



# SOCIETY & ORGANIZATION MEMBER BENEFITS



NATIONAL  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY®

# WELCOME

As a member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS), your organization is an important part of a welcoming and supportive community building the future of genealogy and genealogical organizations.

Genealogy societies, family associations, libraries, archives, museums, and other institutions are the lifeblood of the family history and genealogy community. Long before the advent of the Internet, you served family historians and preserved precious records of our past. All across America, organizations such as yours are run by volunteers and staff who continue to serve family historians and the field of genealogy.

We are determined to support your efforts and we recognize that your financial resources are often limited. Any investment you make must yield vital dividends. That is precisely what membership in NGS offers you. Your leadership team has access to benefits designed to help your organization grow and thrive.

Use this guide to put your organization's NGS membership to best use and to ensure your leaders and key volunteers are part of this vibrant community. Thank you for all you do and for joining NGS!

With gratitude that you are a part of our community,  
NGS Board of Directors and Staff

# Practical Resources

Membership in NGS brings a number of valuable products and services to your organization. Many resources are free with your membership and available online.

## Directory and Logos

Let genealogists and family historians find your organization in the searchable NGS online database. Download a logo to show you're an organization member of NGS.

## Promotion and Giveaway

ConferenceKeeper.org is part of NGS. Submit your events for free listings. Organization members get a discount on paid ads and one free 30-day sidebar ad per year.

**NEW in 2026:** NGS will donate one free PDF of a Research in the States guidebook as a giveaway for one of your events.

## Forum Archives

Forum magazine was published 1989–2020 by the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). Organization members have full access to the entire collection.

## NGS Magazine\*

This respected magazine now includes a special section with content specific to societies and organizations as well as practical articles on family history records and columns on genetic genealogy, reference materials, and technology.

## NGS Quarterly\*

This leading scholarly journal is renowned for its case studies and genealogies, essays on methodology, and book reviews.

*\*Organization members have a limited license to use the Quarterly and Magazine as a library lending resource for access by one person at a time. This should not be used in place of an individual membership with NGS. Please contact NGS to discuss questions and how to manage this with your organization.*

## Bylaws Reviews

Organization members can receive a complete review of bylaws by Roberta “Bobbi” King, co-author of *The Bylaws Workbook: A Handbook for New and Established Societies*. A review does not offer legal advice but provides insights and suggestions based on a wealth of experience in the operation of genealogy societies and other organizations. In 2024, the fee was removed and this is now free.

## Exclusive Discounts

Get a bulk discount if your organization purchases five books or more by calling the office. There also is an offer for the Family History Conference.

## Family Matters

Family Matters Community Engagement Program and Outreach Toolkit includes the Vivid-Pix Memory Station™, marketing templates, and education. Request a toolkit loan to host free scanning events that reach new people and engage volunteers.

## How to Use Benefits

NGS asks every member organization to appoint two roles: a **delegate** and an **administrator**. Those people are the primary conduits for the relationship between your organization and NGS. The delegate and admin should be different people, but both roles can be linked to the same person if necessary.

**The admin manages your organization’s membership with NGS.** This includes online access to maintain contact information with NGS, pay dues, and ensure benefits are used.

**The delegate serves as the official representative of your organization to NGS and is your voice.** The delegate brings your needs and ideas to NGS, shares information from NGS with your organization, casts your organization’s vote for the NGS Board of Directors, and is a member of the Delegate Council (an advisory body within NGS).

**Find more info on both roles at [ngsgenealogy.org/delegates-admins](https://ngsgenealogy.org/delegates-admins).**

# Continuing Education

Your volunteer and staff leaders have access to exceptional education to help your organization grow and thrive. In addition, you can be a leader by sharing your successes with other organizations.

## Family History Conference

The NGS annual conference is dedicated to all things genealogy. Up to three people from your organization can each receive the discounted individual member rate to register if they're not NGS members.

## Courses, FOCUS, and OrgConnects! Events

FOCUS is a pre-conference event with in-person sessions to help strengthen and grow our community of organizations. OrgConnects! offers times to learn and connect via Zoom. **NEW in 2026:** GRIP Institute courses for societies and libraries.

## SLAM! Idea Showcase

Showcase creative projects and programs that will inspire others to follow your lead. All videos are shared on the NGS YouTube channel. Winners are awarded a cash prize!

## BoardSource® Resources

NGS curated a set of documents from BoardSource, a leader in nonprofit governance, that are designed to help your organization's board and committees with operations and performance.

## Videos, Book, Webinars

Access a variety of videos and recordings of NGS virtual events on our YouTube channel. The NGS website also has a society management book and archived webinars from the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

## Info & Answers Series

Tap into our Information & Answers series on management and outreach covering topics such as advocacy/lobbying, marketing, fundraising, membership growth, and newsletters. Share expertise and volunteer to update old papers.



# Working Together

Your organization is part of a community of genealogy societies, family associations, libraries, archives, museums, and other institutions. Your leaders and members have access to like-minded family historians and genealogists all working to make their organizations better and connect people to their family history.

## Delegate Council

The Delegate Council is “Building the Community of Genealogy Organizations through Collaboration, Communication, and Counsel.” Your organization should make sure you have a participating delegate.

## FORUM Roundtables

**NEW in 2026:** FORUM launches at the conference, then virtual roundtables for a variety of roles and topics will follow offering a space to collaborate on solutions to challenges and get inspired.

## Partnerships

NGS’s partnership with The Family History Guide brings free education and resources to your organization. NGS also works with WETA, the PBS affiliate producing *Finding Your Roots*, to create opportunities for you to partner with PBS stations on programs.

## Records Preservation & Access Coalition

As part of NGS, you are automatically part of the Records Preservation & Access Coalition (RPAC). In RPAC, our community works to preserve public records and ensure proper access to vital records. RPAC addresses public policy related to strong records preservation practices.

## Stern-NARA Gift Fund

The Stern-NARA Gift Fund finances preservation and imaging of valuable research materials now preserved in the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C. The Fund was established as a place for the community of genealogy organizations to contribute to preservation.



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[conferencekeeper.org](http://conferencekeeper.org)

Questions? Need to update a delegate or admin? Email Kate Smith at [ksmith@ngsgenealogy.org](mailto:ksmith@ngsgenealogy.org)

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