

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
2018 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE
2-5 MAY 2018 | GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Paths to Your Past



PRESENTED BY:

NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY®

3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22204-4370
703-525-0050 | 800-473-0060
<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>

LOCAL HOST SOCIETY:

WESTERN MICHIGAN
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

c/o Grand Rapids Public Library
111 Library Street NE,
Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3268
info@wmgs.org | <http://www.wmgs.org>

<http://www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org>

Register Today

DISCOVER PATHS TO YOUR PAST

Join thousands of family historians and genealogists in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2–5 May 2018, for the National Genealogical Society's 40th Annual Family History Conference. Choose from more than 175 lectures and special programs. Topics range from local, state, regional, and general genealogy to broader topics on genetic genealogy, technology, records and repositories, ethnic, religious, military research, and much more. The conference program also offers you the chance to enhance your research techniques, and fine-tune your analysis and problem-solving skills.

Participate in the Consummate Genealogical Networking and Learning Environment. The conference provides a great opportunity to share your success stories and discuss road-blocks with fellow family history researchers. Sign-up for social and pre-conference events. Explore the latest products, online resources, books, and courses at exhibitors' booths. Learn about NGS online courses and publications. Access all information about the conference at conference.ngsgenealogy.org. Spread the news about the conference to friends, family, and colleagues.

PRE-REGISTER AND SAVE

Discounted, early-bird conference registration runs from 1 December 2017 through 20 March 2018. Fill out the registration form on page fifteen or register online at conference.ngsgenealogy.org/register/.

Attendees may also register for tours, meals, and special events until 20 April 2018 (or until events are fully booked). Space is limited for all social events, so register early.

Online registration ends on 20 April 2018. Registration sent by USPS must be postmarked by 20 April 2018. On-site conference registration opens Tuesday, 1 May 2018, noon to 7:00 p.m.

NGS offers a refund, minus a \$50 service fee, until 20 April 2018. No refunds after 20 April 2018.

Attendee Check-in Hours

Tuesday	12:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Thursday	7:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Friday	7:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Saturday	7:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

CONFERENCE VENUE

DeVos Place, located at 303 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, will host most conference events that are conveniently located around the Grand Gallery.

Parking: Public parking at DeVos Place is currently \$12 per day.

Wi-Fi: The convention center has numerous Wi-Fi hot spots. All conference hotels offer free Wi-Fi in each guest room.

CONFERENCE HOTELS

The historical Amway Grand Plaza, 187 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, is adjacent to DeVos Place and connected by an enclosed walkway.

The Courtyard Marriott, 11 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503, is connected to DeVos Place by an enclosed walkway through three city blocks.

Both conference hotels have the daily room rate of \$144 plus all applicable fees and taxes for single, double, triple, or quad occupancy. For details about hotel amenities, parking,

and cancellation policies, see conference.ngsgenealogy.org/accommodations/. The back of this registration brochure shows the location of all the conference venues.

GETTING THERE

By Air: Grand Rapids International Airport (GRR) has six airlines (American, Delta, United, Southwest, Allegiant, and Frontier) making 120 non-stop flights daily to twenty-four cities. See grr.org/nonstop-routes.php.

For information about parking, taxi and car service, and access to Grand Rapids by train, see conference.ngsgenealogy.org/getting-there/.

CONFERENCE BLOG

Subscribe to the NGS conference blog and receive updates at conference.ngsgenealogy.org/blog/. The conference blog will provide the latest information about conference events, speakers, exhibitors, research facilities in Michigan, and things to do in and around Grand Rapids.

CONFERENCE EVENTS, WEDNESDAY–SATURDAY, 2–5 MAY 2018

OPENING SESSION

HOW THE ERIE CANAL TRANSFORMED THE MIDWEST

Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. W101

Be sure to attend the conference's opening session and hear its keynote address, "Coming Along the Towpath: The Erie Canal and the Peopling of the Great Lakes States." Well-known speaker, John Philip Colletta, PhD, FUGA, will explore the building of the Erie Canal—an "impossible" engineering feat (1817–1825)—and the myriad ways our ancestors may have worked for, on, or along the "Artificial River." Learn how the canal delivered Yankee ancestors from New England, New York settlers, and emigrants arriving from overseas to populate the Midwest and change the economy of the United States.

SOCIETY NIGHT

Wednesday, 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. W170 Center Concourse, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

Society Night is a great opportunity to meet representatives of state and local genealogical and historical societies from Michigan and nearby states and discover new research

resources and publications. Volunteers will be delighted to answer questions about their membership opportunities. This event is free and open to the public.

WESTERN MICHIGAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY HOST EVENT

Thursday, 6:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m. T270, \$25 Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Visit the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, 303 Pearl Street NW, by using the pedestrian bridge between the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel and DeVos Place to cross the Grand River. View the galleries and enjoy dessert and coffee with fellow genealogists while listening to the Schubert Male Chorus. For more details see fordlibrarymuseum.gov.



NGS RECEPTION AND BANQUET FAMOUS STORMS AND SHIPWRECKS OF THE GREAT LAKES

Friday, 6:00 p.m. Reception (Cash Bar); 7:00 p.m. Banquet F370, \$45 Ambassador Ballroom, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel

Ric Mixer will entertain us with stories and videos of his shipwreck discovery experiences in "The Great Storms of the Great Lakes." Mixer—a shipwreck researcher, diver, and photographer—has explored more than 100 shipwrecks including the Edmund Fitzgerald. He has produced many programs for PBS and the Outdoor Channel and appeared as a shipwreck expert on the History and Discovery channels.

NGS ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, 5:15 p.m., S470

Meet the NGS officers and board of directors and hear updates on courses, publications, and more from NGS president, Ben Spratling, JD.

BCG SKILLBUILDING TRACK

Board for Certification of Genealogists® (BCG) will sponsor a four-day skillbuilding track designed for intermediate to advanced researchers. Presentations include analyzing sources, information, and evidence and case studies for problem-solving. Lectures are open to all who are registered for the conference.

DINING WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

Participating societies and organizations sponsor luncheon speakers. See the conference schedule for details. Friday features a ticketed barbecue luncheon buffet in the Exhibit Hall with two seating times to minimize time in line and maximize time visiting the exhibits. Purchase meal tickets by using the registration form on page fifteen or go online to conference.ngsgenealogy.org/register. Meal reservations close 20 April 2018.

Salads and sandwiches may be purchased at the concession stand in the Exhibit Hall during lunch hours, and a coffee cart will be open in the morning outside the Exhibit Hall. Your registration bag will include dining information.

EXPLORE THE FAMILY HISTORY EXPO

Free and open to the public Wednesday through Saturday, the Exhibit Hall features a family history expo that typically hosts more than eighty exhibitors. Browse the latest software for genealogists, books and periodicals, products and accessories of interest to family historians, demonstrations, book signings, daily drawings, and giveaways.

ENHANCEMENTS FOR 2018

This year the conference will include a two-day African American Track and many other

lectures exploring ethnic backgrounds and research related records. The popular genetic genealogy DNA track will again run four days.

Also new will be several special, interactive programs in smaller classrooms. Program topics will include Research Trips and Learning—NGS Style; DNA programs; the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC); and Reclaim the Records. Details about these programs can be found in the far-right column of the daily conference schedule.

Based upon attendee feedback, each lecture in the program schedule includes the audience experience level to aid in the selection of lectures.

Discover hidden paths to your past at the 2018 NGS Family History Conference!

SPECIAL PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS, TUESDAY, 1 MAY 2018

BCG EDUCATION FUND WORKSHOP—PUTTING SKILLS TO WORK

8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

This intensive, full day of learning focuses on skills needed by any genealogist and advocates established genealogical standards. Limited to sixty students and geared to intermediate and advanced practitioners, the two in-depth sessions incorporate hands-on exercises and active class discussion. The \$110 registration fee includes lunch, class sessions, and syllabi. NGS Conference registration not required. Space is limited so register online at conference.ngsgenealogy.org/register. Sponsored by the BCG Education Fund, an independent charitable trust.

Connie Lenzen, CG, “Planning and Executing Reasonably Exhaustive Research, or How to Ensure a Successful Hunt.” Effective genealogy begins with a plan. Group practice will make creating a research plan and then executing it, all with genealogy standards, less daunting. Participants will go away with new tools that will help them break down “brick walls.”

Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA “Citing All Kinds of Online Sources.” Through hands-on activities, participants will learn the citation implications for each of three kinds of online content and four kinds of source-image pairings. Discussion includes understanding what sources are and the five basic questions citations must answer.

LIBRARIANS’ DAY

ProQuest invites librarians who work with family history patrons to its pre-conference program at the Grand Rapids Public Library, 111 Library Street NE, located a few blocks from the conference hotels. The program, Newspapers—An Indispensable Tool for Serving Library Patrons, will run from 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Space is limited so register early. Registration closes on 20 April 2018. Lunch and complimentary parking are included.

The program will review a wide range of newspaper resources available both online and in other media.

- **Jim Beidler**, “Enhancements in Digitization and Cataloging of Recent and Historic Newspapers”
- **Library of Michigan Staff**, “The Ever-Expanding Library of Michigan Newspaper Collection”

- **Michael D. Lacopo**, DVM, “Discoveries in Religious and Ethnic Newspapers”
- **Tim Pinnick**, “A Primer on Using African American Newspapers”
- **Julie Tabberer**, “The Collections of the Grand Rapids Public Library” and Library Tour

TUESDAY TOURS

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN AND ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN RESEARCH DAY (TEN HOURS)

8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. \$25

Located at the Michigan History Center in Lansing, Michigan, an hour’s bus ride away, both the library and archives offer family historians a wealth of research materials. Participants will attend a brief orientation program and then have approximately six hours for research. The Archives space is limited so each participant will have at least two hours for Archives research (more time if space is available). A box lunch will be provided.

Library of Michigan: The collections include surviving newspapers and city directories for all of Michigan in print and on microfilm, state as well as federal censuses, cemetery records, county histories, plat maps, and much more. For details about the collections, see michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan.

Archives of Michigan: Onsite original collections include Michigan naturalization records, probate files and tax rolls for some counties, and the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection, with its published materials emphasizing the New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Great Lakes states. For research guides and free online content—including death certificates and state censuses—see seekingmichigan.org.

Thanks to Gale (a Cengage Company) and ProQuest, the tour fee is only \$25.

FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS AND SCULPTURE PARK (FOUR HOURS)

9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. \$45

Discover the beauty and splendor of thirty acres of botanical gardens and an internationally acclaimed sculpture park in Grand Rapids. Entrance to the gardens and a tram guided tour are included in the fee. Take a leisurely walk around the grounds, explore the largest tropical conservancy in Michigan, or view the current exhibits. Enjoy a coffee break or lunch on your

own at the Garden Café. For more information, see meijergardens.org.

GRAND RAPIDS CITY TOUR (THREE HOURS)

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. \$35

Explore downtown Grand Rapids and learn the history of the city through an architectural tour of the Heritage Hill District, which has one of Michigan’s finest concentrations of homes built in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

CIVIL WAR TOUR (THREE HOURS)

1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. \$35

Participants will view the most significant Civil War monuments in the City of Grand Rapids. The tour also will feature gravesites of three Civil War generals in the Fulton Street cemetery and the area’s first Civil War cemetery at Oakhill. Attendees will learn about the Oakhill cemetery’s ongoing genealogy-based project to identify the many “unknown” Civil War soldiers who rest there.

