

Past Times **MSOG**

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

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www.msoginc.org

President's Message

An all-volunteer group succeeds only when its members participate. It was a pleasure to see so many members accept nominations to state office on the 2018 ballot. In addition, there were almost a dozen members who participated on the nominating committee or as tellers for the election. Whether the candidate won or lost, each candidate, committee member, and teller gave of their time and talents. Their efforts are much appreciated.

The newly elected Board of Directors will meet later this month to organize and develop a full list of projects and issues to be addressed during this two year term. Communication will be a strong focus - both among board members and with the Society members. With so many options available, we need to be clear to all on where and when to find information about meetings, events, and issues. Another large item for the next two years is updating both the by-laws and policy and procedure documents.

Every organization experiences change. This is a time of change for MSOG. New state officers are stepping in. Soon, new chapter officers may also be elected.

As Historian/Archivist for MSOG I saw

many of MSOG's changes documented by those who lived through them. All communication was originally in print by "snail mail" or by phone. Chapter meetings used to happen in member's homes. Full membership lists with contact information were mailed to all members. Annual meetings were organized by chapters on a rotating basis.

Technology presented MSOG with opportunities for change. A website. Electronic communications. Virtual presentations. Webinars. What comes next?

That depends on YOU – a member of MSOG. The officers have ideas but we need to know what's important to YOU. Email. Post on social media. Make a phone call. Speak up. Attend a board meeting.

State board meetings occur at least 4 times a year, typically on a Sunday afternoon. We'll be rotating between the chapter meeting locations for 2019 & 2020. The first meeting is scheduled for 2 pm on 20 January at the

Public Library in Acton, MA. You are invited to join us in person or through GoToMeeting. (Let us know you need the link for the virtual meeting.)

MSOG's 40+ year history is built on volunteers. As 2019 dawns, MSOG needs volunteers to fill places on committees; to serve as delegates to NERGC & MGC; to run for chapter officers. Duties and expectations for these roles are in the by-laws as well as Policies & Procedures. Review them. Speak up if something suits your interests or talents.

Together we will bring a strong MSOG organization into the future as *THE* Massachusetts group for genealogical education, collaboration, and preservation around the globe!



Diane Brooks-Sherry and new MSOG President Seema-Jayne Kenney at the Annual Meeting in November.

CALENDAR

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MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.
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Statement of Purpose

The Society’s mission is to promote and encourage Massachusetts genealogical research at all levels—beginner, amateur, and professional. The Society is a Massachusetts nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. The corporation was formed for the following reasons:

- “To bring together all persons interested in genealogy, beginner, amateur, and professional;
- To set standards of conduct; to insure public access to records; to provide education in genealogical research;
- To act in whatever manner needed to promote genealogy and family history; and
- To bring together families both past and present.”

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 6 June 1975

Past Times

Editors: Diane Boumenot and Sara Campbell

Past Times is published monthly (except for July & August) by the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc., and is available free to all at msoginc.org.

Membership Information

Members receive the *Past Times* newsletter, free issues of MASSOG, free queries, and access to webinars. Membership is from September 1 to August 31, with membership renewals due by July 1.

- INDIVIDUAL dues are \$25.00 per year
- FAMILY dues are \$30.00 per year

Membership applications received July 1st and thereafter will be applied to the following year’s membership.

Membership choices are:

- BR/Bristol
- MV/Merrimack Valley
- MX/Middlesex
- WR/Worcester

Chapter affiliation is at the complete discretion of the member, regardless of residence. The membership application is on our website.

Join using PayPal online or mail your application and check.

Address any questions to president@msoginc.org or to the appropriate officer, committee chair, or delegate; email addresses are listed on page 5.

MIDDLESEX

Saturday, January 12
 1:30 PM

Women’s Work: Varieties of Women’s Businesses, with Charlene Sokal

Wayland Public Library
 5 Concord Road
 Wayland, MA

MERRIMACK VALLEY

Saturday, January 26
 10:00 AM

Andiamo! Finding Your Italian Family, with Margaret Fortier

Georgetown Peabody Library
 2 Maple Street
 Georgetown, MA

WORCESTER

Saturday, January 5
 10:00 AM (note: library open until 4:00 PM)

Member’s Tour of the Worcester Historical Museum LIBRARY COLLECTION with Wendy Essery

Worcester Historical Museum
 30 Elm Street
 Worcester, MA

BRISTOL

Saturday, January 19

11:00 AM Business Meeting
 11:30 AM Member Sharing
 12:00 PM “Forming” Good Habits for Genealogy Research with Michael McClellan

