Bios for Board candidates

Paul Cripwell

Paul Cripwell was born in England in 1952, emigrated with his family in 1953, and has lived in Ottawa ever since. For 14 years at NavCanada he was responsible for the analysis of air traffic and the revenue that accrued, and then forecasting the future revenue of the corporation.

Paul started his family history journey after retiring from NavCanada in 2018, and it has proven to be everything he needs to keep him busy. Paul has used his data analytics skills in his genealogy research to tease tidbits of knowledge from the many sources available. He enjoys the complex problem-solving and finds it a truly never-ending project!

Paul is currently the managing editor of Anglo-Celtic Roots.

Margie Kolesar

Margaret Carney Kolesar (Margie) has volunteered as Secretary for BIFHSGO, bringing over three decades of passionate genealogical research experience. Having traced her own family roots back to Great Britain and Ireland, she understands firsthand the excitement of discovering new ancestral connections and the meticulous record-keeping required for successful family history research.

As an avid researcher who thrives on uncovering new information, Margie also serves as a Director at Large for the Ontario Genealogical Society's Kingston Branch, demonstrating her commitment to supporting the broader genealogical community. Her organizational expertise comes from 15 years of running her own business and over 20 years of managing the financial records for the family ranch, skills that translate perfectly to maintaining accurate society records and correspondence.

Now mostly retired, Margie is excited to dedicate more time to helping fellow researchers explore their British Isles heritage and supporting the society's mission of preserving and sharing genealogical resources.

Kathryn Potter

Kathryn Potter is a senior instructional design consultant and communications professional who has applied her skills across many industries (high technology, finance, energy, aerospace, publishing, insurance).

Kathryn works full-time as an instructional designer/technical writer/business analyst. She has worked as a newspaper reporter, health care editor, instructor at Simon Fraser University, legal publishing technical writer, and genealogical researcher. Her areas of specialty include eLearning, Instructor-led training, blended learning, and training delivery.

Kathryn has a BA in English, a graduate degree in journalism, a P.L.C.G.S. in Canadian Records and General Methodology, and is a certified online facilitator. She has just completed a four-year term as the Program Coordinator for the Quinte Branch of Ontario Ancestors.

In the near future, Kathryn will join the ranks of the retired and is looking forward to spending time with family, friends, and her beloved beagle Archer. She is also anticipating being able to spend more time on family research and volunteering.