

Scenes from RootsTech 2026

By Michelle Dwyer Cohen and Allison E. Beard



Sarah Day and Tricia Seguine prepare for their session



Karin Coppernoll and Kaitlyn Pauley in the APG Classroom

APG had a strong presence at the 2026 RootsTech conference in Salt Lake City, Utah! More than eighty APG members were speakers at this year's conference, with many more in attendance. Our efforts this year went into educating conference attendees on the role of professional genealogy and helping those looking to hire professional genealogists, including sponsoring the presentation "From Client to Colleague: Understanding the World of Professional Genealogy" with APG President Tricia Seguine and Board member Sarah Day.

In addition to our usual offerings at the APG booth in the Expo Hall, we also set up the APG Classroom, a space for leaders, members, and attendees to connect and share insights.

During the conference we held a number of "Expert Insights" mini-sessions, including an introduction to the Professional Genealogist Readiness Tool ([available at apgen.org](https://apgen.org)) with Vice President Karin Coppernoll and On-Ramp Committee member Kaitlyn Pauley. Other speakers sharing "Why/How I Became a Professional Genealogist" included Shannon Combs-Bennett, Kelley Conner Lear, and Peggy Lauritzen.

If you were unable to attend RootsTech in person this year or did not get a chance to see our space, the virtual exhibit booth is available at www.rootstech.org.

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Association of Professional Genealogists

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APG MISSION STATEMENT

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

APG NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Association of Professional Genealogists 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.

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APG Member Speakers at RootsTech 2026

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Rhonda A. Lauritzen • Kelley Conner Lear •
Steve Little • Shaunese Luthy • Marina Martello •
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Suzanne Russo Adams • Lori Samuelson •
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Kristi L. Sexton • Janette Silverman • Susan Skilton •
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Michael L. Strauss • Kelly Renee Summers •
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NEW RELEASES

Ancestoring: Understanding Records, Family, and Ourselves.

Darcie Hind Posz



**ANCESTORING:
Understanding Records,
Family, and Ourselves**
by Darcie Hind Posz

Ancestoring is divided into three parts. Understanding Records affirms the importance of placing records in their historical context. Understanding Family helps us to ask the question, "Why?" and to be objective when uncovering our ancestors' decisions and actions. Understanding Ourselves helps us to acknowledge our own biases in analyzing our ancestors' records and decisions.

\$34.95

Ultimate Guide to
**Mastering
FamilySearch**



**ULTIMATE GUIDE TO
MASTERING FAMILYSEARCH**
by Dana Ann Palmer

FamilySearch.com is a vast treasure trove of genealogical sources from North America and around the world, containing over 20 billion records. And, amazingly, it's FREE! Whether you are new to genealogy or an experienced genealogy professional, this guide is the best book to help you be successful finding ancestors on FamilySearch.

\$29.95-59.95

Searching for
SISTERS

*A Guide to Researching
Catholic Nuns in the United States*



**Searching for Sisters:
Researching Catholic Nuns
in the United States**
by Sunny Jane Morton

An estimated 350,000 Catholic nuns and sisters have served people of all backgrounds in the United States—staffing schools, running hospitals, tending the wounded in war—yet they remain largely hidden in the historical record. This volume presents a step-by-step method for researching women religious through their archives, guiding readers to surviving records and revealing the impact of these remarkable women on families and local history.

\$29.95

SAVE THE DATE!

PMc 2026

VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

14-17 OCTOBER 2026

RESEARCH TO REVENUE: RAISING THE BAR



Association of Professional
GENEALOGISTS

INFO AT APGEN.ORG

Scenes from RootsTech 2026

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We were also pleased to see so many members at the APG Member Meet-Up, held in one of the newly-updated FamilySearch Library conference rooms.



Above: Images from the APG Member Meet-Up

A very exciting part of APG's RootsTech experience this year was a visit to Ancestry headquarters in Lehi, Utah. Jenny Ashcraft, Senior Content Copywriter at Ancestry, was our gracious host.

Michelle was joined on the tour by Jen Shaffer, APG Booth Coordinator (otherwise known as The Formidable Genealogist) and Carly Lane Morgan, owner of FamilyTree Notebooks, where they got a quick look at some of the latest developments from Find a Grave, Newspapers.com, and Fold3.

Jenny showed the group examples of several newspaper digitization projects. They were also able to speak with operators who were scanning

microfilm as well as those working on scanning physical copies of newspapers. They also got a sneak peek at physical records from Michelle's home state that are in the process of being scanned. Due to legal reasons, they are unable to elaborate; you will have to hold your breath until next spring when they are online!

The new features that they previewed were announced during RootsTech by Ancestry Corporate Genealogist Crista Cowan ([watch the video here](#)). When the Fold3 product manager took us through the brand new full-text search available for Revolutionary War pensions, they mentioned how valuable it would be to get feedback from professionals on the tool, especially while in its beta status. Michelle thought that our members might be delighted to help!

