Dear Members,

Stepping down from the presidency does have its nostalgic moments. Preparing to turn the Society over to the next president gave me an occasion to review my four terms in office: 2009 to 2016. This was summed up in a recent reading of accomplishments at the annual meeting. It was truly humbling. The legacy I leave is shared with board members, committee chairs, delegates—and with you. You see, we all moved the Society forward to what it is today. This is my last month. As president, I want to thank all of you who shared in the many adventures and, yes, the mundane, routine jobs that go along with running a society. Most of all, thank you for your support.

Over the years, I’ve written about the Society and all it has to offer. I’ve urged you to take advantage of the many benefits of membership, and I’ve asked you to volunteer and get involved in MSOG. I wrote about issues that concern us in genealogy, such as writing to your state representatives and local officials about keeping records open. Most of all, I wrote about genealogy and shared some of my research and my ancestors’ stories with you. I urged you to write about your own genealogy, your history, and how your ancestors helped create our shared history. Remember, without your ancestor some of those historical events “they” write about wouldn’t have happened. Now, in your role as a future ancestor, it’s your turn to give your descendants a gift of history. Be the ancestor they’ll feel grateful to have in their family tree!

If you’ve never kept a journal, this might be the time to start one. It’s a wonderful gift to leave to future generations. Imagine the family member who stumbles upon your journal and is reading about his or her family’s history as you’ve experienced it. It’s a gift like no other for any budding family historian or genealogist.

Looking for something to write about? The recent presidential election might be something to consider. A presidential election is a major event in history. What part did you play in creating that history? Perhaps you were involved in campaigning for a candidate, or maybe you worked at the polls on election day. Did you discuss politics with your family and friends? How did that go? Did you vote? What did you think about the new early voting process in Massachusetts? Perhaps you didn’t get involved. That’s a topic, too. Be sure to add information such as dates, weather, time, and names and maybe a picture or two in your entries.

Another rich topic to write about might be the daily routines or events during the month of December. It can be a very busy month for some. For others, December might be a time of quiet reflection on the past year. Do you celebrate the season? What is happening in the world around you? Intersperse your writings with memories of seasons past.

Genealogy or family history, researching and writing about one of your ancestors, and keeping a journal are the gifts we leave to the generations to come.

Thank you for sharing these last eight years with me and growing the Society to what it is today. See you at chapter meetings.

Patricia Stano-Carpenter
President, 2009–2016
The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc.

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 non-profit 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: Diane Brooks-Sherry
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, access to webinars, and participation in the Members’ Surname Project. 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
- 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.

CALENDAR

MERRIMACK VALLEY
Saturday, December 3rd, 10:00 AM
Dr. Ligia Domenech
“The History of United States Immigration Policies”
Georgetown Peabody Library
2 Maple Street
Georgetown, MA

BRISTOL
Saturday, December 10th
Karen McCann
“Restoring Photos – What You Can Do to Enhance Your Vintage Photos!”
11:00 AM Business Meeting
11:30 AM Member Sharing
12:00 Presentation
Somerset Public Library
1464 County Street
Somerset, MA

MIDDLESEX
Saturday, December 10th, 1:30 PM
Brig. Gen. Leonid Kondratiuk
“Individual Military Records of the Militia, National Guard, and the Armed Forces”
Framingham Public Library
49 Lexington Street
Framingham, MA

WORCESTER
Saturday, December 3rd, 10:00 AM
Richard Reid
“Genealogy Software”
Saxe Room
Worcester Public Library
3 Salem Square
Worcester, MA

WEBINAR
Tuesday, December 20th, 7:00 PM
Dave Robison
“Mining the Rich Resources of Western Massachusetts”
For Members Only
Register at msoginc.org.

NERGC* 2017
April 26-29th
MassMutual Convention Center
Springfield, MA
Investigate the complete conference brochure and register at
www.nergc.org.

*The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc. is a Charter Member of the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc.
Welcome New Members

Middlesex
Carol Bosworth
Heather Dubnick

Worcester
Gary Clark

We have 309 registered members.

Bristol 66
Merrimack Valley 59
Middlesex 103
Worcester 81

In order to receive your mailings (electronic or postal) in a timely manner, please send any changes in contact information to membership@msoginc.org.

Thank you.

Annual Meeting 2016: A Meeting Full of Joyous Announcements

Society President Pat Stano-Carpenter and Vice President Margaret Fortier welcomed an enthusiastic crowd on November 5th at Marlborough Country Club.

Attendees listened attentively to Mark Procknik, Kendra Field, and Margaret Sullivan’s presentations. Check out the member’s section of the website for speaker materials.

During the Business Meeting, Seema Kenney announced that Pat had been nominated for the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium’s Donna Holt Siemiatkoski Genealogy Volunteer of the Year Award!

On behalf of the Branding Committee, Yvonne Hickey introduced the new Society logo.

The Editorial Board happily announced the winners of the three Writing Contest prizes awarded this year. Second Place Winner Denise Cross was able to attend the Annual Meeting in person.

More than two-dozen door prizes were given away! Photographs of all of the winners are posted in the Annual Meeting section of msoginc.org.

Wendy Sheppard won the day’s raffle of three DNA testing kits.

