



# *Newsletter*

of the  
**Aurora Genealogical Society**

Volume XL, Number 2  
March-April 2020

## **General Meetings**

Tuesday, 24 March 2020, 1:30 pm - Large Community Room  
Tuesday, 28 April 2020, 7:00 pm - Large Community Room

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

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

## ***Upcoming Meetings***

Tuesday, 24 March 2020 @ 1:30 pm -

### **Finding Your Way Around Fold3**

Presented by Ted Bainbridge, PhD & Experienced Genealogist

Fold3 is one of the best sites to search for military information primarily in the United States, but some information from other countries is also included. This presentation describes ways to access Fold3's vast collection and will show examples of what might be found.

Tuesday, 28 April 2020 @ 7:00 pm

### **A Rouse by Any Other Name is Still a Rose... (Alternate Title: Debunking Name Mythology)**

Presented by Leah Klocek, Professional Genealogist

In genealogy, a name is often our firewall. It's the first piece of evidence we identify on any record potentially related to our families, as well as the starting point for building an emotional connection to our ancestors. But how important is a name, really? Join Leah Klocek for a debunking of some of the most enduring mythologies we've attached to our names, and a discussion of how to overcome those biases.



## **Aurora Genealogical Society Library**

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

### Open to the Public

Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
or by Appointment,  
call 303-740-8440 or 303-755-1179  
Call ahead to ensure we are open.  
We close during inclement weather and some City events.

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

***Have you renewed your membership?***

***If not, this will be your last newsletter.***

**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	Barbara Bickerton
Treasurer	Dick Kautt
Corresponding Secretary	Marion Baumann

**APPOINTED POSITIONS**

Archivist/Historian	Marion Baumann
Genealogist	Dorothy Bernay
CCGS Delegate	Jeff Adams
Librarian	Alice Jablonski
Newsletter Editor	Gail Arnert <a href="mailto:arnertgen@gmail.com">arnertgen@gmail.com</a>
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](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 first Friday of January, March, May, July, September and November.

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.

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***Message from the President***

Happy 39<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the Aurora Genealogical Society. Organized in 1981 with 54 Charter members, Nancy Jensen and Beverly Thompson are still active. Thank you ladies for your continued interest and support!

We had our Members Sharing meeting last month. Page 13 of this newsletter briefly reviews what was shared.

At the March Board meeting both vacancies on the board were filled – Jeff Adams as Aurora's delegate to the Colorado Council of Genealogical Societies and Marion Baumann as Historian.

Nancy Jensen has been donating some of her books to our library. Check our new book shelves and the donation cart for duplicates that we received.

March 12<sup>th</sup> is the kick-off date for the 2020 Census. Starting on this date, an invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census will be mailed. Some households will also receive paper questionnaires. Print or make a copy of the information you provide for your own family's history.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meetings.

*Gail*

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***New Members***

Barbara Barstow, 755 S. Alton Way, 7C, Denver, CO 80247-1840 (*Barstow, Huckstep, Self, Harris, Cross, Struckler, Cannon, Pipes*)

Jacquelyn Benton, 11692 E. Cornell Circle, Aurora, CO 80014 (*Jonson, Torrence, Kendrick*)

Melanie Golden, 3080 S. Roslyn Street, Denver, CO 80231

Linda Moore, 11418 E. 25<sup>th</sup> Drive, Aurora, CO 80010

Wanda Murray, 12273 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Drive, Aurora, CO 80011 (*Conict and Harris*)

## ***Upcoming Events***

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

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

[www.cogensoc.us/](http://www.cogensoc.us/)

Beginner Genealogy Classes are held on the second Saturday of each month, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon in the Gates Conference Room, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, DPL. Classes are free and no registration is required. Upcoming classes are scheduled for 14 Mar, 11 Apr and 9 May. Visit the website for more information.

### ***COPALAM Spring Seminar***

[https://www.palam.org/palam\\_update/resources/copal-am-spring-2020-seminar-flyer.pdf](https://www.palam.org/palam_update/resources/copal-am-spring-2020-seminar-flyer.pdf)

13 & 14 Mar 2020 – Denver Public Library, 14<sup>th</sup> & Broadway. Times are: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Friday lectures are FREE; 10:00 am – 4:30 pm. Saturday presentations have a \$35 materials fee. Keynote speaker is Teresa Steinkamp McMillin, CG.