A Special Ask for APG Members

Please visit Fold3, check out the full-text search in the Revolutionary War records, and try out both the transcription and the summary features. They can be found at

<https://www.fold3.com/publication/467/us-revolutionary-war-pensions-1800-1900>.

See something that doesn't work as you expected or something that doesn't look quite right? Use the BETA feedback button. Somewhere in your constructive feedback, please indicate that you are an APG member.



Left: Part of Debra Braverman's collection of APG pins

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Scenes from RootsTech 2026 (continued)

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Thank you to all of our booth volunteers, in order of appearance: Nicole Cohn, Kelvin L Meyers, Debra Braverman, Steven Schwartz, Cheri Daniels, Alex Priest, Sarah Day, Torhild Shirley, Lynn Broderick, Jon Grubbs, Kelli Bergheimer, Jamie Mayhew, Lillian Wingate, Angela Snedaker, Alec Ferretti, Risa Heywood, Kate Penney Howard, Andre Abla, LaDonna Garner, Cate Bloomquist, and Nicola Sherrock.



Members LaDonna Garner, Lynn Broderick, and Jon Grubbs

The organization and marketing of this event for APG is made possible by the incredible APG support team: Jen Shaffer, Allison Beard, Amber Oldenburg, Kaye Ford, Sandra Roberts, and Pamela Israel. We also want to thank David Rencher, Debbie Gurtler and FamilySearch for all that they did to make our booth and member event a success.

We hope to see all of you next year in Salt Lake City from 4-6 March 2027 for RootsTech!



Members Cecelia McFadden and Kate Townsend



Board member Alec Ferretti, Executive Director Michelle Dwyer Cohen, and President Tricia Seguine in the Expo Hall
(Photo courtesy of Tricia Seguine)



Member Jill Nock finds her name on the APG speaker sign
(Photo courtesy of Jill Nock)

[For more pictures from RootsTech, click here](#)

Never a Dull Moment at APG Headquarters

After finishing a very successful RootsTech, we are moving right along to more events. Here's what the spring lineup looks like:

- On 15 April, it's Hill Day for genealogists in the United States, which means groups of genealogists will be visiting legislators to talk about our concerns including records access and preservation, and appropriate support of The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). We are sponsors for the Register of Qualified Genealogists' Event on 25 April 2026 in Birmingham, UK.
- In May, we will be running the first-ever APG dedicated track at the US National Genealogical Society Family History Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This event is sponsored by our Forensic SIG, with seven of the nine spotlight sessions focused on forensic genealogical specialties.
- We are hosting our first-ever partnered event with the University of Strathclyde in June, an event that is raising APG's international profile, and opening up new ideas for organizational partnerships.

In addition, the daily work that keeps APG humming is in progress. Our committees evaluate advocacy issues, support chapters and SIGs, plan the annual Professional Management Conference, review scholarship applications for that event, manage website queries, and work on ways to support members every day.

The Professional Development Committee has organized a great lineup of webinars this year (see page 10) buoyed by fascinating topics selected by both Diversity and International Committees. Please mark your calendars to attend as many as you can!

I also hope that you are enjoying our new all-digital APG Quarterly - our editing team worked hard to incorporate features that would improve your reading experience, and here we are, reading a brand new reformatted eNews! If you have feedback on the new style or features, please feel free to contact the editors of each publication, or me directly at admin@apgen.org.

APG accomplishes all of this work with the combination of a very small team - two employees and ten contractors - and an army of volunteers. We would be unable to succeed without the support of your fellow members - the Board, the committee members, the volunteers staffing the booths at every event. Please consider volunteering with us, and in the meantime, if you need assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to me or Kaye Ford at assistance@apgen.org.



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APG eNews

The Newsletter of the Association
of Professional Genealogists

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Scholarships Available for APG's 2026 PMC

Scholarship applications are now open for the 2026 APG Professional Management Conference (PMC). **The deadline to apply is 11:59 p.m. EDT (US) on 30 April 2026.** This year's PMC will be held virtually, 14-17 October 2026.

APG offers two scholarships for the event:

- The **APG New Professional Scholarship**, recognizing an aspiring or new professional (less than 5 years as a professional genealogist) with a strong interest in growing their career as a professional; and
- 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. For full details on these awards, including criteria, eligibility, and a list of past recipients, visit our Awards & Scholarships page at https://www.apgen.org/apg_awards_and_scholarships.php.

The APG Awards Committee looks forward to seeing your applications!



Join APG in Fort Wayne, Indiana for NGS 2026

APG is pleased to be a sponsor of "America at 250", the National Genealogical Society (NGS) Family History Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana, 27-30 May 2026. We are looking forward to joining our genealogy colleagues, industry experts, exhibitors, and APG members at this year's conference.

