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APG eNEWS



Association of Professional
GENEALOGISTS

Vol. 13, No. 4, April 2025

First APG Fellowship Winner Selected

Lisa M. Vogele of Loveland, Colorado, USA, has been selected to be the first recipient of the APG Fellowship. The Fellowship awards an APG member up to US \$2,500 to undertake a culturally-immersive research opportunity outside of their country of residence focused on professional, academic, and/or personal development related to their genealogical practice. Vogele intends to examine largely-inaccessible Northern Italian passport records and develop finding aids/indexes to benefit the research of others.

During her fellowship, Vogele plans to research passport collections between 1850–1950 in the Genoa, Livorno, Savona, Treviso, and Turin State Archives. She hopes to digitally document the condition and scope of the records in great detail, and will develop a field guide to Italian passports, showing the variety of records available for each location—along with tips for visiting, ordering, and researching on-site in Italy.



“The well-documented Italian diaspora creates an audience of genealogical researchers interested in these records,” said Vogele. “These passport records inform the immigration journey stories of Italians to the United States, Canada, England, Brazil, Argentina, Australia and other countries around the world.”

“The APG Fellowship selection committee saw great potential in Lisa’s proposal,” said APG President Suzanne L. Hoffman. “We look forward to seeing the results of her research.”

Vogele, an experienced genealogist with 20 years of research experience, is the owner of Travel Your Tree, a family history research and heritage travel company. Her areas of expertise include late 19th–20th century United States research & immigration, particularly Italian and Irish research.

APG Appoints New Professional Management Conference Project Administrator

APG is pleased to announce that Leia Kostinsky of Portugal has been named as Project Administrator for the organization's 2025 Virtual Professional Management Conference (PMC). Kostinsky is a professional genealogist who also brings a business background in project coordination, management, and event planning.

Kostinsky's genealogy background includes specialized education and experience researching Jewish history and ancestry across Eastern Europe. She holds a BA in Jewish History and East Asian Studies from Tel Aviv University, and has studied International Management and Leadership at Lauder Business School in Vienna.

Since 2021, Kostinsky has worked as a project coordinator and researcher with <https://familyheritage.eu>, a genealogical research company, where she coordinates the department responsible for aiding those who seek European citizenship by descent.



APG's Professional Management Conference Project Administrator is a contract position that works closely with the Executive Director and the PMC Planning Committee to manage the development and implementation of this year's conference. The APG 2025 Virtual Professional Management Conference will be held from 18—20 September 2025; more information on the event will be available soon at www.apgen.org.

Next Members Only Webinar

Writing Clear and Concise Client Reports, by Kate Townsend, CG.

24 April 2025 3:30–5:00 p.m. ET (Please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents.)

This presentation is underwritten by Goldie May

goldiemay



Client reports are often the bedrock of a professional genealogist's income. Writing a client report that your clients can easily interpret while maintaining genealogical standards is critical. Learn best practices for structure, format, and writing that will not only make you more efficient as a researcher but will help you produce more effective client deliverables.

Kate Townsend, CG is a former professional investigator turned genealogist who specializes in Pennsylvania research. She also has experience with Ohio, West Virginia, and New York City records. She owns Family History Investigations LLC, where she helps clients discover their family history.

Register today at bit.ly/4c96iae.

Scholarship Applications Now Open for APG’s 2025 PMC

Scholarship applications are now open for the 2025 APG Professional Management Conference (PMC). The deadline to apply is 11:59 p.m. ET on 30 April 2025 (please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents).

This year's conference will be held virtually, 18–20 September 2025. More details about the program and speakers will be available later this year, but for those of you unfamiliar with the PMC, please visit the Professional Management Conference page on our website via [this link](#).

APG offers two scholarships for the event (click on the links for the respective application forms):

- 1) The **APG New Professional Scholarship**, recognizing an aspiring or new professional (less than five years as a professional genealogist) with a strong interest in growing their career as a professional; and
- 2) The **Kenyatta D. Berry African American Research Scholarship**, recognizing an aspiring professional with a significant interest in pursuing a career in African American genealogy.

The scholarships are open to APG members and to members of the public. The awards committee looks forward to seeing your applications!



