

Lafayette Genealogical Society

General Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2026

Call to Order-

The monthly meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society was held Thursday, February 19, 2026 at the South Regional Lafayette Public Library located at 6101 Johnston Street. The meeting was held at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room. Julie Hernandez, President called the meeting to order. She led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence to honor all who are deceased, including our ancestor members who are no longer with us.

A welcome was extended to all present.

Approval of Previous Minutes-

The President announced that the minutes for November 2025 meeting were online and available for review on the Lafayette Genealogical Society www.LALGS.org website.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. There was a unanimous vote in the affirmative to approve the minutes as posted on the LGS site, and to dispense with the reading November 2025 minutes.

Treasurer's Report-

Beginning balance \$3,824.70. Current balance is \$4,344.70, after expenses of \$92.40 for Christmas banquet meats.

New members and Anniversaries by month are available by request from the Treasurer, Joan Boudreaux.

Motion by Joan to give lifetime membership to those who have been members for 25 years. Motion was approved.

Motion to accept this report.

Old Business-

Genealogy Tuesdays-Volunteer Assistance Project – Downtown Library, 9:30 – 11:30 every Tuesday on the third floor in the genealogy area – provide assistance for beginners and experienced researchers.

Genealogy 101-First Saturday of every month. The next date is Saturday, March 7th. There will be no 101 sessions on the first Saturday of April, June and July.

New Business-

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 19, 2026.

The Acadian Memorial Heritage Festival will be March 20th through the 21st, 2026. For the past several years, our Society has been manning a station to provide genealogical/ancestry information to anyone attending the festival. Volunteers to assist at our table would be appreciated.

The New Iberia Spanish Festival will be April 17th through the 19th. There is a Genealogy Display showing the Spanish families which is in the Sliman Theatre, on Main street in New Iberia

Our group has been talking about getting our meetings on line in a format which can be viewed by our members. There are costs associated with the project and there will be time limits with doing this, so it's been suggested that we only post our speakers presentations. Henry Peterson has come up with a plan.

Featured Speaker-

Shera LaPoint, a Kaplan native, is a **Forensic Genetic Genealogist with DNA Labs International** and the founder of the Our Roots Genealogy and DNA Network. Since 2016, she has helped adoptees and individual of unknown parentage discover their biological families and has worked with law enforcement agencies in Louisiana and Texas on unsolved cases. She has also served as a consultant on **the BTK Task Force** and appeared on Crime stories with Nancy Grace. Her presentation tonight is Solving a 29 year old Cold Case using DNA.

Adjournment-

There being no further business, a motion was made to adjourn, seconded and agreed upon to end the meeting.

This concludes the statement of the minutes of the February 19, 2026 meeting of the Lafayette Genealogical Society.

Liz Hebert, Secretary