



MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL

<http://www.massgencouncil.org>

Member Organizations

Allen County Public Library, IN
American-French Genealogical Society
Billerica Friends of Genealogy
Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society
Descendants of Whaling Masters
Essex Society of Genealogists
Friends of the Silvio O. Conte Archives
The Genealogical Roundtable
Greater Boston Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists
The Irish Ancestral Research Assn.
The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston
The Massachusetts Society of Genealogists
The Massachusetts Society of Mayflower Descendants
The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution
New England Historic Genealogical Society
Plymouth County Genealogists
The Waltham Historical Society

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S DESK

By Daphnah Sage, MGC Vice-President

NARA and MGC, a most fortuitous combination! This summer the National Archives and Records Administration will be hosted by the Massachusetts Genealogical Council in a very special version of our annual seminar. Note the peaceful location and the easy access to our site. You can even stay overnight and make a vacation of it.

NARA experts from the whole Northeast Region will present their specialties to us during a day filled with three parallel tracks of tutorials on how to use the treasures of the National Archives to glean the most useful information for our genealogical research.

The NARA staff members have among them vast experience with archives in states ranging across the country, and some have even specialized in maritime records.

After a very brief Annual Meeting (can we interest you in joining the Board?), Diane LeBlanc, the Northeast Regional Administrator, will lead off the day with her vision of the NARA of the future and what it will hold in store for us.

In the first hour, there will be two how-to tracks on strategies and techniques for doing archival research in general and finding information in the Federal records in particular. In the third track, the records of the U.S. Customs Service (ships, crew lists, etc.) will be explored.

During lunch (included in the registration fee), members of the

(continued on page2)

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT'S DESK (continued from page 1)

Association of Professional Genealogists will host the various lunch tables and will be available for consultation. In addition, there will be ample time to browse the offerings of the vendors.

In the first afternoon session (again three tracks), you can explore the clues that are evident in the censuses (and what to do with those clues). Alternatively, you can delve into the legal proceedings of the Federal Court Records (bankruptcy, criminal and civil cases, etc.). Or you can learn how to use all sorts of federal records for local history research.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service (the topic of the final session) developed a rich collection of documents around those who immigrated to the United States (the more complicated a case, the more documents for us). There are many types of records that those arriving here generated (Naturalization, Declaration of Intention, Visas, Alien Registration cards, etc.). New York State will be used as an example of how the many federal records it produced can be used by the genealogist. Finally, case studies will be used to illustrate how these records were generated within the bigger context in which our ancestors lived.

As you can see, this summer Seminar has much to offer the novice, the intermediate, and the advanced genealogist. Come and dwell among the experts!

MGC BOARD 2003-2004

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The **Massachusetts Genealogical Council** is dedicated to serving the interests of the state's genealogical community. Founded in 1980, the Council's stated aim is to develop and promote the study and exchange of ideas among persons and

organizations interested in the pursuit of genealogy. Its programs and activities are designed to complement those of the many genealogical and hereditary societies throughout the state and to provide a statewide forum for genealogists.

One of the Council's leading functions is to represent the concerns of genealogists in the halls of state and local government. The Council monitors the activities of agencies that bear on genealogical interests and testifies at hearings and other forums of government. The Council promotes the preservation and publication of state and local records and also provides information about them. It guards the rights of all researchers' access to public records and educates genealogists about the proper use and preservation of these records.

The membership year runs from 1 January through 31 December. Beginning in 2005, dues will be: \$10 for an individual; \$15 for an organization; \$15 for a family (same mailing address, 1 newsletter sent for both parties, both eligible for seminar discount). Note: Dues are NOT tax-deductible.

The MGC Board meets four times a year. Meetings are open to all interested genealogists, and we welcome your participation. The dates and meeting place will be noted on our website.

PLANS FOR IRON AGE TOURIST CAMP

BBC NEWS 9/13/2004

http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/england/gloucestershire/3649052.stm

An archaeologist plans to offer tourists the chance to experience life as an Iron Age villager. Jasper Blake aims to transform farmland in the Forest of Dean into a working Iron Age settlement. Paying visitors will be able to live at the village for a week, wearing authentic costumes, foraging for food or learning to weave. Mr. Blake also hopes to attract day-trippers and schools. His idea is being presented to planners on Tuesday. If he receives permission from the Forest of Dean District Council, the settlement, named Cinderbury, could be up and running by March 2005.

