



On Friday, 21 April 2017, VGS invites you to join our experienced researchers at the Library of Virginia, 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, Va., who will answer questions, provide individual assistance to beginners, and offer strategies for difficult genealogical problems.

On Saturday, 22 April 2017, VGS invites you to spend the day at the Four Points by Sheraton-Richmond Airport, 4700 S. Laburnum Avenue, Richmond, Virginia 23231 with Shannon Combs-Bennett as she shares her knowledge of Genetic Genealogy, DNA and Social Media.

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

**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.**

## DNA and Social Media Research Strategies

### 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>.

The VGS Newsletter, published six times each year, contains feature articles; announces meetings of interest to researchers in Virginia genealogy, both those sponsored by the society as well as by other organizations; includes book reviews; carries news of local Virginia historical societies, libraries, celebrations and points of interest; and publishes members' queries. The Magazine of Virginia Genealogy, published quarterly, contains abstracts and transcriptions of Virginia records.

VGS has also published numerous special publications. A list of these publications is available on the VGS website. Also on the VGS website are many of the back issues of the VGS Newsletter, a searchable database of queries published in the Newsletter, and links to genealogical websites for each of the counties and independent cities in Virginia.

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.

**Vendors of books, software, forms, and other items of interest to researchers will be available all day on Saturday. Be sure to visit them during the breaks. There will also be a Freebie Table with catalogs and brochures from genealogical businesses and organizations as well as door prizes.**

**We look forward to seeing you at the VGS 2017 Spring Conference in Richmond!**

Register online at: [www.vgs.org](http://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

**Virginia Genealogical Society's  
Spring Conference  
21-22 April 2017**



**DNA and Social Media  
Research Strategies**

# DNA and Social Media Research Strategies

Richmond, VA

## FRIDAY PROGRAM 21 April 2017

**Guided Research  
at the Library of Virginia  
800 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia**

### 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Experienced researchers will be available in Conference Room "C" on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Library to answer questions, provide individual assistance to beginners, and offer strategies for difficult genealogical problems.

## SATURDAY PROGRAM 22 April 2017

**Four Points by Sheraton-Richmond  
Airport, 4700 S. Laburnum Avenue,  
Richmond, Virginia 23231.**

The hotel is offering a special conference rate (\$100 + tax) for Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. The reservation line for the hotel is: (888)627-8644. Be sure to ask for the VGS conference rate.

A buffet lunch, which is included in your registration, will be provided on Saturday.

### Speaker

Shannon Combs-Bennett earned her BS in Biology from Indiana University with the aspiration of becoming a genetic counselor. Her career was put on hold and Shannon eventually turned her research skills to learning about her family. Shannon enjoys researching, writing, and lecturing on a variety of topics including, but not limited to, Virginia, social media, DNA, and lineage societies.

Shannon was the Family Tree University's Family Tree Firsts blogger from 2011-2012. Since then, she has become a columnist and Creative Director for The In-Depth Genealogist, continues as an FTU contributor, and is a published author. Her personal blog, Trials and Tribulations of a Self-Taught Family Historian, is where Shannon talks about her discoveries in pursuing her personal family history as well as anything else that she finds interesting.

Continuing to advance her genealogical education, Shannon has participated in many seminars and programs. For instance, she completed the Boston University Certificate program in the fall of 2013, was in ProGen class 24, and earned a PLCGS from the National Institute for Genealogical Studies in American Records in 2016. Currently she is enrolled in the genealogical Masters of Science program from Strathclyde University in Glasgow.

### Program

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 9:00-9:15 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. **Genetic Genealogy for the Beginner** - an introduction and overview of the world of genetic genealogy testing.
- 10:15-10:45 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45-11:45 a.m. **Creating a Research Plan for DNA Testing** – using a genealogical research plan as a template, learn how to integrate DNA testing into the frame work. Learn who you should look at for testing and why.
- 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. **VGS Annual Meeting** - Teresa Kelley, President
- 1:30-2:30 p.m. **Organize your DNA Data** – this lectures will include examples, tips and ideas to keep all of your DNA results organized and easy to understand.
- 2:30-3:00 p.m. **Break**
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. **Crowdsourcing Your Genealogy to Break Down Walls** – learn how to use various forms of social media, and crowd sourcing, to expand your paper and DNA research and break down brick walls in the process.

## Spring 2017 REGISTRATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (For confirmation only; it will not be sold or given to others.)

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

\_\_\_\_\_ VGS Member X \$44 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member X \$55 = \_\_\_\_\_

**After 1 April 2017, please add \$10**

\_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian Meal Requested

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**

S i g n a t u r e : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Cancellations after 1 April 2017 will not be refunded.

Mail to: VGS Spring Conference

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Orange, Virginia 22960