



**2022 MGC Virtual Seminar**  
**CONNECTIONS**  
**April 2 – May 31**  
**#ConnectMGC2022**



**MASSACHUSETTS  
 GENEALOGICAL  
 COUNCIL**

[www.massgencouncil.org/seminar-2022](http://www.massgencouncil.org/seminar-2022)

# Speakers

Levels: [N] Novice, [N-I] Novice to intermediate, [I] Intermediate, [I-A] Intermediate to Advanced, [A] Advanced, [All] All

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## Kabria Baumgartner

Kabria Baumgartner is the Dean's Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies as well as Associate Director of Public History at Northeastern University. She is a historian of the nineteenth-century United States, specializing in the history of education and African American women's and gender history. She is the author of the award-winning book, *In Pursuit of Knowledge: Black Women and Educational Activism in Antebellum America*, which tells the story of Black girls and women who fought for their educational rights in the nineteenth-century Northeast.

Her research has been supported by the Spencer Foundation, the National Academy of Education, and the Massachusetts Historical Society.

She has also published numerous scholarly articles and book chapters, and her popular writing has been featured in the *Washington Post*, *WBUR's Cognoscenti*, and *Historic New England Magazine*.

She is writing a book about Black youth and the fight for civil rights in nineteenth-century Boston.

### Presentation

***Searching for Sarah: Education, Activism, and Archival Research in Boston [I]***

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## Marta Crilly

Marta Crilly is the Archivist for Reference and Outreach for the Boston City Archives. She manages the Archives' research services, outreach program, and digital preservation and access program.

Marta earned an M.S in Library Science and M.A in History from Simmons University. Her professional interests include cultural heritage and community memory, family and local history, outreach to under-served user communities, and cross-institutional collaborations.

### Presentation

***Old Records Made New: Using Newly Accessible Records at the Boston City Archives [All]***

### Chat

**Repositories, Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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## Janis P. Duffy

Janis is a retired Archivist from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and a former Reference Supervisor at the Massachusetts State Archives. While at the Mass. Archives she assisted genealogists with their research and was instrumental in the creation of an online index of the Boston Passenger List cross references against the more than 1.1 million index cards crated by the WPA for these records. Janis continues to work on the online index in her retirement. She gave lectures throughout the state on the holdings of both Archives. She has 18 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Janis loves to travel and is looking forward to getting back to Ireland.

### Presentation

***Passenger Lists for the Port of Boston 1848-1891 [All]***

### Chat

**Repositories, Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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## Alec Ferretti

Alec Ferretti is a New York City-based professional genealogist, who works for the Wells Fargo Family & Business History Center, researching family histories for high-net-worth clients. He is a graduate of NYU and LIU's dual master's program, with degrees in archives and library science. Throughout his studies, he worked in various capacities in archives throughout New York City, including the Tamiment Library and the New-York Historical Society.

Alec specializes in the genealogy of 20th century immigrants to the United States alongside Italian genealogy, while dabbling in Latin American and Jewish Genealogy. Alec is a regular lecturer at genealogical societies in the New York area and has presented at numerous conferences around the United States. He serves as the President of the New York

Genealogy & Technology Group, an informal organization which meets bimonthly to discuss topics brought forth by members. Alec serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Professional Genealogists, and on the Board of Reclaim the Records, a nonprofit dedicated to wrangling public records from restrictive government agencies. Alec's passion is records access, and he dedicates much of his spare time to projects - sanctioned through Reclaim the Records or independently - which seek to ensure public records remain public.

Presentation

***Thinking Outside the (Search) Box: Ancestry Search Strategies [I]***

Chat

**Technology, Tuesday, April 5, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Margaret R. Fortier, CG®**

Margaret Rose Fortier is a Board-certified genealogical researcher, writer, and lecturer. Named for her grandmothers, and inspired by her mother's phenomenal memory, she has been researching for 20 years. She specializes in immigrant ancestors in New England.

A graduate of Boston College and Bentley University, she holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University. She serves on the board of the Association of Professional Genealogists and chairs the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG) Webinar Committee.

She is the instructor for a course on Catholic Records offered through the Applied Genealogy Institute this spring.

