



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS
1981-2021

Newsletter

of the
Aurora Genealogical Society

Volume XLI, Number 6
November-December 2021

General Meetings

Tuesday, 23 November 2021, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom

No meeting in December

Tuesday, 25 January 2022, 1:30 p.m. in-person and Zoom hybrid

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AuroraGenealogicalSocietyCO>

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, November 23, 2021 @ 1:30 p.m.:

Mastering Online Genealogy

Presented by Dan Quillen, Author and Experienced Genealogist

Author, Dan Quillen, will share some of the highlights from his book, *Mastering Online Genealogy* from his series *Quillen's Essentials of Genealogy*. This journey will include topics that would be good for genealogists using online sources to learn and know. Note: Dan previously donated this book and others from his series to our genealogy library.

No meeting in December – Happy Holidays

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 @ 1:30 p.m.:

Member Sharing

Presented by Aurora Genealogy Society Members

Our January meeting will feature society members participating in a show and tell of artifacts and discoveries. Bring a favorite item or story and share its significance with your fellow sleuths.

Happy Thanksgiving



Aurora Genealogical Society Library

Aurora Central Library, Main Floor
14949 E. Alameda Pkwy., Aurora, CO 80012
303-739-6686

Our holdings can be found at
www.librarything.com/profile/AuroraGenSociety

Open to the Public

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
or by Appointment,
e-mail agslibrarian@gmail.com

If unvaccinated, masks are required
If vaccinated, masks are recommended

During inclement weather,
please call ahead to ensure we are open.

Aurora Genealogical Society of Colorado
 P.O. Box 31732
 Aurora, CO 80041-0732
 303-739-6686
 e-mail – aurgs1981@yahoo.com
<https://auroragenealogysociety.webs.com>

ELECTED OFFICERS

President pro-tem	Judy Keilman
Membership Vice-President	Judy Keilman
Program Vice-President & Publicity	Judy Holtus
Recording Secretary	Jeff Adams
Treasurer	Dick Kautt
Corresponding Secretary	Marion Baumann

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Archivist	Marion Baumann
Genealogist	Vacant
CCGS Delegate	Jeff Adams
Computer Technical Support	Vickie Smejkal
Librarian	Alice Jablonski
Newsletter Editor	agslibrarian@gmail.com
	Gail Arnert
	gailarnert@yahoo.com
Newsletter Technical Support	Lori Holtus
Parliamentarian	Judy Keilman
Website	Jennifer O'Bayley

We welcome articles for publication provided:

- 1) They have a general interest to furthering our members' research, i.e., websites, articles on research facilities near and far, your research trips, etc.
- 2) They have a Colorado connection, preferably Aurora, Arapahoe and Adams counties.
- 3) If not your original work, sources must be cited.
- 4) If a copyright is involved, you must include written permission from the owner of the copyright.

E-mail articles to aurgs1981@yahoo.com or to any elected officer. The editor reserves the right to accept or reject any material submitted. Publication deadlines are the 15th of December, February, April, June, August, and October.

This Newsletter is distributed to libraries and genealogical societies throughout the United States. This publication is also indexed in the Periodical Source Index (PERSI) published by the Allen County Public Library Foundation, Box 2270, Fort Wayne, IN 46801.

*Read the best books first,
 or you may not have a chance
 to read them all.*

- Henry David Thoreau

Message from the President

After being President of our Society for over ten years, I have submitted my resignation to the Board effective immediately. I recently spent eight days in the hospital and the diagnosis was life changing. I am stepping back from several organizations I have actively supported for many years to concentrate on my health. Although resigning as President, I will continue as Newsletter Editor. According to our bylaws, a special election shall be held when a vacancy occurs in the office of President for the unexpired term. Stay tuned for more information.

It's time to renew your membership for 2022. An application is on page 43 of this newsletter. Please mail all renewals to the P.O. Box. Remember, if you are 90 or older, no dues are required. Of course, if you would like to donate to one of our funds that would be great. Please return the membership renewal form so we can continue to send you newsletters and invite you to meetings.

2021 continues to be a memorable year. From the country sort of reopening as the pandemic continues to the memorials commemorating 9/11 – I believe most of us knew where we were and what we were doing on that fateful day. For me it's hard to believe it's been 20 years.

We will continue with Zoom board and membership meetings through the end of the year, and in 2022 we will do hybrid meetings. For evening meetings we will continue with Zoom as with bad weather days as needed.

Enjoy the holidays. Listen to and record family stories being shared. Put genealogy related items on your wish list and maybe you'll get lucky.

See you at the meetings.

Gail

Aurora Festival of Wreaths

AGS will again participate in the Aurora History Museum's 22nd Annual Festival of Wreaths. Judy Keilman created the below wreath for us. Wreaths will be displayed at the Aurora History Museum 2 Nov – 10 Dec 2021 for people to enjoy while online bidding takes place. All bidding is online at <https://www.biddingowl.com/Auction/home.cfm?auctionID=9086> beginning 2 Nov 2021.