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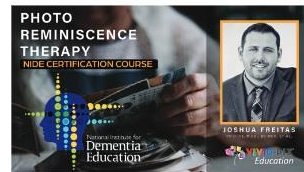


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pRT assists family and professionals to engage with loved ones



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Urgent Member Action Needed: Protect Access to Indiana Vital Records

The Advocacy Committee seeks members' help with a concerning situation in Indiana

Earlier this year, we informed you about a threat to vital records access in New York State, and thanks to so many of you sharing your concerns, we are now working with legislators to ensure continued access to these records. We have learned of a similar legislative threat in Indiana that would make Indiana one of the most restrictive states in the nation regarding historical birth records. House Bill 1148 (HB1148) just passed both the house and the senate in Indiana. The bill modifies the State's public records law to expand the restriction on birth certificate access from 75 years to 99 years. See page 10 of the bill for the full text of the proposal, which is available [here](#).



For decades, the 75-year threshold has balanced privacy concerns with the public's right to access historical records. Arbitrarily extending the wait to 99 years serves no clear purpose other than restricting access to our collective history. This same legislative effort was attempted in early 2024 (HB 1365) but failed in committee. Now, it has returned. Our livelihoods depend on being able to obtain documentation like this. Together, we can fight to keep these records accessible.

What you need to know about the bill:

- HB1148.03 would reverse established access to records.
- HB1148.03 would hinder family, historical, and academic research.
- There is no justification for changes proposed in HB1148.03.

What you can do:

- At the time of the *eNews* preparing for publication, the only remaining option is to contact the governor directly and ask him to veto the legislation. If you are not an Indiana resident, but research records in the state, your feedback is also valuable. You can contact Governor Mike Braun [here](#).

If you would like to be more involved in APG's advocacy efforts or have any questions about how to be involved with this issue, please contact advocacy@apgen.org.

Advocacy Training for Hill Day

The Records Preservation and Access Coalition (RPAC) recently conducted advocacy training to prepare for a US event known as Hill Day, where RPAC, APG, the National Genealogical Society, and other genealogical groups will go to visit the US representatives on Capitol Hill, to advocate for records access and the maintenance of the budget for the National Archives. Members can access the recording in the Webinar Library [here](#), within the **Advocacy** section.



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Michelle Dwyer Cohen



Welcome to all the new members this month, of whom there are quite a few! March was a busy month for APG, with events held at RootsTech and at the Connections 2025 conference in Brisbane, Australia. A huge thank-you to all our volunteers; we had so many helpers that I cannot list them all here, but a special thank you to John Boeren, Melanie Dunstan, David Ryan, and Cathie Sherwood for their work in Australia. For RootsTech, a special thank you to David Rencher, Lynn Turner, Debbie Gurtler, and Maria Wittwer for support beyond the booth.

If you haven't yet volunteered for APG at an event, please consider doing so. I watched many members form new connections at RootsTech in Utah, and enjoyed listening to those members tell prospects about why they joined APG. It was delightful to meet members for the first time, and to greet familiar faces at the booth.

When you are checking out the photos from the events (pages 8 and 19), please note that APG is promoting ALL of our member speakers because the coverage drives attendees to use our website to hire more APG members. Many people stopped by our RootsTech booth to check the speaker sign for their favorite genealogical speaker, and were wowed by the number of our members on the sign.

If you are attending an event where we have a presence, do keep an eye out for fellow APG members, and if you are speaking at a genealogical event, please let us know!

All this talk of conferences probably has many of you wondering what is happening for this year's APG Professional Management Conference. The PMC will be held virtually this year, from 18–20 September, 2025, and the call for proposals will be out soon. As you will have seen on page 3, the scholarship applications are now open to get a free registration to the event. I am looking forward to sharing more information about the event with you soon!

Webinar Recordings

A reminder that our January panel discussion, "The Impact of EU Privacy Laws on Genealogical Research," is now available to view in the APG Members Area at <https://bit.ly/EUPrivacyLaws>.

The webinar featured genealogists from several European countries discussing details of European Union (EU) privacy laws and the impact they might have on genealogists' research for clients. This recording is available to members only.

