

Past Times **MSOG**

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

Volume 10, Issue 8, April 2019

www.msoginc.org

President's Message

Family: like branches on a tree we all grow in different directions but our roots remain as one.

That saying is now stuck on a wall in my home with childhood photos of my three sons. Stuck on another wall is a six foot by eight foot tree displaying photos of direct ancestors on both sides of my children's pedigree chart.

Just as all members of a family grow in different directions, so do all members of a group. We have different interests, different priorities, and different ways to participate, educate, and collaborate.

As spring starts to bloom and driving becomes less hazardous, our opportunities for genealogical participation, education, and collaboration grow as well.

I am a perpetual student and the Internet has been the greatest gift when it comes to fulfilling my need for more education – regardless of the topic. Still, I love to get out with others and learn in a more collaborative environment. Sharing knowledge seems to make that knowledge stronger and more memorable.

Have you taken advantage of Massachusetts' Free Fun Fridays in the summer months? Very soon the 2019 schedule will be out. There are 10

museums around the state that are open each Friday at no charge. Many have options that may connect with your family history research – watch for the list (<http://www.highlandstreet.org/programs/free-fun-fridays>) and plan a trip. Yes, sometimes the facility is very crowded because of the bargain, but the information is still as valuable. Or, use it to plan when NOT to visit NEHGS or the Berkshire Museum so you avoid all the bargain hunters.

Perhaps you intended to be more organized with your research in 2019. Well, a rainy day might be just the thing for making lists of where you need to travel and what you need to look for (and, hopefully find).

My goal this year was to learn more about the family of my paternal grandfather. I started with a subscription to ArkivDigital. I researched his mother and her parents and siblings. AND – I wrote it up as an eleven page story! Soon I hope to research his father's family unit, and write that up before researching the next generation.

Will I ever get back to my DNA research for my maternal side? Yes. Will it be in 2019? Who knows. After all, my life moves in many different

directions, just like those branches on my family tree.

Nice weather brings more outings, more work, and a desire to simply soak in the sunshine. Yet, I know that the nice weather also brings me opportunities to learn more, to explore another cemetery, to travel to speak with geographically distant relatives, and to meet more genealogists!

I'll start my spring adventure at NERGC 2019. You'll see me at Registration, in the MSOG Booth, presenting, and attending a variety of sessions. Look for various versions of MSOG ribbons to help identify other members in attendance at the

conference (get yours at the MSOG booth in the Exhibit Hall) – introduce yourself and learn about the diversity within *your* society!

If you miss NERGC, stop by Senator Eldridge's Senior Conference on Thursday, April 18 at Assabet Valley Technical High School, Marlborough, from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. MSOG will have a table, & hopefully, be giving presentations as well.

Happy spring & successful researching to all!

Seema Kenney

Apologies for forgetting to mention our 3/17/19 Board meeting in last month's issue. Our next Board meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2019.

CALENDAR

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MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.
 MSOGINC.ORG
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 Ashland, MA 01721-0215

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, April 13

1:30 PM

Swedish Research, with
 Michael McClellan

Acton Memorial Library
 486 Main Street
 Acton, MA

MERRIMACK VALLEY

Saturday, April 27

10:00 AM

Ahnentafel Tables,
 with Peg Plummer

Georgetown Peabody Library
 2 Maple Street
 Georgetown, MA

WORCESTER

Tuesday, April 9

6:30 PM -8:30 PM

Ordinary People:
 Tracing Our Family
 Through the U.S. Census with
 Joy Hennig

YWCA
 1 Salem Street
 Worcester, MA

BRISTOL

Saturday, April 20

11:00 AM Business Meeting
 11:30 AM Member Sharing
 12:00 PM Chapter Discussions

Place TBD; contact the chapter
 for updates.

WORCESTER May Dinner/Annual Meeting at Eller's Restaurant with Tom Toohey speaking on Ireland. Watch the website for details on joining WR Chapter for this event.

Volunteers needed

- **Chapter Elections.** Check with your MSOG chapter to run for a chapter office; members are eligible to run and chapters are in need of new volunteers. This is an excellent opportunity to help your chapter grow!
- **MSOG Booth at NERGC.** To volunteer some hours with the MSOG exhibit booth at NERGC, meeting and greeting New England genealogists, contact MSOG Vice President Kelly Fox at vicepresident@msoginc.org. Help is needed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday during the conference. Volunteer time blocks:
 - 9 am to 11am
 - 11 to 1:00 pm
 - 1:00 to 3:00pm
 - 3:00 to 5:00 pm (to 4:00 on Sat.)

We would love to have two hour shifts but any hour is helpful.

