



# AGS Ezine

Newsletter of the Arkansas Genealogical Society

Vol. 13 No. 4 April 2018

Jane A. Wilkerson, editor  
Brandon Ryan, list manager

## Coming Events

### April 17, 2018

*Pen to Podium: Arkansas Historical Writers' Lecture Series, African-American Athletes in Arkansas*, by Evin Demirel, 6:30 p.m. at the Department of Arkansas Heritage Diamond Room, 1100 North Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

### April 19-21, 2018

Arkansas Historical Association Annual Conference at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

### April 23, 2018

8th Annual family History Conference, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 6847 Lynch's Prairie Court, Springdale, Arkansas. Free Admission.

### April 23, 2018

Heritage Seekers, *The Story Beneath the Stone*, by Jan Davenport, Oakland & Fraternal Cemeteries, 6:30 p.m., Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas.

### May 2-5, 2018

The NGS 2018 Family History Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

### May 21, 2018

Heritage Seekers, *An Armchair Tour of Mount Holly Cemetery*, by Kay Tatum, Registrar Mt. Holly Cemetery, 6:30 p.m., Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas.

### June 2-7, 2018

[The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research](#) (IGHR, Georgia Center's UGA and Hotel Conference Center.

AGS Ezine with a new look and original articles. If you would like to submit an article or comment on the new format, please email [agscontributions@gmail.com](mailto:agscontributions@gmail.com)

## New State Historian and Director of the Arkansas State Archives Named



Courtesy of OBU

On March 21, 2018, Department of Heritage Director Stacy Hurst named Dr. Wendy Richter as the new state historian and director of the Arkansas State Archives(ASA). She is replacing former head Dr. Lisa Speer, who left in February. Richter is returning on May 14, to her "dream job." She has spent her 35 year career in Arkansas working at the archives and Ouachita Baptist University. Richter holds a master's in Public History from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, and a master's and doctorate in heritage studies from Arkansas State University.

## New State Historian and Director of the Arkansas State Archives Named (continued)

### Coming Event

**Aug. 21, 2018**

Arkansas State Archives, *Pen to Podium: Arkansas Historical Writers' Lecture Series, Rock Island Railroad in Arkansas*, by Michael Hibblen, 6:30 p.m., Department of Arkansas Heritage Diamond Room, 1100 North Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

**August 22-25, 2018**

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

**August 27, 2018**

Heritage Seekers, *The Rise & Fall of Napoleon, Arkansas*, by Sheila Moore-Mitchell, 6:30 p.m., Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas.

**October 13, 2018**

Arkansas State Archives, *Tracing Your Arkansas Roots: Genealogy 101*, speakers include Thea Baker and Diana Gilpin, 9 a.m., Historic Washington State Park.

**October 19-20, 2018**

The Arkansas Genealogical Society 2018 Fall Conference will be at the Benton Event and Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. CeCe Moore, Professional Genetic Genealogist is scheduled to present.

**November 4-10, 2018**

National Genealogical Society Guided Research Trip to Washington, D.C. Visit *Upfront With NGS* for the details.

**November 13, 2018**

Arkansas State Archives, *Pen to Podium: Arkansas Historical Writers' Lecture Series, Hidden History of Fort Smith*, by Ben Boulden, 6:30 p.m., Department of Arkansas Heritage Diamond Room, 1100 North Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

**August 21-24, 2019**

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Washington, D. C.

**September 2-5, 2020**

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri.



Arkansas State Archives 2006 before the remodel, Courtesy of the ASA

During her last stint as director of ASA, Richter over saw the transfer of the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives and the development of Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives. She introduced workshops, at each facility showcasing the agencies staff and materials.



Arkansas State Archives 2006 after the remodel, Courtesy of the ASA

Richter also brought ASA into the 21st century by completely remodeling the facility, bringing in computers for researcher, made Ancestry.com available and replaced hand crank microfilm readers with reader printers. She also revamped the agency's website, adding Documenting Arkansas, now known as the Arkansas Digital Archives, and finding aids to the website. There is no doubt that Richter will bring the same enthusiasm to the position during this tenure.

# Genealogy Embraces the Power of Social Media as a Research Tool

By Jeanne Rollberg, AGS Board Member

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Social and consumer-to-consumer media like Facebook, Pinterest, eBay, and Google are woven into the fabric of our daily lives in Arkansas and across the world. As you use social media and also pursue family history, are you aware of the many genealogy discoveries hidden in social media themselves? Do you know about your own opportunity to carefully share with the world-wide genealogy community through them?



Katherine R. Willson from <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/>

There are useful resources about Arkansas to learn about as well as those in other states and countries on Facebook. Genealogist Katherine R. Willson of Ann Arbor, Michigan provides and updates a lengthy list of Facebook genealogy links in English (more than 12,700 links). <https://moonswings.files.wordpress.com/2017/11/genealogy-on-facebook-list-nov-20171.pdf>

These U.S. and worldwide groups, organized by an alphabetical table of contents, can help us join Arkansas groups and others from relevant locations needed to help solve family history mysteries. We can easily learn about unknown resources and research facilities, and collaborate with others.

## Arkansas Group Sample

Here is a sampling of groups listed under "Arkansas." Some are listed by county, but some concern topics like Arkansas military history or cemetery preservation.

