



## Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc.

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### Upcoming Meetings

#### September 2021 Meeting



We are kicking off our 2021-2022 membership year with a fantastic presentation by Lisa A. Alzo!

Lisa will be presenting a lecture titled “**Navigating Naturalization Records,**” a difficult area of research for many of us. First papers, petitions, certificates, and registrations are some of the key documents for naturalization – the process of becoming an American citizen. Due to changing laws and an evolving process over time, locating the appropriate official paperwork can be a challenging task for family historians. Lisa will explain how to navigate naturalization records and what information they contain about your ancestors.

For those of you who haven't met her, Lisa A. Alzo is a freelance writer, instructor, and internationally recognized lecturer who specializes in researching Eastern European genealogy, writing family history, and using the internet to trace female and immigrant ancestors. She grew up in Duquesne, Pennsylvania and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nutrition from West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1987 and a Master of Fine Arts degree in nonfiction writing from the University of Pittsburgh in 1997.

Lisa is the author of eleven books, including *The Family Tree Polish, Czech and Slovak Genealogy Guide* and the award-winning *Three Slovak Women*. She has also written hundreds of magazine articles. She is a

contributing editor for *Family Tree* magazine and works as an online educator and writing coach through her website [Research, Write, Connect](#). She also developed the Eastern European Research Certificate Program for the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Lisa is a frequently invited speaker for national conferences, genealogical and historical societies, and webinars. An avid genealogist for more than 30 years, Lisa also chronicles her family history adventures on her blog [The Accidental Genealogist](#). We're thrilled that Lisa will be presenting to us!

We hope that you will join us on **Wednesday, September 1st at 6 p.m.** for Lisa's presentation!

*(This presentation will be recorded and archived in the Members Only section of our website.)*

## October 2021 Meeting



We've got another great presentation with John Putnam lined up for our October meeting. John will be presenting a lecture titled "**New Englanders Become Americans.**" This lecture is the 2nd part of John's earlier presentation to us, "Untangling Your England Roots," in July 2020. (If you missed it, it's archived in the Members Only section of our website.)

John will discuss the genealogy and history of New England from the French and Indian War to the 1800s. Did you have ancestors living in New England immediately before, during, or after the American Revolution or in the early years of the new republic? Do you know their history and how they coped with the many historic disruptions during this time? Even though you may not share any roots from this geographical area, there are many factors that started here that still impact us all.

In many respects, New England was a catalyst of the revolution — very active in the formation of the new republic, the site of the start of the American industrial revolution. It was also the source of many people who emigrated west during this time. John will share the importance of understanding these events and the very stressful times in which our ancestors lived, helping to improve your chances of tackling New England brick walls. While records are important to prove your genealogical past, it is often difficult to know where to look for these records unless you know the area's history, not to mention the formative activities that our ancestors undertook, which provide rich stories for your family histories. Certainly, events as disruptive as these can also disrupt the records, too.

A native of Western Mass, John grew up on a farm in Southwick, graduated from UMass Amherst, and earned a master's degree in political science from the University of Colorado. He now resides in Colorado. He's the past president of the Pikes Peak Genealogical Society and serves as their delegate to the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies. He's also a fascinating speaker and a 12th-generation American! Join us on **Wednesday, October 6th at 6 p.m.** for a virtual presentation via Zoom.

*(This presentation will be recorded and archived 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 p.m.***

***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](mailto: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**

September might just be our favorite month at WMGS, as it starts a brand-new membership year! This year is going to be extra special for us, as we'll be celebrating the 50th anniversary of our society's incorporation in 2022. This fall, we'll be setting up a committee to begin planning ways to commemorate this proud accomplishment.

We look forward to fantastic local and national speakers who will be joining us for meetings and training sessions this year and to seeing many members at those sessions. We continue to work to make WMGS a vibrant, active society and we're pleased that we have an exciting new benefit coming for our members.



We're working on a new Members Only Facebook group, in addition to our public Facebook page. The Members Only Facebook group will provide an opportunity for members to connect with each other in a new way. I can recall the many friendships and connections that I and other members made with each other at our meetings. Facebook groups offer a new way to do that. Perhaps you've discovered a new website or resource, heard a fantastic speaker, know about an event that might interest other members, want to share how you discovered a new ancestor or how you broke a brick wall. Or maybe you need advice on how to solve a research problem. Facebook groups are a wonderful way for genealogy buffs to connect, learn from each other, and get to know fellow members and their areas of genealogical interest. We have a bit more work to do on the page before we invite our members to join this fall, but it's coming very soon.

Many of you have asked for updates about our return to the Agawam Senior Center. Given the presence of a new COVID variant and a resurgence of cases, it's impossible to predict when we might be able to return to having live meetings. The Agawam Senior Center is open for some activities, but it is not yet open to the public or community groups. However, when we do return, we can assure our members that we will operate using a hybrid model. The pandemic has led to more and more societies and conferences moving in a hybrid direction

and WMGS will be doing so as well. In June, our Board passed a new hybrid policy that will guide us for the future. With this model, we'll still be able to have our local members join us for events, but our distant members can be there as well. It's the silver lining in what has been a difficult 17 months for all of us. There's an article in this newsletter explaining our new policies and where you can read them.

