

Association of Professional Genealogists Announces Results of Election for Officers and Board Members

POULSBO, Wash., USA, 14 November 2023 — The Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), the world's largest association for the genealogical profession, has announced the results of its recent election. The APG membership elected four officers and six board members for a two-year term (2024–2026). Terms will begin on 1 January 2024.

Executive Committee

President

John Boeren, LLM, PGCert, PLCGS (Noord-Brabant, Netherlands) is the owner of Antecedentia, a genealogy business offering research and heritage trips in the Netherlands. He studied law at Tilburg University and later attended the School for Archivists in The Hague. John holds a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies from the International Institute of Genealogical Studies and is currently enrolled in the Strathclyde postgraduate program. John has been a member of the APG board since 2020, and served on many boards over the past thirty years, including the Adriaen Snoerman Foundation, the Dutch Genealogical Society, and the Register of Qualified Genealogists.

Vice President

Suzanne Hoffman (Illinois, USA), known as “The Genealogy Maven,” is a professional forensic genealogist with six years of experience. She is a specialist in Eastern European research and immigration. She holds certificates of completion from the Boston University Genealogical Research program, ProGen, GenProof, and Gen-Fed. She is also the secretary of the Illinois State Genealogical Society and volunteers at her local FamilySearch Center.

Secretary

Peggy Clemens Lauritzen, AG®, FOGS (Ohio, USA) is the author of several Legacy QuickGuides on the Appalachian states, a former instructor for Ancestry Academy, and a former researcher for Ancestry ProGenealogists. Peggy was awarded the title of Fellow of the Ohio Genealogical Society and the 2018 recipient of APG's Laura G. Prescott Award for Exemplary Service in Genealogy.

Treasurer

Tricia Seguire, MAcc, MLIS (Florida, USA) is a research consultant for the Chief Genealogist at FamilySearch. A former CPA, not-for-profit tax consultant, and business owner/operator, Tricia is familiar with accounting functions and reporting requirements. She received a master's in library and information science from Rutgers University and graduated from BYU-Idaho with

an AAS in family history research and BS in professional studies. Prior to joining FamilySearch, she volunteered as a genealogical researcher for two not-for-profit organizations.

Board of Directors

Jenifer Kahn Bakkala (Massachusetts, USA) has a background in writing and journalism, and her genealogy work focuses on historical, biographical narrative over a wide range of time periods and locations. Her latest book, *The Maynard, North, and DeForest Families: A Story of Immigration, Industry, and Community*, was the winner of NGS's Award for Excellence in 2023. She has been a full-time professional genealogist and owner of JKB Genealogy since 2013.

Kelley Conner Lear, PLCGS (Georgia, USA) is a professional genealogist specializing in research in her home state of West Virginia, as well as Virginia, and central Appalachia. An alumna of ProGen and Gen-Fed, Kelley holds a Professional Learning Certificate in Genealogical Studies from the International Institute of Genealogical Studies. An active member of the Virginia Genealogical Society, Kelley serves as the group's social media chair and historian.

Michael W. McCormick, AG[®] (Utah, USA) is a trusted independent genealogist working for genealogy firms as an heir searcher and a team leader. He is a teacher for BYU-Idaho's Associate of Applied Science in Family History Research program and is in the dissertation stage of a public history doctoral program. Michael graduated with an MSc from the University of Strathclyde, an AAS in Family History Research from BYU-Idaho, and has taken additional genealogy courses from other programs. He is an active volunteer in various genealogical organizations, events, and social groups.

Kaye Prince-Hollenberg, MI, PLCGS (Ontario, Canada) specializes in Jewish Genealogy and Holocaust Research. A librarian by day, Kaye is also the curator of the Margaret's Legacy Holocaust Learning Centre opening in Hamilton in the Spring of 2024 and writes a genealogy column for the *Hamilton Jewish News*. Kaye is currently the chair of the Uncovering Hidden Content Priorities Working Group, a member of the Advisory Committee for the Coalition for Canadian Digital Heritage, and a former board member of the Canadian Club of Hamilton.

Jessica M. Taylor (Washington, USA) is CEO of Legacy Tree Genealogists, a genealogy research firm, recommended by 23andMe, MyHeritage, and Family Tree DNA, that completes custom work for clients in over 100 countries. Jessica earned a BS in Family History–Genealogy from BYU and has worked in the genealogy industry for the last twenty years.

Mark A. Wentling, MLS, CG[®] (Massachusetts, USA) is the owner of Ancestor Introductions, LLC, and is a full-time genealogist with more than 25 years of research experience. An adjunct professor of genealogy in the Graduate Certificate in Forensic Genetic Genealogy program at the University of New Haven, Mark is a graduate of the Certificate in Genealogical Research

program at Boston University, an MLS degree with an archives concentration from the University of Maryland, and a BA in Sociology.

“Congratulations to our new and returning board members,” said APG President-elect John Boeren, the first individual from outside North America to serve as president of APG. “I wish to work together with staff, board members, and volunteers in an organization that represents the interests of its members, and that is committed to collaboration and continuing education.” Goals for Boeren’s term in office include a consolidation of the organizational changes that have taken place over the past two years; working on new plans to ensure the association’s leading position in the genealogical community; and promoting APG worldwide.

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ABOUT APG

The Association of Professional Genealogists (apgen.org), established in 1979, represents more than 2,000 professionals in various genealogy-related businesses. APG encourages genealogical excellence, ethical practice, mentoring, and education. The organization also supports the preservation and accessibility of records useful to the fields of genealogy and history. Its members represent more than forty countries. APG is active on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, X (Formerly Twitter), and YouTube. APG is a registered trademark of the Association of Professional Genealogists. All other trade and service marks are property of their respective owners.

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