



# Newsletter

of the

## Aurora Genealogical Society

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

Volume XLI, Number 3  
May-June 2021

### General Meetings

Tuesday, 25 May 2021, 1:30 p.m., via Zoom

No meetings in June, July or August

Aurora Central Library

14949 E. Alameda Parkway

Aurora, CO 80012

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

### Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, 25 May 2021 @ 1:30 p.m. via Zoom

#### **Forensic Genealogy: The New Frontier**

Presented by Christine Cochran, Professional Genealogist

Forensic genealogy is a new buzz word these days, but what exactly is forensic genealogy? How is it applied? Is it effective? This talk will provide some real-world examples. Hold on to your hats because what you learn will open Pandora's Box!

No program meetings in June, July and August.

Tuesday, 28 Sep, 2021 @ 1:30 p.m. –

**Gleanings From My DNA Test**, presented by Sandy Carter-Duff, Experienced Genealogist.

Sandy has been a family history researcher since the 1970's and started joining genealogical societies in the 1980's to learn skills and discover resources. Her passion for the research is driven by being a nomadic Air Force brat with limited opportunities to be with extended family. It is also driven by her father's out-of-wedlock birth and adoption. She became interested in DNA to gather scientific proof of her father's birth lines.



### Aurora Genealogical Society Library

Aurora Central Library, Main Floor

14949 E. Alameda Pkwy., Aurora, CO 80012

303-739-6686

Open to the Public

Monday – Friday **by appointment only**

e-mail [agslibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:agslibrarian@gmail.com)

for an appointment

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

**Our Library holdings can be found at**  
[www.librarything.com](http://www.librarything.com)

**Aurora Genealogical Society of Colorado**

P.O. Box 31732

Aurora, CO 80041-0732

303-739-6686

e-mail – [aurgs1981@yahoo.com](mailto: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**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Archivist/Historian          | Marion Baumann  |
| CCGS Delegate                | Jeff Adams  |
| Genealogist                  | Dorothy Bernay  |
| Librarian                    | Alice Jablonski<br><a href="mailto:agslibrarian@gmail.com">agslibrarian@gmail.com</a> |
| Newsletter Editor            | Gail Arnert<br><a href="mailto:gailarnert@yahoo.com">gailarnert@yahoo.com</a>         |
| Newsletter Technical Support | Lori Holtus   |
| 2021 Nominating Committee    | Alice Jablonski<br>Judy Keilman   |
| 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, and 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](mailto:aurgs1981@yahoo.com) or to any elected officer. The editor reserves the right to accept or reject any material submitted. Publication deadlines are the 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Membership**

Membership as of 27 April 2021: 66

***Message from the President***

As AGS plans for our 2021-2022 meetings, we are working with speakers to accommodate their preference for ZOOM or in-person meetings. Also, we will work with Central Library as they determine when they might open the Conference Rooms.

Since we have been using Zoom, our attendance is the same and usually more than pre-pandemic numbers. Also, we haven't had to cancel any meetings due to snow or heavy rain. We've also had speakers who live in Ohio or Arizona. I've had the opportunity to attend meetings in the Ohio societies I belong to. Who knew!

Please read through the recommended changes to the Bylaws and standing rules.

As always, as Newsletter Editor, I am interested in receiving articles, personnel genealogy success stories and websites from each of you.

Stay safe.

*Gail*

\* \* \* \* \*

*You can't choose your ancestors,  
but that's fair enough.  
They probably wouldn't have  
chosen you.*

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

### **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-19 restrictions**

#### ***Beginning Genealogy Classes***

[www.cogensoc.us/](http://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 scheduled for 8 May and 12 Jun. Visit the website for more information.

#### ***NGS Family History Conference***

[conference.ngsgenealogy.org](http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org)

17-21 May 2021 – NGS Family History Conference, *Deep Roots of America*, will be a full week of virtual events. More information at <[conference.ngsgenealogy.org](http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org)>. Registration is open.

#### **Save the Date:**

The Colorado chapter of Palatines to America will host the National Conference, 16-18 June 2022. This will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Denver. More information will be available as Conference time nears.

So many conferences and festivals I would normally advertise don't have definitive 2021 plans, so have not been included.

