



Newsletter

of the

Aurora Genealogical Society

Volume XLI, Number 5
September-October 2021

General Membership Meetings

Tuesday, 28 September 2021, 1:30 pm via ZOOM

Tuesday, 26 October 2021, 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Large Community Room
Aurora Central Library
14949 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO 80012

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

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, 28 Sep, 2021 @ 1:30 p.m. –
Gleanings from My DNA Test, presented by
Sandy Carter-Duff, Experienced Genealogist.

After presenting a brief overview of DNA testing, Sandy will discuss what she has learned about her testing results, including the point that tests confirm birth relationships, siblings don't inherit the same DNA, figuring out who your matches are as well as other findings. She cautions, don't test if you don't want to have surprises.

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m. -
Billion Graves, presented by Vickie Smejkal,
Experienced Genealogist

BillionGraves.com is a GPS driven site. The beauty of this program is its capability to pinpoint the geodetic location of our loved one and those buried near by – or – same surnamed persons located in other cemeteries (globally). This site is great when you are out and about and no curator is on site, as the Billion Graves app will lead you to the person you seek within a few feet, within a few minutes.

Wow! Both a free and a paid package are available.



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,
call 303-740-8440 or 303-755-1179

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
<http://www.freewebs.com/auroragenealogysociety>

ELECTED OFFICERS

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

APPOINTED POSITIONS

CCGS Delegate	Jeff Adams
Genealogist	TBD
Historian	Marion Baumann
Librarian	Alice Jablonski agslibrarian@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Gail Arnert gailarnert@yahoo.com
Newsletter Technical Support	Lori Holtus
Parliamentarian	Judy Keilman
Website & Facebook	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.

Message from the President

It's been a great, relatively meeting free summer. Have I worked much on my genealogy? Not really. I have been reviewing my previous research and finding a few holes I'm attempting to fill.

With the pandemic still nipping at our heels, your Board has decided to continue with Zoom board and membership meetings through the end of the year. So look for my Zoom email about 3 days before the scheduled meetings. I have email addresses for all but 3 of you. If you wish to attend via Zoom and receive the program handouts, send your email address to gailarnert@yahoo.com.

Be on the lookout in the mail for an AGS 40th anniversary remembrance.

It feels good to be getting ready for our first meeting. As usual, Judy Holtus has some great programs lined up to include repeat presenters Vicki Smejkal and Dan Quillen.

There are all-day seminars, workshops and special meetings coming up this fall. I'm sure you can find one of interest to you.

Looking forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings. Remember, all afternoon meetings start at 1:30 p.m. and are via Zoom in Sept and Nov. Our Oct meeting is at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Gail

Current Membership - 69

Upcoming Events

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

Check all websites for possible cancellations due to COVID restrictions

Colorado Genealogical Society ***www.cogensoc.us/***

Beginner Genealogy Classes are held on the second Saturday of each month, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. via Zoom. Classes are free but registration is required via the above website to access the class. You will be contacted with the Zoom meeting link. Upcoming classes are Saturdays, 11 Sep 2021 and 9 Oct 2021. Visit the website for more information.

Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies ***Society Management Workshop*** ***cocouncil.org***

The Council's semi-annual Society Management Workshop will be held virtually on Zoom 2 Oct 2021, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be nationally known and recognized Josh Taylor, president of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society. Workshops are available for current and potential society board members, committee chairs, and administration (by-laws, copyright issues, society procedural manual, etc.)

The Workshop is free with an electronic syllabus and Zoom information provided 2 days prior.

The Aurora Genealogical Society has been a long-time sponsor of the Workshop with several members participating as workers, presenters, and participants.

Go to the above website and click on register online here link for more information.

COPALAM Fall Seminar

http://www.copalam.us

The Fall 2021 German Genealogical Seminar will be presented virtually via Zoom on **Saturday afternoon, 9 Oct from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** featuring Mark Rabideau.

Topic will be Researching the Eastern German Diaspora. Mr. Rabideau will focus on the German-speaking (non-Slavic-speaking) peoples of Eastern Europe and the factors that led to their emigration to America from these geographic regions:

The Kingdom of Prussia
The Austro-Hungarian Empire
Germans From Russia
Russian and Prussian Poland

There will be a fee of \$25.00 per person for this seminar. You will be sent an email confirmation when your registration and payment are received. An email with the Zoom access details, along with the link enabling you to download the handout. Refunds will not be permitted after the Zoom access and handout information has been sent. An email reminder will be sent out the morning of the seminar.

Go to the above website for more details and online registration.

From the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies (CCGS)

The fall Council meeting will be held 9 October 2021 via Zoom.

We are the rememberers, the people left behind to keep the one who's gone from us alive in heart and mind, the people left to cherish and preserve a legacy. Yes, we are the rememberers...and we will always be.

