



Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society

Presents ~

Joy Cohn and Tom Mathews

You Are Invited

WHEN: Monday, October 12, 2015 ~
7:30 PM

WHERE: Congregation Beth Emek
3400 Nevada Court
Pleasanton

COST: No Charge ~ Visitors welcome



Bring out the Pitchforks! Hunting the witches in your woodpile

L-AGS members Joy Cohn and Tom Mathews have discovered that they are cousins but, better yet, have learned that their ancestors faced off against each other during the darkest days in Puritan New England's history. Tom and Joy will discuss the Salem Witch Trials, touching on the history behind the trials their causes, the executions and the families of both the victims and the accusers. They will also explore what happened to those families after the trials; where they went and what became of them.

Tom has been researching his family history for 19 years. He is the 8x great grandson of Rebecca Towne Nurse (pictured) who was hanged for witchcraft and the 7x great grandson of John Kimball who testified against Susana Martin at her witchcraft trial. Joy & Tom are the 8x great grandchildren of Nathaniel Putnam who was one of the signatories of a petition pleading on behalf of Rebecca Nurse. Joy's 7x great grandfather John Putnam, Nathaniel's son, signed the complaint that put Rebecca Nurse behind bars.

Tom is currently serving as the Membership Chairman of Livermore-Amador Genealogical Society. He is also a member of several other societies.

Joy became interested in researching her family tree after attending the Pleasanton Games in 2011. She has degrees in both Business Information Systems and Medical Assisting, both of which have helped her in her family research. Joy has been able to find letters of recollections from her grandmother to her brother, a family scrapbook started by her great-grandmother, a family Bible and other sources to create a rich history leading back to the Civil War, the American Revolution and the Battle of Hastings.

For additional information contact: Marilyn Glass & Diane Wiedel, Program Chairs,
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