

AMES FREE LIBRARY GENEALOGY CLUB

Who We Are

The Ames Free Library Genealogy Club is a group dedicated to helping each other with genealogical research. The group is free and open to all who have an interest in family history. We meet monthly to use the library's free access to ancestry.com. Research help and access to the New England Historic Genealogical Society databases will be provided by local historian Ed Hands. Now in our third season, the group is adding this monthly newsletter and other features during the year.

Meeting Dates

November 17, 2018

December 15, 2018

January 12, 2019

February 9, 2019

March 9, 2019

April 13, 2019

May 11, 2019

June 8, 2019

Queset House 2:30-4:30

Dates in Red are the 3rd Saturday

November Meeting

The October Meeting of the Ames Free Library Genealogy Club will take place this Saturday, October 13 at Queset House from 2:30-4:30.

Sorry for Any Inconvenience

Sorry that several of you came to the library last week. I sent an e-mail to everyone on the list, but unlike the other library group I work with none of the librarians were on the list so their website didn't get updated. That problem should be resolved now. **Please be aware that our December meeting will also be a week late due to the annual Artisan's Faire.**

Using Draft Registrations

A really useful tool for researching men born between September, 1872 and September, 1900 is the collection of World War I draft cards at Ancestry. If you don't search all records, perhaps searching on census records, for instance, you might miss these because they come up under military records. Cont'd



What's New at Ancestry

Crista Cowan announced a number of additions at Ancestry in October. Remember that she always recommends using the card catalog to find collections that won't pop up in a regular search.

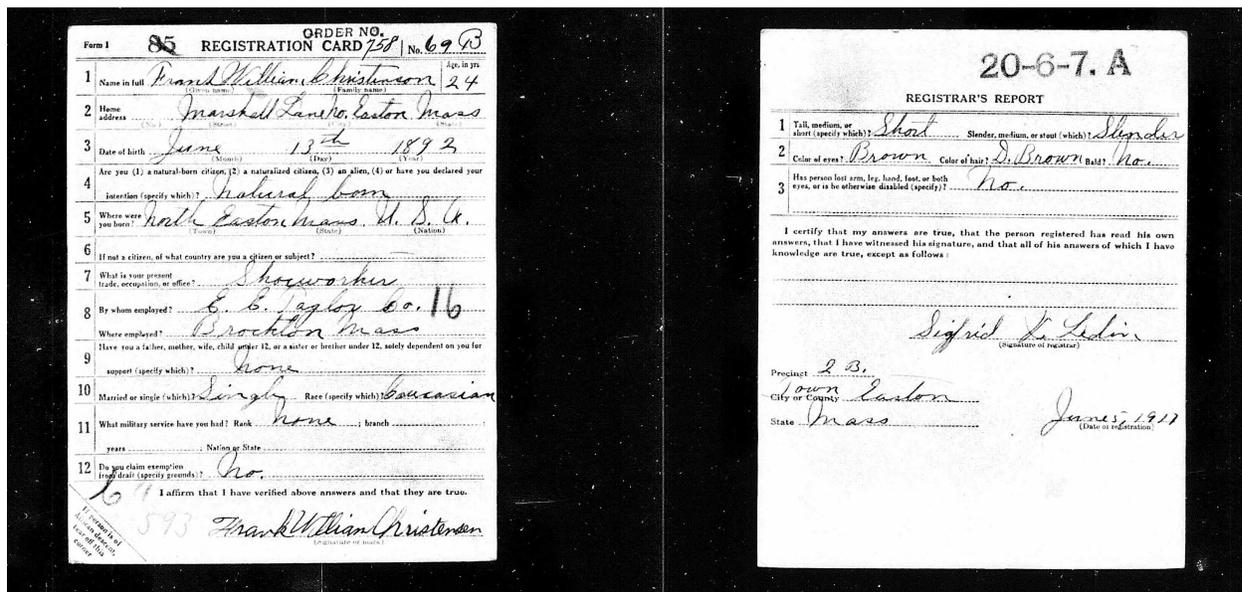
The New York Death Index 1852-1856 has been expanded to include Buffalo

Improvements have been made to the DNA page at Ancestry. On your match page you can now click to bring up a map view that shows where your DNA matches are living.

Also, the potential father/mother feature added a few months ago on the main family tree page now has sources listed so you can evaluate their accuracy.

My family doesn't have much of a martial tradition so none of my grandfathers served in World War I, but they do have draft registration cards.

In reality Ancestry's draft card collection contains three separate collections. The first registration on 5 June 1917 was for all men born between June 1886 and June, 1896. The second registration on 5 June 1918 was for men born between June 1896 and June 1897. The final registration on 12 September 1918 was for men between 18 and 21 and 31 to 45. It's possible for your ancestor to have two draft cards or none at all. If there is a card you will discover the man's full name, home address, date and place of birth, age, race, and country of citizenship. All that information is more detailed than in the 1900-1920 census forms. The real bonanza is the physical description of your ancestor, their occupation and current employer, and the name and address of next of kin. The man who was registered had to sign the card so if he was literate you also get your ancestor's signature. The one thing that the draft card doesn't tell you is if the person on the card actually served and whether they volunteered or were drafted. The absence of a draft card is not an indication that a person didn't serve. People who volunteered for service before 5 June 1917 have no draft card. Non-citizens had to register, but couldn't be drafted.



Remember that this newsletter is sent in PDF format so you can blow it up if you wish to study this draft card. Frank's family lived at 274 Washington Street.