---from Ohio Genealogical Society – Muskingum County Quarterly Newsletter Vol. 445, issue 4

Family History Center Premium Websites

The following websites are available for free at our Aurora Family History Center, or any other Family History Center, and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

- 19th Century British Library Digital Archives – news articles, obits, marriage records, death records, military records, etc.
- Alexander Street Press-The Civil War – information on soldiers, battles, photographs, and more
- Fold3 – military records; Crews/Ship registers; Civil War Pension records; American Indian records
- Kinpoint – find problems in your family tree, create stories, memories
- newspapers.com – one of the largest online collections of newspapers
- Paper Trail – 19th century westward American migration documents, mostly information of the Oregon Trail
- Puzzilla.org – colored coded family tree; research opportunities
- ancestry.com – records, state and federal censuses, news articles, military records, travel records, marriage records, books, and more
- FindMyPast.com – millions of records, most comprehensive archive of British military records
- Geneanet.org – genealogy records published by researchers, genealogy societies, commercial companies, etc.; focus on French and European records and research
- MyHeritage.com – easy to use family history research site

From a Friend

Just once, I want a username and password prompt to say: "close enough."

Family History Library Salt Lake City Hours

The library is now open for full-service research from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday with plans to extend to additional days and hours soon. For the latest information and some of their new services, go to familysearch.org. select SEARCH, then RESEARCH WIKI, Family History Library, and FamilySearch newsroom.

Connecticut Birth Records Open

--- EOGN, 10 Aug 2021

People who were born and adopted in Connecticut prior to 1983 can now legally and easily obtain their own birth records for the first time in decades.

The passage of Public Act 21-21 gives town and city clerks the authority to provide adult adoptees access to their original birth documents, a right that was barred in 1974.

As chairman of the CT Town Clerks Association (CTCA) Legislative & Elections Committee, New Britain City Clerk **Mark Bernacki** worked alongside Access Connecticut, Inc. and other advocacy groups to testify in support of this legislation. While Bernacki said there is no way to count exactly how many birth records are newly available, it was estimated this new provision will impact about 38,000 adoptees currently living in the state.

"We need to haunt the halls of history and listen anew to the ancestors' wisdom. We must ask questions and find answers that will help us to avoid falling into the merciless maw of history."

--- Poet Maya Angelou in her 1991 New York Times op/ed "I Dare to Hope," explaining her support of Supreme Court Justice then nominee-Clarence Thomas.

New in the Library

Check us out at www.librarything.com

The following is from our librarian Allice Jablonski.

In August, through AGS member Vickie Smejkal, our library received a wonderful donation of books specific to New Mexico and its rich history. Please come in and view them, even if you do not have Hispanic heritage:

*The Spanish Recolonization of New Mexico
Bautismos San Miguel del Vado May 1867-
Dec, 1885*

*Bautismos San Miguel del Vado July 1853-
June 1868*

New Mexico's First Colonists (1597)

*Spanish and Mexican Censuses of New
Mexico 1750 to 1830*

Santa Clara Baptisms 1728-1861

*New Mexico Marriages San Miguel del
Bado Church 1829-1878*

New Mexico Prenuptial Investigations

Santa Fe Baptisms 1747 – 1848

While the pandemic has placed many limitations on our lives, it has also given people time to slow down and sort through things, which has led to many rich and exciting donations to our library.

We have reopened to the public, with our original schedule of Wednesdays and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. We hope to see you visiting soon!

Websites

Laconia Ancestry Too, New Hampshire

<https://laconiaancestrytoo.webs.com/>

---from The Weekly Genealogist, 25 Aug 2021

The city of Laconia is located in Belknap County in New Hampshire's Lakes Region. *Laconia Ancestry Too*, the genealogy website of the Laconia Historical & Museum Society, has made several resources available. There are two indexes to obituaries published in the *Laconia Democrat* and *The Citizen*. One is sorted alphabetically and the other by death date. The indexes run from 1897 through 1941. Birth, death, and marriage records have been transcribed from *Laconia Annual Town Reports* for 1887 to 1948. Another database comprises the names of students in Laconia High School yearbooks for various years between 1919 and 1976. The cemetery listings databases index burials in ten Laconia cemeteries.

Barnard Library, La Crosse, Kansas

<http://blibraryobits.blogspot.com>

---from The Weekly Genealogist, 4 Aug 2021

The Barnard Library is located in the city of La Crosse, which is in central Kansas. La Crosse is the seat of Rush County. The library's website features an alphabetical index to Rush County obituaries, which appeared in the following newspapers: *Walnut Valley Standard* (1874-1901); *Walnut Valley Standard* (1893-1896); *Democrat* (Walnut City); *Walnut City Gazette* (1886-1890); *McCracken Republican* (1900-1902); *McCracken Midget* (1949-1951); *Rush County Leader* (1895); *Bison Courier* (1930-1938); and *Bison Bee* (1902-1918).

Massachusetts State Passenger Lists

--- recommended by AGS member Barb Walker

Massachusetts officials kept separate passenger lists for Boston from January of 1848 to July of 1891. These records can help fill in the gaps in the Boston passenger lists from 1855-1856 and April 1874-1882 that may be missing from other sources.