\* \* \* \* \*

*If you write about things, add the people you know best and discover your roots. Even if they are new roots, fresh roots, they are better than no roots.*

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

### **Websites**

#### ***Ohio Memory Project***

<https://ohiomemory.ohiohistory.org/collections>

If you have Ohio ancestors, this is a great website for adding social context and history to their lives.

Ohio Memory is the collaborative statewide digital library program of the Ohio History Connection and the State Library of Ohio. On this free website, you can explore digital content from over 390 cultural heritage institutions representing all 88 of Ohio's counties covering a wide range of topics from prehistory to present day.

#### ***What's In a Name?***

<https://www.behindthename.com>

The etymology and history of first names. Search a name for its meaning or popularity throughout history. Find namesakes, name days, and a glossary for Czech or Slovak names. There's also a translator to see a name in other languages. A fun site!

#### ***Library of Congress***

##### ***Bibliographies and Guides***

[http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib\\_guid/bibguide.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/bibguide.html)

There are lists of published guides to the genealogy collections of the Library of Congress compiled by reference librarians and available in full text by selecting the desired link.

#### ***Family History Fanatics***

<https://www.familyhistoryfanatics.com/>

Discovering our family histories can be frustrating and challenging. We share simplified and applicable instructions, so you strengthen your family by enthusiastically learning from your genealogical past.

We help you understand your DNA, climb your family tree, and write your ancestors' stories along the way.

If family history isn't fun, you're doing it wrong.

Note: A lot is available, no doubt you'll find something of interest.

## ***From the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies (CCGS)***

The 9 April 2021 Council meeting was held via ZOOM with President Marilyn Roberts presiding.

There was a lengthy discussion about how Colorado's genealogical societies have been affected by COVID-19 over the past 12 months.

Some societies, such as the Swedish Society and JGSCO, have excelled during the pandemic with new members. Others, such as AGS, have possibly lost a few members but have adapted ZOOM technology. Likewise for the WISE delegation. Pueblo Chapter has done poorly since they won't adapt to Zoom or other online technology. Attendance was down 20% in Longmont. There was a comment about how societies with 50 or less members have struggled, while some with over 250 members have been successful. Some commented that because of the pandemic and the use of ZOOM, they've had meetings involving genealogy partners/speakers from Europe, which of course, would have never happened in person.

Finally, there was discussion about in a Post-COVID world like having both in-person meetings as well as ZOOM for personnel not ready or willing to attend in person.

All CCGS member societies have renewed. We have a new member, the Southwest Colorado Genealogical Society in Durango.

A Society Management Seminar has been scheduled for Sat, 2 Oct 2021 at the Calvary Baptist Church, Denver, CO. This will be an in-person Workshop.

The next CCGS meeting will be, 10 July, location TBD or via ZOOM.

\* \* \* \* \*

*It is worthwhile for anyone to have behind him a few generations of honest, hard working ancestry.*

--- John Phillip Marquand

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

## ***New in the Library***

*Our holdings are listed at*  
[www.librarything.com/profile/AuroraGenSociety](http://www.librarything.com/profile/AuroraGenSociety)

*Chicago and Cook County: A Guide to Research*, by Loretto Dennis Szucs, 1996.

*Lewis, A History of the Island*, by Donald Macdonald, 1990.

*Huron County, Ohio, Marriages 1815-1900, Vols. 1-3*, by Linda and Cynthia Scheuer, 1992.

*Collecting Dead Relatives: An Irreverent Romp Through the Field of Genealogy*, by Laverne Galeener-Moore, 1998.

*Further Undertakings of a Dead Relative Collector*, by Laverne Galeener-Moore, 1989.

*Genealogical and Local History Books in Print Supplement, Part 2*, by Bette R. Schreiner, 1992.

*Obituaries for Aurora, Colorado*, collected by Annabelle Dunning, 2020.

*Appalachian Magazine, Spring in the Mountains*, 2020.

*American Surnames*, by Elsdon Coles Smith, 2009.

*A to ZAX, A Comprehensive Dictionary for Genealogists and Historians*, by Barbara Jean Evans, 1995.

*How to Trace Your Family Tree, A Complete & Easy-to-Understand Guide for the Beginner*, by American Genealogy Institute, 1973.

*The Lost City, Discovering the Forgotten Virtues of Community in the Chicago of the 1950s*, by Alan Ehrenhalt, 1995.

*I Knew Jesse James*, by Rudy Turilli, 1967.