Friday talks include *The Voyages of Our German Ancestors* and James Jeffrey presenting *Research Resources for German Genealogists in the Denver Public Library*.

Saturday lectures are *Boost Your German Research: Understand Historical Jurisdictions, He Took Her Name. Untangle the Web of German Websites* and *Get With the Times: German Newspaper Research*.

Full schedule and registration are available online and in the AGS library.

### ***Discover Your Swedish Roots***

[oldmillmuseum.org](http://oldmillmuseum.org)

2020 Swedish Genealogy Workshops will be held 21-22 March 2020 and 10-11 Oct 2020 in Lindsborg, KS. Multiple topics to include *Using ArkivDigital, Swedish Church Records, Planning a Heritage Trip* and more. Flyers with more information and registration are available at meetings, in our library, online or by calling (785) 227-3595.

### ***Colorado Jewish Genealogy Society***

[jgsco.org](http://jgsco.org)

Sunday, 29 March 2020, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm, BMH-BJ Congregation, 580 S. Monaco Pkwy, Denver. Members are free; Non-Members \$10.

Stephen P. Morse, creator of the One-Step Webpages, is the presenter. Four one-hour lectures will be given to include *Webpages: A Potpourri, A Case Study, History of New York City* and *Getting Ready for the 1950 Census*.

Lunch is extra for all attendees. Register by 25 Mar at [jgsco.com](http://jgsco.com).

### ***CGS Spring Seminar***

<http://www.cogensoc.us/>

18 April 2020 – CGS Spring Seminar featuring Angie Bush. Registration is open. The seminar will be at DPL, Lower Level Conference Center, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm. Materials fee is \$35. Angie will present four programs on online family trees and DNA. There will also be a free event on Friday, 17 April. You may register online or by using the registration form available online or in our library.

20-23 May 2020 – **NGS Family History Conference**, Salt Lake City, UT. Conference and Hotel reservations are now open. More information at [conference.ngsgenealogy.org](http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org).

### ***W.I.S.E. English Research Seminar***

<https://wise-fhs.org>

25 July 2020 – Featuring David Allen Lambert at the Denver Central Public Library. More info to follow.

2 – 5 September 2020 – **FGS National Conference**, Kansas City, MO.

More information at [fgs.org/conferences](http://fgs.org/conferences)

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

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

*Your Genealogy, A Practical Guide*, by Larry D. Schenk, 1989.

*Vital Records of the Towns of Barnstable and Sandwich*, by Col. Leonard H. Jr. and Norma H. Smith, 1992.

*World War II and the People of Lincoln County [CO]*, by Alice Potter, 1993.

*History of Lincoln County, Colorado*, by Laura Solze Claggett, 1987.

*Where the Wagons Rolled, A History of Lincoln County [CO] and Its People*, by Lincoln County Historical Society, 1976.

*The NEHGS Circulating Library Catalog, Vol. 1 Genealogies, Vol. 2 Histories and Research Aids*, by NEHGS.

*Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research, 5<sup>th</sup> edition*, by Michael Leclerc, 2012.

*Unofficial Guide to FamilySearch.org, How to Find Your Family History on the Largest Free Genealogy Website*, by Dana McCullough, 2015.

*Richard Griffith and His Valuations of Ireland*, by James R. Reilly, 2000.

*Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition*, by John Grenham, 2006.

*Danish Dictionary, Danish-English, English-Danish*, by Anna Garde, 1995.

*Two Centuries of Pennsylvania History, Vol. II*, by Isaac Sharpless, 1900.

*Daily Stories of Pennsylvania*, by Frederic A. Godcharles, 1924.

### ***Websites***

#### ***Chronicling America*** ***chroniclingamerica.loc.gov***

This free US newspaper resource continues to grow thanks to more than \$2.7 million in new funding.

A selection of newspaper content will be digitized and placed on the site for Rhode Island, Wyoming, and the US Virgin Islands, where it will join more than 15 million digitized pages, published between 1789 and 1963 from 26 states and Puerto Rico.

#### ***Texas Research***

--- from AGS Genealogist Dorothy Bernay

If you are doing research in Texas, here are two websites that have copies of original documents which you can download the PDF.

1 – Land grant records, including patents to land, are maintained by the General Land Office (GLO). For information about land grants and searching the GLO's online database, go to <https://s3.glo.texas.gov/glo/history/archives/land-grants/ondex.cfm>. Searches may be by Patent Number and Patentee Name.