All coach tours will depart from the Lyon Street cul de sac located between DeVos Place and the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. Please arrive fifteen minutes before departure. A tour with less than thirty-four registered participants will be canceled thirty days in advance of the conference, participants will be notified by e-mail, and the tour cost will be refunded.

BEER CITY ALE TRAIL

Tuesday Evening

Tuesday afternoon, pick up the free Beer City Trail map at the Hospitality Booth and enjoy a self-guided walking tour of several breweries in downtown Grand Rapids.



CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Ancestry	Board for Certification of Genealogists (BCG)	FamilySearch	Genealogical Institute on Federal Records Alumni Association (Gen-Fed)
Archives of Michigan	Boston University Online Genealogical Programs	Family Tree DNA	Genealogical Speakers Guild (GSG)
Association of Professional Genealogists (APG)	BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy	Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS)	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP)
BCG Education Fund	Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)	Findmypast	
Birdie Monk Holsclaw Memorial Fund		Gale, a Cengage Company	

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE—2 MAY 2018

8:00 a.m.	Track	11:00 a.m.	12:15 p.m.
Opening Session 8:00 a.m. Keynote Address Coming Along the Towpath: The Erie Canal and the Peopling of the Great Lakes States <i>John Philip Colletta, PhD, FUGA</i> Triumph of American ingenuity and wonder of the world, the Erie Canal affected the lives of millions of our ancestors from Maine to Minnesota. Learn about the building of this “impossible” engineering feat, 1817–1825, and the myriad ways our ancestors may have worked for, on, or along the “Artificial River.” Yankee ancestors from New England or emigrants arriving at the port of New York from overseas, flowed along “Clinton’s Big Ditch” to populate the Great Lakes region. Spectacularly successful, the “Governor’s Gutter” revolutionized travel, social, and business practices, immigrant settlement, and the economy of the entire United States. W101	BCG Skillbuilding	The Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) is Your Friend, Not Your Enemy <i>David Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA</i> Learn how to apply the Genealogical Proof Standard in your research. Whether for yourself or clients, this is the cornerstone of your foundational skills. W121 I	Luncheons <hr/> Association of Professional Genealogists Luncheon The Family Reunion... <i>David McDonald, DMin, CG</i> A consideration of the various folks encountered at a typical family reunion and the genealogist’s skills needed to survive the picnic weekend. W131 <hr/> Federation of Genealogical Societies Luncheon No Place Called Home: Confessions of a Rolling Stone <i>Rorey Carthcart</i> The concept of “Home” is a powerful driving force in the search for our family history, second only to “Family.” It’s also an evolving one. W132 <hr/> New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Luncheon Genealogical Mis-adventures from New York <i>D. Joshua Taylor, MLS</i> Not every New York ancestor quest turns out as expected—it can lead to triumph or tears, laughs or laments, and maybe even some hair-pulling. W133 <hr/> Luncheon Menu Garden salad with dried cherries, grape tomato and cucumber Herb vinaigrette Penne pasta with tomato sauce and beef meatball Garlic bread Assorted freshly baked cookies Coffee, hot tea, and iced tea <hr/> Cost: \$30
	Immigration and Migration	Give Me...Your Huddled Masses Yearning to Breathe Free: Immigration and Naturalization <i>Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG</i> Learn how our ancestors were naturalized; when, where, and what records were created; and the information that might be found in these records. W122 BI	
	Methodology	Turn a Name into a Life Story by Researching, Reasoning, and Riting <i>Thomas Wright Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS</i> A case study shows how to find and assemble information to establish a unique identity, resolve conflicts, uncover unrecorded events, and write a life story. W123 IA	
	Paths, Trails, and Waterways	Follow the Rivers 1790–1825: Trails that opened the Northwest Territory <i>Carrie Eldridge</i> The lands beyond the Appalachian Mountains called the pioneer after the American Revolution, but were difficult to reach. Learn trails the settlers used. W124 I	
	State Research	Hierarchy of Research Archives in Ohio <i>Kelli Jo Bergheimer</i> Learn about the hierarchy and collections of genealogical libraries, archives, and repositories in Ohio. Find hidden gems to visit in person or to search online. W125 ALL	
	Records	Statistically Speaking—the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Vital Record Research <i>Vic Dunn, CG</i> How do I obtain great-grandma’s death certificate and how do I know the information is correct? W126 BI	
9:30 a.m. Exhibit Hall C Family History Expo Opens at 9:30 a.m. Genealogical exhibitors and vendors will be on hand throughout the conference to display their genealogical goods and services in the Exhibit Hall. Exhibit Hall Hours Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Thursday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. View a list of current exhibitors at conference.ngsgenealogy.org/exhibit/ . The conference blog will highlight exhibitors and provide more details about Exhibit Hall activities.	Military	The Goldmine of Military Pensions <i>Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA</i> Understand information in military pensions and strategies to locate them. Exploit online resources to find pensions. Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War (Union). W127 I	
	Technology	Social Media: Five Reasons Genealogists Should Use It <i>Maureen Taylor</i> Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter are great tools for genealogists if you know how to use them correctly. W128 ALL	
	Occupations	Yeast, Grain, Hops, and Water: The Impact of Beer in American History <i>Jen Baldwin</i> Beer traveled with our ancestors and made a significant impact on the culture and economy of our country. Explore the stories and the records from this industry. W129 BI	
	DNA Discoveries	BCG Education Fund HELEN F. M. LEARY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE Growing Trees with Good DNA: Case Studies in Genetic Genealogy <i>David Ouimette, CG, CGL</i> We demonstrate the power of DNA with case studies that apply genetic genealogy techniques and research standards to solve challenging family history problems. W130 IA	

Lecture Levels: B = Beginner, BI = Beginner Intermediate, I = Intermediate, IA = Intermediate Advanced, A = Advanced, ALL = All Levels

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS (Continued)

Grand Rapids Pubic Library (GRPL)	International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (ISFHW)	New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS)	Reclaim the Records
Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council (GGRWHC)	Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B)	Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC)
Greater Saint Charles Convention and Visitors Bureau	Library of Michigan	Pamela Weisberger Memorial Fund	Western Michigan Genealogical Society (WMGS)
	MyHeritage	ProQuest	

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE—2 MAY 2018

2:30 p.m.		4:00 p.m.	Evening
BCG	What Do I Really Have Here? Analyzing Sources Effectively <i>Ruth Ann Abels Hager, CG, CGL</i> When using a source, do you understand it sufficiently to evaluate and analyze it? Help may be hidden in plain sight. W141 ALL	Analyze This! Scrutinizing Evidence for Problem Solving <i>Vic Dunn, CG</i> Learn the methodology astute genealogists use to break-down brick walls. W151 IA	 <p>CENTER CONCOURSE (PHOTO: JAN ALPERT)</p>
	They Came to Canada <i>Kathryn Lake Hogan</i> Maybe your ancestor came to Canada before heading to the USA. Discover reasons why and where to find passenger lists, immigration records, and border crossing records. W142 BI	Tracing your Dutch Immigrant Ancestor from Home to Here <i>Janet Sjaarda Sheeres</i> A case study will include researching Dutch emigration and ship records, finding your Dutch ancestor in the United States Federal Census, and a review of the Dutch settlements in the United States. W152 BI	
	Dutch Genealogy 101: Finding Your Ancestors from the Netherlands <i>Yvette Hoitink, CG</i> Many Dutch vital records are available online and indexed. Learn how to use these records to find your ancestors from the Netherlands. W143 BI	Using Evidence Creatively: Spotting Clues in Run-of-the-Mill Records <i>Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA</i> Evidence often takes forms we don't expect or recognize. This session uses creative-thinking principles to stimulate genealogical solutions. Case studies use practical but thorny problems. W153 ALL	
Birdie Monk Hoisclaw Memorial Fund	Third Coast: How the Great Lakes Shaped America <i>Cari A. Taplin, CG</i> Learn about the rich history of the Great Lakes region. We will examine geography, transportation, economic growth, defense, and the applicable genealogical record sets. W144 BI	Traveling the US Marine Highway <i>Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL</i> Marine travel is an integral part of our ancestors' lives. See how they used the waterways for their livelihood and transportation. W154 I	Society Night 5:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Center Concourse Meet representatives of local genealogical and historical societies from across Michigan and discover new research sources and publications. W170 Dining Options A Bistro at Courtyard Marriott and several restaurants at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel offer additional dining options. Several cafés, breweries, and restaurants are a few blocks from the hotels.
	Finding Treasurers in the Hoosier Courthouse <i>Michael D. Lacopo, DVM</i> There is far more than meets the eye in the Indiana courthouse! Go beyond the vital records and the deeds and dig deeper to find your ancestor in the "Crossroads of America." W145 ALL	Virtue, Liberty, and Independence: Pennsylvania Research <i>Kristin Harms</i> Explore the Keystone State—her people, records, and repositories. W155 ALL	
	Discovering Minister Isaac Steele and His Family Using Land Records and Manuscripts <i>J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA</i> Discover the wonderful letters, diaries, memorials, deeds, and documents that paint the story of families on the frontier. Learn how to broaden your research. W146 IA	Whole Not Holes: Complete Census Research Not Swiss Cheese <i>C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL</i> Focuses on available state and federal censuses which names everyone living in the household and shows the benefits of analyzing the neighbors. W156 BI	
Pamela Weisberger Memorial Lecture	The Nature of Genealogy through a War of 1812 Ancestor <i>Tony Burroughs, FUGA</i> Developing and executing a successful strategy by understanding history, research, repositories, records, and analysis using a War of 1812 ancestor. W147 ALL	Tracing Your Ancestors through Military Records <i>Shirley Gage Hodges</i> An overview of military records to help you learn about your ancestor as well as examples of information available in each record. W157 BI	 <p>AMWAY LOBBY BAR (PHOTO: JAN ALPERT)</p>
	Google Photos—A Technical Deep Dive <i>Mark Steven Middleton</i> Google introduced a new online photo repository in 2015. Google Photos offers significant capabilities for all smartphones as well as Windows and Macintosh personal computers. W148 ALL	Things You Didn't Know You Could Do Online—Wow! <i>Carolyn Joy Webber</i> Discover new apps, websites, and computer functions that will help with your family history research and writing. W158 ALL	
	English Occupation and Guild Records <i>Paul Milner</i> Put your ancestor into historical context through their work by understanding apprenticeship, freeman, and guild records. W149 ALL	Digging for Gold: Locating British Miners and Their Records <i>Paul Milner</i> Learn about your British hard rock and coal miners, the records they created, where to locate them, and how to put them into social context. W159 ALL	
	How DNA and Traditional Research Led an Adopted Daughter to Her Birth Mother: Kelly's Story <i>Karen S. Franklin and Kelly Moore</i> Lecture identifies methodologies used by Kelly to find her parents, including DNA testing, and Karen working with records and databases. W150 ALL	Finding Family with DNA Testing <i>Richard Hill</i> A pioneer in the use of DNA testing for adoptees. Hill will tell an educational and heartwarming story using test results and family photos. W160 BI	

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THURSDAY SCHEDULE—3 MAY 2018