Another Successful RootsTech Event for APG!

The APG booth at RootsTech 2025 was a great success! We had a centrally located booth with high foot traffic, and we were part of the passport program (where attendees get a booklet stamped by a variety of booths to be entered in a prize drawing from the venue), which drove additional traffic to us.

We had 25 enthusiastic volunteers working the booth alongside the APG team, and we cannot say thank you enough to them. Our ED and Treasurer presented "Five Questions to Ask a Professional Genealogist," designed to showcase APG and again drive clients and prospective members to the booth.

One of the most important statistics at this conference were the number of speakers who were APG members: an incredible 73!

Meanwhile, our APG advertising manager strengthened existing business relationships and established a few new ones. Our social media specialist worked with members and the ad manager to create fun video content, raising our profile throughout the conference.

Even with two volunteers at all times, and with support from the APG team, there was very little downtime. The booth's purpose was twofold: we helped people learn to use the member directory to hire the right genealogist for their family history project, and we gained 28 new APG members!

See p. 18 for photos from the event!

Thank you to our RootsTech 2025 volunteers!

Ada Nelson • Alec Ferretti • Andre Ablá •
 Andrea Bentschneider • Annette Burke Lyttle •
 Catherine Desmarais • David Rencher •
 Debbie Gurtler • Debra Braverman •
 Gonzalo Alexis Luengo Orellana •
 Jonathan Grubbs • Kaitlyn Pauley •
 Kate Penney Howard • Kathy Tarullo •
 Katie Merkley • Kelli Bergheimer •
 Kelvin Meyers • Lynn Turner • Maria Wittwer •
 Markus Schönherr • Michelle Chubenko •
 Nicole Cohn • Paul Woodbury • Robyn Choate •
 Shannon Bennett • Suzanne Hoffman •
 Tania Evans • Torhild Shirley • Tricia Seguine

APG Welcomes Pamela Moore to the Board of Directors

APG is pleased to welcome Pamela Moore to the Board of Directors. She was appointed to fill the vacancy of Karin Coppernoll, PLCGS, who was named Vice President earlier this year. Pamela's term expires in 2026.

Pamela Moore is the owner of Backstories LLC, a traditional, genetic, and forensic genealogy company based in Northern Virginia, USA. Now in her tenth year, she has a cooperation agreement with investors, attorneys and genealogists in Poland to restore property rights for Holocaust victims and their heirs. She also specializes in community-based projects to reclaim lost histories of marginalized communities, including displaced neighborhoods and reconciliation initiatives for organizations with historical ties to slavery. Pamela has completed numerous genealogical institutes and has served as a mentor for the Forensic Special Interest Group. She was a peer reviewer for the NGS publication *Forensic Genealogy: Theory & Practice* (2025) and formerly served as a board member of the Fairfax (Virginia) Genealogical Society.





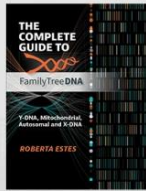
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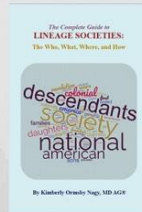
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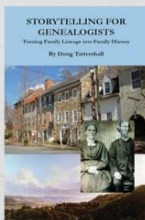
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by Dr. Kimberly Nagy

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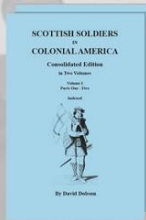
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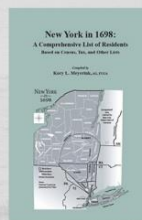
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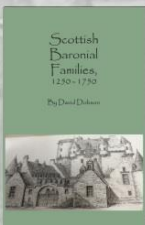
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18-20 SEPTEMBER 2025

APG Members Gather at Australasian Conference in Brisbane



APG was pleased to join our Australia and New Zealand chapter as an exhibitor at the recent Connections 2025 Conference in Brisbane, Australia. The event, from 21–24 March 2025, is the leading event for genealogists, local historians, and ancestry researchers across Australasia, coordinated by the Genealogical Society of Queensland, the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations (AFFHO), and History Queensland.

