Building Bridges to the Past

Federation of Genealogical Societies
2017 Conference • August 30 – September 2
with local host Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society

Platinum Sponsors
ancestry
FamilySearch
MyHeritage

Register online at fgs.org
You're Invited!

Dear Friends,

Whether you've recently become interested in beginning your genealogy adventure or have been at it for decades, we at the Federation of Genealogical Societies invite you to attend our annual conference held this year in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Each FGS conference offers a unique experience and 2017 will be no exception. Society leaders and members have an entire day devoted to besting the challenges of managing a modern society. This year's genealogy program features the world famous speakers you've come to expect covering topics from basic to advanced methodology, ethnic specialties, local history, and family history trends. Exciting workshops allow attendees to dive deeper into specific topics, while special events and luncheons are wonderful opportunities to connect with friends old and new.

This year we are pleased to offer a catered lunch on Friday in the exhibit hall for all full conference registrants. (Lunch tickets may be purchased by Friday-only attendees.) Secure your seat to luncheons, workshops, and other special events through our new registration portal at http://fgs.org, even if you are paying by check!

Don't miss your chance to join the Federation, along with our conference sponsors, exhibitors, and speakers, for a fun-filled and informative experience.

I look forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania!

Rorey
Rorey Cathcart
FGS President

Register online at http://fgs.org

Conference Site

Downtown Pittsburgh will be home base for the FGS 2017 Conference.

Situated on the southern shoreline of the Allegheny River, the David L. Lawrence Convention Center will host the conference’s workshops, lectures, and exhibit hall. Directly to the east of the convention center, the “Strip District” was once an active industrial area, and is home to the Senator John Heinz History Center. Now, this energetic neighborhood is filled with restaurants, shops, cafes, open-air markets, and more.

Hotels

Two conference hotels, conveniently located near the convention center, are offering reduced rates to conference attendees. Conference rates are available Wednesday, August 23 through Friday, September 8, 2017.

Westin Convention Center
1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Phone: 412-281-3700; for reservations 866-716-8108
Conference Rates: $139 single & double / $149 triple / $159 quad

Located across the street and directly connected to the convention center by skywalk, the Westin Convention Center is a classic downtown hotel offering city views and an easy walk to many Pittsburgh attractions. The Westin offers complimentary shuttle service within a one-mile radius of the hotel, Monday through Friday, providing access to many nearby restaurants and attractions.

Omni William Penn Hotel
530 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone: 412-281-7100
Conference Rates: $149 single & double / $169 triple / $189 quad

A short walk (0.6 miles) from the convention center, the Omni William Penn Hotel dates back to 1916 and was the last building venture of Pittsburgh industrialist Henry Clay Frick. The Omni is adjacent to the Pittsburgh Metro System—the “T”—which links all corners of downtown Pittsburgh and is free in the downtown area.

For additional information about the conference hotels, including current room availability and booking online, visit http://fgs.org and click on Conference Lodging. When making a reservation by phone, be sure to tell the reservation agent that you are attending the FGS conference and ask for the conference rate. Rooms at the conference hotels tend to go fast, so don’t wait!
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

“Building Bridges to the Past” references not only the many bridges in Pittsburgh, but the bridges between old world and new, as well as our journeys to discover our past. This year’s conference program brings you a wide variety of topics presented by many of the nation’s top family history experts. Sessions are aimed at strengthening your research skills no matter what your level or area of expertise might be.

A variety of tracks fill the program. Immigrant/Ethnic, Records, and Regional tracks appear each day, Thursday through Saturday, along with a variety of others including DNA, Methodology, Analysis, Skills, African American, Land & Taxes, Religion, Occupations, and more. Six workshops are on the schedule: four traditional two-hour workshops cover caring for keepsakes, research planning, storytelling, and transcribing and analyzing, along with two special four-hour DNA workshops. “Connecting the DNA Dots” is beginner to intermediate level, while “Using Genetics and Genealogy to Smash Through Brick Walls” is intermediate to advanced level (pre-requisites must be met to participate).

Nine luncheons provide a great opportunity to network with fellow genealogists and hear lighter presentations from entertaining speakers provided by the sponsoring organizations. Everyone is welcome to purchase tickets to any sponsored luncheon, but space is limited so be sure to register early to get the luncheons you want to attend.

Whether you are a novice, an expert, or anywhere in between, the FGS 2017 Conference has something for you!

EXHIBIT HALL

Always a hub of activity, the exhibit hall will feature the latest software, books, maps, databases, and gadgets on the market for genealogists and family historians, as well as information about genealogical organizations. Presentations and exhibitor demonstrations will also be scheduled for the Demo Area.

Each full conference registrant will receive $10 in Vendor Bucks to spend at the vendor booth of their choice. Instructions for using and redeeming Vendor Bucks will be included in the conference guide you receive at registration.

All attendees (including one-day registrants) will receive a Passport to have stamped at the booths they visit. Passports turned in by the deadline on Saturday will be eligible to win prizes.

Finding enough time to fully explore the exhibit hall during FGS conferences is often difficult, but we are making that easier at FGS 2017. As always, we’ll have the Exhibit Hall Grand Opening on Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. following the keynote session. This year we’ve set aside two other special times when attendees can explore the exhibit hall without missing sessions or luncheons.

**Exhibit Hall Lunch: Eat, Explore, Shop**

On Friday, the two-hour lunch break will be devoted to the exhibit hall with a catered boxed lunch served. Tickets for this special lunch are included for all full conference registrations and can be purchased as an add-on by Friday-only attendees. (Sponsored luncheons will not be held on Friday.)

**Exhibit Hall Live**

Join FGS and our exhibitors from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday for a 90-minute exhibit hall gala featuring door prizes, special activities, shopping, and networking with vendors and societies. This will be a great time to spend your Vendor Bucks and finish up your Passport, if you haven’t done so by Saturday morning.

SOCIETY SHOWCASE

FGS invites its members to reserve a table in the 2017 Society Showcase. For $30, member societies can have a table located in the exhibit hall for an opportunity to expose and highlight their society to conference attendees. Offer a door prize to encourage visitors. Decorate your table with an attractive theme to be eligible to win a free one-year FGS membership for your society. Visit the conference website at http://fgs.org for more information and to register. Handouts may be offered, but no sales are permitted.

Questions? Contact the Society Showcase Committee at societyshowcase@fgs.org.
Focus on Societies

FGS strives to provide excellent services and support to its member societies. Wednesday’s Focus on Societies program, offering a full day of topics related to society management, is one way we accomplish that mission. But you don’t have to be a society officer to attend or benefit from these great sessions. Sessions are packed full of ideas for everyone associated with a society—officers, committee chairs, delegates, volunteers, and members.

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, starts the day off with the Plenary Session “Bridges to the Community: Creating, Packaging, and Sharing Your Society to Non-Genealogists.” Thirty-five sessions designated into seven tracks, including Members & Volunteers, Projects, Websites, and Programs & Events fill the rest of the day. A special Discussion Group track offers society leaders an opportunity to discuss issues, problems, and resolutions for topics such as Social Media & Marketing, Publications, and Conflict Resolution. These discussions will be facilitated by FGS board members but are designed to be interactive opportunities for sharing ideas, experiences, and solutions for ongoing challenges facing societies.

