

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ROOTS EVENTS

BERKSHIRE, FRANKLIN, HAMPSHIRE and HAMPDEN COUNTIES in
MASSACHUSETTS

October 1, 2018 - Volume 5 No 10

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**October 23, 2018, Tuesday** (7:00 pm - 9:00 pm): The Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society, Inc meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month from 7:00 pm - 9 pm in the upper hall of the American Legion Post #129, 22 Elm Street, Gardner, MA. Featured speaker at the October meeting will be Alfred Woollacott III who will be presenting "***The Believers and the Immigrant***". Mr. Woollacott has written three novels based on his ancestors, and has published genealogical summaries for MASSOG's publication.

Please see our website for membership fees: [www.cmgso.org](http://www.cmgso.org)

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October 23, 30, November 13 & 20, 2018 Tuesday (2:00 pm and 5:15 pm)**: ***Hands-on Genealogy with Alan Doyle Horbal***, professional genealogist, with Cathi Iuliano and Susan Bedard at the Athenaeum (Pittsfield Public Library), 1 Wendell Avenue, Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201. Basic outline and instruction on researching the 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census. Learn how to find your ancestors' emigration to the U.S. using the <http://stevemorse.org> website and the www.ellisland.org website, along with several other databases. Discover how to search for family members outside of the U.S. using <http://familysearch.org>. We will explore England, Canada, Poland and other countries.

All students must have an email account and be computer literate. **Space is limited.** Please sign up for sessions. **We ask that you attend all four classes.**

The 5:15 pm class members must bring your own laptop for classes 2, 3 & 4. Library laptops will be available for those attending the 2:00 pm session or you can bring your own if you prefer. To register call (413)499-9486 Ext. 6. There is no cost for the course - it is **FREE**.

**These classes are sponsored by Berkshire Family History Association.

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**November 3 - 4, 2018 Saturday 8:00 am - Sunday 5:00 pm: The 5th Annual Nashi Predky Fall Conference - "Your Ancestry: Past, Present and Future"** will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Avenue, Somerset, New Jersey. The event features internationally known experts in Eastern European genealogy, and will span two days, including Saturday's workshops, "Hands-on Approach to Learning the Cyrillic Alphabets". The workshop will be conducted by Prof. Jon Shea, AG. A full day will be dedicated to DNA featuring The Legal Genealogist, Judy G. Russell, CG, CGL. There will be a choice of nine lectures and many opportunities for networking. Each day concludes with the door-prize drawings.

Registration is now OPEN! <https://www.ukrhec.org/nashi-predky-conference-2018>

Contact: Phone: 732-356-0132 Email: [info@ukrhec.org](mailto:info@ukrhec.org)

Participants may register for either Friday or Saturday, or the full two-day conference at reduced pricing through September 30th!!

Cost \$85 for both days. \$55 for Saturday only. \$40 for Sunday only. Additional options are offered for a fee. See Website.

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November 29, December 6,13, 20, 2018, Thursdays (5:15 pm - 7:15 pm):Hands-on Genealogy with Alan Doyle Horbal, professional genealogist, with Cathi Iuliano and Susan Bedard at the North Adams Public Library, 74 Church Street, North Adams, MA 01247. Basic outline and instruction on researching the 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census. Learn how to find your ancestors' emigration to the U.S. using the <http://stevemorse.org> website and the www.ellisland.org website, along with several other databases. Discover how to search for family members outside of the U.S. using <http://familysearch.org>. We will explore England, Canada, Poland and other countries.

All students must have an email account and be computer literate. **We ask that you attend all four classes.** You may bring your own laptop to sessions 3 & 4.

Space is limited ~ please sign up for sessions. To register call (413) 663-3133.

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### **News from the National Archives Catalog:**

#### ***Witness Depositions in Support of Seamen's Protection Certificates***

Newly digitized and now available in the National Archives Catalog: Newport, Rhode Island Witness Depositions in Support of Seamen's Protection Certificates.

The National Archives at Boston holds many records of historical and genealogical interest, including U.S. Customs Service Records, which contain documentation of American seamen from New England.

