

Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.

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# **Upcoming Meetings**

# **April 2021 Meeting**



On Wednesday, April 7th, we'll be welcoming nationally-known genealogist Peggy Clemens Lauritzen for a presentation titled **"Migration Trails Across America."** 

America has been a nation on the move since the first landings in the colonies. From buffalo traces and Native American trails to rivers and canals, America has found a way to keep pushing "west." This presentation focuses on the most common means of travel in the New World. Migration trails and patterns will be discussed, as well as the many rivers and canals that interconnected us as a nation. Peggy's presentation will feature a

case study of a "lost ancestor" from Essex County, Massachusetts.

For those of you who have never met her, Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG, FOGS, has an amazing ability to bring laughter into the lives of her audience members. One of her favorite photos is a picture of her mother on her way to a church picnic, then on to an afternoon of cemetery transcribing. It was taken just four days before Peggy was born!

Having grown up with parents that were deeply involved in genealogy takes her love of family history to a new level. Some people are amazed that she knew people that were actually born in the 1800s -- her own grandparents. Listening to the stories from bygone years, touching the fabrics from quilts, dresses, blessing gowns, and bonnets, all have added to the admiration of previous generations.

Peggy is a frequent lecturer at many local societies in Ohio, as well as family history seminars. She has presented at Brigham Young University and ICAPGen, and she has taught continuing education classes at several community colleges and Ohio State University. One of her proudest moments was achieving the credentials that qualified her to be an accredited genealogist, a credential she has maintained for twenty-four years, for it polished her research skills.

She is a featured columnist in *Reminisce* magazine, has written several Legacy QuickGuides, and has filmed as an instructor for Ancestry Academy. In 2018, she was honored to be awarded Fellow of the Ohio Genealogical Society and received the Laura G. Prescott Award for Exemplary Service to Professional Genealogy. She is a former researcher at Ancestry ProGenealogists. Peggy and her husband Kerry serve as Family History Center Directors in north central Ohio.

We're very much looking forward to this presentation on **Wednesday**, **April 7th at 6 PM EST**. We hope that you'll join us!

## May 2021 Meeting



We're always excited when we have a visit by our good friend, nationally and internationally known Thomas MacEntee! We originally had this presentation scheduled for our January meeting, but Tom graciously offered to postpone his visit so that everyone could stay updated on the breaking news happening in our Capitol that day. In fact, we're going to have back-to-back visits from Tom, as he is also going to be joining us for our June meeting when he'll be presenting **"Backing Up Your Genealogy Data,"** a topic that many of you have asked us to address.

Tom, founder and CEO of High-Definition Genealogy, LLC, is the author of over 10

genealogy books and editor of over 100 publications. After spending more than 25 years in the information technology field, Tom branched off into genealogy education and marketing. Known as one of the most generous genealogists in the field, he shares many of his articles and videos for free through his <u>Genealogybargains.com</u> website and Facebook groups to keep us updated on the latest in genealogy education and offerings in the marketplace.

In May, Tom's topic will be **"Don't Chop Off That Branch! A Genealogy Arborist's Handbook."** Many of us will relate to this dilemma. You're at a crossroads when it comes to years of genealogy research: Should you delete an entire branch of your family tree due to faulty research? Or is there a better way to correct family history research errors and salvage information that took years to find? Tom will address the problem of bad research, help you decide if your research is bad or just sloppy, help you map out a correction plan, and help you salvage that branch.

Be sure to join us virtually for our monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 5th, 2021 at 6 PM.

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 <u>westmassgen@gmail.com</u>. 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



Are you ready to celebrate spring? It's always a hopeful time of year, as we await the flowers that will bloom and the chance to enjoy warmer weather and sunny days. This year, it seems that there's a little bit more hope and optimism in the air as vaccines are being rolled out. It's tempered with a hefty amount of caution and concern that we're not out of the woods with our pandemic just yet and knowledge that we need to maintain precautions for some time.

While we wait for the pandemic to end, I've been reading commentaries about how life will change for us as genealogists. We've become more comfortable with virtual and internet activities and research, though we long to be able to head to an archive as we've discovered that not everything is available online. Genealogy societies have changed as well and will need to adapt to the new environment and a more virtual society.

Have you found new ways to connect with family and friends? Are you longing to be able to visit in person and exchange long hugs? Will you do anything differently when the pandemic is over? We're living in and experiencing a historically important time period. With patience and science at work, we may be able to look back on this period sooner than later.

