

# The Arkansas Genealogical Society E-zine

Volume 2, Number 3 (March 2007)

Edited by Carolyn Earle Billingsley  
and Lynda Childers Suffridge

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## **[AGS Membership Application](http://www.agsgenealogy.org/membership.htm)**

<http://www.agsgenealogy.org/membership.htm>

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If you missed an issue of the E-zine, need to make an email address correction, or to add your address to the email list, please go to <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/e-zine.htm>

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## **Did you know there is an “AGS Members Only Corner” at our website?**

Members of the Arkansas Genealogical Society have special privileges including access to an online index of all issues of the *Arkansas Family Historian* through 2005. Also available here are PDF files for the same period covered by the index.

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Editor's Note: Thanks to the assistance of a friend, I was able to add hyperlinks to the items in the Table of Contents, so you can go directly to any section. Any other suggestions on improvements to the format are certainly welcome.

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## Introduction:

The Arkansas Genealogical Society is sending you this E-zine (**electronic magazine**) to keep you informed about information, activities, publications, and web links to help our members with their genealogical research in Arkansas. It is a free service to AGS members and to anyone, including non-AGS members who are interested in Arkansas genealogy.

This E-zine is a supplement to, not a replacement of, the quarterly publication, the *Arkansas Family Historian* or to the *AGS Newsletter*.

Please let us know if you like this new service or if you have any information or helpful links to include in the next addition. All suggestions are welcomed. Email **[AGS\\_Ezine@agsgenealogy.org](mailto:AGS_Ezine@agsgenealogy.org)** with comments or information.

Queries will also be accepted, if they are clear and concise as to time and place, and pertain to Arkansas. Information about upcoming family reunions, county genealogical society events, new books, or any other items of interest are also accepted.

We'd also like to hear your anecdotes about researching Arkansas topics or any special problems or questions you have.

This E-zine is for you, the members, and we want to include anything that might assist you in your research.

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## **AGS Members: Family Tree DNA Discount**

The Arkansas Genealogical Society is proud to be associated with Family Tree DNA, the largest genetic genealogy testing company in the world. This partnership program has the objective of providing reduces group rates for members to test their DNA for genealogy purposes, and at the same time present additional revenue for AGS without costing more to the member. You can order at lower group rates through the Arkansas Genealogical Society. To do so, you can either call or fill in the form at [http://www.ftdna.com/surname\\_join.asp?code=L81808](http://www.ftdna.com/surname_join.asp?code=L81808).

For additional testing for genealogical purposes you can log on to the website at [www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com) or contact them at [info@familytreedna.com](mailto:info@familytreedna.com) or 713-868-1438.

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## **News about Arkansas Genealogy:**

### **New African American Research Materials at the Arkansas History Commission**

The Arkansas History Commission announces the following African American materials that are available for public use in the research room. These records are a small sample of interesting items that came through the History Commission in 2006 through donations, loans, and purchases.

The Black History Advisory Committee purchased several African American related books that have been added to the History Commission's collection, along with twenty-four rolls of microfilm from the National Archives. The microfilm contains Freedmen's Bureau Marriages, 1864–1868, covering a number of southern states including Arkansas; the compiled Civil War service records for the 4<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery (this unit, which organized in Tennessee, later moved to Pine Bluff, Arkansas, where it mustered out on February 25, 1866); and, microfilm records of National Cemetery in

Fayetteville, Arkansas. National Cemeteries are a great source for locating African American burials of veterans from the Civil War to the present.

School yearbooks were donated from various sources. The Philander Smith College annual, "The Philanderian," 1964, 1965, and 1971, can be found on the bookshelves. Annuals from McRae High School in Prescott, Arkansas for the years 1957, 1960, 1969, are available on microfilm.

Records of Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Sweet Home, Arkansas, 1944–1983, were loaned for microfilming by Carla Coleman of Little Rock, Arkansas. The collection consists of ten volumes of records containing minutes of the church board, church treasurer, and Sunday school. It also contains conference, teacher and class reports, bank statements, and miscellaneous correspondence.

Records of the Fraternal Cemetery of Little Rock, Arkansas, were loaned for microfilming by the City of Little Rock for the use by History Commission patrons. Established in the 1880's, Fraternal Cemetery is located on Barber Avenue, across from Oakland Cemetery. The collection consists of three volumes of Cemetery Deed Books, 1900–1999, and the Index and Register of Lots, 1901–1981.

Sims Funeral Home records, 1951–2003, were loaned for microfilming by Pete Sims, Jr., El Dorado, Arkansas. Sims Funeral Home was established at the family home of brothers Pete Sims, Jr., Floyd S. Sims, and Sears W. Sims. The successful business, which has been in existence for fifty-five years covers funerals for El Dorado, surrounding areas, and parts of Louisiana. The collection also includes approximately 200 original funeral programs dated from 1977–2005. The collection is restricted to personal or historical research.

The Arkansas History Commission is located at 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor). The hours are Monday-Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Linda McDowell, African American History Coordinator at 501.682.6900, or email: [linda.mcdowell@arkansas.gov](mailto:linda.mcdowell@arkansas.gov).

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## Baxter County Beginnings

by Chyrl Ripple  
Baxter Bulletin Historian

A monthly column about Baxter County genealogy. This past month's column covered early Baxter County newspapers.

<http://www.baxterbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007702240303>

Read the *Baxter Bulletin* (Mountain Home, Arkansas) newspaper online at [www.baxterbulletin.com/](http://www.baxterbulletin.com/)

Chyrl Ripple is *The Bulletin* historian. To contact her, e-mail

gmaripple@hotmail.com and add "BCB" to the information line. Readers also may call *The Bulletin* newsroom at 508-8050 to leave her a message.

