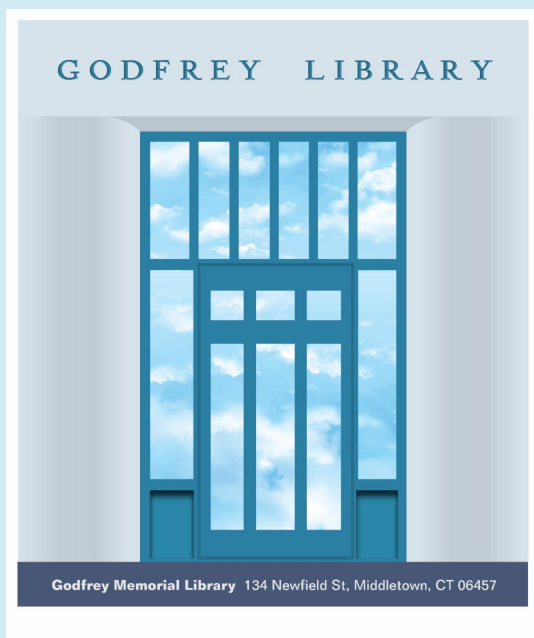


## August 2024| Number 4 Issue 11



### Genealogy Club on hiatus this month

Since we're in the doldrums of August, we will not be having a Genealogy Club this month. However, we will have Pam Vestal back again for September and October, presenting her workshop on deciphering handwriting.

---

### Really exciting news -- the Penny Press has been digitized at last!!

We've worked out a deal with *NewspaperArchive* (aka "Storied" these days) for digitization of our holdings of Middletown's *Penny Press* from its inception in 1884 to 1921. (Between 1918 and 1921 it went by *Middletown Press* and *Evening Press*.) They're still working on a last set of a few issues that somehow got missed the first time around, but the bulk of it is up on their site, which means it is keyword searchable!! Eventually we will have it accessible directly from our website, but for now you need to go to "External Databases" then select "NewspaperArchive."

---

### Our newest additions

Here is the list of materials we have added to our collection in the last month; most of them are Biofiles that we've been cataloging. Biofiles are file folders that contain notes and/or information that we have collected from researchers over the nearly seventy-five years that our facility has been open. See if anyone else has already investigated *your* family. Contents vary, but may include unique items such as family charts, copies of original documents, letters, photographs -- who knows, maybe you'll find just the document you've always been looking for!

Remember that this comes with your Premium membership. If you're not a member of the Godfrey but do subscribe to *NewspaperArchive* you can access it through that membership. (Why would you do that though, with all the other extras that come with your Godfrey membership? -- much more economical!).

Godfrey Memorial Library Newly Cataloged Items July 2024		
Call Number	Title	Author
929.2 TROWBR 2024	Ancestors of Thomas Trowbridge and Delinda Ratcliff Bryan	Hurst, Kyle
BIOFILE 929.2 CLINGMAN 2009	Clingman Family Connected to John Simeon Hoylands	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1150	Newberry Davenports through the Lineage of Sarah Cardine Davenport and the Gardner Family	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1217	Broning Davenport of Capestone	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1220	Davenport Line	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1580	Early History of the Davenport Families	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1644	Davenport Families: Francis, John, William and Charles	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO 1798	In Search of the Ancestors of John Davenport Born 11 September 1798	Davenport, Helen Clement Swisher
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVENPO ORME	Earliest Davenports: Orme and Richard De Davenport	
BIOFILE 929.2 DAVIS 2009	Isaac Patterson Davis and Louisa A. Hillards	McKeon Collection
BIOFILE 929.2 DEBSON 1870	Debson Family	
BIOFILE 929.2 DEVERE	Devere Family	
BIOFILE 929.2 DEWARREN 2000	William De Warren and Gundred	
BIOFILE 929.2 DIBBLE JESSUP	Dibble and Jessup Families	
BIOFILE 929.2 DICKENS	Dickens Family	Tucker, Barbara
BIOFILE 929.2 DONNELL 2006	Obituary of Jane T Donnelly of Old Saybrook, CT 2006	
BIOFILE 929.2 DOOLITT 1807	Doolittle of Middletown, CT	
BIOFILE 929.2 DRINKER 1759	Genealogical Gleanings from the Journal of Elizabeth Drinker 1759 to 1807	
BIOFILE 929.2 DRISCOL 1922	Timothy Driscoll 1922 Obituary	

