an...
 without breaking anything.

~ e. e. cummings



Cyndi's List

If you think you have run out of possibilities for searching, take a peek at **Cyndi Ingle's** website. **Cyndi's List** was started in March of 1996 – yes, that's right long before there was a google. Cyndi is the keynote speaker at the NERGC conference in NH, "Genealog. Internet – A Match Made in Heaven,"

The **website**

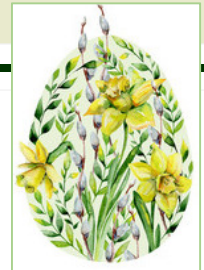
[<https://www.cyndislist.com/us/>]

is very much in the style of early websites – simple, no frills, ads, and lack of graphical excitement, but Oh WOW, the content! Tons of links, great organization, unmistakably detailed, and a great wander through – try it out, and let me know what you find helpful!



Comparison Sheet: "Big Four" Genealogy Websites

At the last Genealogy session on March 13th, I passed out 2 sheets that list the key resources of **Ancestry**, **FamilySearch**, **Findmypast**, and **MyHeritage**. The chart is pretty easy to read and should help out to know which site to choose for which records. Also listed are records for Canada, Germany, Great Britain and Ireland including what years will certain records be found. Catch up with me at the next meeting, if you would like this tear sheet.



From "Patterns" by Amy Lowell

I walk down the garden paths, and all the daffodils
 Are blowing, and the bright blue squills.
 I walk down the patterned garden paths...



Acid-free boxes

Michelle Chiles, *Robinson Research Center Manager* suggested that we use the very same acid-free containers that RIHS uses for preserving photos, documents and such. They are not inexpensive. I noticed you can obtain acid-free printing paper, folders and assorted boxes from **amazon**, and it certainly may be worth it for posterity.

More on Organizing and Preserving: Finding Aids

The SAA – Society of American Archivists describes a **Finding Aid** as:

1. A tool that facilitates discovery of information within a collection of records.
2. A description of records that gives the repository physical and intellectual control over the materials and that assists users to gain access to and understand the materials.

For our purposes as home historians, a finding aid as an organization tool can be a simple list typed up in a "table" in Microsoft Word. At the 4:30 – 5:30 part of our April program, I will demonstrate how to make this "table." While this can be accomplished in an EXCEL program, I prefer the flexibility of working with MSWord. We will also learn "saving." (I will also assemble a small class of 3 at a mutually convenient time to do one on one instruction.)

NETOP!...

...is the name of the catalog at the **Rhode Island Historical Society** **NETOP** stands for **NET**worked **P**ublic **O**nline **C**atalog. It is (or was) a New England greeting, "friend." Give the catalog a try even though it contains only a small portion of the entire RIHS collection:

NETOP contains records for all genres of the Society's collections. This includes, but is not limited to: books, objects, maps, manuscripts, newspapers, paintings, film, textiles, pamphlets, and broadsides.



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