Track	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
BCG Skillbuilding	<p>The Poor and the Landless: Correlating Indirect Evidence to Build a Proof Argument</p> <p><i>Rick Sayre</i>, CG, CGL, FUGA T201</p> <p>Pennsylvanian Margaret Powell left few records when she migrated to Ohio. Painstaking on-site research and correlation of indirect evidence eventually reveal her parents and siblings. ALL</p>	<p>BCG Certification Seminar</p> <p><i>Jeanne Larzalere Bloom</i>, CG; <i>Stefani Evans</i>, CG; and <i>Nancy Peters</i>, CG T211</p> <p>In this interactive forum, current associates share various pathways to certification and how to begin. IA</p>	
Immigration and Migration	<p>German Trails—Leaving European Homes and Locating Across America</p> <p><i>Carrie Eldridge</i> T202</p> <p>Learning to access German information by discovering when and where your families were in Europe, then following them across the Atlantic and America. IA</p>	<p>For Fortune and Faith: Emigration from the Netherlands in the 1800s</p> <p><i>Yvette Hoitink</i>, CG T212</p> <p>Thousands of Dutch immigrants settled in the Midwest in the 1800s. Learn about their struggles in the Netherlands and the stories about their emigration. ALL</p>	<p>How Did My Pennsylvania Ancestors Get Here? Migration Trails West</p> <p><i>Elissa Scalise Powell</i>, CG, CGL T222</p> <p>Considering the trails and reasons why your ancestor left Pennsylvania will give you some clues as to where you might search for his origins there. ALL</p>
Methodology	<p>Reasonably Exhaustive Research of African American Ancestors Who Came Out of Slavery</p> <p><i>LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson</i>, JD, LLM, CG T203</p> <p>The universal application of the “reasonably exhaustive research” component of the GPS is explained in the context sources and strategies relevant to enslaved African-American ancestors. ALL</p>	<p>The Discriminating Genealogist: Telling Good Evidence from Bad</p> <p><i>Judy G. Russell</i>, JD, CG, CGL T213</p> <p>Genealogical standards demand that we discriminate, including good evidence and excluding bad. How do we know and justify using this source but not that one? IA</p>	<p>Reasonably Exhaustive Research: The First Criteria for Genealogical Proof</p> <p><i>Elizabeth Shown Mills</i>, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA T223</p> <p>Tracking a project from start to finish, this session demonstrates the principles of RER and how much is required to prove identity and parentage. ALL</p>
Paths, Trails, and Waterways	<p>No Car—Did Your Ancestors Come by Passenger Rail Car?</p> <p><i>Karen L. Molohon</i> T204</p> <p>Did your ancestors migrate to the Midwest using the railway system? Learn how our ancestors road the rails to migrate west. B</p>	<p>The Lincoln Highway: The First National Memorial to Abraham Lincoln</p> <p><i>Bruce B. Butgereit</i> T214</p> <p>The Lincoln Highway was the first improved transcontinental highway in the United States. Learn about its tribute to Lincoln and impact on the country. ALL</p>	<p>French-Canadian Migrations Out of Québec</p> <p><i>Judy Nimer Muhn</i> T224</p> <p>French-Canadians were key to settlement of the Great Lakes, Midwest and beyond. Traveling in groups, resources for tracing ancestral trails back into Québec are shared. BI</p>
State Research	<p>Researching Your New England Ancestors Online and in Repositories</p> <p><i>David Allen Lambert</i> T205</p> <p>Using the best resources for researching your New England ancestors from the 17th–20th century, the lecture will concentrate on online and research repository collections. I</p>	<p>Midwestern Research on Ancestry</p> <p><i>Juliana Szucs</i> T215</p> <p>Learn about some of the unique Ancestry resources that can tell the story of your ancestors who lived in the heartland of America. ALL</p>	<p>Ohio: A Genealogy Treasure</p> <p><i>Dana Palmer</i>, CG T225</p> <p>Learn about the treasure trove of genealogy resources in Ohio and where to find the records. ALL</p>
Records	<p>Navigating the Records of the United Kingdom on Findmypast</p> <p><i>Thomas McGill</i> T206</p> <p>Findmypast has a vast and varied collection of historical records covering the UK. Learn about what you can utilize for your British, Welsh, and Scottish ancestors. ALL</p>	<p>Researching the Poor: Tips for Researching the Less than Successful</p> <p><i>Darryn Lickliter</i> T216</p> <p>This lecture will discuss methodologies and unusual sources for researching the poor in 18th and 19th century America. BI</p>	<p>Your Ancestors’ World Revealed: Using 19th-Century Newspapers for Family History</p> <p><i>John Philip Colletta</i>, PhD, CG, FUGA T226</p> <p>Newspapers provide more than birth, marriage, and death information. Consider advertisements, judicial reports, river and harbor news, legal notices, local gossip, clubs, and much more! I</p>
Military	<p>Volunteer Heroes: Militia to National Guard</p> <p><i>Alice Hoyt Veen</i>, CG T207</p> <p>From colonial militias to 21st century National Guard, Americans have a long tradition of voluntary service. Records and resources help document your volunteer’s experience. ALL</p>	<p>The Price of Loyalism: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary War</p> <p><i>Terry Koch-Bostic</i> T217</p> <p>Americans loyal to the British suffered material losses, displacement, and even death. Records that help track their journey of war, loss, expulsion, compensation, and resettlement. IA</p>	<p>Researching American Military Service in the Revolution</p> <p><i>Christine Crawford-Oppenheimer</i>, MLS T227</p> <p>Learn how to research the military service of your ancestors from home via the Internet and databases, ordering records by mail, and other methods. BI</p>
Technology	<p>Digital Preservation</p> <p><i>Eric John Wells</i> T208</p> <p>Preserving the physical objects associated with family trees can be tricky including imaging, editing, and storing digital versions of family heirlooms and photographs. BI</p>	<p>Productivity Trifecta: ToDoist, Trello, and Evernote</p> <p><i>Jen Baldwin and Rorey Cathcart</i> T218</p> <p>Productivity apps can benefit your genealogical research. Use them individually or in tandem to create a productivity powerhouse that is efficient, effective, and functional. BI</p>	<p>Cloud Computing for Genealogy: Applications, Strategies, and Workflows</p> <p><i>Coleen E. Greene</i> T228</p> <p>Tools for storing, organizing, sharing, and collaborating on research and society operations. Selecting the right tools for your needs and workflows to improve productivity. ALL</p>
Occupations	<p>From Nails to Plows: Blacksmiths and Their Contributions to Midwestern Development</p> <p><i>Annette Burke Lyttle</i> T209</p> <p>Blacksmiths were found in most communities. They produced items from nails to plows. Learn about their work and the factors affecting their livelihood. ALL</p>	<p>Grinding Out a Living: Millers and Millwrights</p> <p><i>Lori Thorton</i> T219</p> <p>Millers and millwrights provided valuable services to the community. Learn about the occupation and these men as we explore records and resources. ALL</p>	<p>Reconstructing the Lives of Your Farming Ancestors</p> <p><i>Annette Burke Lyttle</i> T229</p> <p>What was daily life like for our farming ancestors? Learn how to use social history resources to answer that question in the Upper Midwest. ALL</p>
DNA	<p>Getting Your Results is Just the Beginning</p> <p><i>Jim Brewster</i> T210</p> <p>Now that you have your DNA results, what should you do with them? We will cover the tools and genetic reports offered by Family Tree DNA. I</p>	<p>Advancing Your Genealogy Research with DNA</p> <p><i>Ancestry DNA Staff</i> T220</p> <p>You’ve done the research. What’s left? DNA—the oldest record of your family. Come learn new tools to get more out of your DNA results. ALL</p>	<p>The Y-DNA Test Should be Your Favorite</p> <p><i>Diahann Southard</i> T230</p> <p>Learn basic and intermediate principles of using Y-DNA, verify and extend your pedigree chart, and make the most of your Y-DNA family project. BI</p>

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12:15 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	Day
<p>Luncheons</p> <hr/> <p>Board for Certification of Genealogists Luncheon</p> <p>And Then There's My Museum Job... <i>Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CG</i> Glimpse how this museum director uses her CG and historian credentials to add legitimacy to wildly popular living history events and museum exhibits.</p> <p>T231</p> <hr/> <p>Western Michigan Genealogical Society</p> <p>My Infamous Ancestors <i>Tony Burroughs, FUGA</i> Many of my ancestors have been an inspiration to our family. Then I uncovered others I'm not sure I should admit are related to me.</p> <p>T232</p> <hr/> <p>Gen-Fed Alumni Luncheon</p> <p>Manerva Barbee: A Most Determined Woman <i>Liz Ross</i> Manerva Barbee applies for a Civil War widow's pension. What the record reveals about her, her family, and community is a tribute to her tenacity.</p> <p>T233</p> <hr/> <p>Luncheon Menu</p> <p>Michigan salad of romaine, spinach and radicchio with sliced strawberries, walnuts, dried cherries, blue cheese crumbles, sliced grilled chicken and raspberry vinaigrette (GF)</p> <p>Freshly baked rolls</p> <p>Chocolate banana crumb cake</p> <p>Coffee, hot tea, and iced tea</p> <hr/> <p>Cost: \$30</p>	<p>Mind Mapping as Method: Focusing Your Research Question <i>Amy Larner Giroux, PhD, CG, CGL</i> T241 Learn how including mind maps in your analysis toolkit can help focus your research question and point to missing sources. ALL</p>	<p>Valid and Unsound Assumptions: What Was She Thinking? <i>Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG</i> T251 Was head-of-household Elizabeth Larzelere a widow? Did Thomas Larzelere father his household's children? Indirect evidence tests valid and unsound family traditions. IA</p>	<p>Special Programs</p> <hr/> <p>9:30 a.m.</p> <p>NGS</p> <p>Going on a Research Trip—NGS Style <i>Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL</i> T261 See the genealogical repositories NGS is going to visit this year. Hear about benefits of going on a NGS research trip. ALL</p> <hr/> <p>11:00 a.m.</p> <p>Reclaim the Records Using Freedom of Information Laws for Genealogical and Archival Research <i>Brooke Schreier Ganz</i> T262 Learn how you can use the Freedom of Information Laws to acquire "unavailable" genealogical record sets and databases from government archives, libraries, and agencies.</p>
	<p>Westward Migration from New England to the Midwest <i>Julie Miller, CG, CGL, FNGS</i> T242 Discover methods and resources for finding ancestors who migrated from New England to the open frontier of the Midwest. BI</p>	<p>Moving North: Migration from the Carolinas and Tennessee to the Midwest <i>Lori Thorton</i> T252 Persons from the Carolinas and Tennessee moved northward to Ohio, Indiana, and beyond. Discover resources for researching Midwestern ancestors with Southern origins. ALL</p>	
	<p>When Worlds Collide: Resolving Conflicts in Genealogical Records <i>Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL</i> T243 The Genealogical Proof Standard says to resolve data conflicts... but how? What is conflicting evidence and what methods, tips, and tricks exist to resolve conflicts? IA</p>	<p>Making Good Use of Direct and Indirect Evidence <i>Amy Harris, PhD, AG</i> T253 Session discusses evidence types (based on the Genealogical Proof Standard) and how to use them effectively. Concentrates on nineteenth- and early twentieth-century research. BI</p>	
	<p>Tragedy of the Phoenix: A Ship Disaster in Lake Michigan <i>Mary Risseuw</i> T244 Many Dutch emigrants perished. This disaster temporarily halted emigration from areas of the Netherlands and changed the size and structure of the Wisconsin colony. ALL</p>	<p>Crossing the Border: How to Backtrack a French-Canadian into Quebec from the US <i>George Findlen, PhD, CG, CGL</i> T254 Doing solid genealogy on the immigrant, using standard resources, and avoiding pitfalls will enable a researcher to successfully track an ancestor back into Quebec. BI</p>	
	<p>Fifteen Tools for Tracing Your New York Ancestors Online <i>D. Joshua Taylor, MLS</i> T245 New York represents challenges for many genealogists. Go beyond commercial websites to explore private and public websites for tracing your New York ancestors. BI</p>	<p>Using Michigan Records to Reconstruct a New England Family <i>Thomas Wright Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS</i> T255 Backtracking Michigan pioneers who left no record of their origin or relationships requires focused research, attention to detail, evidence assembly, and hypothesis testing. IA</p>	
	<p>Making Those Early Census Records Talk <i>J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA</i> T246 Stop avoiding those pre-1850 census records. Turn those 1's and 0's into clues and lively pictures of your family. I</p>	<p>Reading and Writing "Section, Township, and Range" Land Descriptions <i>Ruth Ann Abels Hager, CG, CGL</i> T256 Section, township, and range land descriptions hold valuable clues! Learn how to read and write these descriptions for greater success with your land research. IA</p>	
	<p>Tracing Your Civil War Ancestors <i>James N. Jackson</i> T247 Information on soldiers' military experience is available from federal, state, and local records. Military, pension, G.A.R., and other records are examined. ALL</p>	<p>Getting to Know Fold3: The Web's Premier Collection of Original Military Records <i>Gordon Atkinson</i> T257 Learn how to use Fold3 to find original military records. Discover documents, stories, and photos that detail the lives of those who served. ALL</p>	
	<p>Surviving the Digital Dark Ages—Backups and Archiving <i>Mark Steven Middleton</i> T248 Are you overwhelmed with stacks of papers? Learn how to backup and archive your family research for future generations to enjoy! ALL</p>	<p>Google Mapping Your Ancestors' Footsteps <i>Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA</i> T258 Learn to create custom Google Maps tracing your ancestor's footsteps and view them in Google Maps or Google Earth. ALL</p>	
	<p>Riding the Rails with Railroad Men <i>Patricia Walls Stamm, GC, GCL</i> T249 Railroads in your family history? There are diverse records available for railroad employees and the lines they served. I</p>	<p>Men At Work: Occupational Records <i>Rorey A. Cathcart</i> T259 Men and women worked hard in farms, mines, factories, hospitals, schools, and countless other places. Occupations offer their own sets of records to explore. I</p>	
	<p>Your Cousins Are Your Secret Weapon <i>Angie Bush</i> T250 Do you have a brick wall? Is there a skeleton in the family closet? Discover how to use cousins' DNA to answer these questions. ALL</p>	<p>Native American DNA: Separating Fact from Fiction <i>Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD</i> T260 What if your family narrative mentions Native American ancestry yet there is little or none reported in your DNA? What are the possible explanations? ALL</p>	