Presentation

***Catholic Records in Massachusetts [I]***

Workshop

***Using Catholic Records in Massachusetts [I]***

Wednesday, April 27, at 7:00 PM

Chat

**Unique Records, Tuesday, April 26, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Thomas Green**

Thomas Green has been a member of the Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag Tribal Council since 2005 and currently serves as its vice president. He is an indigenous educator and artist, specializing in the indigenous history in Massachusetts. He is an expert consultant in indigenous land acknowledgement. Green's ancestors lived in what is now North Weymouth for thousands of years. Working with the various departments in the town of Weymouth, Thomas was instrumental in having interpretive signs installed in the Weymouth Wetlands and Woodlands site in October 2021 which tell the story of the Massachusetts Tribe, the first

English Settlement in Wessagusset and the incorporation of Weymouth.

Presentation

***History of the Massachusetts Tribe [All]***

Chat

**Cultural, Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Kathleen Kaldis**

A professional genealogist and speaker who is known as The Ancestor Finder. Her interest in genealogy started at a young age when she heard stories about how her great great-grandfather, who was born on Cape Breton Island, came to Boston to build Fenway Park. Go SOX! Her enthusiasm shines through when she shares her passion of genealogy with her clients and audiences. She has worked as a genealogist at the New England Historic Genealogical Society and currently takes on private clients in forensic genealogical cases. Kathleen is an instructor in the Military Records Course offered through the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research. She holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from Boston University and has successfully completed many advanced level genealogical institute courses. Her areas of expertise are: Lineage, Forensic, and Maritime Research.

Presentation

***Huzzah! Researching Your Revolutionary Roots [All]***

Workshop

***Huzzah! Digging Deeper in Mass. Revolutionary War Records [I]***

Wednesday, April 13, at 7:00 PM

Chat

**Unique Records, Tuesday, April 26, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Michael J. Leclerc, CG®**

Michael J. Leclerc, CG, (He/Him) is an internationally renowned genealogist, author of numerous articles for magazines and journals, and a popular presenter around the world. He worked at NEHGS, Mocavo, and FindMyPast before starting Genealogy Professor (www.genprof.net).

He is author of the "Crafting Family Histories" chapter in ProGen:PPS as well as numerous articles in scholarly journals and popular magazines. He is editor of *Genealogical Writing in the 21st Century: A Guide to Register Style and More, Second Edition* (with Henry Hoff) and the *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, Fifth Edition*. He was a contributing editor for American Ancestors, and a consulting editor for the New England Historical and Genealogical Register. He is currently managing editor of the Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly.

Presentations

***French Canadians and the American Revolution***

**Massachusetts Town Records**Workshop**Mining Massachusetts Town Records**

Wednesday, April 20, at 7:00 PM

Chats**Cultural, Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM EDT****Town & Country Records, Thursday, April 28, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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**Beth Finch McCarthy**

Beth is a professional genealogist and speaker who solves genealogical puzzles and teaches family history research. Her specialties are family history compilation and colonial New England research. In addition to her catalog of current presentations, she designs programs to address individual topics of interest for genealogy groups and societies. Beth's eclectic immigrant family line comprises Puritans and Merchant Adventurers from the 1600s, German pioneers and New England patriots from the 1700s, and British glovemakers and Swedish engineers from the 1800s.

Beth earned her undergraduate degree in Economics at Wellesley College and has a background in training and development. She also holds a certificate from the Genealogical Research program at Boston University's Center for Professional Education and is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists. Beth currently lives in Northborough, Massachusetts, and owns BFM Genealogical Research, LLC.

Presentation:***Who Lyeth There? Digging Up Colonial New England Ancestor Records [I]***Chat**Town & Country Records, Thursday, April 28, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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**Rhonda R. McClure**

Rhonda R. McClure, Senior Genealogist, is a nationally recognized professional genealogist and lecturer. Before joining American Ancestors/NEHGS in 2006, she ran her own genealogical business for 18 years. She was a contributing editor for Heritage Quest Magazine, Biography magazine and was a contributor to The History Channel Magazine and American History Magazine. In addition to numerous articles, she is the author of twelve books including the award-winning *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Online Genealogy*, *Finding your Famous and Infamous Ancestors*, and *Digitizing Your Family History*. She is the editor of the newly released 6th edition of the *Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research*. When she isn't researching and writing about family history, she spends her time writing about ice hockey, covering collegiate to NHL teams and a couple of

international teams. Her work has allowed her the privilege of attending and covering the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, Korea and the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

Rhonda's areas of expertise include immigration and naturalization, late 19th and early 20th century urban research, missionaries (primarily in association with the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions), State Department Federal records, New England, Mid-West, Southern, German, Italian, Scottish, Irish, French Canadian, and New Brunswick research as well as Internet research, genealogical software and online trees (FTM, RootsMagic, Reunion, Ancestry, etc.), digital peripherals, and uses both Mac and Windows machines.