Enjoy spring, enjoy our newsletter, and enjoy all of our virtual offerings!

# **Member Only Benefits**

# **Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings**

## April 22 – 7 PM – Our Ancestors' Clothing



Professional costume designer, costume technologist, historian, educator, and museum curator, Howard Vincent Kurtz will be joining us for a training session on **Thursday, April 22nd.** 

Professor Kurtz has created costumes for Broadway, Hollywood films, and television during his career. A recipient of the Helen Hayes Outstanding Costume Design Award in Washington, D.C., he also carries the distinguished title of Professor Emeritus of Theater at George Mason University and is a Fellow of the Costume Society of America.

Professor Kurtz has offered to research a small selection of family photographs from those sent in by our members, analyzing the clothing worn to help identify the time and place the photos were taken. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about photo

identification techniques based on clothing. We're grateful that it's been arranged for us by member Cara Seitchek.

Time permitting, Professor Kurtz will try to analyze as many photographs as he can for our members during this session.

If you haven't sent in your scanned digital images yet, we've extended the deadline until **Tuesday, March 30th**. There is a limit of 15 items per member.

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.

# **Articles**

# **Annual Meeting Coming in May**



Our annual meeting will be held on **May 5th**, following our presentation by Thomas MacEntee. At the meeting, our Treasurer will give a brief financial report. We will then conduct our annual elections, with those in attendance at the virtual meeting casting their ballots by an anonymous poll. The Nominating Committee will present the slate of candidates for election as officers and directors of our society. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

The following positions are up for election to two-year terms:

#### President Treasurer Director (two positions)

A Nominating Committee has been appointed consisting of Dave Lapierre, Jeanne Lockhart, and Dorothy Cichonski. If any member is interested in running for election to a position and/or wishes to know the requirements for each position, please send an email to the Nominating Committee at: westmassgen@gmail.com with Nominating Committee in the subject line.

We will also review our plans for the upcoming year. As previously mentioned, we have decided to postpone our Founders Award again this year. We hope to be able to present this award in person in 2022.

Please join us at this meeting.

# An April Fool's Genealogy Challenge

## by Jeanne Leblond

Do you enjoy April Fool's tricks? As I've been researching my family more intently over the past few months, I'm starting to think that my ancestors are playing tricks on me. I've created a list of items that I've discovered and have strained to believe. Perhaps I'm playing an April Fool's joke on you instead. Can you tell which, if any, of these events is fabricated?

• Marie Agathe Laporte (1725-1803) married Rene Barriere dit Langevin on 8/13/1746 in Pointe Olivier, Quebec. Eight years later, Marie Agathe's sister, Marie Louise Laporte (1734-1804) also married Rene Barriere dit Langevin on 2/25/1754 in Pointe Olivier, Quebec. Given that the first sister was still alive

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when the 2nd marriage occurred, I suspected that the priest made a mistake when he recorded the marriage. A little more research led me to find that the Rene listed as the groom in 1754 was a widower, making the two Renes father and son. I'm not even going to try to figure out how their children were related!

- Two couples with the exact same names were married in 1817 in the small village of Zdiar, Slovakia, which likely only had several hundred inhabitants at that time. Jacobus Andras and Maria Olexak had different parents. Which of the children born to these couples are related to me? What are the odds of two couples with the same names marrying in the same year in the same place? I've put this challenge off for years, as I need to review godparents and other clues etc. in hopes of sorting them out.
- Joseph Leblond's first wife died in 1894 in Holyoke, only one year after their marriage. He returned to Quebec and in 1898 married Marie Anne Rebecca Leblond, his 1st cousin 1x removed. Joseph was 33 years old and Rebecca was 28 years old, and they would go on to have 8 children together. Joseph is my husband's great-uncle and Rebecca is his 1st cousin 2x removed.
- My great-grandparents were married twice to each other! George Henri Bousquet and Celina Demers were married the first time in 1892 in Granby, Quebec. It seems that the marriage had to be "rehabilitated" several years later when George Henri was asked to provide proof that he was a fullfledged baptized Catholic in order to register his oldest child for parochial school. George Henri, who was born in Vermont in 1869, evidently couldn't produce his baptismal certificate, as he was baptized again (or perhaps officially), just before he and my great-grandmother were married a 2nd time in 1899. Their 3 young children were present for the 2nd wedding. Even though the first priest didn't find a problem with George Henri's original baptism and married the couple, this priest evidently did! Did that make the children illegitimate until their parents were married again? Talk about jumping through the hoops!



