

# Past Times **MSOG**

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

Volume 11, Issue 1, September 2019

[www.msoginc.org](http://www.msoginc.org)

## President's Message



So, now we start anew. I remember being excited about all the new things associated with a new school year. Ads and

local shopping can still kindle that excitement. So what makes me excited about the new year of MSOG membership?

First - there's the opportunity to meet so many more people by attending chapter meetings. My goal is to get to two meetings of each chapter during the season. I'm hoping that caring for aging relatives doesn't hinder attaining that goal.

Then - there's the return of MSOG Webinars in October of this year. The third Tuesday of the month is the date to mark on your calendar for these added educational opportunities that are available only to MSOG members.

Next there's the upcoming annual meeting. I am very excited about our speaker and while I intend to say hello to him during the FGS

conference, I am purposely skipping his presentation so I enjoy it for the first time along with all the MSOG members who attend on November 2, 2019.

Of course, many of us will be able to discuss whatever research we completed over the summer. Most of my work was with my DNA results and trying to locate an unknown grandfather.

And it's always great to meet the many speakers that will present to the MSOG chapters. The lists I've seen for the chapter schedules present a wide variety of speakers and topics, so there's plenty of reasons to visit a different chapter and experience their personality!

Lastly, I am probably most excited about seeing friends who are also MSOG members and hearing about their research experiences. Please share your adventures with other members as we start gathering on September 7<sup>th</sup> in Worcester for the first chapter meeting of the 2019-2020 membership season.

In the near future there will be an opportunity for all members to vote on revised by-laws for our Society. This project started in January and the four members of the committee have explored many aspects for

what should and should not be included in this document.

A vote on new by-laws will then lead us to another project - updating our Policies and Procedures document. Please be sure to speak up if you would like to be part of this committee as more hands make for lighter work for everyone.

And as you gather with chapter members and guests, please give more thought to how you can make a difference in MSOG this season. Your most prominent opportunity for giving to the group is to become an editor of this publication! Other options are limited only by your time and talents.

*Seema Kenney*

Next State Board Meeting:

**September 15, 2019**  
**1 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.**

Memorial Hall Library  
2 North Main Street  
Andover, MA  
(Free parking behind the library.)

Please contact a Board member if you would like the link to attend this meeting electronically.

# CALENDAR

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MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.  
 MSOGINC.ORG  
 P.O. Box 215  
 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

Editor(s): VACANT

*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](http://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 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](mailto:president@msoginc.org) or to the appropriate officer, committee chair, or delegate; email addresses are listed on page 5.

**MIDDLESEX**  
**Saturday, Sept 14**  
 10:30 AM -12:30 PM

Wild Ireland  
**Thomas Toohey**

Acton Memorial Library  
 486 Main Street  
 Acton

**MERRIMACK VALLEY**  
**Saturday, Sept 28**  
 10 AM – Noon

I have done my DNA test,  
 Now What?  
**Peg Plummer**

Georgetown Public Library  
 2 Maple St.  
 Georgetown

**WORCESTER**  
**Saturday, Sept. 7**  
 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Swedish Genealogy  
**Kay Sheldon**

First Unitarian Church  
 90 Main Street  
 Worcester

**BRISTOL**  
**Saturday, Sept. 21**  
 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM

The Tumultuous Life of  
 Austin Wall  
**Sara E. Campbell**

The Somerset Library  
 1464 County St.  
 Somerset

**DNA SIG**  
**Saturday, Sept. 14**  
 10 AM – Noon

Rawson Brickwall  
 Collaboration

Georgetown Public Library  
 2 Maple Street  
 Georgetown

**WEBINARS**  
 Return in  
 October!

**Third Tuesday of the Month**  
**October thru June**

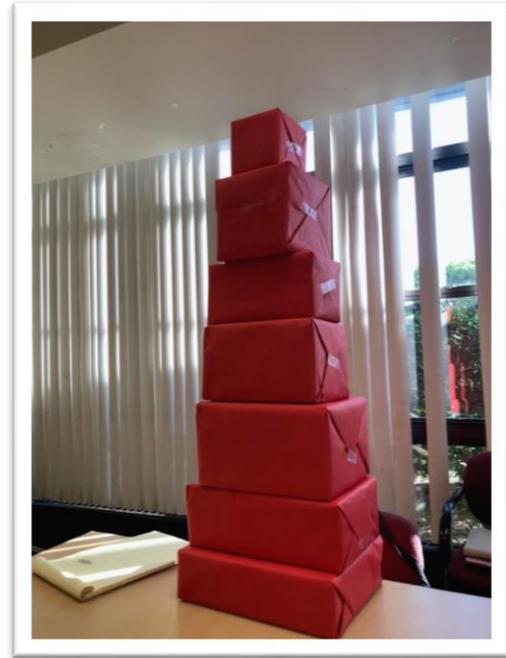
**See our website to register  
 for the webinar or listen to  
 the recording.**