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## **Arkansas History Commission Black History Month Exhibit**

### **"Across the Bayou: The African American Community of Grady, Arkansas"**

The Arkansas History Commission will display a photographic exhibit entitled "Across the Bayou: The African American Community of Grady, Arkansas." The black-and-white photographs taken during the Depression capture rare scenes of African Americans engaged in everyday activities such as agriculture, education, domestic life, business and religion. The southeast Arkansas town in Lincoln County is comprised of a relatively large African American population. Nestled along the Choctaw Bayou, Grady is about twenty-five miles south of Pine Bluff with the neighboring towns of Gould and Varner, Arkansas. Its 1930 population of 496 people remains about the same as its population today.

The exhibit's forty images are from the collection of Cornelia Kirkley Foster who moved to Grady with her parents in 1910. Cornelia later moved to Camden, Arkansas in 1940 where she owned Foster's Business School. She died in Camden in 1971. Cornelia's photographs and original manuscript, yellowed with age, were tucked away in a cedar chest for over sixty-five years. The manuscript was recently donated to the Arkansas History Commission by her son, W.F. Foster of Pine Bluff. Foster, age 79, does not know how his mother became interested in the project of photographing and collecting biographical information of Grady's black residents, except everyone seemed like family. African Americans lived in tenement houses close to the family owned stave and boat mill. Mr. Foster described his mother as a very talented artist and a musician. He published her unedited manuscript entitled "Across the Horizon" in 2006.

The style in which Cornelia Foster gathered her material closely resembles the work of the Federal Writers' Project, where she collected information on folkways and recorded biographies and narratives of local residents. The Federal Writers' Project was part of the Works Progress Administration, created in 1935 as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal legislation. The name was changed in 1939 to the Work Projects Administration. W. F. Foster acknowledges in the book's foreword that the script was "written in a different time and world than we now know." Cornelia's work also appears to have documented several former slaves living in the community not identified or interviewed for the Arkansas slave narratives project. One ex-slave, Amy Lewis, was born in South Carolina in 1850 and died in 1944. Amy's living descendants in Grady recount her stories of being sold away from her family in South Carolina at the age of eight years old, with her name changed to

keep her family from tracing her. After she was freed at age fifteen, she was sent to Arkansas Post to work as a farm laborer. It was at Arkansas Post that she met her husband and started her family.

By the 1930s African Americans in Grady owned a variety of businesses such as stores, cafes, dance halls, molasses mills, and auto repair stations. Church and religion played a major role in the community where ministers preached from the pulpit and gifted musicians and choirs played and song old hymns. In 1942, the WPA documented eight Baptist churches, four Methodist churches and one Church of God in Christ in the community. A few photographs of some of these original sanctuaries were captured on film. Other scenes of schools, teachers, farm life and community events weave a wonderful story of African American life in a small, rural community. Images come to life with artifacts from the History Commission's museum collection.

The exhibit will display from the exhibit area located at the Arkansas History Commission, 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) from February 6, 2007 through June 2007.

For more information, feel free to contact: Julienne Crawford, Curator or Linda McDowell, African American History Coordinator at (501) 682-6900.

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## **Arkansas History Commission Obtains Microfilm of Rare Arkansas-Tennessee Methodist Newspaper**

The Arkansas History Commission announces the recent microfilming of one of the South's scarcest antebellum Methodist newspapers, the *Memphis, Arkansas, and Ouachita Christian Advocate*.

The paper, founded in 1851 at Memphis, Tennessee, was published as a joint venture of the Arkansas and Memphis conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Francis A. Owen was its first editor. In 1854, Rev. James E. Cobb, an itinerant Methodist missionary, minister, and educator from Arkansas, became associated with the paper.

From 1857 to 1862, the paper was called the *Memphis, Arkansas, and Ouachita Christian Advocate*, acknowledging the growing influence of the Ouachita Methodist Conference, centered in southern Arkansas, in denominational affairs. About 1860, Rev. Cobb began publishing a separate religious journal, called the *Ouachita Conference Journal* in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. It was Arkansas's second religious newspaper, following the *Arkansas Baptist*, which began a year earlier in Little Rock.

For a short time after the Civil War, Cobb resumed editorship of the *Memphis, Arkansas, and Ouachita Christian Advocate*, which was published under a variety of names including the *Western Methodist*. Around 1880, the

publication was moved to Arkansas, and eventually became the *Arkansas Methodist*, which is still being published in Little Rock.

The files of the *Memphis, Arkansas, and Ouachita Christian Advocate* are limited to eleven issues: two in 1853, one in 1856, two in 1858, five in 1859, and one issue dated July 11, 1861, making it one of the rarest religious newspapers published in the South before the Civil War.

The original papers, in very poor condition after nearly 140 years, are housed in the library of Duke University in North Carolina. The library allowed the Arkansas History Commission to microfilm the originals to make them more available to researchers. The file may be seen at the History Commission offices in Little Rock during regular office hours.

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## Be a Volunteer at the State Archives

If you are interested in volunteering your time at the Arkansas History Commission, please fill contact the AHC. For more information, call 501.682.6900, or email [state.archives@arkansas.gov](mailto:state.archives@arkansas.gov).

Jane M. Hooker, Archivist  
Arkansas History Commission, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201;  
501.682.6895; [www.ark-ives.com](http://www.ark-ives.com); [jane.hooker@arkansas.gov](mailto:jane.hooker@arkansas.gov)

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## AGS E-mail List

To sign up for the AGS e-mail list, send an email to [ags-request@rootsweb.com?subject=subscribe](mailto:ags-request@rootsweb.com?subject=subscribe)

List-Archive:

If you haven't joined the list, you can still read the archived posts to the AGS-L at <http://archiver.rootsweb.com/th/index?list=ags>

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## Little River County Genealogical Society

The Little River County Genealogical Society was formed in March 2003, with 11 charter members. Terri Buster had been asked to present a program on "How to Do Genealogy" for the EH Club. After the meeting several talked about it and felt there was enough interest to form a Genealogy Society. We became an EH Club with emphasis on Genealogy. Before the end of 2003 we

realized that our goals were not the same as an EH club decided to go out on our own.

