



Johnny Mann, editor  
George Mitchell, list manager

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## TELL ME ABOUT YOUR LIFE AUNT MARY.

If you have read the January issue you might remember the part about not waiting too long to learn what unique knowledge that particular relative has. There is more than one way to go about the task. Like any other project, a little (a lot of) forethought is necessary. You have to have a plan, but you also might need permission. Last year I had planned an interview with one of my ancestors. I had only recently met him and his wife. The day before the interview, one of his sons called and let me know I would need his permission before an interview and he would need to be present for the interview. Be forewarned.

One good format is to follow a list of questions, as opposed to “tell me about your life.” Carefully worded questions in a specific order can yield fruitful results. I suggest that you avoid “re-inventing the wheel.” Many resources are available on the web. The post that got me started on this article is “150 questions to ask family member about their lives” by [Genealogy by Barry](#). There are many others out there, you just need to take the time to find them. The time you spend up front will yield a more productive interview.

However, you do not have to do it yourself. Conducting and producing a video interview is one of the services offered by Tim Welch, Home Video Studio, who has been a vendor at our past seminars. I have not used his interview service and this is not an endorsement, but Tim would be a good place to learn what is available from a professional. He is not the only choice, so do your homework.

Good luck whichever route you choose.

### JOIN US!

If you are not a member,  
this is your official  
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member,  
look at the back of your  
*Arkansas Family Historian*.  
Your membership expires  
on the date printed under  
your name.

It may be time to renew  
your AGS membership dues!

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## Tidbits —

“From the Director” in the February 2016 issue of the Arkansas History Commission newsletter provides us with a sign of encouragement from the Arkansas Governor. You can read Dr. Speer’s message at <http://www.ark-ives.com!/userfiles/pdfs/February%202016%20final.pdf>

The National Genealogical Society is seeking qualified candidates for the managing editor contractor position for *NGS Magazine*, *NGS Magazine* is published quarterly. This information was received via email. For more information on the application process and the position, a full job description can be viewed at the NGS website by visiting <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/magazinemanagingeditor>.

From *The Ancestry Insider*: Ancestry.com has issued more information regarding the RootsWeb website outage. It was a hardware failure. In this sort of situation, it is not wise to give a date for the resolution of the problem. They have indicated a resolve date of March 15, 2016. I would anticipate they were very conservative in selecting this date.

Also from *The Ancestry Insider*: The Family History Library has announced the schedule of it’s free webinars for March. They have also published several new courses in their free learning center. Ancestry.com has released many new educational videos on its YouTube. To attend a Family History Library webinar, [CLICK HERE](#).

Bobby Roberts has been the Director of the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs) since 1989. He is retiring on March 4.

## Coming Events

March 12, 2016

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's "Walks Through History" will be from 11 AM to 1 PM at 217 Laurel Street, Newport, Arkansas. Look for the detail at <http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/events/03-12-2016-walks-through-history> or see page 12.

March 12, 2016

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Society Spring Workshop with Lisa Louis Cooke will be at the new St Jude Catholic Church Community Center, 4700 Palmetto Road, Benton, LA. See the at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laaltga/calendar2016.htm>.

March 17, 2016

The Tennessee Genealogical Society Presents Ulster Historical Foundation. See page 11 for the details.

March 22, 2016

The Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas will present *Sorrow, Trouble & Worry: The Ozark Home Front in the Civil War* by Susan Young. It will be at 7:00 pm at Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock.

March 26, 2016 [CHANGE OF DATE](#)

Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library's 11th Annual Genealogy For Your Seminar with D. Joshua Taylor presenting. Registration is required and begins January 4, 2016. Call 501-778-4766 or visit <http://salinecountylibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails.aspx?EventId=20898&lib=> to register. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE!!!!

## Coming Events continued

Marth 28, 2016

Heritage Seekers monthly meeting at 6:30 at Second Presbyterian Church, 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock, with Brenda Veerhusen presenting *Fort Smith: More Than Just Judge Parker*.

April 1, 2016

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's Sandwiching in History at 1:00 pm at the Nannie C. Wright House, 1617 S. Battery Street, Little Rock.

April 9, 2016

Walks Thru History, The Perryville Commercial Historic District, 408 Main Street, Perryville, Arkansas from 11 am to 1 pm. Look for the details at <http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/events/04-09-2016-walks-through-history/>.

