

17th New England Regional Genealogical Conference



May 3-6, 2023
Springfield, Massachusetts

E-zine 2, October 2022

Welcome to NERGC 2023! The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. (NERGC) invites you to join us at our seventeenth conference, “Missing Branches Are Not the End of the Line” *live and in-person ONLY in Springfield, Massachusetts, May 3–6, 2023*. We look forward to connecting with you—our fellow genealogists and family historians—and sharing our stories, triumphs, challenges, methods, and resources.

The Conference Committee is planning special tracks and other events on Wednesday, regular conference presentations on Thursday through Saturday, as well as the Exhibit Hall, Ancestors Road Show, Society Fair, and other events. The conference hotels will have rooms available at the conference rate from Tuesday evening through Sunday night.

Registration for NERGC 2023 won't begin until later this 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. They are sent periodically to all those on our mailing list. If you're not already receiving them and would like to do so, go to <https://nergc.org/e-zines/>, enter your email address, last name, and first name in the form on the right side of the screen, and hit the “Sign Up” button. Back issues of the E-zine are also posted on the E-zine page.

ABOUT OUR HOST CITY



In 2023, we will be at the MassMutual Center (www.massmutualcenter.com) in Springfield, Massachusetts, directly off Interstate 91 and only minutes from the Massachusetts Turnpike. The Lyman and Merrie Wood Museum of Springfield History (<https://springfieldmuseums.org/about/museum-of-springfield-history/>), featuring local history resources and collections illuminating the history of the Connecticut River Valley, the Basketball Hall of Fame; the Springfield Armory Museum, and the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden are but some of the nearby attractions.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

NERGC 2023 will feature 102 presentation sessions, three workshops, and five meals between 8:00 a.m. Thursday and 8:00 p.m. Saturday! There will be 64 speakers from 18 States and Canada, including local favorites like David Allen Lambert and Maureen Taylor as well as NERGC favorites like Michael Strauss, and Carol McCoy. They will join our featured speakers, Rich Venezia and Dr. Michael Lacopo, to provide a New England focused conference with sessions on ethnic research, methodology, a variety of sources, colonial records, military research, Canadian research and more!

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

Our pre-conference activities on Wednesday include four special research tracks—Revolutionary War, French-Canadian Research, Advanced DNA, and Jumpstart Your Research. Each track will include four sessions and a lunch break with an optional on-site meal available. These sessions often appeal to a smaller audience and thus might not otherwise be included in a large conference.

In addition, we're offering four workshops late Wednesday afternoon (4:30-6:30) for those who can arrive on Wednesday or come after work. The topics include writing, land records, census reports, and working with photographs. Attending a workshop on Wednesday gives you more opportunity to enjoy as many as 19 sessions during the three-day conference!

Check the registration materials available later this fall for the pricing for our pre-conference activities.

EXHIBIT HALL UPDATE

As of October 14, we have eighteen registered and paid exhibitors. Since some exhibitors have requested more than one standard-size booth, this means we have actually sold a total twenty-four standard-size booth spaces. In addition, we have two exhibitors who have indicated they will be registering soon. One of them wants a single booth space, while the other has indicated they will want a total of four standard-size booth spaces. This means we will soon have a total of twenty exhibitors and a total of twenty-nine standard-size booth spaces sold. So far, four of the exhibitors have stated they will be offering door-prizes of some kind.

Booth spaces will continue to be discounted by \$25 per standard booth space until December 31, 2022, and Participating Societies can receive a 25% discount if they use their coupon code. Priority will be given to NERGC Societies and Exhibitors who have exhibited at previous NERGC Conferences and who submit their applications for space by October 30, 2022! [Click here](#) to learn more about how to apply for an exhibit booth, or email ExhibitHall@nergc.org.

LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, AND MUSEUMS SHOWCASE

NERGC is seeking libraries, archives and museums with special collections of interest to genealogists and researchers to join us in Springfield. One table, two chairs, and signage are available at no cost for informational exhibits about special collections on Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information, please email LAMShowcase@nergc.org.