It didn't take us long to realize we needed to be 501-C3 Club so we could accept tax exempt donations. We got busy early in 2004 and became a Corporation in the State of Arkansas and applied for tax exempt status with the federal government. After we became tax exempt we began looking for donations.

After we wrote our goals and bylaws and received our 501-C3, we immediately began to establish a genealogy section in the Ashdown Public Library. Our next challenge was to purchase a microfilm reader/printer to put in the Ashdown Public Library. With the help of many donations we accomplished this in May of 2005. Since our beginning we have added over 300 resource books and journals to our genealogy section. We recently purchased 121 rolls of microfilm of Arkansas census from 1860 through 1910, plus a cabinet to put them in.

We have approximately 50 members, several who are very active. We are currently working on a number of projects which include inventorying and updating all the cemeteries in Little River County, recording the records of Madden Funeral Home, working on the poll tax records, and adding additional marriage record books.

Library: Barbara Aston takes care of the Genealogy Resource Room—it has grown from just a few books on the shelves to over 300. We now have 2 complete shelves and are going to have to buy another one. Since we started we have purchased over \$2700 worth of books and have had many donated. We will have a larger room in the new library and have appointed Jennie Lee Stone to help make our dream come true.

Mary Jackson oversees the Wright Cemetery project and tote bags. We raised over \$400 to place a marker at the Wright Cemetery in Sevier County. This cemetery has been destroyed and no individual markers are left. Mary wants to place a marker with the names of those buried. Enough money has been raised to make this a reality.

Looks ups: Terri Buster, Barbara Aston, and Judy Harris. We have probably done over 100 total, which led to monetary donations and also some memberships. Most have come from our Web Site

Web Site: Terri Buster, our current Vice President does a great job with our web site. Check it out at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~arlrags/>

#### Publications

We have most of the cemeteries inventoried and they are available on our web site. They are also available for sale either in book form or on CD.

#### New Projects:

Funeral Home Records: Wynell Choate is currently typing the Madden Funeral Home records. In lieu of a monetary donation to our microfilm reader/print these are being typed and will be sold as a LRCGS publication.

Divorce Book: Terri Buster started this project and then learned of many previous years she was unaware of. Because of the "old style" printing, which is difficult to read, they are taking longer to transcribe. These will be divided into 2 or 3 books and sold.

Poll Tax Records: Wynell Choate started this project with approximately 850 pages of records to be typed. We have about 5 years finished and hope to complete this by the end of 2007.

World War 1 Records of /Soldiers and Sailors of Little River County has been scanned and a copy has been the Library. These are available only on CD because of the large size of the record.

Obituary Book: This book was one of our first goals but we really haven't started on it. With the purchase of the reader/printer we are now able to print the actual obituary from the *Little River News* and *Foremen Sun*.

We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at Cossatot Community College in Ashdown, Arkansas. Refreshments are at 5:30 PM with the meeting at 6:00 PM.

If you are in the area please stop by and visit us. We are still learning and would welcome anyone who can help us.

Jennie Lee Stone, President LRCGS  
jenkum@newwavecomm.net

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## Notes from Other Areas

From the Arlington (Texas) Genealogical Society's Newsletter  
Online:

The University of Richmond has digitized the Richmond Daily Dispatch newspaper for the Civil War years. <http://dlxs.richmond.edu/d/ddr/index.html>

The St. Louis County Library Special Collections Department is proud to announce a new online index for *Descriptive Recruitment Lists of Volunteers for the United States Colored Troops for the State of Missouri, 1863-1865*. (National Archives microfilm publication M1894). This new online index includes two lists, one alphabetical by name of recruit, the other alphabetical by name of former slave owner. Birth places of recruits included 23 states,

the District of Columbia, and the Cherokee Nation.  
<http://www.slcl.org/branches/hq/sc/indexes.htm>

People looking to track ancestors who emigrated from British ports will be able to search online passenger lists of the ships that carried them to new lands at:

[http://news.com.com/Historic+passenger+lists+of+ships+go+online/2100-1047\\_3-6148931.html](http://news.com.com/Historic+passenger+lists+of+ships+go+online/2100-1047_3-6148931.html)

Irwin County, Georgia, Probate Records: The Dorminey/Dorminy family has online all the records in the Irwin County Probate Office from 1818 up to 1959. <http://www1.surfsouth.com/~edormine/>

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## **Butler County, Missouri**

Some Butler County, Missouri Marriage Applications have been transcribed and are now online: Books 1-19 with records from 1883 to 1912; also marriage Application Books 32-40 with records from May 1924 thru July 1934. Some of the books will not have indices.

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mobuttle2/marriage/application.htm>

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## **Utah Death Certificates Now Online**

FamilySearch, in conjunction with the Genealogy Society of Utah and the Utah State Archives and Records Service, announced January 18, 2007, that the state's free online index to death certificates is now linked to original images of the historic documents. It covers death certificates issued from 1905 to 1954. To search the index and view the certificates, go to

<http://historyresearch.utah.gov/indexes/index.html>.

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## **National Genealogical Society Announces Scholarship for Home Study Course**

The National Genealogical Society, a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization, will be awarding one scholarship for the NGS American Genealogy: A Home Study Course. The scholarship will cover the cost of all three CDs as well as the grading of assignments and comments provided by experienced genealogists. This represents a value of \$475.