April 16, 2016

Family History Conference at 6748 Lynch's Prairie Ct., Springdale, Arkansas. See page 8 for the details.

April 21–23, 2016

The Arkansas Historical Association 75th annual conference, April 21-23, in downtown Little Rock. The conference theme is "Arkansas since 1941." See page 17 for details

April 30, 2016

The Arkansas History Commission and the Arkansas Genealogical Society are collaborating on a seminar to be held at the 1914 Schoolhouse in Washington, Arkansas. It will be a day-long event featuring four speakers. The details will be announced in the March issue of the Ezine. It will be fashioned similar to the May 2015 event at the State Capitol.

## Coming Events continued

May 4-7, 2016

The NGS 2016 Family History Conference will be held 4-7 May 2016 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center. Hotel reservations are now open at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/accommodations>.

May 17, 2016

PBS begins the new season of Genealogy Roadshow with Josh Taylor.

June 3-5, 2016

47th Annual Southern California Genealogical Society Jamboree 2016 at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel, Burbank, CA. See <http://www.genealogyjamboree.com/> for the details.

June 9-11, 2016

The 2016 Genealogy Jamboree in Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. Please go to <http://www.genealogyjamboree.us/> for all the details.

June 12–17, 2016

The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research, Samford University Library, week-long event will be in Birmingham, Alabama. Registration is now open. [Click here](#) to go to their website.

August 31– September 3, 2016

Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) will be held in Springfield, Illinois. See [www.fgs.org](http://www.fgs.org) for the details. Hotel Reservations are now open. You can go to <https://www.fgsconference.org/> for the details and links to make your reservation. [One hotel is already sold out!]

## Coming Events continued

September 17, 2016

The Village Genealogy Society & Akansa Chapter, NSDAR are having a 2016 Fall Family History Workshop featuring Cari Taplin. You can learn more at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arhsvgs/>

September 23-24, 2016

2016 STANDRIDGE NATIONAL FAMILY REUNION

Friday-Saturday, Sept. 23-24, 2016, La Quinta Inn, Bryant, AR. For additional information contact Russell P. Baker, 6525 Magnolia Dr., Mabelvale, AR 72103, [gobgob3@mindspring.com](mailto:gobgob3@mindspring.com)

September 18–25, 2016

The 3rd Annual Genealogy Conference and Cruise, hosted by Heritage Books, Inc. will depart from Galveston, Texas. Visit [HeritageBooks.com](http://HeritageBooks.com).

## National Society of the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims

*This article is here in case you missed it in the February issue. Their next semi-annual meeting is in April.*

We have a request from Lisa Winkleman, Branch Governor of National Society of the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims to let our readers know about them. Lisa provided the following wording to put in the Ezine.

The Arkansas Branch of the National Society of the Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims is celebrating it's 30th birthday this year and we are looking for new members to come celebrate with us. The requirement for membership is to prove lineal descent from immigrants to the American Colonies prior to 1700. Record copies of applications from many other lineage societies are accepted as documentation for your application to NSSDP. Initial membership is \$40. We meet twice a year (April and October) at a lunch meeting in Little Rock.

Please contact Branch Governor Lisa Winkleman ([lwink29@gmail.com](mailto:lwink29@gmail.com)) if you have any questions or would like to apply for membership.



## Springdale Family History Conference



### SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 16, 2016

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

6748 Lynch's Prairie Ct., Springdale, AR 72762

8am-5pm

Website: [www.familyhistoryconferencenwa.org](http://www.familyhistoryconferencenwa.org)

- Register for 30+ Classes for beginners to advanced levels by professional instructors
- Period Costumes, old-fashioned cookies, restored stagecoach for photos.
- Various societies will be represented and available for you to join.
- Computer lab available to learn indexing throughout the day.
- Individual help to get you started on your family tree.

See you there!



