



# AGS Ezine

Newsletter of the Arkansas Genealogical Society Vol. 18 No. 4 August 2023

Leisa Horness, editor

Coming Events ---

AGS Conference

Via Zoom

Oct. 14, 2023

<https://tinyurl.com/58h8cjrj>

Arkansas Scottish Festival

Batesville, AR

Oct. 27-29, 2023

[www.arscottishfest.com](http://www.arscottishfest.com)

Oakland & Fraternal Historic

Cemetery Park

160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Nov. 5, 2023

[Friends.oaklandfraternal@gmail.com](mailto:Friends.oaklandfraternal@gmail.com)

## 2023 AGS Speakers Bring A Wealth of Knowledge

by Andria Yakoubian

In today's world of people doing genealogy alone on their computer, where else could you get decades of experience and knowledge from certified professional genealogists?

At the Arkansas Genealogy Fall Conference! It will be Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 am. The conference will be virtual and free to anyone who signs up.

Our speakers, Paula Stuart-Warren and Lori Thornton have been researching and educating genealogy lovers for half of a century.

On the morning of October 14<sup>th</sup> Paula Stuart-Warren, a Board Certified Genealogist, will show us how to locate unusual resources to find hidden records for your ancestors, plus she will delve into what the U.S. National Archives have available to you.

Topics include:

9:15 a.m. – **Tho' They Were Poor, They May Have Been Rich in Records**

10:30 a.m. – **The U.S. National Archives: The Nation's Attic**

Paula currently lives in Minnesota and has been an active Genealogist since 1988.

Our second speaker of the day will be Lori Thornton who is a professional genealogist and has written many published articles in the U.S. and Canada. Lori will use her vast knowledge of the Southern States to show us ways to research our ancestors.

Topics include:

1:15 p.m. – **Deep Southern Roots: Alabama and Mississippi Ancestors**

2:30 p.m. – **North Carolina Research From The Comfort of Home**

Lori lives in East Tennessee and has been researching since 1992 but she became a professional genealogist in 2005. Read more about Lori at

<https://www.thorntongenealogy.com/>

## 2023 AGS Speakers Bring A Wealth of Knowledge (cont.)

by Andria Yakoubian

### Would your organization like to sponsor a Watch Party?

All you need is a computer to run the Zoom session, a big screen for everyone to watch, speakers or PA sound system, and a microphone to allow the audience to ask questions. A camera is encouraged, but not required. Contact [webmaster@argsoc.org](mailto:webmaster@argsoc.org) to make arrangements or to ask questions.

If internet is an issue in your area, a watch party at a location would be a great solution! Get a group together to have a viewing party at your local library plus you will have others to confer with.

AGS Conference: October 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Register for our virtual conference at <https://tinyurl.com/58h8cjrj>.

## AGS Conference Speaker Paula Stuart-Warren



Paula Stuart-Warren,  
Certified Genealogist®, FMGS, FUGA

Paula Stuart-Warren is an internationally acclaimed genealogical research and educator, renowned for her expertise. Her areas of specialization encompass Native American research, the Works Progress Administration (WPA), and railroad records. Paula has dedicated extensive hours to research within libraries, courthouses, state archives, historical societies, and the U.S. National Archives.

Functioning as a consultant, Paula's focus revolves around unconventional resources, manuscripts, methodology, and comprehensive record analysis. Presently, she serves as a coordinator and instructor at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh. She has designed and conducted courses for various platforms including Research Write Connect Academy, Ancestry Academy, Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, Texas Institute of Genealogical Research, and

Family Tree University. She is also recognized for delivering virtual seminars and webinars throughout the United States and Canada.

Paula's engagement in the genealogy community is extensive. She formerly held positions on the Board of Directors of the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Minnesota Genealogical Society. She also served as an officer of the Association of Professional Genealogists. Notably, Paula has held the distinction of being a Board-Certified Genealogist since 1988.

Her personal genealogical journey encompasses connections from eight ancestral countries. Paula has diligently researched family ties across the United States and Canada, even delving into her children's paternal connections in Northwest Arkansas. To facilitate knowledge-sharing and continuous learning, Paula maintains her own educational website and blog at <http://genealogybypaula.com>, displaying her unwavering enthusiasm for education and knowledge dissemination.

