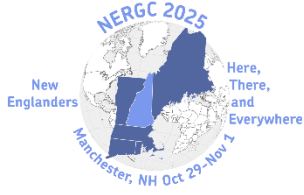


# 18<sup>th</sup> New England Regional Genealogical Conference



October 29-November 1, 2025  
Manchester, New Hampshire

E-zine 1 November 2024

**Welcome to NERGC 2025!** The New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc. (NERGC) invites you to join us at our eighteenth conference. After careful evaluation of the pros and cons of all conference formats, our Board has decided to prioritize the opportunities for social interaction offered by the in-person experience. We look forward to connecting with you—our fellow genealogists and family historians—*live and in-person at the DoubleTree hotel in Manchester, New Hampshire, October 29-November 1, 2025*, where we can share our stories, triumphs, challenges, methods, and resources.

The Conference Committee is planning special tracks and other events on Wednesday, regular conference presentations on Thursday through Saturday, as well as the Exhibit Hall, Ancestors Research Consultants, Society Fair, and other events. The conference hotel will have rooms available at the conference rate from Tuesday evening through Sunday night starting in January 2025.

Registration for NERGC 2025 hasn't begun yet, but you can start making plans now. Continue to follow our E-zines to keep up to date on the planning and the excitement of this conference.

## OUR 2025 CONFERENCE THEME

In keeping with our conference theme, "New Englanders Here, There, and Everywhere," the conference will feature presentations on:

- DNA methodologies and case studies
- New England records and repositories.
- Problem solving, methodology, and new approaches to traditional research.
- Sharing and preserving your family history through writing, photography, and digital media
- Research planning and project implementation.
- Technology: Providing solutions to improve genealogical research.
- Understanding historical context related to genealogy.
- Interesting uses of records including religious, civil, land, probate, military, maritime, and newspapers.

## THE CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS FOR NERGC 2025 IS OPEN!

Presentation proposals are welcome from now until midnight December 1, 2024, eastern standard time for the 18th New England Regional Genealogy Conference to be held at the DoubleTree Hotel, Manchester, NH October 29th- November 1st. 2025. We are looking for:

- 90-minute conference sessions that include 30 minutes of questions and answers.
- Mealtime presentations of 45 minutes.
- Two-hour workshops, a session in which all participants get the opportunity to utilize tools, websites, or techniques under the tutelage of the presenter with hands on activities in one of these formats: Guided Research, Flipped classroom, I do, we do, you do.

All in keeping with our theme: New Englanders Here, There, and Everywhere. You must submit your proposals through the NERGC program portal: <https://shorturl.at/wrHp5>.



## WHAT IS NERGC?

While many think of NERGC as a Conference, it is really much more. Formed almost 30 years ago to bring cutting-edge genealogical education to New England family historians, the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium, Inc., has produced seventeen conferences, meeting in every New England state at least once. Each conference is made possible by many hours of work by volunteers from the Consortium's Participating Societies. Here are some participants' comments from our past conferences:

- ❖ I love this conference. It is affordable and very helpful and honestly has gotten only better over time.
- ❖ I love how it is focused on New England research and the size. Sometimes the larger conferences give me ideas. But I find I get more from this regional conference.
- ❖ The vast knowledge and variety of the speakers.
- ❖ The quality of the presentations—you have some of the best public speakers I have ever encountered.
- ❖ [Loved] learning new methods and resources for research.
- ❖ The opportunity to network. There's no substitute for the energy of being with so many old and new friends.
- ❖ Quality and variety of lectures, opportunities for networking, in-person exhibit hall.
- ❖ You do a phenomenal job and can't think of anything that would be an improvement. Your team is excellent. The amount of coordination required to pull this conference off is extraordinary, and this humble participant can find no fault.

## PAT STANO-CARPENTER – VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



The Donna Holt Siemiatkoski Genealogy Volunteer Award is presented biennially to an individual who has provided outstanding volunteer service to the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium or its member societies, and as such to the field of genealogy, over and above the job to which they were elected or appointed to do.

At the NERGC 2023 Saturday banquet Genealogical Consortium President Dave Robison presented Pat Stano-Carpenter with the 2023 Donna Holt Siemiatkoski Genealogy Volunteer Award, in recognition of her long-time exemplary leadership, energy, and passion in support of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists and its mission. A strong supporter of NERGC, Pat has volunteered at every NERGC conference she has been

able to attend. In 2013 she co-chaired Librarians' and Teachers' Day with Karen Trearchis. She has actively recruited volunteers to help in many areas needed by NERGC. Pat continued supporting NERGC by chairing the Volunteers committee for NERGC 2017. In addition, she is an effective community ambassador and advocate for the field of genealogy and the joys of family history. Congratulations, Pat!

## MEET OUR NERGC 2025 FEATURED SPEAKERS

NERGC is excited to have three excellent speakers as our Featured Speakers for the 2025 Conference. Below is a short biography for each speaker as well as their expected presentations for our event.

