

Click here to go to our website and donate now!

### Help Us Reach a New Record - \$50,000! (and Thanks to Those Who've Already Donated!)

As you can see from our poster, we're very not all that far from raising \$50,000 this year, a new record for us! A total of 143 people (up from 115 last year at this time - yay!) have made donations so far. If you haven't given yet, there's still time. We try not to hound you during the year and we refused to send you yet another "Giving Tuesday" email.



#### Thanks for giving so generously to our 2025 Annual Appeal!

The Godfrey Library is a non-profit 501(c)(3) library. We greatly appreciate donations from the public.

##### **Sustaining Partner:**

**\$5,000 & up!**

\*Al Falco

Stan Prymas

##### **Heritage Circle: \$2,500-**

**\$4,999**

John Pereira IV

Julia Pereira

Sandra Pereira

##### **Patrons: \$1,000-\$2,499**

\*Dorcas Hill

Tim Moran

##### **Donors: \$500 - \$999**

Carol Ansel

Elizabeth Cooper

\*Pat Burke

Wanda Dapuy

Judith Laczek

Mary Maki

Elizabeth Snow

Sharon Stanley

Jeffrey Williams

##### **Associates: \$250- \$499**

E Stephen Deryk

Emlyn Eisenach

Howard Field

Neil Goldenstein

\*Laura Hobbs

Charles Kom

\*Kathy Lovv

Cecilia Pfister

Celia Ann Roberts

\*Joseph Slaughter

##### **Supporters: \$100- \$249**

Anonymous (7)

Don Andrews

Sarah Awerdt

Janice Benda

\*Diane Broomer

Colleen Briggs

David Brown

Theresa Brown

Mary Buchholz

Ann Burton

Carole Cardoso

\*Godfrey Board Member

##### Elizabeth Carta

Joanne Case

Deborah Crakes

George Crake

Janet Demaine

Roberta Dempster

Richard Dickerson

Nancy Dorne

Dorella Funeral Home

Lucia Edwards

Patricia Feltrin

Rena Fife

Nancy Gaynor

Suzanne Gentry

Jane & Larry Germann

Valencia Gilson

Nina Gregory

James Gruninger

Joanne Hall

Anna Hanson

Rochelle Hughes

Suzanne Javorski

Judith Johnson

David Kohler

Kathleen Lapchynski

Robert Law

Joanne Lawson

\*Kathy Lyle

Natalie Manic

Louanne Martinos

Henry McDonald

Fawn McCre

Mary Murphy

Kenneth Nichols

Marion Noonan

Barbara O'Rourke

James Pennington

Robert Plumley

Jim Rice

Jill Rukewicz

Dore Smith

Spring Smith

David Steece

Howie Stember

Nancy Taylor

Terry Thomas

Tam Fienstein

Larry Turner

E. Gail Wadler

Lyle West

Catherine Williams

Janie Williams

##### We've raised

**\$43,180.78**

so far this year!

Add your name to the

list today.

##### **Contributors (up to \$99**

**Anonymous (3)**

Rita Barredo

Wendy Berling

Elain Carallo

Becky Carpenter

William Cooney

May Jane Dackus

Sharon Dahmeyer-Giovanetti

Lisa Daniels

Ruth Ann Downer

Julia Dunbar

Kathy Giggins

Jean Guin

Julia Harbrouck

Jon Hodgkins

Martha Hubbard

Jane Imensee

Frances Ino

Arlene Johnson

Shelia Lafferty

Terry Laitner

Wendy Lott

Christine Luebig

Charlene Marquis-O'Brien

Claudia Martin

Diana McCain

Jill Ann Menzel

Douglas Moyle

Ellen Novotny

Penelope Rebuszoni

Walton Smith

Candis Tollemann

John Uehara

Gary Viscione

Wayne Walsh

Valerie Walter

Caroline Westcott

Stephan White

Lucia Yeroch

Karen Young



This December, Give the Gift of the Godfrey! (and we'll give you a little gift in return)

Are your loved ones getting to the point in their lives where they have just too much "stuff"? How about giving your favorite

## Genealogy Club

We will not be having a December Genealogy Club presentation -- see you in January!

genealogist a subscription to the Godfrey for a year? Or, put it on *your* wish list -- ask your family members for a membership, or add another year to your current subscription. This holiday season, go for the gift that's a win for all. Click on the image above to download a form. And, as an added incentive, **we'll extend your membership by six months!**

Or just give us a call 860-346-4375 or mail in the form.



## Library of Congress Sponsors Transcription Project in Conjunction with Ken Burns's *American Revolution* Documentary

Have you had a chance to watch the Ken Burns *American Revolution* documentary yet? If so, you may have noticed that they used a lot of primary sources. In conjunction with the series, the Library of Congress is sponsoring a [crowd-sourced transcription project](#). If there's local interest, we could even sponsor an on-site transcribe-a-thon some 2nd Saturday one of these months.



