



WHO are you?

GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



OCTOBER 2019

Wednesday, October 9, 4:30

Not the Usual Federal Government Websites that are Useful for Ancestral Research

We'll take a look at a number of websites offered by our National government that will aid in your searching. To name a few: General Land Office Patents, Patent and Trademark Office, FOIA – the Freedom of Information Act, Census and NARA, the National Archives and Records Administration. This quick look will allow you to be more familiar with what is available, although a careful study of each would take a considerable amount of time. Want to cover one of the above more thoroughly?



What about the word “Suffrage”?

The word suffrage has always sounded like ‘suffer’ to me. From whence does this word derive? According to The Barnhart Dictionary of Etymology, 1988:

“Until the early 1500’s, suffrage in English had the religious or liturgical meaning of prayers on behalf of another; then by 1534, English acquired the classical Latin meaning of a vote of assent or approval, and later the sense of the collective vote of a body of persons (1610), especially in the phrase *universal suffrage* (1798). The meaning of the right of voting as member of a body or as a citizen of a nation or state is first found in the United States Constitution (1787): ‘No State...shall be deprived of its equal Suffrage in the Senate.’”



At the Women’s Rights National Historical Park, New York, you can stand next to life size bronze looking versions of the important Suffrage personages that were responsible and known at the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848, considered the beginning of the movement, and where we learn the story of the struggle for civil rights, human rights, and equality – the story of the reformers of the 19th Century.

In honor of the 19th Amendment

Mohr Library will commemorate with the following 3 programs Congress passed in June, 1919 and ratified by states, August 2020]

Wednesday October 16
Historical Roots of Voting Rights
Prof. Beth Shinn

Monday October 21
At the Crossroads, Suffrage in RI
Prof. Debra Mulligan

Wednesday October 23
Sweet Freedom’s Songs
Actress Deborah Goss
as Abby Hutchinson

All presentations 6 – 8 PM

Mohr Library Genealogy Group

2nd Wednesday, 4:30 Special Program times vary

Library Hours

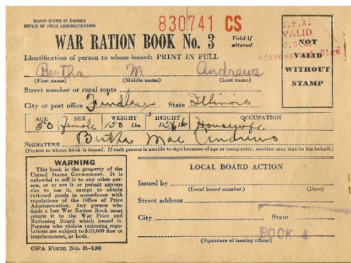
Mon – Thurs 9-8/ Friday 9 – 6// Saturday 9 - 5

This newsletter is created and written by **Grayce Moorehead, MILS**

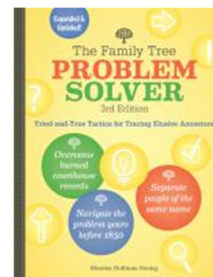
email: gmoorehead@mohrlibrary.org

War Ration Cards

Coupon books filled with individual stamps for rationing were an important part of the War effort – WWII, and I will have some on display in October from a local 7 year old boy. According to a NARations article (National Archives, Dec. 19, 2011) the main idea was to stabilize prices by setting maximum prices on certain commodities such as tires, sugar, coffee, shoes, meat and more by OPA, Office of Price Administration. That was the last time – during war that this kind of rationing took place, and one might suspect because there were more than 60,000 paid employees as well as 195,000 volunteers that maybe it wasn't the most frugal and workable of plans??? The woman in the picture has a large pile of stamps that she is in the process of checking under an ultra-violet light – hmm, kept her busy! The chart of how you can spend the ration stamps is very complicated, and the little boy from Warwick whose ration book I have apparently had to obtain a "Special Shoe Stamp" presumably to attend 2nd grade. In this year when we are making note of Women who fought to vote and for what they believed to be right, here's a story about sugar from the same article: "...an elderly woman came in demanding sugar, although she had used...her stamps. She ranted she had been a citizen for 72 years and 'No one is going to tell me I can't have it. this OPA stinks! What in hell do you think I am going to do with my 2 bushels of crab apples and one bushel of pears I have spoiling in my basement? By the Lord I'll get the sugar, and no one like you is going to stop me."

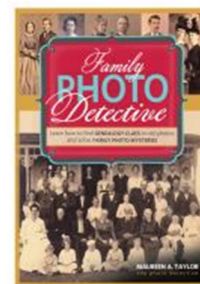


New Books!



The Family Tree Problem Solver
3rd ed.
by M.H. Rising

At first glance, this book appears to fill in the missing pieces on many things that irk the genealogy sleuth such as ancestors missing from a census, the fire issue and other court records problems.



Family Photo Detective
by Maureen A. Taylor,
the photo detective

The subtitle is "Learn to find Genealogy Clues in old photos and solve Family Photo Mysteries." More than you knew on photos!

Fillable Forms

A good question was asked last meeting about finding genealogy charts and forms that can be used digitally. I did search and found that **Family Tree Magazine** has **61 Free Genealogy Forms**. There are Relationship charts, Biographical Outlines, Five-generation charts and much more. The price is giving your email to Family Tree. Ordinarily I am cautious, but Family Tree is certainly a reliable site. You'll need to be careful to download to your MS Word program and follow the directions – **don't download in pdf format!** Always do your first "save as" and note in the title "blank." Then when you type into your first form and save, be sure to change the title – including the family name....

Men their rights, and nothing more. Women their rights and nothing less.

~ Susan B. Anthony, 1868

AAS Update

The tour/trip that I hoped to take this Fall to the AAS -- American Antiquarian Society in Worcester will be scheduled for Spring which will be a better time frame overall. AAS is **the** place for newspapers and the trip will certainly be worthwhile. In place of that tour, I am working on a trip to the Family History Library in Warwick where there are many specialized databases only available for use on the premises.

Providence Public: Digital Library

We'll take a look at what's available online – certainly a fascinating collection of postcards, photographs, letters, poems and other materials that makes for a good solid look at Rhode Island history in an easy to meander through collection. I'll show you tips for finding what you want with the Finding Aids provided.



Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library

One Memorial Avenue ■ Johnston, RI 02919 ■ 401-231-4980
■ fax: 401-231-4984 ■ website: <http://www.mohrlibrary.org>

