



NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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Press Release

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Early Bird Discount Ends 20 March for 2018 Family History Conference

FALLS CHURCH, VA, 12 MARCH 2018—Time is running out for family historians to get a discount on registration for the National Genealogical Society (NGS) [Family History Conference](#) in Grand Rapids, Michigan, 2-5 May 2018. After 20 March 2018, the price of registration for NGS members will increase from \$215 to \$250 for all four days. Non-members will pay \$285, up from \$250. Genealogists also will no longer be able to order a printed syllabus or flash drive version of the syllabus. To qualify for the early bird discount, your registration must be received online or postmarked by 20 March.

The conference, "Paths to Your Past," will showcase more than [175 lectures](#) with some focused on immigration and migration, ethnicity, and paths, trails, and waterways our ancestors may have followed. The program will include all levels of genealogical skills from basic to advanced, including four days of the Board for the Certification of Genealogists (BCG) Skillbuilding lectures. The DNA track will feature twenty presentations on DNA discoveries, science, and methodology. Friday and Saturday will offer lectures on topics such as African American, Native American, religion, and organizations. Other tracks will include resources in Michigan, New York, midwestern states, Canada, and some European countries. With more than twenty tracks, participants will have a wide variety of lectures from which to choose.

The Family History Expo will include more than eighty exhibitors and be open to the public Wednesday through Saturday. Check the [website](#) for a list of exhibitors and the hours.

The NGS Conference will be held at the DeVos Place Convention Center and will run from 2-5 May. For conference information and to register, go to the [2018 NGS Family History Conference](#).

Social Events, Luncheons, and the NGS Banquet

Participating organizations sponsor several luncheons at which guest speakers will entertain and educate the audience, including:

- “Good Migrations in the Midwest”
- “My Infamous Ancestors”
- “Genealogical Mis-adventures from New York”
- “Paths to Your Past: Storytelling to Bring Us Together”
- “The Family Reunion”

The NGS Banquet is an event not to be missed. Guest speaker Ric Mixter, will be speaking about “Great Storms of the Great Lakes.” Mixter is a shipwreck researcher and historian, diver, photographer, explorer of more than 100 shipwrecks, and producer of more than thirty programs for PBS and the Outdoor channel.

Registration for all meals and social events closes on 20 April 2018. Tickets for social events will not be sold on-site. Be sure to [sign up](#) as quickly as possible. The Western Michigan Genealogical Society Host Event at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum is \$25; luncheons are \$30; the Exhibit Hall Barbecue Luncheon on Friday is \$25; and the banquet is \$45. Menus are in the [registration brochure](#).

Local Area Tours

Space is still available on all tours. Check the conference website for more information, please see [Local Area Tours](#). **Registration for the tours closes on 20 April 2018.**

Add Items to an Existing Registration

To add meals, tours, and pre-conference events to your current registration, log on to the [NGS website](#), click on My Account, select My Events, and then click to Add Sessions.

We hope to see you in Grand Rapids in May!

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. Please visit the [NGS Pressroom](#) for further information.

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