## Genealogy Embraces the Power of Social Media as a Research Tool (continued)

### ARKANSAS

239. Abandoned Arkansas: [facebook.com/AbandonedArkansas](https://facebook.com/AbandonedArkansas)

240. Arkansas & Missouri History: [facebook.com/groups/234039950342068](https://facebook.com/groups/234039950342068)

241. Arkansas County, AR - Grand Prairie Historical Society: [facebook.com/grandprairiehistory](https://facebook.com/grandprairiehistory)

242. Arkansas Genealogical Society: [facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Genealogical-Society/123107267762999](https://facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-Genealogical-Society/123107267762999)

249. Arkansas Historical Association: [facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-HistoricalAssociation/131177800261174](https://facebook.com/pages/Arkansas-HistoricalAssociation/131177800261174)

252. Arkansas Military History - MacArthur Museum (Little Rock): [facebook.com/MacArthur-Museum-ofArkansas-Military-History-127147589377](https://facebook.com/MacArthur-Museum-ofArkansas-Military-History-127147589377)

253. Arkansas Ozarks Genealogical Society: [facebook.com/groups/244348612282534](https://facebook.com/groups/244348612282534)

265. Columbia County, AR Histories & Genealogies: [facebook.com/groups/1499639616988509](https://facebook.com/groups/1499639616988509)

266. Craighead County, AR Genealogical Society: [facebook.com/GSCCA](https://facebook.com/GSCCA)

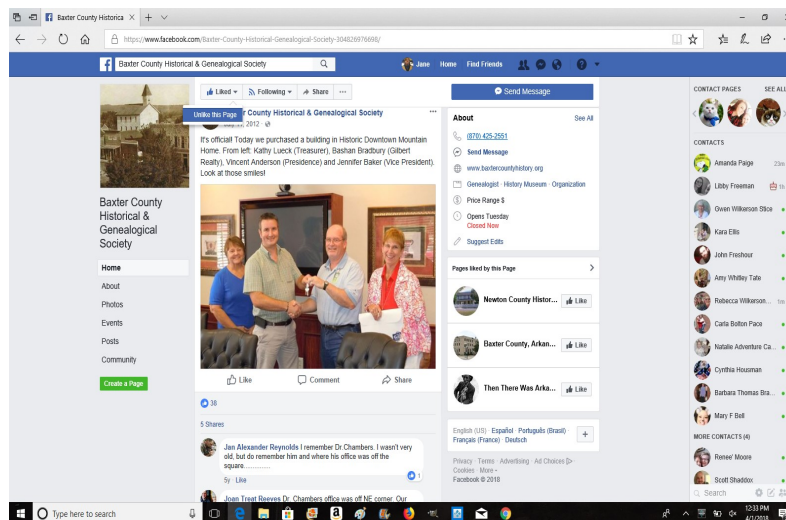
267. Fulton County, AR Genealogy: [facebook.com/FultonCountyARK](https://facebook.com/FultonCountyARK)

269. Garland County, AR - Hot Springs Old Photos: [facebook.com/groups/550922781712157](https://facebook.com/groups/550922781712157)

271. Johnson County, AR Historical Society: [facebook.com/JCHS.HeritageCenter](https://facebook.com/JCHS.HeritageCenter)

272. Lawrence County, AR Historical Society: [facebook.com/Lawrence-County-Historical-Society-Arkansas145219285534127](https://facebook.com/Lawrence-County-Historical-Society-Arkansas145219285534127)

275. Northwest Arkansas Cemetery Preservation Group: [facebook.com/groups/177348508986521](https://facebook.com/groups/177348508986521)



### Family History Topics and Groups

Throughout the larger list, many useful **topics** such as Civil War, lineage groups, adoptions, old photos, and genealogy bloggers are identified in addition to locations.

Some Facebook groups are informational only and are not designed for collaboration. But it's the collaborative ones throughout the entire list (not just Arkansas) that may help us most. A standard way to use many of these groups for Facebook members is first to ask to join by going to the group page. After being notified of acceptance, we may usually then post queries for assistance by group members, many of whom are either local themselves or knowledgeable about local resources. Many genealogists are in these groups, too. The collaboration involved here enables many research tasks to be accomplished at once. (Note: Some Facebook groups are more active and responsive than others.)

### How the Groups Work

After posting a query, be available for notifications and questions in case group members need more information about your person or topic. Be sure to share the key facts already gathered so that other researchers don't undertake redundant research. Avoid posting private information about living people by mistake. Put family surnames in capital letters. Keep in mind that if you need to post a private clarification or message to someone in the group who is helping you, you can easily do that by using private Facebook messaging or switching to email. (We must also remember to observe copyright laws while on Facebook when posting information and photos.) You may arrange notification settings from Facebook to meet your needs – seeing more or fewer. There are now Facebook links that you may automatically incorporate into family trees, such as at Ancestry.com. This demonstrates Facebook integration into genealogy.

The reciprocity of assisting other researchers after they have helped us is a norm of group use. Researchers often “meet” cousins by posting generic queries about one family line or another in the groups. “I’m looking for Brutons, Woolvertons, and Thomases in Michigan.” Facebook is also a useful tool in locating just-discovered living family members (whose family history photos are often included in their Facebook pages). Groups who are doing family research together may set up private Facebook groups where information is shared.

### Cautions about Facebook

We are daily presented with news stories about the potential risks of using social media and sharing online. As this newsletter is being completed, Facebook is in the news regarding account privacy issues of around 50 million (of several billion) users. As a result, here's a much-needed update on Facebook's privacy settings and tools to keep us safer online: <https://newsroom.fb.com/news/2018/03/privacy-shortcuts/>

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## AGS 2018 Fall Seminar

October 19-20, 2018  
Benton Event Center, Benton, AR  
Keynote Speaker: CeCe Moore

Ms. Moore is Co-Founder Institute for Genetic Genealogy and has worked as the genetic genealogy consultant and scriptwriter for the PBS Television documentary series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. More information will be forthcoming.

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### Administrative Stuff

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! To [agscontributions@gmail.com](mailto:agscontributions@gmail.com) — Thanks!

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