

The APG Florida Chapter, Central Region, met on Saturday, 23 April 2005 at the Quintilla Geer Bruton Archives center in Plant City. Before the first presentation, and after a lovely continental breakfast, Shelby Bender, an APG member and President of the East Hillsborough Historical Society (EHHS), gave an overview of the facility.

In the morning session, Leroy Merkle, an attorney from Tampa, aided by his business associate - our own Alvie Davidson - gave an informative talk on the ins and outs of the legal system and searching for heirs, starting in Florida, and working with legal entities in other states and countries. One interesting case went back to Civil War pension records and came forward to determine the legitimate heirs.

He touched briefly on contracts, a topic that was well discussed at last meeting's Roundtable on Professional issues (notes are available on our website [www.apgflorida.org](http://www.apgflorida.org) )

Mr. Merkle also mentioned copyright laws. [See this website [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov) for more information]

Lunch was at the Whistlestop Cafe was nice. There is a live pianist, who takes requests, next to us. We were serenaded quite nicely!

The afternoon session, presented by Holly Timm, was informal with discussion and show and tell on designing unique business stationary, developing a logo specific to you, and carrying it on into other forms. Holly, prepared this for us at the last minute, and with more time, would have been able to go into other methods. We extend a huge thank you to Shelby Bender and the EHHS for hosting our meeting, and to Leroy Merkle and Holly Timm for taking time to prepare and present their lectures to us.

The next meeting will be on **Saturday, 6 August 2005** in Bartow, Florida at the Polk County Genealogical and Historical Library.