## Dating Old Family Photos

Have you ever been excited to discover old family photographs, only to find that you have no way to identify the people, location or time period? **Cathy Wallace** has written a very helpful article on her experience with this in her BillionGraves blog post.

This article has an excellent introduction to the history of photography and explanation of the types of photos through the years. In her blog, she offers pointers on identifying unknown people in your photographs. These include narrowing down the type of photo you have (daguerreotype, ambrotype, tintype, carte de viste, and cabinet cards), finding the time period when your type of photo was popular, researching any photographers name and location, and looking for people in your family tree that had events (such as weddings) that might have occurred during that time.

For additional help, Ms. Wallace mentions the newly released PhotoDater™ by MyHeritage. This is a free new feature using AI technology to recognize subtle indications (fashion, hair styles, automobiles, and furnishings, et al) that point to a certain decade. PhotoDater™ will then give you an estimated year.

Once you've identified the folks in your photographs, the author explains how to use the BillionGraves app to find the gravestone. You can click on "find headstones" from the main screen, enter a name, choose one of the search results, and click on "directions". Once you get to the cemetery, the app will show you the gravestone's location marked with a GPS pin, as well as a flashing blue dot representing the location of your phone. Once your blue dot and the GPS marker come into alignment, you'll be within a few feet of the gravestone!

For more information on this topic, please check out Cathy Wallace's full blog post at <https://blog.billiongraves.com/how-to-date-old-family-photos-find-gravestones/>.

## 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fall Gathering of the Oakland & Fraternal Historic Cemetery Park



The Friends of Oakland & Fraternal Historic Cemetery Park invite you to join them for the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fall Gathering on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2-5 p.m. This event will feature cemetery tours, Find A Grave help, music, a food truck, and dedications.

The Park is located at 2101 Barber St., Little Rock, east of I-30 and adjacent to the Little Rock National Cemetery.

For more information, you can call (501) 251-4891 or email [friends.oaklandfraternal@gmail.com](mailto:friends.oaklandfraternal@gmail.com).

## September Kitchen Roundtable Talk

By Mary Jane Baxley

Join us for our upcoming Kitchen Roundtable Talk on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. Our discussion will be led by Clara Jane Timmerman and will revolve around the theme “Organizing Your Way Through: Insights into Donating Materials to Archives and Libraries.” Many of us have digitized materials that we no longer need, along with collected documents and photos of limited relevance from distant or deceased family members. These items can offer valuable insights to researchers at genealogical facilities.

Each month, we delve into a different genealogical topic or application, engaging in vibrant online discussions among participants. This presents an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow genealogy enthusiasts, forging new friendships within the community and establishing connections with those who share similar research interests. Our relaxed format ensures a welcoming environment for everyone.

We warmly welcome suggestions from our members for topics of interest. We also encourage volunteers to step forward and lead discussions on subjects close to their hearts. As this initiative is an evolving endeavor, we anticipate making adjustments based on experience. Your participation and feedback play an indispensable role in refining our approach.

To secure your spot, please register through the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtdOuhrToiHdXqx0NAIbcJcZHbMvxbSIN4>

Our October topic will discuss Brick Walls. Our date and presenter will be announced soon.

The link to find a listing of our discussion topics is:

<https://argensoc.org/kitchen/>

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## AGS Would Like To Hear From You!

The Arkansas Genealogical Society welcomes news, events, and comments, etc. from other genealogical groups within the state or information that is Arkansas related.

Please send your news to us at [agscontributions@gmail.com](mailto:agscontributions@gmail.com).

## So, You Have Arkansas Roots?

Do you know that the largest published collection of Arkansas genealogical material is found in the back files of the Arkansas Family Historian, published four times a year by the Arkansas Genealogical Society?

It began publication in 1962. The back files from 1962-2016 are freely available at the society's website at <https://argensoc.org/afh/>. Each volume or issue features a full name index. Consulting these back files at the beginning of your Arkansas roots journey may facilitate your search for your hard-to-find Arkansas ancestors.

Russell P. Baker, Editor, Arkansas Family Historian

### Administrative Stuff

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it to [ezine@argensoc.org](mailto:ezine@argensoc.org) – Thanks!

**AGS:** To learn more about the Arkansas Genealogical Society, visit our website at <http://www.argensoc.org>

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