



Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.

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Upcoming Meetings

August 2020 Meeting



At our August 5th monthly meeting, we will be welcoming back Sara Campbell for a new presentation – **“Using Land Records in Genealogical Research.”** Sara is a popular lecturer and educator in Western Mass where she has been active in the genealogical community for over 25 years. As many of you know, Sara’s background as a professional civil engineer provides her with a unique perspective on her research.

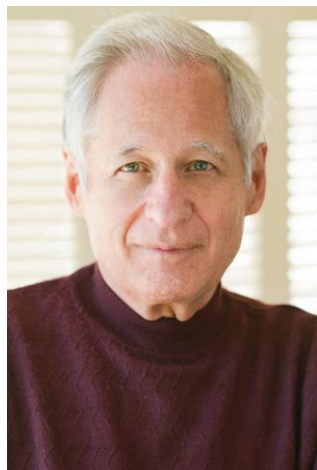
Sara is the author of a recently released book, *Six Generations in Otsego*, the story of the Colman family, spanning 150 years from the early years of the Republic in the late 1700s, to the mid-twentieth century. She maintains a blog about history and genealogy at <http://www.rememberingancestors.com>.

Sara describes her presentation as follows: “Land records take us a step beyond the top two sources we search when beginning genealogical research: vital records and census records. Deeds can help us understand our ancestors' movements when buying and selling land, identify neighbors, and sometimes uncover an elusive spouse. Digging into these records should not be any more intimidating than any other source. The terminology may sound confusing, but we can get through it together. We will review a variety of deeds and explore what can be found online as well as in person in repositories.

“I find that some of the institutes and national webinars focus on ‘platting’ and land in the west that was based on ‘ranges’ and everything is square. That is not the case in New England.”

Mark your calendars, as you won’t want to miss Sara’s presentation on **Wednesday, August 5th at 6 PM.**

September 2020 Meeting



Stephen Morse is the creator of the One-Step Website for which he has received both the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Contribution Award from the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, the Award of Merit from the National Genealogical Society, the first-ever Excellence Award from the Association of Professional Genealogists, and two awards that he cannot pronounce from Polish genealogical societies.

In his other life, Steve is a computer professional with a doctorate degree in electrical engineering. He has held various research, development, and teaching positions, authored numerous technical papers, written four textbooks, and holds four patents. He is best known as the architect of the Intel 8086 (the granddaddy of today's Pentium processor), which sparked the PC revolution nearly 40 years ago.

The One-Step Website started out as an aid for finding passengers in the Ellis Island database. Shortly afterwards it was expanded to help with searching in the 1930 census. Over the years it has continued to evolve, and today it includes about 300 web-based tools divided into 16 separate categories ranging from genealogical searches to astronomical calculations to last-minute bidding on eBay. Steve's presentation will describe the range of tools available and give the highlights of each one.

Whether you're looking for passenger lists, census records, information on Soundex or phonetic matching to find elusive ancestors, searching for living relatives, or even converting script written in several other languages to English, Steve's One-Step Webpage is the place to find tools to help you.

Steve will be presenting, **"One-Step Website: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools,"** live on **Wednesday, Sept. 2nd at our 6 PM meeting.**

*Note: This lecture will be live and will not be recorded. If you miss this presentation, the handout will be available in the Members Only section of our website.

NOTE: Until our regular meetings resume, our events will be held virtually, as much as possible..

How to Participate: Members will receive an email notice in advance of the monthly virtual meeting. You will be required to pre-register via a link in the email. After that, you will receive another email with the link to join the meeting via Zoom at the broadcast time. Monthly meetings will be broadcast at 6 PM.

Do you have questions about using Zoom or need assistance to join our meetings and trainings? Just send us an email at westmassgen@gmail.com. We're available and willing to help our members to access everything that WMGS has to offer!

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Message from the President

by Jeanne Leblond

It's been said that a picture can be worth a thousand words. I've found that to be true, especially when a family picture is shared with others.

As so many other people are, I've been disappointed that summer activities are cancelled. Our annual family reunion, with several generations coming together from across the country, can't be held this summer. Yes, we could try to have a Zoom reunion, but that doesn't seem to be a viable option. And virtual hugs and introductions of the latest fiancées and great-grandchildren wouldn't be the same.

