



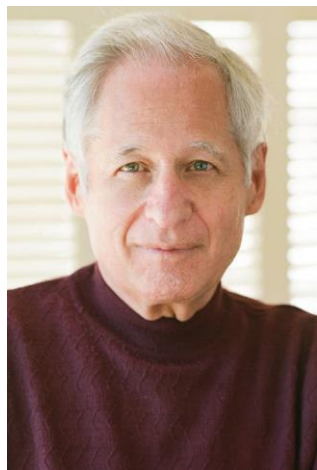
Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.

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Upcoming Meetings

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.

October 2020 Meeting



John Putnam will be joining us again at our **October 7th** meeting for an intriguing presentation: “**The Salem Witchcraft Hysteria: A Cauldron of Religious, Economic, Social, and Political Ingredients Gone Awry.**”

As a descendant of both the protagonists and antagonists of those involved in the Salem witchcraft trials, the historical story of this event becomes a genealogical story for John as well. His direct Putnam ancestors were involved in most aspects of the witchcraft hysteria that occurred in his ancestral hometown of Salem Village (now Danvers, MA). John will share many genealogical, historical, religious, social, economic, and political factors that led to and followed the horrific events in 1692. Whether you have Salem ancestry or not, witchcraft hysteria affected many of our ancestors in countries around the world.

John is a native of Western Mass, grew up on a farm in Southwick, graduated from UMass Amherst, and now resides in Colorado. He’s the past President of the Pikes Peak Genealogical Society and a fascinating speaker.

This is the second in a series of lectures on New England genealogy that John will be presenting to WMGS. Join us on Wednesday, **October 7th at 6 PM** for a virtual presentation via Zoom. You’re sure to enjoy it!

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 that time of year! Cooler and drier weather, shades of orange and gold in the landscape, and scents of pumpkin, apple, and spice mark the season. A new year at WMGS begins. What's not to like about fall?



We always look forward to starting our new membership year at WMGS, as we know that we've got great things on the horizon. Again, we're gearing up for an exciting year with incredible local and national speakers, fascinating presentations, and helpful training sessions lined up. In addition, we're almost ready to roll out an index to the *American Elm* newsletters, which will make it easier to find information in them. The *American Elm*, the original WMGS newsletter, was published from 1972 to 2007 and contains 5-generation family charts, family genealogies, memoirs, surname listings and queries, cemetery listings

with names, articles of local and genealogical interest, and much more. It's just possible that you'll find something related to your research interests in them.

Though we won't be able to welcome you in person this time, we'll do it virtually. We'll continue to broadcast our meetings and trainings directly to our members, so you'll be able to participate from the comfort and safety of your home.

But you have to renew your membership to enjoy all of these things! Don't forget! We work hard to keep WMGS vibrant, fresh, and a good value for the cost of a membership. We hope you agree!

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Membership Renewal Time is Here!



**Renew
Your
Membership!**

Now is the time to renew your WMGS membership if you haven't done so already! We wouldn't want you to miss the exciting upcoming presentations we have planned for you!

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*.

Member Only Benefits

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings

September 10 – 7 pm – VividPix/RESTORE: The Basics and Beyond



If you're new to VividPix/RESTORE – or you're thinking about purchasing it – then you won't want to miss this training with **Dave Lapierre**. The VividPix/RESTORE software can be downloaded for use with either Mac or Windows operating systems. It allows you to edit your photos with a few simple clicks, then organize them with a searchable system.

Note: You can try VividPix/RESTORE for free at <https://www.vivid-pix.com/>. If you would like to buy the software, head over to the Members Only section of the [WMGS website](#) for a 10% discount code!

September 17 – 7 pm – How Alice the Genealogist Avoids the Rabbit Hole



Do you ever find yourself falling down the rabbit holes of genealogical research? We probably all do! A click on one record can lead you down a path of possibilities, but it can also take you away from your intended research plan. In this recorded webinar, **Lisa Louise Cooke**, shares some tips for staying on track while taking note of those potential clues for later research sessions.

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

Annual Meeting Postponed to October 7th

Our annual meeting, which was originally scheduled for May 6th, will now be held virtually on October 7th via Zoom.

