

# 15<sup>th</sup> New England Regional Genealogical Conference

*Family—a Link to the Past &*



*a Bridge to the Future*

**3-6 April 2019**  
**Manchester, NH**

E-zine 3 July 2018

## **Welcome to NERGC 2019!**

We are excited to be bringing the Fifteenth New England Regional Genealogical Conference (NERGC) back to the great city of Manchester, New Hampshire. The Conference will be held 4-6 April 2019, with special pre-Conference activities including special tracks and a Research Overview Tour taking place on 3 April, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Manchester Downtown (formerly the Radisson Hotel). The Exhibit Hall will be in the Expo Center adjacent to the hotel.

The Program Committee is excited about the many opportunities in Manchester! Whether you are a beginner or an expert genealogist, there will be lectures, workshops, and special events for your education and entertainment. Are you interested in DNA? Do you want to learn some new genealogical research methodologies from industry leaders? You'll find it at NERGC 2019! Our nationally recognized speakers will include Blaine Bettinger, well known for his work with genetic genealogy; Dr. Thomas Jones, PhD, an award-winning genealogical researcher, writer, editor, and educator; and Cyndi Ingle, the developer and owner of "Cyndi's List." As always, the Conference will include an Ancestors Road Show, Society Fair, and many other activities. We continue to grow with each Conference and anticipate matching or exceeding the 2017 attendance record of over 1,000 enthusiastic genealogists, not only from New England but from across the country.

Watch for exciting program announcements on the NERGC blog, <https://nergc.blogspotcom/NERGC> and Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/NERGC> in the coming weeks. Between now and April 2019, we'll also be providing updates on the Conference through periodic E-zines like this one. This issue (and back issues) are available at [www.nergc.org/e-zines/](http://www.nergc.org/e-zines/). Please share the links with your friends and associates – and anyone else you feel may be interested in attending the Conference.

Registration for NERGC 2019 won't begin until next 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.

## **HOTEL INFORMATION**

The Fifteenth New England Regional Genealogical Conference is being held at the former Radisson, currently the Manchester Downtown Hotel, but which will be the Doubletree by Hilton Manchester Downtown Hotel by the time of the Conference. It is situated just 1 hour north of Boston; 1 hour west of Portsmouth; 2 hours north of Providence; 2.5 hours north of Springfield and Hartford; and 3 hours south of Burlington. Hotel reservations are now open. Rooms are available at the Conference rate from Tuesday evening, April 2 through Sunday night, April 7. *To receive the Conference rate, room reservations need to be made through the Manchester Downtown Hotel telephone number, (603) 625-1000 and not through Hilton.*

### **Manchester Downtown Hotel**

700 Elm Street

Manchester, NH 03101

Telephone: +1 (603) 625-1000

Conference Rate: \$164.00 single/double; \$174.00 triple; \$184.00 quad. Please note that these room rates include a \$10.00 rebate per room-night payable to NERGC to help offset Conference expenses.

*When you make your reservation, use the name of our organization, "NERGC", and mention the date of April 3, 2019 to secure the Conference rate.*

Parking is \$12.00 per night for overnight parking or \$6.00 per day (until midnight) without in and out privileges for commuters. Parking tickets must be validated at NERGC's registration desk to receive the discounted rate.

Check-in 3:00 p.m. Check-out 11:00 a.m.

## TRAVELING TO MANCHESTER

Manchester is located on the banks of the Merrimack River, with I-93 on the East side of the city and I-293 on the West side. I-93 joins I-293 both south and north of Manchester.

**By Car:** From I-293 (Everett Turnpike), there are numerous bridges that cross the Merrimack River to downtown Manchester. From South to North the bridges are Queen City, Granite Street, Notre Dame, Amoskeag.

**By Air:** **Manchester-Boston Regional Airport** is served by American, Delta, Southwest, United.  
([www.flymanchester.com](http://www.flymanchester.com) or 603-624-6539)

Bus service to downtown Manchester operates hourly, and the trip takes about 45 minutes. A ticket costs \$2.00 for adult and \$1.00 for senior and may be purchased on the bus. ([www.mtabus.org](http://www.mtabus.org) or 603-623-8801) Many hotels in Manchester, including our Conference hotel, offer free shuttle service.

