

Orange County Genealogical Society

www.ocgsny.org

Saturday, 1 February 2020

10:30 AM

1841 Historic Courthouse

101 Main Street

Goshen, NY

“Stephen Gifford West, Man of Mystery”

Presented by: Jan Hunold

Case Study: Breaking Down a Brick Wall

Jan’s search for Stephen Gifford West led to New York, so there is a connection to New York Genealogy. The presentation shows the steps taken to break through a very, very thick brick wall.

Stephen Gifford West loomed large in her family story as a huge mystery. The only information the family had on him involved a very few years in Newark, New Jersey.

The family knew he was headed to Illinois towe don’t know. His wife and infant son had just died. Perhaps he was leaving to seek relief from the grief or start a new life. But he disappeared and was lost to the family story. We didn’t know his life story before or after Newark. With an amazing amount of luck and lots of determination, Jan was able to find the full story of his life that led her all the way back to the Mayflower!

Jan Hunold began dabbling in genealogy in the early 80’s, but had to leave it behind while she raised her children and continued teaching as a college professor. She returned to genealogy with full force about ten years ago and now she mentors beginning genealogists. She is a member of the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, the OCGSNY, and the Genealogical Society of New Jersey. She has attended the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh, and many different society workshops. She has lectured about genealogy and heritage to local organizations.

Refreshments following the program

All programs are free and open to the public

To insure sufficient handouts are prepared for our attendees, please send an email with subject heading “Stephen Gifford West” to: ocgsny@gmail.com. Be sure to put your name in the body of the email. This is a “No Response” email address. Information: visit our web site www.ocgsny.org or contact Anna Calli at acalli1065@aol.com or Marilyn Terry at mvtgrterry@aol.com