Please consider volunteering at the APG booth! It is such a fantastic way to network with colleagues and learn more about what APG has to offer. Sign up for a shift at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054CADAA2BA4FFCE9-63189302-volunteer>.

We are finalizing plans for a member meetup during the Conference; stay tuned or check our social media for more details.

We look forward to seeing you in Fort Wayne!

APG and our Forensic Special Interest Group are pleased to sponsor the **APG "Day in the Life of a Professional" Track at NGS 2026**. This series gives you a closer look at various jobs in professional genealogy with sessions led by industry experts.

Thursday 2:30-5:00 PM

More Jobs in Genealogy

Topics: Family History Research; Genealogy and Local History Librarian; Dual Citizenship; Panel Discussion

Speakers: Peggy Lauritzen, EvaAnne Johnson, Alec Ferretti

Friday 2:30-5:00 PM

Next of Kin

Research/DNA/Investigative Genetic Genealogy

Topics: Locating Next of Kin for the Unclaimed; Solving Unknown Parentage Cases; Investigative Genetic Genealogy; Panel Discussion

Speakers: Hope Glidden, Lorie Cousin, Chelsea Hanrahan

Saturday 2:30-5:00 PM

Forensic Genealogy

Topics: Military Repatriation; Probate and Heir Search; Mineral Rights and Real Estate; Panel Discussion

Speakers: Catherine Desmarais, Michael Ramage, Kelvin L. Meyers



Expand Your Business Skills at the APG Professional Genealogy Symposium

The first-ever **APG Professional Genealogy Symposium** is fast approaching. The one-day event is being held on 24 June 2026 in partnership with the Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies (SIGS) and is open to all, with no requirement to be an APG member.

Join us in person in Glasgow or attend virtually (most sessions will be available online). In addition to our full day of informative sessions, we will have networking opportunities for attendees to connect. Visit the event web page to view the full schedule.

All participants will receive access to recordings of the presentations, which will be available for two months post-event. Registration includes access to bonus recordings to watch at your leisure, featuring sessions on UK accounting practices and professional genealogical writing.

Register today at apgen.org/pgs2026. Rates are:

- In-Person Attendance: £160
- Virtual Attendance: £110

The Symposium will be followed by the SIGS' two-day conference **Beyond the Family Tree: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on AI, DNA, Education and Community in Genealogy** on 25 and 26 June 2026.

We are pleased to offer a full day of practical sessions at the Professional Genealogy Symposium. Here are just two of the sessions attendees can choose from:

Beyond Research: Build Your Business

Speakers: Fiona Brooker, Mia Bennett

A practical introduction to starting a genealogy business with confidence. Learn how to define your signature service, communicate your value, and create a simple, professional client workflow. Includes a guided activity to help you shape your core offering and a takeaway worksheet with clear, actionable next steps.

Cross-Border Marketing Your Business

Speakers: Andrea Bentschneider; John Boeren, LL.M, MSc, QG; Chris Paton

Three professional genealogists in three different countries (Germany, Netherlands, United Kingdom) handle their business marketing in very different ways. Hear their insights and perspectives about what has worked to attract clients and improve their visibility.

THANK YOU TO OUR SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS

BENEFACTORS:



PATRONS:



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Upcoming APG Webinars & Events

View the full calendar at apgen.org/events

April 2026

- 30 **Conquering Resistance, Procrastination, and Imposter Syndrome** with Rhonda Lauritzen

May 2026

- 13 **Not American Enough: The Challenges and Beauty of Puerto-Rican Genealogy**
with Luis Ariel Rivera
Underwritten by the National Genealogical Society (NGS)

June 2026

- 18 **Strategically Marketing Your Genealogy Business. Turning Your Passion into a Viable Business**
with Dr. Penny Walters
- 24 **APG Professional Genealogy Symposium**
Held in partnership with the Strathclyde Institute for Genealogical Studies

July 2026

- 30 **Creating a Personal Research Guide: A Professional Tool for Efficient Casework** with Bonnie Wade Mucia, AG®, AGL™

For worldwide time equivalents for all webinars & events, please visit <https://www.timeanddate.com>.

Recent Webinars You May Have Missed

Members can access recordings of these webinars and others in the APG Webinar Library. Log in at apgen.org, go to Members >Continuing >Webinar Library. CC available.

The Ethical Genealogist: Seeking Truth with Care, Context, and Compassion with Gary L. Ball-Kilbourne, PhD, CG®, CGL®

How do you discern what is right and ethical in your dealing with clients and colleagues? Learn the proper principles and guidance for dealing with ethical quandaries.

Polishing Your APG Member Profile with Fiona Brooker

Has it been while since you've updated your profile in the APG Directory? Learn more about how the directory reads your profile, how to make it easier for clients to find you, and much more.

Certifications and Accreditations



Patricia R. Reed of Wheat Ridge, CO, USA, has earned the Certified Genealogist credential from the Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG).