Several APG members spoke at the event, including John Boeren, Fiona Brooker, Maggie Gaffney, Shauna Hicks, Jenny Joyce, Judy G. Russell, David Ryan, Cathie Sherwood, and Helen Smith.



Top: Chapter representative Melanie Dunstan greeting visitors in the exhibit booth.
Bottom: Australia & New Zealand chapter members dining together with overseas members Judy Russell, David Ryan, and John Boeren.

Pictures: Melania Dunstan

BCG Adopts Two-Part Portfolio for Its Certified Genealogist Application Process

The Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG), the nonprofit organization founded in 1964 as a professional credentialing body for genealogists, is changing its application process.

BCG awards the Certified Genealogist (CG) credential to individuals who demonstrate their ability to meet established research, analysis, reasoning, and writing standards and agree to the BCG Code of Ethics. Associates may also apply for two optional, add-on credentials: Certified Genealogical Lecturer (CGL) and Certified Genetic Genealogist (CGG).

The requirements to earn the Certified Genealogist credential have evolved over the years, but there has always been a requirement from applicants to assemble a portfolio that meets specific standards. In 2024, BCG conducted a pilot program that divided the portfolio submission into two parts. This two-part process was well-received by preliminary applicants, current applicants, and trustees, and as a consequence of this, in March 2025 the BCG board of trustees voted to permanently adopt a two-part application process for the Certified Genealogist credential. The new process will take effect with the release of the *2025 Application Guide*, anticipated on 1 July 2025. The new process does not alter the portfolio elements, standards, or rubrics; it only changes the timing of submissions by dividing the portfolio into two parts.

For further information about BCG, visit www.bcgcertification.org.

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JUNE 23, 2025
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Eastern
ONLINE



Todd Knowles



Dan Poffenberger, AG[®]

Join us on Zoom for a genealogical journey through the Caribbean Islands! Our expert guides, *Dan Poffenberger, AG[®]* and *Todd Knowles* will describe the “five W’s” of Caribbean research. You’ve got questions? They’ve got answers. Register at <https://isbgfh.com/si>



ISBGFH
International Society for British Genealogy and Family History



Getting to Know the New APG Website

Letting Folks Know Where You Are Based:

The "Based In" field in the member profile is designed for you to indicate **your place of residence or the location of your business**. If you are instead using that field to list locations where you conduct research, it will impact the search results for potential clients, and impact their confidence in our search results.

Please include your research speciality in the "Researches in" field instead.

[Click here](#)

to add/change/remove **Based In** locations. These will help searchers find you in the directory. (opens in new window)

Geographic Location Selection: Based In

Start typing in the box below to search for a location, and click on the location to add it to your list. Make sure to save your changes once you're done!
Please limit your selections to three.

Location Search

UNITED KINGDOM, Scotland ✕

Save Changes

*FAQs can be found on the website in the **Members' Area** under **Navigating the Website**.*

APG Code of Ethics and Professional Practices

One of the principal objectives of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) is to encourage high standards of ethical conduct and professional practice in dealings with clients and other members of the public. To further that objective, all members of APG agree to adhere to the *APG Code of Ethics and Professional Practices* (hereinafter, *Code of Ethics*).

The *Code of Ethics* serves to promote (1) a truthful approach to genealogy, family history, and local history; (2) the trust and security of genealogical consumers;

(3) careful and respectful treatment of records, repositories and their staffs, other professionals, and genealogical organizations and associations.

For details on the code please visit https://www.apgen.org/code_of_ethics.php

MEMBERS' NEWS

Newly Accredited Members

Congratulations to Karen Stanbary, Paul Graham, and Mary Roddy for being awarded the Certified Genetic Genealogist credential by the Board for Certification of Genealogists (<https://www.bccertification.org>).

APG Board Meeting

The next APG Board meeting will be held 23 April 2025 at 2:00 p.m. ET via Zoom (please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents).

All current APG members are welcome to attend. Closed Captioning will be available.