**Logan International Airport:** The Boston-Express bus operates from Logan Airport. It is about a 2 hour trip with four to five trips per day ([www.bostonexpressbus.com](http://www.bostonexpressbus.com) or 1-800-639-8080).

**By Bus:** There is bus service to Concord, Nashua, Boston or New York City. Also there are numerous bus routes around Manchester including the FREE Green Bus called the GREEN DASH which operates weekdays from about 9:30-5:00 ([www.mtabus.org](http://www.mtabus.org) or 603-623-8801).

## FROM THE HOSPITALITY CHAIRS

The NERGC Hospitality Chairs travelled to Manchester in mid-June, with a visit to **The Millyard Museum**. We enthusiastically encourage all Conference attendees to make time for a visit. Located in an historic textile mill building, Mill No. 3, at 200 Bedford St., the museum depicts the history of Manchester from the Native Americans that lived in the area thousands of years ago to the textile industry in the early 1900s. The Amoskeag Falls prevented river travel between Concord and Nashua until a canal was built in the early 1800s. The Amoskeag Manufacturing Company utilized the water power from the falls to open Stark Mill No.1 and eventually developed a "mile of mills." Levis Strauss bought denim from this company for his famous jeans. The hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 - 4:00. Admission is \$8.00 for adults, \$6.00 for seniors and students, and \$4.00 for children ages 12-18. Select Millyard Museum from the Manchester Historic Association website, [www.manchesterhistoric.org](http://www.manchesterhistoric.org).

On the top floor is the **SEE Science Center** which provides hands-on, interactive exhibits for children. Also, there is a model made of three million LEGO bricks depicting the Amoskeag Millyard when it was the world's largest textile mill. Hours are Monday to Friday, 10:00-4:00 and Saturday and Sunday, 10:00-5:00. There is a separate admission price of \$9.00 for this museum for those ages 3 and up ([www.see-sciencecenter.org](http://www.see-sciencecenter.org)).

**Manchester Historic Association Research Center** offers free admission with purchase of Millyard Museum tickets. They are located at 129 Amherst St. and are opened Saturday 10:00-4:00 and Wednesday 10:00-3:00 (<https://www.manchesterhistoric.org/>).

-- Claudine Purdue, FCGSC Pres. & Frances Nadeau, FCGSC Secretary, Hospitality Chairs

## LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS SHOWCASE BOTH FRIDAY, APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> AND SATURDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>

NERGC is seeking libraries, archives and museums with special collections of interest to genealogists and researchers to join us in Manchester. Our Libraries Archives, and Museums Showcase was a huge success in Springfield in 2017, and we're looking to expand.

One table, two chairs, and signage are available at no cost for informational exhibits about special collections on Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Organizations are welcome to participate on either day. No sales are allowed. These tables will be the ones the Society Fair will utilize on Thursday evening, so there will be plenty of room. The Conference's daily newsletter will 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@meganet.net](mailto:phyl@meganet.net)

## SOCIETY FAIR

Thursday evening, April 4, 2019

BOOTH SPACE IS NOW SOLD OUT

We will accept requests for the Wait List.

Please submit inquiries to Phyllis Day, Chair, at [phyl@meganet.net](mailto:phyl@meganet.net)

## WEDNESDAY EVENTS

In addition to the three-day Conference (4-6 April 2019), **Wednesday 3 April** will be packed with activities! Below are three of the options that will be offered to expand your Conference experience. Watch for additional offerings in upcoming issues of the E-zine.