We're grateful to the many members who have already renewed their memberships and hope that all of our members will renew! We're looking forward to having you join us this coming year and we appreciate your support to keep WMGS going for another 50-plus years!

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## Membership Renewal Time is Here!

**As we officially begin our new membership year on September 1st, now is the time to renew! Please don't delay! We value you as a member and 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. A sincere THANK YOU to all who have renewed already!



There are 2 options for renewing:

- 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.

- Mail your check (made out to WMGS) to our society at:

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

Membership continues to be \$30 per member or \$45 for a couple residing at the same address.

You won't want to miss the upcoming exciting season at WMGS, including presentations at our monthly meetings, our newsletter, and our training sessions. Currently, we continue to offer our monthly presentations and training sessions to members via Zoom, so you can participate from home. When, and if, we are able to

return to in-person meetings in the future, the Board has adopted a policy with plans to offer a hybrid model for our meetings.

Members enjoy exclusive access to the Members Only feature of our website with archived meeting presentations and handouts, 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*.

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## Member Only Benefits

### Special Interest Groups (SIGs) & Trainings

#### September 16th – 7 p.m. – “I Have a Civil War Ancestor, Now What?”



Brian Rhinehart will be back with us for a follow-up to his June presentation, “Was My Ancestor in the Civil War?” to present his sequel, “I Have a Civil War Ancestor...Now What?”

Civil War soldiers often left a rich genealogical paper trail. Many of these records are tucked away at the National Archives in Washington DC. Learn what records are available for your ancestors only at the National Archives, what records are online already, and how to access all of them. These records may unlock some of the family stories that have been forgotten over time, as well as break down a brick wall or two!

Brian Rhinehart is a graduate of Boston University’s Certificate of Genealogy Research and the Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (GenFed) in Washington, D.C. He’s attended the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh and has completed the ProGen (Professional Genealogy) Study Group. A direct descendant of six Civil War soldiers, Brian specializes in Civil War and War of 1812 records at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. and has retrieved military files for hundreds of clients there.

Many of us have broken down brick walls after obtaining documents related to our Civil War Ancestors, so you don’t want to miss Brian’s next presentation!

*(This presentation will be recorded and archived in the Members Only section of our website until October 16th.)*

***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 p.m.***

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## WMGS News...

At our June 14, 2021 Board meeting, our weather cancellation policy was updated to become our new hybrid and weather cancellation policy. A new Members Only Facebook group was approved, as well as additions of new policies on handling requests for genealogical assistance and endorsements. All of these changes and additions can be found in our policies document, which is located in the Members Only section of our website in the **Official Documents** section.

WMGS is excited that we'll be starting a new **Members Only Facebook group** this fall. We need to do a bit more work behind the scenes, and then we'll roll it out. Genealogy groups on Facebook have been a wonderful resource for many people around the world, as they allow people to connect with each other and share information. Our Members Only group will provide an opportunity for our members to share tips and tricks, information on helpful websites, research tools, and information about events that are happening in the region — basically, anything related to genealogy. It will provide a place to ask questions; ask for help; post queries and brick wall problems; share discoveries, new finds, and breakthroughs; and to help inspire other members.

**Zoom help is available!** If you haven't joined us for any of our virtual events since the pandemic started because you're unsure how to use Zoom, we're here to help. We can provide you with assistance, offer a practice session, or help you in other ways. You can participate in Zoom events on your computer, tablet, and even by phone. Just send us an email at [westmassgen@gmail.com](mailto:westmassgen@gmail.com) to let us know that you'd like some assistance.

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## Gift Certificates Available!

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, 2022, 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 and \$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 and 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!



MASSACHUSETTS  
GENEALOGICAL  
COUNCIL

demand  
**M:O:R:E.**

MGC: Open Records & Education

## An Evening with Nicka Sewell-Smith

### *Held in the Balance: The Trask 250*

Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 7:00 PM EDT via Zoom



In late 2014, Nicka Sewell-Smith uncovered one of the biggest finds of her genealogical career. She discovered ancestors that were enslaved by brothers Israel Elliot Trask, James Lawrence Trask, Augustus Trask, and/or William Porter Trask along with their niece Charlotte Pynchon Davis Ventress, nephew Augustus Trask Welch, and James Alexander Ventress. In the 1850s this Trask family ran a cotton empire in Mississippi and Louisiana valued at more than \$4 million, all while remaining residents of Massachusetts where slavery had been abolished in 1780.

Join us to learn how Nicka Sewell-Smith used DNA shared by more than 300 people descended from formerly enslaved ancestors and traditional family history research to unearth this discovery and how a multitude of documents detailing their lives have created a family history project documenting more than 5,000 people.

Nicka Sewell-Smith is a professional photographer, speaker, host, consultant, and documentarian with more than 20 years of experience as a genealogist. She has extensive experience in African ancestored genealogy, reverse genealogy, and is expert in genealogical research in the Northeastern Louisiana area, and researching enslaved communities.