Join FGS board members and fellow society leaders and members for the midday FGS Focus on Societies Luncheon. This luncheon is an opportunity to network with peers and participate in the ever-popular “Society Shout-Out” when folks share the exciting projects and activities their societies have in the works.

Focus on Societies is a unique and exciting setting to gather with the nation’s genealogical society leadership to discuss and find answers to issues of common concern.

Special Event

W-138 Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise

Wednesday Evening – 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Sponsored and hosted by Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society

Join the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society on board the Gateway Clipper Princess for a dinner cruise along Pittsburgh’s three rivers. The Princess is a traditional paddle wheel style riverboat with floor to ceiling windows giving passengers a great view of the beautiful Pittsburgh skyline and the magnificent architecture of its many bridges. A delicious buffet dinner will be served as we cruise the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers.

For convenience, the Gateway Clipper Princess will pick us up at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Boarding will begin at 6:00 p.m. and we will depart the dock at 6:30 p.m. The cruise will end by 9:30 p.m. with everyone returned to the dock at the convention center.

Hot Dinner Buffet: Natural Chicken Breast with Bacon, Pearl Onions, and Merlot Sauce; Roasted Beef Strip Loin with Cafe de Paris Sauce; Clipper Chophouse Salad with Chopped Iceberg Lettuce, Local Tomatoes, Bacon, with Ranch and Italian Dressings; Baby Spinach Salad with Strawberries, Almonds, Shaved Red Onion, with Poppy Seed Dressing; Broccoli, Cauliflower, and Carrot Mélange; Penne Pasta with Tomato Basil Sauce; Four Cheese Mac & Cheese; Apple Nut Cake with Cream Cheese Icing; Chocolate Fudge Devil’s Food Cake; Freshly Brewed Coffee, Decaf, and Hot Tea; Fresh Bakery Rolls and Creamery Butter

Tickets: $45 (space is limited; cash bar available)

Stay Connected

FGS Website - http://fgs.org
The central hub for conference logistics.

FGS Voice Blog - http://fgs.org/voice-blog
Covers conference news and updates.

http://facebook.com/FGSgenealogy
http://twitter.com/FGSgenealogy
http://pinterest.com/FGSgenealogy
http://plus.google.com/+FgsOrgGenealogy
http://instagram.com/FGSgenealogy

Follow Us #FGS2017
**REGISTRATION**

Register online for the conference and reserve your tickets to special events, workshops, and luncheons at [http://fgs.org](http://fgs.org). New this year—online registration is available for attendees wishing to pay by check. Simply complete the online registration form, choose the pay by check option, and mail your check to FGS 2017 Conference Registration, PO Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940. The registration form at the end of this booklet may be used by those who cannot complete the online registration. On-site registration, for both prepaid and walk-in attendees, will be at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

**On-site Registration Hours:**
- Tuesday  3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday  7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday  7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Friday  7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday  7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

Cancellations will be accepted through August 1, 2017 via e-mail, fax, or mail sent to the FGS office postmarked by that date. For full conference registration cancellations received or postmarked by August 1, 2017, registrants will receive the conference registration fee, including luncheon, workshop, and/or event fees, less a $50 non-refundable administration charge. Separate workshop, special event, and/or luncheon cancellations will have a $10 service fee deducted. While refunds cannot be given for cancellations after August 1, 2017, registrants will have access to the downloadable syllabus.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Registrants with special needs requirements as outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) must notify FGS in writing of their special needs by July 15, 2017. Scooter and wheelchair rental is available from the Pittsburgh Wheelchair Exchange at [http://pittsburghwheelchairexchange.com](http://pittsburghwheelchairexchange.com). Information about accessibility around the city is available from VisitPittsburgh at [http://visitpittsburgh.com/plan-your-trip/accessibility-guide](http://visitpittsburgh.com/plan-your-trip/accessibility-guide).

**LIBRARIANS’ DAY**

The Federation of Genealogical Societies would like to invite librarians, archivists, other information professionals, volunteers, and board members serving the genealogical community to attend Librarians’ Day, Tuesday, August 29, 2017, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This event is sponsored by ProQuest. The 2017 Librarians’ Day theme is “Digital Initiatives in Western Pennsylvania." The speakers will discuss partnerships and collaborations to increase access to research materials from a variety of institutions, as well as finding aids and other tools to facilitate the use of manuscript and microform collections.

The morning sessions and lunch will be hosted by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh at the historic Carnegie Museums and Library building in the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh. This cultural and educational district is home to the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie-Mellon University, Chatham University, and the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History. Afternoon sessions will include site visits to the Special Collections Room and the Conservation, Preservation and Access Lab of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and to other libraries in the vicinity.

Speakers will include:

- **L. Suzanne Kellerman**
  Judith O. Sieg Chair for Preservation
  Preservation, Conservation and Digitization
  Pennsylvania State University
  University Park, PA

- **Edward Galloway**
  Head, Archives Service Center
  University Library System
  University of Pittsburgh
  Pittsburgh, PA

Registration for Librarians’ Day is $10 and includes lunch. Register at [http://fgs.org](http://fgs.org).

E-mail questions to librariansday@fgs.org.

**SPONSORS**

Platinum
- [ancestry](http://ancestry.com)

FamilySearch
- [MyHeritage](http://myheritage.com)

Bronze
- [Internet Genealogy](http://internetgenealogy.com)

Partner Organizations
- Association of Professional Genealogists
- Board for Certification of Genealogists
- BYU Center for Family History and Genealogy
- Family Tree DNA
- Findmypast
- Genealogical Speakers Guild
- International Society for British Genealogy and Family History
- International Society of Family History Writers and Editors
- Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles
- National Genealogical Society
- National Society Daughters of the American Revolution
- New England Historic Genealogical Society
- New York Genealogical & Biographical Society
- North Hills Genealogists
- Ohio History Connection
- Records Preservation and Access Committee
- Ulster Historical Foundation
- Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society

**Credentials & Abbreviations**

Certified Genealogist is a registered trademark, and CG, CGL, and Certified Genealogical Lecturer are service marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists®, used under license by individuals who have met BCG’s competency standards. AG and Accredited Genealogist are registered trademarks of the International Commission for the Accreditation of Professional Genealogists (ICAPGen™), used under license by individuals who have met ICAPGen’s competency standards. A full list of abbreviations can be found on the conference website.
Local communities have a variety of organizations and groups, many that have little or no expressed interest in genealogy. That doesn’t mean they aren’t great potential partners for your genealogical society. In this plenary session, D. Joshua Taylor focuses on ways to package genealogical societies for non-genealogical partners, including local media, donors, charitable organizations, and politicians.

Potential donors, media partners, and other associates might not easily grasp the benefit of involvement with your society. Taylor will discuss ideas and tools to assist you in introducing your genealogical society to your local community. See your society’s mission statement through the eyes of non-genealogists. Compare it to mission statements from outside the genealogical community. Generate media pitches for your organization. Develop specific pitches for your events (conferences, seminars, etc.) and major projects (indexing, preservation, etc.). Use these ideas to help build that bridge from your society to your local community—everyone can benefit!