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FRIDAY SCHEDULE—4 MAY 2018

Track	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
BCG Skillbuilding	<p>History, Records, and Context: Researching the Locations Your Ancestors Lived</p> <p><i>Angela Packer McGhie, CG</i> F301</p> <p>Learning about the places where our ancestors lived helps us put them in social and historical context, as well as locate relevant records. ALL</p>	<p>Samuel Witter vs. Samuel Witter: Separating Same-Name Soldiers, War of 1812</p> <p><i>Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA</i> F311</p> <p>Samuel Witter, miller, Pennsylvania-born soldier, died in Illinois. Samuel Witter, miller, Pennsylvania-born soldier, died in Illinois. Two men. Same age. How do we separate them? ALL</p>	<p>Using Indirect and Negative Evidence to Prove Unrecorded Events</p> <p><i>Thomas Wright Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA</i> F321</p> <p>Information hidden below the surface or totally absent helps researchers reconstruct events, identities, and relationships for which no record exists. IA</p>
Immigration and Migration	<p>The Great Migration: Tracking African Americans to Northern Industrial Cities</p> <p><i>Ari Wilkins</i> F302</p> <p>Between 1910 and 1930, droves of African Americans left the South for new opportunities in the North. Learn how to track your migrating ancestor using genealogical sources. B</p>	<p>Migration Patterns of Germans within America</p> <p><i>Sharon Cook MacInnes, PhD, CG</i> F312</p> <p>Knowing where your ancestors settled in the mid-1800s can often lead you backwards toward their original settlements in America. ALL</p>	<p>Michigan, Iowa, and Wisconsin: Dutch colonies in the Mid-1800s</p> <p><i>Mary Risseuw</i> F322</p> <p>Learn about the establishment of three major Dutch colonies in the 1800s and what shaped and sustained them. ALL</p>
Religion	<p>Glory to God! Dutch Christian Reformed Church: Online, Parish, and Archive Records</p> <p><i>Jill K. Morelli, CG</i> F303</p> <p>Accessing church records can be daunting. Learn how to find the records of the CRC, a skill applicable to other religions as well. BI</p>	<p>Buried Treasures: What's in the English Parish Chest</p> <p><i>Paul Milner</i> F313</p> <p>Use records created by the Church of England in its civil capacity to solve dead-end research problems created by population movement, illegitimacy, and occupation. IA</p>	<p>Catholic History and Records in New York State</p> <p><i>Terry Koch-Bostic</i> F323</p> <p>Protestant penal laws suppressed Catholicism in NY until the Revolution and influx of Irish and German Catholics. An overview of dioceses, parishes, and records available. I</p>
Ethnicity	<p>New Strategies in German Research with an Emphasis on Jewish Research</p> <p><i>Karen S. Franklin</i> F304</p> <p>Discover a network of researchers in Germany, German Jewish DNA group, DigiBaec and other online archival resources, and the new GERSIG website on JewishGen. ALL</p>	<p>Irish Research—Using Online Resources</p> <p><i>Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA</i> F314</p> <p>Describes major online free and subscription resources such as FindMyPast, RootsIreland, PRONI, Irish Genealogy Toolkit, and IrishGenealogy. Demonstrates use of resources through case study. I</p>	<p>Researching Italian Americans in the Midwest</p> <p><i>Mary M. Tedesco</i> F324</p> <p>Hundreds of thousands of Italians immigrated to the Midwest in the 1800s and early 1900s. This presentation covers records and strategies for documenting their stories. ALL</p>
Michigan	<p>Michigan Roots: Genealogy Research in the Wolverine State</p> <p><i>Kris W. Rzepczynski, MLIS</i> F305</p> <p>This state overview session will explore Michigan's migration patterns and the abundant genealogical resources available in print and online. ALL</p>	<p>"New Ireland": Northfield Township, Michigan's Irish Pioneer, and Early Settler Burials</p> <p><i>Abigail R. Eymon, JD and Derek J. Blount</i> F315</p> <p>Using cemetery stones as resources for drafting genealogies of Michigan's Irish immigrant pioneers and early settlers. ALL</p>	<p>Early Land Records in Michigan and the Old Northwest Territory</p> <p><i>Angela McGhie, CG</i> F325</p> <p>Federal land records provide details on early settlers in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, including private land claims, cash purchases, Indian allotments, and homesteads. ALL</p>
Records	<p>Probate Laws and Records in Scandinavian Countries</p> <p><i>Geoffrey Fröberg Morris, AG</i> F306</p> <p>Probates were not based on wealth or land ownership in Scandinavian countries. Come learn about probate laws in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland. IA</p>	<p>Pushing Up Daisies: Cemetery Research</p> <p><i>Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG</i> F316</p> <p>Find information about burials through online resources, books, property records, lot ownership cards, and visits to gravesites. ALL</p>	<p>U.S. Passport Applications</p> <p><i>Debra S. Mieszala, CG</i> F326</p> <p>U.S. passport applications contain a wealth of information. Who, why, and when people applied for passports will be covered. Examples are shown. BI</p>
Military	<p>Company K of the Michigan First Sharpshooters (The "Indian" Company)</p> <p><i>James N. Jackson</i> F307</p> <p>This entire company was composed of men from Ojibwa (Chippewa), Ottawa, and Potawatomi tribes of Michigan. They saw action at Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg. ALL</p>	<p>Anatomy of a Civil War Pension File</p> <p><i>Julie Miller, CG, CGL, FNGS</i> F317</p> <p>Civil War pension files are filled with information but can be large and intimidating. Use organizing and analyzing techniques to make them more manageable. I</p>	<p>Best Approaches for Researching World War II Ancestors</p> <p><i>David Allen Lambert</i> F327</p> <p>Using local, state, and federal resources to research your American veteran who served in World War II. BI</p>
African American	<p>Slave Tags: A Southern Legal System That Mandated Tagging Slaves and Free People of Color</p> <p><i>Janis Minor Forte</i> F308</p> <p>Explore the slave tagging system. Learn to identify the icons on tags, their manufacturers and wearers, and research techniques to identify a slave. ALL</p>	<p>Gleaning Genealogical Information About Enslaved Ancestors from the Probate Files of Slaveholding Families</p> <p><i>LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LL.M., CG</i> F318</p> <p>An overview of the probate process in the antebellum South, and information about enslaved ancestors found in related records. ALL</p>	<p>Free Negro Registers: A Northern Resource</p> <p><i>Deborah Ann Abbott, PhD</i> F328</p> <p>Learn another resource helpful in identifying African Americans who were free in the various states that formerly were part of the Northwest Territory. ALL</p>
Tips and Techniques	<p>Help Wanted? Learning to Use Newspapers.com</p> <p><i>Peter Drinkwater</i> F309</p> <p>Learn to use Newspapers.com to find key facts and interesting stories about your ancestors. B</p>	<p>Reading Immigrant Clues in Family Photos</p> <p><i>Maureen Taylor</i> F319</p> <p>Using case studies and examples, this special presentation illustrates how to read immigration clues in pictures taken in the United States and abroad. ALL</p>	<p>Best Practices for Research in Scandinavian Countries</p> <p><i>Geoffrey Fröberg Morris, AG</i> F329</p> <p>Evidence and conclusions in Scandinavian countries have unique challenges. We will focus on the best practices for research in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland. BI</p>
DNA	<p>Discovering Your Family History with MyHeritage's Unique Technologies and DNA</p> <p><i>Daniel Horowitz</i> F310</p> <p>Technology has opened new frontiers for research while maintaining the thrill of the detective hunt. MyHeritage's technologies are precisely the intersection of technology and genealogy. BI</p>	<p>Tracing the Tribe with DNA</p> <p><i>Schelly Talalay Dardashti</i> F320</p> <p>The lecture will view the challenges of endogamous DNA and the fascinating and surprising discoveries gleaned from Autosomal, Y-DNA, and mtDNA projects. BI</p>	<p>Slice of the Pie</p> <p><i>Diahan Southard</i> F330</p> <p>Have questions about your ethnic origins? Want to know what the maps and percentages mean? We will cover the major testing companies and AncestryDNA Genetic Communities. ALL</p>

