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Genealogy Notes from Emily, September 2011

Emily Schroeder
Maine State Library, Emily.Schroeder@maine.gov

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Greetings! It's so nice to be able to send you news and any other information you might be interested in! Please let me know if there's something in particular you'd like to cover!

Anyway, the latest news is that access to Maine's birth, marriage and death records is changing. As of Wednesday, September 28th, 2011, records will be restricted as follows:

**Births:** 75 years or less from the event

**Marriages:** 50 years or less from the event

Registration of domestic partnerships: 50 years or less from the event

**Fetal deaths:** 50 years or less from the event

**Deaths:** 25 years or less from the event (for more information, see MGS’s site)

Anything dated prior to these parameters is considered open to all.

If you need copies or the information contained in vital records within those time frames, proof of relationship must be presented to DHHS, the town/city clerk, or the Maine State Archives.

A genealogist-someone doing research on another's behalf-must have a vital records researcher identification card-see website address at left!

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**New Classes on the Horizon!**

Work is progressing on 2 new classes: one on finding your (or someone else's) Civil War ancestor and his paper trail, and another on Ancestry.com, and navigating the site to best advantage.

Both should be offered soon, so keep checking our classes page for the dates.

We will be offering the series of 3 beginner's classes as usual, on October 12th, 19th and 26th. Feel free to take one-or more-again, if you need a refresher, and tell your friends about the great treasure we have in the collections of the Maine State Library!

Stay tuned!