Newly Appointed Board Position

At the 2 Nov AGS board meeting, a new appointed board position was created – Computer Technical Support. Vickie Smejkal was nominated and approved to fill this position effective immediately.

As our Computer Tech Support, she will coordinate and host all Zoom meetings to include hybrid meetings with CCGS (our Zoom provider) obtaining releases as required. She will send out Zoom invites, to include handouts prior to to each meeting.

A little bit about Vickie – Vickie has been doing genealogy for over 30 years, has been a volunteer at the Family History Center for over 27 years, and has been the Director at the Aurora Family History Center for over six years.

Vickie provides classes at the center on the various functions of FamilySearch; as well as, other genealogical related presentations, and one-on-one training sessions with patrons.

In addition to her family history work, she has spent numerous years and continues to do so, working on the project she calls Block 12 Riverside – a pauper's site within Riverside's Pioneer Cemetery. She was also invited by the Fairmount Heritage Foundation to document all of the veterans interred at Riverside Cemetery. All of her documented subjects can be found on Findagrave.com and on her website RiversideCemeteryDenver.com

When Vickie isn't doing genealogy, she is making family history with her four generational household that includes her mother, daughter, three grandchildren, and one dog.

Please welcome Vickie to our AGS board.

Upcoming Events

(For more information, come by the AGS Library or go to the sponsoring Society website.)

Colorado Genealogical Society

www.cogensoc.us/

Beginner Genealogy classes are held on the second Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. You need to register in advance to get a confirmation e-mail about joining the meeting. Registering will make sure you are contacted with the Zoom meeting link. Carol Darrow is the instructor. Upcoming classes are 13 Nov and 11 Dec. Visit the Website for more information.

Save The Date –

14-28 May 2022 – NGS Family History Conference, *Our American Mosaic* will be held in Sacramento, CA. This will be an in-person conference at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center. The conference will feature more than 150 new genealogy lectures on a wide variety of topics.

NGS hopes that COVID-19 will not be a factor in May 2022; however, contingency plans

will be in place for any eventuality and to ensure the health and safety of registrants, sponsors, exhibitors, and staff. NGS is confident that they will have a strong and enriching program for everyone interested in family history research.

Go to <https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org> for more information.

* * * * *

From the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies (CCGS)

The Council fall meeting on 9 October 2021 was held via Zoom.

Kelly Glenn briefly introduced three new delegates: Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club, The Yellowstone delegates out of Billings, MT, and a delegate from Kalamazoo, Michigan. Kelly indicated these groups joined after hearing about and attending (via Zoom) the Society Management Workshop.

The treasurer, Jerry Schaefer, gave his report. A few highlights included: an ending balance on 30 September of \$11,357 and the savings account, otherwise known as the Birdie Monk Fund, stands at \$1,262. For a recap of the Society Management Workshop, Jerry stated that the income for the event was \$825 with expenses being \$1,406.

Bob Larson gave a summary of the 2021 Society Management Workshop:

- 20 classes were created for boards, chairs, and administrators
- 146 people registered from 46 different societies (with 90% attending online)
- They sold \$825 in sponsorship
- They raffled 26 door prizes worth about \$2,700

Jeff Adams, of AGS, announced to the group that AGS has a genealogical library located in the main library in Aurora. It is open to the public 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

There was more talk of creating specialty groups, such as German or Irish, for all societies

belonging to CCGS. For example, if two people in Aurora GS, two people in Archuleta GS, and a person in Longmont GS want to get together for an African American specialty group, that group could be created through the CCGS, etc.

President Marilyn Roberts declared Kelly Glenn the next (continuing) VP and Diana Dwyer the new Secretary. These are two-year terms.

The next meeting will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, 8 January 2022 via Zoom.

* * * * *

New in the Library

Check us out at www.librarything.com

1940 Coloradan[Yearbook], University of Colorado, pub 1940.

1960 Westerner, West High School, Denver West High School, 1960.

History of the Colony of New Haven to its Absorption into Connecticut, by Edwin Elias Atwater, 2010.

A History of James Island Slave Descendants & Plantation Owners: The Bloodline, by Eugene Frazier Dr., 2010.

Herencia; The Quarterly Journal of the Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of New Mexico, by Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of New Mexico, 2003 & 2004.

Burial Records, Baca County, Colorado, compiled by NSDAR Fort William Bent Chapter, 1994.

Pritchett, Colorado, by Mary B. Gamble, 1981.

Baca County, Colorado Probate Index, 1910-1992, compiled by NSDAR Fort William Bent Chapter, 1993.

From the Librarian

--- submitted by Alice Jablonski

An AGS member stopped by our library a few weeks ago, hoping for help with a tightly rolled marriage certificate of her grandparents. The paper was brittle and would crack if it was not unrolled by someone who knew how to do it. She was looking for a conservator (one who repairs or restores the condition of objects). A nice addition to our library is an index that was provided by Family Tree Magazine detailing their articles for the last 10 years. We were able to find an article about people in the business of document preservation and, believe it or not, one conservator was in Lakewood! The lady, Karen Jones 303-458-5944, was still in this business and she was able to restore the marriage certificate, so that it could be given as a gift. Although the certificate was missing a piece, the rest of it was beautiful once it was successfully unrolled and mounted for framing. With the spaces filled in for the marriage details, a mystery appeared – the couple was married in a different state than the one they lived in before and after they were married! Who would have known had this document not been restored? If you have a document or something precious that needs some restoration or repair, please keep Karen Jones in mind. You never know what gems you might discover!