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Luncheon 12:15 & 12:45 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	Day
NGS Barbecue Exhibit Hall C Socialize with Genealogists Browse the Exhibits F332 Barbecue Menu Sweet and sour coleslaw Bone-in fried chicken Slow-smoked pulled pork with BBQ sauce (GF) Chocolate chip cookies Water and iced tea Cost: \$25	Live Streaming BCG A Matter of Standards: DNA and the GPS <i>Judy G. Russell</i> , JD, CG, CGL F341 As genealogical evidence, DNA is both unique and mainstream. Despite the differences, DNA results must be tested by traditional genealogical standards to meet the GPS. IA	Live Streaming BCG Deeper Analysis: Techniques for Successful Problem Solving <i>Elissa Scalise Powell</i> , CG, CGL F351 The Genealogical Proof Standard states that analysis and correlation of data is necessary, but what techniques are best? Spreadsheets, timelines, maps, charts are just a few. ALL	Special Programs 8:00 a.m. Using Research Logs and Creating Client Reports that Include DNA Results <i>Angie Bush</i> F361 Learn tips and tricks used by the pros to create deliverables that help you organize your research so your clients can understand and use to further their research. 11:00 a.m. RPAC How the Michigan State Archives Made Digitized Death Records Available to Genealogists <i>Kris Rzepczynski</i> , MLIS F362 Learn how archivists in one state planned and delivered digitized death records to genealogists online for free. A best practices model for other states. RPAC will also provide an update on recent records access issues. ALL 4:00 p.m. NGS Using Technology to Learn—NGS Style <i>Patricia Walls Stamm</i> , CG, CGL F364 Hear about the new NGS cloud-based course offerings that allow you to learn at home. ALL
	Finding a German Heimat Online <i>James M. Beidler</i> F342 Researching your ancestors deep into Germany doesn't happen unless you know the village of origin. Learn sources that reveal an immigrant's Heimat and its records! BI	Single Dutch Woman Immigrating to America: Where She Came from and Where She Settled <i>Janet Sjaarda Sheeres</i> F352 Tracking Dutch immigrant women from their birth village to their final resting place. Their occupations, levels of education, and their integration into American culture. ALL	Evening NGS Reception and Banquet 6:00 p.m. Reception (Cash Bar) 7:00 p.m. Banquet Ambassador Ballroom Famous Storms and Shipwrecks of The Great Lakes <i>Ric Mixer</i> Researcher, diver, and photographer Ric Mixer will enthrall us with stories about "Great Storms of the Great Lakes." F370 NGS Banquet Menu Caesar salad of romaine lettuce with herb croutons, grated Parmesan cheese and traditional Caesar dressing French cut chicken breast with lemon caper sauce, roasted redskin potatoes, and steamed haricots vert (GF) Freshly baked rolls Vanilla cheesecake with strawberry sauce Coffee, hot tea, and iced tea Cost: \$45
	Michigan Quakers: Their History and the Records They Left <i>Annette Burke Lyttle</i> F343 Quakers settled in Michigan as early as 1824. Learn the history of Michigan Quakers, the splinter groups who settled there, and the records they left. ALL	Mennonite Research: The Forgotten Swiss Germans <i>Michael D. Lacopo</i> , DVM F353 Eighteenth-century migration from Germany to America and nineteenth-century migration from Switzerland to the Midwest. Learn research techniques for this religious group. ALL	
	Save the Last Dance for Me: Discovering the Social Lives of Our Ancestors <i>Mary M. Tedesco</i> F344 Let's explore what our ancestors did for fun and the records associated with dances, parties, weddings, visiting family, fraternal organizations, lineage societies, churches, and more. ALL	Native, First Nations, Indian: Researching Indigenous Peoples <i>Judy Nimer Muhn</i> F354 The first residents of North America can be challenges to research, as oral history stories are foundational. Learn to use geography, tribal resources, historic records. BI	
	Archives of Michigan Demystifying Michigan Court Records <i>Jessica Harden</i> , MLIS F345 Learn how to trace your ancestors through records from Michigan's trial court system with an overview of the records as well as research examples. IA	Michigan's Anti-Slavery Newspaper: <i>The Signal of Liberty</i> <i>Rochelle E. Danquah</i> F355 Utilizing the newspaper, this presentation will focus on Michigan's freedom-seekers, prominent anti-slavery families, and their contributions to the Underground Railroad movement. I	
	MyHeritage Jewish Genealogy for Non-Jews: History, Migration, and DNA <i>Schelly Talalay Dardashti</i> F346 Many people today, who do not identify as Jewish, are discovering the surprise of Middle Eastern and Jewish roots. Learn about history, migration patterns and DNA. BI	What's Jewish about Jewish Genealogy? <i>Janette M. Silverman</i> , DS F356 What are the tools to help overcome the pitfalls and confusion when embarking on Jewish genealogical research—Focus on JewishGen Resources. BI	
	Michigan Men of Color, Honor, and Value <i>Shelley Viola Murphy</i> , PhD, DM F347 Learn about the United States Color Troops (USCT) and the Native American Sharpshooters from Michigan that served during the Civil War. BI	Archives of Michigan Over the Top: Researching Your Michigan World War I Ancestor <i>Kris W. Rzepczynski</i> , MLIS F357 This program will explore the fabulously rich record collections and resources, many of them state-specific, available for Michigan World War I servicemen. ALL	
	From Census to Slavery <i>Tony Burroughs</i> , FUGA F348 Many African Americans leap from census records to slave research. Bypassing the multitude of records in between decreases the probability of slave research success. ALL	Searching for the Living and Connecting with the Slave Owner's Descendants <i>Bernice Alexander Bennett</i> F358 Participants will hear a case study of research strategies to find living relatives and an unexpected connection with the slave owner's descendant. BI	
	Only a Few Bones: Case Studies in Assembling Sources to Reconstruct Real-Life Events <i>John Philip Colletta</i> , PhD, CG, FUGA F349 Our ancestors lived in specific physical circumstances at specific moments in time. To reconstruct their lives, the facts we discover must be situated in proper historical context. ALL	Creating Google Alerts for Genealogy <i>Katherine R. Willson</i> F359 Guide to creating effective Google alerts for notification when ancestors' information is published online in the U.S. or in the immigrant ancestors' home country. BI	
	The Danger of Distant Genetic Matches <i>Blaine Bettinger</i> , PhD, JD F350 Those distant genetic matches are exciting, but they can be dangerous! We'll examine these distant matches and how you can use them successfully. ALL	Ancestry Using Genetic Communities to Tell Your Story <i>Ancestry DNA Staff</i> F360 Genetic Communities are an exciting innovation of DNA testing. Learn how they are formed, why you get assigned to a Genetic Community, and how to use them in your research. ALL	

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SATURDAY SCHEDULE—5 MAY 2018

Track	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
BCG Skillbuilding	<p>The Five-Story Fall: Correlating Indirect and Direct Evidence to Extend the Pedigree</p> <p><i>Debra S. Mieszala, CG</i> S401</p> <p>Johanna Mahoney plunged to her death taking her parents' and siblings' identities along. Extensive associate analysis and a sixteen-year post-mortem summons led to her family. I</p>	<p>Transcribing Documents: There is More Than Meets the Eye!</p> <p><i>LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LL.M., CG</i> S411</p> <p>The interpretation of handwritten records is an essential skill for genealogists. This ability can be improved by analyzing a variety of pre-twentieth century documents. IA</p>	<p>Evidence Correlation: Making the Most of Your Research</p> <p><i>Nancy A. Peters, CG</i> S421</p> <p>Evidence correlation—an element of the GPS—lets you see patterns, connections, and inconsistencies in your research. Learn correlation strategies for reaching sound genealogical conclusions. I</p>
New York	<p>Colonial Research: New York and Dutch</p> <p><i>William T. Ruddock</i> S402</p> <p>Early colonization of what is now New York State resulted in challenges which can be overcome through understanding the available records. I</p>	<p>Trace Your 18th and 19th Century Midwest Ancestors Back to New York</p> <p><i>Terry Koch-Bostic</i> S412</p> <p>Records say "Born in NY" but where? Using migration routes from 1750 to 1850, travel backwards to find records that uncover your NY ancestor's origins. ALL</p>	<p>Three Keys to New York: State Censuses, NY Public Library, and NYG&B's Vast Collections</p> <p><i>Susan R. Miller</i> S422</p> <p>Learn to uncover the secrets of New York state censuses, the breadth of NYPL nationwide holdings, and NYG&B's extensive research guides and databases. I</p>
Religion	<p>"An Invitation to the Land": The Midwestern Settlements of the Irish Catholic Colonization Association</p> <p><i>Eileen Curley Pironti</i> S403</p> <p>Learn how to locate sources and uncover the stories of Catholic immigrants who relocated from eastern cities to ICCA settlements in the late 19th Century. BI</p>	<p>Unlocking Roman Catholic Records—the Catholic Heritage Archive</p> <p><i>Jen Baldwin</i> S413</p> <p>The Catholic church is one of the largest and oldest denominations in America. Findmypast is working on a landmark project to make these records easily accessible. ALL</p>	<p>Casting the Net: Denominational, Ethnic, and Specialized Newspaper Research</p> <p><i>Cari Taplin, CG</i> S423</p> <p>Denominational, ethnic, and specialized newspapers give a unique glimpse into the daily lives of our ancestors. Learn how these newspapers can fill a research gap. ALL</p>
Ethnicity	<p>An Introduction to Researching Your Mexican Ancestors</p> <p><i>Colleen E. Greene</i> S404</p> <p>This overview explains key U.S. records for identifying immigrant origins, major Mexican record collections, naming conventions and name search strategies, and reference tools. ALL</p>	<p>Discovering Your Czech and Slovak Roots</p> <p><i>Lisa A. Alzo</i> S414</p> <p>Learn how to investigate your Czech and Slovak ancestry using both traditional and online sources. BI</p>	<p>Jumping Over Hurdles in Eastern European Research</p> <p><i>Lisa A. Alzo</i> S424</p> <p>Eastern European research is a marathon, not a sprint. Learn skills to overcome the most common hurdles with names, geography, languages, and records access. BI</p>
Michigan	<p>Traffic Violations, Criminal Complaints and Marriages: Records of a Justice of the Peace</p> <p><i>Adam D. Oster, MLS</i> S405</p> <p>Justices of the Peace served as magistrates in local courts. Learn how they administered the law and the records they produced. BI</p>	<p>Menus, Housekeepers, and First Ladies: Discovering Unique Michigan Manuscript Collections</p> <p><i>Deborah Ann Abbott, PhD</i> S415</p> <p>Learn of the many miscellaneous manuscript collections found in various repositories across the state of Michigan relating to persons, places, and organizations. I</p>	<p>Research Collections at the Library of Michigan—An Overview</p> <p><i>Matthew Pacer, MLIS</i> S425</p> <p>The Library of Michigan offers access to many Michigan focused research collections to help you discover your family history. ALL</p>
Repositories	<p>Rise and Fall and Rise of a Family/Local History Treasure</p> <p><i>Randy Riley, MLIS; Kris Rzepczynski, MLIS</i> S406</p> <p>The history of the Library of Michigan's development as a top ten national collection, decline because of budget challenges, and rebirth will be detailed. ALL</p>	<p>Private Archives: What They Are and How to Use Them</p> <p><i>John Philip Colletta, PhD, FUGA</i> S416</p> <p>Churches, synagogues, businesses, social and fraternal organizations, and educational institutions all create records about their members. How do you find the ones you need? IA</p>	<p>Accessing and Acquiring the Records of Eastern Europe: FamilySearch Efforts 2012–2017</p> <p><i>Greg Nelson</i> S426</p> <p>A summary of FamilySearch's efforts in Eastern Europe over the last five years to preserve records and provide access for family connections. ALL</p>
Organizations	<p>Stickin' to the Union: Using Labor Union Documents for Genealogical Research</p> <p><i>Jane Neff Rollins</i> S407</p> <p>There's a one in three chance your blue-collar ancestor belonged to a labor union. Union documents can be a rich source of genealogical information. I</p>	<p>Keeping Green the Memory: Post-Civil War Legions, Armies, and Orders</p> <p><i>Bruce B. Butgereit</i> S417</p> <p>The battlefield experience of the Civil War forged memories that would last a lifetime and led to the creation of veteran organizations and support groups. ALL</p>	<p>Finding Value in Meeting Minutes: The Records of Fraternal Organizations</p> <p><i>Jen Baldwin</i> S427</p> <p>Fraternal organizations created a variety of records. While some are obviously useful for the genealogist, others take a bit more work. This presentation will examine the usefulness, worth, and accessibility of these records. BI</p>
African American	<p>Enslaved Blacks in White Church Records: An Overlooked Resource</p> <p><i>Wevonneda Minis</i> S408</p> <p>Slaves often attended their owners' churches. Learn to use records of those churches for details about a slave's parents, owner, attendance, dismissal, sale, and more. I</p>	<p>The Precarious Lives of Midwest Free Blacks Pre-1865</p> <p><i>Janice C. Lovelace, PhD</i> S418</p> <p>What was life like for Free Blacks in US prior to Emancipation? Lecture discusses their work and lives along with records for the researcher. BI</p>	<p>Seven Proven Strategies for Identifying Slave Ownership and Reconstructing Families: New Paths and Trails</p> <p><i>Janis Minor Forte</i> S428</p> <p>This problem solving lecture presents research pathways and trails to resolve the dilemma of slave and owner identification and reconstructing slave era families. IA</p>
Tips and Techniques	<p>Creating Your Personal Continuing Education Plan</p> <p><i>Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL</i> S409</p> <p>Learn what genealogical education opportunities are available and how to best decide which serves your needs and budget, saving you time and money. ALL</p>	<p>"Inebriety Regarded as Potomania" and Other Death-related Data</p> <p><i>Amy Larner Giroux, PhD, CG, CGL</i> S419</p> <p>Some individuals only appear in the records after death. Learn how to find and analyze information found in coffin sales, funeral, burial, and sexton records. ALL</p>	<p>Trousers, Beds, Tacks, and Housekeeping Bills: Problem-Solving with 'Trivial Details'</p> <p><i>Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA</i> S429</p> <p>Most records don't give explicit answer to our burning questions—but many offer silent clues the skilled genealogist can use to construct ladders over their brick walls. ALL</p>
DNA	<p>Understanding Y-DNA and DNA Projects</p> <p><i>Janine Blackerby Cloud</i> S410</p> <p>Who should test Y-DNA, how do you join a surname project, and how do you benefit your family research. ALL</p>	<p>Weaving DNA Results into a Proof Argument</p> <p><i>Karen Stanbary, CG</i> S420</p> <p>Learn how a case of unknown paternity is solved using autosomal DNA, documentary research, and the GPS in the creation of a written proof argument. I</p>	<p>GEDmatch—Tools to Interpret DNA Matches and Find More Matches</p> <p><i>Mary Eberle, JD</i> S430</p> <p>Learn how to use GEDMatch's most useful tools for genealogy. Both free tools and paid tools will be covered. IA</p>

