

14th New England Regional Genealogical Conference



26-29 April 2017
Springfield, MA

E-zine 3 July 2016

Welcome to NERGC 2017!

The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. (NERGC) invites you to join us at our fourteenth conference 26-29 April 2017 at the MassMutual Convention Center in the heart of historic Springfield, Massachusetts. Registration for NERGC 2017 won't begin until early fall, but you can start making plans now. Continue to follow our E-zines to keep up-to-date on the planning and the excitement of this conference.

CONVENTION CENTER

The MassMutual Center is conveniently located in downtown Springfield, Massachusetts, a venue that combines the best of big-city accessibility and services with small-town hospitality and affordability. Springfield is easily reached from two major interstate highways and Bradley International Airport, which is just twenty minutes from the convention center. You can discover a rich array of dining choices, cultural attractions including some of the finest museums in the country, world-class entertainment, famous college towns, historic villages, and short excursions to the rest of New England. Best of all, first-class hotel rooms, restaurants, and special attractions are all within walking distance of the MassMutual Center.

CONFERENCE HOTELS

We are offering a choice of two collaborating conference hotels:

Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place
One Monarch Place, Springfield, MA 01144

Springfield Marriott.
2 Boland Way, Springfield, MA 01115

For more information, see
<http://www.nergc.org/hotel-and-convention-center/>

2017 FEATURED SPEAKERS

In E-zine 1 we introduced Thomas MacEntee. In E-zine 2 we introduced F. Warren Bittner. Our third featured speaker for 2017 is Kenyatta D. Berry.



Kenyatta D. Berry, a featured genealogist on the PBS series Genealogy Roadshow, is a genealogist, businesswoman and lawyer with more than fifteen years experience in genealogical research and writing. A native of Detroit, Ms. Berry graduated from Bates Academy, Cass Technical High School, Michigan State University and Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She began her genealogical journey while in law school and studying at the State Library of Michigan in Lansing. Ms. Berry has deep roots in Detroit; her ancestors have lived in Detroit since the late 1920s. She is the Past President of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) and on the Council of the Corporation for the New England Historic Genealogical Society

(NEHGS) in Boston. A frequent lecturer and writer, her area of focus is African American and Slave Ancestral research. Ms. Berry is an avid Detroit sports fan and loves to watch the Lions, Tigers and Red Wings from her home in Santa Monica.

WEDNESDAY EVENTS

In addition to the three-day conference (27-29 April 2017), **Wednesday 26 April** is packed with activities! Choose from the following options to expand your conference experience:

BUS TOUR

Interested to learn more about where you can do genealogical research in Western Massachusetts? A Bus Tour of significant genealogical sites in the greater Springfield area will be held Wednesday, April 26, 2017 from 10am to 2pm with stops at Forbes Genealogical Library, Springfield Archives, Irish Cultural Center, Springfield Armory, and Springfield Cemetery. You can return to any of these sites on your own for research during your time in Springfield. **Cost:** \$35; lunch available on your own at the Irish Cultural Center "Pub". Watch for more details and registration information in future E-zines.

DNA DAY

NERGC's First DNA Day will be held on Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 8:45 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., at the Mass Mutual Center, Springfield Massachusetts. DNA Day provides the opportunity for genealogists to review topics that are focused on a DNA oriented audience and might not otherwise be included in a general conference trying to reach a broad audience. The cost is \$50.00 per person for four seminars, a lunch presentation, and a luncheon sponsored by FTDNA, (FamilyTree DNA). Seats are limited so register early.

LIBRARIANS' AND LOCAL HISTORIANS' DAY

This special program for librarians and local historians on Wednesday, 26 April 2017 will provide the opportunity for professionals to learn how genealogy can serve them in their dual roles as curators of their unique collections and as ambassadors of genealogy resources for their community. The presentations will be devoted to showing how genealogy and local history collections can attract new visitors, generate renewed interest in using these collections for research, and bring new sources of funding. All librarians and local historians who work with family historians or with genealogy related research materials will benefit from this special event. The cost is \$40.00 per person and includes lunch compliments of ProQuest. The program will feature these topics and speakers:

- **Making the Financial Case for Genealogical Librarianship** – *Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF*
- **Online Resources Off the Beaten Path** – *Curt B. Witcher, MS FUGA, IGSF*
- **ProQuest Information and Learning** – *William Forsyth*
- **Fostering Family History Services at your Organization** – *Dr. Rhonda L. Clark, Clarion University*
- **Genealogy and Local Family History Discussion** – panel of speakers and genealogy librarians will answer your burning questions.

Learn more about our speakers and their topics as well as other activities planned for the day in future E-zines.

PROFESSIONAL DAY

NERGC's first Professional Day will be held on Wednesday, 26 April 2017, 8:45 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., at the MassMutual Convention Center in Springfield Massachusetts. This provides an opportunity for professional genealogists to review items that are focused on a professional audience and might not be included in a general conference trying to reach a broad audience.

TECHNOLOGY DAY

NERGC's Third Tech Day will be held on Wednesday, 26 April 2017 at the Mass Mutual Center, Springfield Massachusetts. The 2015 event will offer two tracks – Research with Technology and Advanced Tools. Tech Day provides the opportunity for genealogists to review items that are focused on a technically oriented audience and might not otherwise be included in a general conference trying to reach a broad audience.

SOCIETY DAY

For the First time, we're offering a special Track on Wednesday for Society Management. This Track is geared toward society leaders, members, and those interested in learning more about running societies. Please use this as both a learning and network experience – meet other society leaders, discuss your situations, share ideas – participate with the presenters via questions and discussions.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are always offered as part of the conference experience at NERGC. These are 2-hour sessions to a limited size audience with an opportunity for more hands-on work than the traditional 1-hour presentation. Because of the space available, we are offering a few workshops on Wednesday. While all workshops have their own admission cost, those on Wednesday **DO NOT** require conference registration to attend!