Enter Facebook and a family picture collection to the rescue! On my paternal side of the family, we've had a family Facebook page for about eight years that includes albums of pictures that a cousin and I scanned. Along with photo albums of ancestors' and past reunions, each family has their own album with pictures marking milestones in their lives. At family reunions, we'd have a laptop set up at a family history table with the pictures scrolling across the screen. It was always a great conversation starter and well received.



A few weeks ago, I posted some new pictures from my parents' collection on the family Facebook page and the conversation and memories have been flowing. Cousins are posting pictures as well, and though it isn't the same, it's a virtual reunion of sorts. Postings of "Remember when...", "I didn't know that...", and "Oh, seeing these pictures makes me so happy," are allowing us to stay connected, which is so important to our emotional well-being.

I've just purchased a copy of VividPix Restore, taking advantage of the discount available to WMGS members and oh, how I love it! I've been able to restore and share pictures that were badly faded or dark, even Polaroid pictures that have deteriorated. Last winter, my husband inherited a collection of family photos from his aunt's estate. I've created a Facebook page for his family to share genealogical findings and pictures as well. Again, I've created folders for each of the families. My husband's siblings are enjoying the pictures, but what's more heartwarming is that the grandchildren are commenting on them and sharing their memories. If we tried to pass around pictures to a younger audience at a reunion, they might not be interested, but Facebook seems to draw them in.

In the past, I'd put my family research aside for the summer months. But in the midst of this pandemic, I'm finding that I'm doing more research and scanning because of the quarantine. And I'm trying to find ways to share our family history. If you're looking for ideas or information on how Facebook can both help in your research and connect your family, there's a training handout available in the Members' Only section of our website.

And while you're scanning pictures to share, perhaps one will trigger a song as one did for me. A picture of a neighbor reminded me of how her singing would carry through her kitchen window while I was playing outside. Her rendition of this tune from George Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* is a fond memory:



Summertime
And the livin' is easy
Fish are jumpin'
And the cotton is high.

Enjoy the summer!

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Member Only Benefits

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings

August 20 – 7 pm – Using Ancestry.com (A Peek Behind the Curtain)



Join us for this informative training by **Ed Strickland** on how to get the most out of Ancestry.com, one of the world's largest online genealogical databases.

Learn what's available beyond the Search box, how to find records in the extensive Card Catalog, how to find helpful webinars, and how to use family trees, message boards, and your Shoebox. Even though you may not have a current subscription, you may be able to access Ancestry from your home using your library card. And there are free databases available as well.

How to Participate: Members will receive an email notice in advance of the training sessions. You will be required to pre-register via a link in the email. After that, you will receive another email with the link to join the Zoom webinar at the broadcast time.

Note the time change for training sessions only. Training sessions will be held at 7 PM.

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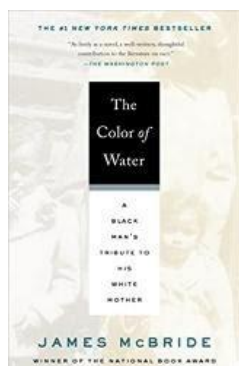
Articles

Summer Reading for Genealogists: Memoir Edition

List Compiled by Erin Binney

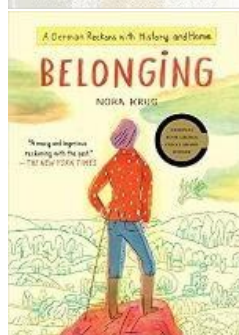
Memoir is a hot genre in the publishing world right now, and writing about yourself often requires understanding and writing about your family history. In fact, memoirists regularly use genealogical research techniques—such as visiting state and local archives, interviewing historical experts, and talking to family

members—to learn more about where they come from. Regardless of their backgrounds, the writers of these books are all driven by the same desire: to understand how those who came before have shaped who they are. Who knows? Maybe their stories will inspire you to write your own memoir!



