TOUR GUIDES ASSOCIATION OF GREATER NEW ORLEANS, INC.

MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

November 2026

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President –

First Vice President –

Treasurer – Kristi Blackwell

Membership Registrar – LeaLea VanWinkle-Gisler

Corresponding Secretary – Mary Eshenour

Standards and Education Coordinator –

Recording Secretary – Dana Criswell

Newsletter Editor – Barbara Giangrosso

Licensed Guides – Authentic Experiences

ELECTIONS

A big congratulations to our newly elected Executive Board for the 2027-2028 term. We are all excited to be working together and looking forward to a productive couple of years.

President – Lesley Kane
1st Vice President – Candance Kagan
2nd Vice President – Donna Schulingkamp
Treasurer – Kristi Blackwell
Membership Registrar – LeaLea VanWinkle-Gisler
Recording Secretary – Dana Criswell
Corresponding Secretary – Barbara Giangrosso
Standards & Education Coordinator – Craig Henry
Newsletter Editor – Brandy Thill

MEET & GREET

This is going to be a whopper of an event. We have eight of our corporate members (DMCs and Tour Operators) who will be present to meet with you. Please take this rare opportunity to network with them, as well as fellow members, and our new Executive Board members. There will be plenty of food and drinks and maybe some surprises.

This event will be hosted by our Membership Registrar, LeaLea VanWinkle-Gisler who has generously offered the use of her beautiful home.

Register here: https://www.tourguidesnola.org/november

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Thursday, December 19, 2026
Briquette Restaurant, 701 S. Peters Street
3-course dinner
Complimentary champagne

Cash bar
Door Prizes
50/50
Swiss Cake
$70/per person
Guests of members are invited to join in the fun.

Registration forms will be published shortly.

Kristi Blackwell – Treasurer

Heads up! The process on how to obtain the NFTGA tour guide liability insurance will be changing for 2027. We are currently awaiting final instructions from NFTGA and as soon as we get them, we will be sending out a communication to the general membership.

LeaLea VanWinkle-Gisler – Membership Registrar

Looking forward to seeing everyone at my home on November 19 for the Meet & Greet. It will be fun, informative, and a great opportunity to visit with each other!

Membership renewal letters for 2027 will be mailed out soon. Be on the lookout for them. Membership renewal will open on our website on December 1. Please submit membership dues no later than December 31.

Barbara Giangrosso – Newsletter Editor/Webmaster/Social Media

ARE YOU GETTING TGAGNO EMAILS?

It has been brought to my attention that some TGAGNO members are not seeing our emails because they are ending up in Spam, Trash, or other folders. Please be sure to check ALL of your email folders every few days. You may or may not be aware that many email providers (Gmail and Outlook included) filter incoming emails into categorical folders. For example, Gmail has Primary, Promotions, Social, and Spam folders. Outlook has a folder called Bulk. Many recurrent emails (like newsletters) will end up in one of these folders. If you find legitimate emails in one of these folders, move it to your Primary folder or Inbox and this will "train" your email provider to accept these emails. You can also flag TGAGNO as a trusted contact. Please be sure to keep an eye on these folders. Email communications, especially our monthly newsletters, are our primary means of communicating pertinent information to you. It is important that you get these emails.

TRIVIA QUIZ

This month's trivia quiz pays homage to our October general membership meeting host – the Preservation Resource Center. Answer the questions below. Submit answers to nolaguideinfo@gmail.com. Everyone who correctly answers all the questions will be eligible to win their choice of book from our library.

1. In what year was the Preservation Resource Center (PRC) founded?
   a. 1966
   b. 1974
   c. 1984
   d. 1993

2. What is the PRC's primary mission?
   a. Promoting new downtown development
   b. Preserving historic architecture, neighborhoods, and cultural identity
   c. Managing city parks
   d. Operating public transit

3. What annual fundraiser was first held in 1975 to support the young organization?
   a. Julia Jump
   b. Holiday Home Tour
   c. Shotgun House Tour
   d. Design Luncheon

4. What workforce-development initiative helps train people in historic preservation trades through hands-on cemetery restoration projects?
   a. Crescent City Crafts Academy
   b. Bridge to Crafts Careers
   c. Preservation Apprentices Network
   d. Tomb Builders Build

5. Save our Cemeteries is partnering with community groups and the City of New Orleans on a current initiative to improve maintenance, drainage, and historical interpretation at which cemetery?
   a. Cypress Grove Cemetery
   b. Metairie Cemetery
   c. St. Roch Cemetery
   d. Holt Cemetery

6. What is one of the Preservation Resource Center's largest annual fundraisers?
   a. New Orleans Wine Festival
   b. Holiday Home Tour
   c. Spring Garden Expo
   d. Beams & Brews

7. During the COVID pandemic, the PRC encouraged residents and visitors to explore New Orleans through what type of program?
   a. Virtual cemetery tours
   b. Free self-guided digital neighborhood tours
   c. Streetcar scavenger hunts
   d. Riverfront history cruises

Answers to last month's quiz: 1.B; 2.C; 3.B; 4.B; 5.D; 6.C; 7.C

"The first thing you notice about New Orleans are the burying grounds – the cemeteries …… one of the best things there are here."
— Bob Dylan

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

November 19, 2026

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

MEET & GREET

127 Lavergne Street

Algiers Point



Contact Us

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