Up to 20 people could stay at the village at one time, where they would cook their own food, sleep in the Celtic-style round homes and do traditional crafts such as pottery. They would also have to survive on a pre-Roman diet that rules out chocolate, coffee and potatoes. "They will live, sleep, eat and take part in activities that would have been typical of Iron Age settlements," said Mr. Blake. "Nobody knows what it was like in the Iron Age but these are the activities that they might have had. I hope it will inspire others in terms of the archaeology," he said.

Mr. Blake's chosen site already has traces of scowes - open workings unique to the Forest of Dean that were used to source iron. He said the historic and archaeological links to the region made it an ideal location for a replica Iron Age village. Mr. Blake is aiming to attract history lovers and adventurous holidaymakers who can afford the £750 a week cost. Day visitors will be charged £10.

"I think it will attract the kind of people who have done trekking across India and now want something different," he said.

JUDGE GOES TO EXTREMES TO SETTLE BIBLICAL SIBLING DISPUTE

By The Associated Press, (5/25/04 – Painesville, OH)

A judge took a page from Solomon to settle a Biblical dispute. Ruling in the case of a brother and sister who have been locked in a four-year fight over who owns their mother's 125-year-old family Bible, Lake County Probate Judge hit upon a way for each to come away with their share. "Since the family Bible is not divisible without doing harm to the asset, it must be placed for auction," Klammer said. He ordered the proceeds to be split.

Dorothy Kelsey of Concord Township, about 25 miles east of Cleveland, died in 2000. Her will divided her estate equally between her son Darryl Kelsey and daughter Marguerite Barton. But the siblings couldn't agree on who should get the Bible, which contains historical information about family members. Kelsey said he took the Bible before his mother's death while he had power of attorney, so it was never part of the estate. He has since given it to his daughter.

Barton said the Bible was improperly bequeathed to her brother and should be returned. Her attorney, Gerald Walker, said the siblings rejected suggestions to share the Bible on a rotating six-month basis.

VANDALS TRY TO UNEARTH BURIED INFANT FROM 1860'S

By Charlotte O'Donnell

codonnell@eastbaynewspapers.com Tuesday, December 21, 2004

SWANSEA [Massachusetts]- Swansea Police are investigating an attempted exhumation of an infant grave from the 1860s in Mount Hope Cemetery. The incident was reported to the police last Friday, Dec. 10. Police held off releasing the information earlier in hopes of catching the perpetrator of the crime.

A worker at the Mount Hope Cemetery reported the incident to the police. According to Detective Marc Haslam, she had been checking the grounds to follow up after a recent funeral when she noticed that the grave had been disturbed. The grave in Mount Hope Cemetery was partially dug up on Dec. 10. Upon further investigation, police discovered the grave dated from the 1860s. The plot belonged to a seven-week-old child named Avis Cleaveland.

According to the detective, it appeared that someone had attempted to unearth the remains by digging approximately 18 inches down into the ground in the area in front of the headstone. Police are certain they were unsuccessful in removing the

infant's remains, mainly because they were digging in the wrong area of the grave.

Living relatives of the child were disturbed to hear about the incident. Heather Cayton and her family come to the graveyard on a regular basis to visit her grandparents, who are buried nearby. As a former apprentice at a funeral home, she had heard of cemetery vandalism before.

She never expected anything like this to happen to her family. "It makes me sick when you hear about it. But to go this far..." she said. "I don't know what to think," she continued.

Though police do not have a suspect, they have speculated that young people may have been willing to perpetrate the crime as a sort of stunt. Detective Haslam noted that cemetery vandalism, though not commonplace in Swansea, is occasionally committed by area youth.

If anyone has any information regarding the crime they are asked to call the Swansea Police at 508/674-8464.

