



Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society

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- Wednesday, August 5 Field Trip
 - Membership Opinion Survey
 - Upcoming Events
 - Irish Cultural Center - BIG News!

This month's "mini-newsletter" contains a few items that we thought were important enough to get the word out quickly!

Wednesday 05 August 2015

We hope that everyone will be joining us at the [Lyman and Merrie Wood Museum of Springfield History and Archives](#) (MOSH for short!) for an insider's view of the archives and the phenomenal collections available there. A warm evening with sunshine in August is certainly more inviting than -5° temperatures and the sheer darkness of January!

IMPORTANT DETAILS ABOUT OUR VISIT:

Since we are visiting the archives *after hours*, we have to understand that as a service to WMGS members, the Archives will be opening solely for our benefit. They have also added security staff who will allow us into the building but...

...only between 5:30 and 6:00 PM after which the doors have to be locked. Please arrive between those times!

We will be meeting on the lower level with Maggie Humberston, Head of Library & Archives and Cliff McCarthy, Archivist. They are taking this extra time to help us understand the resource that is literally in our own backyard! Nearly all of what we'll find there is not available on-line and can only be accessed at the Archives.



This is the view as you come down Edwards Street. Note the parking lot on the right. There will also be parking to the left across the street.

Lyman and Merrie Wood Museum of Springfield History and Archives
(MOSH)
21 Edwards Street, Springfield, MA

[Click here for directions from Route 91](#)

July/August 2015 Membership Opinion Survey

Many thanks to those members who took the time to answer a few quick opinion questions. We've already received a great number of replies and there's plenty of time to add your opinion. We will be sharing the results at our meeting on August 5th after which they'll be posted at the WMGS website.

We designed the survey for our paid membership but everyone is invited to add comments and suggestions with regards to Western Massachusetts Genealogical Society. Here's a link to take you to the survey if you haven't yet had the time. We appreciate your help and your input but **please respond prior to the 15th of August** to give us time to compile and digest the data in order to share it with you.

[**TAKE THE SURVEY!**](#)

While you're at it, if you feel inclined to become a full fledged member, here's a link to the membership application that you can download, complete and mail in:

[**WMGS Membership Application**](#)

In addition to regular membership benefits, paid members are entitled to attend our Research Clinics held twice a month from September to the following June at no cost. Non-members are charged \$10 per session. You will also have access to our new and growing archive of WMGS Google+ remote meetings which are simple YouTube videos available via a membership password.

**French - Canadian Research anyone?
Coming attractions!
Wednesday 02 September 2015**

In September, we have the good fortune to have a Western Mass native "come home" and spend an evening with us on the favorite subject of many of our membership.

Pauline Cusson, board member of the [American-Canadian Genealogical Society](#) and an integral part of the success of several NERGC conferences, will be with us to discuss her specialty, French-Canadian, Franco-American and Acadian genealogy.



Pauline Cusson

Her topic will be "*French Canadian Research: Bridging the Gap.*"

And in October...

...we'll be visiting with our "old friend" Russ Worthington. Russ is Dear Myrtle's cousin who assisted us in our Google+ Hangouts with Dear Myrtle and with Judy Russell. Aside from being a leading expert in the complexities of Google Hangouts, Russ is quite accomplished in many fields including genealogy. I personally call on Russ for assistance with Find-A Grave and Family Tree Maker/Ancestry.com.



"Cousin Russ"

He'll be giving us an in depth understanding in the use of **City Directories** which should be a vital part of everyone's search strategies.

He'll be coming to us from his home in New Jersey via a Google Hangout. Since we, ourselves, have become fairly adept at the technology, we expect the entire evening to go without a hitch!

That's Wednesday, 7 October 2015.

**The Irish Cultural Center at Elms College
is moving to West Springfield!**

All the details can be found in the announcement at their website. Click here: [ICC](#)