2 – Name searches are provided as a service to researchers unable to visit the GLO in person. For information concerning their services, please contact the Archives and Records Division directly at <https://www.glo.texas.gov/contact/email-us/index.html>.

#### ***Utah Research***

-- from AGS VP Judy Holtus

<http://historyresearch.utah.gov>

Research Center for Utah State Archives and Utah State History. Research manuscripts, photographs, books, maps, and online resources about Utah and the West. From Judy – Click on State Archives then Indexes. There, online are Utah births from 1905-1910. You can also search for more that are not indexed. The deaths are indexed from 1905-1967.

## ***February 2020 Member Sharing Meeting***

In spite of the yucky weather on 25 February, 19 members showed for the meeting and 13 brought something to share. In brief:

Ellen Westbrook brought a World War II Autograph/Buddy book. It had pictures, autographs, and tidbits about the men who served with her relatives.

Gladys Hodges Civil War ancestor kept the accounts for his Maryland regiment. She has the originals from the 1860s. Although at times difficult to read, the accounts were fascinating. It was recommended that she get archival sleeves for her treasure.

Judy Keilman brought an original painting of Holy Cross Mountain. It was painted by her 16-year old uncle in 1929. He never painted another picture.

Marion Baumann discussed the value of the FamilyTree magazine to help with our research. It has so many tools available.

Tom Aguilar-Downing again brought his "family tree" mobile for display. He also did a PowerPoint presentation based on Downing family letters found in the National Archives of Ireland. They centered around the ship *Great Eastern* (1860-1888).

Alice Jablonski shared family photos and other items from her Lewis/Truax family. Via ancestry.com she found new 4<sup>th</sup> cousins and subsequent visited and researched in Indiana.

Vickie Smejkal posted a 1908 family picture on her ancestry.com account hoping to get names for the people she didn't know. She not only got names, but another picture that added to her family.

Karen Campbell talked about her mother's Pomerian family and records that she previously thought didn't exist. Using a familysearch tree she made contact with new family members who had located the missing records and were willing to share.

Sandra Syring through recently received birth records, was able to prove she was related to Jesse James on both sides of her family.

Gail Arnert brought in two books about her 9<sup>th</sup> great grandmother Elizabeth (Fones) Winthrop Feake Hallet (1610-c.1674). One book was non-fiction and well sourced. The other was a novel where sources aren't required. The novel and the non-fiction painted a very interesting and complete portrait of this early New England ancestor.

Melanie Golden brought in a couple examples of family history books, a family recipe book and greeting cards she had created using family pictures. Her emphasis is to take genealogy beyond just dates and places. Include stories in your research. Also she's big on digitizing and storing everything in archival sleeves or boxes.

Jeff Adams explained how important it is to place queries and openly share family pictures and stories. He shared a story about his great-grandparents that started with an ancestry.com query.

Nancy Miller, using a World War I draft card that indicated her relative was blind, was able to embellish his story. Turns out he was blinded during the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. With newspapers and maps found online she was able to piece more information together.

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

The Council is still looking for a Treasurer. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact your delegate Gail Arnert at [gailarnert@yahoo.com](mailto:gailarnert@yahoo.com).

AGS Member Jeff Adams has showed interest in being Aurora's Council delegate. He'll start attending our board meetings and will attend the next Council meeting on Saturday, 11 Apr 2020, 10:00 am at DPL.

## ***Aurora Newspaper Digitalization Project***

For the last few years our Society has contributed money via the Aurora Historical Society to Colorado Historic Newspapers to digitize the *Aurora Democrat* (1909-1955) and *The Aurora Advocate* (1949-1952). This project is now complete. Both newspapers are available online at [coloradohistoricnewspapers.org](http://coloradohistoricnewspapers.org).

The Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection currently includes over 350 newspaper titles published in Colorado from 1859 up to 1923 and beyond with publisher permission. Newspapers in this collection are from throughout the state, and include papers published in English, German, Spanish, Swedish and Japanese. Many of these titles are not available on other newspaper websites.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ***10 Historical Figures Who Had Incestuous Marriages***

---EOGN, 19 Oct 2019

How would you like to map out the pedigrees and descendants of these people?

H. G. Wells

Claudius

Albert Einstein

Cleopatra

Edgar Allen Poe

James Watt

Atahualpa - the last Inca Emperor who married his sister

Emperor Suinin – the 11th Emperor of Japan who had two chief wives (empress), one of whom was his first cousin. He also had six consorts and he fathered 17 children.

