

North Carolina Genealogical Society

2024 Virtual Conference

15-16 March 2024



Speakers

John Beatty, CG®



John D. Beatty, CG, has been a Senior Librarian in The Genealogy Center since 1984 and also serves as its principal bibliographer. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree with high honors in History from the University of Michigan in 1982, and a Master of Arts degree in History and Library Science with honors from that university in 1984. He became a Board-certified genealogist in 2014. He is the author of sixteen books on local and family history, including works on German and early American families, abstracts of town vital records from Biddeford, Maine, and annotated narratives from the Irish Rebellion of 1798, as well as numerous articles on a variety of genealogical and local historical topics. In 2006, he served as principal editor for volume one of a two-volume History of Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana, 1700-2005, the first history of Allen County produced since 1917. Because of a diversified family background, he has genealogical expertise in a variety of areas. He has conducted original research on families from colonial New England, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, and Kentucky, as well as on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century families from Ireland, Germany and Switzerland. He serves as archivist for the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana, and his interests also include local Fort Wayne and Allen County history.

Debra Dudek



Debra M. Dudek is head of Adult and Teen Services at the Fountaindale Public Library District in Bolingbrook, Illinois. She holds a post-graduate certificate in genealogical, paleographic, and heraldic studies from the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland. Ms. Dudek is the book review editor of the Illinois State Genealogical Society, a board member of the Illinois State Historical Society, and the author of the *World War I Research Guide: Tracing American Military and Non-Combatant Ancestors*.

Janice Lovelace, PhD



Janice Lovelace, Ph.D. is a genealogical researcher, educator, author and lecturer, with over thirty years of experience. She completed the Genealogy and Family History certificate at University of Washington in 2012, the certificate program in genealogy at Boston University in 2013 and ProGen in 2014. Dr. Lovelace is a frequent speaker at international, national and regional genealogy conferences as well as local societies on health and genetics, ethnic minority genealogy, and research methodology. She is an instructor at the Midwest African American Genealogical Institute (MAAGI). A retired

college faculty member, Dr Lovelace authored the National Genealogical Society's online continuing education course *African American Roots: A Historical Perspective*. A freelance writer and photographer, she has a number of genealogy articles among her publications. She has been a national board member of the Association of Professional Genealogists (2019-2020) and has served on her local society's board. She belongs to the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and local societies. In her work life, Dr. Lovelace is a licensed clinical psychologist and has been a private practice therapist.

Jill Morelli, CG®



Jill Morelli, Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogy Lecturer, presents on intermediate and advanced methodologies, unique record sets, Swedish research, and writing family histories. Jill's writing has appeared in the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, *Illinois State Genealogy Society Quarterly*, *North Carolina State Genealogical Society Quarterly*, and *The Swedish American Genealogist*. She is presently working on a book about 46 unnamed orphan train riders who arrived in the fall of 1890 to Hamilton County, Iowa. In 2014, she launched a blog, *Genealogy Certification: A Personal Journey*, to coincide with her preparation to submit a portfolio to the Board for Certification of Genealogists. A firm believer in access to education for all, she started an [online class](#) to demystify the BCG portfolio submission process, provide an online portfolio library, and a mentorship/accountability program. She received the 2018 Federation of Genealogical Societies award of merit for the creation of this course. She recently cofounded the [Applied Genealogy Institute](#), focused on practicum-based learning in a small class atmosphere. In 2023, she received the National Genealogical Society award of merit for her "Exceptional Contributions to the field of genealogy." Jill is the past president of the Seattle Genealogical Society, co-chair of the Society's Centennial, and program director for her local PS-APG Chapter, among other memberships.

Sunny Jane Morton



Sunny Morton is a popular lecturer for the global genealogy community. She's a Contributing Editor at Family Tree Magazine and the author of hundreds of articles and blog posts, as well as the brand new book *How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records*, co-authored with Harold Henderson; *Story of My Life: A Workbook for Preserving Your Legacy*, and the quick reference guide, "Genealogy Giants: Comparing the 4 Major Websites." She is an official FamilySearch blogger and past Contributing Editor at Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems Podcast.

Cheri Hudson Passey



Cheri Hudson Passey is a professional genealogist, instructor, writer, and speaker and the owner of Carolina Girl Genealogy, LLC. She is the host of the genealogy chat show GenFriends and is a genealogical researcher, subcontracted by Eagle Investigative Services, Inc., for the US Army Past Conflict Repatriations Branch. She is a member of NGS, a past president of The Grand Strand Genealogy Club, and currently serves as its program chair. She is treasurer of GeneaBloggers and served as secretary for the Federation of Genealogical Societies before the merger with NGS where she currently serves as vice president, Society & Organization Management.

Katy Rowe Schurwanz



Katy Rowe-Schurwanz has always been interested in genealogy, inspired by her maternal grandparents, who told her stories about their family and family history when she was little. After studying anthropology and history in college, she joined FamilyTreeDNA in 2015 and became the trainer for customer support. Katy created and improved training processes and was fundamental in the creation of the Big Y specialist team. In September 2021, she became a product owner and has focused closely on improving FTDNA's genetic genealogy products.

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG®



Paula Stuart-Warren, Certified Genealogist® is an internationally recognized genealogical educator, researcher and consultant focusing on unusual resources, manuscripts, methodology, and analyzing records. She is a strong proponent of continuing education in the field of genealogy. She has researched onsite at the U. S. National Archives (multiple locations), Family History Library, Minnesota Historical Society, Wisconsin Historical Society, New England Historic Genealogical Society, and other state and local repositories in the U.S. from coast to coast. She has worked with several Native American Tribes and law firms on enrollment issues and researching tribal history and genealogy. From 1997-2018 she was a Course Coordinator for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and has lectured numerous times at National Genealogical Society and Federation of Genealogical Societies conferences, and in many states and Canada. Paula has taught at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh since its inception. She is a former officer of the Association of Professional Genealogists, former board member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society, past President of the Northland Chapter of the APG, and a former member of the Board of Directors of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). She has been named a Fellow of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and the Utah Genealogical Association in addition to other awards noted on her website. She is descended from eight ancestral countries and has researched family connections across the U.S. and Canada. Paula has written for *Ancestry*, *FGS*, *NGS Magazine*, *New England Ancestors*, *Minnesota Genealogist*, *Findmypast.com*, and currently has her own website and blog, *Genealogy by Paula*, <http://genealogybypaula.com/>