Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

Volume 3, No. 6, June 2008

Desmond Walls Allen and Lynda Childers Suffridge, editors
Jan Hearn Davenport, list manager

Fifteen Months and Counting!

Paula Stuart-Warren, FGS/AGS 2009 Publicity Chair

It is just three months until the Federation of Genealogical Societies' annual four-day conference. The 2008 event takes place in the home of the Liberty Bell, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. That also means that it is just fifteen (15) months till the FGS Conference in Little Rock.

Putting on a genealogy conference is like having a wedding in the family. The timelines for doing things are very similar. And the amount of help needed is also an important factor. But, before we ask for assistance during the conference week, we need to let you know what is already going on. Those of us without an institutional connection working on the conference for both AGS and FGS are volunteers. And some with an institutional connection are putting in extra hours after work on this conference. As we told you in previous AGS ezines, the first "official" launch of the conference will be in Philadelphia when Jan Davenport, National Conference Chair for FGS/AGS Little Rock, invites people to visit Arkansas in September 2009. There will be a four-page preliminary brochure about the conference and Jan will extol the wonders of Arkansas, AGS, Little Rock, and all that the conference promises for genealogical education, networking, and also fun!

If you are going to the conference in Philadelphia, that is a great way to immerse yourself in the conference experience. Join the 2009 committee folks at our booths in the Exhibit Hall as we help to promote Arkansas and genealogy. Please consider giving the committee a couple of hours there to help at the booth. Nine dedicated Arkansans will be traveling to Philly to promote next year's conference.

No matter where you reside, your help is also appreciated. Contact Jan Davenport at jhdavenport@comcast.net to offer your help. Join us at the opening session on Thursday morning in Philly and at the spectacular banquet when Jan invites everyone to Arkansas in 2009. Help us cheer and spread the excitement.

(And we'll see you in Little Rock in September, 2009!)

NEW MEMBERS

Annette Hester
Little Rock, AR

Leonard B Jones III
Denver, CO

Susan Michael
Monroe, NC

JOIN US!