2016 Writing Contest Award Winners

First Place: David J. Riley, “Lots of Seventy-Six Blood in My Veins: Martha Gildersleeve’s Claim to Moses Rawson (1753-1833) of Buckland, Massachusetts”

Second Place: Denise Cross, “All His Children: Unitig the Family of James A. Packard of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts”

Third Place: Sara Campbell, “The Miller Falls, Massachusetts Moores: Speculators or Settlers in the Birth of the Industrial Village”
Technology Committee Re-forming

Technology is a critical part of your life, and a critical part of the life of your Society, as well. The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc., under the direction of our webmaster, Hope Tillman, is re-forming a Technology Committee to handle the Society’s needs going forward.

Are you already a tech guru? We need you.

Do you have the ability to absorb new knowledge & teach it to others? We need you, too.

Current technology platforms we use include:

1. web development and management
2. web databases
3. WordPress
4. SurveyMonkey
5. PayPal use on websites
6. GoToWebinar and GoToMeeting
7. Social Media

But we welcome techies who have fresh ideas!

Email Hope Tillman at webmaster@msoginc.org if you can help.

The Society Needs Your Help at NERGC 2017

Using the Tools of Today & Tomorrow to Understand the Past

April 26-29, 2017
MassMutual Convention Center
Springfield, Massachusetts
http://www.nergc.org

Exhibit Hall: The Society has reserved a large, double booth in the Exhibit Hall to connect with as many attendees as possible. Volunteers are needed on Wednesday, the 26th, between 3:00 and 8:00 to help set up the booth display and on Saturday, the 29th, at 4:00 to pack up the display and supplies. The hall is open to the public from 9:00 to 5:00 on Thursday and Friday and from 9:00 to 4:00 on Saturday. We need dozens of volunteers to staff the booth for two-hour shifts during these hours. This is a wonderful way to meet other genealogists of all levels and learn from the many presentations that are provided in the Exhibit Hall. To volunteer, email nergcbooth@msoginc.org.

Experienced Researchers: The Society needs a few volunteers willing to present some of the resources from the second edition of our Massachusetts Legacy QuickGuide. This short presentation will be given in the Exhibit Hall at some as yet undetermined time on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday during the conference. The volunteers will help to determine which aspects of the QuickGuide are featured as well as the day and time of the presentation. This is an excellent way to share your experience and enthusiasm for the Society with others! To volunteer, email nergcbooth@msoginc.org.

Conference Volunteers: As a Charter Member of the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc., is very involved in the conference. In addition to sponsoring Seema-Jayne Kenney’s talk, “Social History of Early Massachusetts,” eight other members are giving presentations. NERGC is run solely by volunteers and our Society needs members to volunteer for a wide variety of tasks during the conference. You do not even need to be a registered attendee to volunteer! It is a great opportunity to network and learn more about genealogy. To volunteer on one or more days of the conference, email Mary Choppa at mchoppa@myfairpoint.net. Be sure to identify yourself as a MSOG member and identify your chapter affiliation.
The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc. (MSOG) is pleased to announce the results of its 2017-2018 Board of Officers elections held October 2-16, 2016, for eligible members of the Society. The following officers-elect will serve two-year terms:

- **President**: Denise Picard Lindgren, Middlesex Chapter
- **Vice President**: C. Yvonne Hickey, Bristol Chapter
- **Treasurer**: Michael McClellan, Bristol Chapter
- **Membership Director**: Margaret R. Fortier, Merrimack Valley Chapter
- **Corresponding Secretary**: Patricia Stano-Carpenter, Middlesex Chapter
- **Recording Secretary**: Lynda Page, Merrimack Valley Chapter
- **Historian/Archivist**: Seema-Jayne Kenney, Worcester Chapter

Elected officers will begin their two-year terms on January 1, 2017, and serve through December 31, 2018.

### THE MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS, INC.

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<td>President</td>
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<td>Kathleen Rubano, President</td>
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<td>Karen Trearchis, President</td>
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<td>Deborah Lee Stewart, President</td>
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<td>Seema-Jayne Kenney, President</td>
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<td>MASSOG Editor</td>
<td>George D. Martin</td>
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<td>Diane Brooks-Sherry</td>
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<td>Webmaster</td>
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### COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

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<td><a href="mailto:fgs@msoginc.org">fgs@msoginc.org</a></td>
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<td>MGC (Massachusetts Genealogical Council)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mgc@msoginc.org">mgc@msoginc.org</a></td>
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<td>NERGC (New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc.)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nergc@msoginc.org">nergc@msoginc.org</a></td>
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New Logo Revealed at Annual Meeting

Inspired by:
- the shape of the state of Massachusetts
- the official tree of the Commonwealth – the elm tree

Elements of the design:
- Emphasis is on the “S” to reflect society/community.
- The elm leaf is smoothed out so it does not distract from the smooth lines of the letters.
- The notched leaf celebrates that the Society is open to all – one need not be an expert to join.
- The strong black letters and transparent “s” can appear independently or accompany the Society’s full name as needed.

The Branding Committee, who developed the new logo, has created guidelines for the use of the logo by the Society and the Chapters. Examples and templates utilizing the new logo will be available before the first of the year at msoginc.org.

A new version of the MSOG Curr

2018 Writing Contest

- Previously unpublished work should be submitted to writingcontest@msoginc.org by August 25, 2018.
- All acceptable articles will be published in MASSOG.
- Your submission should include no more than three generations of a family.
- Your article must not include vital data for living persons.
- Two prizes will be awarded:
  - 1st prize - $100.00