



NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY®

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Press Release

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For Release: 25 May 2018

National Genealogical Society Issues a Correction to its Announcement of the NGS Family History Writing Contest Award Recipients

FALLS CHURCH, VA, 25 MAY 2018—At the NGS 2018 Family History Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the National Genealogical Society (NGS) presented awards that acknowledge and honor genealogical scholarship and service during the final evening's banquet. Among them were the award recipients of the highly regarded Family History Writing Contest.

Unfortunately, the information provided to the NGS Board of Directors was incomplete. Only one winner was announced at the banquet when there were, in fact, two winners. Morna Lahnice Hollister's name and her award recognition were accidentally omitted from the final results and therefore her name was not announced. To clarify, the award for this year's Family History Writing Contest goes to two individuals:

Morna Lahnice Hollister of Simpsonville, South Carolina, with her entry, *The Kennedy-Burns Family of South Carolina and New York*.

Sharon L. Hoyt, MLIS, CG®, of Saratoga, California, with her entry, *Her Sixth Matrimonial Venture: The Many Marriages of Ida May Chamberlain*.

"On behalf of NGS and the NGS Awards Committee," President Ben Spratling stated, "I extend my sincere apologies for the mix-up that occurred in bestowing this prestigious award. I also wanted to publicly recognize Ms. Hollister and her fine work selected by the committee for the award. I extend my congratulations to both winners for their outstanding written family histories."

Ms. Hollister was also the recipient of the NGSQ 2014 Award for Excellence for “Goggins and Goggans of South Carolina: DNA Helps Document the Basis of an Emancipated Family’s Surname” published in the NGSQ September 2014.

Founded in 1903, the [National Genealogical Society](#) is dedicated to genealogical education, exemplary standards of research, and the preservation of genealogical records. The Falls Church, Virginia, based nonprofit is the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian, seeking excellence in publications, educational offerings, and guidance in research. It also offers many opportunities to interact with other genealogists.

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