### **Annette Burke Lyttle**



Annette Burke Lyttle owns Heritage Detective, LLC, providing professional genealogical services in research, education, and writing. She speaks on a variety of genealogical topics at the international, national, state, and local levels and loves helping people uncover and share their family stories. She is coordinator of the Foundations: The Research Process course and the Writing the Stories of Our Ancestors course for the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Annette is past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists and editor of The Florida Genealogist.

#### **Opening Session**

***How Advertising Caused Ancestors to Migrate***

#### **Additional Presentations:**

***Following Ancestral Migrations: Three Case Studies***

***How Settlers Guides Can Help Us Understand Our Ancestors Lives***

### **Diahan Southard**

Diahan Southard has been helping people use DNA to explore their roots for over 20 years. She started her career at the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation, which created the DNA database that became AncestryDNA. After witnessing the power of DNA for family history—and the difficulties people face in using it effectively—she launched a pioneering career in DNA education.

Over the last 20 years Diahan has given hundreds of lectures on DNA from Burbank to Oslo, London to Seattle, to crowds of tens to thousands. Diahan's talents for making DNA accessible, exciting and relevant are on full display as host of the PBS special, Your DNA Secrets Revealed. Diahan teaches on global platforms such as RootsTech, GenealogyTV and Legacy Tree Webinars. She appears on popular genealogy podcasts and is a DNA columnist for Family Tree Magazine.



**Thursday DNA Workshop – *Do the DNA***

**Friday Banquet – *How DNA Influences Our Identity***

**Additional Presentation**

***Combined Power of YDNA & Autosomal DNA: A Case Study***

## Cari Taplin



Cari A. Taplin is related to Roy Rogers. Or at least that's what her family told her. As a result, finding her true heritage has been her focus since the year 2000. She is a native of Wood County, Ohio but now lives in Longmont, Colorado. Cari holds the Certified Genealogist® credential and has served in a wide variety of volunteer and leadership positions for local, state, and national societies. As the owner of GenealogyPANTS, she writes a blog and provides speaking services. Cari currently works for Ancestry ProGenealogists. Her personal research focuses on midwestern and Great Lakes states.

***Saturday Banquet***  
***How Potty Training Helped My Genealogy***

***Additional Presentations***  
***Who Lives Next Door***  
***Using Lists to Find Proof***

There will be two additional talks per speaker to be selected from the Call for Presentations by the Program Committee. Stay tuned to see what the presentations are.

## MEET OUR CONFERENCE CHAIRS

### **Seema Kenney**

A wife, mother of 3, and entrepreneur, Seema is an experienced software instructor and a professional genealogist. Based on over 20 years of research, her known roots are deep in New England as well as England, Germany, and Sweden. Her DNA research has now added The Netherlands to that list.

Seema has a certificate in Genealogical Research from BU, completed ProGen and is an active member of several societies and part of the NERGC planning committee.



### **Diane Laferriere**

Diane Laferriere has been a board member of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc. since 2015. She has been doing genealogy research for her family and others since the early 1980s. Her ancestors first arrived in the United States in the mid 1800's from Sweden and Ireland. They would eventually settle and raise their families in the Merrimack Valley area of Massachusetts. In her professional life she works full-time as a Business Analyst.



### **Carol A. McNeil Bosworth**

Carol is a nursing professor and genealogist who has been doing family research since 1993. She has been affiliated with NERGC since 1994 through the Central Massachusetts Genealogical Society and has been a volunteer for the past 15 Conferences including serving as a Conference Chair of the 2011 and 2015 Conferences. In addition to CMGS, she is a member of the California Genealogical Society, Quebec Genealogical Society, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society and American Ancestors.



## SPONSORSHIP AND PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

Sponsors are the lifeblood of NERGC—our partners in keeping prices as low as possible. Through sponsorships, your organization/services are spotlighted for our genealogist attendees. Opportunities abound at all financial levels. These include:

- Sponsoring a meal or a lecture
- Underwriting special events during the conference
- Renting a booth in our Exhibit Hall, which allows interaction with attendees and the general public (and includes one single day pass to the conference)
- Taking out an advertisement in the conference syllabus
- Underwriting neck wallets, lanyards, or bag stuffers
- Donating small items for our Volunteers Raffle
- Participating in the Society Fair, or the Library/Archive/Museum Showcases

Email [President@nergc.org](mailto:President@nergc.org) to express your interest in any of these options. Your interest will be passed along to the volunteer organizing that particular portion of our event.

## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Remember – NERGC's events are built on volunteer hours. Whether you're attending the conference or live in the area, we can always use help!

Volunteers will be recruited to host and monitor on-site sessions, to work at the registration area, to provide rides to/from the Manchester airport, to help exhibitors move in/out, to help with miscellaneous administrative tasks, and who knows what else! Give an hour and you'll get much more in return.

### WANT TO RECEIVE THE E-ZINE?

The Conference E-zine, a digital newsletter which provides information and updates about the New England Regional Genealogy Conference, is sent periodically to all those on our E-zine email list. If you're not already receiving it and would like to do so, fill out the form <https://nergc.org/e-zine-sign-up-form/>

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