



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS
1981-2021

Newsletter

of the
Aurora Genealogical Society

Volume XLII Number 3
May-June 2024

General Meetings

Tuesday, 28 May 2024, 1:00 p.m. via Hybrid/Zoom

No Meetings in June, July or August

Tuesday, 24 Sep 2024, 1:00 p.m. via Hybrid/Zoom

Aurora Central Library
14949 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO 80012

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

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, 28 May 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting and Member Sharing - IN PERSON/HYBRID MEETING, Main Library Small Conference Room.

The annual business meeting will be first on the agenda followed by 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. Please limit your presentation to ten minutes or less.

No meetings in June, July or August



Tuesday, 24 Sep 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.

Ancestors Prior to the Revolutionary War

In Person/Hybrid,

Presented by David Fryxell, Author, Editor & Experienced Genealogist

It's easy to forget that America's colonial history spans almost 170 years before U.S. Independence, beginning with the founding of Jamestown in Virginia on May 14, 1607. If some of your ancestors came over on the Mayflower or subsequent colonial arrivals instead of through Ellis Island, researching their lives in colonial America has never been easier. Whether they were among the earliest colonists or came later to less-storied destinations, you can now find pre-1776 ancestors in a boatload of online resources.

Aurora Genealogical Society of Colorado

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e-mail – aurgs1981@yahoo.com

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

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Vacant
Membership Vice-President	Melanie Golden
Program Vice-President & Publicity	Judy Holtus
Treasurer	Dick Kautt
Secretary	Gail Arnert

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Historian	Jeff Adams
Computer Technical Support	Vickie Smejkal aurgensoc@gmail.com
CCGS Delegate	Jeff Adams
Genealogist	Barb Walker BarbWalker1014@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Gail Arnert arnertgen@gmail.com
Newsletter Tech Support	Lori Holtus
Parliamentarian	Dick Kautt
Website	Vickie Smejkal

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 board member. 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.

Membership

Total membership: 55

Message from the Editor

Boy, the last few months have been rather hectic for me. Between breaking a leg and the recovery involved I was out of commission for close to 3 months. That was the reason for no newsletter for March and April. Now I'm home again and attacking the piles of stuff to do. Getting close to catching up. Thank goodness AGS and DAR have a summer hiatus. And thanks to you all for the cards, calls and moral support.

Gail

May Business Meeting

Our annual business meeting will be Tuesday, 28 May 2024. At that time, we will elect officers for the positions of President and Membership VP. The nominating committee has put forth a slate of officers and it has been approved by the Board. Nominees for the above positions are Gail Arnert and Melanie Golden.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor with the consent of the person being nominated.

The Membership will also be voting on the 2025 budget. Voting on updated bylaws has been deferred to the September meeting.

Why is it?

*Just as you are hot on the
Trail of an ancestor,
It's always time for the
Library to close?*

News from Aurora

--- Aurora Newsletter - 9 May 2024

The “Give Real Change” campaign, which stems from a 2022 City Council-approved resolution sponsored by Council Members Angela Lawson and Steve Sundberg, has garnered support from Aurora residents and visitors. The campaign has raised over \$3,000 to support Aurora homelessness programs.

The campaign aims to curb panhandling and encourages donations to Spirit of Aurora—a well-established nonprofit that supports various city and local community programs—rather than giving directly to individuals soliciting money. This ensures that funds are used effectively to promote long-term change and self-sufficiency among those in need.

Campaign signs are prominently displayed at busy intersections around Aurora, serving as a reminder of the community’s commitment to providing meaningful support to those in need. The funds raised through the “Give Real Change” campaign support Aurora’s homelessness programs, providing essential needs such as bus tickets, food and water through the city’s outreach team. Additionally, the funds help cover the costs of obtaining vital documents like IDs and birth certificates, which are often barriers to accessing services and employment.

To learn more about panhandling and how you can support those in need, visit [GiveRealChange.org](https://www.giverealchange.org).

Questions?

Email communications@auroragov.org.

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*The cheapest way to have your
Family Tree traced is to
Run for public office.*

How Genealogy Has Influenced Your Life

--- from NEHGS, *Weekly Genealogist*, 29 Nov 2023

Ever wonder how you would answer this?
Here are answers from a survey done in 2023.

- 55%, Yes, I have established close relationships with people (relatives or non-relatives) through genealogy.
- 14%, Yes, I have studied a new language.
- 76%, Yes, I have studied history or other subjects relevant to my genealogy.
- 30%, Yes, I have mastered a new technology.
- 29%, Yes, I have written an article or book.
- 28%, Yes, I have given a talk.
- 68%, Yes, I have "rescued" family papers, artifacts, or photographs (that belonged to my family or another family).
- 33%, Yes, I have donated items to a museum, library, or historical society.
- 66%, Yes, I have become involved in a genealogical or historical organization.
- 71%, Yes, I have taken a trip.
- 53%, Yes, I have attended a conference.
- 48%, Yes, my life has been enriched by genealogy in a way not mentioned above.
- 1%, No, my interest in genealogy has not prompted me to do anything I wouldn't have

Personally, this editor can check yes to 10 of the above. How about you?