Nancy A. Peters, CG®, CGL® of Aiken, SC, USA, has renewed her the Certified Genealogist credential from BCG.

Angela R. Schofield of Hudson, FL, USA, has received the Accredited Genealogist certification from the International Commission for the Accreditation of Genealogists (ICAPGEN).

Member Publications



The book *Ultimate Guide to Mastering FamilySearch* by **Dana Ann Palmer, CG®, CGL®** of Lebanon, OH, USA, was published in November 2025 by Genealogical.com.



In March 2026, **Robert Cameron Weir** of Dover, NH, USA, published the new book, *ChatGPT for Genealogists: From first prompts to advanced workflows*.



Earlier this year, **Trish Hackett Nicola, CG® Emeritus** of Seattle, WA, USA, published *Chinese in Washington: The Legacy of the Chinese Exclusion Act*.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE?

If you have news to share with APG colleagues, please drop a note to the editor at enews@apgen.org, and copy Executive Director Michelle Dwyer Cohen at admin@apgen.org.

Collaborating with Local Government on Castle Preservation Project

On 24 February 2026, APG member **Jakob von Rosen** of Orlando, FL, USA, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cesis County Municipality in Latvia to promote cooperation in the renovation of his family's ancestral home, Lielstraupe Castle. The memorandum was written to ensure the preservation of the cultural heritage, digitization, and wide public access to this significant cultural and historical heritage for future generations.

Jakob is currently negotiating with the University of Latvia and Riga Technical University regarding a consortium to develop a next generation platform in family history and genealogical research.

Learn more about Jakob's journey to prove his ancestral connection to the castle and his efforts to use digital tools and technology to preserve the castle's history at www.castlenexus.org/.



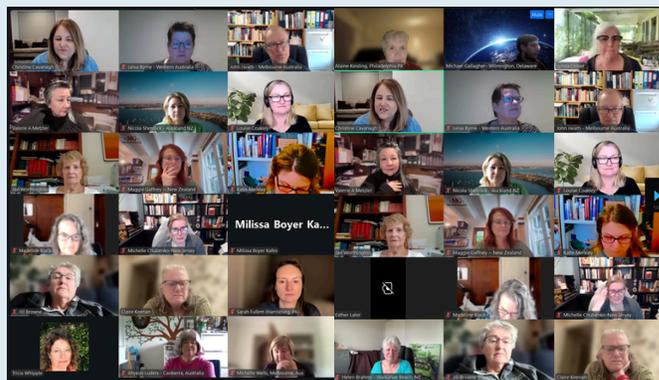
Jakob von Rosen (at right) pictured with Deputy Speaker of the City Council Inese Suija-Markova



Lielstraupe Castle

Chapter Meetup: Mid-Atlantic and Australia & New Zealand

APG's Mid-Atlantic and Australia & New Zealand Chapters held a cross-chapter virtual meeting on 25 February 2026 where they shared British Isles heritage as well as some of the challenges and successes they had in learning about each other's record sets, which records were helpful in directing our focus overseas, etc.

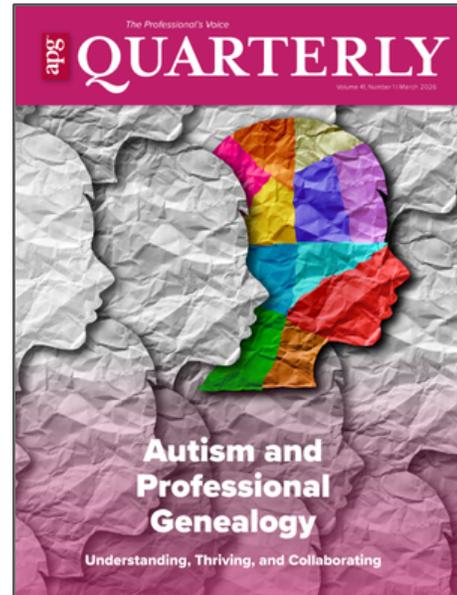


A Fresh Look for *APG Quarterly*

The March 2026 issue of the *APG Quarterly* is now available and offers your first look at our new digital design. Take a few moments to explore the new easy-to-read and table-friendly layout, shortcut links to and from the table of contents, and more. This issue also marks the debut of new education columnist Rhonda Hoffman.

In this issue:

- Autism and Professional Genealogy: Understanding, Thriving, and Collaborating
- Welcome to Glasgow! Home of the 2026 APG Professional Genealogy Symposium
- Fellowship in Action: A Practical Guide for Success
- Get Started with Affiliate Marketing
- Visual Storytelling: Captivate Clients from Social Posts to Client Reports
- Getting the Most from Grammarly
- Free and Affordable Online Learning for Genealogical Skill Building



The March 2026 *APG Quarterly* and an archive of past issues are available to members on the APG website apgen.org. Log in to the site, then select Members > Publications > APG Quarterly. You must be logged in to view this content.