In July 2016, the Newport Historical Society transferred a group of Witness Depositions to the National Archives at Boston. These depositions, filed in 1832 for the port of Newport, Rhode Island, were identified within a collection of Customs District records and were digitized directly after accessioning.

The group is regarded as an accretion to an existing series of the Newport customs district, and are now available to view, download, and transcribe in the Catalog!

While the certificates themselves are not part of the records of this customs district, each deposition is an affidavit made by an individual to a justice of the peace or the collector of customs attesting to the American citizenship of a particular seaman. The earlier affidavits are handwritten, and the later ones are on printed forms.

The affidavits usually include the number assigned by the collector; name and signature of the witness; name of the seaman; the seaman's age, height, hair color, eye color, complexion; his place of birth; his residence at the time the declaration was signed; the port and date of the affidavit; and the signature of the justice of the peace or the collector. This series also contains additional witness depositions, as well as registers of seamen's certificates issued, which are slated for future digitization. Learn more about these records and more from the [National Archives at Boston](#).

### ***What's in a name? Help make naturalization records name searchable***

What's in a name? Quite a lot, it turns out, if you are searching for a petition for naturalization and do not know the court of naturalization or petition number. And if you're in the midst of family or historical research, you're probably already looking for these records (or you soon will be!). Even though petitions for naturalization filed prior to October 1906 typically contain less information than those filed after that date, these records can be an invaluable resource and remain some of our most requested records at the [National Archives at New York City](#).

This series of [Petitions for Naturalization](#) newly added to the Catalog, contains copies of naturalization records for individuals who filed in Federal, state and local courts in New York from 1790 through 1906. As a general rule, the National Archives does not hold naturalization records created in State or local courts. However, because this series of records is comprised of copies of the originals, our New York office maintains petitions for naturalization filed through Federal, state, and local courts in New York City for the years 1794-1906.

This significant part of our naturalization collection was recently added to the Catalog. The entire series of petitions for naturalization filed through Federal, state, and local courts in New York City prior to October 1906 (over 598 records!) are [available in the Catalog](#) in their entirety--the whole record! The records contain the petitioner's name, age, place of birth, occupation, date and place of emigration.



## New posts on American Ancestors Database News:

### 3 New Western Massachusetts Families in 1790 sketches

Today we've added three new sketches to Helen Schatvet Ullmann's Western Massachusetts Families in 1790. This study project focuses on heads of families enumerated in the 1790 census in historic Berkshire and Hampshire counties, also including modern Franklin and Hampden counties. If you would like to learn more about this project, be sure to visit our [information page](#). The three new sketches are listed below:

Eleazer Brown (Adams)  
George Hall (Hancock)  
David Wells (Shelburne)

Please note: *These databases are available to Individual-level and above NEHGS members only. Consider membership.*

Molly Rogers September 5, 2018

### 1 new sketch: Early New England Families, 1641-1700

by [Molly Rogers](#)

Today we're announcing an addition to **Early New England Families, 1641-1700**, a sketch for [Robert Williams \(m.1641\)](#). Robert Williams was a ferryman who lived from about 1615-1677. He had four children. More research is needed to determine who his wife was. Alicia Crane Williams' Early New England Families, 1641-1700 highlights heads of families mentioned in Torrey's *New England Marriages to 1700*. To learn more about this study project, be sure to check out our [information page](#).



## [Clarksburg and Savoy: Additions to Massachusetts Vital Records, 1620-1850](#)

Today we've added records from two new towns in Berkshire County to [Massachusetts Vital Records, 1620-1850](#). We've added 284 records and 879 names from Clarksburg, MA and 1,389 records and 3,190 names from Savoy, MA. This update is possible through the efforts of Susan Jacobs and Sam Sturgis to whom we are very grateful. The Savoy records span 1736-1870. Clarksburg was established in 1798. Please note: *This database is available to Individual-level and above NEHGS members only.*