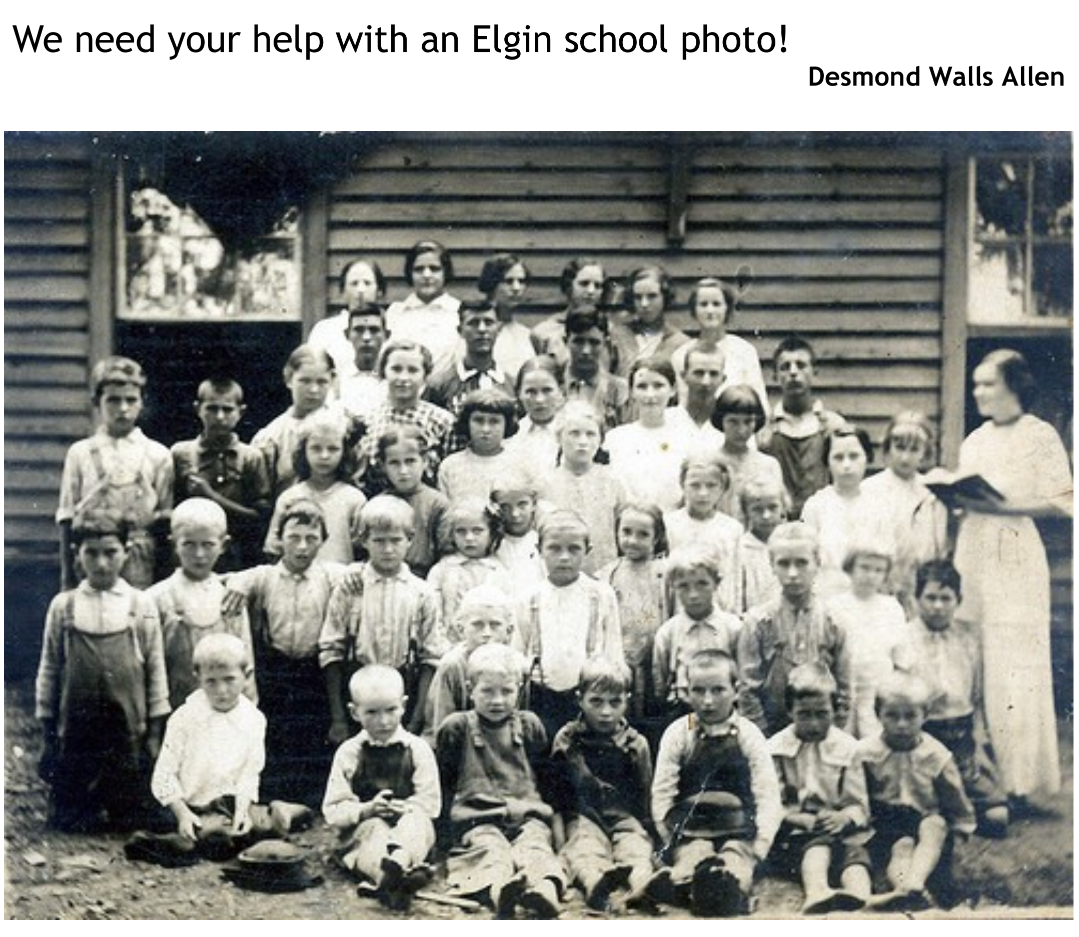
AGS Membership Application

Nine Arkansas Stars at the Philadelphia FGS Conference

- ☆ Jan Davenport, AGS Director and 2009 National Chair
- ☆ Suzanne Jackson, AGS Director and 2009 Local Publicity
- ☆ Gloria Futrell, AGS Director and 2009 Hospitality Chair
- ☆ Jerrie Townsend, AGS Director & 2009 Volunteer Coordinator
- ☆ Russell Baker, AGS Director & Arkansas History Commission & State Archives
- ☆ Alexandra Baird, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies
- ☆ Richard Butler, 2009 Local Events
- ☆ Rhonda Stewart, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies & 2009 Youth Activities
- ☆ Lynda Suffridge, AGS Director

We need your help with an Elgin school photo!

Desmond Walls Allen



Grab a box of tissues: this is a sad story. Cathy Sisson contacted me for suggestions about finding someone who could identify the folks in the photo above. Her dad, Charles Creameans, Jr., is in the picture, but she doesn't know which one of those solemn little tykes he is. The photo is a school group at Elgin, Arkansas, taken in the 1930s. Elgin was a little town on Black River in Jackson County, west of Tuckerman. I know where it is because my great-great-uncle, Bud Dunavin, ran a ferry there around the turn of the century. Cathy's great-uncle Albert Creameans also ran the ferry there for some time.

Cathy asked for suggestions about how to find someone who could help identify these cute kids in the photo. (Her dad is deceased and so are any close relatives who might have helped.) She'd previously posted the photo on www.deadfred.com, a popular genealogy photo archive site, but had no luck. She didn't get a response to her e-mail to the *Newport Independent* newspaper. She asked if you all, the AGS Ezine readers, might help. Even if you don't personally know anyone who could identify these folks, some of you may have suggestions for Cathy.

I suggested she:

- call James Logan Morgan, the World's Living Expert on Jackson County genealogy,
- contact the *Newport Independent* again (the squeaky wheel gets the grease),
- post the photo on another website so folks can have access to it (it, along with the rest of the pictures in the box, are now on www.Flickr.com—go there to see a larger version of this photo and click through the rest of this photo's companions),
- find a business at Elgin and get permission to post the photo on a bathroom wall (that didn't work out; there apparently aren't any businesses at Elgin),
- e-mail my cousin Shirley Walls Manual at the Tuckerman library and ask about a spot on their bulletin board,
- and try the USGenWeb list for Jackson County.

Okay, it's your turn. What do you think Cathy should try?

This sad story brings up a bigger issue. When you die and go to the big genealogy seminar in the sky, who's going to identify the photos you left behind with nothing written on them? So step away from the computer, grab a soft-lead pencil and work on a box of your photos for just an hour or so. It won't help Cathy, but your descendants will be eternally grateful.

Family Reunions

Tubbs Family Reunion

When: Aug. 8 & 9, 2008

Where: DeGray Lake Resort State Park, near Bismark, Arkansas

Contact: Alton and Terri McCormick

6405 Bayberry, Amarillo, TX 79124

Home (806) 677-0033 Cell (806) 670-9591

Standridge National Family Reunion

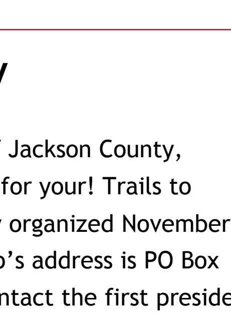
When: Sept. 19-20, 2008

Where: Holiday Inn, downtown Gainesville, Georgia

Contact: Russell P. Baker

6525 Magnolia Dr., Mabelvale, AR 72103

AGS "LET'S GET STARTED IN GENEALOGY" Seminar



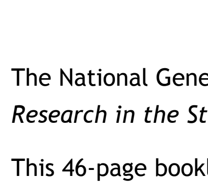
Arkansas Genealogical Society invites you to join us for a one-day seminar that will be sure to stir up the Sherlock Holmes in you and get you started or re-started on the right genealogical track. No experience required. Join us for a fast-paced, good time. $10.00 registration fee.