New Discount for APG Members: Leo

APG members now get 50% off their first purchase with Leo which provides state-of-the-art AI for handwriting recognition.

Leo instantly transcribes difficult historical manuscripts—preserving formatting, marginalia, and tables—with no training required. Their all-in-one platform organizes documents into a searchable digital library where you can compare AI models, translate text, and extract named entities.



Learn more about Leo at <https://tryleo.ai/>.

View the Leo discount code and learn about other member discounts at apgen.org; log in and go to Members > Discounts.

Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane Scholarship Award

Applications for Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane's 2026 Scholarship Award are now being accepted. An award of \$300 will be given to the winner to help defray the cost of travel to the Louisiana State Archives in Baton Rouge for work to be conducted between October 1, 2026, and July 15, 2027.

The deadline to apply is 1 July 2026. The winner will be announced at the Annual Meeting to be held in the Fall of 2026.



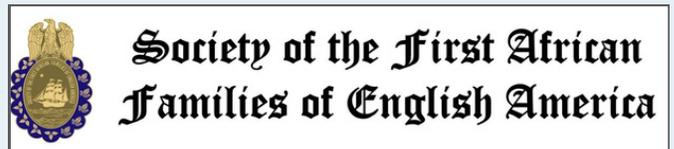
Le Comité is the non-profit genealogical support group for the Louisiana State Archives (pictured above). For rules, see the What's New page of the website at www.lecomite.org.

Society of the First African Families of English America

At RootsTech 2026, APG Executive Director Michelle Dwyer Cohen was pleased to meet with members of the Society of the First African Families of English America (SOFAFEA).

Formed in 2019, SOFAFEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit lineage organization that unites descendants of African ancestry who lived in English America prior to 5 March 1770 and includes those patriots who served in the war or supported the war cause ending in 1783.

The Society's conference, America 250: Forgotten Patriots A Dream Yet Realized, will be held from 1-2 May 2026 in Philadelphia, PA, USA.



Through lectures, restoration projects, veteran support, youth engagement, and public events, SOFAFEA's America 250 Program aims to honor the nation's founding principles and ancestor's contributions while fostering civic responsibility and national pride leading up to the 250th anniversary of United States independence on 4 July 2026.

For information, go to www.sofafea.org.

See You in Birmingham at the RQG Genealogy Conference

APG is pleased to be a sponsor of the 2026 Genealogy Conference of the Register of Qualified Genealogists (RQG), which will be held on 25 April 2026 in Birmingham, United Kingdom.

Three APG members are included in the list of speakers at the one-day event:

- **Dr. Sophie Kay** – Ethics and You: A People-centred Guide to Genetic Genealogy
- **David Ryan** – Exploring Irish Census Records
- **Dr. Nicholas Dixon** – Conviviality and Decorum: A Journey Through Two Centuries of Masonic Ancestry

Learn more about the 2026 Conference at <https://www.qualifiedgenealogists.org/2026-conference>.



Speaking at an Upcoming Conference? Let APG Know!



Are you speaking at an upcoming conference, institute, or webinar? Let us know ahead of time that you will be speaking, we can advertise your participation as part of our overall marketing of the event. Showing the attendees how many great speakers are part of our organization definitely encourages people to use the website, and builds our association brand. Email your upcoming speaking events to enews@apgen.org.

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Meet the new leadership of the Utah APG Chapter! We can be reached at apgutah@apgen.org.

To join the chapter, log in to apgen.org, and look for “My Membership” on the members page. Select “Change Contact/Profile Info” and scroll to “Chapters/SIGs/Committees” to opt into the Utah Chapter. There is no cost for members to join this chapter.

President – Shaunese Luthy



Shaunese Luthy is the owner of Untangle Your Roots. She received her B.A in Family History and Genealogy from Brigham Young University. She lives in Eagle Mountain, Utah, with her husband and three kids.

Vice President – Shelbie Drake



Shelbie Drake received her B.A. in Family History and Genealogy from Brigham Young University in 2019 and will graduate with an MLIS from the University of Illinois in December 2026. She currently works as a research consultant for FamilySearch, and lives in Layton, Utah, with her two dogs.

Secretary – Katie Garner Merkley



Katie Garner Merkley is the owner of Katie Rebecca Garner Genealogy LLC. She graduated BYU-Idaho with a family history research degree in 2018, and then interned at FamilySearch.

She has been freelancing since 2020, and writing has been an important part of her career. She lives in Orem, Utah, with her husband.

LOOKING FOR APG WEBINAR RECORDINGS AND HANDOUTS?

Members can access dozens of APG webinar recordings and handouts in the members area of the APG website.