SOCIETY FAIR

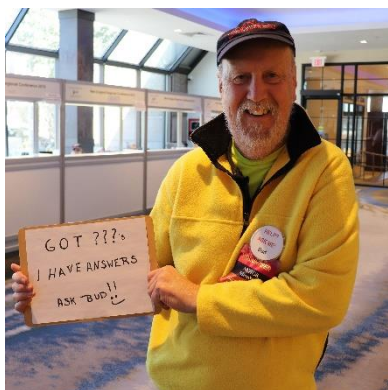
Attention Genealogical Societies, Historical Societies, and Family Associations! On Thursday, May 4, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., genealogical, historical and family societies from all over New England will provide information about their organizations. The Society Fair will be held along the corridor of the Exhibit Hall Concourse and is open to the public at no cost. For more information, please email SocietyFair@nergc.org.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

NERGC is traditionally a volunteer effort, and 2023 will need plenty of volunteers! Each of the 100+ sessions needs at least two volunteers – a Host/Hostess and a Door Monitor. Each meal needs people to check tickets at the door. Each hour that registration, the volunteer table, or the hospitality table is open requires at least one volunteer. Other areas may need volunteers as well.

If you're willing to donate an hour (or more) of your time, watch for the announcement that our volunteer portal is open at SignUpGenius. You'll be able to select the job and time slot you'd like and assign your volunteer hours to one of the Participating Societies.

Benefits of volunteering at the conference include getting to know people you work with, meeting the speakers, helping your participating society, and, of course, providing a wonderful conference experience for all of our attendees!



BECOME A SPONSOR!

Sponsors are the lifeblood of NERGC—our partners in keeping prices as low as possible (a particularly challenging task for 2023)! Through sponsorships, your organization/services are spotlighted for our expected 1,000 active genealogist attendees. Opportunities abound at all financial levels. These range from underwriting special events during the conference (such as a Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening); renting a booth in our Exhibit Hall, which allows interaction with attendees and the general public (and includes one admission to the conference); contributing to the purchase of lanyards or swag bags and providing inserts that will be distributed to all attendees; helping fund meals; taking out an advertisement in our syllabus, which will also be featured on our website; and donating small items for our Volunteers Raffle, so we can say thank you to our many volunteers.

If you know of organizations that would like to participate, visit <https://nergc.org/partners/> for more details and sponsorship@nergc.org with all questions.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FROM NERGC ACCESSIBILITY TEAM

Potential attendees or registrants with special dietary needs and/or mobility, hearing, or visual concerns impacting your access and participation at this conference are welcome to contact Pam Roberts, NERGC 2023 Accessibility Liaison, at accessibility@nergc.org with a request for a personal response and opportunity to plan ahead for your needs to be met. Our registration process will give those with special meal needs the option of summarizing your requests in writing as you purchase luncheon or banquet tickets in the online registration. Additionally, persons with mobility, hearing, or



visual concerns may check a box matching the category of your need in the online registration and briefly comment about what accommodation you might find helpful. A similar check option will be in our digital downloadable, printable, and manual fillable Registration and Payment Form in our distributed brochures. If you have mobility, hearing or visual needs, feel free to contact Pam Roberts at: accessibility@nergc.org even before you register to inquire about the conference venue and hotel access for entering, parking, and how to request an accessible hotel room as well as community access from the hotels to the venue. She or an accessibility volunteer will work with you through your preferred phone or email to design an access plan to maximize your ability to enjoy your conference experience. To

take the fullest advantage of the accessibility options available, please register during the Early Bird registration period. We will try to meet your needs any time before or during the conference but may be limited in how we can help, especially if your request comes after April 12, 2023, two weeks before the event. Referral for equipment companies in the area will be coordinated for best rental fees. So, reach out with any questions you may have. We wish to assist you.

FOLLOW NERGC ON SOCIAL MEDIA

CONFERENCE BLOG

Keep up-to-date with breaking news about the many special events and conference activities that are planned. Find out more information about the lectures, speakers, exhibitors, hotel, research facilities, and the City of Springfield. Check out the blog to get the most out of the conference: <https://nergc.org/blog/>.

FACEBOOK

Thinking about attending NERGC? Don't miss out on the excitement! Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NERGC> to learn more about the conference, check out the photos from past Conferences, and write on the NERGC "wall."

TWITTER

Follow the #NERGC Conversation on Twitter, where we are @NERGC2023. Also follow #NERGC for other buzz about the conference.

Watch for the next E-zine in November.