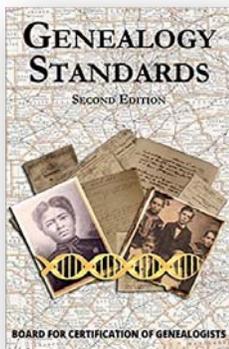
Funding Opportunities from the Mass. Cultural Council

Libraries, individual speakers, and organizations such as MSOG can apply to fund a program. Multiple applications from adjacent municipalities may be made for programs with broad appeal. It is required to have a date and location for the event in the application. This type of funding can help to cover travel expenses for specialized speakers who are not located nearby, or can allow a small group the ability to offer a higher speaking fee to top shelf speakers. By applying as a speaker, a genealogist can offer their program without cost to the library or club. Forms are not complicated to fill out. Some Councils have defined their priorities, which can change from year to year.

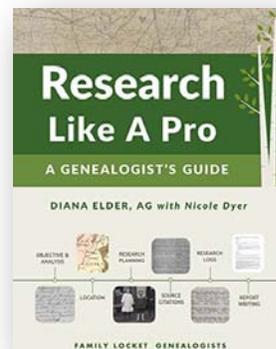
Grants are awarded to organizations or individuals for projects that range from the arts to humanities to sciences. Genealogy falls within the humanities. Most grants range from \$100 to \$500, although larger amounts may be allocated for school field trips or theatrical performances. Each town or city is allocated funds based on its population. A local Cultural Council receives the applications and decides how to distribute their funds. Grant applications are submitted on-line between September 1 and October 15 for the next calendar year.

For more information, see https://www.mass-culture.org/lcc_public.aspx

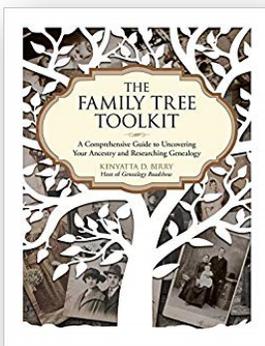
New Books ... Add something to your genealogy toolbox



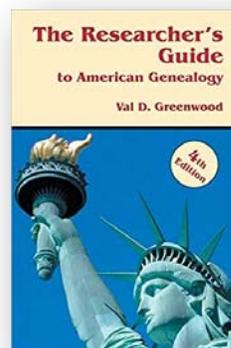
Genealogy Standards: Second Edition. (Board for Certification of Genealogists: 2019). *This official manual from the Board of Certification for Genealogists provides a standard by which all genealogists can pattern their work.*



Research Like a Pro: A Genealogist's Guide by Diana Elder, AG with Nicole Dyer (Family Locket Books, 2018). *Diana Elder shares her step-by-step method using real world examples, easily understood by any level of genealogist; written for the researcher ready to take their skills to the next level*



The Family Tree Toolkit by Kenyatta D. Berry (Skyhorse, 2018). *While this is not a comprehensive guide to all things genealogy, it is a roadmap to help you on this journey of discovery, whether you are looking for your African, Asian, European, or Jewish ancestry.*



The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy, 4th edition, by Val D. Greenwood (Genealogical Publishing Company, 2017) *instructs the researcher in the timeless principles of genealogical research, while identifying the most current classes of records and research tools.*

At the Chapters

Recent photos from Bristol Chapter, March 16, 2019, featuring speaker Diane Boumenot on "From Farms to Mills: Nineteenth Century Rhode Island Ancestors." Below, the Merrimack Valley Chapter engages in a planning session at their March 16 meeting.



Merrimack Valley Volunteers Needed

The Merrimack Valley Chapter Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers for the following chapter officer positions, which are a two-year commitment beginning July 1, 2019: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Membership Director, and Secretary. Currently, we are looking specifically for nominations for Vice-President and for Secretary.

The Vice-President organizes and chairs the monthly chapter meetings, attends State Board meetings in the absence of the President, prepares information for publicity and notifies the Webmaster and *Past Times* Editor about upcoming events. The Vice-President also participates as a member of the Annual Meeting committee.

The Secretary takes and preserves minutes of all business conducted at chapter board and chapter meetings motions, seconds/final votes at monthly meetings, and other information as required. The Secretary presents a report at all monthly meetings.

To nominate someone (including yourself) for *any* one of these five positions, please contact either Wendy R. Sheppard at wrawson@hotmail.com, or Dennis Hogan at dhogan829@gmail.com.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

STATE OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President	Seema-Jayne Kenney	president@msoginc.org
Vice President	Kelly A. Fox	vicepresident@msoginc.org
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Audit	Robert Farmer	auditor@msoginc.org
Research & Education	Open	research@msoginc.org
Technology	Hope Tillman	technology@msoginc.org
Writing Contest	Editorial Board	writingcontest@msoginc.org

DELEGATES

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

Family a Link to the Past &



a Bridge to the Future

New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC)

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

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

We are proud of the many MSOG Members Presenting at NERGC 2019:

Diane Boumenot Sara E. Campbell Margaret Fortier

Pamela Holland Seema Kenney Melanie McComb

Lori Lyn Price Richard Reid Dave Robison

Charlene Sokal Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz

Consult your program for times and locations of these presentations.

Visit MSOG at Booths 101 & 200 in the Exhibit Hall



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