Greetings CAS Members,

Winter has really hit hard here in Connecticut. Even on the shoreline we had temperatures in the single digits last week. Despite that, our club’s long winter break is ending and we have a meeting on February 9 in Stamford.

This is a discussion meeting—no speaker. We each get 30 seconds to introduce ourselves and give a synopsis of our research focus. (It’s amazing how much you can say in 30 seconds). Then people start to ask questions and the place heats up. We get a wide range of topics—from how to find vital records to more complicated research strategies. It’s fun to have so many people with ideas to share. It is very helpful to have someone new think about a problem. Usually the reason we have come to a dead end with an ancestor is not that there are no more records, but that our own creativity has ceased to be helpful.

CAS is always looking for articles to publish in our journal Connecticut Ancestry. If you find that very few of the articles you read pertain to your research, it means it is time for you to contribute your own research. There are many ethnic groups that settled in Fairfield County. I’d love to see some research about Irish, Italians, Poles, Swedes, etc., on our pages. To make it easy for you to get started, I have issued the One-Page Challenge. Just write a single page about what you’ve learned about a Fairfield-County ancestor. Like eating Lay’s potato chips, I bet you can’t stop at just one. Send submissions to our editor Harlan Jessup at hjessup@charter.net.

Do you have an idea for a project that CAS could work on? It would need to be something that our out-of-state members could participate in. I welcome a way to get members more involved in the society.

Finally, 2013 is a year for the NERGC conference. This biennial confab focuses on New England research and has many, many excellent speakers. The featured speakers this year are Colleen Fitzpatrick and Steve Morse. You can get more information about them and about the conference at ner gc.org. Information about registration can be found there, too. Connecticut Ancestry Society is a member society in the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, and several of our members are very active in planning and executing the conference. You will have a great time if you go. I hope to see many of you there.

I also hope to see many of you at the Stamford Historical Society on Saturday, February 9 at 10:30am.

Keep on researching!

Nora Galvin
President