Massachusetts State Passenger Lists Indexes: [Index to Boston Passenger Lists, 1848-1891](#) at FamilySearch (free with registration); from NARA microfilm publication M265

[Boston Passenger Lists Index, 1848-1891](#) from the Massachusetts State Archives (may not be complete) free

[Registers of Passengers Arriving in Massachusetts Ports, 1848-1891](#) digitized microfilm from FamilySearch (free with registration)

Is Your Genealogy Online?

---from *The Weekly Genealogist*, 4 Aug 2021

The *Weekly Genealogist* conducted a poll with 3330 responses to the question, "Is your genealogy online?" Responses are below:

- 65%, I have my genealogical information on a commercial genealogical website, available to anyone who can access the site.
- 9%, I have my genealogical information on a personal genealogical website, available to anyone.
- 26%, I have my genealogical information on a website accessible by invitation only.
- 4%, I do not have my genealogical information online but plan to put it online in the future.
- 11%, I do not have my genealogical information online and have no plans to ever make it available online.

There's no right answer to this survey. It's what works best for you.

Put Aside Your Research

--- Diane L. Richard,
*Internet Genealogy, Vol. 7, #4 and
Your Genealogy Today* author

Sometimes the best thing you can do is to stop working on your research. I know that this can seem counter-intuitive; it feels like a waste of time and if you are "banging your head against a wall" and/or not having fun/success, what do you have to lose? I like to say that "absence makes the heart grow fonder." And, to make everyone groan, I will also mention that sometimes we "lose sight of the forest for the trees." We get so caught up in what we are doing at a nitty-gritty level that we lose sight of the bigger picture. Sometimes, the best way to see the bigger picture is to take a break, step away, and far enough away that the details begin to fade, and then re-visit what you think you know with fresh eyes. It can be amazing what we will "see" that we weren't seeing before, after taking that break. If nothing else, we bring new energy and, often, we truly do see connections and strategies that we were blind to previously. It's just not enough to work hard at our genealogy research, it is important to be creative in our problem solving and that's not always possible when one is "in the thick of things!"

Fold 3 Adds a New Collection of World War I Records

Fold3 has added a new collection of WWI records to our archives! The U.S. WWI Burial Cards document the death and burial of over 78,000 American soldiers in WWI. These cards contain information including:

- Name of the deceased
- Unit assigned
- Date and cause of death
- Burial location
- Final resting place if reinterred
- Emergency contact information

Fold3 is available at the Family History Center and depending on the volunteer working in the AGS library, may be available there.

Release of the 1950 U.S. Census

--- extracted from EOGN, 25 Mar 2021

It's that time of the decade again. The 1950 Census of the United States will be released for public inspection on Friday, April 1, 2022. Mark that date on your calendar.

A few facts about the 1950 census:

- The 1950 U.S. census lists information about 151,325,798 residents (not always citizens) of the US
- The census collected the following information from all respondents:
 - address
 - whether house is on a farm
 - name
 - relationship to head of household
 - race
 - sex
 - age
 - marital status
 - birthplace
 - if foreign born, whether naturalized
 - employment status
 - hours worked in week
 - occupation, industry and class of worker
- In addition, a sample of individuals were asked additional questions covering income, marital history, fertility, and other topics. Full documentation on the 1950 census, including census forms and a procedural history, is available from the Public Use Microdata Series.
- The original forms on paper that were used to enumerate all U. S. residents no longer exist. The paper forms were destroyed after the forms were microfilmed.

A blank 1950 U.S. Census Form may be seen on the Census Bureau's web site at: https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/1950_population_questionnaire.pdf.

An excellent source for all census research is *Measuring America: The Decennial Censuses From 1790 to 2000*, published by the US Census Bureau. We have it in the AGS Library. You can also download as a free pdf file from https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2002/dec/pol_02-ma.html.

How Many Ancestors Do I Have?

--- EOGN, 28 Jan 2020

# of Generations	Total ancestors
1	0
2	2 parents
3	6
4	14
5	30
6	62
7	126
8	254
9	510
10	1,022
11	2,046
12	4,094
13	8,190
14	16,382
15	32,766
16	65,534
17	131,070
18	262,142
19	524,286
20	1,048,574
and so on and on...	

The last time I updated my ahnentafel chart in June 2020, I had one ancestor in the 22nd generation and am not overly confident about him. However, it is fun to look at the numbers!

* * * * *

Missouri Digital Newspaper Project

<https://shsmo.org/>

The State Historical Society of Missouri has a substantial collection of digitized historic newspapers from throughout the state on its website. The collection is still growing, with 330,000 pages added recently. More than 400 titles cover most years from 1808 through 1994. Nearly all of the state's 114 counties are represented. The list of newspapers is sorted alphabetically, first by county and then by city/town. To begin your search, select and click a newspaper title link. This will open the search page. Next, enter your search terms to begin. Issues can also be browsed by date.

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. 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. 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
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