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, is a nationally known and recognized genealogical author, lecturer, and researcher and a frequent speaker at family history events across the globe. Passionate about family history, Joshua is the president and executive director of the New York Genealogical & Biographical Society. He is also the past president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. He holds an MLS (Archival Management) and an MA (History) from Simmons College and has been a featured genealogist on Who Do You Think You Are? and is host of Genealogy Roadshow (PBS).
W-116 Federation of Genealogical Societies Focus on Societies Luncheon
FGS Leadership
Join FGS leadership and lend your voice to a discussion of the various ways the Federation serves its member community, along with a look at new benefits on the horizon and those your society would most like to see. Time will also be reserved for “Society Shout-Out,” offering you the opportunity to share successes from your society from the past year. This session also includes the FGS Annual Business Meeting and other important activities for society leaders and FGS delegates.

Menu
Grilled Chicken Wrap, Vegetable Soup; Blondies & Brownies; Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade (Special diet options available by advance request.)

Tickets: $32

---

**AGUST 30, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12:15 P.M.</th>
<th>2:00 P.M.</th>
<th>3:30 P.M.</th>
<th>5:00 P.M.</th>
<th>Tracks</th>
<th>Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W-116</td>
<td>W-117</td>
<td>W-124</td>
<td>W-131</td>
<td>Event - 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>W-138 Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12:15 P.M.</strong></td>
<td><strong>2:00 P.M.</strong></td>
<td><strong>3:30 P.M.</strong></td>
<td><strong>5:00 P.M.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Members &amp; Volunteers</strong></td>
<td><strong>Event</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W-118</td>
<td>W-119</td>
<td>W-120</td>
<td>W-121</td>
<td><strong>FGS Board Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Board the Gateway Clipper cruise at the convention center for a dinner cruise along Pittsburgh’s three rivers.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-116 Federation of Genealogical Societies Focus on Societies Luncheon</strong></td>
<td><strong>FGS Leadership</strong></td>
<td><strong>Join FGS leadership and lend your voice to a discussion of the various ways the Federation serves its member community, along with a look at new benefits on the horizon and those your society would most like to see. Time will also be reserved for “Society Shout-Out,” offering you the opportunity to share successes from your society from the past year. This session also includes the FGS Annual Business Meeting and other important activities for society leaders and FGS delegates.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Menu</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grilled Chicken Wrap, Vegetable Soup; Blondies &amp; Brownies; Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade (Special diet options available by advance request.)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tickets: $32</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-117</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-117 Build Membership and Participation with Small Groups and SIGs</strong></td>
<td><strong>Carla A. Toplin, CG</strong></td>
<td><strong>Creating benefits that attract and keep members will strengthen any genealogical society. Small study groups or Special Interest Groups (SIGs) reach members on a more personal level and focus on topics of interest to them. Learn how to build strong small study groups and SIGs. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-134 Being the [Online] Regional Experts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jen Baldwin</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-117</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-118 Dynamic Programming for Societies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ten E. Fleet, MA, MBA, FTX/SGS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Educational programs are central to the mission of genealogical societies. Learn innovative and creative ways to develop dynamic education programs that can revitalize your society. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-135 Conduct Meetings Every Board Member Wants to Attend!</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jill Morell, CG</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-119 Digiting on a Dime: Digitalization Basics for Individuals and Small Genealogical Societies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kristin Brittain</strong></td>
<td><strong>This presentation demonstrates the basics of digitization for your collection of historic photographs and documents. Learn best practices for creating and keeping digital files with limited resources. (B)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-129 Calling All Members: Your Society’s Website Needs Help</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cindy Ingle</strong></td>
<td><strong>A society’s website should be as diverse as its offerings and its membership. Is it time for you to give it a critical look and help overhaul your site? What can you do to help? (B/I)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-120</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-120 Mining Your Content for Marketing Gold</strong></td>
<td><strong>Amy Johnson Crow, MLIS, CG, OGSF</strong></td>
<td><strong>Running low on ideas for your blog and social media? Turn to the content you already created. Learn how to find marketing content in your books, databases, and special projects. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-136 Nobody Can Find My Website! Intro to Search Engine Optimization and Analysis Tools</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reed Powell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-121</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-121 Grant Writing Success for Societies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tina Bead, MLS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grant writing can be a daunting task for small societies and museums. Learn how to find grant opportunities online, define various types of grants, and decode the typical application process. Tina will share strategies on raising your application to the top of the pile and winning that grant! (B)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-128 Oh, Those Pesky Minutes and Motions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jane Haldeman</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-122</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-122 Building Your Society’s Digital Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jen Baldwin</strong></td>
<td><strong>Societies are increasingly creating and maintaining digital collections. Learn about best practices, overcoming financial obstacles, choosing your nonprofit or for-profit partners, and the necessary technology to achieving digital success. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-130 Conflict Resolution FGS Board Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Differing opinions among board members can cause conflict that becomes detrimental to the society. Discuss ways to handle those situations. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-123</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-123 Publications FGS Board Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Do you have problems finding content for newsletters or journals? Are you considering moving from print to digital? Discuss issues your society has with publications. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-131 How to Ask for Money: Fundraising for Genealogical Societies</strong></td>
<td><strong>D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fundraising does not often come easily for everyone, yet it is an essential component to running a successful nonprofit organization. Learn how to elevate your comfort level in asking for funds, identify grants, and develop donor-friendly initiatives for your society. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-124</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-124 Putting the Customer Back in Customer Service—Strategies for 21st Century Organizations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, IGSF</strong></td>
<td><strong>This presentation will explore how a focus on good customer service will bring organizations in the genealogy space more members and move them from surviving to thriving. (B/I)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-132 DNA and Your Genealogical Society</strong></td>
<td><strong>Blaine Bettinger, PhD, FOGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-125</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-125 Expanding Your Horizons: Taking Your Society on the Road</strong></td>
<td><strong>Carla S. Cegielski</strong></td>
<td><strong>Local field trips and excursions to distant repositories play an important role in a society’s educational offerings. Learn to plan and execute these important teaching opportunities. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-133 Preserving Genealogical Society Records</strong></td>
<td><strong>Diane Vardikaver Gagel, MA, FOGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-126</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-126 Creating a County Record Guide</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tina Wears</strong></td>
<td><strong>Put your society’s knowledge into a printed or online guide to help members and nonmembers find resources in your area. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-134 Being the [Online] Regional Experts</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jen Baldwin</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-127</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-127 Outdated Outreach: Breathing New Life Into Our Outreach Approach</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cheri Daniels, MLS</strong></td>
<td><strong>The challenge of attracting and engaging new members online and offline is a constant struggle for many genealogical societies.</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-135 Conduct Meetings Every Board Member Wants to Attend!</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jill Morell, CG</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-128</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-128 Oh, Those Pesky Minutes and Motions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jane Haldeman</strong></td>
<td><strong>The minutes are taken approved, and filed. Do we ever go back and look at them? Should we? Absolutely! They are the history of the society. Board members move on and we forget what was decided and voted on. We must review, and by law, we must follow what those before us decided. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-136 Nobody Can Find My Website! Intro to Search Engine Optimization and Analysis Tools</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reed Powell</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W-130</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-130 Conflict Resolution FGS Board Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Differing opinions among board members can cause conflict that becomes detrimental to the society. Discuss ways to handle those situations. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
<td><strong>W-137 Open Floor</strong></td>
<td><strong>FGS Board Members</strong></td>
<td><strong>Open floor discussion on any topic related to society management. (B/I/A)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When searching for information of any sort, from historic and genealogical to gastronomic and adventurous, often the best route is along unfamiliar roads and across unexpected bridges. Here in the City of Bridges, exploring and learning frequently mean that you find yourself crossing a span that you’ve never seen before. But that’s often what makes for good stories and surprise discoveries.