According to our Bylaws, our elections are conducted at our May annual meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the state mandates on quarantines, the annual meeting was postponed. Because terms of half of our officers and directors expire on that date each year, those holding positions up for re-election were reappointed until we could hold an election, so that we could continue to function as a society.



Since there is no end in sight to our quarantine, the Board has decided to proceed with an abbreviated Annual Meeting which will be held virtually via Zoom. Following our speaker's presentation on October 7th, we will hold the Annual Meeting. The agenda will include a budget report by the Treasurer, discussion and vote on proposed Bylaws revisions, and an election of a vice-president, secretary, assistant treasurer and one director. A Nominating Committee has been appointed and they will present a slate of candidates at the meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Our annual audit and Founders' Award presentations will continue to be postponed because of the inability to meet in person.

This year, the Board will be presenting major revisions to our Bylaws to our membership. Our Bylaws are our most important document, as they provide a framework for how we function as a non-profit genealogical society. Our Bylaws guide us in everything that we do to ensure that we are in compliance with both state and federal laws, that we use sound management practices, and that we fulfill our responsibilities to both our society and our membership.

One of the duties of a society's board is a periodic review of the society's Bylaws to ensure that they are current, meet best practices, and meet our needs.

WMGS is fortunate that as members of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), we are entitled to a Bylaws review by the FGS Reviews Committee. We submitted our Bylaws to FGS last year and they were returned with extensive, helpful comments and suggestions for revision. The review highlighted some areas of confusion or inefficiency and suggested ways to strengthen our Bylaws so that they meet current standards.

Last fall, a subcommittee of Board members met to revise our Bylaws using the comments and suggestions by Bobbi King from the FGS Reviews Committee. In addition to being a member of the FGS Bylaws Review Committee, Ms. King has served as an FGS board member and as vice-president of administration and parliamentarian. She is also the co-author of the *Bylaws Workbook: A Handbook for New & Established Societies* (2012).

The WMGS Board of Directors has approved the subcommittee's Bylaws revision. The next step is to present them to our membership and for the membership to vote to accept them.

Both our current Bylaws and the Proposed Bylaws with Revisions are available in the Members Only section of our website in the Official Documents section. At our October 7th meeting, we will be conducting a vote on whether or not to approve them. Please take the time to review both documents and join us at our Oct. 7th meeting.

Hopped On the Train to Marry?

by Michael John Neill

Is it possible that your ancestors took a train to a nearby county seat to elope? Some couples would venture to a nearby county's county seat so that the license would not be published in their own local newspaper. During the right time period, the train could be a quick way to do that and keep locals from finding out the news before the couple was ready to disclose it.



(c) Michael John Neill, "Genealogy Tip of the Day," <http://genealogytipoftheday.com>, June 27, 2016.

Study in Contrasts

by Diane Ascoti (An Original Founder of WMGS)
Reprinted from *American Elm*, Volume II, No 3, 1973

About three years ago I became an amateur genealogist. Encouragement from a friend Diane Bernard, prompted me to begin this fascinating search for my progenitors. Within a month from the time I began my search, I was able to trace my father's maternal line back to the arrival of the original immigrant progenitor to the North American continent in the 1640's. This was just what I needed to spur me on to further research.

During the time that has since elapsed, I have become acquainted with many others committed to the cause of tracing their family trees. This experience has led me to believe that the world is divided into two groups, genealogists and non-genealogists. These are two separate and distinct categories. The differences in the two are many but I would like to point out several to help you distinguish between the two.

1. Curiosity (about your heritage),
2. Enthusiasm (used to recruit others to the hobby), and
3. Persistence (used in gaining information).

The non-genealogist is not curious about his heritage (the dead are buried, let them lay) and so the other qualifications of enthusiasm and persistence will not be present.

The genealogist is thrilled with any information received or uncovered by plain old ordinary detective and leg work.

The non-genealogist (especially a family member of the genealogist) does not care about the information found. He just wants to know whether or not you have found the family crest yet. He has an empty spot on his living room wall waiting for the display of the framed reproduction of the crest.



A genealogist's dream of a two week vacation is to spend the whole fourteen days doing research in a library, city hall, cemetery, or church of some distant place that would be inaccessible the other fifty weeks of the year.