Presentation***Genealogy Research in New England [All]***Chat**Town & Country Records, Thursday, April 28, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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**Dr. Stephen Morse**

Stephen Morse is the creator of the One-Step Website for which he has 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 that he cannot pronounce from Polish genealogical societies.

In his other life Morse is a computer professional with a doctorate degree in electrical engineering. He has held various research, development, and teaching positions, authored numerous technical papers, written four textbooks, and holds four patents. He is best known as the architect of the Intel 8086 (the granddaddy of today's Pentium processor), which sparked the PC revolution more than 40 years ago.

Presentation***LIVE: Getting Ready for the 1950 Census: Searching with and without a Name Index [All]******NOTE: This presentation will be given live on Monday, April 25, at 7:00 PM EST. It will not be recorded or available for viewing.***

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**Alice Nash**

Alice Nash is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She holds a Ph.D. in History from Columbia University (1997) and an M.A. in American and New England Studies from Boston University (1989). Her research interests range from the impact of

colonization on family and gender relations in Wabanaki history before 1800 to current issues such as the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She has published numerous articles on northeastern Native American history including three in French translation in the Quebec journal *Recherches amérindiennes au Québec* (RAQ). In 2003-2004 she was awarded the first Fulbright-Université de Montréal Distinguished Chair. During this year, she served on the RAQ editorial board and taught a course on the Deerfield Raid of 1704, connecting New England and New France. Her most recent publication is an essay on "Indigenous Peoples of the Americas to 1900," published in *The Routledge Handbook to the History and Society of the Americas* (Routledge 2019) which she co-edited with Olaf Kaltmeier, Josef Raab, Michael Stewart Foley, Stefan Rinke and Mario Rufer. She is the recipient of four grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019) to serve as director or co-director of Teaching Native American Histories, a Summer Institute for K-12 teachers drawn from a national pool of applicants. Her current project is a contextual biography of an African American fashion designer, dancer, and drummer who lived in Greenwich Village after World War II; the project website is [www.legip.org](http://www.legip.org).

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### Adina Newman, EdD

Adina Newman, EdD, is the owner of My Family Genie, where she assists clients with their research and blogs about her own family history. Her main interests are in Jewish genealogy, genetic genealogy, and New England. She has a doctorate in educational leadership and the certificate in genealogical research from Boston University. She is also a graduate of ProGen50. She volunteers as a Facebook moderator for a Jewish genetic genealogy group, Social Media Coordinator for NextGen Genealogy Network. She was also a 2020 recipient of the AncestryProGenealogists scholarship.

#### Presentation

***Conducting Jewish Genealogical Research in Massachusetts [All]***

#### Chat

**Cultural, Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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### Susan M. O'Connor

Susan O'Connor has been involved in genealogy since before she was born! When her parents announced their engagement, a distant relative declared "Maurice Bowler's daughter has no business keeping company with Katie Manning's son!" Testimony from an Irish missionary priest in Georgia enabled her parents to marry but it was only on their 60th wedding anniversary when Susan presented them with a detailed pedigree chart that they learned they were actually

3rd cousins. Susan has researched her family in Ireland, Australia, and the United States and those of her husband from French Canada for over 20 years. She holds a Certificate in Genealogy Research from Boston University and is a graduate of the ProgGen professional genealogy study group.

Prior to her "retirement" in 2014, Susan was for 13 years the Executive Director of the Timothy Smith Network (TSN), a regional consortium of community technology centers in the greater Roxbury section of Boston working toward the community's economic advancement through technology proficiency. She was the Transition Manager of Boston Neighborhood Network (BNN), Boston's Public Access TV Station from 2017 to 2019. She also has over 25 years' experience in technology and program development, IT support and training in the banking industry. As an undergraduate, she majored in mathematics, physics and secondary education at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, WI. Susan received a Master of Science in Training & Development in 1994 from Lesley University.

Currently Susan is the Treasurer or NEAPG and the President of the Massachusetts Genealogical Council.

