



Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.

Contents

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>	p 1-2	<u>Calendar</u>	p 9-10
<u>January Meeting Recap</u>	p 2	<u>New Members</u>	p 10
<u>President's Message</u>	p 3	<u>About Us</u>	p 11-12
<u>Member Only Benefits</u>	p 4-5	<u>Membership</u>	p 12-13
<u>Articles</u>	p 5-7	<u>Newsletter Info</u>	p 13
<u>Brick Wall Queries</u>	p 7	<u>Contact Us</u>	p 13-14
<u>Local Events</u>	p 7-9	<u>Email Updates</u>	p 14

Upcoming Meetings

February 2020 Meeting



Our February 5th monthly meeting will feature Kathryn Lake Hogan, live from Ontario, Canada. Kathryn Lake Hogan, UE, PLCGS is a Canadian professional genealogist who revels in teaching people how to find their ancestors in Canada. She is the founder and owner of the Canadian-based genealogy business, Looking4Ancestors. The author of research guides featuring Canadian genealogy, Kathryn has written articles for Family Tree magazine, The In-Depth Genealogist, and the Association of Professional Genealogists journal, APG Quarterly. Kathryn is the past Dominion Genealogist of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (UELAC), a past board member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and the past virtual chat coordinator of Canadian studies with National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Most recently, Kathryn was the producer, host, and presenter of the weekly webinar series, "Genealogy with a Canadian Twist." Recognized for her knowledge of Canadian genealogy, Kathryn is a popular speaker and instructor at regional and national genealogical conferences and institutes throughout North America.

Kathryn's presentation is titled, "**What's in Your Canadian Genealogy Toolbox?**" Explore the top websites for researching your ancestors in Canada. Learn where to find the best online resources for Canadian and provincial record groups, history, newspapers, maps, photographs and more to help you fill your Canadian toolbox.

You might be surprised to discover that many of our ancestors spent time in Canada. Do you have Loyalist ancestors? Or provincial, Eastern Townships, or ancestors who immigrated through Canadian ports? Did your

American ancestors go back and forth across the border for employment or to get married? If so, you won't want to miss Kathryn's presentation.

March 2020 Meeting



Lisa Louise Cooke is CEO of Genealogy Gems, a genealogy education company featuring The Genealogy Gems Podcast, available at iTunes, and the Genealogy Gems app. Her books include *Mobile Genealogy*, *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox Second Edition*, *How to Find Your Family History in Newspapers*, and she has published 100+ videos at the Genealogy Gems YouTube Channel. She also produces The Family Tree Magazine Podcast, regularly writes for the magazine, and teaches for Family Tree University.

Lisa will be our featured speaker at our Wednesday, March 4, 2020 meeting. Her presentation is titled **“Get the Scoop on Your Ancestors with Newspapers.”** Yearning to “read all about it?” Newspapers are a fantastic source of research leads, information and historical context for your family history. Learn the specialized approach that is required to achieve success in locating the news on your ancestors. Lisa's presentation includes 3 Cool Tech Tools that will get you started.

Everyone will want to check the incredible resources available at Lisa's website at <https://lisalouisecooke.com>.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for an exciting presentation!

January 2020 Recap



Our January presenter was Katherine R. Willson of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Katherine is the founder and president of the Virtual Genealogical Society, a member of the Board of Directors for the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Publicity Chair for the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2019 Conference, and a member of the National Genealogical Society. In addition, she is the author of *The Genealogist's Guide to Grand Rapids, Michigan* (published in 2018 by The In-Depth Genealogist). A noted expert on the use of Facebook for genealogy, she's continually updating her list of Facebook genealogy/history links on her website, with a current total of over 14,500 links. She also maintains a list of 160+ links to instructional genealogical channels on YouTube on her site. Her website at <https://socialmediagenealogy.com/resources/> contains those lists, as well as a variety of other resources.

Katherine's presentation to us at the Agawam Senior Center was titled **“They Didn't All Come Through Ellis Island! Finding & Analyzing Passenger Arrival Lists.”** As Katherine says, “If as many ancestors came through Ellis Island as families are led to believe, the island would have sunk!” She explained the multiple points of departure from Europe, ports of entry into the U.S., how to find passenger arrival lists online, and how to analyze these lists as a means of filling in your ancestors' life stories.