NEW HOME FOR BOSTON ARCHIVES

From Boston Home: The Complete Guide, Week of September 11-17, 2004, p. 37

Boston city councilors have agreed to acquire the Keyspan building at 201 Rivermoor St. in West Roxbury to house a new City of Boston Heritage Center, which would consolidate the treasured archival materials that the city stores in several scattered locations. This far-reaching plan will accommodate the City of Boston Archives, now housed at the Hemenway School in Hyde Park, the Boston Public Library book storage sites in Charlestown, Allston and Norwood and the Arborway Pole Yard. In 1995, a city archives study was commissioned. An Archivist worked with the Public Facilities Department to assess the extensive space needs to store and protect Boston's valuable historical documents. The search for a suitable location has taken five years. The goal is to establish a state-of-the-art archival storage facility with public reading rooms where historical documents can be safely stored and utilized.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES UPDATE

Effective Wednesday September 1, 2004, the National Archives in Waltham is no longer open Wednesday evenings after 4:30. The facility will continue to offer evening hours every Thursday from 4:30 - 9:00 PM, and will remain open on the first and third Saturday of every month

THE FORGOTTEN CEMETERIES

By Christine Sweet-Hart, Assistant Newsletter Editor

State hospitals and schools have a varied history as lunatic asylums, almshouses, and as schools for the “feeble minded”, deformed, and needing to be reformed. Most patients, abandoned by family, with no next of kin and without funds for a proper burial, were interred in cemeteries on the hospital grounds. If the patients died in winter, they were shipped to local universities for use in medical studies. Sometimes they were not returned for burial. Many were immigrants whose family could not afford to bring them back home for burial, or elderly hospitalized for dementia. Most state hospitals had their own embalming forensic labs and the existing inpatients made coffins, burial pillows and burial gowns. Graves were dug by maintenance staff. Until recently, only small numbered markers were all that remained to commemorate the lives of those who died there.

The existing burial records are difficult to access for two primary reasons: Department of Mental Health (DMH) confidentiality issues and the closure of hospitals. In some cases the land and buildings have been sold to private developers and the hospitals demolished. Often the land where the cemeteries were located was wildly overgrown and no money allocated for ongoing upkeep. Sometimes a cemetery was rediscovered only when someone came looking for a grave. Information in the records varies by institution, but usually contains name, date of birth, date of death, maiden name, parent’s names, country/town of origin, cause of death, place of burial and coroner. Annual reports of the institutions listing patient activities can be found in local libraries and the Massachusetts State Archives. The reports do not contain names, but do list the number of deaths and record patient activities within the hospital.

Difficulties locating gravesites and/or records of ancestors, who died while in state hospitals or schools, could be a thing of the past if the Danvers State Memorial Committee (www.dsmc.info) has their wish. They are an advocacy group led by former Danvers patient turned activist Pat Deegan, PhD. (For more information on Ms. Deegan’s activities see: <http://www.patdeegan.com> and click on the Current Projects tab). It is her wish that all of the forgotten cemeteries become memorials the way that Danvers has.

When Danvers State Hospital closed in 1991, there were no records to be found of any burials. Deegan interviewed former staff to find out where the records could have gone and was able to locate a photocopy of hundreds of names and numbers. She reviewed death records for patients who died at Danvers State Hospital and obtained a waiver from DMH to view their medical records for burial information. Patients who could not be matched with a numbered grave were memorialized on a wall of names with corresponding numbers at the cemetery site. Deegan is fighting to have DMH confidentiality issues lifted, to have formal markers that include the patient’s names placed on their individual graves, and money allocated for ongoing upkeep of these gravesites. She feels it is not right to go out of this world as a number when you had a name.

After a presentation by Deegan’s group to prominent legislators about the state of the cemeteries and the lack of records, a bill was drafted that called for a full accounting of all patients buried in state hospital cemeteries, as well as a plan for funding the continuous upkeep of the cemeteries so that they are not sold with the closing of state hospitals and their records and markers potentially destroyed by unsuspecting developers. Senate No. 34, *An Act Relative to the Identification of Burial Grounds and Cemeteries*, was introduced again in 2005 by Senator Frederick E. Berry and Representative Theodore C. Speliotis for consideration by the General Court. (For the complete wording and status of this legislation, see <http://www.mass.gov/legis/bills/senate/st00/st00034/htm>).