• There were triplets born to my ancestors, Gabriel Decelles dit Duclos and Barbe Poisson on 4/6/1665 in Montreal in early Quebec. Claude died at birth, and Jeanne and Marie died four days later. Their mother, Barbe Poisson, was among the *Filles à Marier* who arrived in Quebec between 1634 and 1663. These women arrived independently and did not receive support from the monarchy. They preceded the much larger group of *Filles du Roi* who came in groups between 1663 and 1673 and were sponsored by the king.

You might have guessed that there aren't any fabricated situations in my list, and I'm not playing any April Fool's tricks on you. All of these stories are true. No doubt you have found similar surprises in your research. I've learned some interesting facts about my ancestors' lives and the times they lived in. Norms were different throughout history, so we should keep that in mind when we find strange situations. Have fun with your genealogy, expect your assumptions to be challenged, and enjoy the surprises on your journey.

We'd love to hear about the surprises you have found in your research. Send them along via email to: <u>westmassgen@gmail.com</u>. We'll publish them in future newsletters.

# Southern California Genealogical Society jamboree 2021

# **Two Online Virtual Conferences**





# Genetic Genealolgy Friday & Saturday

June 4 & 5, 2021

25 Programs-20 Expert Speakers Recordings available until Oct. 3, 2021

# The Stars in Your Family



# Genealolgy Jamboree Friday & Saturday June 11 & 12, 2021

56 Programs-51 Expert Speakers Recordings available until Oct. 10, 2021

For full descriptions of each conference, visit the jamboree website:

# www.genealogyjamboree.com

# Virtual NERGC 2021 April 1-May 31, 2021



Springing From the Past Into the Future

Three Gathering Days with scheduled presentations.

Sixty On-Demand presentations.

Special Interest Groups, Speaker Chats, Ancestors Road Show, and Exhibit Hall throughout the 61 day event!



Angie Bush



John Grenham Plus another 48!



Pat Richley-Erikson

Visit www.NERGC.org for details on the presentations and registration.

# **Free Online Offerings**

\*Note: Our list of offerings has grown so much that we'll only publish new items each month. If you missed something, our complete list of previous offerings is available in the Members Only section of our website.

# **April Virtual Tours & Offerings**

## **Pioneer Valley History Network**

A Western Massachusetts treasure, the Pioneer Valley History Network is a consortium of non-profit institutions, including museums, historical associations, and libraries with historical collections. The network serves as a resource both for the institutions and the general public. Their website features links to the various institutions, a blog, recent collaborative projects, and an historic resources guide. You can also learn about

upcoming events in the region on their website or sign up to have notifications for them sent directly to your email account.

## **Revolution Happened Here: What Happened in Your Town?**

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Pioneer Valley History Network has partnered with local history organizations to create a collaborative website presenting historical resources about the American Revolution. Information and material are contributed by historical organizations and museums throughout the Pioneer Valley.

Check back often to view the new items and resources as they are added to the website.

## New Haven Museum & Historical Society- New Haven, CT

Head south to our neighboring state to discover many resources on an area founded by the Puritans as the New Haven Colony.

## Vermont History Center – Barre, VT

The <u>Vermont Historical Society</u> has a variety of collections on their website, including transcriptions of Civil War diaries as well as diaries and manuscripts written by early citizens. There's also a partner site, <u>Digital</u> <u>Vermont</u>, offering many more resources, including some of the earliest known images taken in Vermont. Be sure to check out each site.

## **Library Offerings**

## **Chicopee Public Library**

• **Online Genealogy Meet-Up** (Tuesdays from 2 pm to 4 pm)

This group meets every Tuesday on Zoom. Feel free to ask questions, give advice, or just listen. Email the library at <u>cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org</u> to get the Zoom link sent to you.

## **Boston Public Library**

• A Terrible Malady: Disease and Epidemics in New England (April 28, 2021 at 6 pm)

## Palmer Public Library

• Quabbin: A History and Explorers Guide with Michael Tougias (April 6 at 6:30 pm)

## **Other New Offerings**

## FamilySearch.org

Classes and webinars are free, but registration is required. To find classes go to Research Wiki, enter Webinars in the search box, click Family History Library, then Classes & Online Webinars, select Month, then Class.