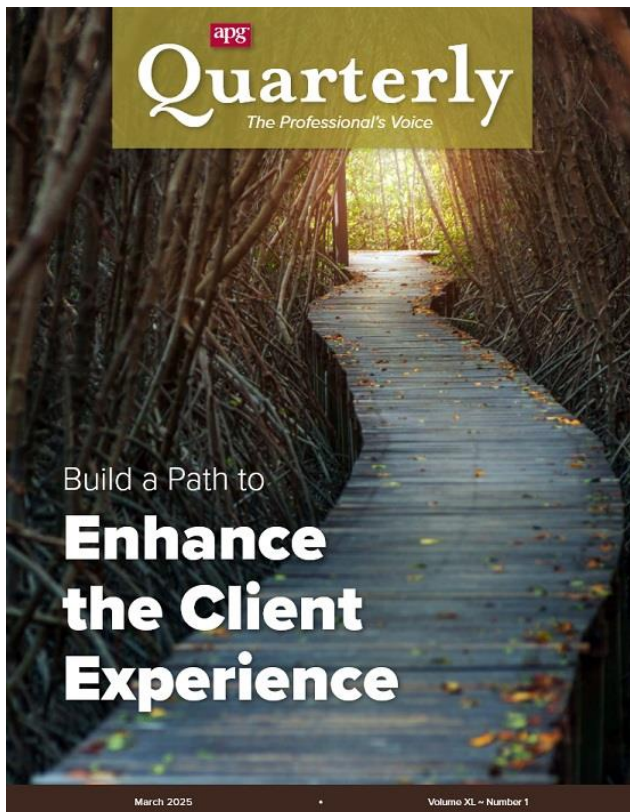
Members must register in advance to attend. To do so, please visit <https://bit.ly/APGBoard2025Q2>.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Do you have news to share?



If you have news that you would like to share with APG colleagues, please drop a note to eNews Editor Chris Paton at enews@apgen.org, and copy Executive Director Michelle Dwyer Cohen at admin@apgen.org



The March 2025 APGQ is now available!

The March edition of the **APG Quarterly** is now available, and includes the following articles:

- “Build a Path to Enhance the Client Experience” by Jeremy Verduco
- “Coordinate an Institute Course: Conception to Completion” by Annette Burke Lyttle, CG
- “Manage Your Business with Notion” by Taneya Koonce, MSLS, MPH, and Julie Cahill Tarr, AG
- “Long-Term Storage Considerations” by Cyndi Ingle
- “Level Up Your Marketing: Ideas for 2025” by Joy Curtiss
- “Experiment with Your Productivity” by Drew Smith, MS, MLIS
- “Improve Your Public Speaking Skills” by Amanda E. Perrine, MSLS

Access the issue at www.apgen.org by logging in and selecting **Members > Publications > APG Quarterly**.

CHAPTER AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) NEWS

Southeast Chapter



The newly formed Southeast Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists is now accepting new members. The Southeast Chapter includes the following states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, West Virginia, and Virginia.

To join, please complete the membership application at <https://bit.ly/SoutheastAPG>. No dues are required. If you have any questions, please contact us at apgsoutheast@apgen.org. And don't forget to check our box on your APG profile page if you join!

Puget Sound Chapter



The following are details for the chapter's April talk, as part of our theme this year on building community:

Date: 28 April 2025
 Time: 7:00 p.m. PT (please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents)
 What: "AI for Genealogists," with Stephen Little
 Virtual: See the chapter website for sign up information at <https://psapg.wordpress.com/meetings/>.

A link for members to attend the session is available from Nancy Cordell at nancy.cordell@gmail.com.

Britain, Ireland and the Isles Chapter



On Wednesday 7 May we will be holding an informal chat event from 3:00 p.m. BST (please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents). A link will be emailed to members who are signed up to the Chapter on the APG website.

For more on the chapter please visit https://www.apgen.org/britain_ireland_and_the_isles.php.

Colorado Chapter



The Colorado chapter of APG (CAPG) is trying out a new concept in 2025 called **Case Study Collaboratives**. These collaborative, brainstorming sessions are an online, informal gathering in the spirit of a professional study and discussion group. CAPG members initiate the sessions by proposing a research-related topic and suggesting different dates and times that work for them. The proposing CAPG member serves as the event facilitator. Before the meeting, the facilitator provides a summary of the case including their objective, hypothesis, and sufficient data to outline the case.

