



AGS Ezine

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Using Facebook Groups for Genealogy

by Leisa Horness

Leisa Horness, editor

Coming Events ---

Historic Arkansas Museum

56th Christmas Frolic

Dec. 3 – noon to 4 p.m.

<https://www.arkansasheritage.com/events/2023/12/03/default-calendar/56th-annual-frolic>

December Kitchen Roundtable

Dec. 12 -- 6:30 p.m.

To register for Zoom meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6srDouGtwR2X1zwDIA_sOt2yF6s5oq

I think one of the best uses of Facebook is for genealogy. Social media, for all its faults, is a great way to crowd source your research. In this article, I'll focus on the benefits of Facebook genealogy and history groups.

There are many Facebook groups on the history of specific locations, family names, and genealogy. You'll need to search for a location, family, or type of genealogy you're interested in. Sometimes it's better to not limit your searches and just do a generic search for genealogy. You may find things that you didn't expect that may be very helpful to you!

Here are some examples of groups you may find: Genealogy with Lonoke County Roots, Cabot & Lonoke County Local History (I am an administrator for these first two groups), Arkansas Genealogy Network, Genealogy Tip of the Day, The Genealogy Squad, and many Arkansas county history groups.

Most of these groups are private, which means you'll need to join in order to interact with other group members. Generally, the questions ask why you want to join and if you agree to the rules of the group.

Since I have personal experience with two of these groups, I'd like to use them as examples of what you might find.

Genealogy with Lonoke County Roots is a private group and managed by Cabot Public Library and me. Here's its stated purpose: "Genealogy with Lonoke County Roots was created to provide a forum for people to research their Family History that connects to Lonoke County."

The group has 408 members who often post questions about brick walls concerning Lonoke County ancestors. I also post links to research sites, and offer look ups from our library source material. It's a good group for anyone with family history questions about Lonoke County.

Using Facebook Groups for Genealogy (Cont)

I am also a manager for Cabot Public Library's Facebook group called **Cabot & Lonoke County Local History**. While this is not specifically a genealogy group, I believe it's just as valuable for research. It has over 4700 members, is private, and focuses on the history of Lonoke County and its communities.

Group members post historic photos of our cities, events, community members, ask for help with photo identification, and most importantly share their memories of their communities and families. Their comments are some of the best records of everyday life in local history that I've ever seen.

Here's an example from the Cabot & Lonoke County History group of a request for photo identification:

"This is the closest photo I have to 1940. These are Austin School students @ 1933 – 34. Photo courtesy of Betty Horness. Her brother was Bill Reeves, Jr. is on the bottom row, 2nd from right (in overalls). Anyone else who can id these students? Thanks" Contributed by Leisa Horness.



Both of these groups promote preservation of their community's history, act as a way to gather and retain those memories, and try to encourage a sense of connection between our patrons and their history. I really encourage you to search for a Facebook group and join in the fun!

Upcoming Events

Dec.3: noon to 4pm. Historic Arkansas Museum 56th Annual Christmas Frolic Station

“The museum and historic grounds will be open for an afternoon of old-fashioned fun. We’ll have music throughout and frolicking on our outdoor green space.

There will be lots of “make and takes.” Try your hand at candle dipping, create an ornament to decorate your tree, make an aromatic spice sachet or enjoy take-home activities, such as a pomander ball kit.

Of course, it wouldn’t be a Frolic without hot cider and ginger cake. We will have plenty on hand, including a gluten-free alternative. We'll also be cooking up a demonstration of a holiday meal in the Brownlee Kitchen.

This event is FREE Sunday, Dec. 3, 12-4 p.m. You don't want to miss it!” – Arkansas Heritage Events.

The Historic Arkansas Museum is at 200 E. 3rd St., Little Rock, AR.

<https://www.arkansasheritage.com/events/2023/12/03/default-calendar/56th-annual-frolic>



<https://arqensoc.org/join-us/>

December Kitchen Roundtable Talk

By Mary Jane Baxley

Our zoom discussion will be presented Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 PM. It is free of charge.

'Tis the season when families come together around the dining table! Now is the ideal moment to inquire about that cherished family recipe from your loved ones. Join us as we explore various methods of preserving our favorite dishes and share your experiences on this delightful topic.

Each month, we delve into diverse genealogical topics and methodologies, sparking lively online discussions among our participants. This platform provides an exceptional opportunity to establish meaningful connections with fellow genealogy enthusiasts, fostering new friendships within the community and connecting with like-minded individuals who share our passion for research.

In the upcoming months, our discussions will cover a range of intriguing topics, including Locating Records in Arkansas, The Art of Writing your Family History One Chapter at a Time, Mastering Cemetery Research, and Navigating Technology Challenges in Genealogical Research. We will also feature a special presentation for Adoptees.

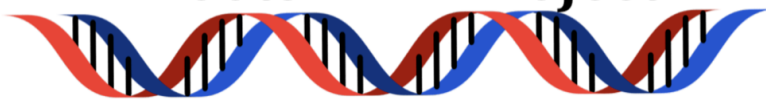
We eagerly welcome suggestions from everyone for topics of interest and encourage volunteers to step forward as discussion leaders for subjects close to their hearts. As this initiative continues to evolve, we anticipate making refinements based on our collective experiences. Your active participation and valuable feedback remain crucial in shaping the future of our endeavors.

The link to find a listing of our discussion topics is <https://argensoc.org/kitchen>

To register for this webinar, please use the following link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtf-6srDouGtwR2X1zwDIA_sOt2yF6s5oq

Join the AGS Early Arkansas Roots DNA Project



Y-DNA and autosomal DNA testing is a powerful tool -we build pathways to the past to connect male lines, correct existing trees, AND find supporting evidence.

<https://www.familytreedna.com/groups/agsearlyarkansasrootsproject/about>

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.

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 – Thanks!

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