**Volunteer(s) needed.**  
**Can you email and use MS Word?**  
**We need an Editor for this  
 publication!**

## At the Chapters...



*Merrimack Valley Chapter had a presentation by Linda MacIver in June*



*"Brick Walls" that WR Members tried to break down at their June 2019 Meeting*



*WR Chapter dinner meeting in May 2019 with Thomas Toohey as their speaker*

## A Look Ahead

**2019-2021 bring some wonderful events for MSOG members!**

**November 2, 2019** will be our **Annual Meeting** – a chance for all MSOG members to gather in one place for a business meeting, luncheon, and educational experience. We'll be back at the Marlborough Country Club this year. Centrally located for most of our members, the location offers plenty of off-street parking, a large banquet room for our meeting and program, and a smaller room for our luncheon buffet and vendor area. This year's business meeting includes your participation – talk with an officer about your Society. Lunchtime activities will also include our group photos as well as plenty of networking time to meet other MSOG members. With a nationally recognized speaker for our program we're bound to be both educated and entertained in the afternoon! And all of that is probably before the drawing of several door prizes.

MGC (Massachusetts Genealogical Council, of which MSOG is a supporter), is busy planning their biennial conference for **April 2020**. It will be held in the city of Lowell, MA. This is typically a two day event and more details will be published on their website, [www.massgencouncil.org](http://www.massgencouncil.org), as the event approaches. MSOG often hosts an informational table at this event and that means another opportunity for you to volunteer and promote MSOG as your genealogical society of choice! Ray Gendreau is our delegate to MGC and will be up to date on plans for this event.

Also approaching, but still with plenty of time for your work is our **2020 Writing Contest!** As you read through the *MASSOG* Journal this year, consider items from your own research that could be written up. In August of 2020, we will collect entries for our biennial Writing Contest. Not only might your entry win a cash prize, but it could be seen by hundreds when published in *MASSOG*, which is later included in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI).

All entries submitted must be original (not previously published) material in the field of genealogy or family history. If an author submits the same entry concurrently to another contest or to another publication, resulting in prior publication of the submission elsewhere, condition of acceptance rests with the *MASSOG* Editorial Board. If accepted, the author must obtain permission to reprint and should also expect editorial changes.

NERGC is already busy starting to plan their 2021 Conference in Springfield, MA. The dates are April 14-17 at the Mass Mutual Center. If you have ideas, wish to submit a proposal for a presentation, are interested in an Exhibit Hall booth, or want to assist with organizing this event in any way – check out their website at [www.NERGC.org](http://www.NERGC.org) or contact Seema Kenney or Dennis Hogan for more information. Emails for both are in the Officer Table on Page 6.

## Looking Back...

Are you ready to help current and future genealogists access even more records on-line? Check out the projects at the National Archives – [www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/missions](http://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/missions). Tasks include tagging, indexing, and transcribing to make new online records more searchable. All from the comfort of your own electronic device! There were a few projects for the New England (Boston) archives and many related to light houses, when I reviewed the list. Be part of the large group that will be thanked for years to come for the accessibility of records on-line!

## Can't wait for the Chapter Meetings?

### Educate yourself at home with upcoming webinars:

#### BCG to host Joy Reisinger Lecture Series: Six Free Webinars on Friday, September 6, 2019

The Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) will host six free webinars live from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, on September 6, 2019. Six leading genealogists will speak on topics related to the Genealogical Proof Standard, DNA, ethics, immigration, and documenting our ancestors' lives. The hour-long webinars begin at 11 AM U.S. Eastern time (9 AM Mountain time, 1500 GMT) and continue throughout the day. The webinars are part of the Joy Reisinger Memorial Lecture Series, and are presented in conjunction with Legacy Family Tree.

The lecture series is in memory of BCG's former trustee and vice president of the Board, Joy Reisinger, Certified Genealogist Emeritus. Joy began this lecture series for Family History Library staff during BCG's fall board meetings. She was an advocate for open records access, a lecturer on research methods, and an expert on Canadian resources, especially Quebec.