WMGS members can access the video and handout for Katherine's presentation in the Members Only section of the [WMGS website](#).

[Return to Contents page](#)

Message from the President

by **Jeanne Leblond**

Behind the scenes, we've been very busy as usual. The program committee has been working on our program schedule for the rest of the year, dealing with speaker contracts and planning new SIGs and trainings, along with making plans for Skills Night. Plans are to continue the Special Interest Group sessions, as members have been enjoying them. There have even been a few brick wall discoveries! Our webmaster has been working on updating our website and keeping our technology needs up to date. Our membership chairperson continues working on all of the tasks related to membership needs. And there are many other volunteers who work on tasks that are required to run WMGS and provide quality programming.

The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) has been busy as well. Each of the 20+ sponsoring societies is required to have a delegate and alternate, whose responsibility is to attend planning meetings, at least on a quarterly basis. I've taken on the role of WMGS delegate and Dave Lapierre is our alternate. We've attended several planning meetings in Sudbury, the latest on January 11th, and can report that NERGC is actively planning the 2021 conference in Springfield.



As I sat at the last NERGC meeting and listened to the reports from planners, I was struck by the amount of work that is necessary to produce a conference that attracts over 1,100 attendees. In fact, planning for the 2021 conference started the day after the last one. The entire conference is planned and executed by dedicated volunteers. No one receives any salary or compensation, and there are no paid conference planners like the business world has.

WMGS will again be participating as a sponsor for the conference. Part of our participation agreement requires that our society select one particular committee assignment as one of our responsibilities for the conference. WMGS has selected the Hospitality Committee as our responsibility. Of course, all societies will be responsible for a certain number of on-site volunteer hours, as in the past.

We're including a link to the NERGC website in this edition so that you can start following the plans for the 2021 conference. For those of us who are eagerly looking forward to the next conference, there's a fun countdown clock on the site. The NERGC website also will be publishing information on genealogy presentations offered by participating societies. Information on our meetings and presentations will be offered on the website, which will certainly be a benefit to us.

As we move into February and think about those we love and appreciate on Valentine's Day, I'm reminded that we have many people to appreciate in our society. WMGS is and has always been an all-volunteer society. Though not on the same scale as NERGC, it still takes a tremendous amount of work to continue our mission to bring quality programming to our members and to assist them in researching their ancestors.

Sometimes a reminder is needed, just like I had at the NERGC meeting. So, I'd like to send my appreciation to all of our volunteers and to our members who support us by continuing their memberships and by participating in and enjoying our offerings.

[Return to Contents page](#)

Member Only Benefits

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings

February 20 – Genealogy Writing Workshop



Interested in writing about your ancestors, but not sure where to start? Or are you thinking about writing your own story to pass down to your family? Join us for an evening of writing exercises designed to get your pen moving (or fingers typing). Host Joanne Mason will guide us through several audiovisual prompts, including photographs and music, to see where our thoughts take us on paper. After each prompt, we'll write for 10 minutes, then share what we've written. (Note: Sharing is not required! You are more than welcome to just listen.) The

goal of this workshop isn't to complete a story or polish the grammar and punctuation. Instead, we'll be working on nuggets to take home.

Please bring a notebook and pen. If you prefer typing on a laptop or tablet, that's fine too.

February 27 – Irish Special Interest Group (SIG)



Our next Irish SIG will be a hands-on exploration of research in Ireland with host Fran Malone. Fran will help us explore the Irish databases that were introduced at our initial session to help you find your own ancestors. Bring your research questions and brick wall problems! It's helpful to bring your ancestor's name and whatever facts that you have already discovered, such as the following:

- dates of birth, marriage, and death
- places of birth, marriage, and death
- names of spouses, children, and parents

If you have a favorite database for Irish research, feel free to bring that information as well. Our SIGs are an opportunity to share information with each other and to learn new skills together.

SIGs and trainings are held from 6 pm to 8 pm in the Handcraft Room at the Agawam Senior Center. The Handcraft Room is located on the 1st floor at the end of the hallway, to the left of the reception desk.