The first CAPG Case Study Collaborative was held on Friday, 14 March 2025, and was attended by six members and two non-members. CAPG member Janet Long provided a two-page outline of her case “Grandma and Grandpa Never Knew! How Endogamy Can Surprise You.” An hour-long discussion ensued, during which she was asked pointed questions, discussed DNA testers, and debated endogamy versus pedigree collapse in her ancestors’ small Virginia community. All who attended enjoyed the session and look forward to participating in future cases.

Only CAPG members can suggest a topic, but attendance is open to non-members as well. The rotating times may also provide additional networking and membership engagement opportunities for members whose schedules do not align with other events. Please visit our website at <https://coloradoapg.org> for further details.

El SIG en Español



La próxima reunión de discusión del SIG en Español se llevará a cabo el miércoles 2 de abril a la 1:30 p.m. PT. Visite <https://www.timeanddate.com> para conocer los horarios correspondientes a nivel mundial.

Las reuniones se llevan a cabo en español y se enfocan en apoyar a los miembros del SIG con sus necesidades genealógicas y comerciales. Si desea unirse, envíe un correo electrónico a Jessica Taylor a jtaylor@legacytrees.com para recibir una invitación.

The next discussion meeting of the SIG en Español will be held on Wednesday 2 April at 1:30 p.m. PT. Please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents.

Meetings are held in Spanish and focus on supporting SIG members with their genealogy and business needs. If you would like to join, please email Jessica Taylor at jtaylor@legacytrees.com for an invite.

Writers SIG



The APG Writers SIG continued its stellar lineup of speakers on 19 February 2025 with John Colletta, Ph.D. who spoke on “More Than Pretty Pictures: Sources for Visual Enhancement of Your Story.”

Our next meeting is on 16 April 2025 when Wesley Pippenger will speak on **“Reconstructing the Past: Three Case Studies.”**



He will discuss projects that he is currently working on and the issues that arose. (1) Chain of title of the original Tappahannock town lots from about 1705 to the present; (2) Chronicling businesses that have come and gone in Essex County starting in the 1800s; and (3) preparing surviving King William County historical court records for publication.

Wesley Pippenger is a historical researcher and compiler of numerous genealogical reference books. He is past president of the Virginia Genealogical Society, contributing editor of *The Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, and is or has been a member of numerous genealogical and historical organizations. Perhaps most noted is his 12-volume master index to wills and administrations and other estate records for both Virginia and West Virginia before 1865. He maintains a personal research library of about 10,000 history books, thousands of local photographs, and box upon box of research materials at his historic house Little Egypt, in Tappahannock, Virginia.

Meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. ET. We begin to join at 7:30 p.m. for visiting in breakout rooms. Please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents.

Save the dates for our future speakers:

- 21 May – Ian Watson, “Genealogical Writing and Publishing in the 2020s” at 2:00 ET.
- 18 June – Dan Bouk, Ph.D., “The Census is a Fascination and a Flawed Record of Doorstep Conversations.”

The Writers SIG dues are US \$20 per calendar year. Membership benefits include access to a closed Facebook Group, recorded meetings, an optional Peer Review Group, and networking opportunities.

For more information on the Writers SIG, log into www.apgen.org, and visit Writers SIG under the “About” tab.

Forensic Genealogy SIG



Our event, **Volunteer Opportunities in Forensic Genealogy: A Panel of Organizations**, will be held 22 April 2025 at 8:00 p.m. ET. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. ET for networking. Please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com> for worldwide time equivalents.

Panelists will include Laura Olmsted of DNAngels, Rhonda Kevorkian of the DNA Doe Project, Katie Thomas of Moxxy Forensic Investigations, and Shannon Wood Byers of NOKfinders.

Many forensic genealogists are looking for opportunities to volunteer to develop skills, network or give back to the community. The following four organizations who rely on volunteers will present about their work and share how you can get involved.

DNAngels

<https://dnangels.org>

DNAngels is a nonprofit Search Angel organization dedicated to assisting individuals seeking to identify their biological parent(s) using DNA interpretation, mapping, and extensive research. For clients struggling with news of a Non-Paternal Event (NPE, also referred to as Not Parent Expected), donor conception, or adoption, support and fellowship is offered in a private online group. Services to help identify birth parents come at no cost.