THEY CHANGED THEIR NAMES

By Georgie Hallock, Assistant Newsletter Editor

Amenhotep IV, Pharaoh of Egypt, founded a new religion dedicated to the worship of Aton, the sun. He founded a new city and caused many short-lived changes in Egyptian society. Because he was beginning a new life he also took a new name, Akhenaton. Charlemagne, Carl the Great, Carolus Magnes, and Karl der Grosse are different names for the same person. Marion Morrison felt his name did not promote his image properly and he became John Wayne. At one time or another everyone wants to change their name. Some of us keep our name for legal purposes and are known by a nickname for the balance of our lives.

Doing family research means that you have to watch out for name changes. Women are not obliged to take their husband's name, but most of them do. A second or third marriage just adds more confusion. And there are those families who disapproved of the union so they refer to the woman by a previous name.

A child's name may be changed for many reasons. Born in 1885, and called Grace in her infancy, at age 2 she was baptized as Rebecca Margaret. At marriage she changed her first name and her last name becoming Margaret Rebecca Hallock. If we did not know her story, we would have a host of phantom people on our missing list.

There were tons of immigrant children who moved up the social ladder by changing their names. A famous judge named Lebowitz was not from German Jewish roots, his family name was Lebeau. The family emigrated from the Middle East. Because of all of the other immigrant names on the boat, the Lebeau's changed their name to sound more American.

She was Elizabeth on her marriage certificate; her birth certificate was not to be found, but her will proved that she had been born Bessie; a census listed her as Bess; and school records called her Betsy. She worked at a Boston department store as Beth. Putting her names and nicknames together shortened a very complex family tree.

There are all kinds of name problems. We call him Christopher Columbus, but in Italian he was Cristoforo Columbo. A surfeit of Martin's in my family produced Martin called Matt, who was miscalled Mathew. Mothers who could not speak English gave the children cradle names. Bennie is on the birth certificate, but he became Benjamin and did not know about Bennie until he needed a passport. Finding his birth record was another project as his mother kept time by the Jewish calendar.

Weed was just a nickname, although we never knew any other name for him. His Scandinavian immigrant mother did not know enough English to answer the registration questions properly and called him Swedish. A kindly schoolteacher told one and all he was just growing like a Weed. Last names are changed by ease of spelling or to make them fit in. The three sons in the Hay-Howe family became Hay and Howe and Hayes.

There is a less than lovely old song called "What was your Name in the States?"

There should be a new one called "Who are you in Civil Records?"

MASSACHUSETTS GENEALOGICAL COUNCIL ANNUAL SEMINAR

Saturday, July 30, 2005
The Conference Center at Marlborough, Massachusetts

We are very proud to announce that our 2005 annual seminar will be held jointly with **The National Archives and Records Administration Northeast Region**. All of the speakers are experts from the National Archives. There are three lecture choices in each session: one of the lectures will focus on the use of basic resources at the Archives, such as census records; one of the lectures is on a more advanced topic, such as strategies to optimize your research time in an Archive; and one of the lectures is on a special subject, such as Federal Court records. Every genealogist, beginning or experienced, will find lectures that will fill their needs in this program.

In addition, the Conference Center in Marlborough is a beautiful facility. It is easy to find, there is plenty of parking, and lots of room for us. Our 2004 seminar was very popular, and we were a little crowded. This will not happen in Marlborough. All of the rooms will be set up with comfortable chairs (not too close together), and a writing space. Refreshments will be available all day, and a truly excellent luncheon will be provided. Members of the Association of Professional Genealogists will be joining us and we will arrange luncheon tables for discussions on various genealogical subjects as we did last year. We will, however, be a little more organized. There is lots of room at the Center for vendors, and for socializing. We will have a wonderful time.

PROGRAM

8:00am to 10:30am

Registration in the Auditorium Lobby; Vendors Open; Light Refreshments. Coffee/tea/soft drinks and water will be available in the lobby all day.

9:00am to 9:45am

Massachusetts Genealogical Council Annual Meeting will take place in the Auditorium. This will include the election of Officers for 2005/2006.