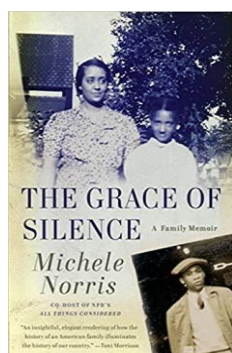
***The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* by James McBride**

In this compelling story, James McBride explores his recollections of being a mixed-race child of poverty, his experiences with drugs and violence, and his eventual self-realization and professional success. Growing up, he was embarrassed and confused when his mother referred to herself as “light-skinned.” Why was she so evasive about her ethnicity and early life? As he reached thirty, McBride began to research her past and discover the truth about her long-buried pain. In narrating his discoveries, he creates a loving tribute to his mother.



***Belonging: A German Reckons with History and Home* by Nora Krug**

After living in the U.S. for twelve years, Nora Krug returns to her homeland of Germany and begins to ask questions about her family's involvement in World War II that she didn't dare ask as a child. All four of her grandparents lived through the war, but their experiences were never talked about. Through research in archives and interviews with family members, Krug uncovers the stories of her maternal grandfather, who served as a driving instructor during the war, and of her father's brother, who died as a teenage SS soldier. Her discoveries are recounted in a gripping and touching memoir.



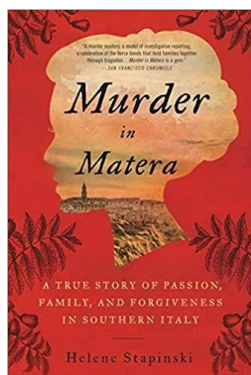
***The Grace of Silence: A Family Memoir* by Michele Norris**

As a journalist and NPR reporter, Michele Norris began to explore the hidden conversation on race that unfolded after Barack Obama was elected president. She also began to discover that there were painful secrets in her own family that had been hidden. As revelations of the secrets came to light, Norris crafted a family memoir that explores race in America and the meaning of being an American.



***Finding Samuel Lowe* by Paula Williams Madison**

All Paula Williams Madison knew about her maternal grandfather, Samuel Lowe, was that he had returned to mainland China from Jamaica when her mother was a baby so he could take a Chinese bride. In her quest to learn more, Williams Madison would travel to Jamaica and China, discover her ancestral village, take her lineage back three thousand years, and attend a reunion with 300 newfound relatives.



***Murder in Matera: A True Story of Passion, Family, and Forgiveness in Southern Italy* by Helene Stapinski**

Rumors about Helene Stapinski's great-great-grandmother, Vita, abounded during the author's childhood, and some of them were hard to believe. Had there really been a murder in the family, and had Vita been involved? Did she really immigrate in 1892 with three children from different fathers in tow, losing one along the way? This narrative is a family memoir and murder mystery combined, and it takes the reader not only on a research tour of events that happened more than a century earlier, but a visual tour of Southern Italy as well.

Gift Certificates Available!

by Deborah Woodford

Looking for that perfect gift for someone who is hard to buy for? WMGS now has gift certificates available for your purchase to give a year of membership! This is a perfect time to buy one for a friend or family member who has shown interest in genealogy or your family's story. Now that we are currently using Zoom for our presentations, friends who live at a distance are able to join us, plus we've added so many more offerings on the Members Only portion of our website. Your gift will entitle your recipient to membership through August 31, 2021 so by purchasing now, the membership may be used for the full length of yearly membership!



The cost remains the same: \$30 for a single membership; \$45 for a couple residing at the same address. You may pay by check or PayPal. Please provide us with your recipient's contact information (name, address, email, and phone number) on a note with your check or via email if paying by PayPal, so we may have this information for our records. Also, please advise if you would like the certificate with its welcome message and membership card mailed directly to your recipient or to your home for you to give to the person yourself.

Available throughout the year, this is the best time to purchase a gift certificate to take advantage of its full benefits!

Never Moved But the Address Changed

by Michael John Neill

Addresses can change even if your ancestor's home never did. Street names can change house numbers can change. Using addresses as a key to tying people together is an excellent genealogical tool (in areas and time periods that have addresses), but keep in mind they can vary over time.

Determine if and when the city/town where your relative lived had any renaming or renumbering of the streets. Sometimes these changes were citywide and sometimes they were only for certain neighborhoods or areas.