*Aurora First Sun of Colorado*, by Rebecca Dorward, 2002.

## ***From the Librarian – RootsTech***

*submitted by Alice Jablonski*

Until the pandemic hit the world, Rootstech was one of the largest genealogical gatherings in the world. Hundreds of thousands of people would gather to share techniques, ideas, and products to help us find our ancestors.

This year, 2021, Rootstech went completely online – for free! Over half a million people from around the world signed up to take advantage of the 18-page course offerings, all without leaving the comfort of their home. Not only were the attendees from around the world – the presenters were also! The courses were designed to take a maximum of 20 minutes each, so attending was not a large sacrifice of time. They also offered handouts available for printing, which I did.

I attended the virtual conference and signed up for half a dozen courses that I hoped might fill in some gaps and/or educate me on different things.

The first course I took was Why to Join A Local Genealogy Society. The bottom line was the idea that a gathering of like-minded people could answer your questions, brainstorm, give you ideas, whether it be in person or through their newsletter, their library, or the programs they offer. Joining a society also gives you an opportunity to give back and offer your expertise.

I listened to two courses on Finding Irish Ancestors, one in a lovely Irish lilt and the other in a British accent. One of the handouts I printed has 3 pages of websites for Irish research, which I will file in the library. Unfortunately, my poor Irish weavers did not leave much of a footprint until they arrived in Scotland.

The course, What Genealogists Should Know About the Laws of Slavery, was very short and disappointingly general information about slavery. However, the 8-page handout is full of information: websites for African-American research, different ways to find records for enslaved individuals, books and organizations to research. This information was well worth the printing and will also be in our library.

## ***May Business Meeting***

Elections for VP Programs & Publicity, Recording Secretary and Treasurer will take place at the 25 May meeting. Current holders of these positions, Judy Holtus, Jeff Adams, and Dick Kautt, have agreed to serve for another 2-year term. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor with the consent of the person being nominated.

Updated Bylaws and Standing Rules are being distributed for your review before the 25 May meeting. All recommended changes are in red. Changes are minimal and having to do with elections, electronic meetings, dues, and library hours.

If you have any questions, please contact Parliamentarian Judy Keilman before May at [timandjudykeilman@comcast.net](mailto:timandjudykeilman@comcast.net).

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Change in Genealogy Databases from Aurora Public Libraries***

Ancestry.com library edition is no longer available on the Aurora Library computers.

MyHeritage.com library edition is available on the Library computers and from home with an Aurora Library card. To access from home go to:

<[https://www.auroragov.org/things\\_to\\_do/aurora\\_public\\_library](https://www.auroragov.org/things_to_do/aurora_public_library)>

**Select** Library Catalog

**Select** Research and More, then Databases A-Z

In the right column **select** Genealogy

**Select** MyHeritage – Library Edition

**Sign In** using your Patron ID – your library card number on the back of your library card

**Watch** the 3-minute tutorial.

**START SEARCHING!**

### ***Another Donation from Peace Pipe chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution***



On 1 April 2021, Dianne Gray, Librarian for the Peace Pipe chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, again met with Alice Jablonski, our AGS Librarian, and myself to present a book to us in memory of DAR member Joyce Patterson. The Peace Pipe chapter has had a long tradition of memorializing its deceased members by donating a book to a library or other institution of special interest to the member.

*A Pause for Patriots*, identifies 59 patriot ancestors from Pennsylvania, Virginia, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and France. The women of the Fort Hand chapter worked hard to find the stories and trace the genealogy. Only so much information can be scraped from wills, county histories, and military records. Nevertheless, a picture emerges of patriots who were recent immigrants as well as others with connections as far back as the Mayflower. American independence inspired them all. So we pause for our patriots and take some time to learn about history and genealogy. These patriots show us where we came from. They are our people.

AGS can look forward to more donations from Peace Pipe chapter, NSDAR.

\*\*\*\*\*



### ***Maryland Now Requires Licensing of any Forensic Genealogist Who Work With Police***

--- EOGN 26 Apr 2021

The Maryland Legislature passed HB 240 (<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2021RS/bills/hb/hb0240f.pdf>) and is on its way to the governor's desk for his signature. The bill is entitled: ***Criminal Procedure- Forensic Genetic Genealogical DNA Analysis, Searching, Regulation and Oversight.***

Included in the legislation is the requirement that laboratories performing SNP or other sequencing tests must be licensed by October 1, 2022 and that **genetic genealogists** must be licensed by October 1, 2024. It also stipulates that a laboratory using sequencing techniques using a direct-to-consumer or publicly available open data personal genomics database has to provide notice to its users and the public that law enforcement may use its service sites to investigate crimes or to identify unidentified human remains.