*Feel free to bring your laptops, as the Agawam Senior Center is wi-fi equipped.
Please join us!*

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings Update

This past September, WMGS introduced monthly Special Interest Groups and trainings with the goal of providing more opportunities for our members to learn new skills and to meet members who are working on the same research topics. They've been successful and fun for attendees. We'll be continuing our Canadian and Irish SIGs, offering new topics, and repeating some of our popular trainings, in case you missed them. Topics under consideration are trainings on using Google for research, genealogy on a budget, Word for genealogy, more Excel training, preparing for a research trip, and several others.

If you have a particular topic that you'd like us to consider or if you would be willing to host a topic, let us know. You do not need to be a professional genealogist to host a session, and we can provide assistance on how to create a training.

Most of the syllabi and/or handouts are available in the Members Only section of our website, if you missed a session. We hope that you'll consider attending one of our sessions!

Note: During winter months, we follow our **Inclement Weather Policy**. However, some of our hosts are driving from a long distance. Although the Agawam Senior Center may be open, a host may decide to cancel a session if driving is problematic for them. Also, during cold or flu season, a host may be unable to conduct a session. If a session needs to be cancelled, we will send out an email to our members and post the information on our Facebook page. Please check your email and/or Facebook before leaving your home.

Articles

New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC)



Springing From the Past
Into the Future

The 2021 NERGC Conference will return to the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA, April 14-17, 2021. Information on the conference and planning details are available at:

<https://nergc.org/2021-conference-2/>

Date of Marriage Contract

by Michael John Neill

In some locations and in some time periods, couples may have executed a marriage contract which outlined which property belonged to the future husband and which property belonged to the future wife. These documents were to clarify how property would be distributed when one member of the future couple died.

The date of the marriage contract is not the date of the marriage. It is the date that the contract was executed. There is also the possibility that the couple never actually married.

(c) Michael John Neill, "Genealogy Tip of the Day," <http://genealogytipoftheday.com/>, 21 January 2020

PO Box 418, West Springfield, MA 01090 www.WestMassGen.com WestMassGen@gmail.com

Copyright © 2020 Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc

WMGS Founders Award Nominations

At our May 2019 meeting, WMGS proudly presented its Founders Award to longtime member, Wayne Weatherwax. Our Founders Award is given annually to those individuals who have made significant contributions to WMGS and/or the local community or to the field of genealogy.

We invite all members to review the nomination and award policy below and to consider making a nomination.

Here is the official policy and process:



Criteria:

An individual nominated for this award must meet one of the following criteria:

1. The individual has provided significant service to the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society or to the local genealogical community through time, talent, action, or dedication.
2. The individual has contributed in a significant way to the field of genealogy through leadership or other benefit.

Eligibility:

Any member in good standing of the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society or an individual in the community, who meets the criteria for this award, is eligible.

Judging Criteria:

Board members will select the recipient(s) based on:

- The degree to which their services/action have made a lasting or meaningful contribution or impact.
- The length and degree of their service.
- The extent to which their service or action might be considered above and beyond the call of duty.
- The extent to which their action would be recognized and valued by the genealogical community or by their peers and community leaders.

Nomination and Selection Process:

Any member of the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society may nominate an individual. Criteria for the award will be posted in the January and February newsletter. Nominations will be accepted until April 1st. The Board will select the award recipient(s) at the April Board meeting and announce their selection in the May newsletter.

Presentation of the Award:

The award will be presented at the annual meeting in May.

Please consider nominating someone for the award. As noted in the policy, nominees do not have to be a member of the society, but nominations may only be made by members. Nominations will be accepted from January 1st until April 1st. Members may send their nominations to the WMGS Board by sending an email to: WestMassGen@gmail.com or submitting them at a monthly meeting.

Brick Wall Queries

New:

Q-19 - KINNEL, Thomas - Seeking birthdate/place and parents of Thomas Kinnell. Married Margaret Hathorn, 1826 in Kirkinner, Scotland. Died in MA, ? Brockton. (Submitted by George Gifford)

Q-20 – PACKARD, Lurana - Need birthdate/place and parents of Lurana Packard. Married Elijah Hearsey, May 25, 1800 in Dedham, MA. Died December 16, 1816 in Dedham, MA. (Submitted by George Gifford)

Q-21 – SNELL, Jadidah - Seeking birthdate/place and parents of Jadidah Snell. Married Levi Stetson in Abington, MA, June 2, 1797. Died on March 13, 1806 in Abington, MA. (Submitted by George Gifford)

How to Submit or Respond to a Query:

Submitting: Queries and responses should be sent via email to westmassgen@gmail.com or submitted through the Contact Us section on our website. Members may also bring their prepared queries or responses to our monthly meeting or to one of our research clinics. Non-members should submit their payment (\$5.00 per query) via the Donate tab on the website. Members are entitled to post three (3) queries per month.