Popular Pittsburgh public TV producer Rick Sebak shares some of his tales of uncovering local secrets as well as details about his own family’s history. No matter what the topic, or where he goes to do research, he also likes to celebrate the good food he finds along the way.

Rick Sebak makes unusual television programs. His slightly wacky documentaries now celebrate various aspects of modern American life and the unexpected charms of Pittsburgh. Audiences have learned to recognize his friendly narrative style and the unusual topics that he obviously loves.

Since 1987 when he returned to his hometown of Pittsburgh to work at WQED, he has produced more than 30 documentaries about the history, the neighborhoods, the buildings, the people, and the food of western Pennsylvania. His programs include Kennywood Memories, Things That Aren’t There Anymore, and Pennsylvania Diners, among others.

Rick has also put together more than a dozen national programs for PBS that celebrate various aspects of modern American culture from sandwiches to cemeteries. Rick was nominated for two prime-time Emmy® Awards for his work on Fred Rogers: America’s Favorite Neighbor. He has received numerous local awards and recognitions, including ten regional Emmy® Awards and an honorary doctorate from Seton Hill University.

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening

Join us for the grand opening of the exhibit hall beginning at 9:30 a.m. Enjoy an hour-and-a-half before the first session of the day to peruse the exhibit hall at your leisure.
T-213 Critical Thinking in Genealogical Research: A Case Study Using Oral History
Deborah Abbott, PhD
This case study provides an opportunity to use your detective skills to discern fact from fiction in a family’s oral history. The goal is to learn how to separate fact from fantasy in a family that never appears in the US census as a family unit. The case study focuses on evidence, correlation, and analysis. (B/A)

T-214 Using NARA’s Finding Aids and Website
Pamela Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA
Take advantage of a former Washington area resident’s NARA experience. This session was created with the outside-the-Beltway, remote NARA researcher in mind. (I)

T-215 Making Sense of Metes and Bounds
Chris Staats
Rocks? A stump? An oak tree? Isn’t a porch a fish? Beginning at a place of confusion, thence to a point of understanding, learn to conquer the difficulties encountered when working with metes and bounds. Terminology, platting basics, and tips for locating properties on a map will all be covered. (B/A)

T-216 One Family, Three Journeys
David Laskin
How one family embodied the sweep of 20th century Jewish history, including migration from the Russian Pale to the US, the founding of the State of Israel, and the Holocaust. (B/A)

Pamela Weisberger Memorial Lecture
Sponsored by Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles

T-217 Organizing Your GENETIC Genealogy
Diahn Southard
In this lecture we will discuss various methods for keeping track of your DNA matches—especially your autosomal DNA matches. We will first discuss what kind of information you need to keep track of, and why. We will cover the basics of Excel, Word, and email. We will talk about tools like Escribe and Transpose that can help you standardize your organization. This lecture will leave you armed and dangerous, ready to identify your best autosomal DNA matches and begin to move forward with the real genealogy business of making connections. (B)

T-218 Colonial War Research
David Allen Lambert
This lecture will discuss and cover research techniques for pre-Revolutionary War military records in the 17th and 18th centuries. It includes examples of using state and local sources to understand the service of your ancestor’s military service. (B)

Sponsored by New England Historic Genealogical Society

T-219 Navigating the Draper Manuscripts: Paths of Migration
Cheri Daniels, MLS
One resource of early western settlement and migration is the Draper Manuscripts. Lyman Copeland Draper grew up around those who had settled the new western territories. These stories impressed an urgent need of documentation upon Draper. The result was a collection of eye-witness accounts of migration, settlement, and war. Learn the challenges associated with using this multi-indented resource and why a thorough approach can identify ancestors obscured by the path of migration. (I)

T-220 Strategies to Kick-Start Your Research
Teri E. Flack, MA, MBA, FTSgGS
Research at a dead end? Discover techniques and strategies to get your research moving in the right direction. (I)

T-221 Directories: An Indispensable Research Guide to Individuals, Families, and Communities
Rory Caruth
Learn effective strategies for using directories to sort same-name individuals, connect families, and study communities to break down brick walls. (B/I)

T-222 When Sources Don’t Agree, Then What?
Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA
Attendees will learn why and how genealogical sources disagree and how to detect the “truth.” They also will learn three ways to resolve conflicting genealogical evidence and how to present the resolution in a polished genealogical product. (I/A)

T-223 Finding and Using German Church Records
Michael Lacopa, DVM
Many of us have German-speaking, European ancestors but are afraid to tackle the next step across the Atlantic. Your lecturer will show examples of German church records, how to decipher them, and how to overcome the fear of German script. More importantly learn the vital step necessary to find the records you are seeking! (I/A)

T-224 Advanced Third-Party Tools
Blaine Bettinger, PhD, JD
Together we will examine some of the advanced tools from GedMatch, DNAgedcom, and others. We will also examine some of the new third-party tools that have launched in the past year or so. (I/A)

T-225 My Father’s War: World War II Research
Diane VanSlieter Gagel, MA, DGS
Due to loss of many World War II military service records, World War II research is often difficult. This presentation will provide an overview of researching the military service of a World War II veteran. (B/I)

T-226 Pennsylvania Vital Records and Their Substitutes
Marilyn Cocchiola Holt, MLS
An introduction to the practice of records research in Pennsylvania, beginning with an overview of Pennsylvania recordkeeping history, focusing on sources for vital records and moving on to substitute sources such as church and cemetery records, newspapers, and city directories. Repositories such as courthouses, state archives, and libraries will also be reviewed. (B)

Gale French
This class will introduce you to Y-DNA and how it is used in genealogy. Y-DNA testing is the process of getting your Y-Chromosome results for comparing with other testers. The Y-DNA test offers males a clear path from you to a known or likely direct paternal ancestor(s). It is great for genealogists wanting to confirm a paternal line. The course will also show how women can use the test by recruiting a father, brother, cousin, or uncle to do the test. Good genealogy is verified by an accurate paper trail; great genealogy is supported by DNA results. (B)

Sponsored by Family Tree DNA

T-228 Did Your Ancestors Own Slaves?
Janice Lovelace, PhD
Do you have pre-Civil War ancestors? Might they have owned slaves? This presentation discusses researching prewar censuses, wills, court proceedings, business records, and newspapers for information. (I)