All NGS members pursuing a career in genealogy are encouraged to apply. The course is an in-depth learning opportunity aimed at the intermediate to advanced researcher. Applicants should have previous experience with recording genealogical information, using family and published sources, vital

records, and writing some citations for birth, death, and marriage information.

Preference for the scholarship will be given to individuals who have demonstrated serious interest in genealogy by attending regional and/or local conferences, undertaking genealogical training, and subscribing to genealogical publications. The application consists of a form for personal information and an essay. The essay provides the opportunity for applicants to describe why they intend to pursue a career in genealogy; the extent of their research experience, past and current genealogical education; and how the Home Study Course will aid in their career development.

Applicants must submit a completed application by 1 May, 2007. The NGS Scholarship Committee will review all applications. Notification of the award will be made by 15 May, 2007 and announced at the NGS Conference in the States and Family History Fair in Richmond, Virginia.

For further information and for application materials go to the NGS website at: [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org) or email [scholarship@ngsgenealogy.org](mailto:scholarship@ngsgenealogy.org)

The National Genealogical Society was founded in 1903, and is the premier national society for everyone from the beginner to the most advanced family historian. The NGS serves its members by providing genealogical skill development through education, information, publications, research assistance, and networking opportunities.

Further information on the NGS Conference in the States & Family History Fair can be found at the NGS website at: [www.ngsgenealogy.org](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org) .

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## Arkansas Links:

Arkansas Genealogical Society Home Page  
[www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

Arkansas State Highway Department  
County and State Highway maps for sale  
[www.arkansashighways.com](http://www.arkansashighways.com)

Arkansas Historical Association  
[www.uark.edu/depts/arkhist/home/](http://www.uark.edu/depts/arkhist/home/)

*Arkansas Historical Quarterly* Index, 1942–2000  
[arkindex.uark.edu/AHQ/](http://arkindex.uark.edu/AHQ/)

Arkansas History Commission (the state archives):  
[www.ark-ives.com/](http://www.ark-ives.com/)

Baxter County, Arkansas, Historical and Genealogical Society:  
[www.baxtercountyonline.com/bchgs/](http://www.baxtercountyonline.com/bchgs/)

Benton County, Arkansas, GenWeb:  
[www.rootsweb.com/~arbenton/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~arbenton/)

Bentonville Public Library, Benton, County, Arkansas:  
[www.youseemore.com/bentonville/](http://www.youseemore.com/bentonville/)

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies:  
[www.cals.lib.ar.us/butlercenter/](http://www.cals.lib.ar.us/butlercenter/)

Conway County Genealogical Society:  
[www.rootsweb.com/~arconway/ccga.htm](http://www.rootsweb.com/~arconway/ccga.htm)

Encyclopedia of Arkansas  
[www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net](http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net)

ePodunk.com: Search for any city or town in the US  
[www.epodunk.com/](http://www.epodunk.com/)  
Little River County Genealogical Society  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~arlrcgs>

National Register of Historic Sites, Arkansas:  
[www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/AR/state.html](http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/AR/state.html)

Newton County Historical Society:  
[www.newtoncountyar.com](http://www.newtoncountyar.com)

Prairie County, Arkansas, Genealogical Homepage:  
[www.couchgenweb.com/arkansas/prairie/](http://www.couchgenweb.com/arkansas/prairie/)

Prairie County, Arkansas, Rootsweb:  
[www.rootsweb.com/~arprairi/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~arprairi/)

Richard C. Butler Center for Arkansas Studies:  
[www.cals.lib.ar.us/butlercenter/](http://www.cals.lib.ar.us/butlercenter/)

Russellville, Pope County, Arkansas, Newspaper: *The Courier*  
[www.couriernews.com/](http://www.couriernews.com/)

Saline County, Arkansas, Genealogy Page:  
[www.rootsweb.com/~arsaline/](http://www.rootsweb.com/~arsaline/)

Saline County History and Heritage Society, Inc.  
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~arschhs/>

Saline County, Arkansas, Library  
[www.saline.lib.ar.us/](http://www.saline.lib.ar.us/)

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## Tips for Arkansas Researchers:

It's springtime and thoughts (among genealogists anyway) turn to cemeteries. Many cemeteries schedule decoration or clean-up days and they are great opportunities for family historians. You know the names of your family cemeteries. Contact the caretaker or organization associated with the cemetery and ask which day is set for the gathering. If you don't know the person to contact, call a funeral home in the area and ask. Show up with a rake and a pair of work gloves so you'll blend in. If a potluck "dinner on the grounds" is on the agenda, stop at KFC on the way. And remember, it's tacky to put the red-and-white striped bucket on the table; decant that fried chicken into a foil-lined pan. Take your camera and notepad and talk to everyone. This is your opportunity to find descendants of your ancestors' neighbors—those are the folks who may have additional information or photos of your people. The "Spring Cleaning" for Oakland Cemetery in Jackson County, Arkansas, is set for March 24th. See you there!

Submitted by Desmond Walls Allen

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## Upcoming articles— Arkansas Family Historian:

Partial Table of Contents, Volume 45, Number 1 (March 2007)

- Corrections: The Logan Families of Logan County, Arkansas
- Liberty-Coleman Cemetery, Logan County, Arkansas
- Miss Mattie Hudgins, The Earliest Born Person with an Arkansas Prior Birth Certificate
- 1891 Calhoun County, Arkansas, Personal Property Tax List
- Lewis Evans, Pioneer of Washington County, Arkansas, and His Family

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## Events:

**Arkansas Genealogical Society's  
Free Workshop  
Saturday, April 21, 2007  
Pleasant Valley Church of Christ  
10900 Rodney Parham Rd  
Little Rock, AR 72212**

The Arkansas Genealogical Society is sponsoring a free workshop featuring Russell Pierce Baker and Lynda Childers Suffridge.