[Molly Rogers](#) | August 24, 2018



## [23 new Early Vermont Settlers, 1700-1784 sketches from Norwich](#)

Today we're announcing 23 new sketches from Norwich, VT in **Early Vermont Settlers, 1700-1784** and two updated sketches. Scott Andrew Bartley's study project focuses on heads of families who lived in Vermont prior to the Revolutionary War. He has so far focused on Windsor and Windham counties in southeast Vermont. This update includes over 1,000 new records and over 2,700 new names. The new volumes are listed below:

[Babcock, Oliver \(Norwich\)](#)

[Ball, Ebenezer \(Norwich\)](#)

[Ball, Humphrey \(Norwich\)](#)

[Ball, Joseph \(Norwich\)](#)

[Benton, Medad \(Norwich, Royalton\)](#)

[Brown, Samuel \(Norwich\)](#)

[Brown, Samuel, Jr. \(Norwich\)](#)

[Closson, John \(Norwich, Thetford\)](#)

[Crane, Elisha \(Norwich\)](#)

[Curtis, Elias \(Norwich, Royalton, Tunbridge\)](#)

[Curtis, Simeon \(Norwich\)](#)

[Fenton, Benjamin \(Norwich\)](#)

[Fenton, Francis \(Norwich\)](#)

[Messenger, Nathan \(Norwich\)](#)

[Messenger, Nathaniel \(Norwich\)](#)

[Partridge, Elisha \(Norwich\)](#)

[Partridge, Samuel \(Norwich\)](#)

[Partridge, Samuel, Jr. \(Norwich\)](#)

[Richards, Jonas \(Norwich\)](#)

[Turner, David \(Norwich, Randolph\)](#)

[Waterman, Elijah \(Norwich\)](#)

[Wright, Aaron \(Norwich\)](#)

[Wright, John \(Norwich\)](#)

Updated sketches:

[Baldwin, Daniel \(Norwich\)](#)

[Bennett, John \(Hartford\)](#)

Please note: *These databases are available to Individual-level and above NEHGS members only.*

[Molly Rogers](#) | September 14, 2018

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[Enhanced Database – Bath, NH: Births Attended by Dr. John French, 1807-1857](#)

We have revamped the database [Bath, NH: Births Attended by Dr. John French, 1807-1857](#). This database now contains the page image of the original manuscript, and it is searchable by first name and last name, record type, and family members (where available). Record types include Birth and Death records.

Please note that Dr. French tended to record the name of the mother or father and often not the name of the child. It will often be helpful to search with just the last name and year to find records.

These records were copied, and the index compiled, by John Hibbard, town clerk of Bath, New Hampshire. Dr. John French was born in South Hampton, N.H., and commenced his practice at Warren, N.H., in 1807. Early in 1808 he located in Landaff, where he practiced until April 1822, when he removed to Bath. He remained there in active practice until the latter part of 1857. These records contain the names of 2,336 fathers and the dates of birth of their children. In addition to Bath, they list births in the surrounding towns of Landaff, Lisbon, Lyman, Benton, and Haverhill. All of these towns are in Grafton County, N.H.

The transcription is kept in the R. Stanton Avery Collections at NEHGS, call number, [Mss A 6921](#).

[Don LeClair](#) | September 7, 2018

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You are invited to attend my new exhibit of ***The Art of Nicholas Bervinchak*** at The Ukrainian Institute in New York City (<http://ukrainianinstitute.org/event/hard-coal-hard-times/>). The opening reception is from 6-8 PM on Friday, September 28, 2018. *The exhibit will continue until Sunday, October 21, 2018.*

Hope to see you there!

**Michael Buryk** <[michael.buryk@verizon.net](mailto:michael.buryk@verizon.net)>

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1. Mission Statement:

<http://wmarootsevents.com/mission-statement/>

2. Submission Requirements:

<http://wmarootsevents.com/events/submit-an-event/>

3. Polish Genealogy Terms

<http://wmarootsevents.files.com/2015/07/polishtoenglishgenealogyterms.pdf>

4. Foreign to English Names:

<http://wmarootsevents.files.com/2015/07/givennames-list.pdf>

The Deadline for submission for the November 2018 Newsletter is October 23, 2018.

Thank You!



HAPPY SEARCHING!