Dear Fans of Connecticut Ancestry Society,

Mother Nature delivered the second part of a 1-2 punch this week. A severe snow storm has done a lot of damage to central and northern Fairfield County. Our Editor Harlan Jessup, who lives in Newtown, is trying to organize the November journal at the library since he has no electricity at home. Thank goodness for laptop computers! Our treasurer Rob Locke is also without power in Bethel. I was unable to reach genealogist Fred Hart by phone earlier this week—no service—and I don’t know if he has had that restored. I know there are many more people in our Society who are having a challenging week, to put it mildly. In some places it looks like cannons have been fired through the trees. There are branches and treetops hanging from shreds and entire trees torn down. It’s a mess. I have not heard of any damage to libraries or other repositories, but many are still closed due to lack of electricity. I saw a lot of similar damage in Hartford on Tuesday on the grounds of Bushnell Park, the State Capitol and the State Library.

Despite the bad weather, we are geared up for a great meeting next week at the Trumbull library. Nationally recognized speaker Maureen Taylor will talk to us about old photographs—how to identify the era in which it was taken, and how to identify the people who are in it. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn what to do about all of those mystery photographs you have. Maureen will have a supply of her books for sale at this event.

We will meet on Saturday, November 12. Sign-in begins at 10:00, with the lecture kicking off at 10:30. This is a free event—paid for by your dues. I hope to see many of you there. Please bring along a friend, as well. We would love to have a huge turnout for Maureen’s talk. The flier for the event can be found at http://www.connecticutancestry.org/pdfs/CASMeeting20111112.pdf. Take a look at Maureen’s Web site for more information about her. http://www.maureentaylor.com.

After a winter break we will meet again in February at the Stamford Historical Society for a round table discussion meeting. March will find us at the Danbury Public Library where Harlan Jessup will give a talk on the Civil War (more details in a later newsletter). In April we will have a round-table-discussion meeting at the Trumbull Library. We have enjoyed the round-table meetings in the last year. Members get to meet each other, and some very interesting topics have been discussed.

I hope you are working on your 1-page article for the journal. We have received several that will be published in the November issue.

Oh, yes—make a plan to label all of your photographs so that the next generation in your family will know who the people are!

Looking forward to seeing you in Trumbull on the 12th.

Nora Galvin
President