- Research Process: Finding Original Records (April 1 at 12 pm)
- Hessian Soldiers: Their History and How to Find Them in America and Germany (April at 3 pm)
- United States Military Draft Records (April 15 at 12 pm)
- English History and Family History Research: 1066-1714 (April 12 at 11:30 am)
- English History and Family History Research: 1714-1939 (April 23 at 12 pm)
- England Jurisdictions (April 23 at 12:30 pm)
- Church of England Records before 1813 (April 23 at 1 pm)
- Church of England Records from 1813 Onward (April 12 at 1:30 pm)
- That's English?! Reading Old Handwriting (April 23 at 3 pm)
- Introduction to Quarter Sessions Records (April 23 at 3:30 pm)
- **Grouping DNA Matches** (April 26 at 12:30 pm)
- Using DNA to Determine Relationships (April 26 at 3 pm)
- Using DNA to Find Unknown Parents: A Case Study (April 26 at 2:15 pm)

More information is available at

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family\_History\_Library\_Classes\_and\_Webinars



## **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. Topics for April include the following:

- In Their Own Words: Genealogy in the Slave Narratives (April 2 at 2 pm)
- Record As You Go, Cite As You Go, & File As You Go with Cyndi Ingle (April 8 at 11 pm)
- Surname Slip-Ups: Baffling Beginnings (April 9 at 1 am)
- How to Find Birth, Marriage and Death Registrations in Canada (April 9 at 10 am)
- Street Names and Numbers: Grid Changes, Renaming, and More with Tom MacEntee (April 9
- at 11 am)
- Expanding the Details from Published Local Histories (April 9 at 12 pm)
- Mother Nature's Impact on Family Migration & Relocation (April 9 at 1 pm)
- Organization: The Key to Successful Research (April 9 at 5 pm)
- An African Canadian Family History Mystery (April 16 at 2 pm)

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



## New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)

- Boston's Jewish Family Businesses: The Colonial Era to the Present (April 6 at 4 pm)
- Out to Sea: Researching Mariner Ancestors in New England (April 22 at 3 pm)

More information: https://www.americanancestors.org/education/online-classes



## 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 <u>our website</u>. 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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# **Brick Wall Queries**

**New: Q-23. TAYLOR, Oliver** – Seeking birth date, death date, and place of burial of Oliver Taylor. Secondary sources indicate birth date abt. 1729 in So. Hadley, MA. Parents are Moses Taylor (b.1709, Hadley, MA) and Hannah Porter (b.1708, Hadley, MA). Couple resided in So. Hadley in 1770. In Judd's *History of Hadley* (1853), it is stated that the couple had three sons: Oliver, Reuben, and John (no birth dates given). Oliver Taylor served in both the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars.

Note: A 1903 publication of the Taylor Reunion Association of Hadley mistakenly merges Oliver Taylor, Jr., born in So. Hadley in 1766 with his father Oliver Taylor, son of Moses Taylor and Hannah Porter. (Submitted by Skip Taylor)

#### How to Submit or Respond to a Query:

**Submitting:** Queries and responses should be sent via email to <u>westmassgen@gmail.com</u> 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.

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# **New WMGS Members**

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

## Eileen Crosby Lawrence Fahley Thomas Gilbert

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.

# **Calendar**

DATE/TIME	EVENT/PLACE
April 1, 2021 – May 31, 2021	NERGC Conference. See the ad on page 8 for more details.
April 7, 2021 6 PM	WMGS Meeting Online! Peggy Clemens Lauritzen presents "Migration Trails Across America."
April 12, 2021 6:30 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom.
April 22, 2021 7 PM	WMGS Training via Zoom. Howard Vincent Kurtz presents "Our Ancestors' Clothing."
May 5, 2021 6 PM	WMGS Meeting Online! Thomas MacEntee presents "Don't Chop Off That Branch! A Genealogy Arborist's Handbook."WMGS Annual Meeting will follow this presentation!
May 10, 2021 6:30 PM	WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom.
May 20, 2021 7 PM	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.
May 27, 2021 7 PM	Stay tuned for our new events. More information is coming in the next newsletter.

# 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 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 <u>westmassgen@gmail.com</u> 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 the 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 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

Membership rates are:

- \$30 for an individual membership
- \$45 for a couple of the same household

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- \$15 for students
- o \$500 for lifetime membership

If you are new to our organization, click <u>here</u> 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 April 15, 2021.

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 <u>do not</u> 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 <u>westmassgen@gmail.com</u>.



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The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.