## Friends of the Arkansas History Commission

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

*Lloyd Clark, President*

*Friends of the Arkansas History Commission*

*P.O. Box 250916*

*Little Rock, Arkansas 72225*

*501-454-4371*

*February 16, 2016*

*Little Rock -- A new organization has been established to support the work of the Arkansas History Commission. Known as the Friends of the Arkansas History Commission, the new group has the purpose of encouraging and supporting the advancement of Arkansas History by assisting the state's official history agency in fulfilling its mission.*

*The chairman of the Friends is Lloyd Clark, a resident of Powhatan in Lawrence County and a long-time leader in promoting Arkansas history. Clark has been president of the Lawrence County Historical Society since 1995. He is also a Justice of the Peace representing the Powhatan area where he lives with his wife, Barbara Jones Clark.*

*Clark said the organization was established at a meeting in Little Rock at which over 40 people attended from all areas of the state. "The impetus for establishing the group," Clark explained, "is the realization that the History Commission faces huge obstacles." He specifically mentioned inadequate funding, a small staff, and a lack of support in the legislature."*

*Other officers comprising the leadership of the Friends are: Lynda Suffridge of North Little Rock, vice chairman; Tim Nutt, secretary, and Tom Dillard, treasurer.*

## Friends of the Arkansas History Commission *continued*

*Board members are: Joan L. Gould, Fayetteville; Blake Perkins, Lynn, Ark.; Rex Nelson, Little Rock; Blake Wintory, Lake Village; Russell P. Baker, Mabelvale, Carl Drexler, Magnolia; Frances Ross, Little Rock; Sondra Gordy, Conway; Marion Butler, Little Rock; Tom DeBlack, Conway; Ken Bridges, El Dorado; and Richard C. Butler, Little Rock.*

*Membership in the Friends of the History Commission is only \$10 per year. A sustaining membership is available for \$25, life membership for \$200.00, and a one-time corporate membership for \$500.*

*To join the Friends of the Arkansas History Commission send your full name, complete contact information (including phone and email), and a check for your membership dues to:*

*Friends of the Arkansas History Commission  
P.O. Box 250916  
Little Rock, AR 72225*

## Tennessee Genealogical Society Conference

The [Tennessee Genealogical Society](#) Presents

Ulster Historical Foundation

Featuring

Fintan Mullan, Executive Director &

Gillian Hunt, Genealogist

Thursday, March 17th 1:00 pm

at the Pickering Center

7771 Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN

The [Ulster Historical Foundation](#) is a non-profit organization founded in 1956 to promote interest in Irish genealogy and history, with particular reference to the historical nine county province of Ulster. The Foundation is one of the leading genealogical research agencies in Ireland and a major publisher of historical, educational and genealogical source books. It has also devised a series of ground breaking online historical and genealogical resources, which have helped to transform the availability of Irish records for family historians at home and abroad.

Use [this form](#) for more information and to register for the event. Or you may register on-line [HERE](#)

## Walks Through History



LITTLE ROCK-The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program’s first “Walks Through History” tour of 2016 will visit historic downtown Newport on March 12, AHPP Director Frances McSwain announced today.

Located on a bend in the White River where the landscape transitions from the Ozark foothills to the flatlands of the Delta, Newport developed as an important river crossing. The town grew after the arrival of the Cairo & Fulton Railroad in the early 1870s. In 1891 the residents of Jackson County voted to move the county seat from Jacksonport to Newport. Historically, Newport’s economy relied on the timber, cotton and freshwater pearl industries.

The free walking tour will begin at 11 a.m. at the Newport First United Methodist Church at 217 Laurel Street and will last about two hours. The tour is co-sponsored by the Jackson County Historical Society.

## Family Tree Maker News

Most of you have probably heard that Ancestry announced in December the end of Family Tree Maker was coming. The following was posted on the Ancestry Blog pertaining to Family Tree Maker and the future. There were a zillion comments to post, so you might want to read those also at <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2016/02/02/good-news-for-users-of-family-tree-maker/>

*Posted by Kendall Hulet on February 2, 2016 in Family Tree Maker*

Since our [Family Tree Maker](#) announcement last December, we have continued to actively explore ways to develop and support Family Tree Maker and ensure you have choices to preserve your work in ways that matter to you.

Today, I am pleased to announce two options for desktop software that will work with Ancestry.

### **Software MacKiev**

Software MacKiev, with whom we have a long-standing relationship, is acquiring the Family Tree Maker software line as publisher for both Mac and Windows versions. Software MacKiev has been the developer of Family Tree Maker for Mac for more than six years and is thrilled at the opportunity to publish future versions of Family Tree Maker for Mac and Windows.

This new agreement means you will receive software updates and new versions from Software MacKiev, and have the ability to purchase new versions of Family Tree Maker from Software MacKiev as they are released. You will have continued access to Ancestry Hints, Ancestry searches, and be able to save your tree on Ancestry with Family Tree Maker moving forward.