Even rural ancestors can have this happen. Rural route numbers change and the adoption of a 911-address system can create modern differences as well.

(c) Michael John Neill, "Genealogy Tip of the Day," <http://genealogytipoftheday.com>, July 22, 2020.

WMGS becomes an affiliate of VividPix/RESTORE!

by Jeanne Leblond and Dave Lapierre

We have great news to announce! WMGS has signed an affiliate agreement with **VividPix/RESTORE** which will offer benefits to our members and to our society.

Not only will our members be able to purchase **VividPix/RESTORE** software at a 20% savings, but for each purchase that members make using our discount code, WMGS will earn 20% in revenue. Currently, the picture restoration software is available for \$49.95. Using our 20%-member discount code, members will pay \$39.95. That's \$10 off the listed price. WMGS will earn 20% of each sale, which means \$8 will be added to our coffers. And by becoming an affiliate, we receive a free copy of the software each year to raffle off to our members.

What's VividPix/RESTORE? It's downloadable software for either Mac or Windows operating systems, which uses patented artificial intelligence to restore images with 1-click. It automatically creates high resolution JPEG and/or TIF images – without affecting the original image or photo. You can easily fine-tune, crop, and create perfect images, add metadata to create searchable tags and comments that are saved to your restored image, create folders to organize the improved images, and create sharing sized files for posting on genealogy sites and emailing.

The software can also restore scanned documents to improve their readability, making it an impressive tool for genealogists. Can't read that census record or other scanned document? **VividPix/RESTORE** may be able to help.

The **VividPix/RESTORE** company has also recently created an educational division, called Round Tuit. They now offer live and pre-recorded classes that are free, and other classes and webinars that you can rent for only \$1.99 for 30 days access. They're available on their website in the Education section.

Many of our members will remember being introduced to the **VividPix/RESTORE** software at our June 2019 Skills Night and again in more depth at our August 2019 monthly meeting by our own tech guru, Dave Lapierre. Dave demonstrated how he has restored many of his family's pictures with amazing success.

VividPix/RESTORE offers a free trial - without needing to enter credit card information. It's available on their website at <https://www.vivid-pix.com/>. Try it out and if you decide to purchase it, make sure that you go to the Members Only section of our website to access the discount code available to members – saving you money and generating money for WMGS.

Join us for an upcoming training on using the **VividPix/RESTORE** software which will be hosted by our own Dave Lapierre.

Below is an example of what you can do with 1-click.

Before VividPix/RESTORE



After VividPix/RESTORE



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Membership Renewal Time!

It's not too early to renew your WMGS membership!

Annual memberships to the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc. run from September 1st through August 31st of the following year. Both new memberships and renewals which are made in July and August will run through August 31, 2021.

There are 2 options for renewing:

- Mail your check (made out to WMGS) to our society at: WMGS, Inc. P.O. Box 418, West Springfield, MA 01090-0418
- Join or renew through our website.

Here's the link to the Join page: <https://westmassgen.com/join/>

Simply scroll down the page, select a single, couple, student, or lifetime membership. Then, click on the PayPal link. YOU DO NOT NEED A PAYPAL ACCOUNT to use this secure, convenient, and simple method.

Don't delay! You won't want to miss the upcoming, exciting season at WMGS, including monthly presentations, our newsletters, and our Special Interest Groups and trainings. And we are currently offering our monthly presentations and trainings to members via Zoom, so you can participate from home.

Members enjoy exclusive access to the Members Only feature of our website with archived meeting presentations and handouts, our DNA Boot Camp videos, our list of Western Massachusetts and Massachusetts Genealogical Resources (with links), previous editions of our current newsletter, and archived editions of our newsletter, the *American Elm*.

Brick Wall Queries

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. 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 2018-Q1, 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 Online Offerings

Amherst Historical Society

You'll find archived videos of their popular lunchtime History Bites lecture series, links to online books and documents pertaining to Amherst's history, links to city directories from 1889-1923, and several films related to local farming and the 160th anniversary of the Morrill Land Grant Act to establish the University of Massachusetts.

