

Past Times

A Publication of the
Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We begin our 40th year. It's an honor celebrated by our charter chapters—Bristol, Middlesex, and Worcester. Martha's Vineyard celebrated five years as a MSOG chapter on October 24, 2014. This May, Merrimack Valley Chapter will celebrate its fifth anniversary.

Beginning January 1, 2015, many members on the board begin their fourth term in office. New to the board is Margaret Fortier, Vice President. As Vice President, Margaret is responsible for chairing the annual meeting committee. The vice presidents of all chapters participate in the committee, and they look forward to having you join them. To be involved with this committee as they prepare for our annual meeting to celebrate our 40th anniversary as a genealogy society, contact Margaret at annualmeeting@msoginc.org.

I want to take a moment to wish all of you a very happy and rich new year filled with many genealogy discoveries. May you be able to attend all the programs and conferences you would like, and may the ancestors guide you in breaking down a brick wall or two.

Martha's Vineyard Chapter, along with the Family History Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Martha's Vineyard Museum, are sponsoring a Genealogy Open House on January 24, 2015, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Family History Center, Merchant's Mart, Vineyard Haven (across the parking lot from the Black Dog Café). Throughout the day, genealogists will be available to assist you with your research questions, especially if you are new to genealogy. There will be tutorials, handouts, and kids' activities. They tell me, too, there will be cider and cookies.

It's a fun day trip. Buses will stop at the Merchant's Mart. Just tell the bus driver you're headed to the Genealogy Open House at the Family History Center in Vineyard Haven.

The chapters are offering very interesting programs for learning and sharing information this month. Bristol's program is all about sharing technology information with fellow attendees. Merrimack Valley is presenting part 1 of Thomas MacEntee's webinar "Evernote Boot Camp." Middlesex's speaker is Robert Howe, who will tell us about "Using the Registry of Deeds Records for Research." Worcester's speaker, Marjorie Turner Hollman, will present "Courtship, Marriage, and Murder: Telling the Difficult Stories." See pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter for details.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the chapter meetings and meeting our new members.

Patricia Stano-Carpenter
President

WORCESTER CHAPTER – JAN. 3

When: Saturday, January 3, 2015, 10:00AM
Where: Zion Lutheran Church, 41 Whitmarsh Avenue, Worcester, MA
What: Courtship, Marriage, and Murder: Telling the Difficult Stories
Who: Marjorie Turner Hollman

For more information, contact Seema-Jayne Kenney, worcester@msoginc.org

MIDDLESEX CHAPTER – JAN. 10

When: Saturday, January 10, 2015, 1:30PM
Where: Acton Memorial Library, 486 Main Street, Acton, MA
What: Using the Registry of Deeds Records for Research
Who: Richard Howe

For more information, contact Sharon Christenson, middlesex@msoginc.org

MARTHA'S VINEYARD CHAPTER – JAN. 14

When: Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 7:00PM
Where: Family History Center, Vineyard Haven
What: TBA
Who: TBA

For more information, contact Marna Waller, marthasvineyard@msoginc.org

BRISTOL CHAPTER – JAN. 17

When: Saturday, January 17, 2015, 11:00AM
Where: Somerset Public Library, 1464 County Street, Somerset, MA 02726
What: Got Photos, Documents & Memorabilia? Get Organized
Who: Karen McCann

For more information, contact Kathleen Rubano, bristol@msoginc.org

MERRIMACK VALLEY CHAPTER – JAN. 31

When: Saturday, January 31, 2015, 10:00AM
Where: Nevins Library, Garden Room, 305 Broadway, Methuen, MA
What: Webinar - Evernote Boot Camp, Part 1
Who: Thomas MacEntee

For more information, contact Karen Trearchis, merrimackvalley@msoginc.org

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC. CAN BE FOUND ON



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MEMBERSHIP

We have 316 registered members:

Bristol Chapter	53
Martha's Vineyard Chapter	14
Merrimack Valley Chapter	49
Middlesex Chapter	96
Worcester Chapter	90
Organizations	14

Welcome new members:

Middlesex Chapter: Gregory Childs, Marilyn Fitzpatrick

Worcester Chapter: Michael Duquette, John Wilson



The New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC)

15-18 April 2015



Providence, RI
www.nergc.org

LOGOS FOR CURRENT MEMBERS

Check the website to download
 the current member logo for your
 use as a MSOG member.



Membership Information

- The newsletter, *Past Times*, is on the MSOG website free to all. If you prefer to have *Past Times* mailed to you, there is a \$7.95 fee per year for the postal service. Members also receive free issues of *MASSOG*, free queries, participation in the Member's Surname List, and free attendance at the Annual Meeting.
- Membership is from September 1st to August 31st, with membership renewals due by July 1st. 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, MVI/Martha's Vineyard, 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 at <http://www.msoginc.org>.) Send your application and check to the treasurer or membership person of the chapter you wish to join. Addresses are below.

Past Times Information

- *Past Times* is published monthly (except for July & August) by the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc.

**Massachusetts Society of
Genealogists, Inc.
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FGS (Federation of Genealogical Societies)	Connie Reik	fgs@msoginc.org
MGC (Massachusetts Genealogical Council)	Sharon Christenson	mgc@msoginc.org
NERGC (New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc.)	Sharon Christenson, Seema-Jayne Kenney, Margaret Fortier	nergc@msoginc.org

Are you a 21st century genealogist?

Join the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists as we become a truly 21st century genealogical society. We are embracing technology while at the same time keeping the personal touch of in-person meetings.

Membership in MSOG has many benefits. We have monthly meetings in 5 chapters featuring talks by expert speakers and other interesting activities, as well as networking with fellow genealogists

Founded in 1975, the core mission of MSOG is to provide education programs, facilitate collaboration in the genealogy community, and to support preservation activities. We promote the exchange of information on key issues of interest to genealogists.

The membership of MSOG today reflects what the founders envisioned—a membership they expressed as “amateur, beginner, professional”.



The MSOG Facebook page is an open group for sharing information which is quickly becoming the nexus of activity for genealogists to connect with others researching family history in Massachusetts.

Genealogists researching in Massachusetts benefit from the dedication of the MSOG founders who have played a key role in enacting legislation to protect our access to records in Massachusetts. These early members were also instrumental in the creation of the New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) we all enjoy so much. Some of these founding members continue to be active in the genealogy community today.



www.msoginc.org



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