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Suncoast Genealogy Society

25 Jan 2025 Membership Meeting

1:30-4:00 pm, Palm Harbor Library
1:30 SGS Meeting, 2:00 Program
Speaker live

Finding Capt. Yager:

The Curious Case of the Yavapai Rock Collection



Speaker: Christine Fiechter



In 2002, a mother from Yavapai County, Arizona, stumbled upon what appeared to be a human jawbone within her child's rock collection. The Yavapai County Sheriff's office faced a perplexing challenge in determining the origin of this unexpected discovery, lacking any clues as to when or where the "rock" had been added. Fast forward to July 2023, when the investigative genetic genealogists at Ramapo IGG Center began DNA analysis in an effort to identify whose jaw this was. This case study will examine the challenges of piecing together an identification without the aid of timeframe or geographic context. The surprising results leave some remaining questions.

Christine Fiechter, a seasoned genetic genealogist since 2016, combines over 30 years of documentary evidence research expertise with a passion for unraveling genetic mysteries. She is experienced in using genetic genealogy to identify unknown parentage and as an investigative lead-generating tool for law enforcement, attorneys, and medical examiners. Christine currently owns PinPoint DNA, LLC, a genetic genealogy solutions company. She has nonprofit management experience and actively contributes to the genealogy community by volunteering with the DNA Doe Project, the InVGene Initiative, and the Clearwater Colored Cemeteries (3C) Society and mentoring for the Forensic SIG of the Association of Professional Genealogists. Her relevant training includes Ramapo IGG Bootcamp, FIU's Fundamentals in Investigative Genetic Genealogy, University of New Haven's Forensic Genetic Genealogy Graduate Certificate, and Boston University's Genealogical Research Certificate. She holds an MSW from SUNY Albany and a BA in Psychology from Boston University.

For more information go to: www.SGSFL.com
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