



On Friday, 27 October 2017, VGS, VBGS, and the staff at the Sargeant Memorial Collection, Slover Library, invite you to spend the day touring and researching in the Library. In addition, we invite you to attend a number of free lectures provided by Mary O'Brien Vidlak, Charles Grymes and Troy Valos along with other speakers from the Library as they share their knowledge of research strategies and Virginia history.

On Saturday, 28 October 2017, VGS, VBGS, and the staff at the Sargeant Memorial Collection, Slover Library, invite you to spend the day with Shannon Combs-Bennett and Sharon Cook MacInnes as they share their knowledge of basic genealogy, State and Federal records and researching with DNA.

Details on times, places, and prices for the above activities are included in this brochure.

About the Conference

FRIDAY PROGRAM – 27 October 2017

**Sargeant Memorial Collection, Slover Library
235 East Plume Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510**

10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Research at the Library - Library staff will be available to answer questions concerning the Library's collections and their use. Experienced researchers will be available to answer questions, provide individual assistance to beginners, and offer strategies for difficult genealogical problems.

Lecture Schedule

- 9:00-9:15 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. **Genealogical Signpost – Where to go to research?** – Troy Valos
- 10:15-10:45 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45-11:45 a.m. **Primer: Using City Directories and Sanborn Maps** – Troy Valos

11:45-1:30 p.m. **Lunch** (On your own)

1:30-2:30 p.m. **All Records Are Not Equal and Other Things I Wish I Knew When I Started Genealogy** – Mary O'Brien Vidlak

2:30-3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:00-4:00 p.m. **Who Were the First Neighbors of Virginia Colonists?** - Charles Grymes

Scanning Your Family Heritage - 4th Floor Slover Design Studio

9:15-10:15 a.m. **Basics**

10:45-11:45 a.m. **Advanced**

1:00-2:00 p.m. **Basics**

2:30-3:30 p.m. **Advanced**

Note: Friday sessions are free. Please register if you will be attending the Friday events at the Library. Register online at: www.vgs.org & click on "Register on EventBrite" or complete the registration (reverse side).

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Reception. Members of the VGS and VBGS Executive Boards, representatives from the Slover Library and conference speakers will "meet and greet" conference attendees.

ABOUT VGS

The Virginia Genealogical Society (VGS) was formed 7 October 1960. Our mission is to promote and foster family history education and research, publish genealogical information, and share accumulated knowledge. VGS fulfills this mission through its publications, its twice-yearly conferences, and its website <http://www.vgs.org>.

Members of the society receive the *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*, the *VGS Newsletter*, discounts to society conferences, and a 20% discount on most society publications. Membership in the society is \$35 per year for individuals (\$65 for two years and \$95 for three years) or \$40 per year for a family (\$75 for two years and \$110 for three years). For additional information about membership, please visit our website.

VGS is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, and contributions, in excess of annual dues, to VGS are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

ABOUT VBGS

The Virginia Beach Genealogical Society was founded in 1983 near the site of the first landing of the Jamestown colonists at Cape Henry. Although some members are primarily interested in local genealogy, most of the Society's membership, like the city of Virginia Beach itself, is drawn from both civilian and military families who have come here to live. As a result, this is a group with far-flung areas of research interest.

The Virginia Beach Genealogical Society was established for: aiding individuals in genealogical research and compiling family histories; providing lectures and instruction on how best to do genealogical research; and promoting an interest in genealogy throughout the community.

About SMC

The Sargeant Memorial Collection (SMC) is the premier source in the Greater Hampton Roads Region for researchers, historians, students and residents looking for local historical and genealogical resources.

The SMC boasts an extensive collection of images, maps, directories, newspapers and historical books. The collection also touts a highly dedicated staff, knowledgeable in genealogy, historic buildings, regional history and digital archiving.

The Sargeant Memorial Collection was created in 1927 as a memorial to William Henry Sargeant who was Norfolk Public Library's first librarian. He believed that libraries should have a space where local newspapers, city directories and materials about the locality should be kept for future generations.

Hotel Note: The conference hotel, Courtyard Norfolk Downtown, 520 Plume St., Norfolk, VA 23510, is offering a special room rate of \$109 (King) and \$119 (2 Queens) for the conference. Call (800)894-7956 to make the reservations (before September 26, 2017). Ask for the VA Genealogical Society conference rate. You will also receive a discounted parking fee of \$14.

We look forward to seeing you at the VGS 2017 Fall Conference!

Fall Conference Presented by the Virginia Genealogical Society (VGS), the Virginia Beach Genealogical Society (VBGS) and staff from the Sargeant Memorial Collection, Slover Library

27-28 October 2017

Genealogical Gems:



Hiding in Plain Sight

Norfolk, VA

Register online at: www.vgs.org & click on "Register on EventBrite" or complete the registration (reverse side) and mail to:

**VGS Fall Conference
P.O. Box 626
Orange, Virginia 22960**

Genealogical Gems: Hiding in Plain Sight

Speakers

Shannon Combs-Bennett, PLCGS, is an award winning author, lecturer and researcher based out of Northern Virginia. Currently Shannon is a staff genealogist for the National Society of Colonial Dames 17th Century located in Washington, D.C. in addition to her other genealogical endeavors. Shannon earned her BS in Biology with an emphasis in genetics from Indiana University and is currently working on her MSc in Genealogical, Heraldic and Paleographic Studies from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow. In addition to her degrees, Shannon completed the Boston University program and obtained her PLCGS – American Records from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies.