**This presentation is free, but registration is required!**  
For more information, go to [www.massgencouncil.org/m-o-r-e](http://www.massgencouncil.org/m-o-r-e)



## Free 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.

### Library Offerings

#### Chicopee Public Library

The Chicopee Public Library is again offering in-person genealogy open labs every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and again from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Experienced volunteers are available to answer questions and help you use the library's genealogy resources, which include Ancestry, Fold3, Heritage Quest, FamilySearch microfilm, books, and more. Location: Computer Lab.

Contact: Chuck Abel by phone (594-1800 x3) or email ([cabel@cwmars.org](mailto:cabel@cwmars.org)).

*Please note: The Chicopee Public Library requests that all patrons use masks. However, masks are not required for those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.*

#### Storrs Library- Longmeadow

- **“help us soon or we shall suffer: Community Histories of the Poor in Early Massachusetts”** with Barbara Matthews, Ph.D. (September 13 at 6:30 p.m.). Program is online via Zoom. [Register here.](#)
- **Dressing the Lower and Middle Classes in New England, 1675 – 1875** (September 22 at 6:30 p.m.). Program is online via Zoom. [Register here.](#)

### 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.

- **Skimming the Surface: A Look into Quebec Notarial Records** (September 2 at 12 noon)
- **Merging Duplicate Records in FamilySearch Family Tree** (September 7 at 12 noon)
- **Using the FamilySearch Catalog** (September 13 at 12 noon)
- **Never to be Forgotten: Suggestions for Writing Family Stories** (September 13 at 3 p.m.)
- **Correcting Relationships in FamilySearch Family Tree** (September 14 at 12 noon)
- **Genealogy in Canada's Western Provinces** (September 16 at 12 noon)
- **The British Empire, 1500-1800** (September 18 at 11 a.m.)
- **The British Empire, 1800-2000** (September 18 at 11:30 a.m.)
- **Birth, Marriage, and Death Records of British Abroad** (September 18 at 12 noon)



- **British Naturalization Records** (September 18 at 1 p.m.)
- **Beginning Australian Research** (September 18 at 1:30 p.m.)
- **Beginning British New Zealand** (September 18 at 2 p.m.)
- **Introduction to Jamaican Research** (September 18 at 3:30 p.m.)
- **British Caribbean Research in Colonial Office Records** (September 18 at 4 p.m.)
- **British East India** (September 18 at 5 p.m.)
- **British South Africa** (September 18 at 5:30 p.m.)
- **British in the South Seas** (September 18 at 6 p.m.)
- **Ask Your United States and Canada Research Questions** (September 23 at 12 noon)

More information is available at

[https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family\\_History\\_Library\\_Classes\\_and\\_Webinars](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 September include the following:

- **Your DNA Questions Answered Live with Diahn Southard** (September 1 at 2 p.m.)
- **Notes and Documents of Free Persons of Color** (September 3 at 2 p.m.)
- **Webtember: All Genealogy. All September Long** (September 3 & each Friday in September – 30 live & pre-recorded webinars, varied times)
- **Tracing Your 20th Century English Ancestors** (September 8 at 8 p.m.)
- **Were They Orphans at all? DNA and the Orphan Train: Finding Kathryn's Family** (September 15 at 2 p.m.)
- **A Toboggan Ride Through Canadian Records, eh!** (September 17 at 2 p.m.)
- **Federal Records Relating to Rivers and Canals** (September 21 at 8 p.m.)
- **Cluster Research: Using Groups of People to Find Your People** (September 22 at 8 p.m.)
- **Beginning Ukrainian Genealogy** (September 29 at 2 p.m.)

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



### **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.

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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](mailto: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.

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## Calendar

DATE/TIME	EVENT/PLACE
September 1, 2021 6 p.m.	<b>WMGS Meeting Online!</b> Lisa Alzo presents “Navigating Naturalization Records.”
September 16, 2021 7 p.m.	<b>WMGS Training via Zoom.</b> Brian Rhinehart presents “I Have a Civil War Ancestor. . . Now What?”
September 20, 2021 6:30 p.m.	<b>WMGS Board Meeting via Zoom.</b>
September 30, 2021 7:00 p.m.	<b>MGC M.O.R.E. Presentation.</b> “An Evening With Nicka Sewell Smith - Held in the Balance: The Trask 250.” (See ad on page 7.)
October 6, 2021 6 p.m.	<b>WMGS Meeting Online!</b> John Putnam presents "New Englanders Become Americans."

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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 p.m. 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, Cara Seitchek, and Joanne Mason – Directors	

## Meeting Details

We generally meet year-round for our monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. 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 p.m. to 8 p.m., 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](mailto: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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## Newsletter Deadline

**Please submit all information  
for the next newsletter by  
September 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 and share your knowledge.**

## 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
- \$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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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:westmassgen@gmail.com).



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**The editor reserves the right to edit all contributions.**