Responding: Please send your response directly to WMGS. To aid in matching answer to question, please identify the question you are answering by using the month of the Newsletter and the question number. (example Oct 2018Q1, Oct 2018-Q2) Answers submitted should include the source(s) of information found or specific information on a website or database. WMGS will forward the response to the person who asked the question, post it in the next newsletter, and archive it on our website.

Note: Because of space limitations, WMGS reserves the right to limit the number of queries that are listed per newsletter. When necessary, queries will be posted in the next available issue. WMGS and its members are not responsible to conduct research, to provide answers for the query, or for the accuracy of the information posted or received. Always verify any information received by checking its source.

Free Local Events

Several local libraries are hosting presentations on genealogy topics. If you know of an event happening at a local library, let us know so that we can include it here. These presentations are funded by the libraries and free to the attendees. All you have to do is register.

Chicopee Public Library

The Chicopee Public Library offers genealogy open labs every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm, and again from 6 pm to 8 pm. Experienced volunteers are available to answer questions and help you use the library's genealogy resources, which include Ancestry, Fold3, Heritage Quest, FamilySearch microfilm, books, and more.

In addition, the following class will begin on January 28 and run for four weeks:

- **Beginner Genealogy** – Tuesdays – January 28 and February 4, 11, and 18 – 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm. Sign up at the Reference Desk.

Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc.

The Connecticut Society of Genealogist has 3 free events planned over the next few months. All events will take place at the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Inc. Library, 175 Maple St., Hartford, CT. Please pre-register at csginc@csginc.org or call 860-569-0002.

- **Dower and Dowery: Women, Property, and Legal Records** - a webinar with Judy Russell, "The Legal Genealogist." February 15, 2020 at 1:30 pm.
- **The Connecticut-Caribbean Connection** - with Sandra Taitt Eaddy, March 21, 2020 at 1:30 pm.
- **More Than a Will: Understanding Probate Records** - with Edwin W. Strickland II, April 18, 2020 at 1:30 pm

Holyoke Public Library

The Holyoke Public Library is offering three classes over the next few months:

- **Organizing your Genealogy** – Wednesday, February 12, 2020 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
- **Going Paperless: Digitizing Your Genealogical Research** – Sat., February 29, 2020 at 11:00 am
- **RootsMagic** – Wednesdays - March 4, 11, and 18, 2020 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Registration is required. Please send an email to historyroom@holyokelibrary.org or call (413) 420-8101.

Longmeadow – Storrs Library

The Storrs Library, in collaboration with the Longmeadow Historical Society, has a presentation scheduled for February. [Registration is required.](#)

- **Stories From the Census** – Tuesday, February 18, 2020 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Southwick Public Library

The town of Southwick is marking its 250th anniversary this year! As part of the celebration, the Southwick Public Library is offering several genealogy events between now and October. All events are held at the Southwick Public Library. Please call (413) 569-1221 to register.

- **Family History 101** – Monday, February 3 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
- **Getting to Know Ancestry** – planned for March, date and time to be determined
- **Genealogy and the U.S. Census** – Wednesday, April 1 at 6:30 pm

Westfield Athenaeum

The library in Westfield holds genealogy classes every other Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm, focusing on the resources available at the library and how to search online for records. Register at <http://www.westath.org>.

In February, the class will be held on Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, February 25.

Wilbraham Public Library

A demonstration of Ancestry Library Edition will take place on Thursday, March 5, 2020 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Participants may use library computers or their own laptops to access Ancestry's databases. [Registration is required](#), as there are only 17 spots available.