Lecture Levels: B = Beginner, BI = Beginner Intermediate, I = Intermediate, IA = Intermediate Advanced, A = Advanced, ALL = All Levels

12:15 p.m.	2:30 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	Day
Luncheons National Genealogical Society Luncheon Good Migrations in the Midwest <i>Mary M. Tedesco</i> A light-hearted look at good (and bad) migrations in America's heartland. Where were our ancestors heading and why did they move around so much? S431 FamilySearch Luncheon Bringing the Records of the World to You <i>Stephen J. Valentine</i> FamilySearch is the world leader in providing access to genealogical records. Learn about plans to make more records available, including a sneak peak at groundbreaking new technology. S432 Genealogical Speakers Guild and International Society for Family History Writers and Editors Luncheon Paths to Your Past: Storytelling to Bring Us Together <i>Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL</i> Storytelling is both art and science: Science to help us understand why stories are memorable; art to tell the stories that bring us together. S433 Luncheon Menu Mixed field greens with tomato, cucumber, and carrot Ranch dressing Beef pot roast with vegetable ragout and garlic mashed potatoes Pan del sol rolls Blueberry pie Coffee, tea, and iced tea Cost: \$30	BCG Mrs. Jane Harvey and Dr. Lippincott: Triangulation and Indirect Evidence Reassemble a Pennsylvania Family <i>Stefani Evans, CG</i> S441 When linking one child to her parents means also identifying two other unknown children, the synergy of the combined indirect evidence makes the case. IA	BCG Dear Me: Writing Research Reports to Yourself <i>Yoette Hoitink, CG</i> S451 Brick wall or do-over? Write a research report to yourself to organize your thoughts, document your findings, and meet the Genealogical Proof Standard. I	Special Programs 9:30 a.m. The Professional Toolkit: Making the Most of DNA Gedcom <i>Angie Bush</i> S461 DNA Gedcom has a suite of tools to assist genetic Genealogists in making sense of their matches. What are these tools and how can we best use them? IA 2:30 p.m. Ancestry Finding Answers Using Ancestry DNA <i>Anna Swayne</i> S462 How do you manage all your matches, interpret your ethnicity results, and work with your Genetic Communities? For those who have tested with Ancestry DNA but don't know how to work with your matches. B 5:15 p.m. National Genealogical Society Annual Meeting Grand Gallery AB NGS Members 5:15 p.m. Meet the NGS officers and board of directors and hear updates on courses, publications, and more from NGS president, Ben Spratling, JD. S470
	NYG&B Finding Their Routes: Travelers and Boatmen on the North American Canals <i>Pamela J. Vittorio</i> S442 An overview of migration patterns of travelers and boatmen of the North American Canals reflected in available online and archival resources. I	NYG&B Afloat or Ashore: Tracing and Tracking Erie Canal Workers, 1817–1918 <i>Pamela J. Vittorio</i> S452 An exploration of the available online and archival resources offers great details on the lives of canal workers from the 19th to early 20th centuries. I	
	FamilySearch Researching Records of the Former Soviet Republics <i>Greg Nelson</i> S444 An overview for finding and researching records from the republics of the former Soviet Union. B	FamilySearch The Other Side of Jewish Genealogy: Sephardic Research <i>Schelly Talalay Dardashti</i> S453 In recent years, a massive increase in accessible Sephardic resources has assisted Jewish genealogists and Hispanic/Iberian genealogists in researching their roots. BI	
	Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council Bringing Your Female Ancestors to Life with Archival Resources <i>Julie Tabberer, MLIS, and Jo Ellyn Clarey</i> S446 Building and using unique archival resources illustrated by the Grand Rapids Public Library's collections including women's WWI records and much more. ALL	Findmypast Using PERSI Like a Pro <i>Cari Taplin, CG</i> S456 PERSI is one of the gems of North American genealogy. Gain a better understanding of what PERSI is, how to use it, and the value of periodicals in your family history. ALL	
	Nothing in Life is Free... Unless You are Talking about NDNP... Chronicling America 1690–1963 <i>Kimberly Hagerty</i> S445 Discover how to navigate more than 11 million pages of national newspapers. This will be your favorite National Treasure! ALL	Michigan Homesteaders! <i>Shelley Viola Murphy, PhD, DM</i> S455 This lecture will introduce the lives of two families who were free African Americans who brought and sold land and then migrated to Michigan and homesteaded in Benzie and Manistee County, MI. ALL	
	Eat, Drink, and Be Merry, for Tomorrow We're Dry: Prohibition and Its Records <i>Kristin Harms</i> S447 For many states prohibition began prior to the ratification of the 18th amendment. 'Wets' and 'Drys' alike created records—were your ancestors among them? ALL	Lineage Society Papers: Guidelines for a Successful Application <i>C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL</i> S457 Most often our first thoughts are of the DAR, SAR, Colonial Dames, and Mayflower Descendants. Oh, but there are so many more! ALL	
	Studying Free People of Color in Apprentice Records <i>Ari Wilkins</i> S448 The lecture will discuss the institution of apprenticeship—documents, laws, and resources relating to free people of color before the Civil War. I	The (Underground) Railroad Runs through Here—Ohio and Michigan <i>Janice C. Lovelace, PhD</i> S458 Do you have ancestors that might have been involved in the Underground Railroad? How do you find records of those who were involved. BI	
	Inferential Genealogy: Deducing Ancestor's Identities and Relationships <i>Thomas Wright Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS</i> S449 Family historians can deduce ancestors' identities and aspects of their lives by digging below surface information in genealogical records and combining information from several sources. IA	Cluster Research, or Discovering You're Related to the Whole Block <i>Jessica Trotter</i> S459 Tips, tricks, and examples—following the clues in our most basic records and investigating a community can further your research. BI	
	The Emotional Side of DNA <i>Bernice Bennett</i> S450 This interactive presentation will discuss emotional reactions associated with discovering new relatives, ancestry results, and other unanticipated findings. ALL	Evaluating Genealogical Conclusions Using DNA <i>Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD</i> S460 There are many pitfalls a genealogist can fall into when adding DNA to traditional genealogical evidence. Together we'll examine ways to avoid these common pitfalls! IA	

Lecture Levels: B = Beginner, BI = Beginner Intermediate, I = Intermediate, IA = Intermediate Advanced, A = Advanced, ALL = All Levels

CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Deborah A. Abbott, PhD, specializes in African American, methodology, and manuscript collections research. She is an instructor at IGHR and trustee of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

Jan Meisels Allen is chair of the IAJGS PRAMC, represents IAJGS on RPAC, and president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Conejo Valley and Ventura County, California.

Jan Alpert, FNGS, is chair of RPAC, chair of NGS 2018 Family History Conference, and previous president and board member of NGS.

Lisa A. Alzo, freelance writer, instructor, and internationally recognized lecturer, specializing in Eastern European research and creative nonfiction writing.

Gordon Atkinson, senior director at Fold3 and Newspapers.com, enjoys making historical documents more accessible via the Internet.

Jen Baldwin lectures and writes on a variety of research topics including the western gold rush, fraternal societies, and the use of social media in genealogy.

James M. Beidler, author of three books, including a new guide to newspapers and two on German genealogy. Writes the weekly newspaper column "Roots & Branches."

Bernice Bennett, author, family historian, guest lecturer, story teller, coordinator of DNA Track for Mid-West African American Genealogy Institute, and host of her own Blogtalkradio show.

Kelli Jo Bergheimer owns Mess on the Desk, a genealogical organization company with a blog, YouTube channel, and online store.

Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD, is an intellectual property attorney and a DNA educator. He is the author of the long-running blog *The Genetic Genealogist*.

Jeanne Larzalere Bloom, CG, is a full-time professional researcher. She is a trustee and the president of BCG.

Derek J. Blount, professional genealogist, VP Oakland County (Michigan) Genealogical Society, operates Lost Branches, and has twenty-nine years of experience with Canadian and United Kingdom records.

Jim Brewster is the group projects assistant manager for Family Tree DNA.

Tony Burroughs, FUGA, is author of *Black Roots* and guest expert on PBS, BBC, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and *Who Do You Think You Are?*

Angie Bush, MS, director for NGS and senior genetic genealogist with Ancestry ProGenealogists, whose specialty is solving decades old "brick-walls" using traditional records and genetic evidence.

Bruce B. Butgereit, researcher and writer about the Civil War, post-Civil War patriotic and fraternal organizations, Abraham Lincoln, and the Lincoln Highway; executive director, History Remembered, Inc.

Rorey Cathcart, president of FGS and a professional genealogist specializing in southern states, Irish heritage, and migration patterns. Researcher for two seasons of *Genealogy Roadshow*.

Janine Blackerby Cloud, Family Tree DNA's group projects manager, has spent six years dealing directly with customers, answering DNA testing FAQs in person, by phone, and email.