Laura Olmsted is the Founder and Executive Director of DNAngels, a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to genetic genealogy. With a background in corporate sales management and healthcare navigation, Laura combines her skills with a passion for helping individuals find answers and closure.

Laura's personal journey with DNA discovery and her professional expertise have fueled DNAngels' mission to assist thousands in uncovering their family histories.



The DNA Doe Project

<https://dnadoeproject.org>

The DNA Doe Project was founded in 2017 as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation with a simple humanitarian mission: to identify John and Jane Does using investigative genetic genealogy.



Executive Director of Human Resources and Education, Rhonda Kevorkian, has been a genetic genealogist since 2012, and holds the Certificate in American Genealogical Studies from the National Genealogical Society.

Rhonda is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Forensic SIG, and served as President of the South Central Chapter from 2022–2023.

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Forensic SIG, continued from p. 15**Moxyx****<https://www.moxyforensics.com>**

Moxyx Forensic Investigations is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation based in Texas. The organization conducts investigative genetic genealogy to assist investigating agencies with identifying unknown human remains and unknown perpetrators of violent crimes. We also assist agencies in cold case consultation, case triage, and laboratory coordination and funding efforts.

Katie Thomas is an Investigative Genetic Genealogist, President, and Business Manager for Moxyx Forensic Investigations. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Texas A&M University and has completed coursework towards her master's degree in Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum and her graduate certification in crime analysis. Katie has more than 15 years of investigative social work experience, supervisory experience, and genealogical experience. She is an area director, regional manager, and member of the Potential Match Panel board for the Doe Network and holds a Lean Six Sigma green belt certification.



Katie is also a graduate of the Forensic Genealogy Training for Law Enforcement program. She has completed the genealogical coursework at the University of Strathclyde and is a member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG).

NOKfinders**<https://NOKfinders.com>**

NOKfinders (pronounced “knock” finders) is a forensic genealogy company that provides research services to locate next of kin (NOK) when someone dies. Organized as an L3C (low-profit LLC) in 2022, NOKfinders' mission is two-fold: help agencies find next of kin when a person dies while enhancing the field of professional forensic genealogy. Agencies need help; aspiring forensic genealogists need cases—NOKfinders brings them together.



NOKfinders CEO and Founder Shannon Wood Byers holds a Certificate in Genealogical Research from BU. She completed ProGen 60, Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy at SLIG Academy, Advanced Forensic Genealogy at GRIP, and BU Genealogical Principles Course. She holds an MS and MBA and spent 19 years in the field of biomedical research in Research and Development and management. She has published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and holds several patents. Shannon volunteers on the APG Continuing Education Committee and is the VP of the APG Forensic SIG.

Investigative Genetic Genealogy Accreditation Board (IGGAB) Will Start AIGG Credential Exams this Fall

David Gurney, President of IGABB, announced that exams will start this fall for the Accredited Investigative Genetic Genealogy (AIGG) credential. For the past three years, the Board has established a set of standards, a code of ethics, and planned the exam.

For additional information, visit the IGG Accreditation Board's website: **<https://www.iggab.org>**.

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Upcoming Book Signing

The next book signing for “Forensic Genealogy: Theory and Practice” will be held at the National Genealogical Society’s 2025 conference in Louisville, Kentucky, from May 23—May 26. Specific dates and times for the signing will be announced closer to the event.

Annual APG Forensic SIG Dues

APG Forensic SIG dues should be paid when you renew your APG membership. Dues are no longer collected on a calendar year basis. Everyone who paid in 2023 or 2024 for the calendar year 2024 is considered paid until their renewal, even if that renewal is in the first half of 2025.

For more information on the Forensic SIG please visit https://www.apgen.org/join_a_sig.php.