T-229 Finding Your Ancestor in Militia County Land Applications
Rick Sayre, CG, CGL, FUGA
Many bounty land records rival pension records in their value. Find these records and locate bounty land, including state bounty land. Explore the records using new online tools. (I/A)

T-230 Military Men, Pacifists, and the Women They Loved: Tracking Down the Revolutionary War Generation
Maureen Taylor, MA
Explore resources and repositories for researching Revolutionary War ancestors. Case studies illustrate how to build a bio of those ancestors. (B)

Sponsored by Family Tree DNA

Gale French
This class will introduce you to Y-DNA and how it is used in genealogy. Y-DNA testing is the process of getting your Y-Chromosome results for comparing with other testers. The Y-DNA test offers males a clear path from you to a known or likely direct paternal ancestor(s). It is great for genealogists wanting to confirm a paternal line. The course will also show how women can use the test by recruiting a father, brother, cousin, or uncle to do the test. Good genealogy is verified by an accurate paper trail; great genealogy is supported by DNA results. (B)

Sponsored by Family Tree DNA

T-232 Strategies to Kick-Start Your Research
Teri E. Flack, MA, MBA, FTSgGS
Research at a dead end? Discover techniques and strategies to get your research moving in the right direction. (I)

T-233 Coal & Steel: Industrial-era Migration
David McDonald, DMin, CG
Industrial workers of the late 19th century often followed developing plans to relocate part of the country to another. Considers workers in the Midwest and in the greater Pittsburgh area and the migrations between those communities. (B/A)

T-234 Caring for Keepsakes
Denise May Levenick, MA
Bring your questions to this hands-on preservation workshop to learn how to archive family Bibles, photo albums and scrapbooks, quilts, documents, and memorabilia. Explore best practices for digitizing photos, documents, and awkward artifacts. Learn how to construct simple archival containers to hold books and fragile documents. (B/A)

Sponsored by Board for Certification of Genealogists
F-301 Why You Don’t Find Your Ancestors
Tony Burroughs, FUGA
Genealogy databases have billions of names. But after searching online you often can’t find your ancestors in the databases. However, they still may be there. Why is that? There are many reasons but many of the answers may surprise you. (B/I/A)

F-302 Getting the Most Out of the DAR Genealogical Research System
Stacie Newton, MLS
The Genealogical Research System is an ever-expanding collection of databases created by the DAR. Understanding the nature of the records available and arrangement of the databases can help you get the most out of this valuable resource. (B/I/A)

F-303 Lost and Found Picture Reunions
Maureen Taylor, MA
In every flea market and antique shop are abandoned images often with names on them. Here’s how to reconnect those lost images with family and how to use photo reunion sites and social media to find your lost pictures. (B)

F-304 Enslaved African Americans in White Church Records: An Overlooked Source
Wevonnea Mince
Slaves often attended their owners’ churches. Learn to use records of those churches for details about a slave’s parents, owners, attendance, dismissal, sale, and more. (I)

F-305 Scottish Civil Registration: How to Access, Use, and Interpret
Paul Milner
Civil registration begins in 1855 with parents, owners, attendance, dismissal, sale, and more. (I)

F-306 Conducting African American Religious Research
Tim Pinnick
Locating information on African American congregations can be frustrating. Learn important tips and strategies to overcome the lack of record preservation at the local level. (B/I/A)

F-307 Counting Pennsylvania: The Courts of the Keystone State
Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL
Understanding the records of the courts closest to the average citizen is crucial to finding clues to family history in Pennsylvania and beyond. (I/A)

F-308 Remedies for Copy & Paste Genealogy
Cyndi Ingle
Family trees and the information they contain are easily copied and republished by others online. This means errors are duplicated many times over. We will discuss solutions for dealing with these issues. (B/I)

F-309 Casting the Net: Denominational and Ethnic Newspaper Research
Carlo A. Taplin, CG
Newspapers are daily snapshots of our history. While most newspapers are no exception, those in particular churches and ethnic newspapers are no exception. Examine the broad spectrum, wide geographical reach, and history in religious and ethnic newspapers. Methods, techniques, and strategies for obtaining those items of interest will be demonstrated. (B/I)

F-310 Smart Social Media for Genealogists
Mary M. Tedesco
Effective tips to use social media in your genealogy research and genealogical genealogy that can be found on the most out of the world’s online trees. (I)

F-311 A Methodical Approach to Slave Research: A Case Study
Deborah Abbott, PhD
Identifying slave families and their slaveholders can be challenging, but not impossible. Bridging the gap between the slavery era and freedom requires patience and perseverance. This case study begins with the 1840 census and shows how information from all preceding censuses led to documents that revealed the identity of the slaveholder. (B/I/A)

F-312 Methods for Identifying the German Origins of American Immigrants
Michael Lapap, DVM
If all you know from conventional records is “Germany” as a place of origin, then this lecture will help you mine other resources to locate WHERE in Germany your ancestor came from. Learn simple tricks to isolate your ancestor’s home town, and discover record groups you may not be using to find your German place of origin. (I/A)

F-313 Researching Your Jewish Ancestors in Pennsylvania
Tammy A. Heppe
Whether they lived in big cities like Pittsburgh and Philadelphia or a small industrial town, your Jewish ancestors in Pennsylvania contributed to a state with one of the oldest and richest Jewish histories. Learn about the history of Jews in Pennsylvania, how to identify your ancestors in each wave of settlement, unique records repositories for each region, and techniques for using these records to trace your ancestors. (B/I/A)

F-314 Gateway to the West: Researching in Ohio
Diane VanSkever Gagel, MA, OSGF
Guidelines for researching in the Gateway to the West—Ohio. Areas covered include the township, county, and state levels, and where researchers can find the best genealogical records. Major repositories and how to access them will be discussed. (B/I)

F-315 Making Timelines Work for You
Jill Morelli, CG
Timelines clarify research problems, provide an outline for family history narratives, or compare similar data across years. Learn how to make them work for you. (B/I)

F-316 Help Me Please: Government Claims and Unusual Pension Requests
J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA
Learn to find letters and requests to presidents, governors, or other governmental officers for your ancestors. Case studies will be presented along with tips and tricks for getting the most out of the world’s online trees. (I)

F-317 Online Family Trees: Avoiding Pitfalls and Maximizing Possibilities
D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS
Many genealogists know the drawbacks of online family trees, but have you ever used them to your advantage? Learn about the best practices and exciting developments for twenty-first century genealogy. (B/I)

F-318 Black and White Southern Families in Plantation Records
Ari Wilkins
Learn about the abundance of genealogical information that can be found on plantation records and how to research the collection. (I/A)

F-319 From Ulster to Pennsylvania
David E. Renchet, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA
This session discusses the migration of the Ulster Scots from Northern Ireland to the Americas, particularly their migration into Pennsylvania and the social history, migration, and background that surround their exodus from the Old to the New World. (B/I/A)

F-320 Friendly Ancestors: An Introduction to Quakers for Genealogists
Elizabeth Ernst
An introduction to Quakers and Quakerism to help genealogists understand them better. (B)

F-321 What’s a Prothonotary? Your Guide to Pennsylvania’s Courthouse Records
Elissa Seckal Powell, CG, CGL
Learn to navigate successfully through original Pennsylvania courthouse records and their special indexes, only some of which are online. (B/I)

F-322 Exhibit Hall Lunch: Eat, Explore, Shop
The lunch break is devoted to the exhibit hall with a catered boxed lunch served inside the hall.

