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Field of Forensic Genealogy*

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2016 FGI is almost here!

The Forensic Genealogy Institute (FGI) will be held 10-12 March 2016 at The Menger Hotel at the Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas. Tuition for each course is \$445, which includes 20-22 hours of instruction by expert forensic and genetic genealogists in three days.

FGI 2016 will be the first ever hands-on seminar offering of forensic genealogy for intermediate and advanced genealogists. FGI features two practicums designed to provide hands-on instruction. The three-day Institute will include the following:

- Thursday all attendees will learn about marketing their business with marian Pierre-Louis as well as how to draft effective client contracts and structure their business with Michael Ramage, J.D., CGSM
- Friday and Saturday the attendees will attend one of the two following practicums:
 - Advanced DNA Practicum: a two day Genetic Genealogy Practicum for Unknown Parentage Cases with CeCe Moore (see prerequisites)

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2016 FGI is almost here!

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- Forensic Genealogy Practicum
 - Friday – Unknown Heirs Practicum: Methodologies from Intake to Completion with CAFG member, Michael S. Ramage, J.D., CGSM
 - Saturday – An Introduction to Forensic Techniques for Genetic Genealogy with a popular instructor, Debbie Parker Wayne, CGSM

The Advanced DNA Practicum will be taught by renowned genetic genealogist CeCe Moore. This course allows attendees to have the opportunity to work through real-life case studies. (Prerequisites and full course details for this class can be found at <http://www.forensicgenealogists.org/institute/>).

The Forensic Genealogy Practicum offers practical, real-life experience in forensic genealogy. Students will leave the course having written a marketing plan and a contract for their business. They will also work a real forensic case from start to finish and be introduced to genetic genealogy's role in forensic genealogy. Full course details are available at <http://www.forensicgenealogists.org/institute/>.

Courses are filling, so registration is encouraged at <https://fgi2016.eventbrite.com>.

Business Card Exchange and Reception

The FGI Reception will be held on Wednesday evening, March 9th at 7pm where we will have a business card exchange and meet our fellow registrants.

For all of you attending this year's Forensic Genealogy Institute, be sure to bring at least 75 business cards with you. There will be students, instructors and event organizers to meet.

We are planning on some entertaining activities at Wednesday night's Icebreaker to kick off FGI 2016, and the business card exchange is just part of the fun. You'll have the opportunity to meet and mingle with professional colleagues from across America!

You will also want to be sure to bring at least one extra card to drop in the bowl for the door prize drawing at the Icebreaker. Read more about the door prizes on page 3 of this issue.

FGI 2016 Scholarship Winners Announced!

It is with great pleasure that CAFG announces Victoria Young, Melissa Ellis and Mary Eberle as the recipients of the 2016 Forensic Genealogy Scholarship. We are very pleased to have Victoria and Mary attend this year's "Forensic Genealogy Practicum" and Melissa is attending this year's "Genetic Genealogy Practicum for Unknown-Parentage Cases" course. We also want to give a special thanks to Leslie Brinkley Lawson for her generosity in donating two additional scholarships that CAFG is awarding for the institute.

FGI Door Prizes Announced!

CAFG has received some excellent door prizes for this upcoming event, and the list continues to grow. At this time the following door prizes have been donated:

- **Ancestry.com** - 2 semi-annual US Discover individual memberships
- **AncestryAcademy.com** - 1 annual subscription
- **Newspapers.com** - 2 annual subscriptions
- **Fold3** - 2 annual subscriptions
- **23andMe** - 2 DNA kits
- **RootsMagic 7** – 1 software package
- **FindMyPast** – 4 twelve month World subscriptions
- **FamilyTreeDNA** – 1 DNA Family Finder Test or credit for \$99 to another test

President's Message

I am very humbled and honored to assume the role of President for 2016. I am deeply grateful to our Past President and board members for giving their leadership and contributions to CAFG for the past 4 1/2 years. I am also inspired by the current board and their dedication and commitment to CAFG and its continued success. I am confident that we will be steadfast in addressing the pressing challenges and growing awareness of Forensic Genealogy. I look forward to working with each committee volunteer to accomplish our goals and contribute to the overall mission of CAFG.

I also encourage our members to share their ideas and views with us. Also, please let us know about your successes to include in this newsletter or to submit an article to be published here.

Lastly, one of our goals is to bring together everyone in the field of forensic genealogy at our annual Forensic Genealogy Institute. We are going to work diligently this year to expand the variety of topics and speakers presented at FGI next year. Attending educational conferences is a way to network with other professionals. I look forward to meeting each of you at future FGI's.

Menger Hotel Information



This year, the Forensic Genealogy Institute is moving to a brand new venue – the historic Menger Hotel in San Antonio, Texas! This hotel, the oldest continuously operating hotel west of the Mississippi, is conveniently located next to the historic Alamo and adjacent to the Riverwalk and Rivercenter Mall, with numerous shopping and dining options.

FGI attendees can stay at the Menger Hotel for the discounted room rate of \$135 per night (plus tax), while availability remains. This price is for single or double occupancy and rooms with 1 king-sized bed or 2 queens-sized beds are available. This discount is available for the nights of March 9-12. Each guest room includes complimentary Wi-Fi and valet parking.

Reservations can be made by calling the Menger Hotel directly at (800) 345-9285. Please mention CAFG Forensic Genealogy Institute to receive the discounted rate. See the CAFG website for more details at: <http://www.forensicgenealogists.org/institute/hotel/>. **Register soon as the room block prices ends on February 15th!**

Membership News

CAFG Member, **Helen Haldeman Daglas**, co-wrote an article with CeCe Moore titled “Are You Ready to Add Genetic Genealogy to Your Professional Services?” that was included in the September 2015 APG Quarterly.

CAFG members, **Cathi Desmarais, CGSM, Michael Ramage, J.D., CGSM, Kelvin Meyers, Amber Tauscher and Bethany Waterbury** will be teaching “Fundamentals of Forensic Genealogy” at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP) June 26, 2016 to July 1, 2016 at La Roche College, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

CAFG members, **Cathi Desmarais, CGSM and Amber Tauscher**, will be teaching the course “The Coaching Lab: From Inquiry to Affidavit” at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG) in Salt Lake City 22-27 January, 2017.

Congratulations to **Sheila Benedict** for moving up to Level III!

We are excited to announce that **Charlene Pipkin** and **Dee Dee King** have rejoined CAFG!

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