**Registration will be limited!**

8:30-9:30 am: Registration

9:30-10:30 am: Five Civilized Tribes and Their Records – Part I by Russell Baker

10:30-11:00 am: Break

11:00-12:00 noon: Five Civilized Tribes and Their Records – Part II by Russell Baker

12:00 noon-1:00 pm: Lunch [\$6.50 per person]

1:00-2:00 pm: Land Records, Part I – Federal Land Survey System by Lynda Suffridge

2:00-2:30 pm: Break

2:30-3:30 pm: Land Records, Part II – Metes & Bounds by Lynda Suffridge

Plan Now to Attend!

For more information contact: Contact Jan Davenport at [jhdavenport@comcast.net](mailto:jhdavenport@comcast.net) or [www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

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## **Genealogy Workshop at UCA in Conway**

Desmond Walls Allen is presenting a workshop on "Preserving Your Family Papers, Photographs, and Heirlooms" at UCA on Saturday, March 3rd, from 9:45 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Join her and learn about formulating a plan to organize, document, and safely display and store those treasures you want to protect and pass on to future generations. She'll talk about tools, methods and supplies to conserve papers, photos, quilts, furniture, china, books, jewelry, and more. This class isn't for archivists—it's for you, the family historian.

The cost for the all-day workshop is \$55, and speak up if you're 60+ and get an additional 20 percent off. A box lunch is included in the registration price.

To learn more or to sign up, call (501) 450-3118, or e-mail [communityed@uca.edu](mailto:communityed@uca.edu). You can call and sign up, then pay at the door.

The Spring 2007 UCA community education brochure is posted at <http://www.uca.edu/aoep/leisure/>

Can't take a class this semester? Call or e-mail and ask to have your name and address put on their mailing list.

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## **Arkansas Women's History Institute Symposium**

The Arkansas Women's History Institute will hold its annual symposium at the Old State House on Saturday, March 3, 2007 from 2 to 5:30 pm. This year's symposium is entitled *Sitting Down for What's Right: The Struggle for Women's Equality and Civil Rights in Arkansas*. The event is free and open to the public. Please see attached flyer and press release for more information.

Julienne Crawford, Curator, Arkansas History Commission  
One Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-682-6978  
[julienne.crawford@arkansas.gov](mailto:julienne.crawford@arkansas.gov) or [www.ark-ives.com](http://www.ark-ives.com)

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## **Ancestors Unknown Meeting**

Ancestors Unknown genealogy group will meet Saturday, March 3, at 2 p.m., Conway Corp Bldg, 1307 Prairie St, Conway, Arkansas. All members and guest will want to attend this very important program presented by Lynn Ewbank, an archivist with the Arkansas History Commission in Little Rock, Arkansas. Lynn will share exciting recent updates and sources available to the genealogist, historical researcher, teachers and history buffs alike. Ms. Ewbank's bio follows.

A native of Arkansas, Lynn Ewbank received a BA in Political Science from the University of Arkansas in 1974. Since January 1976, Ewbank has been an archivist for the Arkansas History Commission, where from 1999 to 2001 she led the Stage One Digitization project that put nearly 13,000 historical Arkansas images online ([www.ark-ives.com/photo](http://www.ark-ives.com/photo)).

Lynn has participated in the *Society of American Archivists (SAA) Basic Workshop Program (1978)* and *China Archives Study Tour (1986)*, the Rochester Institute of Technology's *Preservation and Restoration of Photographic Images (1981)* and numerous courses through Amigos Library Services. When it was begun in 1989, Ewbank received membership in the

Academy of Certified Archivists. Other memberships include the Society of American Archivists.

An award winning author, Ewbank's writings have appeared in *Writer's Digest*, *Family Tree Magazine*, *ScreenTalk: The International Voice of Screenwriting* and *Microform & Imaging Review*. Lynn was photo researcher for *Arkansas Independent and Proud: An Illustrated History* by Dr. C. Fred Williams (Sun Valley, CA: American Historical Press; 2002).

For more information contact Tanya Pearce, President, Ancestors Unknown 501-450-9901.

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## **Genealogy for You Seminar 2007 Saline County Library**

The annual Genealogy for You Seminar 2007 will be held Saturday, March 10, 2007, at the Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library, 1800 Smithers Drive, Benton (Saline County), Arkansas.

We are pleased to have Mr. Charles A. Sherrill who is the director of the Brentwood, Tennessee Public Library, near Nashville and the former Director of Public Services for the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Mr. Sherrill received his master's degrees in History and Library Science from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Sherrill has been active in genealogical research and publishing since he was a teenager. Among his works are books on several Tennessee counties, particularly Grundy County where most of his ancestors lived. He began his career at Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio where he was head Reference librarian. As director of the Cleveland (Tenn.) Public Library for nine years, Sherrill edited a series of genealogical publications about Bradley County, Tennessee. Additional works include two family genealogies, editing "Tennessee's Confederate Widows and their Families", two volumes of penitentiary records entitled "Tennessee Convicts", and his most recent publication "The Reconstructed 1810 Tennessee Census."

- Pre-registration check in and welcome from 9:00–9:30 p.m.
- Session I 9:30–10:30 a.m. will be "Ancestors in the Volunteer State"
- Break 10:30–10:45
- Session II 10:45–11:45 " Well Kept Secrets of the Tennessee State Library & Archives"
- Lunch on your own 11:45–1:00 p.m.
- Session III "Digging into County Archives"
- Break 2:00–2:15
- Session IV 2:15–3:15 "The Yankees Took All We Had: Records in the Southern Claims Commission"
- 3:15 End of Seminar.