Menu
Choice of Smoked Turkey on Brioche with Bacon, Tomato, Lettuce, and Herb Aioli; Ham and Swiss on Pretzel Bread with Lettuce, Tomato, and Dijonaisance; or “CLT” Flatbread Sandwich with Grilled Zucchini, Tomatoes, Jalapeno Jack Cheese, and Sun-dried Tomato Pesto; Whole Fruit, Bag of Chips; Fresh Baked Cookie; Iced Tea, Lemonade, Water. (Special diet options available by advance request.)

Tickets: Included with all full conference registrations. If you do not register for the full conference, you may purchase a ticket for $29.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tracks</th>
<th>8:00 A.M.</th>
<th>9:30 A.M.</th>
<th>10:30 A.M.</th>
<th>12:15 P.M.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Although many states did not have birth certificates in the 19th century, we can still find a date of birth or narrow the possibilities. Being creative and determining where these records might be found can enhance your chances of locating the &quot;magic&quot; date. (B/I)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-402 Buns, Beards, Bodices, and Beyond: Understanding the Ineligible Through Clothing</td>
<td>Maureen Taylor, MA</td>
<td>S-410 Misbegotten Children: Tracing the Family Lines of the Illegitimate Peggy Clemens Lautzenhirtz, AG</td>
<td>Nearly all families have children with seemingly missing fathers. Yet, there may be clues and resources to help us determine their ancestry. (B/I)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding Ancestors’ Lives</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-403 Libraries: Getting the Most Bang For Your Buck</td>
<td>Ari Wilkins</td>
<td>S-411 Why The Genealogy Center? Collections &amp; Services of a Leading Family History Research Center</td>
<td>Curt B. Witcher, MLS, FUGA, ISGF</td>
<td>With records extending before 1650, what does a southern researcher think about the wonderful stories from the state of New York and colonies preceeding? Does he even know where to begin?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Learn how to save money and time by using libraries’ services and collections to the fullest extent. (B/I)</td>
<td>This presentation will provide an up-to-date and detailed look at an international family history collection that continues to grow and continues to be more accessible to researchers. (B/I)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding Records</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-404 Fare Work: Labor Unions and Your Ancestor</td>
<td>Jen Baldwin</td>
<td>S-412 Men of Steel: Researching Your Steel-working Ancestor</td>
<td>Elissa Scaslil Powell, CG, CGL</td>
<td>Our ancestors can inspire us in surprising ways. One genealogist shares how exploring her roots resulted in an unexpected career and the ten lessons she learned along the way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Labor and work have been in question since the first colonies were established on our eastern shores. Developing a greater understanding for how labor unions affected American history—and your ancestor—can lead to highly valuable genealogical material. (I)</td>
<td>Researching your industrial ancestor can almost be as dirty a job as he experienced. Learn who worked in the mills, his duties and job names, his migration paths, and where records exist. (B/I/A)</td>
<td>Sponsored by Findmypast</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-405 Irish Church Records - Church of Ireland, Presbyterian, Catholic</td>
<td>David E. Rinercher, AG, CG, FGRS, FUGA</td>
<td>S-413 Finding Immigrant Origins in United States Records</td>
<td>Mary M. Tedesco</td>
<td>We will cover methodology and the reach out and connect with others.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This session combines information about the time period, content, and record availability of records for the three major religions in Ireland—Catholic, Church of Ireland, and Presbyterian. Some non-conformist sects are also discussed. (B/I/A)</td>
<td>Tips and strategies for identifying your ancestral towns using records located in the United States and online. (B)</td>
<td>Sponsored by FamilySearch</td>
<td>Menu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant/ Ethnic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-406 Rainbows and Kaleidoscopes: Inclusion as a Society and Corporate Genealogical Standard</td>
<td>Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL</td>
<td>S-414 Success for Genealogy Companies Through Lean Innovation Practices</td>
<td>Janet Hovorka</td>
<td>Chef’s Salad with Turkey, Ham, Swiss Cheese, Hard Cooked Egg, with Ranch and Balsamic Dressing; Peach Pie; Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade (Special diet options available by advance request.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genealogical societies and companies can better grow their memberships, serve their constituencies, and increase their revenues by adopting inclusion as a genealogical standard. (B/I/A)</td>
<td>Learn innovation is changing the way companies create healthy businesses—especially in genealogy. Learn to test your new ideas to reduce waste and create success. (A)</td>
<td>Sponsored by the BCG Education Fund</td>
<td>Tickets: $32</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCG Education Fund Helen F. M. Leary Distinguished Lecture</td>
<td>Sponsored by BCG Education Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Field (Morning)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-407 Working with your DNA Matches</td>
<td>Anna Swayne</td>
<td>S-415 Making Family Discoveries Using AncestryDNA</td>
<td>Anna Swayne</td>
<td>Our ancestors can inspire us in surprising ways. One genealogist shares how exploring her roots resulted in an unexpected career and the ten lessons she learned along the way.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you want to learn more about what you can do with your DNA matches? Get tips and tricks on how DNA matching works and how you can leverage the tool at AncestryDNA to answer your genealogy questions. (B/I/A)</td>
<td>Learn about how DNA works, what's new at AncestryDNA, and how to get the most out of your DNA matches. We'll provide an overview of AncestryDNA and how it can help validate your research and find new leads. (B/I/A)</td>
<td>Sponsored by Ancestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancestry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-408 Ohio’s Jigsaw Puzzle: Understanding Ohio’s Land Surveys</td>
<td>Amy Johnson Crow, MLS, CG, OGSF</td>
<td>S-416 Genealogical Resources in Western Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Marilyn Conciaii Holt, MLS</td>
<td>An introduction to research and repositories for family history in Western Pennsylvania, beginning with an overview of Pennsylvania records and focusing on sources for vital records, church and cemetery records, newspapers, and city directories. Major libraries and depositories will be highlighted, as well as specialized collections. (B/I)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio’s eleven major land surveys can make researching land records confusing. Learn the ins and outs of the puzzle that makes up the state of Ohio. (I)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Tracks</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Records</strong></td>
<td>Workshop 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Understanding Ancestor’s Lives</strong></td>
<td>S-443 The Combined Power of Y-DNA and Autosomal DNA: A Case Study Diahon Southard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Finding Records</strong></td>
<td>S-444 Street Savvy: Discovering Your Urban Roots Juliana Sauz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Occupations</strong></td>
<td>S-445 Springkling Weather Into Your Family History Randy Whitel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>In the Field</strong></td>
<td>S-446 The New York Gateway: Immigration, Emigration, and Migration Jane E. Wilcox</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>DNA</strong></td>
<td>S-447 Getting the Most from Ancestry Guideline Amy Wachs, JD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Electronics</strong></td>
<td>S-448 Getting the Most from Ancestry Juliana Sauz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**September 2, 2017**

