

GG 2021-2022 Email #6 to State Points of Contact March 7, 2022

I have just returned from the Spring Leadership Meeting and I have several items of interest to you.

As of Thursday, 3 March, the most recently reviewed new application was received on 29 Nov 2021. The most recently reviewed supplemental application was received on 20 May 2021. President General Davis Wright and the Executive Committee – along with many others – share my concern over this delay. He directed me and Executive Director Don Shaw to develop solutions and to report back within a month. Stay tuned.

Since I became Genealogist General there have been 306 applications pended. It is of great concern to me that 81 of these were pended for “state level errors.” These are ones that could easily be detected before sending the application to national. They include:

- DAR record copies printed such that the bottom 3 inches are cut off
- Submitting chapter copies of DAR records
- Missing documents, including applicant’s birth certificate
- Illegible or incomplete documents

State registrars, it is your responsibility to review applications before sending them to national. While “state level errors” have come down a little, they still represent 25% of pended applications. I’m sure you agree with me that is too many and I again ask for your help. Each pended application delays every application after it.

A change was adopted to the Genealogy Policies to allow an increase in the use of DNA-related proofs. Previously DNA-related proofs were limited to connecting generations 1 to 2, only. This has been extended to now allow connecting generations 1 to 2 OR generations 2 to 3 only. The other requirements for use of DNA remain unchanged. The Genealogy Policy Manual will be updated shortly to reflect this change.

Another approved change directly affects people sponsoring applications. We are announcing an enhanced Liberty Medal Award. Previously, the Liberty Medal was awarded to members who were first-line sponsors of 10 approved new member applications. At the upcoming Annual Congress, you will be awarded a bronze Liberty Medal for sponsoring 10 approved new member applications as before. For each additional 10 new members up to 90, you receive an oak leaf cluster and recognition of your cumulative new member sponsorships. At 100, you’ll receive the new silver Liberty Medal and for 200, you’ll receive the gold Liberty Medal. Of course, each intervening 10 new members will bring an oak leaf cluster. I think this will be a great recognition of those Compatriots who are consistently generating new members over a period of years. You Liberty Medal awardees generate 65% of our new members. Thank you and keep up the great work!!

Work is underway in the Genealogy Committee to revise the Application Preparation Manual. This will be a major upgrading, probably available in the Fall.

The recording of Genealogy FAQ #3 is now available. The link to view it on YouTube is: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yakaggGzAQ>. The next video in our series, FAQ #4, will be scheduled shortly. Look for an announcement. I’m very pleased with the number of people who tuned in live and who viewed the recording. That’s nearly 300 people.

Any comments? Just hit reply.

Bob Fish
Genealogist General, NSSAR