### RESEARCH OVERVIEW—BUS TRIP

On Wednesday, April 3, 2019, a Research Overview Bus Tour will be provided for all who are interested in learning about several genealogical research sites in southern New Hampshire. The Tour will depart the Conference hotel at 10:00 a.m. and return by 3:00 p.m. and will include the American-Canadian Genealogical Society, the Manchester Historical Association, a tour or a description of the Manchester City Library, the New Hampshire Historical Society Library in Concord, and the New Hampshire State Library in Concord. Participants will then be able to return on their own to carry out individual research. The cost for the Tour is \$35 per person, and our stop for lunch in Concord will be "Dutch-treat". Limit of 50 participants; fee will be returned if we have insufficient enrollment. Include the Bus Tour payment as part of your regular Conference registration. Questions? Contact David Martin at [davidmartindr@aol.com](mailto:davidmartindr@aol.com) or Cindy O'Neil at [oneilcyn@comcast.net](mailto:oneilcyn@comcast.net).

### SOCIETY MANAGEMENT DAY

We know that NERGC is a busy time for your own societies. In the swirl of helping prepare Conference bags, checking into your hotel, and gearing up for the Conference, take a few hours out to learn about running your genealogy societies efficiently and effectively. The landscape of genealogy has changed a lot since the New England Historic Genealogy Society was created in 1847. With family trees and data online, and with meeting topics co-opted by online webinars, we need to strengthen our tools for successful society management.

This year we will discuss hot topics from the frontlines of genealogy:

- DNA is a hot topic in the news these days. Help your society meet members' needs in this area. Come learn "How Do We Start a DNA Interest Group" from Kelli Jo Bergheimer.
- Are the heads around your table all gray and white? It's time to groom new leadership, but you have to get new and younger members to do that. Hear Daniel Earl (a college administrator) show the way with "The Next Generation: Involving Youth in Your Society."
- So many people communicate by social media these days, rather than email, especially younger people. How will your society learn to use these platforms? Learn from Jen Baldwin about "The Social Media Manager in Today's Society."
- Ever had to sell your society to the mayor? Or a librarian with no interest? Or a newspaper reporter? How in the world do you connect? D. Joshua Taylor will tell us about "Creating, Packing, and Sharing Your Society to Non-Genealogists."

Use this day not just for learning but for networking. Meet other society leaders, discuss your situations, share ideas, and participate with the presenters via questions and discussions.

### LIBRARIANS' AND LOCAL HISTORIANS' DAY

Wednesday's track for librarians and local historians will welcome Josh Taylor as speaker at our luncheon sponsored by ProQuest. Josh's presentation will be "From Simmons College to PBS, How I Became a Host on the *Genealogy Roadshow*." *Opportunities for librarians with a passion for local history and genealogy are immense and more exciting than ever.* D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, was named one of *Library Journal's* Movers and Shakers in 2017. He is the President of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&B) and the immediate past president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). Working with different libraries on the show and in other pursuits, he has helped to highlight the many ways librarians are go-to resources for all genealogists, as guides to online services and by leveraging their own on-site collections.

## BE AN EXHIBITOR

As in the past, our Conferences are planned to be exhibitor-friendly. The generous unopposed exhibitor time between sessions is one of the reasons many vendors experience more success at a NERGC Conference. We feature special benefits such as:

- **One full-Conference registration** with each booth. (Note that meals are not included. Watch our web page and E-zine for information on ordering meals).
- **Exhibit Hall is open two full days-** Thursday and Friday and closing one hour early at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Unopposed Exhibitor times** -- Generous time slots with no lectures or other events conflicting with your exhibition time.
- **One half hour between lectures** -- Allows our attendees more casual time to get from one lecture to another, while also allowing more time to visit exhibitors as well.
- **Two-hour lunch breaks** -- Allows still more time for product discussion and sales.
- **Exhibit Hall open to general public** -- Free access to the general public to be advertised for increased sales.
- **Optional** -- Consider showcasing your booth by providing door prize drawings at your discretion. NERGC provides tickets to Conference attendees in the Conference registration packets.
- **New this year is a very robust mobile app.** Exhibitors will be able to purchase additional advertising during the Conference to drive more people to your booth. Watch for details on this app on our Conference website, [www.nergc.org](http://www.nergc.org) and in the E-zine in the Fall.

If you have not yet received an invitation to participate in the Exhibit Hall and are interested, please be sure to send your organization's name and contact information so we may be sure to send you the details.