Jo Ellyn Clarey, award-winning women's historian for the Greater Grand Rapids Women's History Council.

John Philip Colletta, PhD, FUGA, faculty member of IGHR and SLIG; NGS and FGS conference lecturer; author of books, many articles, and a 15-lesson genealogy course on various media.

Christine Crawford-Oppenhimer, MLS, librarian, archivist, genealogical author, and speaker. Publications *Long-Distance Genealogy* and articles in national and regional genealogical periodicals, including NGSQ.

Rochelle E. Danquah is a genealogist, historian, lecturer, and researcher. She is vice president of the Michigan Freedom Trail Commission.

Schelly Talalay Dardashti, genealogist and journalist, is US genealogy advisor for MyHeritage, has tracked her global Jewish families for thirty years with a strong fascination in DNA.

Peter Drinkwater is the director of product management for Newspapers.com and general manager of Findagrave.

Vic Dunn, CG, is IGHR's Virginia track coordinator. A Mosher Award recipient, he is past board member of BCG, NGS, and VGS.

Mary Eberle, JD, has more than thirty years of DNA experience in research labs, as a patent attorney, and as a genetic genealogist. She founded DNA Hunters, LLC.

Carrie Eldridge, a retired educator specializing in historical geography, has abstracted numerous county records and created a series of migration atlases for genealogists.

Stefani Evans, CG, BCG vice president; former BCG Education Fund Trustee and NGS director, and NGS 2013 Family History Conference chair.

Abigail R. Eynon, JD, vice president Irish Genealogical Society of Michigan. Member of NGS and Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. She completed BU's Genealogical Essentials Program.

George Findlen, PhD, CG, CGL, author, speaker, and NGS board member, specializes in the blended Acadian and French-Canadian families of Eastern Canada and New England.

Janis Minor Forte is a researcher, writer, and lecturer who presents at the NGS, OGS, RootsTech, FGS and local conferences.

Karen S. Franklin, director of family research, Leo Baeck Institute, NYC; past-president International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies; past co-chair, board of governors, JewishGen.org.

Brooke Schreier Ganz is the founder of Reclaim the Records, and the first genealogist to successfully sue a government archive for access to millions of records.

LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson, JD, LL.M., CG, is a trustee of BCG; she lectures and writes about African American families in the South, primarily the Carolinas.

Amy Larner Giroux, PhD, CG, CGL, research interests include New York, New England, Florida, burial iconography, and ethnic studies. She is editor of *The Florida Genealogist*.

Colleen E. Greene, MLIS, is a librarian, web developer, and college educator with twenty years of genealogy experience. She has

expertise in Mexican and Hispanic research, and emerging technologies.

Ruth Ann Abels Hager, CG, CGL, researcher, volunteer, and speaker at local, state, and national levels with emphasis on land records; author of *Dred & Harriet Scott: Their Family Story*.

Kim Hagerty, project manager of the Michigan National Digital Newspaper Program, physically and digitally preserves newspapers at the Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University.

Jessica Harden, MLIS, is an archivist at the Archives of Michigan and speaks about archival research to genealogy societies around the state.

Kristin Harms is a professional genealogist near Atlanta, Georgia, and is the owner of Relative Proof, LLC.

Amy Harris, PhD, AG, is an associate professor of history at Brigham Young University where she serves as director of the family history bachelor's program.

Richard Hill is author of the award-winning book *Finding Family*, and was the first adoptee known to have identified his birth family through genetic genealogy DNA tests.

Shirley Gage Hodges has been actively doing genealogical research since 1967 and has taught genealogy classes and seminars for novice to advanced genealogists since 1994.

Yvette Hoitink, CG, is a professional genealogist, writer, and lecturer from the Netherlands who helps people find their Dutch ancestors.

Daniel Horowitz, genealogy expert at MyHeritage, liaising with genealogy societies, bloggers and media, and lecturing around the world. He serves on the boards of IAJGS and IGRA.

James N. Jackson, past-president of several Michigan societies. Received the 2006 Lucy Mary Kellogg Award from the Michigan Genealogical Council for "Significant Contribution to Genealogy and History."

Thomas Wright Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS, award-winning genealogical author, educator, and researcher, wrote *Mastering Genealogical Proof* and *Mastering Genealogical Documentation*. He has coedited the NGSQ since 2002.

Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, CG, certified in 1996, she has an MA in state and local history and she has been executive director of the Plymouth (Michigan) Historical Museum since 2007.

Terry Koch-Bostic, professional genealogist and vice president of NGS, APG-NY chapter representative, and contributing author and reviewer for NYG&B's *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer*.

Michael D. Lacopo, DVM, is a retired small-animal veterinarian involved in genealogical research since 1980. An "all-American mutt," his research focus includes Pennsylvania Germans, genetic genealogy, and social history.

Kathryn Lake Hogan is a professional genealogist, author, educator, and speaker specializing in finding your ancestors in Canada.

David Allen Lambert, chief genealogist at NEHGS since 1993. Internationally recognized speaker and genealogy author. Co-host of *Extreme Genes Family History Radio Show and Podcast*.

Connie Lenzen, CG, is past president of BCG, former NGS director, and current academic

professional in Boston University's online genealogy program.

Darryn Lickliter is the Library and Genealogy director for the Daughters of the American Revolution and has more than thirty-five years of genealogical research experience.

Janice Lovelace, PhD, has twenty-five years of experience researching family history and has presented a variety of topics including ethnic group and health research.

J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA, full-time professional researcher and educator. Coordinates IGHR Research in the South and other institutes.

Annette Burke Lyttle, professional genealogist, writer, and speaker. Member of NGS, APG, GSG, ISFHWE, and others. Specialties include online research and social history.

Sharon Cook MacInnes, PhD, CG, author of eight books on early Pennsylvania landowners, articles on land/military records; GRIP Course coordinator; alumna of Gen-Fed, IGHR, GRIP; CEO of Ancestor Tracks.

David McDonald, DMin, CG, lectures on matters of migration, methodology, and religious history and records. His practice specializes in the states of the old Northwest Territory.

Angela Packer McGhie, CG, teaches at IGHR, SLIG, GRIP, and Gen-Fed, with specialties in federal land records, research, and methodology.

Thomas McGill is vice president, director of global content and licensing for Findmypast.

Mark Steven Middleton, employed in IT industry more than twenty-five years, certified project manager, and retired US Army Major. Other interests include computers and digital technology preservation.

Debra S. Mieszala, CG, specializes in forensic genealogy, twentieth-century research, and the Midwest. She has taught at SLIG, IGHR, and GRIP, and is a BCG trustee.

Julie Miller, CG, CGL, FNGS, professional researcher, speaker, and writer; NGS conference committee chair; articles have appeared in the *NGSQ* and *NGS Magazine*; volunteer at NARA at Denver.

Susan R. Miller is NYG&B's director of programs; *New York Researcher* editor; a managing editor of the *New York Family History Research Guide* and *Gazetteer*.

Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, CGL, FASG, FNGS, FUGA, a pioneer in problem-solving strategies for genealogy, edited *NGSQ* for sixteen years. Her 500+ publications include *Evidence Explained*, *Professional Genealogy*, and *QuickSheet* series.

Paul Milner is a native of England, an internationally recognized speaker focusing on British Isles research. He has written six how-to books for English and Scottish research.

Wevonneda Minis, retired journalist, lectures on research methodology, record collections, African-Americans, and slave owners. She is ISFHWE president and a Gen Proof Study Group mentor.

Ric Mixter, shipwreck researcher and historian, diver, photographer, explorer of more than 100 shipwrecks, producer of more than thirty programs for PBS and the Outdoor channel.

Karen Molohon, lecturer and educator at local and state societies on topics including census, migration, mapping, photography, and researching; local society webmaster and president Georgia Genealogical Society.

Kelly Moore spent years searching for her biological parents until DNA provided important clues. She advocates for adoptee rights.

Jill Morelli, CG, lectures about her Midwestern, northern German, and Scandinavian ancestors and methodologies nationwide. Her presentations focus on problem solving.

Geoffrey Fröberg Morris, AG, has been employed at the Family History Library since 2000 as a member of the Nordic reference team.

Frederick E. Moss, JD, LL.M., is legal advisor for FGS, represents FGS on RPAC, former law school associate dean and Colonel (retired) Judge Advocate General Corps.

Judy Nimer Muhn is an international researcher, author, lecturer, former AOL Genealogy Forum host, clan genealogist; corresponding secretary of Oakland County (Michigan) Genealogical Society.

Shelley Murphy, PhD, DM, avid genealogist for twenty-five years, aka "familytreegirl." Known for inspiring and interactive "So What," "Time and File Management," and other problem-solving methodology lectures.

Greg Nelson is the content strategy specialist for Eastern Europe and Central Asia in the Records Division of FamilySearch.

Adam D. Oster, MLS, librarian for the Kentwood (Michigan) Branch of the Kent District Library with a BA in history from Grand Valley State University.

David Ouimette, CG, CGL, BCG trustee, manages content strategy at FamilySearch, has researched in archives across all continents, and authored *Finding Your Irish Ancestors*.

Mathew Pacer, MLIS, reference librarian, Michigan Collection assistant curator, and

ABBREVIATIONS

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
AG	Accredited Genealogist
AGO	Area Genealogical Organizations Award given to individuals or organizations by Western Michigan Genealogical Society
APG	Association of Professional Genealogists
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BBC	British Broadcasting Company
BCG	Board for Certification of Genealogists
BU	Boston University
CG	Certified Genealogist
CGL	Certified Genealogical Lecturer
DM	Doctor of Management
DMin	Doctor of Ministry
DVM	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
DS	Doctor of Science
FASG	Fellow, American Society of Genealogists
FGS	Federation of Genealogical Societies
FIGRS	Fellow, Irish Genealogical Research Society
FNGS	Fellow, National Genealogical Society
FUGA	Fellow, Utah Genealogical Association
Gen-Fed	Genealogical Institute on Federal Records
GF	Gluten Free
GRIP	Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh
GPS	Genealogical Proof Standard
GSG	Genealogical Speakers Guild
IAJGS	International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
ICAPGen	International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists
IGHR	Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, University of Georgia
IGRA	Israel Genealogy Research Association

ISFHWE International Society of Family History Writers and Editors

JD	Juris Doctor
LLM	Master of Laws
MGC	Michigan Genealogical Council
MILS	Masters in Information and Library Science
MLIS	Master of Library and Information Science
MLS	Master of Library Science
MS	Master of Science
NARA	National Archives and Records Administration
NDNP	National Digital Newspaper Program
NEHGS	New England Historic Genealogical Society
NGS	National Genealogical Society
NGSQ	<i>National Genealogical Society Quarterly</i>
NYG&B	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society
OGS	Ohio Genealogical Society
PBS	Public Broadcasting Service
PRAMC	IAJGS Public Record Access Monitoring Committee
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
RPAC	Records Preservation and Access Committee
SIG	Special Interest Group
SLIG	Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy
VGS	Virginia Genealogical Society
WMGS	Western Michigan Genealogical Council

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Accredited Genealogist, AG, is a certification mark of the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists. Individuals licensed to use the mark have met ICAPGen's competency.

Martha Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room co-coordinator at the Library of Michigan where he provides research assistance.

Dana Palmer, CG, is a teacher, lecturer, author, professional genealogist, and community college genealogy instructor. Expertise includes Midwestern research, family books, photo editing, and lineage societies.

Nancy A. Peters, CG, is a researcher, writer, and lecturer specializing in genealogical problem solving; BCG trustee; editor of BCG's *OnBoard* newsletter; and SLIG instructor.