The schedule for the lectures and broadcasts is

<b>11 A.M Eastern time.</b> Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, "Reasonably Exhaustive Research: The First Criteria for Genealogical Proof."	<b>3:30 PM Eastern time.</b> Karen Stanbary, CG, "Details of New and Modified DNA-Related Standards."
<b>12:15 PM Eastern time.</b> Martha Garrett, PhD, CG, "Finding Immigrants Who 'Disappeared': A Research Approach Based on Recognizing and Challenging Assumptions."	<b>4:45 PM Eastern time.</b> Melinda Henningfield, CG, "How to Write a Case Study that Meets the New Standards for DNA: As Codified by the Board for Certification of Genealogists."
<b>1:30 PM Eastern time.</b> Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, "Share and Share Alike: The Rules of Genealogical Privacy."	<b>6:00 PM Eastern time.</b> Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, "Reconstructing an Entrepreneurial Woman's Life: From Family Intrigue to Water Rents."

Lectures at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City are free and open to the public. Live webinar broadcasts are free to the public, but require registration. Registration for the webinars, as well as additional information on speakers and lecture topics, can be found at <https://familytreewebinars.com/BCG19>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. In order to accommodate those who might have schedule conflicts, each webinar can be accessed at no charge for a week after the broadcast.

Here are some of the returning speakers for the MSOG Webinar Series this season:

Brenda Sullivan      Dave Robison      Lori Lyn Price      Melissa Barker

Mark your calendars to reserve the following dates for these presentations and more:

Oct 15    Nov 19    Dec 17    Jan 21    Feb 18    Mar 17    Apr 21    May 19    June 16

## THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

### STATE OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

President	Seema-Jayne Kenney	<a href="mailto:president@msoginc.org">president@msoginc.org</a>
Vice President	Kelly A. Fox	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@msoginc.org">vicepresident@msoginc.org</a>
Treasurer	Diane Laferriere	<a href="mailto:treasurer@msoginc.org">treasurer@msoginc.org</a>
Corresponding Secretary	Patricia Stano- Carpenter	<a href="mailto:correspondingsecretary@msoginc.org">correspondingsecretary@msoginc.org</a>
Recording Secretary	Elizabeth Pyle Handler	<a href="mailto:recordingsecretary@msoginc.org">recordingsecretary@msoginc.org</a>
Membership Director	Margaret R. Fortier	<a href="mailto:membership@msoginc.org">membership@msoginc.org</a>
Historian/Archivist	Wendy Rawson Sheppard	<a href="mailto:archivist@msoginc.org">archivist@msoginc.org</a>
Bristol Chapter	Yvonne Hickey, President	<a href="mailto:bristol@msoginc.org">bristol@msoginc.org</a>
Merrimack Valley Chapter	Diane Brooks-Sherry, President	<a href="mailto:merrimackvalley@msoginc.org">merrimackvalley@msoginc.org</a>
Middlesex Chapter	Deborah Lee Stewart, President	<a href="mailto:middlesex@msoginc.org">middlesex@msoginc.org</a>
Worcester Chapter	Charlene Key Sokal, President	<a href="mailto:worcester@msoginc.org">worcester@msoginc.org</a>
MASSOG Editor	George D. Martin	<a href="mailto:massog@msoginc.org">massog@msoginc.org</a>
Past Times Editor	<b>VACANT</b>	<a href="mailto:pasttimes@msoginc.org">pasttimes@msoginc.org</a>
Webmaster	Hope Tillman	<a href="mailto:webmaster@msoginc.org">webmaster@msoginc.org</a>

### COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

Annual Meeting	Kelly A. Fox	<a href="mailto:annualmeeting@msoginc.org">annualmeeting@msoginc.org</a>
Audit	Robert Farmer	<a href="mailto:auditor@msoginc.org">auditor@msoginc.org</a>
Research & Education	Kristen Fehlhaber & Carol Gafford	<a href="mailto:research@msoginc.org">research@msoginc.org</a>
Technology	Hope Tillman	<a href="mailto:technology@msoginc.org">technology@msoginc.org</a>
Writing Contest	Editorial Board	<a href="mailto:writingcontest@msoginc.org">writingcontest@msoginc.org</a>

### DELEGATES

FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies)	<b>VACANT</b>	<a href="mailto:fgs@msoginc.org">fgs@msoginc.org</a>
MGC (Mass. Genealogical Council)	Raymond Gendreau	<a href="mailto:mgc@msoginc.org">mgc@msoginc.org</a>
NERGC (N. E. Reg'l Genealogical Consortium)	Dennis Hogan	<a href="mailto:nergc@msoginc.org">nergc@msoginc.org</a>



P.O. Box 215  
 Ashland, MA 01721-0215  
<http://www.msoginc.org>