## Welcome new members for June & July

We welcome the following new / newly re-joined members:

Daniel Alexander CT  
 Elizabeth Anderson CT  
 Lucinda Bellairs MA  
 Tina Biancalana NC  
 Marilyn Brierley CT  
 Kay Brindle IL  
 Katherine Civitillo CT  
 Laura Flanders CA  
 John Frybort IN  
 Charles Greene TX  
 Elizabeth Greene PA  
 Chelsey Guerin CT  
 Leslie Jermaine CT  
 Karen Laudano CT  
 Lee Morris TX  
 Cecelia Murray FL  
 Shannon Neal TN  
 Julie Owens CT  
 Patricia Phillips-Holbert VA  
 Harland Polk CA  
 Lynn Riotte CT  
 MaryEllen Rogan NJ  
 Judith Schwartz NJ  
 Christopher Sheehan CT

Enjoy the rest of your summer -- see you in the fall!

If you're local, or passing through on vacation, come visit and do a little research or just stop in for a chat - we have air conditioning!

Michele Smith NC  
 Mary Ellen Snow GA  
 Susan Sturges CT  
 Kimberly Sushon CT  
 Patricia Nancy Taylor MA  
 Johnathan Thayer CT  
 Gayle Van Dyke CT  
 James Verney NC  
 Cindie Wade MI  
 Meredith Walworth CT  
 Sue Wasalaski NC  
 Irene Watson CT

**Of Note: The Material Culture of Picket Duty during the Civil War**

Post From "Unfolding History"

## Blog (Manuscripts at the Library of Congress)

An [interesting post](#) that we received today from the Library of Congress.

08/08/2024 11:00 AM EDT

"Find out what kind of military duty Civil War soldier Private [William M. Phile of the 27th Regiment Connecticut Infantry](#) found to be particularly rough on his pants."



Illustration of a Union soldier on guard duty, in C. W. Reed and Louis K. Harlow, "Bits of Camp Life" (Munich and New York: Obpacher Brothers, 1888). Charles Wellington Reed Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

---

Have you had a breakthrough or success based upon something you learned through one of our Genealogy Club presentations? Share it with us! Kathy Love, of Darien, CT, Godfrey Board member who is also very actively involved with the DAR on both a local and a national level, reports on her breakthrough:

One of the skills I took to heart from an early Godfrey Genealogy Club Presentation and used to resolve a dreaded Daughters of the American Revolution AIR (Additional Information Requested) on a Virginia Supplemental Application...was how to plat a land deed. In a nutshell, the DAR needed more "proof" to successfully connect lineage of my ancestor's line to his father from the early 1800's. After exhausting all known areas to research for more direct evidence with quite a few hours at the Godfrey, I remembered an earlier platting presentation by Carol Whitmer where one can break down a land deed based on measurements known as "metes and bounds" via its described particular compass direction.

What I knew for sure, based on found land deeds, wills, probate records and county boundary maps of the time:

- The area where the known son in my line lived and the general area where the proposed father lived.
- The neighbors for both these men.
- The years the Tennessee County boundaries of Wilson and Smith significantly shifted and crossed over to each other.

In 1820, the proposed father John T. Cooksey purchased a 100 Acre Wilson Co. parcel which included three tracts of land. I platted this purchase and its subsequent sales of the same tracts on grid paper including all the Chestnut, Hickory, Oak and Walnut Trees. By 1836 only a 1/2 Acre remained of the original parcel but it included its house and 1/2 the "Cooksey well." I successfully tied this 1/2 Acre parcel whose county boundaries had significantly shifted over the years to a Smith Co. land bequest mentioned in the son's father-in-law's 1842 Will via the phrase "where their father James B Cooksey now lives." Finally, this past June, my lineage to VA Patriot John Cooksey was approved by the DAR and last week I received his beautiful Ancestor Pin!

Thank you to the Godfrey Memorial Library for having such interesting speakers and genealogy presentations!



Godfrey Memorial Library 134 Newfield St. Middletown, CT 06457



If you don't wish to continue receiving this newsletter, click below on "update profile" and uncheck "newsletter." Please be sure that "Email List" and/or "Connecticut Contacts" are checked to continue receiving our regular important notifications.

**WARNING:** Please DON'T click on "[unsubscribe](#)" -- it will remove you from *all* our lists including important notifications.

Godfrey Memorial Library | 134 Newfield Street | Middletown, CT 06457 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!