10:00am to 10:30am (Auditorium)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS by Diane LeBlanc, Regional Administrator, National Archives and Records Administration – Northeast Region: *The Next 5 Years, 10 Years, 20 Years*. 2005 marks NARA's 20th anniversary as an independent agency. Dr. Allen Weinstein takes the reins as the 9th Archivist of the United States. What will NARA's Northeast Region look like in 5-20 years?

10:45am to 11:45am

TRACK 1: *Speaker: Horace Waters. How to Find Information on People and Places in Federal Records:* Finding aids include Indexes and Records Lists. Learn what they are, how they work, the different varieties, as well as the problems and challenges. This lecture will also include instruction on how the Soundex system actually works.

TRACK 2: *Speaker: Jean Nudd. Archival Research Strategies and Techniques:* Basic research practices include what to expect when you visit an archive; how to locate information about collections through the Internet; and how to evaluate sources and put the data in context. This discussion includes accessing the online Archival Research Catalog (ARC) and NARA's Access to Archival Databases (AAD).

TRACK 3: *Speaker: Michael Moore. Records of the U.S. Customs Service:* A treasure trove for those researching ships and the men who sailed them, their voyages, crew lists (outgoing and returning), shipping articles (contracts), records of deceased and deserted seamen, as well as vessel documentation; variations in records and scope from port to port.

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm: Full Buffet Lunch Served in the Atrium Dining Room (all refreshments and meals included in the registration cost); Vendors Open; Members of the Association of Professional Genealogists will be hosting discussion topic tables in the Dining Room. [Note: please let us know on your registration form if you need a special meal.]

1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

TRACK 1: *Speaker: Horace Waters. Beyond Names and Ages, Clues in the Census:* There is information in the census records that will lead you to other records sources. This lecture will focus on these clues, and tell you where to go next.

TRACK 2: *Speaker: Walter V. Hickey. Federal Court Records:* Legal proceedings in bankruptcy, criminal, admiralty, and civil actions, document people and business relationships, as well as economic, social, and political trends.

TRACK 3: *Speaker: Stuart Culy. Using Federal Records for Local History Research:* Includes using such records as the non-population census schedules, draft registration cards, WPA index cards, Civil War era tax lists.

2:45pm to 3:45pm

TRACK 1: *Speaker: Jean Nudd. Immigrant Ancestors:* Overview of Naturalization and Passenger Arrivals records, Draft Registration Cards, Alien Registration, Visa Application, Registry Files, and other records available from the USCIS (formerly the INS), and Declarations of Intention that are useful in determining immigrant origins.

TRACK 2: *Speaker: Nancy Shader. In a New York State of Mind:* Not all Federal records are created equal. Federal records from New York include Passenger Lists, Naturalization Records, and extensive Federal court records from one of the most litigious districts in the country.

TRACK 3: *Speaker: Walter V. Hickey. Pathways to Records Case Studies:* Few records exist in a vacuum. One key to successful research is to follow a record to see where it leads ...or where it came from. Cases - Revolutionary War pensions; Detained Immigrants; Generational Family Study.

4:00pm to 4:45pm: **Panel Discussion and Questions:** hosted by Diane LeBlanc with NARA staff experts from Boston, Pittsfield and New York City. What's happening at NARA. What do users want? Where should we go from here?

4:45pm to 5pm: Door Prizes and Announcements

MGC/NARA Conference, July 30, 2005
Staff Biographies

Stuart Culy

Stuart Culy is the Regional Archives Director for NARA's Northeast Region - Boston. He accepted the position in 2002, just prior to the opening of the 1930 Census. Mr. Culy began working for NARA in 1993 at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library in Boston. After leaving the library, he worked for NARA's central office in College Park, MD and for a brief time as the Archivist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Cape Cod. Mr. Culy has a MA in Public History from Northeastern University and a BA in History from Stonehill College.

Nancy M. Shader

Nancy M. Shader is the Regional Archives Director for NARA's Northeast Region - New York. Prior to this position, Ms. Shader was the public services archivist at the Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Princeton University where she coordinated all reference activities. Ms. Shader also worked the Connecticut State Library and the U.S. National Park Service (Mount Rainier National Park) where she worked with a wide range of archival records from small manuscript collections to large government holdings. Ms. Shader has a graduate degree in history with a concentration in archives and records management from Western Washington University.