Tim Pinnick, lecturer with thirty plus years of family history research experience, instructor IGHR's African American track, former board member APG and FGS.

Eileen Curley Pironti, genealogist of the Newbury Street Press at NEHGS, specializes in Irish research. She has lectured and written magazine articles on this topic.

Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, is a Pennsylvania researcher, GRIP co-director, BCG past-president, previous BU's Genealogical Research course instructor; IGHR coordinator: "Professional Genealogy," Virtual Institute of Genealogical Research instructor.

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA, chief genealogical officer for FamilySearch and past-president of FGS.

Randy Riley, MILS, state librarian, and managed and promoted the Library of Michigan's special collections for twenty plus years. Recipient of the Filby and WMGS's AGO Award.

Mary Risseuw is a genealogist, historian, writer, and lecturer with an emphasis on Dutch emigration in the nineteenth century and local history of Wisconsin.

Jane Neff Rollins has researched genealogy, for herself or clients, for twenty years. She is an alumna of SLIG and the Forensic Genealogy Institute.

Liz Ross is a professional genealogist, writes, lectures in Chicago region, developed and runs a Genealogy Meet-up, and board member of Gen-Fed Alumni.

William T. Ruddock, a New York native and researcher for thirty-five years, on the *NYG&B Record's* editorial board, and retired editor, *Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine*.

Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist, provides expert guidance through the murky territory where law, history, and genealogy come together.

Risk Rzepczynski, MLIS, senior archivist at the Archives of Michigan, former vice president of membership for FGS, and past-president of the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society.

Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA, popular lecturer/teacher, former NGS director of Education and Publications, coordinates and teaches at IGHR, SLIG, and GRIP.

Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA, areas of expertise include the records of the National Archives, Irish research, land records, government documents, military records, and urban research.

Janet Sjaarda Sheeres is a freelance author and lecturer with thirty years of experience in Dutch genealogy, Dutch-American emigration/immigration and women's history. Fluent in Dutch.

Janette Silverman, BS, specializes in Jewish genealogical research at Ancestry ProGenealogists. Volunteer UkraineSIG coordinator for JewishGen. Her doctoral dissertation, "In Living Memory," focused on Jewish genealogical research.

Diahan Southard, with fifteen-years experience in the genetic genealogy industry, has a passion for genetic genealogy and making the technical understandable.

C. Ann Staley, CG, CGL, educator, consultant, co-leader of Ann-Mar Genealogy Trips; specialties are methodology, research sources, computer resources, vital records and their sources, and conference planning.

Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL, a professional genealogist serves as NGS education manager. She teaches and lectures on various topics at St. Louis Community College, IGHR, state, and national conferences.

Karen Stanbary, CG, regularly lectures at Gen-Fed, IGHR, SLIG, and the Newberry Library, teaching in-depth courses on beginning and advanced genetic genealogy, and the GPS.

Anna Swayne has more than ten years-experience in genetic genealogy. At AncestryDNA she educates customers on the power of DNA and how to unlock family stories.

Juliana Szucs has been working as a staff genealogist at Ancestry for nearly twenty years. She holds a certificate from Boston University's Online Genealogical Research Program.

Julie Tabberer, MLIS, is a librarian and head of the History and Special Collections department at the Grand Rapids Public Library.

Cari Taplin, CG, is a native of Ohio now living near Austin, Texas, owner of *GenealogyPANTS*, focuses on midwestern states, methodology, and family legends.

D. Joshua Taylor, MLS, professional genealogist, speaker, and author. President of the NYG&B and past-president FGS.

Maureen Taylor is an internationally known photo identification expert. Follow her on social media on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest as the Photo Detective.

Mary M. Tedesco is a professional genealogist, speaker, and author; a co-host on the PBS television series *Genealogy Roadshow*; and the founder of Origins Italy.

Lori Thornton, MLIS, is a librarian and genealogist specializing in southern states and religious records. She authored *NGS Research in the States: Mississippi*.

Jessica Trotter, is a researcher, blogger, and archivist working in public libraries. Her research areas include African American, British Isles, Canadian, and early American research.

Stephen J. Valentine is senior vice president of FamilySearch International where he oversees the digitization, indexing, and publication of historical records.

Alice Hoyt Veen, CG, professional genealogical researcher and educator, serves as a BCG Education Fund trustee. Specialties include Midwestern and territorial research, land, and military records.

Pamela J. Vittorio is an associate professor in NYC. She frequently lectures on historical and genealogical topics associated with North American canals and their workers.

Carolyn Joy Webber is a genetic genealogist, avid researcher, energetic speaker, and an experienced family history volunteer.

Eric John Wells has been active in genealogical research since 2008. He focuses on assisting clients in research, DNA, organizing, and presenting research in a coherent, publishable format.

Ari Wilkins is a family historian, speaker, and faculty member of IGHR. She works as a library associate at Dallas Public Library.

Katherine R. Willson, professional genealogical researcher, lecturer, educator, and author from Ann Arbor, Michigan. President MGC. Creator of "Genealogy on Facebook" list containing 11,000+ genealogy/history links.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Registrants with special needs should notify NGS in writing as outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) at 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22204-4370 or e-mail registration@ngsgenealogy.org, by 2 April 2018.

Scoters and wheelchairs are available to rent through an off-site provider. Those interested must make reservations in advance. Check the NGS website for details. See conference. ngsgenealogy.org/mobility-assistance/.

NGS CONFERENCE MOBILE APP

The NGS Conference Mobile App works with your smart phone, iPad, or tablet and includes the program, speaker bios, syllabus material, facility floor plan, and announcements. Watch for the email to download the app a few weeks before the conference.

PLAYBACK NOW RECORDING AND LIVE STREAMING

Playback Now will record lectures as permitted by the speakers. Audio recordings will be available by MP3, Thumb drive, and MP3 CDs at the conference and at playbacknow.com. NGS will also be live streaming ten lectures, five on Thursday and five on Friday, with additional opportunities for post-conference viewing. Details will be available Spring 2018.

2018 NGS FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE—REGISTRATION FORM

Conference Registration: All registrations must be received online or postmarked by 20 April 2018. **Cancellation Policy:** Refund requests must be received in writing, online, or postmarked by 20 April 2018, less a \$50 service fee. No refunds after 20 April 2018. Register online at conference.ngsgenealogy.org or complete the form in black ink, using a copy for each conference registrant, and mail the completed form to: **National Genealogical Society, 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22204-4370**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registrant Name (Enter your name as it should appear on your conference name tag.)

Street Address

City / State / Zip

Phone Number

E-Mail Address (for registration confirmations)

NGS Membership Number (Non-members, leave blank. Join today and save on registration!)

☐ I am a NGS life member

☐ I am a first-time NGS Conference attendee

NGS Membership

Join or renew to receive the NGS Member Registration Rate!

☐ I wish to join NGS

☐ I wish to renew my current NGS Membership

☐ Individual NGS Membership \$70 \$

☐ Additional Family Member (additional per person) \$20 \$

TOTAL NGS MEMBERSHIP DUES \$

☐ I am a listed Additional Family Member on a current NGS Membership (NGS Membership Rates will apply to this registration):

Name of NGS Member / NGS Membership Number

Additional Registrant Information

Americans with Disabilities Act Requests—Make a reservation to rent a scooter or wheelchair from a local provider you can find at conference. ngsgenealogy.org/mobility-assistance/.

Please check if you require aids or services: ☐ Audio ☐ Visual

☐ Other (please specify)

Special Meals—Please check if you require a special meal. Special meals must be requested before 20 April 2018.

☐ Vegetarian / Vegan ☐ Gluten-free

Liability Waiver—I agree and acknowledge that my participation in the National Genealogical Society (NGS) 2018 Family History Conference is of my own free will and that I assume responsibility for my own well-being. I also agree and acknowledge that representatives of the NGS 2018 Conference may take photographs and/or videos that might include my image during the 2018 conference and my registration for the conference grants NGS permission and consent for use of these photographs and videos.

Signature of Registrant

Payment Method

☐ **Check Enclosed** (payable to "National Genealogical Society"). Check #:

☐ **Credit Card** (circle one) VISA / MasterCard / American Express / Discover

Credit Card Number

Expiration Date

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

NGS Member / Full Registration (Four Days, 2–5 May) **TOTAL**

☐ Early Bird (online or postmarked by 20 March 2018) \$215 \$

☐ Regular Registration (after 20 March 2018) \$250 \$

Non-Member / Full Registration (Four Days, 2–5 May)

☐ Early Bird (online or postmarked by 20 March 2018) \$250 \$

☐ Regular Registration (after 20 March 2018) \$285 \$

Single Day Registration (Per Day)

☐ Wednesday ☐ Thursday ☐ Friday ☐ Saturday

☐ Early Bird (online or postmarked by 20 March 2018) \$115 (per day) \$

☐ Regular Registration (after 20 March 2018) \$125 (per day) \$

Conference Syllabus—All conference registrants will receive the conference syllabus by e-mail one week prior to the conference. Please download the syllabus prior to the conference.

☐ Printed Syllabus (only for Early Bird Registrants) \$35 \$

☐ Syllabus on USB drive (for Early Bird Registrants only) \$5 \$

Pre-Conference Events / Tuesday, 1 May 2018—A separate fee is required for each event listed below which must be purchased by 20 April 2018 and cannot be purchased at the conference. Details on page 3.

TUESDAY, 1 MAY 2018

☐ Research Trip to Library of Michigan and Archives of Michigan in Lansing, Michigan. Box lunch included. \$25 \$

☐ Grand Rapids Tour including Heritage Hill \$35 \$

☐ Civil War and Cemetery Tour, Grand Rapids \$35 \$

☐ Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park includes park admission and tram \$45 \$

☐ BCG Education Fund Workshop \$110 \$

☐ Librarians' Day **Free, must pre-register and identify library** \$ 0.00
Library name where employed / location:

Social Events—A separate fee is required for each event. Tickets must be purchased by 20 April 2018 and cannot be purchased at the conference. Seating is limited; register early.

WEDNESDAY, 2 MAY 2018

☐ APG Luncheon **W131** \$30 \$

☐ FGS Luncheon **W132** \$30 \$

☐ NYG&B Luncheon **W133** \$30 \$

THURSDAY, 3 MAY 2018

☐ BCG Luncheon **T231** \$30 \$

☐ WMGS Luncheon **T232** \$30 \$

☐ Gen-Fed Alumni Luncheon **T233** \$30 \$

☐ WMGS Dessert President Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum **T270** \$25 \$

FRIDAY, 4 MAY 2018

☐ 12:15 p.m. Exhibit Hall Barbecue Luncheon **F331** \$25 \$

☐ 12:45 p.m. Exhibit Hall Barbecue Luncheon **F332** \$25 \$

☐ NGS Banquet **F370** \$45 \$

SATURDAY, 5 MAY 2018

☐ NGS Luncheon **S431** \$30 \$

☐ FamilySearch Luncheon **S432** \$30 \$

☐ GSG/IFSHWE Luncheon **S433** \$30 \$

TOTAL PAYMENT DUE \$



NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY® 2018 FAMILY HISTORY CONFERENCE—PATHS TO YOUR PAST GRAND RAPIDS, MI | 2–5 MAY 2018



Gerald R. Ford
Presidential Museum



Amway Grand Plaza



Courtyard
Marriott



Several cafés, breweries, and
restaurants are a few blocks from
the hotels.



Courtesy Experience Grand Rapids



Courtesy Experience Grand Rapids