The non-genealogist has other ideas for an ideal vacation. Perhaps a trip to the mountains, camping, sightseeing, or traveling.

A genealogist's home is usually cluttered with correspondence, maps, genealogical reference books, ten-generation charts, surname filing system pedigree charts, etc.

The non-genealogist's home is more than likely bound to give you a less cluttered feeling. His desks and tables are probably neat at all times (I have found this to be true in all homes of non-genealogists that I have visited).

The genealogist is more likely to be a more nervous person as he spends much of his time and energy worrying about whether or not he will "break open a line" that he has been searching for.

The non-genealogist, on the other hand, does not feel anxiety over these problems and he does not anxiously await correspondence as the genealogist does. All the non-genealogist expects in the mail are bills.

A genealogist's conversations revolve around where great-great grandpa and grandma went after they left Timbuctoo, the town hall clerk that refused to let him see the town records after traveling 250 miles to view them, and the ancestor who was arrested for cattle rustling out west.

A non-genealogist's conversation will revolve around the weather, television, sports, and probably politics.

I hope this tongue-in-cheek contrast that I have presented will, in the future, help you to distinguish between the "believers and the non-believers."

Diane Ascioti was the first recipient of the WMGS Founders Award established in 2017, which was named in her honor. Diane continues to be a proud member of WMGS.

Special thanks to Dorothy Cichonski for her help in compiling American Elm articles!

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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

[American Battlefield Trust – Washington, D.C.](#)

Tours, videos, and historical resources about the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War.

[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.

[Chicopee Public Library](#)

The Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts (PGSMA) will present “**Squeezing Every Drop out of Polish Parish Registers**” with David Ouimette, CG, CGL, BCG Trustee on Saturday, Sept 26, 2020 from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm. This will be a Zoom presentation.

Register by email with the Chicopee Library at cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org. You will be sent the Zoom invitation the day before the program.

[Commonwealth of Massachusetts State House – Boston, MA](#)

Tour the Great Hall, Senate Chamber, Office of the Speaker of the House, and more. You'll also find pictures and descriptions of artifacts and documents.

[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.

Joseph Allen Skinner Museum – South Hadley, MA

Short tour of the museum founded by the famed industrialist and owner of the Skinner Silk Mills.

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. Ten free webinars are planned for September. Topics include:

- **New Historical Records Available on MyHeritage** (September 8 at 2 pm)
- **Cyndi's List in Practice** (September 9 at 8 pm)
- **Your DNA questions answered live with Diahan** (September 18 at 2 pm)

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

Massachusetts Historical Society

Fascinating collection of material about the various time periods in our history, starting from the colonial period up to the present.

McCord Museum – Montreal, Canada

View online collections of items related to Canadian culture, including items related to the daily lives, work, and leisure activities of residents from Quebec province and throughout the country. Then, check out the historical and genealogical material in their archives.

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.

[Smithsonian's National Museum of American History – Washington, D.C.](#)

Where to begin? There's so much available here.

[Strawberry Banke Museum – Portsmouth, NH](#)

Time travel through almost 400 years of the Puddle Duck neighborhood, established along a tidal inlet in Portsmouth in 1623.

[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
Tuesday, September 1, 2020	Our membership year begins today! Have you renewed? If not, see page 3.
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 6 – 8 PM	WMGS Meeting Online! Stephen Morse presents “One-Step Website: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools.”
Thursday, September 10, 2020	Zoom training with Dave Lapierre: “VividPix/RESTORE: The Basics and Beyond”
Monday, September 14, 2020 7 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, September 17, 2020 7 PM	Recorded webinar with Lisa Louise Cooke: “How Alice the Genealogist Avoids the Rabbit Hole” (via Zoom)
Wednesday, October 7, 2020	WMGS Meeting Online! John Putnam presents “The Salem Witchcraft Hysteria: A Cauldron of Religious, Economic, Social, and Political Ingredients Gone Awry.”
Thursday, October 15, 2020	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.
Monday, October 19, 2020 7 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom
Thursday, October 22, 2020 7 PM	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.

New WMGS Member

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

Cara Seitchek

We hope that she will avail herself of all that WMGS has to offer and that she finds 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 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.

(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:

- o \$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 September 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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The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.