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Other Legal Things for
this [Eastman's]
Newsletter**
--- EOGN, 10 Oct 2023

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or
Steal These Articles!**

I think my copyright statement is a bit different from most others. Here is the brief version:

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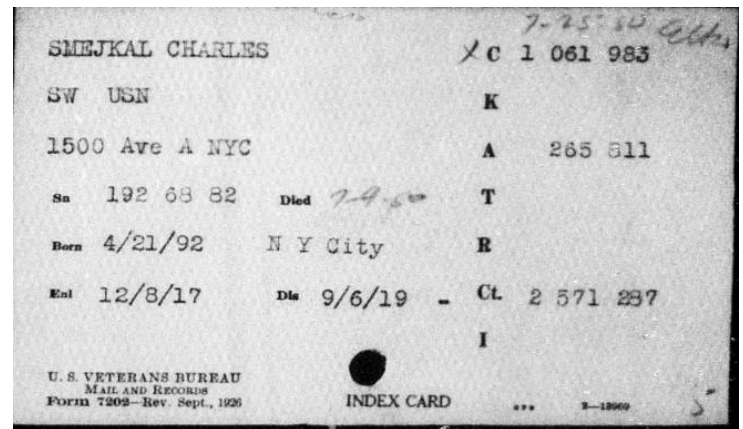
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Thank you for your cooperation.

- Dick Eastman

US Veteran's Administration Index

--- Courtesy of member Vicki Smejkal



"United States, Veterans Administration Master Index, 1917-1940", *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:WQDX-VFZM> : Wed Oct 25 17:14:50 UTC 2023), Entry for Charles Smejkal, 6 Sep 1919.

Ever wonder what all these letters to the right mean? C=Insurance Application; K=Life Insurance; A=Adjusted Compensation; T=War Risk Insurance; R=Rehabilitation; Ct=WWI Cert (issued with bonus); and I=Permanent Disability

Learn more at: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Veterans_Administration_Master_Index_-_FamilySearch_Historical_Records

Gentility is what is left over from rich ancestors after the money is gone.

Introducing Ohio Roots: The Official Podcast of the Ohio Genealogical Society

--- EOGN, 20 Sep 2023

The following is a press release written by the Ohio Genealogical Society:

The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) is thrilled to announce the launch of its official podcast, Ohio Roots. This captivating series offers listeners an immersive journey through Ohio's rich genealogy, history, and abundant resources.

Hosted by OGS Executive Director, Noel Poirier, Ohio Roots promises to be a must-listen for genealogy enthusiasts and history buffs alike. Each episode features insightful conversations with a diverse array of guests, ranging from OGS members, chapter leaders, and staff, to renowned genealogists, historians, and influential figures within the genealogical community.

Listeners can expect riveting discussions that delve into a wide range of topics, uncovering captivating stories and shedding light on Ohio's intricate past. With a blend of expertise and passion, Ohio Roots invites audiences to explore the unique tapestry of Ohio's genealogical heritage.

Get the free Podnews newsletter for more like this.

For more information about the Ohio Genealogical Society and Ohio Roots, please visit www.ogs.org.

The Little Green Leaf



--- from Barb Walker, AGS Genealogist

I've been digging up ancestors for over 30 years now and I've decided it's time to stop clicking on little green leaves and start planning for the future of my research. I have several trees in Family Tree Maker which connect to Ancestry.com. I also have shelves of 3-ring binders that hold the printed material for my research. My children are interested in the family stories and pictures but have no interest

in taking over for me. They didn't know my great-grandparents, aunts, and uncles. They have no emotional ties to their ancestors, so I've decided to clean up my research and find a permanent home for it.



Mom started her family research back in the early '90s. She knew the people and the stories of her grandparents, some of whom were recent immigrants. But she also knew there were other ancestors whose history was unknown. She kept trying to get me involved, but it wasn't something I had the time or interest for at that time. A few years later I discovered a copy of Family Tree Maker in a discount bin at Ross and decided I would buy it for her and teach her how to use it. Well, you can probably see where this is going. I learned to use the program and started entering names, dates, and places, based on old documents she had collected. Remember, this was way before the Internet, Ancestry.com, or DNA. I soon became addicted to research. I'll never forget the night I called her about 11 pm my time (midnight Wisconsin time) and told her I had found her great-grandfather. The next summer we took a road trip to Indiana where her father had grown up. We visited churches, libraries, cemeteries, and court houses, constantly building our family tree.

