

# WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ROOTS EVENTS

BERKSHIRE, FRANKLIN, HAMPSHIRE and HAMPDEN COUNTIES in MASSACHUSETTS

August 1, 2015 - Volume 02 Number 08

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**August 5 (Wednesdays)** - The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA is expanding its calendar by offering year-round meetings. We will now offer summer meetings. Speaker details will be announced soon.

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**August 25, 2015, Tuesday** (7:00 pm – 9 pm): Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. Acadian History and Genealogy presented by Lucie Le Blanc Consentino. There will also be discussion on DNA Tidbits, which traces your direct female line. Members free. Guest welcome for a **\$2.00** donation.

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**September 17-19, 2015, Thursday – Saturday:** New York State Family History Conference will be held at Syracuse/Liverpool Holiday Inn, 441 Electronics Parkway, Liverpool, New York. This is a regional conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. For a list of speakers and cost of registration, visit [www.nysfhc.org/index.html](http://www.nysfhc.org/index.html).

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**September 20, 2015, Sunday** (1:00pm – 4pm) The Polish Genealogical Society of MA and the Lowell Polish Cultural Committee invite you to Planting and Growing Your Polish Family Tree. To be held at Dom Polski/ Polish National Home, 10 Coburn Street, Lowell, MA 01850. There will be free translation of short documents as well as PGMA volunteers to answer questions. For more information

**Featured speakers:** Alan Doyle Horbal “Beginning Your Genealogy”  
Sara Campbell “Overlooked Municipal Records”  
For more information and to register visit [www.PGSMA.org](http://www.PGSMA.org)

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**September 22, 2015, Tuesday** (7:00 pm – 9 pm): Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. From Sicily to America: a daughter’s determination to unravel the mysteries surrounding her father’s life, with Virginia Gerante Carter as the speaker. Members free. Guest welcome for a **\$2.00** donation.

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**October 10, 2015, Saturday** (8:30am -4pm): The Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts will present A Day of Research Tools and Tips with Steve Morse. Mr. Morse is the creator of his One-Step Data Base at [www.stevemorse.org](http://www.stevemorse.org). The presentation will be held at Elms College, Mary Dooley College Center, 291Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA 01013. Pre-Registration is required for this event.

Stephen Morse, PhD received both the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Contribution Award from the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, Award of Merit from the National Genealogical Society, first-ever Excellence Award from the Association of Professional Genealogists and two awards from Polish genealogical societies. For more information and to register visit [www.pgsma.org](http://www.pgsma.org). **Admission is \$10 for current members and \$20 for non-members.**

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**October 27, 2015, Tuesday** (7:00pm – 9:00pm): Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. I Found My Village, Now What? Locating vital records in Poland using online resources, with Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz as speaker. Members free. Guest welcome for a **\$2.00** donation.

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**November 17, 2015, Tuesday** (7:00pm – 9:00pm): Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. Creation of Quabbin Reservoir with J.R. Greene as speaker. Members free. Guest welcome for a **\$2.00** donation.

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### **NEHGS Research Tours & Programs – 2015:**

NEHGS offers a wide range of guided research tours for family history researchers at all skill levels. Research tours include intensive days devoted to research at libraries, archives, and historical institutions, one-on-one consultations, presentations by NEHGS genealogists and local experts, and special activities.

[Salt Lake City, Utah](#): October 25-November 1, 2015

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### **Boston Research Programs:**

The NEHGS research library in Boston holds millions of documents, manuscripts, records, books, microfilms, photographs, artifacts, electronic resources, and other items that preserve and reveal our history. Travel to our headquarters and explore our treasures with personalized assistance and guidance from our expert staff.

[Come Home to New England](#)  
August 4-8, 2015

[Research Getaway](#)  
October 15-17, 2015

*For pricing, availability or to register visit [AmericanAncestors.org/events](http://AmericanAncestors.org/events) or contact:*

NEHGS Education, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA 02116 (617) 226-1226 or (toll free) (888) 286-3447

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### **Canada**

**August 1, 2015 (Saturday):** The East European Genealogical Society is holding its 2015 International Seminar "Ancestral Evidence – Names, Places and Documents". The speakers will be:

- Matthew Bielawa will speak on analyzing vital records of the Austrian, Prussian and Russian Empires.
- William F. Hoffman will speak on given names and place names of eastern Europe
- John Pihach speaking on going beyond vital records to discover Galician documents of genealogical value.

*For more information, visit the Society's website: [www.eegsociety.org](http://www.eegsociety.org)*

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### **New Britain, Connecticut**

**October 2, 3, 2015 (Saturday PM & Sunday All Day):** The Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast will hold its Annual Conference at Central Connecticut State University, 1615 Stanley Street, New Britain, CT. Speakers will cover many subjects that will help you

understand the many ways to conduct your Polish genealogical research. Some of the subjects covered in lectures include:

- Digital News: Utilizing Online Newspapers in Your Genealogy Research
- Notary Records in Poland (with Emphasis on the Notary Records of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century)

For more information, visit the Society's Conference website:

<http://www.pgscne.org/ConferencesEvents.aspx>

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**Reoccurring genealogical activities by weekday:**

**Each Monday** (11:30am – 1:45pm): Mondays with MYRT online at Google+ Hangout. An international panel of up to ten professional genealogists discuss genealogical issues, websites, blogs, seminars, webinars, books, etc. around the world. Watch at home on your computer! See previous broadcasts at [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com). Participate by following Dear MYRT's "community" at Google+ where you can ask questions and offer opinions or suggestions. For more information, contact Dave Robison at [dave@oldbones.info](mailto:dave@oldbones.info).

