

## Long distance learning course graduates

Education is at the center of the NGS mission. The most important tool in the NGS educational program is the distance-learning course, *American Genealogy: A Basic Course*. The following graduates recently completed the course. Each of them has successfully mastered one of America's unique educational opportunities. We want to congratulate them and wish them the best as they use their newly honed skills to find their ancestors.

Laurel Baty	Columbia, Maryland
Alice Veen	Bouton, Iowa
Allison Fuehrer	Parker, Colorado
Sharon Hoyt	Saratoga, California

## "Paths to Your Past" video

In November 2009, NGS released *Paths to Your Past*, a twelve-minute video documentary in which noted genealogists and family researchers tell why they are passionate about researching their family history. *Paths to Your Past* was produced by award-winning cinematographer Allen Moore at the NGS Family History Conference in Raleigh in May 2009 and on location at the National Archives, the Alexandria (Virginia) Library, the Maryland Historical Society, and other research sites. The documentary video may be viewed online at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org> under the Videos and Publications tab; it is also available on DVD. NGS also offers a companion publication, *Paths to Your Past*, which provides an overview of how to begin your family research. The fifty-page soft cover book, or a downloadable PDF version, can be purchased online at the NGS Store.

## 2010 NGS election

The NGS nominating committee has selected the slate of officers and directors for the 2010–12 term. The nominating committee members are Marty Hiatt, CG, chair (Virginia); Peter Broadbent, JD (Virginia); Patricia O'Brien Shawker, CG (Maryland); Lloyd Bockstruck (Texas); and Daniela Moneta, CG (Arizona).

## Scanning announcement—2010 NGS Family History Conference

Ancestry.com will provide NGS Conference attendees the opportunity to have their family photos and documents scanned at the conference, for free, on its professional scanning equipment. It's a unique opportunity to have your family history records digitized!

Conference attendees can sign up for fifteen-minute scanning sessions Wednesday, 28 April through Saturday, 1 May, to be held during the exhibit hall hours. Scanning-session sign-ups will open each morning, i.e. sign up Wednesday morning for a Wednesday time slot, Friday morning for a Friday time slot. Details on the scanning room location will be available later.

Will you be bringing items to scan? Please help us plan accordingly by letting us know how much and what you'll be bringing at <http://2010NGSscanning.eventbrite.com>.

## Scanning details you'll want to know

### Document types accepted

- We can scan any document type, but the maximum size supported is 22" by 15". Any type of photograph, including tintypes, is accepted. Unfortunately we cannot scan slides.
- More recent photographs or stable documents can be scanned at a much quicker rate on our high-speed scanner—meaning that you can have more documents scanned during your scanning session. Fragile or historical documents, photographs, and bound books or albums will be photographed.
- Copyright and re-publishing rights for the material are strictly the responsibility of patrons, but we reserve the right to reject any document for any reason.
- There is always a possibility that damage to older, more fragile documents may occur during the scanning process. Ancestry.com urges patrons to use their best judgment when choosing documents to be scanned.

### Document preparation

- Before your scanning session, please remove all staples, pins, and fasteners as well as any