Calendar

DATE/TIME	EVENT/PLACE
Wednesday, 5 Feb 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Meeting at the Agawam Senior Center - Kathryn Lake Hogan presents “ What’s in Your Canadian Genealogy Toolbox? ” ***
Monday, 10 Feb 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Board Meeting at the Agawam Senior Center. Open to Members! ***
Thursday, 20 Feb 2020 6 – 8 PM	Skills Training – Genealogy Writing Workshop at the Agawam Senior Center in the Handcraft Room (Members Only) ***
Thursday, 27 Feb 2020 6 – 8 PM	Special Interest Group (SIG) – Irish Genealogy at the Agawam Senior Center in the Handcraft Room (Members Only) ***
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Meeting at the Agawam Senior Center - Lisa Louise Cooke presents “ Get the Scoop on Your Ancestors with Newspapers. ” ***

Monday, 9 Mar 2020	WMGS Board Meeting at the Agawam Senior Center. Open to Members! ***
Thursday, 19 Mar 2020	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.
Thursday, 26 Mar 2020	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.

**** There may be travel delays related to construction on the Morgan Sullivan bridge leading from West Springfield into Agawam through 2020. Currently, traffic is limited to one lane in each direction. Allow extra time to your travel or seek alternate routes.*

Ride Sharing

Are you driving to our meetings from a distance? Would you like to form a carpool with other members? Do you need a ride because you are no longer able to drive when it's dark?

We'll have a form at our Welcome table for members to list their names, city or town, and contact information, along with their interest in ride sharing, their need for a ride, or their willingness to pick up another member.

If you would like to participate, but can't make it to meetings without a ride, send us an email at westmassgen@gmail.com, along with your name, city or town, and contact information. With your permission, we'll add your name to the list.

And don't forget to look at the form each month for any updates.

New WMGS Members

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc. (WMGS) welcomes our newest members.

Daniel E. Bowler, Jr.
Elizabeth Sonnenberg
Ron Haislip-Hansberry

We hope that they will avail themselves of all that WMGS has to offer and that they find success in the hunt for family ancestors.

About Us



The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society was founded in Springfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts in 1972, and officially incorporated on 6 February 1973. We are devoted to the research and documentation of our family ancestry and history. We also assist others in the pursuit of discovering their ancestry.

We meet year-round on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Agawam Senior Center, located at 954 Main Street in Agawam, Massachusetts. We welcome non-members and beginning genealogists. Please join us!

Most of our membership is from the Western Massachusetts area, but a number of our members live all over our country and have ancestors from Massachusetts or New England.

We receive numerous inquiries each month via U.S. mail and e-mail from people looking for information on area families. Our members are happy to volunteer to research these requests

Jeanne Leblond – President	Dave Lapierre – Webmaster & Technology Coordinator
Dave Lapierre – Vice President	Hillary Schau & Joanne Mason – Newsletter Co-Editors
Deborah Woodford – Treasurer	Carol Lynne Bagley & Joanne Mason – Facebook Editors
Jeanne Lockhart – Assistant Treasurer	Jeanne Leblond – Surname & Queries Editor
Dorothy Cichonski – Secretary	Bob Whitney – Fundraising Coordinator
Deborah Woodford – Membership	Diane Ascioti – Founder
Carol Lynne Bagley, Hillary Schau, and Terry Pearsons – Directors	

Meeting Details

We generally meet year-round for our monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Agawam Senior Center, located at 954 Main Street in Agawam, Massachusetts. On rare occasions, a holiday or other significant event may disrupt that schedule causing a meeting to be held on the second Wednesday. You will be informed of date changes well in advance.

Our Special Interest Group meetings and training sessions are typically held on the 3rd & 4th Thursdays of the month from 6 pm to 8 pm, also at the Agawam Senior Center. However, some of these sessions are held on different days of the week, depending on the availability of each session's host. Check our monthly calendar for each month's schedule.

Occasionally, inclement weather causes the Agawam Senior Center to close. If our presenter is coming to us via a webinar and gives us permission to do so, we will broadcast the presentation live to our members via the internet, using a web-based platform, such as ZOOM. Members will be emailed the link before the meeting.

Also, when a speaker allows us to record a presentation or a webinar, we archive the presentation in the Members Only section of our website. Many of our monthly presentations have been recorded, along with handouts, and are available in the Members Only section of our website.

We look forward to you joining us at our next meeting or event!

