

# WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS ROOTS EVENTS

BERKSHIRE, FRANKLIN, HAMPSHIRE and HAMPDEN COUNTIES in MASSACHUSETTS

September 1, 2016 - Volume 03 Number 09

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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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The Irish Cultural Center of Western New England, Irish Cultural Center, 429 Morgan Road, West Springfield, MA 01089 and Elms College are pleased to offer a range of **Irish language classes** this fall:

**August 31 – November 30, 2016, Wednesdays** (6:55 pm – 9:25 pm) Intermediate Irish: Advanced  
Taught by Anna Ní Choirbín  
(\$175)

**September 3 – December 3, 2016, Saturdays** (10:00 am – 12:00 pm): Third Year Irish (\$150)  
Taught by Kathleen Gilhooly.

**September 6 – December 6, 2016, Tuesdays** (6:45 pm – 8:45 pm): Second Year Irish (\$150)  
Taught by Chip Costello.

**September 6 – December 6, 2016, Tuesdays** (6:45 pm – 8:45 pm): First Year Irish (\$150)  
Taught by Kathleen Gilhooly.

September 12 – December 12, 2016, Mondays (6:45 pm – 8:45 pm): First Year Irish (\$150)  
Taught by Chip Costello

Visit our website [irishcenter@elms.edu](mailto:irishcenter@elms.edu) for more information and class descriptions. To enroll, call the Registrar's office at 413-265-2314 or download a registration form. **Irish Cultural Center members receive a \$50 discount on 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 7, 2016, Wednesday** ( 6:00 to 8:00 pm): The Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society (WMGS), Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, Mass at their regular monthly meeting will host guest speaker Seema Kenney, of *Seema-ABLE*, speaking on Census Reports Lead To... She will be presenting on the many crossroads one's research might take after finding a family in the census. This presentation will make connections between data from the different census years and data to look for in twenty-seven other resources. The census gives you location which leads to city directories. Ages and genders lead to possible military records. Every fact on the census hints at another resource direction. Seema has been working in the genealogy field professionally since 2010, having completed the Boston University Genealogy Research Program. She is currently the Secretary for NERGC (holding the genealogy conference in Springfield in 2017) and is the president of the Worcester Chapter of the Mass Society of Genealogists.

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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](http://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 Faneuil 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](mailto:ellen.gallivan@irishcc.org) 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](http://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](http://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, Chicopee, MA and The Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts, with support from the Chicopee Cultural Council, present CSI Meets Roots: Meet a Forensic Genealogist! featuring Forensic Genealogist Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD., at the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

**(2:00 pm)** The Database Detective, and Not Just the Facts Ma'am, Give Me the Big Picture. This lecture is a compilation of several talks that explore how forensics can aid in genealogical research.

**(6:30 pm)** The Secrets of Abraham Lincoln's DNA. This lecture details fascinating discoveries from her work as the Forensic Genealogist on the Abraham Lincoln DNA Project.

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). She has been involved in several high profile forensic cases. Both talks are free and open to the public, but **registration is required for each event separately** due to seating capacity. Complete lecture description and registration details by Eventbrite can be found at [www.PGSMA.org](http://www.PGSMA.org).

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**October 22, 2016, Saturday**, (1:45 pm - 3:00 pm **and** 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm): The Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut and the Northeast, Inc. and Endowed Chair of the Polish and Polish American Studies Central Connecticut State University Institute of Technology, Business and Development, will present two lectures by Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. to help you learn about forensic genealogy and the latest innovations in DNA analysis:

A Different Kind of DNA Talk - 1:45 pm - 3:00 pm

Genealogy and the Six Degrees of Separation - How to Find Anyone in the World - 3:30 pm - 4:45.

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. is an internationally recognized forensic genealogist, the founder of *Identifinders International*. As a world traveler and multi-lingual, Colleen specializes in international cases. She has appeared on international radio and television programs.

The lectures will take place at Central Connecticut State University, 100 Main Street, 3rd floor, New Britain, CT. (Please note this event is taking place at CCSU's downtown campus and not the main campus.) Registration is from 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm. **Cost is \$20.00** - Refreshments will be served.

For more information and the Registration form, please go to [http://www.pgsctne.org/Fitzpatrick\\_Colleen\\_Seminar/Seminar%20flyer.aspx](http://www.pgsctne.org/Fitzpatrick_Colleen_Seminar/Seminar%20flyer.aspx)

If you have any questions, please email Diane Szepanski, Seminar Chair, at [Szepanski3@cox.net](mailto:Szepanski3@cox.net).

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**October 27, November 3, 10, 17, Thursdays** (10:00 am and 1:00 pm): The Polish Center for Discovery and Learning and The Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts *present* *Genealogy for Beginners* at the Polish Center for Discovery and Learning, 33 South Street, Chicopee, MA. Alan Doyle Horbal will present an introduction to genealogy along with helpful hints for conducting your research. You will learn how to use the US Census from 1850-1940 and how to find your family coming in at Ellis Island and to find relatives coming from Europe and making their way in the United States. Alan will also demonstrate international research for Poland, Galicia, Canada, and England. Alan Doyle Horbal has spent over 25 years researching his Ukrainian family that originated in Bartne and doing research at the Polish State Archive in Przemysł. He has taught genealogy classes at Williams College and throughout Massachusetts and is founder and editor of the *Western Massachusetts Roots Events Newsletter*. These classes are co-sponsored by the [Polish Center for Discovery and Learning](#) and the [Polish Genealogical Society of Massachusetts](#). *You must be computer literate and have an email address.* Admission is free, but registration is necessary. Register for either a.m. or p.m. class by going to [www.pgsm.org/events](http://www.pgsm.org/events)

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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 October Newsletter is September 23, 2015. Thank you.***

***Happy Searching!***

