

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For Further Information Contact:

Robert Locke, Vice President

rlocke@ralii.com

(203) 778-4794

Trumbull Vital Records Expansion

Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc. (www.rootsweb.com/~ctcas) commemorates a significant addition to Connecticut Vital Records filling a gap in the Barbour Collection. In a small ceremony, Saturday, June 16, 2007, at noon, in the Trumbull Library, Connecticut Ancestry Society President Richard Roof will present an indexed transcription of early Trumbull Vital Records to First Selectman Raymond G. Baldwin and Library officials. This will be followed, at 2:00 pm, by a free, educational seminar presented by local genealogist, William Stansfield, on "Beginning Your Genealogy."

Lucius B. Barbour, one of the pillars of Connecticut genealogy, was appointed Connecticut's examiner of public records in June 1911. He directed the creation of over one million slip entries for vital records covering the entire state, with little exception, now stored at the Connecticut State Library. This resource and its subsequent republications are used by genealogists throughout the world researching Connecticut families. Over the last ten years, Connecticut Ancestry Society has endeavored to locate and publish some of the missed records under the direction of our editor, Harlan R. Jessup, considered the preeminent expert on Barbour "errors and omissions."

The first volume of Trumbull records, labeled Trumbull Town Records, 1796-1838, includes minutes of town meetings from the formation of the town in 1797, lists of voters in 1837, 1838, and 1839, earmark registrations, and lists of stray and impounded cattle and sheep. It also includes the births, marriages, and deaths transcribed in our May 2007 journal. Many of these are family records reporting births of parents as early as 1734. Here also are marriage certificates required by a statute enacted in 1820 (but not in the separate book required by that statute). These records were all overlooked by the compilers of the Barbour Collection of Vital Records.

Richard Roof, president of the non-profit Society, was quoted, "I am particularly proud of our May Journal, not only because Trumbull is my home town, but also because I feel that this issue exemplifies Connecticut Ancestry's continuing commitment to our mission of locating, preserving and making available southwestern Connecticut's unpublished records. Saturday's program at the Trumbull Library, "How to start your family history", is yet another element of our society's mission statement, namely to encourage and educate others in the art of genealogical research. Connecticut Ancestry Society hopes that this will help provide the basics for developing proficient family researchers. "

About Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.

Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc, the oldest genealogical society in Connecticut, was founded in 1954 by a small group of genealogists in southwestern Connecticut. Then known as the Stamford Genealogical Society, the title of its bulletin was changed in 1971 to *Connecticut Ancestry*. Finally, in 1989, the organization's name was officially changed to Connecticut Ancestry Society, Inc.

The Society's growing membership now extends across the continent with only about half living in Connecticut. The work of the Society is all done by volunteers, and both professional and amateur genealogists are active participants.