



# WHO are you?

## GENEALOGY ·N·E·W·S·



MAY 2017



May 10 – Meeting 4:30 PM



### Field TRIP

## Living History: Blacksmith Shop

The “theme” for this year’s programming has been to get to know how our ancestors lived in their time. While we cannot know a lot about everyday life in terms of placing ourselves in the same social conditions that existed (that is left for time travelers), we can learn a bit of what the times are like historically for food, transportation, church activities, politics, and more.

To follow this ongoing theme, **Johnston resident Anthony Ricci** has once again invited the Genealogy Group to his home on Morgan Avenue. This trip focuses on the newly renovated Blacksmith Shop with a working blacksmith on duty.

We will also be able to take a short walk to **Hipses Rock**, weather permitting, so be sure to wear appropriate clothing and shoes. If you have not had a chance to see this historic rock -- that is so very important to our state’s history and Roger Williams, this may be the last chance to do so.



\*artwork by James Gurney

**Please** let me know your intention to come, so that I can give Anthony an approximate number of guests. You can always come along if you make a last minute decision to join us. We will meet at Morgan Avenue at 4:30 PM.

**Directions by email or at my desk!!!**

### Upcoming Programs

**June 14: 5:30PM**  
“Brick Wall Workshop with Diane Boumenot”

Attendees will bring tough questions & five things you have tried. We will work together with Diane to build a focused solution.

**July 12: 4:30PM**  
Field TRIP

**Johnston Historical Society Museum**

Our group has been invited to get a hands-on tour of this small, but extremely dedicated and well-displayed collection of memorabilia related to the Town of Johnston.

**May 21 Rhode Island Genealogical Society -- RIGS Annual 2017 Meeting 12:30pm to 3:30pm.**

**North Kingstown United Methodist Church, 450 Boston Neck Road, North Kingstown (Rte 1A). ALL WELCOME.**

**Mohr Library Genealogy Group**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 4:30  
Special Program times vary

**Library Hours**  
Mon – Thurs 9-8/  
Friday 9 – 6// Saturday 9 -5

Friends come and go,  
but relatives tend to  
accumulate.  
~Unknown

## History

If you don't know history, you don't know anything.

You are a leaf that doesn't know it is part of a tree. ~ Michael Crichton



## Website for your review: Internet Archive

INTERNET ARCHIVE  
**WayBackMachine**

The **Internet Archive / Wayback Machine** is one of the oldest sites on the web. Founded in 1996, the vision was to protect and save many of the websites that are considered ephemeral. Usually the term ephemera is applied to paper documents (and other materials) that are not considered to be used for a long time, and thus are fragile in terms of savability.

Recently, the Internet Archive is stepping up their Digital Library efforts by digitizing more and more books. Here is a statement: *"We collect published works and make them available in digital formats. We are building a public library that can serve anyone in the world with access to the Internet."* **THIS IS GOOD FOR HISTORY!!!**

### Here is a bit of what the Archive contains:

- 279 billion web pages
- 11 million books and texts
- 4 million audio recordings (including 160,000 live concerts)
- 3 million videos (including 1 million Television News programs)
- 1 million images
- 100,000 software programs

### So what does this mean for a genealogy search?

It means that you will be able to find some great older books that do not have great indexes. Because the books are digitized, the software will allow you to check on keywords or names extremely easily. You will also be able to see genealogical books on specific names. – Most of these books are allowed to be copied because they are out of copyright, so give it a try.

**archive.org**

## Other programs

There is other programming here at the library besides Genealogy, and I wanted to let you know some: **Bookery & Cookery; Coloring for Grownups; Crafts, Fiction Book Discussions; Knitting and Crochet, etc.**

## Letters: what can you learn?

### Gabrielle Morgan:

"They can reveal intimacies in relationships, validate dates when events took place and confirm stories told within the family over the years." There is a fascinating article in the April/ May issue of **Internet Genealogy** titled "Old Letters Can Unveil the Past!" And the article parallels my thinking. I found a carefully saved box of letters from my father to my mother, tied with ribbons, that she had saved all these years from his service in WW2. I really wondered what to do with them, and after reading 10 or so, they really sounded the same, but reading the article, I occurred to me that there may be much more in the letters I did not read. For instance, the author was trying to find out about a sculpture of Confucius that had been in her family, and where her dad had purchased.

"The deep roots never doubt spring will come." ~ Marty Rubin



*We all grow up with the weight of history on us. Our ancestors dwell in the attics of our brains as they do in the spiraling chains of knowledge hidden in every cell of our bodies. ~Shirley Abbott*

## Marian J. Mohr Memorial Library

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