### **RootsMagic**

We have made an agreement with RootsMagic, a leading genealogy desktop software program publisher, to connect Ancestry with the RootsMagic software by the end of 2016. With this new relationship, RootsMagic can serve as your desktop family tree software, while having access to Ancestry hints, Ancestry searches, and the ability to save your tree on Ancestry.

## Family Tree Maker News *continued*

These new agreements will make it possible to preserve your work on Ancestry and Family Tree Maker, and enable future features and benefits to help you discover your family history. Be assured that Ancestry, in cooperation with Software MacKiev and RootsMagic, will continue to support you as you discover your family history.

We ask for your patience as we work diligently through all the details to make these solutions available. Be sure to check back here on our blog as we share more information about Family Tree Maker in the next few months.

For more information on Software MacKiev and RootsMagic, click below:

Software MacKiev: <http://www.mackiev.com/>

RootsMagic: <http://www.rootsmagic.com/>

## Records Preservation and Access Committee's new blog

*The following is republished from Upfront With NGS*

The Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC) has a brand new blog! The [Records Advocate](#) will communicate about records access issues.

Here is the introductory post ...

### **Stay Informed! Sign-up for the Records Advocate Blog!**

Help RPAC be proactive on records access issues, sign-up for the Records Advocate by clicking-on the “subscribe to blog” blue box on your right. [Editor’s note - when you visit the website, the subscribe option is always shown on the right] The Records Advocate will keep you advised of state, federal, and international access issues throughout the year which may impact your family history research.

### **Proactive Genealogists Have Made a Difference! If Your State Legislature is in Session, Stay Alert!**

Over the last few years, genealogists have achieved more favorable outcomes when they heard about pending legislation and had time to respond. Many state legislatures are in session during the first few months of the year. Stay alert to possible restrictive legislation in your state.

### **Make Sure the 2011 Model State Vital Statistics Act is Not Passed in Your State!**

The 2011 Model State Vital Statistics Act if passed in your state will increase the embargo period for access to Vital Records, as well as indexes, to 125 years for birth records, 75 years for death records, and 100 years for marriage and divorce records. RPAC is particularly concerned in states which passed the last vital statistics model act in 1992. If you learn of any legislation which will affect access to public records, contact RPAC at [access@fgs.org](mailto:access@fgs.org). You can read the proposed 2011 Model Act at <http://www.fgs.org/rpac/publications/>

Sign-up for the Records Advocate to Stay Informed!

## Records Preservation and Access Committee's new blog *continued*

The blog editor has shared that “The post about the Model Vital Statistics Act reminds everyone that most state legislatures are in session and to stay in tune to any legislation in their state. While we are watching the national election for president at the end of the year, your state legislature might pass laws restricting records access in the meantime.”

NGS is proud to be hosting this blog and a sponsor of RPAC.

I have signed up for the [Records Advocate](#), have you?

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## Arkansas Historical Association Conference

The following is included as requested via email from Susan Young, Outreach Coordinator

Hope to see you at the Arkansas Historical Association 75th annual conference, April 21-23, in downtown Little Rock. The conference theme is "Arkansas since 1941." Highlights include:

- Thursday reception at Historic Arkansas Museum
- Friday sessions, luncheon, reception, and banquet at Albert Pike Memorial Temple. Friday luncheon speaker is Dr. LaGuana Gray, speaking on "The Rise of Industry in Post-World War II South Arkansas"
- Friday afternoon tours—take your pick from a historic neighborhoods bike tour, a SoMa (South Main) walking tour, or a mid-century modern architecture bus tour
- Saturday sessions and luncheon at Christ Episcopal Church. Luncheon speaker is filmmaker and author Beth Brickell, speaking on "The Most Widely Publicized Mystery in Arkansas History."

As always, professional development credit is available for teachers.

If you're an AHA member, you should have received your registration packet in the mail this past week. If you're not a member, now's the time to join up! Registration materials are available online at [www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org](http://www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org).

Questions? Contact our AHA conference superstar aka AHA business manager, Donna Ludlow, at [dludlow@uark.edu](mailto:dludlow@uark.edu)

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## **Administrative Stuff**

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! [doug44mann@gmail.com](mailto:doug44mann@gmail.com) –Thanks!

**AGS:** To learn more about [Arkansas Genealogical Society](http://www.agsgenealogy.org), visit our website at <http://www.agsgenealogy.org>

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