Jean Nudd

Jean Nudd is an archivist for NARA's Northeast Region – Pittsfield where she manages the microfilm reading room as well as the volunteer and outreach programs. Prior to working for NARA in 1994 she was an archivist for the Arizona State Archives where she responsible for the collection of local records. Ms. Nudd earned her Bachelors degree in history from Plymouth State College in Plymouth, NH and her Masters from Arizona State University in local history. Since coming to Pittsfield, Ms. Nudd has become an avid genealogist. She has traced her Nudd, Hill and Wells roots back to the 1600s in New England and New York.

Michael T. Moore

Michael T. Moore has been an archivist for NARA's Northeast Region - Boston since 2001. At NARA he has worked to improve knowledge about the Region's extensive holdings of records of the U.S. Customs Service and other related maritime records of New England. From 1990 to 1998 he served as the Archivist of the Texas General Land Office (a state agency). His research on Texas surveying and mapping resulted in the publication of a map showing the corrected boundaries and settlement features of the first Anglo-American colony in Texas. Michael Moore has also held positions at Baylor University, Dartmouth College, Endicott College, and Bradford College.

Walter V. Hickey

Walter V. Hickey is an Archives Specialist for NARA's Northeast Region - Boston. Mr. Hickey has worked for NARA for nearly 15 years at both the Boston and Pittsfield facilities. His lectures cover genealogical and non-genealogical related topics. While working at the Pittsfield facility he devised the vessel index to the New York passenger records, one of the most used set of records held by NARA. Mr. Hickey has trained countless volunteers at both facilities and has been instrumental in making NARA's Northeast facilities among the best research destinations in New England.

Horace H. Waters

Horace H. Waters has worked for NARA's Northeast Region - Boston for over three years. Mr. Waters is a frequent lecturer at the NARA facility in Waltham, where his presentations include topics such as "Census, Naturalization and Passenger Lists" as well as the local history of Waltham, Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard. His expertise includes New England Maritime History of the 19th and early 20th Century, mid 19th Century tax records and New England Naturalization Records. He is a 12th generation New Englander with ancestors arriving in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. He has over twenty years experience in genealogical and historical research in New England and New York.

LOCATION

The Conference Center at Marlborough, 280 Locke Drive, Marlborough, MA 01752
Phone: 508.263.5500

The Conference Center at Marlborough is ordinarily used as a very sophisticated business-training center. It probably exceeds in comfort and amenities anything that you have ever seen at a genealogy conference. It is easily accessible from the highway. It is located just off Route 495, near the connection with the Massachusetts Turnpike.

DIRECTIONS TO THE CONFERENCE CENTER IN MARLBOROUGH, MA

From Boston and Route 128: Take the Massachusetts Turnpike West (Rt. 90) to Route 495 North (Exit 11A). From Route 495 North, take Exit 24B onto Route 20 West. Follow directions below.

From Logan International Airport, Boston: Follow signs to the Ted Williams Tunnel to Route 90 West (Mass Turnpike). Take Mass. Pike West (Route 90) to Route 495 North (Exit 11A). From Route 495 North, take Exit 24B onto Route 20 West. Follow directions below.

From Worcester, Massachusetts: Take Route 290 East to Route 495 South. From Route 495 South, take Exit 24 B onto Route 20 West. Follow directions below.

From Springfield and Western Massachusetts: Take Mass. Pike (Route 90) to Route 495 North (Exit 11A). From Route 495 North, take Exit 24B onto Route 20 West. Follow directions below.

From Cape Cod: Take Route 495 North to Exit 24B onto Route 20 West. Follow directions below.

“Directions Below”:

Take your first right onto Felton Street (just before the gas station). Follow Felton Street, and go through the set of lights. At this point, Felton Street becomes Locke Drive. Continue to the end of Locke Drive. The Conference Center at Marlborough entrance will be straight ahead. [It’s surrounded by trees, and just at the point where you think you’re lost. We’ll put up more signs.]