November is Native American Heritage Month

A few ways to celebrate include:

- Read a book about American Indians.
- Watch a film/documentary starring American Indians.
- Try a native recipe.
- Check our AGS Library Indian section.

Lady Liberty, the Statue That Welcomed Millions of Immigrants to America, Turns 135.

--- EOGN, 2 Nov 2021

Since its dedication on October 28, 1886, the Statue of Liberty has stood at the gateway to the United States as an icon of freedom and hope for people all over the world. With her torch soaring 305 feet over New York Harbor, this impressive statue was often the first glimpse of the United States spotted by immigrants arriving by sea. Many of these immigrants were fleeing oppression, poverty, and despair, and the Statue of Liberty was their first welcome to the new life they were about to begin in the Land of Opportunity.

The Statue of Liberty was a gift to the United States from France. It was designed by Frédéric Auguste Bartholdi, and its metal framework was built by Gustave Eiffel (who also built the iconic tower in Paris that bears his name). The statue depicts Libertas, the Roman goddess of liberty, with a torch held high in her right hand and a tablet with the date of the U.S. Declaration of Independence inscribed in Roman numerals in her left.

*It is indeed a desirable thing to be well descended,
but the glory belongs to our ancestors.*

*--- from The Sunny Side of Genealogy,
compiled by Fonda D. Baselt*

A Gravestone Missing for Almost 150 Years Was Being Used as a Marble Slab to Make Fudge

--- EOGN. 27 Sep 2021

A turned-over gravestone served as the perfect surface to make fudge for a woman living in Michigan.

How the gravestone got inside the home in Okemos, Michigan, outside Lansing? Now that's a mystery, according to Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries (FOLHC) President Loretta S. Stanaway.

The monument was discovered in August on an estate auction site after the matriarch of the family was placed in a care facility for Alzheimer's, Stanaway said. A former citizen of Lansing recognized it was probably from a city cemetery and got in touch with the FOLHC, and they started investigating.

"The family hired an auctioneer to take care of the items," Stanaway told CNN. "As he was going through things, he saw this slab of marble in the kitchen and turned it around and discovered it was gravestone. The family told him they used it to make fudge. The family could not say how or when the gravestone got there.

Save the Date

16-18 June, 2022 – Palatines to America national conference to be held in Denver.

Lectures by Dr. Wolfgang Grams of Oldenburg, Germany and Daniel Jones, AG, German, Swiss and Slavic Research Specialist at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Registration information will be available in December and registration will begin in January 2022. For more information, visit copalam.us.

Happy Holidays



* * * * *

The linking of the generations, the historical lineage of family. the sharing of love . . . give purpose to life.

---Dr. George Landberg
--- from *The Sunny Side of Genealogy*,
compiled by Fonda D. Baselt



Aurora Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 31732, Aurora CO 80041-0732

Send check or money order made payable to AGS and this form to:

Membership Vice President, Aurora Genealogical Society, PO Box 31732, Aurora, CO 80041-0732

New _____ or Renewal _____ Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____
(Include your 4-digit ZIP code extension)

Level of Genealogical Experience: beginner intermediate advanced

I need help with: _____

Surnames being researched: _____

I will volunteer in the AGS library Yes No (training is provided for new volunteers)

May we publish your information in the newsletter or a membership directory? Yes No

E-mail Address(s): _____

Check here if you would like the newsletter e-mailed to you:

Membership Dues	\$	<u>20.00</u>	(90 or older no need to pay dues. please fill out and return form)
Donation to AGS Library Fund	\$	_____	
Donation to National Archives Gift Fund	\$	_____	
Donation to AGS Speaker Expense Fund	\$	_____	
Total	\$	_____	

THE AURORA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY of COLORADO meets monthly except in June, July, August and December. Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the month, Afternoon meetings are in Sep, Nov, Jan, Feb, Mar and May. Evening meetings are in Oct and Apr. Afternoon meetings begin at 1:30 pm. Evening meetings begin at 7:00 pm. Meetings are held at the Aurora Central Branch Library in the Community Rooms, or via Zoom. Meetings are open to the public.

Board of Directors meetings are held at 1:00 pm the first Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted) except June, July, August and December, in the AGS Library Room or via Zoom. Meetings are open to the membership.

Individuals/Families may join the Society upon paying annual dues of \$20.00 per mailing address. Annual membership starts January of each year. If you join September through December of any year, the membership includes the following year. Send your remittance along with a membership application, or your name, address and telephone number to:

Membership Vice President, Aurora Genealogical Society, PO Box 31732, Aurora, CO 80041-0732

All members will receive newsletters, electronically or via USPS.

Queries will be accepted for publication as space permits.



Aurora Genealogical Society of Colorado
PO Box 31732
Aurora, CO 80041-0732