

## NGS Week

The week started off a little shaky with some of us new delegates only receiving part of the information. They quickly remedy this and we had a wonderful day full of information and updates on each other's societies or libraries. The formation of the new Delegate Council should provide great opportunities for everyone's needs and support from NGS as to the needs of smaller organizations and support they might assist with. In conclusion we all agreed "we aren't alone" in our adventures to reopen our doors, encourage volunteers, new technology and manage the ups and downs of genealogical societies.

NGS will be adding a "Higher Logic" – how we can collaborate with other organizations. They are planning on four delegate meetings a year. They set up a Facebook group for us to communicate and collaborate on any situations we may have or wish to discuss. This has already been beneficial others.

Meeting other delegates and hearing about other's pro's and con's they have endured over the last year plus was reassuring and motivating. We definitely are not alone in our adventures during the pandemic.

The Focus on Societies offered some interesting information. Focused Learning and Collaboration: Special Interest Groups in Your Genealogical Society offered some fun ideas to add more to our education program. There were a few new ideas, I was thrilled to learn we are similar to other societies.

The session on Event Management Intro for Local Genealogy Societies was mostly focused on large seminars and software (not virtual equipment). There was a push from most of the attendees for information on hybrid equipment which was not provided. I felt the information was focused more on events over 100 plus attendees. Having helped a little with our seminars I concluded that Andrea Patterson ROCKS! And has done a wonderful job at organizing our seminars!

The last session was Don't Reinvent the Wheel: Use the TxSGS Preservation Capture System for Your Society's Digitization. This was an interesting program that the Texas State Genealogical Society has developed. The program is exciting in that they can scan / digitize documents up to 36" by 48". They partnered with another society, obtained a grant and built a wonderful system. They have a great team of volunteers that work together on the digitization that includes some of the high school and college students.