

AFGnews



Preserving History...Connecting Generations for 35 Years

March 2014

MEMBERS-ONLY WEB PAGES LAUNCHED

AFGS members can now enjoy a section of the web site just for them. The web pages can be accessed by members 24/7 from anywhere in the world. Select information and resources from the AFGS library will be posted to the members pages.

The site currently contains 50 obituary books, the Je Me Souviens archive, a collection of news clippings of weddings, anniversaries and other milestones. The site also contains photos of cemetery headstones from Florida to Ontario. More resources will be available in the future.

Members must register to gain access to the member pages. [Click here](#) to gain access to the members only content.

NEW LIBRARY WING TAKING SHAPE

The AFGS library expansion has begun. The walls and ceiling have been painted, new carpeting is installed and shelving is being put in place.

The new wing will enable the Society to double its research and shelving capacity.

The building and library committees are working together to develop a plan for the most efficient layout of both the new wing and existing library room.

The library layout plan is expected to be presented to the board of directors in May. Once approved, the library staff and other volunteers will be sought to assist with the project.



Society vice president **Rob Gumlaw**, left, president **Norm Deragon**, and building committee chair **Bill Beaudoin**, (kneeling) place a shelving unit in the new library wing.

WOONSOCKET HISTORICAL SOCIETY DONATES NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES TO AFGS

The Society's library now has a valuable local resource that has proven to be quite popular. Thanks to the generosity of the Woonsocket Historical Society, tomes containing Woonsocket Call newspapers will be part of the holdings to be placed in the library's new wing. The newspapers date from 1928 to the 1950s. Most members who have viewed the newspapers enjoy the library visitors are intrigued by the stories and particularly the advertisements. Members wishing to view the papers are urged to use extreme caution since the old newspaper are brittle and tear easily.

ANNUAL SUGAR SHACK FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED



Attendees of last year's sugar shack fundraiser enjoy an evening of dancing and great food. Make plans to attend this year's "soiree" on April 12.

Mark Saturday, April 12 on your calendar. It's the AFGS annual fundraiser. It's the Cabane a Sucre, a French Canadian sugar shack experience to be held at the Elks Lodge on Social Street in Woonsocket.

The evening will include a menu that includes French meat pie, pea soup and shepherd's pie. Entertainment will be provided by Fleur de Lis.

Tickets are now on sale. [Click here](#) for complete details and to order tickets online.

CHAMPLIN FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT FOR LIBRARY AIR CONDITIONING

The AFGS library will soon have air conditioning installed, thanks to a \$9,200 grant from The Champlin Foundations. The funding will provide air conditioning units for the main library room and possibly the new library wing. Design work has begun and installation is expected to begin in the spring with the units operating before the hazy days of summer arrive. The units will not only cool the library, but will also remove the humidity that was responsible for mold developing on some of the Society's valuable books and films.

AFGS WORKSHOP SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The Society will host 17 workshops during 2014. The free series will include a variety of genealogical and historical topics including how to find ancestors using the AFGS film collections; researching at home using online resources; and beginning French Canadian genealogy.

[Click here](#) to see the complete schedule.

PODCAST ABOUT THE KINGS DAUGHTERS FEATURES AFGS

Maple Stars and Stripes: Your French-Canadian Genealogy Podcast was created as a way to share tips and tricks that might make it easier to research French-Canadian family in America as well as to trace them back in Quebec.

Maple Stars and Stripes podcasts are created and hosted by Sandra Goodwin.

The latest issue focuses on the King's Daughters. AFGS Librarian Janice Burkhart and board member Sylvia Bartholomy were interviewed during the program.

[Click here](#) to listen to the 40 minute podcast.