This seminar is sponsored by the David O. Demuth Arkansas Room of the Saline County Library and is provided free to pre-registered attendees. Space is limited so register early by calling 501.778.4766.

For more information, contact Steve Perdue, Curator, David O. Demuth Arkansas Room, Saline County Library, 1800 Smithers Drive, Benton, Arkansas 72015; 501.778.4766, sperdue@saline.lib.ar.us

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## **AGS Board Member to Speak in Florida**

The Imperial Polk Genealogy Society (Florida), in cooperation with the Ohio Genealogical Society—Florida Chapter, will present a one-day seminar, March 10, 2007.

Featured Speakers:

*\*Carolyn Earle Billingsley, Ph.D. of Alexander, Arkansas—  
Kinship Theory  
Kinship Theory: A Case Study*

*\*J. Mitchell Brown of High Springs, Florida—  
Researching Records of the Indian Wars of the Southeast,  
1815–1858*

*\*Jack V. Butler of Woodville, Florida—  
Understanding Territorial Records"*

For more information,  
go to [http://www.ipgs.org/Seminar\\_Registration.htm](http://www.ipgs.org/Seminar_Registration.htm)

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## **2007 Spring Family History Workshop**

The Village Genealogical Society, Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, will host a 2007 Spring Family History Workshop featuring George G. Morgan, internationally known speaker and author, Saturday, March 17, 2007 at the Coronado Center, 150 Ponderosa Lane, Hot Springs Village.

The morning session is "Genealogical Research on the Internet" and the afternoon session is "Advanced Genealogical Research Methodologies for the Internet."

Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the workshop begins at 9:00 a.m. Seminar Fee is \$25.00 if postmarked by February 12, 2007 and \$30.00 postmarked after February 12, 2007. Mail check payable to Village Genealogical Society and mail to VGS, 5 Lindsay Place, Hot Springs Village, AR 71909.

You may call Jeanette Frahm at (501)922-9220 or email her at J44F65@yahoo.com for information. You may also check their website for additional information and directions at <http://members.cox.net/hsvgs/>

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## **North Arkansas Ancestor Fair June 1-2, 2007, Marshall, Arkansas**

The Searcy County Historical Society and the Searcy County Library will sponsor the 18th North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, a genealogical swap meet.

Friday, June 1, Dr John Littlefield will speak on Native American Research.

Saturday, June 2, is the genealogical swap meet for north Arkansas families and organizations to exchange information. Over 250 people are expected.

For more information contact: Dorothy Ragland  
<ragland1935@yahoo.com> or see: [www.ancestorfair.us](http://www.ancestorfair.us).  
The schedule and forms are now up on the website: <[www.ancestorfair.us](http://www.ancestorfair.us)>

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## **Samford Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research**

<http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/ighr.html>

The Samford Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research in Birmingham, Alabama, provides an educational forum for the discovery, critical evaluation, and use of genealogical sources and methodology through a week of intensive study led by nationally prominent genealogical educators. Students may choose one of the offered courses that range from a course for beginners to courses on specialized topics.

The institute is academically and professionally oriented and is cosponsored by the Board for Certification of Genealogists. The faculty is composed of outstanding nationally known genealogy educators.

Begun in 1962, the institute regularly enrolls over 200 students from around the country.

### **Course Offerings: June 10-15, 2007**

1. Techniques and Technology
2. Intermediate Genealogy and Historical Studies
3. Research in the South, Part 2, Trans-Appalachian
4. Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis—Closed

5. Advanced Library Research: Law Libraries & Government Documents—  
CLOSED
6. Professional Genealogy
7. Virginia: Her Records and Her Laws
8. Land Records: Maps and Related Records—CLOSED
9. Advanced Military Research II: French and Indian War - Revolutionary War -  
War of 1812
10. English Genealogical Research: Online, On Location, On Target
11. Genealogy Software and Electronic Archives

Note that three courses are already full and the others are almost full, so make your plans and register soon! There's always a large Arkansas contingent attending, so come and join us there. Also, Course 3 covers research in Arkansas and other trans-Appalachian southern states, and of last week, only had three openings left.

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## Special Article—Tucker DNA Project:

### Tucker Surname Project

By Wm. S. "Bill" Tucker, Co-administrator

Without doubt, we now have the greatest genealogy research tool ever available. The male Y-Chromosome may now be tested at a reasonable cost. When paired with one's surname paper trail research, the testing of a corresponding male's Y- DNA gives a family surname researcher a powerful research method that us old-timers never ever dreamed of having available. The procedure is useful for the experienced or beginning researcher. I will omit most technical aspects, and mostly report how Y-DNA testing can help us add generations to our paper lineage.

Only one type of available DNA testing will be introduced, which is the one that is the most useful to us as genealogists. The Y-chromosome is passed down male to male, generation after generation, usually without any changes in its identity except perhaps a minor change, a mutation, that on the average happens every 500 years. The Y-Chromosome testing tags or identifies our particular surname family. For instance, my Grandmother Tucker's maiden name was Smith. There is a rather large Southern Smith Y-DNA project with many different Smith families participating. To date, the males of my German origin Smith family have never matched with another set of Smiths. However, we have had a doubtful kinship within the family confirmed.

For female researchers to participate, it is common to find a male to use as a

surrogate. A dad, brother or a distant cousin is fine. Submitting a DNA sample is painless. A swab is used to obtain a DNA sample from inside one's cheek. There are a couple of down sides that one must prepare for. The minor one is that some lineages believed to be proven will be found to be in error, biologically. The major downside is that geneticists say that 2–5 percent of us are not whom we think we are. Discovering that fact could be unpleasant, although the genetic difference may have occurred in a distant generation through adoption, formal or informal, or by a paternity event.