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## Reclaim the Records Does It Again! - New York State Death Index 1880-2017

There are so many record sets out there that we genealogists should have access to but don't. Who among us has the time and resources to pursue the matter, though? Well, luckily for us there's Reclaim the Records! They actually follow through and file Freedom of Information requests, suing the organizations in question if necessary to gain public access.

Their latest success is the [New York State Death Index, 1880-2017](#). (This link takes you to their advanced search page -- the librarian/teacher in mean loves a good search interface and this one is impressive. Just remember, the more details you include, the *fewer* hits you are likely to get.)

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## More Cemeteries Online

Michael and our dedicated volunteers continue to work

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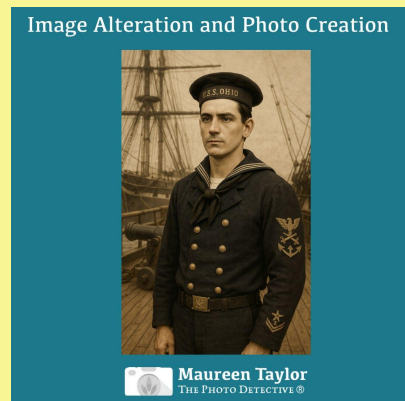
## Welcome to This Month's New Members

Elizabeth Bortolon (CT)  
Jane Bouley (CT)  
Martha Brogan (CT)  
Eugene Bumphrey (AZ)  
Louis Core (AZ)  
James Leek (CA)  
Ann Maris (CA)

tirelessly on the Laput Cemetery project. This summer and fall we were able to send Michael Dima out into the field to photograph several cemeteries (using the grant money from the Stacpoole Peck Foundation). Back home at the Godfrey, the process of entering the data from the stones and comparing it with the Hale Collection and linking the photos happens. In addition, we've been revisiting data entered in past years and double checking for data entry errors. Periodically as cemeteries are finished Michael goes through the multistep process of getting the data uploaded to our website, with the help of Steve Morse for the final step. They recently completed a major upload, and here is a list of the cemeteries that have most recently been added:

1. Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol Cemetery in East Haven
2. Murray in Guilford
3. Somers Congregational Church Memorial Garden in Somers
4. Hall District Cemetery in Stafford
5. Mountain Burying Ground in Suffield
6. South Yard in Tolland
7. Elmwood in Vernon
8. St. John's Memorial Garden, Vernon
9. Valley Falls in Vernon

Caitlin Redmond (ID)  
Joan Remy (CT)  
Kevin Reynolds (NY)  
Cathy Tipton (AK)  
Anne Young (TN)



### Check Out Maureen Taylor's Post on AI-Generated Images in Genealogy

You probably know Maureen Taylor, the Photo Detective. [Click here](#) to read her post about generating your own history-based images and precautions to take to make sure you're doing so carefully and ethically.

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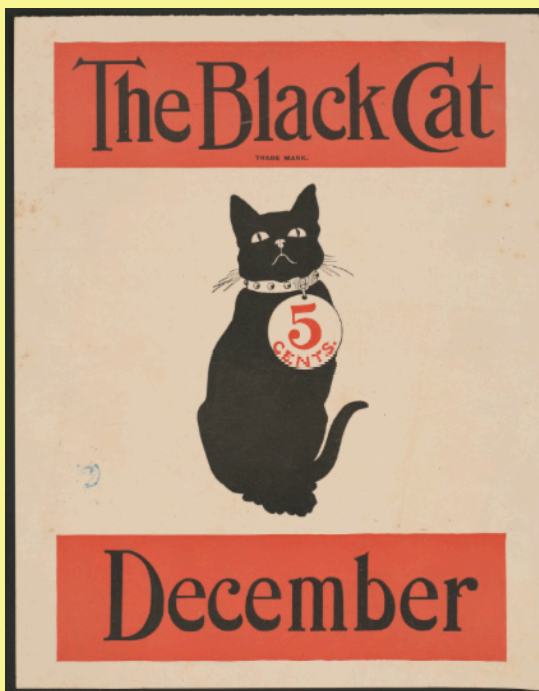
### HOLIDAY HOURS

We will be **closed** on December 24-26 (Wednesday through Friday) and December 31 and January 1 (Wednesday and Thursday).

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### ARGO - The Leventhal Map Center's American Revolution Geographies Online

Love maps like we do? Check out this posting from the Leventhal Map Center at the Boston Public Library:



"Curious about how the young United States **decided how to organize their newly acquired territory** after the American Revolution? Or about how **the geography of colonial New York City** contributed to its swift rise as the entry point for the new nation? These are just two of the newest articles available in ARGO, the American Revolutionary Geographies Online project. The project is funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission of the National Archives."

Wishing You All a Peaceful and Joyous Holiday Season



**Holiday Hours:** We will be closed on the following days: Wednesday, December 24th, Thursday, December 25th and Friday, December 26th. We will be **OPEN** Saturday, December 27th. Closed again on Wednesday, December 31st and Thursday, January 1st. We will begin regular hours again on Friday, January 2nd.

Godfrey Memorial Library 134 Newfield St. Middletown, CT 06457



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