#### Presentation

***Pinpointing Your Ancestors Using Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps [All]***

#### Workshop

***Family History Evidence in Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps [I]***

Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00 PM

#### Chat

**Technology, Tuesday, April 5, at 7:00 PM EDT**

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### Claire Smith

Claire is a professional genealogist with more than 20 years of experience in research, teaching, and lecturing.

Her extensive research experience spans New England, Atlantic Canada, Ireland, England, and the West Indies including both traditional and DNA research. A former high-tech executive, Claire applies her technology skills to optimize her research, continually applying new tools and innovative methodologies to her genealogy research.

Claire is currently Director, Seminar Program Chair for the Massachusetts Genealogical Council.

She is a graduate of the ProGen professional genealogy study group and holds certificates in "Genealogical Research" from Boston University and in "Genealogy and Family History" from the University of Washington. Claire is former President of the Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society. She lives in the Greater Boston Area.

#### Presentation

***Piecing it Together - Uncovering a Family Secret in Massachusetts [All]***

Chat

**Town & Country Records, Thursday, April 28, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Margaret R. Sullivan**

Margaret R. Sullivan is Records Manager & Archivist to the Boston Police Department. After hours, she has documented long forgotten line of duty, African American, Jewish, and early women officers. She collaborated with the UMass Boston Archives and a host of volunteers to document the 1100-plus men who participated in the 1919 Boston Police Strike. A Fellow at the Massachusetts Historical Society and former Vice-President of TIARA, Margaret has been researching her own ancestors for 25 years.

Presentation

***Crowdsource Genealogy: Documenting the 1919 Boston Police Strikers [All]***

Chat

**Unique Records, Tuesday, April 26, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Kimberly Toney**

Kimberly is head of readers' services and Director of Indigenous Initiatives at the American Antiquarian Society. In addition to supervising the readers' services and reception staff, she works closely with readers and fellows, answering reference questions and making sure their research time in the reading room is well spent. She also organizes class visits to the Society. Kim has worked previously at the Center for Historic Architecture and Design at the University of Delaware and at the Newport Historical Society. She holds a B.A. from the University of Rhode Island and an M.A. from the University of Delaware.

Presentation

***Exploring your Ancestry at the American Antiquarian Society [All]***

Chat

**Repositories, Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**John Warner**

John Warner has been the Archivist of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 25 years. He studied international politics at Georgetown University where he received a BS in Foreign Service. He holds a master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Rhode Island. He received his Ph.D. from Boston College where he specialized in nineteenth century American history; his dissertation was titled: "Crossed Sabres, A History of the Fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Cavalry, An African-American Regiment in the Civil War."

Dr. Warner served in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve for 30 years retiring in 2018 as the Chief of the Waterside Security

Division, Port Security Unit 301 (Cape Cod). He is an adjunct professor of History at the Art Institute of Boston and the University of Massachusetts Boston.

His new book, *Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Calvary Regiment in the Civil War*, will be published in April 2022.

Presentation

***Riders in the Storm: Researching Your Civil War Ancestors [All]***

Chat

**Cultural, Tuesday, April 12, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Jessy Wheeler**

Jessy Wheeler has been the Research Specialist in Genealogy at the Boston Public Library since 2018. She has worked at the BPL since 2007 in a variety of different positions, primarily doing reference work. Before the BPL she worked as a library assistant at the Fisher College Library in Boston. While Jessy is not a professional genealogist, she has been always been interested in family history and has been assisting library patrons with their genealogical research for most of her professional career. She holds a BA in English from Skidmore College and a MLIS from Simmons University.

Presentation

***An Overview of Genealogy Resources at the Boston Public Library [All]***

Chat

**Repositories, Tuesday, April 19, at 7:00 PM EDT**

**Jennifer Zinck, CG®**

Jennifer Zinck, CG® is a genealogical researcher, speaker, and educator who specializes in incorporating DNA results into genealogical research. Her traditional research focus is Connecticut and New England. Jennifer serves as the President of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council. She is a member of the faculty of the Boston University Center for Professional Education Genealogical Certificate Program as well as the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Jennifer earned her credential from the Board for Certification of Genealogists in 2021.

Presentation

***Tools & Techniques for Connecting with DNA Matches [All]***

Chat

**Technology, Tuesday, April 5, at 7:00 PM EDT**