

Orange County Genealogical Society

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Saturday, August 3, 2024

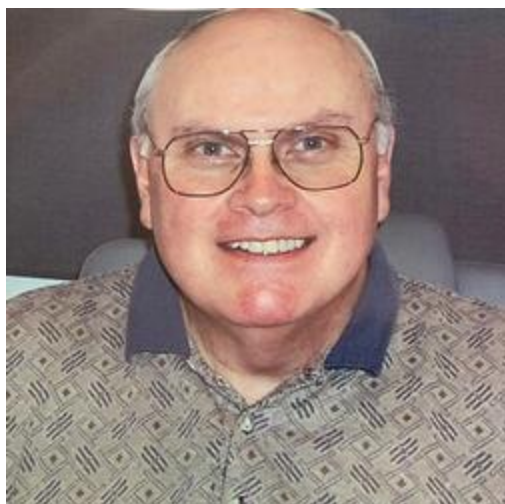
10:30 am – 12:30 pm

1841 Historic Courthouse

101 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924

“The Germond Family Murders: 1930”

Presented by: Vincent Cookingham, Ph.D.



The multiple murders of James (Husted) Germond; his wife, Mabel; and their two children, Bernice and Raymond, at their Dutchess County farm in November 1930 is one of the most famous crimes ever committed in the Hudson Valley. Despite contemporary attention from President Franklin D. Roosevelt himself and from Pinkerton Detectives, and more recently from amateur sleuths and the press, the crime went unsolved for decades.

Dr. Vincent Cookingham discusses his forensic investigation into this long cold case, which resulted in the publication of *The Germond Family Murders: A Forensic Conclusion to a Cold Case*.

Vincent Cookingham has more than fifty years of investigative and forensic science experience as a law enforcement officer, corporate executive, consultant, and university professor in forensic science. He has numerous peer-reviewed professional publications and books. He holds a PhD, with a doctoral dissertation in the forensic applications in white-collar crime. In addition, he holds an MBA and an MA from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice; a BS in Forensic Science; and three Professional Board Certifications.

By the most extraordinary coincidence, the Cookingham Family settled in the town of Stanford in 1790 as part of the Palatine Immigration. They began dairy farming in Stanfordville, Pine Plains, and Amenia. Some members also settled in the Town of Clinton. The black and white dairy cattle one observes in the area are called Holsteins which are German dairy cows introduced in the area by the Cookingham Family and others within this early German immigration. As a further coincidence, the Sheriff of Dutchess County in 1933 was Oakleigh Cookingham.

Dr. Cookingham is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps as well as a native New Yorker (Family originally from Stanfordville) who is retired and currently resides in Port St. Lucie, Florida. His presentation is absolutely free as he has dedicated this investigation to his former profession and his family as historic settlers in the area. Accordingly, he has absorbed all expenses for this project, only providing books for sale upon which he derives absolutely no profit.

This is indeed an historic case and most professionals believe that it is now solved.

This program is free and open to the public

Information: visit our web site www.ocgsny.org or contact Anna Calli at acalli1065@aol.com or annamariDCALLI@gmail.com or Marilyn Terry at mvtgrterry@aol.com