Somerset Public Library
 1464 County Street
 Somerset, MA

Election of Officers for 2019-20

The MSOG Election of officers was conducted October 9-16, 2018. Elected officers were announced and congratulated at the Annual Meeting and Program in November, and are listed below. Many thanks to the Nominating Committee: Diane Brooks-Sherry, Chair (Merrimack Valley Chapter), Susan Dion (Worcester Chapter), Liz Grube (Merrimack Valley Chapter), Kathleen Kaldis (Middlesex Chapter), Kathleen Rubano, (Bristol Chapter), Charlene Sokal (Worcester Chapter), and Hope Tillman (Middlesex Chapter). Thanks also go to the Tellers Committee: Hope Tillman (Chair), Diane Brooks-Sherry, and Susan Dion and to the large number of members who participated in the election by voting.

President – Seema-Jayne Kenney

Vice President – Kelly A. Fox

Treasurer – Diane Laferriere

Recording Secretary – Elizabeth Pyle Handler

Corresponding Secretary -- Pat Stano-Carpenter

Membership Director -- Margaret R. Fortier

Historian/Archivist – Wendy Rawson Sheppard

What is ... a Podcast?

A podcast is an audio-only file that can be played on a computer, tablet or smart phone; it's like a radio show. Listening to podcasts can help you familiarize yourself with aspects of genealogy research that are new to you, news about the genealogy community, research methods, and a wide range of local history topics. Try listening to podcasts during times you might normally turn on the radio. Podcasts are generally free.

On an iPhone or iPad, the (purple icon) "Podcast" app lets you search for and subscribe to genealogy podcasts. On another type of phone, try Google Podcasts or Stitcher. To listen on a PC, you don't need any special software or "apps," just go to the website of the podcast, click the triangle on the latest episode, and the podcast will start playing.



Some popular podcasts are listed here; send your own suggestions to pasttimes@msoginc.org.

- **Extreme Genes: America's Family History Radio Show** with Scott Fisher, David Allen Lambert and Tom Perry. <https://extremegenes.com>
- **Generations Café** with Amy Johnson Crow (logo added with permission). <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/generations-cafe>
- **The Photo Detective** with Maureen Taylor. <https://maureentaylor.com/the-photo-detective/podcast/>
- **The Genealogy Guys Podcast** with George G. Morgan and Drew Smith. <http://genealogyguys.com/>
 - Also, see their podcast **Genealogy Connection** which features a variety of guest genealogists.
- **Ben Franklin's World: A Podcast About Early American History** with Liz Covart. <https://www.benfranklinworld.com/>
- Lisa Louise Cook's **Genealogy Gems: The Best Information, Innovation & Inspiration to Help You Grow Your Family Tree**. <https://lislouisecooke.com/podcasts/>
 - Also, see her **Family Tree Magazine Podcasts**. <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/podcasts/>
- **Stuff You Missed in History Class** with Tracy V. Wilson and Holly Frey. <https://www.missedinhistory.com/podcasts>
- **Hub History** with Jake Sconyers and Nikki Stewart. <http://www.hubhistory.com/category/episodes/>
- **Genealogy Happy Hour**. Hosts Amy and Penny enjoy a glass of wine and review topics in genealogy research. <https://soundcloud.com/genealogy-happy-hour>



At The Chapters



Recent photos from Bristol Chapter including Cynthia Ricciardi presenting on Lineage Societies and Richard Reid on DNA Tests. Below, Merrimack Valley Chapter enjoyed “Indexing Boston Archdiocese Records” with Rachel Adams, NEGHS, in December.



Monthly Webinar Coordinator Needed



Do you miss our three year monthly webinar series? Many members do. If you are among them, please think about donating some time to reinstate the series. There are templates for communicating with prospective and scheduled speakers. The GoToWebinar software is easy to learn.

A team of two or three would be great for this. During the webinars, we previously had one person as moderator and a second as the technical watchdog. Many previous speakers are willing to provide additional presentations.

Please **contact any board member** if you are interested in assisting the society with this member benefit.

Editors thank Yvonne Hickey and Linda MacIver for photos in this issue

THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

STATE OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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DELEGATES

FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies)	Open	fgs@msoginc.org
MGC (Mass. Genealogical Council)	Open/Kelly Fox, Alternate	mgc@msoginc.org
NERGC (N. E. Reg'l Genealogical Consortium)	Julie Szczepankiewicz/Open	nergc@msoginc.org

New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC)

April 3-6, 2019
Doubletree by Hilton
Manchester, New Hampshire

Family a Link to the Past &



a Bridge to the Future

<https://www.nergc.org/2019-conference/>



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