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**Fourth Monday of each month:** (7:00pm - 9:00pm): Shrewsbury Genealogy Club meeting. Sharing, self-help, occasional guest speakers, infrequent field trips. Meets at the Temporary Shrewsbury Public Library Site, 214 Lake Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545. Call Library (508) 841-0081 or Club Master, George C. Brown, (508) 872-9142 for details or directions. All Shrewsbury Genealogy Club events are free of charge.

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**Each Tuesday** (10:00am - 4:00 pm) Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front St., Chicopee, MA 01013: [413-594-1800 ext. 3](tel:413-594-1800) Open Genealogy Lab. Practice your genealogy research skills – a volunteer genealogist will be available to help you. *Walk in.*

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**Fourth Tuesday** (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm) Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society meet at the American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. Membership is open to all who are interested in family history. Guest welcome for a \$2.00 donation.

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**Third Tuesday** of every month (6:30-8pm): Dickinson Library, Main St., Northfield, MA 01360 - Walk in Genealogy gathering. Casual sharing of research and ideas. Meets in Local History room. Access to all of the genealogy related materials. People available with laptops who can access Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest, New England Historical and Genealogical Society, etc.

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**First Wednesday** of every month (6:00 pm – 8:00pm): Monthly meetings of the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

For more information email [WestMass@gmail.com](mailto:WestMass@gmail.com).

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**Third Wednesday** of every month (10am-12pm): Professional assistance with your genealogy questions. Crandall Library, 251 Glen St., Glens Falls, NY, 12801 - Call [518\) 792-6508, ext. 239](tel:518-792-6508) for

more details. Former NARA-Pittsfield volunteer and professional genealogist Lisa Dougherty\*.

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**Final Wednesday** of every month (11am-2pm): Professional assistance with your genealogy questions. Irish American Heritage Museum, 370 Broadway, Albany, NY, 12207 - Call [\(518\) 427-1916](tel:5184271916) for more details. Former NARA-Pittsfield volunteer and professional genealogist Lisa Dougherty. You can also view Lisa's upcoming events at her website: [www.upstatenygenealogy.com](http://www.upstatenygenealogy.com)

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**Each Thursday**, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm: Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front St., Chicopee, MA 01013: [413-594-1800](tel:4135941800) ext. 3 OPEN GENEALOGY LAB -- *when there are no genealogy classes.* Practice your genealogy research skills – a volunteer genealogist will be available to help you. *Walk in.*

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**First Thursday** of every month (10am-1pm) ~ Professional assistance with your genealogy questions 10:00am-11:00am by appointment only. 11:00am – 12:00pm Drop in. 12:00pm-1:00pm: Discussion group. Clifton Park Library, 475 Moe Rd., Clifton Park, NY 12065 - Call [\(518\) 371-8622](tel:5183718622) for more details. Former NARA-Pittsfield volunteer and professional genealogist Lisa Dougherty\*.

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**First Thursday** of every month (6pm-8pm): Carnegie Library 1, Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376 Walk in Genealogy Gathering every month. Casual sharing of research. No library hours for public so we have use of the computers and history resources.

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**Third and fourth Thursday** of the month (6pm – 8 pm): Genealogy Research Clinics. Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001. Free to members of the Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society; Non-members **\$10.00** per session. On-line and off-line guidance and discussion by professional genealogists.



**Happy Searching!**

## Western Massachusetts Roots Events

### *Mission Statement*

Dear Fellow Genealogist:

After discussing the idea of how we might keep you informed of genealogical activities taking place in Western Massachusetts, we have formed a group the "Western Massachusetts Roots Events".

Our mission is to distribute a monthly newsletter by e-mail to a list we have been building. In this way, we can keep anyone working on their Family Tree informed of genealogical events taking place in the area such as seminars, classes and workshops.

At this time we are compiling an email distribution list. If you would like to be added to or removed from the list, please contact us at [wmarootsevents@gmail.com](mailto:wmarootsevents@gmail.com) .

We could use volunteers to help update our web site/Facebook page and/or help in sharing the responsibility of creating and distributing the monthly newsletter. Please email us at the above address if you have any interest in volunteering.

Thank you, in advance, for any interest you may have in this ambitious endeavor.

Sincerely,

Alan Doyle Horbal

Barbara A Kulig

Carol Ann Pullo

Dave Robison Pro Tem

Susan Bedard

### ***Event Submission Requirements:***

If you or your group would like to be included in the listed events, please forward all information regarding the event, date, time, place, etc. to [wmarootsevents@gmail.com](mailto:wmarootsevents@gmail.com) . The information should be in Arial #11 - with no **bold**, *italicized* or underlining of words. This will enable us to copy and paste your information directly into the Newsletter.

***The Deadline for submission in the September Newsletter is August 24, 2015. Thank you.***