Go to apgen.org > [Members](#) > [Continuing Education](#) > [Webinar Library](#)



CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Beyond the Credits: How Continuing Education Strengthens Standards, Professional Standing, and Career Growth **29 April 2026** **2:00 p.m. EDT (US)**

The Young Professionals SIG exists to support, connect, and empower early-career genealogists as they establish themselves in the field.

Join the Young Professionals SIG at our upcoming meeting which will feature a presentation from Jenifer Kahn Bakkala, Chair of APG's Continuing Education Committee entitled: "Beyond the Credits: How Continuing Education Strengthens Standards, Professional Standing, and Career Growth."

In this interactive session, we'll focus on APG's Continuing Education requirement, the importance of lifelong learning, and the creation of short- and long-term education goals. This event is open to all APG members and is free to attend.

To join the SIG, log in to apgen.org, and look for "My Membership" on the members page. Select "Change Contact/Profile Info" and scroll to "Chapters/SIGs/Committees" to opt into the Young Professionals SIG. There is no cost.



The Northern California Chapter of APG will soon merge with the Southern California Chapter. If you are interested in being part of the new chapter, sign up today for the Northern California Chapter on apgen.org. When you log in, look for "My Membership" on the members page. Select "Change Contact/Profile Info" and scroll to "Chapters/SIGs/Committees" to opt into the chapter. There is no cost.

We meet quarterly on Zoom, schedule regular field trips to various repositories, and we do not take dues. **Our next meeting will be on 5 May 2026 at 5:00 PM, PDT (US).** The agenda and link will be sent to all chapter members.

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Next Meeting

15 April 2026, 8:00 p.m. EDT (US)
Beyond the Obvious: Uncovering Stories in Probate Records
Presenter: Jill Nock, AG®

Join the APG Writers SIG for our next event, Beyond the Obvious: Uncovering Stories in Probate Records with Jill Nock. Attendees will acquire advanced analytical techniques for interpreting subtle language variations in legal documents, identifying relationship patterns through inheritance distributions, and correlating probate timing with family circumstances.

You will also learn to build comprehensive family narratives using systematic evidence correlation from multiple probate-related records and develop professional presentation skills for transforming legal findings into engaging human stories that bring ancestors to life while maintaining genealogical accuracy and scholarly rigor.

Past Meetings

Our March program was entitled Organize Complex Writing Projects for Success, presented by Rhonda Lauritzen. Rhonda walked us through the steps she uses to organize big projects so we can stay on track and avoid becoming overwhelmed.

Upcoming Writers SIG Speakers

If any of the upcoming topics interest you, join us on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m. ET (US). SIG dues are \$20 USD per year for 11 excellent speaker presentations. Find more information on the Writers SIG at www.apgen.org/writers_sig.php.

- 15 April 2026 – Beyond the Obvious: Uncovering Stories in Probate Records with Jill Nock, AG®
- 20 May 2026 – Forty Years of Writing and Editing: You'd Think I'd Know What I Was Doing with Barbara Vines Little, CG®, FNGS, FUGA, FVGS
- 17 June 2026 – New York State Archives Guide--Your Turn with Jane E. Wilcox, FGBS
- 15 July 2026 – Speaker TBA
- 19 August 2026 – Indirect Evidence Overturns a Direct Evidence Conclusion: From Hypothesis to Published Article with Julie Miller, CG®, CGL™
- 16 September 2026 – Bringing Identities into Focus Using the Correlation Power of Airtable with Amberly Beck, AG®
- 21 October 2026 – Men of the Same Name: Research Tools & Methodology with Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG®, CGL™
- 18 November 2026 - Lessons from Locality Guides with Jeff Damron

Vice President and Program Chair, Craig R. Scott, CG®, FUGA, has already begun work on the 2027 program schedule.

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Join the Advocacy SIG for our next meeting on Monday, 20 April 2026 at 5:00 p.m. EDT (US) as we discuss advocacy issues impacting members and the larger genealogy community, updates from the recent Family History Hill Day in Washington, DC, and hear from members about issues in their own communities.

All APG members are welcome; sign up on the APG event calendar at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=216578>.



Body Doubling Sessions

Need to find some accountability or motivation? The Southeast Chapter is now hosting weekly, one-hour body doubling sessions every Friday at 10:00 am ET. Come once, come often!

These sessions are open to any Chapter Member who needs the accountability or motivation to work on any research or writing projects. We'll take a few minutes to say what we are working on; cameras will remain on, and microphones off. The chat function can be used to ask questions. [Learn more about body doubling.](#)

Register at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=200272>.

Weekly Chats

All APG members welcome! Drop-in to our weekly chats to find a welcoming place for your professional (or personal) genealogy woes and triumphs.

Tuesday Weekly Chats at 7:30 p.m. EDT (US)

Register at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=191159>

- 7 April 2026
- 21 April 2026

Friday Weekly Chats at 1:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Register at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=191158>

- 3 April 2026
- 17 April 2026

For worldwide time equivalents for all webinars & events, please visit

<https://www.timeanddate.com>.