**2:00 p.m.**

**S-422 Making Sense of Censuses: Analyzing and Getting US Census Data**

Jill N. Crandall, MA, AG

Learn how to resolve discrepancies in census data when it differs from one census to the next. (B/I)

**S-420 New England Colonial Probate and Deed Records**

David Allen Lambert

This session will give an understanding and overview of New England probate and deed research. (I)

**S-428 Getting the Most from Ancestry**

Juliana Sauz

Juliana will guide you through the resources and tools available on Ancestry, sharing strategies that will help you find the best route to your ancestors. (B/I)

**S-429 Sprinkling Weather Into Your Family History**

Randy Whitel

Historical daily weather records from observers stationed across the United States and territories, starting from as early as the mid-19th century, exist and are available online. Learn how this data can add unique details to life events. (B/A)

**S-430 Death Certificate Keys to Breaking Through Brick Walls**

Tony Burroughs, FUGA

Death certificates are vitally important for learning ages, places of death, places of birth, women’s maiden names, military service, etc. Researchers need the skills to analyze the records and know what will lead to additional sources. (B/A)

**S-431 Apprentices, Indentured Servants, and Redemptioners: White Slavery in America**

Peggy Clemens Lourizten, AG

An estimated one-half of early immigrants came to America against their own will; some as indentured servants. (I/A)

---

**3:30 p.m.**

**S-432 Using All the Features of FamilySearch**

David E. Rencher, AG, CG, FIGRS, FUGA

Learn the breadth and depth of the programs and features of the FamilySearch organization and website. The genealogical landscape has changed dramatically in the last decade—learn what FamilySearch has done to adapt. (B/I/A)

**S-433 Grandpa Worked for the Railroad**

Janice Lovelace, PhD

My grandfather, like many American men, worked for the railroad in the 19th and 20th centuries. Learn how to discover which company, what type of job, and where (location) your ancestors worked. We will look at the history and growth of the railroad in the US and how to access railroad records, including pensions. (B/I)

**S-436 The Difference Between Searchers and Researchers**

Crista Cowan

There is a difference between searching and researching. We need both skills to climb our family tree. Using the Ancestry search engine as an example learn how these powerful tools can help us be good searchers AND good researchers. (B/I/A)

**S-437 The New York Gateway: Immigration, Emigration, and Migration**

Jane E. Wilcox

New York has been the heart of US emigration since the 1600s. Discover significant immigrant groups and settlers, plus New York migration routes and travel modes. (B/I/A)

**S-438 Land Records of the Pennsylvania State Archives**

Kimberly T. Powell

Learn about the wide variety of state land records held by the Pennsylvania State Archives. This presentation will introduce the existing protocol and documents it created, as well as how to navigate and use the records available online. (B/A)

**S-439 Making Sense of Censuses: Analyzing and Getting US Census Data**

Jill N. Crandall, MA, AG

Learn how to resolve discrepancies in census data when it differs from one census to the next. (B/I)

**S-440 Researching Manuscript and Special Collections in Historical Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs)**

Deborah Abbott, PhD

These institutions hold important documents that give a true-to-life picture of the lives of African Americans before, during, and after slavery. The archives and special collections of these colleges/universities hold manuscripts, photographs, personal accounts, Bibles, genealogical information, etc. (I/A)

---

**5:00 p.m.**

**S-441 Cool Beans! My Ancestor Was a Farmer**

Kimberly T. Powell

You know your ancestor was a farmer, but do you know the size of his farm? What he raised? How his family lived? This session explores a variety of records that can help you research and tell his farming story. (B/I/A)

**S-442 Guidelines for Finding Polish Records**

Amy Wachs, JD

This presentation will provide information about resources available in state archives in Poland and neighboring countries, and provide tips for effective research there. (I)

**S-443 Locating British Mining Records**

Paul Miller

Learn what genealogical and historical records are available to identify and locate the place of origin of your British mining ancestors and how to put them into their correct historical context. (B/I/A)

**S-444 Street Savvy: Discovering Your Urban Roots**

Juliana Sauz

Feeling overwhelmed with research in the big city? Juliana will share tips that will help you pin down your ancestors in cities—large and small. (B/I)

**S-445 Sprinkling Weather Into Your Family History**

Randy Whitel

Historical daily weather records from observers stationed across the United States and territories, starting from as early as the mid-19th century, exist and are available online. Learn how this data can add unique details to life events. (B/A)

**S-446 The New York Gateway: Immigration, Emigration, and Migration**

Jane E. Wilcox

New York has been the heart of US emigration since the 1600s. Discover significant immigrant groups and settlers, plus New York migration routes and travel modes. (B/I/A)

**S-447 Getting the Most from Ancestry**

Juliana Sauz

Juliana will guide you through the resources and tools available on Ancestry, sharing strategies that will help you find the best route to your ancestors. (B/I)

**S-448 Land Records of the Pennsylvania State Archives**

Kimberly T. Powell

Learn about the wide variety of state land records held by the Pennsylvania State Archives. This presentation will introduce the existing protocol and documents it created, as well as how to navigate and use the records available online. (B/A)

---

**Session Levels:** B=Beginner, I=Intermediate, A=Advanced
Deborah Abbott, PhD, is a genealogist specializing in African American research, genealogy methodology, and manuscript collections. She is an instructor at IGHR and SLG and former Trustee for the Ohio Genealogical Society.

Jan Miesels Allen, chair of the IAJGS Genealogy Roadshow Committee; president of Jewish Genealogical Society of Coneye Valley, Ventura County, California; and an RPAC voting member.

Jan Alpert, FNGS, is the RPAC chair and a previous president, board member, and conference chair for FGS.

Linda Ahern, MLS, is a library specialist, archivist, and community manager at the Andy Warhol Museum of Pittsburgh. She is program chair for NGS..unshift()

Linda Alzado, MFA, is a freelance writer, editor, and content developer for a well-known, internationally recognized genealogist, specializing in Eastern European genealogy and nonfiction writing.

Jen Baldwin is a professional genealogist who writes, lectures, and consults on a variety of genealogy topics. She is the Data Acquisition Manager for North America - Findmypast and hosts #genchat on Twitter.

Tina Beaard, MLS, is the genealogy/local history librarian at a Chicagoland public library and owner of Tamarack Genealogy. She lectures on genealogical research, archival preservation, and Illinois history.

James M. Beidler is a columnist, author, and editor from Pennsylvania who specializes in Irish genealogy, historical newspapers, and his home state.

Blaine Bettinger, PhD (Biochemistry), JD, is an intellectual property attorney by day and a genetic genealogist by night. Author of the long-running blog The Genetic Genealogist.

Jeannie LaRazelle Bloom, CG, is a full-time professional researcher specializing in Chicago and Cook County, Illinois with forensic genealogy, problem solving, and multi-generational family histories. She is president of the IAJGS.

Kristin Britanik is the digital project manager at the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh where she is in charge of digitizing the museum’s collection. Previously, she worked at NEHGS and Ancestry.com.

