

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

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Spring-Summer 2000

**National Archives To Add More
Hours (Again!)**

In response to their customer's requests, the New England branch of the National Archives at 380 Trapelo Rd., Waltham is planning to increase the hours they are open this fall with the hiring of a new employee. It is expected that they will soon be open two Saturdays a month and two evenings a week. Currently they are open M,T,TH, F from 8:00 – 4:30; Wednesday from 8:00 – 9:00 PM and the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 – 4:30 PM. Note: Due to the Labor Day holiday they will open the 2nd Saturday (Sept. 9th) instead of the first Saturday.

City Directories at National Archives

With the opening of the (mostly unindexed) 1930 census 18 months away, the National Archives branches have now obtained over 800 microfilm copies of city directories for major (and many minor) cities as an aid to finding the street or ward in the 1930 census. Only about 10 states are indexed in 1930. For Boston, the years 1929, 1930 and 1931 are covered. Examples of smaller cities include Athol, MA for the years 1924, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932 and 1934. Ogdensburg, NY begins in 1902 and runs to 1934, all on one roll of microfilm. A volunteer has just finished completing a guide that will list all the cities and towns as some directories are for more than one town. These films are currently in a new shelf next to the census finding aid books.

**Boston Public Library Microtext
Room has moved**

The microtext room of the Boston Public Library at Copley Square has been moved into newly refurbished quarters. They are now located on the newer side of the interior courtyard. The facility is very nice improvement over their old location.

MGC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2000 annual MGC conference held at the Commonwealth Archives at Columbia Point, Boston, April 1st, was a smashing success. Attendance was about 120 on a beautiful spring day. The speakers were most knowledgeable about their subjects and the refreshments were superb.

Our next conference will be on Saturday **March 31, 2000** at the Museum of our National History in Lexington, MA. We are currently lining up another excellent slate of speakers. So **MARK THAT DATE** you won't want to miss it.

KUDO'S TO BILL READ

Known to many in the Middlesex area as the "guy who can be relied upon to arrange refreshments for MX, MSOG meetings", Bill Read has recently earned special recognition as the "Support Person of the Year". He won under the "Excellence in Government Awards" for the Greater Boston area. These awards recognize the "best and brightest" in Federal service. Nominated by James Owens. Bill was acknowledged for being "conscientious,

polite, patient and compassionate in dealing with our customers". Bill is known for showing up on his days off to both volunteer and do his own research. Great job Bill!

MGC BOARD MEETINGS

The MGC board has set the following board meeting dates:

Sunday 2:00 17 September 2000,
Friends Meeting House, Framingham,
MA

Sunday 2:00 26 November 2000,
Westborough Public Library

Sunday 2:00 4 March 2001,
Waltham Public Library

Sunday 2:00 20 May, 2001,
Acton Public Library

Meetings are open to all interested genealogists. Please call (508) 460-0142 for further information if you plan to attend.

All Massachusetts Genealogical Organizations are **URGED** to send a representative to each of these meetings. It need not be the same rep each time.

NEHGS ADDS TO MA VITAL RECORD INDICES

NEHGS has MA vital indices in book form for Births: 1901-1935; 1941-1945; Marriages: 1901-1940; Deaths: 1901-1980.

And the 1955-1979 **VERMONT** Vital Records are now available on microfilm at NEHGS

NEXT SCHEDULED TRANSFER OF VITALS TO COMMONWEALTH ARCHIVES AT COLUMBIA POINT

The 1906-1910 vital records are scheduled to transfer from Department of Health custody to the Archives on January 1, 2001 in accordance with state law transferring vital records over 90 years old to the archives.

DUES ARE DUE

By this time you should have received your renewal application in the mail. Please return your check for \$7.50 payable to Mass. Genealogical Council to: MGC, PO Box 5393, Cochrane, MA 01778-5393

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ADOPTIONS UPDATE

In the last issue mention was made of a database index matching birth name & adopted name from the 1871-1900 period. If you would like a name checked, make your request to: MGC, 244 Flanders Rd., Westboro, MA 01581

NEW MICROFILMS AT NATIONAL ARCHIVES, WALTHAM

The following films were added to the collection at Waltham in a November 1999 list:

T316: Old War Index to Pension Files, 1815-1926: 7 rolls

M313: Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files: 102 rolls

T317: Index to Mexican War Pension Files, 1887-1926: 14 rolls

T318: Index to Indian War Pension Files, 1892-1926: 12 rolls

M1478: Card Manifests (Alphabetical) of Individuals Entering through the Port of Detroit, Michigan, 1906-1954: 117 rolls