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Contributed by Jill Morelli, Program Director,
jkmorelli@gmail.com

The Puget Sound-APG Chapter, recipient of the Golden Chapter Award in 2022, meets once a month virtually on the fourth Monday of every month except June, July, August, and December. We are characterized by programs that bring in the leaders and innovators in genealogy. Our reach is larger than just those states bordering the Sound. We welcome all members, particularly those from the Pacific Northwest, including Canada. All are welcomed to visit and to join our chapter.

Member Milestones

Two of our members recently achieved significant milestones:

- Jill Morelli, CG®, CGL® received the 2025 Laura G. Prescott Award for Exemplary Service to Professional Genealogy
- Trish Hackett Nicola, CG® Emeritus and author of the blog "Chinese Exclusion Act Files;" published *Chinese in Washington: The Legacy of the Chinese Exclusion Act*.

April Meeting

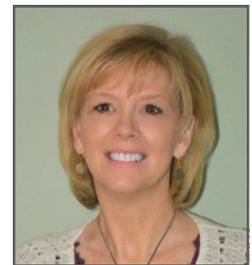
27 April 2026

7:00 p.m. PDT (US)

Reparations and Descendancy Research

Presenter: Cheri Hudson Passey

Join PS-APG and presenter Cheri Hudson Passey (pictured at right), owner of Carolina Girl Genealogy, LLC, for our April meeting where we will discuss reparations and descendancy research. Cheri has recently published a book *Genealogy in Reverse: Finding the Living. A Practical Guide for all Genealogists*.



To register for the meeting, go to the APG Event Calendar, to the date of the meeting, click on it and "Register for this Event." You can also set up a calendar reminder.

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CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



CAPG Quarterly Meeting
2 May 2026 10:00 a.m. MDT (US)
Family History Resources at the Library of Congress
Presenter: Tina Beard



Join the Colorado APG Chapter at our next quarterly meeting for a presentation by Tina Beard (left) entitled "Family History Resources at the Library of Congress."

Whether you are researching in this glorious building or utilizing their amazing digital collections, the Library of Congress (LOC) offers something for every family historian. Tina will walk you through all the different ways you can engage with the LOC both through their digital resources and their dynamic social media presence, to advance your family history.

Register at <https://coloradoapg.org/>. Open to all APG members.



Family History Research: A Guide for Nebraska Librarians
12 April 2026
7:30 p.m. Central Time (US)
Presenter: Marcia Stewart

Interest in family history continues to grow, and librarians are often called upon to assist patrons in learning more about their roots. The Great Plains Chapter recently presented a program at the annual Nebraska Library Association Conference that was received with much enthusiasm; local library personnel are clearly eager to know more about genealogy research, and how they can better answer their patrons' questions.

The Chapter is opening this presentation to other APG members as something that other chapters might like to emulate after adjusting it to their own locales.

This session will enable library staff, regardless of budget or experience in genealogical research, to help family-history researchers avail themselves of the many free resources for discovering local, national and international records. Free and open to all APG members.

Register at <https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=203860>.

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Second Tuesday: A Man Without a Name: Reconstructing the Identity of a Career Criminal

14 April 2026

12:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Presenter: Jeanie R. Watts

Register at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=215710>.

We sometimes encounter individuals who exist only in fragments; men and women who moved through the record set under multiple aliases, leaving behind no stable identity, no clear origins, and no documented parentage.



Join the Mid-Atlantic Chapter and presenter Jeanie Watts (left) for a case study of one such individual: a career criminal whose paper trail spans years, jurisdictions, multiple identities. Through

careful correlation of disparate records, this project reconstructs a probable identity and demonstrates strategies for working with fragmented and misleading evidence.

Mid-Atlantic Chat

Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. EDT (US)

2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 April

Join us for our weekly genealogy chat. All APG members are welcome. Register at

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=215712>.

Accreditation Station

Monday, 6 April 2026

Monday, 20 April 2026

7:00 p.m. EDT (US)

A bi-monthly support group for members pursuing accreditation. Please email

MidAtlanticAPG@gmail.com.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter FORGEN Study Group

26 April 2026

7:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Chapter 14: Courtroom Issues & Skills

Check the Mid-Atlantic FORGEN Facebook group for the link.

Happy Hour with Hope! Chat

27 April 2026

7:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Come chat about all things genealogical!

<https://members.apgen.org/Calendar/moreinfo.php?eventid=215711>

CHAPTERS AND SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



See You at NGS Family History Conference 2026!

Our APG-sponsored "Day in the Life of a Professional" Track at the NGS Family History Conference 2026 in Fort Wayne, Indiana, features many of our members, and highlights Forensic specializations.