Parking: Turn left at the entrance and follow the road around the bend. Guest parking is available in lots A, B, or C on the right side. Follow the walkway signs to the "Front Desk/Registration" entrance.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:

There is Commuter Rail service from both Worcester and Boston to Westborough. If you need a pickup at the station, email Mary Ellen Grogan (megrogan@ix.netcom.com). We will arrange rides. Rides will be available on Friday afternoon for those spending the night at the hotel.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION

Rooms are available in the conference center hotel for \$89. Call 508-263-5700 to make a reservation. Since this building was designed as a training center, the rooms are comfortable and clean but not luxurious. Each room has one double-bed (some have been upgraded to queen). If you have special needs, please tell the reservation desk. They do have special accommodations. For descriptions and pictures of the rooms, see the conference center website at <http://www.ahl-marlborough.com/>. Make a note on your registration form if you plan to come early and spend the night on Friday. We will organize dinner. If there is interest, we can go to the Wayside Inn, which is very picturesque, and about a 5-mile drive.

REGISTRATION FORM for MGC/NARA Genealogy Conference

One Registration Form Per Person, Please. Names will appear on the name badges as given below.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone with Area Code: _____

E-Mail address: _____

COST: Early registration (due by June 15, 2005) MGC Members \$50/Non-members \$60

Regular registration: (due by July 15, 2005): MGC Members \$60/Non-members \$70

You may join MGC now for \$10 (2005 Annual Dues).

Notify Mary Ellen Grogan (megrogan@ix.netcom.com) or make a note below if you will be spending Friday night at the Conference Center. Reservations for the hotel are made directly with the Conference Center. Mary Ellen will be organizing a get-together and meal for anyone who will be spending Friday night at the hotel.

Please let us know which lectures you think you will attend. You are not committed to these lectures. It is only a guide to help us choose the most appropriate size lecture rooms. Make a check beside the track number for each time period.

10:45 am to 11:45 am

Track 1 _____

Track 2 _____

Track 3 _____

1:30 pm to 2:30 pm

Track 1 _____

Track 2 _____

Track 3 _____

2:45 pm to 3:45 pm

Track 1 _____

Track 2 _____

Track 3 _____

The Association of Professional Genealogists will be present, and will host tables in the Dining Room during lunch to discuss various research topics. Please list two or three topics that you would interest you (in order of preference). We will try to accommodate everyone.

I am interested in: _____

Other comments/questions: _____

**Send completed form (with check made out to Massachusetts Genealogical Council) to:
Massachusetts Genealogical Council
P.O. Box 5393
Cochituate, MA 01778-5393.**

Massachusetts Genealogical Council
P.O. Box 5393, Cochituate, MA 01778-5393

Newsletter: If you have information, notices, etc., that you would like included in the MGC Newsletter, please send them to the Newsletter Editor, Massachusetts Genealogical Council, P.O. Box 5393, Cochituate, MA 01778-5393 or email editor@massgencouncil.org. If you receive a copy of the newsletter with fewer than 12 pages, let us know and we will send it again. Sometimes the newsletters suffer in the mailing process. If you would prefer to get the newsletter electronically, we can do that too.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Have you remembered to renew your membership? If the mailing label has "04", rather than "05", it's time to renew. Individual membership dues are \$10. Our ability to serve as an advocate for genealogists in Massachusetts is based on the strength and size of our membership. Your membership is important to us. Thank you for your support.

Saturday, July 30, 2005

MGC ANNUAL MEETING AND SEMINAR

MGC is very pleased to announce that the Educational Seminar in 2005 will be jointly sponsored with the National Archives and Records Administration. The seminar will be held at the Verizon Conference Center in Marlborough. It is located off 495, north of the MassPike and south of 290. It is a lovely facility and very easy to find. There is a hotel on the property for those wishing to spend the night. Refreshments will be provided during the day, and a buffet lunch will be served. The program planning committee personally visited the site and taste-tested the lunch. We guarantee that you will be pleased. Full program details and the registration form are on pages 7-11 of this newsletter.

GENEALOGICAL QUIPS

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I'd rather look for dead people than have 'em look for me.

My family coat of arms ties at the back... is that normal?

I looked into my family tree and found out I was a sap.

That's the problem with the gene pool: no lifeguards

I'm tracing my family history so I know who to blame!

When I searched for ancestors, I found friends.