PLACE AN AD IN THE CONFERENCE SYLLABUS

Are you a professional genealogist? A member of an historical society with publications or merchandise to sell? A member of a family association or a genealogical society? A publishing company who publishes family histories? Or ...

Any number of people and organizations will benefit when they place an ad in the 2017 NERGC conference syllabus. The ad will share your information with others and make them aware of your merchandise, publications, and services.

Do you need a researcher in a particular part of the country? Are you looking for a specific book or item? The 2017 NERGC syllabus will reach more than the 900 plus expected to attend the conference. Yes, the Internet and Facebook do make searching for your needs easier, but remember not everyone uses the Internet or can use it to search effectively. Print ads can make a difference. Before the conference the syllabus material, including the ads, will be issued to those registered. The ads can be used to alert folks to search for a specific conference vendor. Additionally the ads in the syllabus will be available for years in various societies and libraries who have sent representatives to the 2017 conference.

Before November 15, 2016 send ads for the 2017 NERGC Conference Syllabus (electronic and/or hard copies) and funds for the ads to Cheryl Willis Patten, 1161 East Pond Road, Smithfield, ME 04978-3213 cwpatten@tds.net If you e-mail your ad, please include "NERGC Ad" in the subject line. Checks should be made payable to NERGC. Contact Cheryl for ad templates. Ads cost \$200 for the inside back cover ad (greyscale), \$100 for a full page ad, \$55 for a half page ad, \$30 for a quarter page ad, and \$25 for a business card size ad.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Interesting sponsorship opportunities are still available; see <http://www.nergc.org/sponsor-or-advertise/> or contact Mary Ellen Grogan at 2017nergc@earthlink.net for more information.

CALL FOR CONSULTANTS FOR THE ANCESTORS ROAD SHOW

The Ancestors Road Show is the place for giving or getting help. Conference attendees will have a chance to have a free 20 minute consult with a professional genealogist. If you are interested in volunteering as a consultant, please contact Jennifer Zinck (jenzinck@gmail.com).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GENEALOGICAL CONSORTIUM, INC. DONNA HOLT SIEMIATKOSKI AWARD

**Deadline for nominations for the 2017 Award
is Saturday, 5 November 2016**

For the complete call, see <http://www.nergc.org/volunteer-award/>.

Send nominations for the 2017 Award by Saturday, 5 November 2016 to:

John Leppman - 20 Thwing Lane - Bellows Falls, VT 05101 or

John.a.leppman@dartmouth.edu (include "NERGC DHS Award" in the subject line)

VOLUNTEERS

Did you know that NERGC's conference is a totally volunteer-run event? Consider whether you might have an hour, or two, or 5 to donate to the cause. It's a great way to meet your fellow attendees!

We'll be publishing the roles you can volunteer for in future E-zines and on the NERGC Web page, so keep an eye out for a way to be a major part of this great event.

BE AN EXHIBITOR!

Is your organization or business interested in renting a booth in NERGC's Exhibit Hall? The Exhibit Hall will be open for three days -- Thursday and Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Exhibitor move-in is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 from 3:00-8:00 pm and evening and early in the morning on Thursday. Breakdown is after the Exhibit Hall closes at 4:00 pm on Saturday. In addition to some 70 booths, there will be an open area at the rear for food and get-togethers.

Each initial booth costs \$120 for NERGC Member Societies, \$170 for others. All additional booths for an exhibitor will be \$120. The booth space can be configured as needed by the exhibitor. Utilities (electricity, internet, telephone, etc.) are available for an additional fee. See <http://www.nergc.org/exhibitors/>, which includes links to forms to learn more and to apply for booth space. Questions? Send an email to 2017nergc@earthlink.net.

SOCIETY FAIR 2017

Attention genealogical, family and historical societies!

You are cordially invited to join the

IMPROVED NERGC Society Fair on

Thursday, April 27, 2017 5 P.M. TO 7:15 P.M.

No interruptions, no distractions, daily program completed.

In wide open spaces -- no curtains—plenty of room.

You will be able to display your publications, seek new members, and network with NERGC attendees and other Society Fair participants. Hundreds visited the Fair in 2015 and we can guarantee great attendance again in 2017.

It's absolutely free--\$0. We supply a table, two chairs and signage. You supply representatives and your handouts, etc. What could be simpler? If you want to participate, or have questions, please email Phyllis Day, Society Fair Chair at phyl@cape.com.

ANNOUNCING A NEW FEATURE BOTH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS

NERGC is seeking libraries, archives and museums with special collections of interest to genealogists and researchers to join us in Springfield. Tables will be available for these informational exhibits about their special collections both Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. They are welcome to participate one day with one table per organization. No sales allowed. These tables will occupy the same space the Society Fair will utilize on Thursday evening. Plenty of room.

It's the same great deal as the Society Fair. We supply a table, two chairs and signage. NO \$\$\$.
The Conference's Daily Newsletter will also include the day's participants for all to see.

If you want to participate, or have questions, please email Phyllis Day, Library Archive Chair at phyl@cape.com.

WANT TO RECEIVE THE E-ZINE?

To sign up for the E-zine, please contact Richard Roberts: RCR1861@Gmail.com and use "Subscribe NERGC E-zine" as the subject of the message.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK:

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VISIT OUR BLOG: www.NERGC.blogspot.com

WATCH FOR THE NEXT E-ZINE IN OCTOBER!