Many of us, even after years of fruitful research, often reach a dead end. We cannot link to the next generation or even prove which branch of a known family is ours. I was one those researchers. For years, I was a member of a large, dues paying Tucker Family Association. We had a proven lineage through my Great-great-great-grandfather, Revolutionary War soldier George Tucker, born 1745 in Amelia County, Virginia, who died 1852, in Marion County, Alabama. We also had solid proof that the father of George was Thomas who died in Jasper, County, Georgia, at the age of 105 years. My known Tuckers originated from now Nottoway County that was cut from Amelia County, Virginia. A large contingent of Tuckers lived in a small area of old Virginia during the early 1700s, including my Tucker ancestors. They were living within a twenty-five-mile radius of the center of today's Dinwiddie County. Not one extant record has been found that links my Tuckers to any other nearby Tuckers.

Lee Tucker of Georgia and I began to exchange Tucker information several years past. My Tuckers were in Wilkes County Georgia in 1773, then in Alabama before 1820. My Great-grandfather Sanders Tucker and five brothers removed to Tippah County, Mississippi, before 1850. My Grandfather and his brother, Shepard, settled in 1860 in then Drew County, Arkansas. Lee, a native of Alabama, also has a 105-year-old grandfather in his lineage.

Family Tree DNA (FTDNA) of Houston was a young company when Lee suggested that we submit Y-DNA samples to be tested at 37 markers. After procrastinating for a year, our DNA samples were submitted in April of 2004. We were disappointed when the test results showed that we were not even close to being kin.

Our project grew very slowly that first year. We found there was a great reluctance to being tested, even from male Tucker cousins who were genealogists. Only two of my distant cousins plus one who was a suspected cousin would agree to be tested.

My first success came then. Cousin Allen Tucker's Great-grandfather Abner Tucker was killed at the battle of Chickamauga when his surviving son was an infant. The Y-DNA matches proved that my Great-grandfather Sanders Tucker and Allen's Abner were brothers. A more distant cousin, Carlos Tucker, descends from Moses Tucker. It was said by this researcher to be Moses of Georgia and a brother of my old George. It was said his family researcher that their ancestor was Moses Tucker from New Hampshire. When the Y-DNA sample from Carlos Tucker was tested, he proved to be perfect match to the three of us previously tested. My Tucker lineage was now genetically and paper trail proven through Thomas Tucker born ca 1713–1723.

We also have other native Tucker Arkansans who have been tested. Three of us are from Southeast Arkansas, the area of Lincoln, Jefferson and Drew Counties. Two of us are having great success in matching with unknown tested cousins who also descend from Virginia Tuckers. We have one member from Pope County who is also having great success.

Our member group has grown from about 65 last November to almost 100 now. We have several different Tucker families of early colonial families that are distinctly identified. My family group is dubbed the ChasCitCo group, which is an acronym for those 1600 and 1700 Tuckers who settled in the area of the Original Shire, Charles City County, which fell on both sides of the James River of Virginia.

We presently have 20 of us tested who are of that one large colonial family. Due to the loss of records, proven paper trails were impossible to obtain for some of us before Y-DNA testing became available. Now, because of mutations that have occurred in the Y-DNA of males from various Tucker branches, we are gradually genetically proving a paper trail for several different branches of the ChasCitCo Tucker family. We are reasonably confident that we will learn in the next one or two years who the common ancestor is for all of us. Prior to Y-DNA testing there was a minute chance of that happening.

I am aware of other early Arkansas Tucker families whose mother state is Virginia, but others heritage may tie to elsewhere. We have members representing early Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey and England. We would welcome other Arkansas Tuckers to join with us. Knowing one's family lineage is helpful but not a perquisite. We have had drop-ins to also have success in matching members previously tested.

Our Tucker members are tested by Family Tree DNA of Houston (FTDNA). They offer Y-DNA testing for sets of 12, 25, 37, and 67 markers. If the budget is limited, one should go with the 12 marker test at \$99.00 [Editor's Note: Remember, AGS members get a discount]. However, it is not much more than a screening test. Sometimes a 12-marker test result will only mean that you may match with another Tucker. You may also match with many other surnames at 12 markers. The original sample can be tested later at a greater number of markers. To obtain a definitive test result, one should go with not less than the 25 marker test.

The Y-DNA test results, member names and lineages are displayed on our Tuckers Public Web Page, which may be viewed at <http://www.familytreedna.com/public/tucker/> . From that page we would welcome Tuckers to join our Tucker project by clicking on: REQUEST TO JOIN THIS GROUP. Perhaps the simplest way to join is to phone FTDNA direct at (713) 868-1438.

Tucker researchers are also invited to visit and join our Tucker mailing list at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TUCKERS/> . It presently has 257 members. Many are knowledgeable genealogists willing to share data and help with lineage problems.

If additional help is needed to become a Tucker Y-DNA project member, you may email project co-coordinator Bill Tucker at [billtuck@ipa.net](mailto:billtuck@ipa.net).

William S. Tucker  
3605 Bear Cove  
Benton, AR 72015

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## Book Notices:

***Abstracts from Masonic Records: Grand Lodge of Arkansas, 1880–1883*** by Desmond Walls Allen. ISBN 978-1-56546-379-0, 240 pages, softbound, \$29.00 plus \$7.00 USPS Priority Mail postage.

The Masonic fraternal organization in Arkansas includes leading members of the political and business communities. Each year, the annual report for the Scottish Rite Masons lists information about local lodges: who the delegates attending the state meeting were, who the secretaries of the lodges were, who got expelled or suspended, and news about new lodges. The 1880 volume includes a list of all the members in all the active lodges and they're abstracted in this new book.