FamilySearch

Follow these steps to find webinars on this site:

- On the home page, click on the **Search** tab.
- Go to the **Research Wiki** section.
- In the **Getting Started** section on the left side of the page, click on **Family History Library**.
- Scroll down to the **Family History Library Information** section.
- Click on **Classes and Online Webinars** and **Current Month Schedule**.

Or use the link below:

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

Historic Deerfield

Join their email list to view short video tours of Historic Deerfield and their collections and to learn about upcoming virtual events and tours.

Historic Northampton

Historic Northampton has several collections of historical material related to Northampton and the surrounding area, including photographs, maps, atlases, and Northampton State Hospital information. Their website includes virtual exhibits, online research material, and digital collections.

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

Legacy Family Tree offers free webinars, but you must register for them. If you can't watch the webinar at the scheduled time, they are available for free for one week. If you become a member, they are free long-term. Nine free webinars are planned for August. Topics include:

- **Using DNA to Solve Adoption and Unknown Parentage Mysteries** (August 5 at 2 pm)
- **Dissecting a Civil War Pension Packet--Union and Confederate** (August 12 at 8 pm)
- **Getting to Know Mexican Church & Civil Registration Records** (August 19 at 2 pm)

See the entire list at <https://familytreewebinars.com>

New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)

NEHGS has a large number of free webinars and training material available on their website. See registration information and other online programs here: <https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes>

Other interesting resources from NEHGS are available here:

<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/watch>

Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA

This museum offers virtual exhibitions, videos of the museum experience, an online gallery, and a lovely collection of Storybooth sessions of immigrant experiences.

Old Sturbridge Village

Take a virtual tour of Old Sturbridge Village to learn what life would have been like for your ancestors in the 1830s.

Westfield Athenaeum

You'll find a browsable online collection includes an impressive array of material related to the Woronoco Indians, early maps, early records of Westfield's settlers, documents, town meetings, ministers' sermons, and military documents.

Wistariahurst Museum

The Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke has an extensive collection of historical material to add to your ancestors' stories. Here are two:

[Online collection of Holyoke postcards](#)

[Online history exhibits including the Holyoke Street Railway, Wm. Skinner & Sons silk manufacturing, Holyoke & Pioneer Valley history resources](#)

[Worcester Historical Museum](#)

Here, you'll find an online collection of Worcester city directories, city directories, Worcester magazine (1901-1914), historical photos, and items from the Worcester Society of Antiquity Collection

WMGS Monthly Presentations and Trainings

Join our upcoming presentations and trainings from home. Our schedule of webinars and trainings is available in our newsletter and on [our website](#). Members will receive an email with a link to join the presentation at the scheduled time. Be sure to join in at that time, as some presentations can't be placed on our website per the contract with our presenter.

In addition, catch up on archived presentations in the Members Only section of our website. There are over 25 videos available of our monthly presentations and 12 individual training videos from the DNA Boot Camp from Hack Genealogy.

Special thanks to Jeanne Leblond for her help compiling these listings!

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Calendar

DATE/TIME	EVENT/PLACE
Wednesday, August 5, 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Meeting Online! Sara Campbell presents “Using Land Records in Genealogical Research.”
Monday, August 17, 2020 7 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, August 20, 2020 7 PM	Zoom training by Ed Strickland: “Using Ancestry.com (A Peek Behind the Curtain)”
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Meeting Online! Stephen Morse presents “One-Step Website: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools.”
Monday, September 14, 2020 7 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, September 17, 2020 7 PM	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.
Thursday, September 24, 2020 7 PM	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.

New WMGS Members

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

**Steven Grant
Ron Guerin
Meridith King
Luanne Lapierre
Karen Tilden**

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.

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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	Joanne Mason – Newsletter Editor
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 Ascoti – 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.

(Note: Until further notice, WMGS will hold meetings online. Please watch your email for instructions, and feel free to contact us at westmassgen@gmail.com with any questions.)

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 and are available, along with handouts, in the Members Only section of our website.

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

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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 complete and submit an application by mail with your check, or as an attached link in a separate email to us when using PayPal as your payment, so that we have all the necessary information for our membership list.

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Newsletter Deadlines

Please submit all information to be entered into the next newsletter by August 15, 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.

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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.

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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.



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