Tony Burroughs, FUGA, is founder and CEO of The Center for Black Genealogy. He is the creator of the award-winning blog, “Latke, Latke: Jewish Genealogy and the Power of DNA.”

Mary Burtiner, Cyndi’s, is the creator of Zap the Records. She is an intellectual property attorney by day and a genetic genealogist by night. Author and international speaker.

Janice Lovelace, PhD, a psychologist and retired college faculty, has 20+ years of experience in genealogical research. She presents on ethnic minority research, which she found through research on DNA.

J. Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA, is a life-long genealogist. He is a full-time professional researcher and lecturer specializing in genealogical research and manuscript collections throughout the South.

Tina Lyons is a professional genealogist and speaker, past vice president of the International and Family History Society, and creator of the Indiana’s Gore Index.

David McDonald, DMin, CG, is a trustee and past president of BCG. He has presented at genealogy conferences since 2005. Particular interests: migration, religions and their records, US Midwest, British Isles, and Germanic genealogy.

Paul Miliner, a native of northern England, is an international lecturer and author of how-to books for English and Scottish research.

Weyonna Minis licenses on research methodology, finding African American ancestors, South Carolina, and Georgia. She is the author of a GenProof Study Group mentor.

Jill Morelli, CG, is a professional genealogist who lectures nationally on methodology, research, and the power of DNA and the story it can unlock.

Stacie Newton, MLIS, joined the staff of the NGS in 2005. Her roles have included verifying lineages, resolving problems with previously verified applications, developing curriculum for training programs, and serving as the assistant director of the Research Division.

Kimberly T. Powell is a professional researcher and educator, 17-year genealogy expert for About.com, and former APG president. She is the author of The Everything Guide to Online Genealogy.

Rich Venezia has been on the Genealogy Roadshow research team for two seasons. He specializes in and conducts on-site research for clients with Italian and Irish ancestry.

Amy Wachs, JD, specializes in Eastern European and Jewish genealogy. She taught law as a Visiting Fulbright Professor in Latvia and Moldova. She has done on-site research at state archives in Lithuania and Poland.

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FUGA, FNGS, is a professional genealogist, speaker, and author; a co-host of the PBS television series Genealogy Roadshow; and a former NGS director of education and outreach. She is a regular blogger on genealogy and photo preservation. She has been featured in top media outlets.

Jane E. Wilcox is a contributing editor for The New York Genealogical & Biographical Record and a member of the New York State Archives Advisory Board. She hosts The Forget-Me-Not Hour podcast.

Art Wilkins is a genealogist and a member of the Dallas Public Library’s genealogy staff. She formerly served on the Texas State Genealogical Society’s executive committee.

Curt B. Withers, MLS, FUGA, IGSF, is manager of the Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library, founding president of the Indiana Genealogical Society, and a former president of NGS and FGS.

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG, FUGA, FNGS, is a lecturer and family history educator, and a lecturer and family history educator. She specializes in and conducts on-site research at state archives in Lithuania and Poland.

Curt B. Withers, MLS, FUGA, IGSF, is manager of The Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library, founding president of the Indiana Genealogical Society, and a former president of NGS and FGS.

Curt B. Withers, MLS, FUGA, IGSF, is manager of The Genealogy Center at Allen County Public Library, founding president of the Indiana Genealogical Society, and a former president of NGS and FGS.
## Conference Registration

| Registeration Type | Early Registration (postmarked or online by July 1, 2017) | $230   | $_____
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------
|                    | Full Four-Day Conference Registration (Wed. through Sat.) |        |       |
| Regular Registration (postmarked or online after July 1, 2017) | $270   | $_____
|                    | Full Four-Day Conference Registration (Wed. through Sat.) |        |       |
| Single Day (postmarked or online by July 1, 2017) | $99    | $_____
|                    | Circle which day: Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat. |        |       |
| Single Day (postmarked or online after July 1, 2017) | $109   | $_____
|                    | Circle which day: Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat. |        |       |
| Student Registration | $49    | $_____
|                    | Age 14-25; college students must submit proof of enrollment |        |       |

## Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T-234 Caring for Keepsakes</td>
<td>Thu., Aug. 31</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-344 Connecting the DNA Dots (4 hours)</td>
<td>Fri., Sept. 1</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-345 Hands-on Research Planning</td>
<td>Fri., Sept. 1</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-446 Using Genetics and Genealogy . . . (4 hours)</td>
<td>Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-447 Preserve Your Roots Through Storytelling</td>
<td>Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-448 Transcriptions &amp; Analysis</td>
<td>Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Other Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| FGS FORUM Subscription ($15/year; $25/2 years; $30/3 years) | $_____
| Special Diet Meal Request | $_____
| ADA Requirements | $_____

## Luncheons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Luncheon Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W-116 Focus on Societies Luncheon</td>
<td>Wed., Aug. 30</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-209 FamilySearch Luncheon</td>
<td>Valentine, Thu., Aug. 31</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-210 ISBGFH Luncheon</td>
<td>McDonald, Thu., Aug. 31</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-211 APG Luncheon</td>
<td>Russell, Thu., Aug. 31</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-212 NGS Luncheon</td>
<td>Alpert, Thu., Aug. 31</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-322 Exhibit Hall Boxed Lunch</td>
<td>Fri., Sept. 1</td>
<td>$29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-418 BCG Luncheon</td>
<td>Henderson, Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-419 NEHGS Luncheon</td>
<td>Lambert, Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-420 NYGBS Luncheon</td>
<td>Lowe, Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S-421 GSG/ISFHWE Luncheon</td>
<td>Alzo, Sat., Sept. 2</td>
<td>$32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Special Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W-138 Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise</td>
<td>Wed., Aug. 30</td>
<td>$45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarians’ Day</td>
<td>Tues., Aug. 29, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Syllabus

Prior to the conference, each registrant will receive notice that an electronic version of the syllabus is available online. Registrants are urged to print the sections for sessions they plan to attend. A printed syllabus can be ordered below.

| Printed Syllabus | $50 |

## Registration Information

Please print name as it should appear on the conference name tag. Use a separate form for each person. This form may be duplicated.

### General Information

- Name:
- Organization:
- Home Address:
- City/State/Zip:
- Daytime Phone:
- E-mail: _____________

**Your e-mail address will be your user name for online registration**

### Method of Payment

- Check/Money Order (made payable to FGS 2017 Conference)
- Mastercard
- Visa
- Discover
- Amex

**Number: _____________**

**Expiration Date (month/year): _____________**

**CSV: _____________**

**Name on Card: _____________**

**Authorized Signature: _____________**

### Cancellation Policy

Full refund, less a $50 service fee, granted upon request by Aug. 1, 2017.

**Mail your completed form and payment to:**

FGS 2017 Conference, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940

E-mail: registration@fgs.org  |  Fax: 1-866-347-1350

Register online at http://fgs.org

Online registration with the option to mail in your check is now available. See http://fgs.org for details. Only use this form if you need to pay offline with a credit card or cannot register online.

**Total Conference Fees: $_______**
Building Bridges to the Past

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES
2017 Conference • August 30 – September 2
with local host Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society