As with our past Conferences, there will be a limited number of booths. Please be sure to get your application in as soon as possible. Booth requests will be filled on a first come basis, and we will do our best to accommodate your booth selections. The Exhibitor Application, Exhibitor's Agreement, the Terms and Conditions and the Exhibit Hall floor plan are now available on our website, <https://www.nergc.org/exhibit-hall/>

Any questions should be emailed to [nergcexhibits@gmail.com](mailto:nergcexhibits@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you in Manchester.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Many sponsorship opportunities are still available. For more information, go to <http://www.nergc.org/sponsor-or-advertise/>.

## Call for Volunteers

It's never too early to start thinking of how you could donate your time and talents to help with this all-volunteer run Conference. We're always looking for volunteers to help prepare registration packets prior to the Conference, check-in at registration, room monitors, signage placement, etc. Usually a 1-2 hour commitment can assist your participating society in meeting their volunteer commitment. We'll be publishing specific 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.

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE DONNA HOLT SIEMIATKOSKI VOLUNTEER AWARD**

**Deadline for nominations for the 2019 Award  
is Thursday, 15 November 2018**

The Donna Holt Siemiatkoski Genealogy Volunteer Award is presented at each New England Regional Genealogical Conference to a person who has provided outstanding volunteer service to the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium or its member societies, and as such to the field of genealogy, over and above the job they were elected or appointed to do. Donna was a founder of the Descendants of the Founders of Ancient Windsor and served as its first President. She served on the Board of Governors of the Connecticut Society of Genealogists and was their representative to the Federation of Genealogical Societies. She was instrumental in the formation of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council. As a delegate to NERGC, Donna encouraged members of New England's genealogical community to work together for the common good.

Member societies in NERGC are strongly encouraged to nominate for the 2019 Donna Holt Siemiatkoski Award people whose service to our organizations and consortium follows Donna's example.

Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's activity and a statement from the nominating organization of the reasons for believing that the nominee is a particularly suitable candidate for the award.

Please send all nominating information by November 15, 2018, to NERGC President John A. Leppman, 20 Thwing Lane, Bellows Falls, Vermont 05101, or by e-mail at [jleppman@sover.net](mailto:jleppman@sover.net).

Thanks to all NERGC organizations for helping us find a good award recipient!

### **Do you have needs related to mobility, hearing, vision which might affect your ability to fully and comfortably participate in NERGC 2019?**

Although brochures and the online registration process for NERGC 2019 won't be available until the fall, it is not too early for you begin to take advantage of the coordination assistance NERGC provides to persons with special needs. **If you are considering the feasibility of attending the Conference, we invite you to discuss your potential needs NOW.** Feel free to e-mail Pamela Roberts, PT, EdD. or call her at 860-486-2406. Dr. Roberts is a trained ADA evaluator and physical therapist with 40 years of experience who has volunteered her expertise to collect and share local resources for your pre-planning purposes whether you are a potential vendor, speaker, volunteer, or attendee. Please share your concerns related to your needs. Dr. Roberts will interface with you, other volunteers, and the hotel to help make your Conference experience the best it can be.

Pamela L. Roberts, EdD, PT  
[drpampt@gmail.com](mailto:drpampt@gmail.com)

## From the Blogging Chairs

We will once again be selecting Official Bloggers to highlight speaker information prior to the Conference, and to share experiences during the Conference. Blog posts will be shared on the NERGC site and social media. Stay tuned for the call for applications. There will be a designated location in the Conference hall for Official Bloggers to keep their devices charged, and have a quiet place to write.

To member societies who sponsor speakers, we are asking that you designate someone to write a profile of your sponsored speaker and post it. Our goal is to get information out there on as many of our speakers as possible, and share the load with our Official Bloggers. Please let us know if you do not have a society blog and we will find a suitable place to post it. When the lineup of speakers is determined, we will be in touch to get this process going. Thank you.

Sara Campbell & Heather Rojo

## WANT TO RECEIVE THE E-ZINE?

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

## VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/NERGC/>

## VISIT OUR BLOG

<https://nergc.blogspot.com>

Watch for the next E-zine in October, 2018.