Eventually her health would not allow her to make those trips, but fate led me to a cousin in Virginia who was researching the same family line. We wrote and called each other for a couple of years until one day I said, "Let's meet in Kentucky and spend a week together researching our Wiley family." You must remember – we had never met in person I was proposing spending a week with an (almost) total stranger. She drove and I flew to Lexington, Kentucky, and we had a wonderful week together. On the second day of the trip a thought crossed my mind: "This could have turned out so badly." But it didn't and we still share research.

Recently, however, I have come to the conclusion that I need to do something to

preserve all these 3-ring binders of paper documents. Granted, they are all scanned, sourced, and saved in Ancestry.com, but I can't imagine them thrown in a dumpster when I'm gone. My kids have no interest in them, so I've decided that starting now I will stop researching and start making plans to preserve this material. I have contacted the Miner County Historical Society in Howard, South Dakota, and they have agreed to take the notebook on the Arrell family from Ireland. It's ironic because I found valuable information on this family when my husband and I visited their office several years ago.

I will now go through all my 3-ring binders, make sure my records are complete, pictures have names and documents are sourced. Then I will find a library or genealogy society willing to adopt my research and give it a good home.

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HISTORIAL WEATHER

What was the weather on the day you were born? Other services will charge you money for that information but you can do the same thing free of charge on your computer. Of course, you can check ANY date, not just the date you were born.

When your Dad talked about going out in that great blizzard, just how bad was it? **Wolfram Alpha** has a number of helpful tools to answer your weather questions, including historical data from weather stations located all over the world.

For example, simply enter "weather" into the search bar, and Wolfram Alpha's geoIP capabilities identify your approximate location and produce the latest records from your nearest weather station. The "Latest recorded weather" feature will display the current temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and conditions, such as clear, thunderstorms, or fog.

To find historical weather information, simply go to <http://www.wolframalpha.com> and enter the word **WEATHER** followed by a date and a location. For instance:

weather September 6, 1978 Hanover, New Hampshire

Wolfram Alpha then returned the following:

Recorded weather for Hanover, New Hampshire

time range	day of Wednesday, September 6, 1978
temperature	(47 to 81) °F (average: 63 °F)
conditions	rain, overcast, cloudy, few clouds, clear
relative humidity	(45 to 97)% (average: 75%)
wind speed	(0 to 57) mph (average: 8 mph)

The information appears to cover the US, Canada, and the UK. You may not have much luck for dates before the mid-1930s, depending on the location.

Washington County Genealogical Society, NE

--by Valerie Beaudrault, 3 May 2023

Washington County is located on Nebraska's border with Iowa and seated in Blair. The Washington County Genealogical Society has created a searchable database of burial records for more than 30 cemeteries through the year 2011. Search by first and last name, year of birth, and year of death. Data fields include name of deceased, dates of birth and death, cemetery name, burial plot and veteran status. Other resources available from the Washington County Genealogical Society include vital records, obituaries, and postcards.

[Search Now](http://www.newashcogs.org/burials) <http://www.newashcogs.org/burials>

Native Americans in the 1930 U.S. Federal Census

Native American information can be found in the 1930 U.S. Federal Census – Column 19 will provide the person’s degree of Indian blood, column 20 will provide the person’s tribal affiliation. Per ‘*family tree_magazine*’, December 2017, p. 30.

Example: 1930 US Federal Census, New Mexico, Valencia County, Laguna Indian Reservation, Enumeration District 40, image #3.

Lorenzo Juanico b. in New Mexico, is ‘Full Blood’, and his tribal affiliation is Laguna Pueblo.

PLACE OF ABODE				NAME <small>of each person whose place of abode on April 1, 1930, was in this family Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any Include every person living on April 1, 1930. Omit children born since April 1, 1930</small>	RELATION <small>Relationship of this person to the head of the family</small>	HOME DATA				PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				EDUCATION	PLACE OF BIRTH				
House number (in cities or towns)	Number of dwelling house in order of visitation	Number of family in order of visitation	Blank			Home owned or rented	Value of home, if owned, or of lot, if rented	Radio set	Does this family live on a farm?	Sex	Color or race	Age at last birthday	Marital condition	Age at first marriage	Attended school or college, 1929-1930	Whether able to read and write	PERSON	FATHER	MOTHER
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	24		Juanico Lorenzo	Head	0		yes	M	M	35	M	25	no	no	New Mexico	Full Blood	Laguna Pueblo	

"United States Census, 1930." Database with images. *FamilySearch*. <http://FamilySearch.org> : 24 October 2022. Citing NARA microfilm publication T626. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2002.



THE AURORA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY of COLORADO meets monthly except in June, July, August and December. Meetings are the 4th Tuesday of the month with the exception of November which is the Tuesday following Thanksgiving. All meetings begin at 1:00 pm. In-Person and Hybrid meetings are held at the Aurora Central Library in the Community Rooms, or via Zoom. In person meetings are open to the public.

Board of Directors meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. the first Monday of each month via ZOOM (unless otherwise noted) except June, July, August and December.

Individuals/Families may join the Society upon paying annual dues of \$25.00 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.



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