Judy Russell's (The Legal Genealogist) excellent summary of the bill may be found at: <https://www.legalgenealogist.com.2021.04/25/dna-day-2021/>

Note: the bill ONLY addressed genealogists working with the police or on a police-related case.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ***Happy 130th Birthday, Aurora!***

From 36 residents and a 4-square-mile territory in 1891 to almost 390,000 residents and 160 square miles today, our city has come a long way. And with Aurora at 130 years, our community members are part of a bright future.

Aurora's history began with its incorporation as the town of Fletcher on April 30, 1891, with its main area around current Galena Street and 16th Avenue. In this area, there are still nine remaining houses associated with the early development of Aurora, including the Centennial House - built in 1890 and owned by the city.

Visit the Aurora History Museum. It's free. [https://www.auroragov.org/things\\_to\\_do/aurora\\_history\\_museum](https://www.auroragov.org/things_to_do/aurora_history_museum)

## *Using DAR in your Genealogical Research*

*--- submitted by AGS Member Flora McCarty*

Did you know that you can access the DAR website even if you're not a member? Did you know that there is much information that you can gather from there that might help in your research? Well – there just might be! Parts of the DAR website are completely open to the public, including many areas that have genealogical information. You might just find that little nugget that will tip the scales toward finding your relative!

Begin by going to [www.DAR.org](http://www.DAR.org) on your computer. At the top of the page you'll see Genealogy, which is where you're likely to find information that is most useful to you. From there (about mid-page) click on "Genealogy Research GRS". The best searches are Ancestor and Descendant.

The DAR website can be difficult, but your most efficient search will be to put one of your grandparent "pairs" into the Descendant Database. Be sure to use Advanced Search (located on the right). Put the male's last name at the top, and the woman's last name under spouse. Use only last names. There will be dates and places listed with the results, so you can sort out the ones that may be related to you. Then systematically put all of your grandparent pairs (usually beginning with grand-grandparents – grandparents may be blocked for privacy) into the search, to find all possible relatives.

Once you find a familiar match, click on the Ancestor number shown on the right, and you will be able to see a list of the names of his children that have been approved by the DAR (if a child isn't listed, then he/she hasn't been proved). Clicking on the little red "D" next to the member's name will show you their "tree" which led to the Patriot. This is where you may find dates and places that will help your research! Many DAR members have more than one Patriot, so check out each one of the Patriots that seem to be affiliated with your family. Also, if you find a child of a Patriot that you recognize, check the lines of all the members who are affiliated with that child for additional information. Each member has a different connection with their Patriot.

You can also check to see if you have Patriots in your family by using the Ancestor tab in the same manner as you did the Descendant tab. (Again, be sure to use the Advanced Search, and you may even have to check Soundex.) This search will not pull up any names that are spelled differently, even by one letter, without using the Soundex. But the Soundex often generates too many results, so try your most familiar spellings first. By checking the dates and places of birth/death, you may find that you DO have a Patriot!

There are other searches on the DAR website that may be interesting. After you select Genealogy, there are links to information held by DAR for Bibles, the Rev War name Index, the Pension Index, and more. Look around for other areas which might interest you too, such as Minority Research and links to other sites. Don't be afraid to "click around" and see what you can find – you won't get "signed up" by accident! But if all of this has made you curious about DAR membership, then go to [www.coloradodar.org](http://www.coloradodar.org) for the easiest way to connect to a chapter and member near you.

Using the DAR website can give you hints about your genealogy searches and best of all, you know they have been checked by the DAR genealogists – not just copied from someone else's tree, which we all know happens on the sites like Ancestry, etc. Happy Hunting!

THE AURORA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY of COLORADO meets monthly except in June, July, August and December. Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Afternoon meetings are in Sep, Nov, Jan, Feb, Mar and May and begin at 1:30 p.m. Evening meetings are in Oct and Apr and begin at 7:00 p.m. 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 p.m. 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**  
**PO Box 31732**  
**Aurora, CO 80041-0732**