

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ROOTS EVENTS

BERKSHIRE, FRANKLIN, HAMPSHIRE and HAMPDEN COUNTIES in MASSACHUSETTS

August 1, 2016 - Volume 03 Number 07

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Visit our Website at: [www.wmarootsevents.wordpress.com](http://www.wmarootsevents.wordpress.com)

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**Volunteers needed:** The Western Massachusetts Roots Events will be expanding the services provided to you by way of adding more information to its website. If you are interested in helping us with research and/or entering information on spreadsheets, please contact us at [wmarootsevents@gmail.com](mailto:wmarootsevents@gmail.com). Thank you, in advance. We know you will enjoy being a part of our team.

**Alan Doyle Horbal, Publisher**  
**Western Massachusetts Roots Events Newsletter**

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**August 3, 2016, Wednesday** (6:00 pm – 8:00 pm): Western Mass Genealogical Society Field Trip to the Lyman and Merrie Wood Museum Springfield Archives at the Springfield Museums, Springfield, MA. For more information see [www.WestMassGen.com](http://www.WestMassGen.com).

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August 17, 24, 31, 2016, Wednesdays (6:00 pm – 7:30 pm): The New England Historic Genealogical Society, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, MA (888-296-3447) will be presenting an On-line course exclusively for NEHGS members, Researching Your French-Canadian Ancestors. The Instructor is Rhonda R. McClure, Genealogist. People researching their French-Canadian ancestors will be happy to find a wealth of resources and records available in both Canada and the United States. French-Canadian genealogy, however, is not without its quirks. Learn how to locate and use essential resources, analyze records, and utilize search techniques to discover your family's past. This three-week online course will focus on resources pertaining to the province of Québec.

Cost: \$85. For more information and to register: <http://www.americanancestors.org/Education/Online-Classes/>

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**September 1, 8, 15, 22, 2016, Thursdays** (10:00 am – 12:00 pm): Basic Genealogy, North Adams Public Library, 74 Church Street, North Adams, MA 01247. Phone: 413-662-3133. Alan Doyle Horbal, Genealogist, will show students how to conduct genealogical research. He will present an introduction to genealogy along with helpful hints for conducting your research. You will learn how to use the U.S. Census from 1790-1940 and the Ellis Island website to find relatives coming from Europe.

Alan will also demonstrate international research for Canada, Poland, Galicia and England. You must be computer literate and have an e-mail address.

Sign up is required by calling the library. This course is progressive – *you must take all four classes.*

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September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016, Thursdays (10:00 am – 12:00 pm/ OR 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm): *Intro to Ancestry.com* at the Berkshire Athenaeum, 1 Wendell Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Ancestry.org is a commercial database created to help you discover your family history and build a family tree with the world's largest genealogy website. Search birth records, census data, obituaries and more! Class instructors will be library volunteers, Janet Rogge and Angela Rifkin, along with Vera Silva. *Limited to 10 participants.*

Register online at www.pittsfieldlibrary.org and click on the Calendar of Events page or contact the Local History Department at 499-9480 x6. Please register for one session only. Register soon as classes fill up fast.

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*September 10, 2016, Saturday* (8:30 am): The Irish CC is sponsoring a bus trip to Boston on *It's Boston on your own!* Perhaps visit Fenway Park for a tour, or follow the Freedom Trail, or stroll around Fanueil Hall Marketplace. Plenty of time to visit Boston's favorite places and have lunch or dinner!

The bus will depart from the ICC at 429 Morgan Road in West Springfield, MA at 8:30 am. *To reserve your seats*, please [email](#) or call Ellen Gallivan at 413-333-4951 or Rose Baker at 413-519-2135. **Cost of the trip is \$40 for ICC members and \$43 for non-members.** [Learn more.](#)

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October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016 Tuesdays (10:00 am – 12:00 pm): *Basic Hands-on Genealogy* with Alan Doyle Horbal, professional genealogist. Berkshire Athenaeum, Wendell Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201. Outline and instruction on researching the 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 and 1940 U.S. Census. Discover 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 e-mail account and be computer literate. Limited space, please sign up for sessions. We ask that you attend all four classes. You may bring your own laptop or use a library one. Register at www.Pittsfieldlibrary.org by clicking on Calendar of Events or call (413) 499-9480 ext. 6. *Class is limited to 12 with a waiting list after that.*

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**October 20, 2016 Thursday** (2:00 pm & 6:30 pm): The Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013 and The Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts, with support from the Chicopee Cultural Council, are presenting two talks by Forensic Genealogist Colleen Fitzpatrick:

**(2:00 pm)** *The Database Detective, and Not Just the Facts Ma'am, Give Me the Big Picture.*

**(6:30 pm)** *The Secrets of Abraham Lincoln's DNA.*

Colleen is the author of three books on Forensic Genealogy and the founder of [Identifinders.com](http://Identifinders.com), (which entails the fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy). Both talks are free and open to the public, but **registration is required** due to seating capacity. More information can be found at [www.PGSMA.org](http://www.PGSMA.org).

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Western Mass Roots Events Website: Click [here](#) to view a current listing of recurring regional genealogical activities on our website, sorted by day of the week.

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***For more information regarding the following, please click on the web addresses. You may have to hold down your "Control (Ctrl)" key and click in order to follow the link:***

1. **Mission Statement:**

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

2. **Submission Requirements:**

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

3. **Polish Genealogy Terms:**

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

4. **Foreign to English Names:**

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

***The Deadline for submission in the September Newsletter is August 23, 2015. Thank you.***

***Happy Searching!***

