



Artificial Intelligence in Genealogy by Scott Lee

Can artificial intelligence (AI) be used to help build your family tree? For the last few years, the answer has been yes. But only in a few limited ways. That is about to change. AI is on an exponential growth curve. Very soon, AI will become an integral part of genealogy, just like computers and the Internet did.

To demonstrate the power of AI, below is an excerpt of a “conversation” I had with an AI chatbot named ChatGPT. Notice how it understands my question and gives an answer rather than a list of links like a search engine. The answers are not always the best answer, but they are still helpful. It is not trained specifically on genealogy, but someday that will come.

Would your organization be interested in a live presentation on AI? This and other topics are available at no charge to your group. AGS members offer free Zoom presentations on a variety of genealogy topics. For more information, visit ArGenSoc.org/presentations.

Scott: What is genealogy?

ChatGPT: Genealogy is the study of family history and the tracing of lineage or ancestry. It involves researching and documenting the relationships between individuals and their ancestors, using a variety of sources such as census records, birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, and military records. Genealogy can be a hobby or a profession, and it can be a way for people to learn more about their family history, cultural heritage, and connections to their past. It can also be used to establish legal relationships or to prove ancestry for a variety of purposes, such as to claim citizenship or inheritance.

Scott: How can I get started building my family tree?

ChatGPT: Building a family tree can be a fun and rewarding hobby that helps you learn more about your ancestors and your family history. Here are some steps you can take to get started:

1. Gather as much information as you can about your immediate family, including your parents, grandparents, and any other close relatives. Write down their full names, dates of birth and death (if applicable), and any other information you have about them, such as their occupation or place of residence.

2. Consult with family members and see if they have any additional information or documents that could help with your research. This could include things like old family photos, letters, or documents.

Artificial Intelligence in Genealogy (con't)

3. Begin researching your ancestors using online resources and local libraries and archives. Some common sources for genealogical research include census records, birth and death certificates, marriage licenses, and military records. These resources can often provide valuable information about your ancestors, including their names, dates of birth and death, and relationships to other family members.

4. Use a genealogy software or website to help organize your research and build your family tree. Many of these tools allow you to enter the information you have collected and create a visual representation of your family tree.

5. Consider joining a genealogy group or society in your local area, or connecting with other genealogists online. These resources can be a great way to share information, ask for help with your research, and learn from others who are interested in genealogy.

By following these steps, you can begin building your family tree and learning more about your ancestors. It can be a rewarding and enjoyable process, and you may be surprised by what you learn about your family history.

Scott: Where can I find land records for Arkansas?

ChatGPT: In Arkansas, land records are typically maintained by the county where the property is located. You can find land records by contacting the county assessor's office or the county clerk's office in the county where the property is located. These offices may have records available online or may be able to provide you with information about how to access the records in person or by mail.

You can also try searching for land records on websites that offer online access to public records, such as the Arkansas Secretary of State's website or the Arkansas Land Records website. These websites may have a searchable database of land records for properties in the state.

In addition, you can visit the county courthouse in the county where the property is located and search for land records in the county's records room. Many courthouses also have copies of land records available for purchase.

Finally, you can try contacting the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration's Office of Land and Property Services. They may be able to provide you with information about land records in the state.

Upcoming Lecture on Arkansas Genealogical Research



Arkansas Genealogical Society member Russell P. Baker, Editor of the Arkansas Family Historian, will present a live, internet lecture concerning Family History Research in Arkansas, on January 26, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. Central Time, 6:30 Eastern Time, sponsored by the Genealogical Center of the Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN. The lecture is free and open to anyone on Zoom.

To sign up contact Elizabeth Hodges, Senior Librarian - Genealogy Center, Allen County Public Library, (260) 421-1225, ehodges@acpl.info

Or Click to [Register here.](#)

January 25, 2023 @ 1PM

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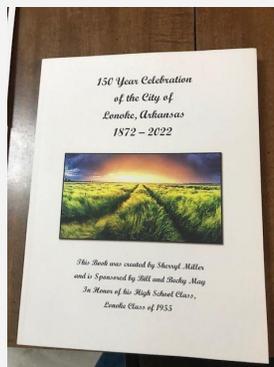
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Lonoke County Historical Information



The folks at the Lonoke County Museum have been hard at work putting together new historical documents about the Lonoke community.

They are selling two items that may have information about your family. The book "150 Year Celebration of the City of Lonoke, Arkansas

1872-2022" has over 400 pictures of people and places in Lonoke with stories and short biographies about the people who settled in the community for the past generations.



The other is the 2023 Lonoke County calendar which includes 24 pictures of county scenes. Both are being sold for \$25.00, plus \$5.00 shipping, or come by the Museum in Lonoke and pick up your copy.

Lonoke Co. Museum
P.O. Box 873 Lonoke, AR
72086
501-676-6750

NAGS Meeting

Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society serves the counties of Benton, Carroll, Madison and Washington in NW Arkansas. The Society meets on the 4th Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Monday, January 23 at 6:00 P.M. at the Bentonville Public Library, 405 South Main Street, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Administrative Staff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it!

agscontributions@gmail.com

AGS:

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