Inclement Weather Policy

In case of bad weather, please check the following areas for a cancellation notice for our monthly meeting, trainings, or Special Interest Group meetings:

1. If the Agawam Senior Center is closed, then our meeting is canceled. This information can be found on most local TV stations such as WWLP (Channel 22) and WGGB (Channel 40). It will be posted at the bottom of the screen, along with the other school and activity cancellations.
2. WestMassGen.com – We will post cancellation information on our website.
3. Email – We will send an email out to our mailing list, if time permits.
4. [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WestMassGen) – We will post a note to let you know if our meeting will be canceled

[Return to Contents page](#)

Membership

The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society is a growing group of members, both local and from around the United States. We welcome you to join our society!

Reasons to Join Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society:

1. Meet people with similar interests in family history and genealogy.
2. Attend monthly meetings featuring local, regional, and national presenters.
3. Attend our Special Interest Groups meetings, trainings, and classes.
4. Receive access to our archive of previously recorded presentations and handouts, DNA Boot Camp videos, Western Massachusetts and Massachusetts genealogical resources (with links), and handouts in the Members Only section of our website.
5. Receive assistance from our members on your family research.
6. Access our library of resources including books and CDs.
7. Serve as a volunteer, coach, or as a member of the Board of Directors.
8. Join us on exclusive WMGS field trips.

One of our key "member benefits" is access to the **Members Only** section of our website, which contains archived recordings of our previous speakers from around the U.S.: Judy G. Russell, Maureen Taylor, Colleen Fitzpatrick, Elissa Scalise Powell, Dr. Shelley Murphy, Nora Galvin, 'Dear MYRTLE' a/k/a Pat Richley-Erickson, Russ Worthington, Melissa Barker, Jennifer Alford, and many more! Our Members Only section also includes handouts from many of those meetings and historical copies of the *American Elm*, the original WMGS newsletter publication, which contains genealogical material and family trees

from our early members. Once we receive your membership application, we will send you a welcome letter with the confidential password to access the Members Only section of our website.

Membership Dues:

Annual membership runs from September 1st to August 31st each year.

Membership rates are:

- \$30 for an individual membership
- \$45 for a couple of the same household
- \$15 for students
- \$500 for lifetime membership

If you are new to our organization, click [here](#) for the WMGS Application for Membership; the image is near the bottom. Click to open the pdf to view, save, and print.

There are three ways to join or renew your membership:

- Pay by cash or check at the monthly meeting.
- Print and mail an application, found on the Join/Renew page of our website (if a new member) along with your check, or, if renewing, just the check to
WMGS, P.O. Box 418, West Springfield, MA 01090-0418.
- Use the secure PayPal button on our website (you **do not** need to have a PayPal account, just use your debit card or credit card). Here's the link to our Join/Renew page: [JOIN](#)

Note: All first-time members must submit an application by mail or in person at a meeting, even if using PayPal, so that we have all the necessary information for our membership list.

Newsletter Deadlines

Please submit all information to be entered into the next newsletter by 15 February 2020.

We are looking for articles written by our members. Have you been to a repository or a federal or state archive? Have you been to where your ancestors lived? Have you tried a new gadget or software? You do not have to write the article yourself. If you would like to do an interview about a subject, that would be helpful as well. What are you interested in? Tell us, share your knowledge.

How to Contact Us:

Have a question, comment, or suggestion for someone at WMGS?

Need information about your membership status or how to access our Members Only material?

Want to send in a query or provide an answer to one?

Have a comment or suggestion for us?

There are two options available for contacting us via email:

Our **Contact Us** page on our website has an easily completed form to use. First enter your name, email address, topic, and the name of person to whom the email is being sent. Then, write your message and click on Submit.

Or, you can send an email directly to us at: westmassgen@gmail.com .

Of course, you can also correspond with us by sending mail to:

WMGS, Inc.
P.O. Box 418
West Springfield, MA 01090-0418

Note: Please do not write directly to any board member's personal or business email. For legal reasons, our board members cannot conduct WMGS business using emails, other than through WMGS. Thank you for your consideration.

E-Mail Update

Please let us know if you have changed your e-mail address, mailing address, and/or phone number. We want to make sure that you continue to receive all of our updates, meeting reminders, and electronic newsletters. Just send your name and new email address to us at WestMassGen@gmail.com.



Copyright © 2020 by the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc. All rights are reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any way without written permission of WMGS. For permission to reproduce any article in this newsletter, contact the editor at westmassgen@gmail.com.

The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.