The speaker is Desmond Walls Allen. Contact her for more information.

When: Saturday, Aug. 9, 2008, 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Where: Pleasant Valley Church of Christ, 10900 Rodney Parham Rd., Little Rock, Arkansas. Click here for a map!

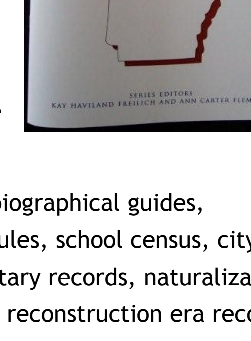
New: Trails to Tuckerman Historical Society



If you're interested in the northern part of Jackson County, Arkansas, there's a new historical society for you! Trails to Tuckerman Historical Society was officially organized November 12, 2007. Dues are $25 per year. The group's address is PO Box 976, Tuckerman, AR 72473. For details, contact the first president, Tommy Young, at 870/349-2644.

New: *NGS Research in the States: Arkansas*

Lynda Childers Suffridge


NGS RESEARCH IN THE STATES SERIES
ARKANSAS
BY LYNDA CHILDERS SUFFRIDGE

The National Genealogical Society has just made available *NGS Research in the States: Arkansas* by Lynda Childers Suffridge.

This 46-page booklet gives a brief history of Arkansas and discusses how the varied geography of this state affected settlement patterns of early settlers.

The major repositories housing Arkansas collections are listed as an aide to scholars and family historians. Included are descriptions of federal, state, local, and private archives and libraries with contact information and their web addresses. Those with online materials are identified.

The types of materials described include atlases, gazetteers, maps, biographical guides, cemetery records, census population schedules, census special schedules, school census, city and county directories, county records, ethnic records, land records, military records, naturalization and immigration records, newspapers, photographs, probate records, reconstruction era records, religious records, tax records, vital records, voter registrations, and women of Arkansas.

Heavily footnoted, the book also includes National Archives film numbers and in some cases Family History Library microfilm numbers making it easier for a researcher from out of state to access the records they want to search.

To purchase *NGS Research in the States: Arkansas* visit the National Genealogical Society webpage at http://www.ngsgenealogy.org and look on the lower right side for "NGS Research in the States: E Books New States Added!" The PDF file is $10 for non-members, $8 for NGS members. A limited number of printed copies are available from NGS. The printed copy is $17.50 for non-members and $14.50 for NGS members. These prices include postage.

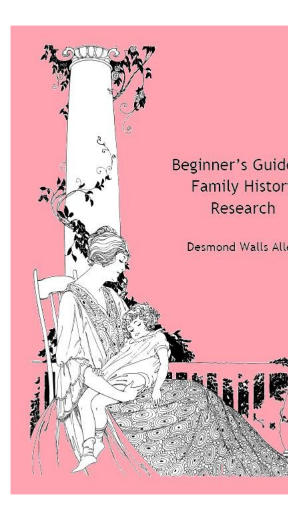
Civil War Material: Free Access in June

Lynda Childers Suffridge

Alexander Street Press is allowing open access to The American Civil War Online, its comprehensive series of online Civil War collections, through June 30. New to this series is Images of the American Civil War: Photographs, Posters, and Ephemera. Alexander Street is a premier publisher of scholarly databases in the arts, humanities, and social sciences. See http://alexanderstreet.com/resources/civilwar.access.htm

Beginner's Guide, Now Available in Print

Desmond Walls Allen



In last month's AGS Ezine, I told you about re-writing *Beginner's Guide to Family History Research* and making it available online at www.ArkansasResearch.com/guideindex.htm. Then I found out the genealogy world hasn't quite gone paperless yet—I had four requests in one day for the printed version of the book. The fourth one was from one of my cousins who works at the Little Rock Library. (I have cousins everywhere—it pays to have friends and relatives in low places.) So *Beginner's Guide to Family History Research, Fifth Edition, 2008* is now available in print. The print edition is almost identical to the online version, except the hyperlinks are completely visible in the book and there's a table of contents and an index.

The price is $5.95 plus $3.00 media mail postage (and Arkansas sales tax if you live within our fair state). Order from Arkansas Research, Inc., PO Box 303, Conway, AR 72033

Administrative Stuff

To learn more about Arkansas Genealogical Society, visit our website.

If you have friends and relatives who would like to receive this ezine, direct them to the ezine sign-up link on our website. Membership is not required to receive the AGS ezine, but we heartily encourage you to join our wonderful organization! Membership details are on our website.

If you have suggestions or comments about our ezine, rattle the editor's cage at desmond@ipa.net.

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