28 April 2026

8:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Exploring GEDmatch: Tools and Strategies for Every Researcher



Presenter: Dr. Patricia Coleman (left). Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. EDT (US) for networking.

Upcoming Monthly Programs

26 May 2026

8:00 p.m. EDT (US)

FIGG Innovation & Collaboration through the NTVIC

Presenter: Dr. Claire L. Glynn

Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. EDT (US) for networking.

23 June 2026

2:00 p.m. EDT (US)

Part 1: Finding Your Way - Example Paths to Careers in Forensic Genealogy Panel Discussion

Panelists: Kecia G. Lifton, CG®, Wendy McLean, Alison Wilde, AIGG, and Angela J. Harris, CG®

Doors will open at 1:30 p.m. EDT (US) for networking.



The chapter is excited to extend complimentary membership to APG members.

Sign up at www.southcentralapg.org.

Upcoming Chapter Events:

Membership Meeting

21 April 2026

7:00 p.m. CDT (US)

Guide to One Hour Meetings

19 May 2026

7:00 p.m. Central (US)

APG Secretary Belinda Brouette (right) will give tips on how to run an hour-long meeting.

Following the meeting is an article discussion group.



Welcome New Members!

The members listed below have joined APG between 17 February 2026 and 25 March 2026. A huge welcome to all!

- Lana Berry Alsobrook, Smyrna, GA, USA
- Julianne Anderson, Stansbury Park, UT, USA
- John Stephen Arford, New Haven, IN, USA
- Stephanie Lee Aves, Dallas, TX, USA
- Carol Baldwin, Tucson, AZ, USA
- Kelly Bennett, Manassas, VA, USA
- Annela Buffin, Angier, NC, USA
- Vanessa Anne Cassin, Baulkham Hills, NSW, Australia
- Maria Castro, Nanaimo, BC, Canada
- Stephen Clark, Cicero, NY, USA
- Amy Coughlin, Eugene, OR, USA
- Kobe Daskal, Netanya, Israel
- Heather Davis, Edwardsville, PA, USA
- Suzy Del Mage, Matawan, NJ, USA
- Catherine Duncan, Lehi, UT, USA
- Collette Fenlason, Haysville, KS, USA
- Joanna Cicely Fennell, Delgany, Ireland
- Helen Giffear, Clearfield, UT, USA
- Mandi Gottfredson, Middleton, ID, USA
- Ruth M.J. Graham, Wollstonecraft, NSW, Australia
- Theresa Graham, Berlin, Germany
- Michael Hait, Harrington, DE, USA
- Chantel Hanks, Eagle Mountain, UT, USA
- Thomas William Hawkins, Medford, NJ, USA
- Laura L Hedgecock, Farmington Hills, MI, USA
- Simon Hemby
- Josephine Hennelly, Garden City, NY, USA
- Sara J. Hoffman, College Station, TX, USA
- Julie Holmanský, New Hampshire, USA
- Martha Anne Hunt, Alexandria, NH, USA
- Serhii Kokoriev, Edmonton, AB, Canada
- Karen Kontrath, Fleetwood, PA, USA
- Natali Cristina Lazzari, Garibaldi, Brazil
- Arlene Beverley London, Henderson, NV, USA
- April Medlyn, Highland, UT, USA
- Kallasandra Moran, Johnstown, CO, USA
- Yael Nahari, Holon, Israel
- Virginia Pessanha, Darwin, Australia
- Saira Phillips, Sweeny, TX, USA
- Julie Rae, Stansbury Park, UT, USA
- Rhonda Reno, Kendallville, IN, USA
- Harold Roberts, Centennial, CO, USA
- Alora Rueth, Loyal, WI, USA
- Denise Sealy-Brillante, Stone Mountain, GA, USA
- Liesel Seryak, Columbus, OH, USA
- Carolyn Shannon, St. Charles, IL, USA
- Sharon Maree Shelley, Alstonville, Australia
- Edward James Shewfelt, Vernal, UT, USA
- Cynthia Silversides, Grimsby, ON, Canada
- Nicky Smith, Spanish Fork, UT, USA
- Suzana Vieira Stucka, Lake Worth, FL, USA
- Sue Taylor, Salt Lake City, UT, USA
- Luke Theobald, Duffield, Belper, United Kingdom
- Elizabeth Vanderham, Maryland, USA
- Oleg Verbliudov, Kyiv, Ukraine

Are You Ready to Grow as a Genealogy Professional?

Get started with the new APG Professional Genealogist Readiness Tool



APG's Professional Genealogist Readiness Tool helps you understand where you are in your professional journey and provides ideas for where you might want to go next.

Whether you're just starting out, expanding your business, or stepping into a leadership role, this self-assessment is designed to help you reflect on your progress, identify your strengths, and discover areas for growth. The Readiness Tool is open to all.

[Access the Readiness Tool at apgen.org](https://apgen.org)



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- Educational resources for all experience levels
- And much more



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