



# AGS Ezine

Newsletter of the Arkansas Genealogical Society Vol. 15 No. 3 MARCH 2020

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editors

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## Coming Events

### March 21, 2020

**Special Workshop: Due to the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus)**

More information coming soon!  
CALs, Darragh Center, 100 Rock Street,  
Little Rock. In coordination with  
the [Ulster Historical Foundation](#)

### May 2, 2020

**2020 AGS Spring Workshop**

More information coming soon!  
Old Washington State Park  
In coordination with the [Arkansas State Archives](#)

### October 16-17, 2020

**2020 AGS Fall Seminar**

Benton Event Center, Benton Arkansas. For more information go to  
<https://www.agsgenealogy.org/>  
<https://www.agsgenealogy.org/>

Click on link below for information on  
other events around the state,

## Ulster Historical Foundation

Due to the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic, we regret that the Ulster Foundation Irish Genealogy Workshop scheduled for March 21, 2010 has been cancelled. We were looking forward to having our friends Fintan Mullan and Gillian Hunt making their presentations at The Darragh Center, however, because of the current situation the Central Arkansas Library System has determined that is in the best interest to cancel all public meetings and programs until March 31, 2020.

In the meantime please keep in mind that the AGS will once again be co-sponsoring a Spring Workshop with the Arkansas State Archives on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at Historic Washington State Park. Please check, <https://www.agsgenealogy.org/> or [Arkansas State Archives](#) for any updates on the event.

Thanks for your understanding and your support of the Arkansas Genealogy Society. We look forward continuing to serve the genealogical community.

George Mitchell, President  
Arkansas Genealogical Society

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# Meet the Board

Anna McClung moved to Lonoke, Arkansas 13 years ago and works with the USDA. She serves on the Lonoke County Museum board and, during the last four years, has helped with grant writing, outreach events, editing historical information for museum books, and social media.



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## 2020 Tourism Takes Grit..and Genealogy: Getting Back to Arkansas Roots

Heritage and roots tourism were showcased at a panel at the Governor's Conference on Tourism in Fort Smith March 1-3. AGS board member Jeanne Rollberg shared 10 tips about how communities may support Arkansas roots tourism and research.

Other panelists were Georganne Siskou of the Old State House Museum and Greg Phillips of Main Street Arkansas. AGS has supported increased Arkansas genealogy travel/ roots tourism inspired by DNA and online research for years.



## 2020 Tourism Takes Grit..and Genealogy: Getting Back to Arkansas Roots

**Roots tourism:** Inspired travel to individual family places, related heritage tourism sites/communities, and local research entities. It can occur 365 days a year in every part of Arkansas.

1. Reach out to **family reunion groups** (normally from 40 to 200 participants each) who are known to be meeting in or near your community. They stay/spend extra \$!
2. Use inexpensive **targeted social media** as an initial way to both inspire and reach reuniongoers (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter)
3. **Incorporate roots tourism photos/videos** into general tourism social media messages, especially on Twitter and Instagram.
4. Include **updated links to nearby research resources** in websites, rack cards, brochures and magazines (libraries, archives, historical societies, historic state parks, courthouses, etc.) Researchers stay longer. \$
5. Connect **marketing and advertising to nearby cities/towns** where roots tourists had ancestors and common history. Win/win for extended stays.
6. Promote museums, historic bed and breakfasts, Arkansas agriculture, foodways and music resources, churches, cemeteries, and other **unique attractions** as a way tourists can locate "ancestor context." Recommend Arkansas State Archives.
7. Reach out to **entities/communities within the state** to entice Arkansas multi-generational residents to explore family history in your location.
8. **Collaborate** with local/statewide genealogists/lineage societies, regional archives/historical organizations to plan marketing/advertising, custom tours. Emphasize **2020 census.**
9. **Help** these organizations **with marketing**, if needed, because of limited funding.
10. **Bring 'em back: Solicit feedback** from heritage and roots tourists directly after visits. Incorporate it to refine roots tourism experiences for your business, government entity, organization, or community.

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**Friends of the Arkansas State Archives** <https://ararchivesfriends.org/>

**Arkansas Genealogical Society** <https://www.agsgenealogy.org/> **Arkansas Historical Association/Historical Societies** [http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org/?page\\_id=21](http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org/?page_id=21)

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# Tracing Your Arkansas Roots

Tracing Your Arkansas Roots spring workshop, sponsored by the Arkansas Genealogical Society and Arkansas State Archives, will be held Saturday, May 2nd at Historic Washington State Park. Check-in begins at 9 am. Speakers include Carla Coleman, Erin Fehr and Jane A. Wilkerson. Topics include Native American, African American and Immigration genealogy.

The event is free but registration is required. Registration will open in April. Lunch and refreshments will be served.



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## Genealogy Conference March 21st

~~Canceled due to the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus)~~

The annual Genealogy Conference will be held on Saturday, March 21st from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM at the Benton branch. Our presenter, Mark Lowe, is a lifelong genealogist. He's a full-time genealogist, author, and lecturer who specializes in original records and manuscripts throughout the South.

He will be speaking on the following topics:

- Cherokee Ancestors
- DNA Tests
- Timelines and Manuscripts
- Published Local Histories

For more information, visit our [website](#) and click [here](#) to register.

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### Administrative Stuff

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