Charles Darwin

Philip II of Spain

You can watch an interesting YouTube video hosted by Simon Whistler at: <https://youtu.be/xFMmJMlyqnY>. The video runs for almost 12 minutes.

## ***Dates of Interest in March and April***

- March 3 “*Star Spangled Banner*” made the US National Anthem (1931)  
 12 Girl Scouts of the USA founded (1912)  
 17 St. Patrick’s Day  
 19 Iraq War began (2003)  
 20 Spring begins  
 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day (2017)
- April 1 April Fools Day  
 5 Palm Sunday  
 8 Passover Begins  
 9 National Former POW Recognition Day  
 10 Good Friday  
 11 Persian Gulf War Official Cease Fire (1991)  
 12 Easter  
 15 Income Tax Day  
 19 Orthodox Easter  
 22 Administrative Professionals Day  
 Earth Day  
 24 Arbor Day

\* \* \* \* \*

## ***A Verrrry Long Name!***

*Lake*

*Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagun gamaugg, a lake in Webster, Massachusetts.*

--- From *The Sunny Side of Genealogy*

NOTE: Per Wikipedia, the Lake’s name comes from Loup, an Algonquian language and is often said to mean “Fishing Place at the Boundaries-Neutral Meeting Grounds.” A more fitting translation is “lake divided by islands.” according to anthropologist Ives Goddard.

## ***Census History***

### ***Destruction of the 1890 Census***

- - - [blognewspapers.com/destruction-of-the-1890-census/](https://blognewspapers.com/destruction-of-the-1890-census/)  
*Posted on October 14, 2019 by Jenny Ashcraft*

Genealogists and historians have lamented the loss of the 1890 census for more than a century. When researchers inquire about the 1890 census, their questions are quickly dismissed with the explanation that a fire destroyed the records. The truth, however, is more complicated. The 1890 census records did sustain extensive smoke and water damage in two different fires (1896 and 1921), but the damaged records sat languishing in a warehouse until the 1930s when Congress ordered their destruction.

The 1890 census was unique for several reasons. For the first time, officials decided to gather data on a separate schedule for each family. Families answered questions about race, immigration and naturalization, the number of children born and living, and questions relating to service in the Civil War. It was also the first census that used punch cards and an electrical tabulation system.

After enumerators finished the 1890 census, the Department of the Interior stored portions in Washington D.C. in the basement of Marini's Hall. On March 22, 1896, a night watchman discovered the rear of the building was on fire and notified the fire department. Firefighters arrived to find dense smoke pouring from the basement. Though they extinguished the flames before sunrise, the fire damaged or destroyed the special schedules for mortality, crime, pauperism, benevolence, special classes (e.g., deaf, blind, insane) and portions of the transportation and insurance schedules. The general population schedules, however, were safe and stored in the basement of the Commerce Building.

*The Washington Post*, January 11, 1921

On the evening of January 10, 1921, an employee at the Commerce Building noticed smoke rising through the elevator shaft and sounded the fire alarm. For hours, firefighters soaked the building with water to quench the flames. When the smoke cleared, archivists found 25 percent of the 1890 census schedules

destroyed, while half of the rest sustained serious water damage. Government officials debated whether the burnt and waterlogged records could be salvaged.

This tragic fire spurred discussion about the need for national archives to hold public records. While awaiting funding for an archive building, Census Director William Steuart warned the damaged records would continue to deteriorate. Not much is known about what happened to the census records between 1922-1932, but in December 1932, the Chief Clerk of the Bureau of Census sent the Librarian of Congress a list of documents deemed no longer necessary and scheduled for destruction. Included in the list were the 1890 damaged census records. The Librarian approved the list and forwarded it to Congress who authorized it and the damaged records were destroyed. Ironically, just one day before Congress authorized the destruction of these records, President Herbert Hoover laid the cornerstone for the new National Archives Building.

In 1934, the National Archives Building opened in Washington, D.C. In 1942, officials found a damaged bundle of 1890 census records from Illinois that escaped destruction. In 1953, they also found fragments of records from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and the District of Columbia. These rediscovered records comprise just a tiny fraction of the 1890 census, leaving 99.99 percent of the original records lost forever. Visit [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) to see the surviving 1890 census fragments, or search [Newspapers.com](https://www.newspapers.com) to see more clippings about their destruction.

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.



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