Sharon Cook MacInnes, Ph.D., CG, is currently a member of the NGS Board of Directors. She is an alumna of five national institutes and is a co-coordinator and instructor at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP). She specializes in Pennsylvania research, federal land records, and early German ancestors. She has written eight volumes of Early Landowners of Pennsylvania: Atlas of Township Warrantee Maps of *** County, and maintains the website at <http://ancestortracks.com> where she posts 19th-Century Pennsylvania landowner maps and atlases as a service. Sharon teaches a wide variety of genealogy skill-based topics and has presented at national, state, and local societies.

Charlie Grymes spent over 30 years with the Department of the Interior, working as park ranger, scenic easement administrator, budget analyst, information technology manager, manager of Internet-based outreach, and project leader for an electronic government project. He is now the Chair of the Prince William Conservation Alliance (www.pwconserve.org), which focuses on watershed protection, conservation of natural areas, and smart growth in a rapidly-suburbanizing county.

He teaches Virginia geography classes at George Mason University and is the author of the Virginia Places website (www.virginiaplaces.org). As a 10th generation Virginian (Leesylvania State Park is an old family plantation), he often wonders why those earlier generations did not buy land when it was cheap and hold on to it, providing him a large inheritance so he could have lived a life of luxury.

Mary O'Brien Vidlak, CG moved to Virginia in 2006 and changed her life. What had been a general interest in family

history turned into a passion when she found herself living near the homes of generations of her maternal ancestors. In addition to talking to every older member of her family whom she has been able to find, she has focused on developing the knowledge and skills needed to accurately identify individuals and families from the past.

Mary serves on the Board of the Virginia Genealogical Society, is co-editor of the Society newsletter, and is editor of SpringBoard, the blog of the Board for Certification of Genealogists.

In March 2016 she was awarded the designation of Certified Genealogist®. She spends her time doing research for herself and clients, writing, and lecturing on genealogy

Troy Valos is a native of Norfolk. He received his undergraduate degree in Social Science with a History Concentration from Virginia Wesleyan College in 2001. Troy holds two master's degrees, one in Information Science from University of Tennessee at Knoxville (2014) and second in History from Old Dominion University (2007). He currently is the Special Collections Librarian for the Sargeant Memorial Collection (Local History and Genealogy Collection) of Norfolk Public Library and has been working in the collection since 2004.

Speakers for this Conference were provided by funds from the Richard Slatten Endowment for Virginia History of The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia.

SATURDAY PROGRAM 28 October 2017

**Sargeant Memorial Collection. Slover Library
235 East Plume Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510**

Conference Schedule

8:30 a.m. **Registration**
9:00-9:15 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

Genealogy Basics (Track 1) Shannon Combs-Bennett

9:15-10:15 a.m. **(S-11) Crash Course on the Library of Virginia's website.**

10:15-10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45-11:45 a.m. **(S-12) A Beginners Guide to Genetic Genealogy.**

11:45-1:30 p.m. **Lunch** (On your own)

1:30-2:30 p.m. **(S-13) Deciphering atDNA Testing.**

2:30-3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:00-4:00 p.m. **(S-14) The Nuts and Bolts of Writing a Family History.**

Digging Deeper in Local and Federal Records (Track 2) Sharon Cook MacInnes, PhD, CG

9:15-10:15 a.m. **(S-21) Researching State Land Records for the 20 State-Land States: Deeds & Tax Records.**

10:15-10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45-11:45 a.m. **(S-22) Researching Federal Land Records for the 30 Federal-Land States, Including Military Grants.**

11:45-1:30 p.m. **Lunch** (On your own)

1:30-2:30 p.m. **(S-23) Getting the Most Out of Ancestry.**

2:30-3:00 p.m. **Break**

3:00-4:00 p.m. **(S-24) Using the FAN Club to Tear Down Brick Walls.**

Fall 2017 REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

(For confirmation only; it will not be sold or given to others.)

FRIDAY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

I plan to attend the **free** program on Friday.

Yes _____ **No** _____

SATURDAY CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

___ VGS/VBGS Member X \$35 = _____

___ Non-Member X \$45 = _____

After 17 September 2017, please add \$10

Total Enclosed: \$_____

Credit Card number: _____

(Visa/MasterCard/Discover only)

Exp. date: _____ CVV code: _____

(3-digit number on the back/front of credit card)

If credit card billing address and mailing address are not the same, please provide:

_____ **Billing street address** _____ **Billing zip code**

Signature: _____

_____ Cancellations after 17 September 2017 will not be refunded.

Help Us Plan Better! Mark your preferred Saturday lecture for each time slot to help us determine the best room size. (Don't worry! You can always change your mind later and attend a different lecture.)

9:15 AM	10:45 AM	1:30 PM	3:00 PM
S11	S12	S13	S14
S21	S22	S23	S24