Membership Meetings for 2025

The Program Committee has been hard at work securing speakers for 2025. Thank you for your diligence and hard work in securing such outstanding programs. Mark your calendars. Details will be announced later. At this time, the following presentation has been confirmed:


May 27, 2025 - **Law Enforcement Use of Genetic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG).**

Dates for the remainder of 2025:

- 24 June 2025
- 26 August 2025
- 16 September 2025
- 28 October 2025
- December (TBA)

APG Mission Statement

To support those engaged in the business of genealogy through advocacy, collaboration, education, and the promotion of high ethical standards.



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Past editions of APGQ

Looking for *APG Quarterly* articles on specific topics or by title? The ***APGQ Index***, a searchable PDF file organized by general topic, and then by article title, has been updated to include issues up to 2023.

The Index can be accessed on the *APG Quarterly* archive page.



APG at RootsTech!
Were you at RootsTech? Check out these images to see if you can find yourself there!



APG Welcomes New Members

APG is committed to fostering an inclusive community in which all participants are treated with dignity and respect, regardless of (but not limited to) ethnicity, sexual orientation, sex, gender, marital status, disability, age, religion, socioeconomic status, nationality, or political affiliation.



The following new members have joined APG between 22 February and 21 March 2025:

Mattan Segev-Frank, Vienna, Austria; **Ellen Thompson Jennings**, Barrhead, Alberta, Canada; **Anna Dutfield**, North York, Ontario, Canada; **Alina Akoeff**, Moscow, Russian Federation; **John Chapman**, Sheffield, England; **Raymond Allen**, Niagara Falls, New York, USA; **Brent Reiffer**, Moseley, Virginia, USA; **Erin Jenkins**, Elko, Nevada, USA; **Kassidy Price**, Saint George, Utah, USA; **Melissa Culbertson**, San Diego, California, USA; **Cornelia Bush**, Fredericksburg, Virginia, USA; **Kristine Wilson**, Riverside, California, USA; **John Caufield**, Pittsford, New York, USA; **Brian Hunter**, Keizer, Oregon, USA; **Robyne Damond**, Copperas Cove, Texas, USA; **Alex Lee**, Beaumont, Texas, USA; **Alexis Rich**, Surprise, Arizona, USA; **Jennifer de Fiebre**, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA; **Cecelia McFadden**, Canal Winchester, Ohio, USA; **Stephanie Gaboriault**, Media, Pennsylvania, USA; **Melinda Wahl**, Elko, Nevada, USA; **Charlie Biluck**, Somerdale, New Jersey, USA; **Scott Lee**, Sherwood, Arizona, USA; **Joy Reddicks**, Friendswood, Texas, USA; **Nancy Dierker**, Denver, Colorado, USA; **Aimee Rose-Haynes**, Brandenburg, Kentucky, USA; **Sandra Schaad**, San Jose, California, USA; **Sharilyn Tullis**, Van Alstyne, Texas, USA; **Caryl Osborn**, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA; **Lula Henley**, Silverdale, Washington, USA; **Reynold Aust**, Rathdrum, Idaho, USA; **Wendy Elliott**, Placentia, California, USA; **Alexandria Priest**, Pleasant Grove, Utah, USA; **Johari Ade-Green**, Denver, Colorado, USA; **Amy Carpenter**, Orem, Utah, USA; **Miles Meyer**, Vero Beach, Florida, USA; **Joseph Walls**, Yorba Linda, California, USA; **Robert Cole**, Angier, North Carolina, USA; **Jakob von Rosen Imig**, Orlando, Florida, USA; **David Grawrock**, Ivins, Utah, USA; **Karla Barton**, Loveland, Ohio, USA; **Roma Miller**, Centerville, Utah, USA; **Robbi De Peri**, Franklin, Tennessee, USA; **Jim Thornhill**, Fate, Texas, USA; **Amy Empey**, Sandy, Utah, USA; **Trish Buben**, Allison Park, Pennsylvania, USA; **John Laflin**, Manchester Center, Vermont, USA; **Rachel Shaw**, Oakland, California, USA; and **Jason Felihkatubbe**, Bel Aire, Kansas, USA.



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Our welcoming and diverse network of members includes genealogists with a variety of levels of experience as well as librarians, archivists, and others. Learn more about our member benefits, professional development resources, chapters, special interest groups, and more at apgen.org.

Join today at apgen.org