To order, or to view the index to this book, go to  
<http://www.arkansasresearch.com/desmason.html>

***Historical and Genealogical Abstracts from Randolph County, Arkansas, Newspapers of 1919*** by Burton Ray Knotts. ISBN 978-1-56546-387-3, 234 pages, softbound, \$33.00 plus \$7.00 USPS Priority Mail postage.

Continuing his successful series of newspaper abstracts, Burton Ray Knotts has another information-packed volume under his belt. We can't overstate the value of local newspapers to genealogists. They contain the minutia of everyday life as well as the major events. But newspapers are difficult to obtain and tedious to read. Knotts has taken the pain out of this for Randolph County researchers.

Check the index of his new book at  
<http://www.arkansasresearch.com/Desco.htm#rand>

These books and more than 300 others are available from Arkansas Research, Inc., PO Box 303, Conway, AR 72033, 501/470-1120,  
<http://www.ArkansasResearch.com>

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## AGS Publications:

For complete list of Arkansas Genealogical Society publications, go to [www.agsgenealogy.org/publications.htm](http://www.agsgenealogy.org/publications.htm)

### ***ARKANSAS PRIOR BIRTH INDEX, VOLUME 4***

The Arkansas Genealogical Society has just published the *Arkansas Prior Birth Index, Volume 4*. This volume continues the indexing of the births in Arkansas before 1 February 1914. These original records have never been published, since the Vital Records office did not have an accurate index. Volunteers from AGS indexed the data for the Vital Records office and are allowed to publish all birth certificates that are 100 years old. This volume sells for \$60.00 plus \$10.00 for shipping.

### ***ARKANSAS PRIOR BIRTH INDEX CD, VOLUME 1- 4***

If you'd rather have the complete set of Prior Birth Indexes on CD, the price is right—much cheaper than buying the printed volumes. This CD is the combination of Volumes 1 through 4. It sells for only \$15.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping. It is searchable by the birth name, mother's maiden name, county, and date. This CD is great for your personal library.

### ***ARKANSAS TOWNSHIP ATLAS* Revised With Improved Maps**

*Arkansas Township Atlas, 1819-1930* sells for \$25.00 plus \$6.00 shipping was written by Russell P. Baker. It is an index of the civil divisions in the 75 counties in Arkansas. There are newly improved maps to show the location of the townships within each county and regional maps of the entire state. The counties are listed alphabetically with the origin of each township and date of change when they moved within the state. This is a valuable book to the researcher in finding the location and the origin of the township. It is well indexed and easy to use with the revised information.

### **Another Revised Edition of an essential book—**

*Arkansas Post Offices: From Memdag to Norsk, A Historical Directory, 1832-1990* sells for \$25.00 plus \$6.00 for shipping. It is an index of all the post offices in Arkansas during that time period. It lists the date the post office closed and the land description if known. Some are named for the postmasters and other interesting facts. This is a helpful book in locating post offices from the census records by listing the county in which they were located and the relocation. It was written and donated to AGS by Russell P. Baker.

Arkansas residents must add 7% sales tax.  
To order these and other AGS publications, send a check or money order to:

Arkansas Genealogical Society  
POB 17653  
Little Rock, AR 72222

Or print order form at [www.agsgenealogy.org](http://www.agsgenealogy.org)

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## Queries:

Editor's note: Please be specific about time period and county of the people you're researching. The more exact the information you give, the more likely someone can help you.

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**From: [gauerbuchanan@webtv.net](mailto:gauerbuchanan@webtv.net) (Molly Brown)**

Is there anyone on the list who either might be living in Newton County or has ancestors who used to live there? This would be especially the area of Low Gap, Parthenon and Boxley.

My great-grandparents lived on 160 acres in Hudson Township between 1905 and 1915.

Do you have any photos to share or any history on the area? How about known cemeteries for those years? Was there a court house in Parthenon? (Reason I ask is that my great-grandparents' son got married in Parthenon.) They also may have been married in a Baptist church there. My great-grandfather was a Baptist minister.

Names - Aaron D. (A.D.) Cole and Martha Millie Cole and her son, Clifford Brown, age 9 on the 1910 Newton Co. Hudson Twp., census.

Any old school photos for that area and time? Newspaper articles?

Thank you.  
JoAn, in Oregon

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What is it about Newton County in the area of Boxley, Low Gap and Parthenon or Jasper that no one on the list has or had relatives from there?

I have looked on the Newton Co. sites, emailed Arkansas Genealogical Society, and Little Rock, but none has any records or information as to where there are any records. I tried the BLM and they don't answer my inquiries.

My great-grandparents (Aaron D. (A.D.) Cole and wife, Martha and step-son, Clifford Brown) lived there between 1905 and at least until 1912, and because I live way out here in Oregon, I would like to hear from someone who knows about the area of Hudson Township (NW-1/4 of Sec. 15).

I just wish I could hear from someone who has driven those roads back there and could tell me what the area is like, farms?, trees?, lakes?, cemeteries? Where could I expect to find my great-grandfather buried (in what cemetery)? Are there any old homes from the 1905–1912 era, or barns?, where would the boy (9 yrs old in 1910) have gone to school?

Thank you so much! JoAn, in Oregon

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Send your query in now! Or send in a question about Arkansas history, genealogy, research, your own research problem, or any other topic. We'll find a qualified person to answer your question and print it here.

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Opt-out notice:

If you do not wish to receive the AGS E-zine, please send your name and email address to **AGS\_Ezine@agsgenealogy.org**. Just tell us you don't wish to receive the E-zine, and you will be removed from our list. If you know of someone who wants to be on the list to receive the e-zine, please send the name and email address to the address above.

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