



Non-Profit Groups Must Report

If your society is registered in Arkansas, it's time for you to file your very first non-profit reporting form.

This only applies to groups who have established themselves with the Arkansas Secretary of State's office in previous years. If you're an officer in a genealogy society and aren't sure whether your group ever registered or not, you can use the search form at the [Arkansas Secretary of State's website](#).

If your group is registered, you should fill out an "Annual Report for Nonprofit Corporation." It's due August 1, 2008, and this is the first time these reports have been required. There's no filing fee involved, just the paperwork.

NEW MEMBER

Virgie D. Walker
Heber Springs, AR

[Just think, your name could be right here if you'd sent in your dues! You know you want to, so click on that link below and get it over with.]

JOIN US!

[AGS Membership Application](#)

Indexes to Perry County, Arkansas Marriages

Lynda Childers Suffridge

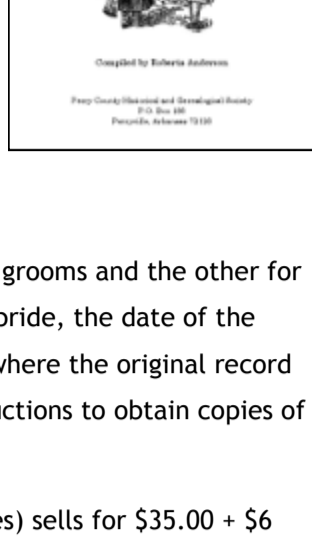
Attention Perry County fans! *Perry County, Arkansas, Marriages, 1881-1947* and *Perry County, Arkansas Marriages, 1947-2000*, both compiled by Roberta Anderson, are now available from the Perry County, Arkansas, Historical & Genealogical Society. These two volumes provide an index to the marriages that have been filed in Perry County over a period of 118 years.

Perry County was formed in 1840 but unfortunately all the marriage records from 1840 to 1881 were lost when the courthouse burned for the third time in 1882. The marriage volume saved from the fire begins in December 1881.

The indexes are arranged in two alphabetical lists - one for grooms and the other for brides. Included in the index are the age of the groom and bride, the date of the marriage, and the marriage record book and page number where the original record is located. Each volume includes an introduction with instructions to obtain copies of the marriage record, and a map of Perry County.

- Perry County, Arkansas, Marriages, 1881-1947 (268 pages) sells for \$35.00 + \$6 postage & handling. [Total cost: \$41.00]
- Perry County, Arkansas, Marriages, 1947-2000 (212 pages) sells for \$30.00 + \$6 postage & handling. [Total cost: \$36.00]
- If both volumes are purchased at the same time, the cost is \$60 + \$6 postage & handling. [Total cost: \$66.00]

Mail your check to: Marriage Book, Perry County Historical & Genealogical Society, PO Box 156, Perryville, AR 72126. Be sure to include your check, your name, mailing address, telephone number, email address, and the exact titles you wish to order.



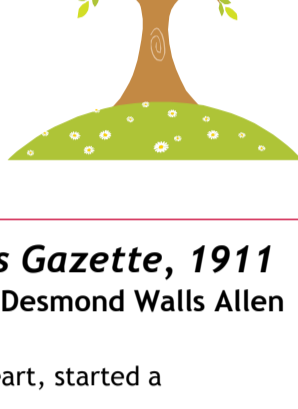
Attend the First Worldwide John May Family Reunion

When: July 17, 18 & 19, 2008

Where: Vanceburg, Lewis County, Kentucky

Contact: [D. Alan May](#), 1320 24th St. SE, Auburn, WA 98002, phone (253) 335-5065

George Washington May and Daniel Morgan May all came through Clifty, Madison County, Arkansas, in the late 1880-1890s. They were on their way to the Vinita, Oklahoma, area.



New Book! Deaths Reported in the Arkansas Gazette, 1911

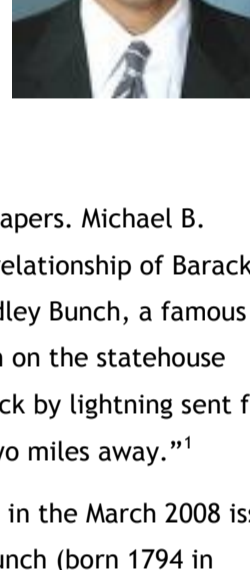
Desmond Walls Allen



Oscar G. Russell, bless his heart, started a wonderful project: he indexed all the deaths reported in our state paper of record for 1914 through 1929 (and 1960, and 1990-2005). His eyesight failed and ended his indexing. I picked up the project and began working back in time. I did 1913, 1912, and have just finished 1911. My books list everyone from Arkansas and surrounding states who died or were expected to die. As usual, I've posted a list of the dead folks. Besides the names, the book itself includes the newspaper citations, headlines, and brief abstracts from the news items. Oscar's books are listed as well, so if you're looking for a death from 1911-1929, check my website. The books are available in print and on CD. [Click for details and ordering information.](#)

Barack Obama's Uncle Shot at the Old State House!

Desmond Walls Allen



Of course you can't believe everything you read in the newspapers. Michael B. Dougan, that delightful historian, asked me about the exact relationship of Barack Obama, the likely Democratic Presidential nominee, and Bradley Bunch, a famous Arkansas politician who was reported shot "by the old cannon on the statehouse grounds which turned out to have been loaded and when struck by lightning sent forth its ancient ball that killed a man riding on horseback some two miles away."¹

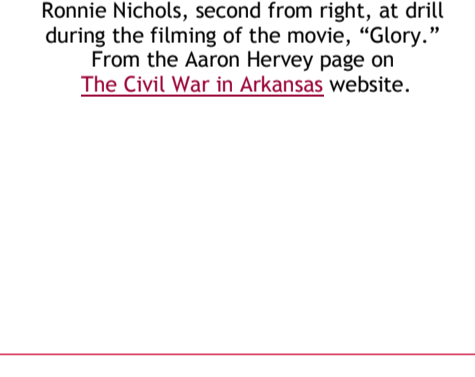
Joy Russell's article about Obama's Bunch relatives appeared in the March 2008 issue of this Ezine. She says Obama is descended from Nathaniel Bunch (born 1794 in Virginia, served in the War of 1812) through Nathaniel's daughter, Anna.² One of Anna's brothers was Bradley Bunch who had a long and illustrious political career in 19th century Arkansas, starting as a justice of the peace and progressing to the General Assembly, both as a representative and state senator. His accomplishments are duly noted in Goodspeed's history of northwest Arkansas.³ Bradley was therefore, Barack Obama's however-many-greats uncle.

Imagine Bradley Bunch's surprise when he read in the newspaper he'd been killed by that errant cannon ball. The culprit was Opie Read, yet another colorful Arkansas character, who was editor of the *Arkansas Gazette* for a time. Michael Dougan tells Read's story in his usual delightful manner in his excellent book, *Community Diaries: Arkansas Newspapering, 1819-2002*. "Short of news one evening, he [Read] invented, whole cloth," the story about Bunch and the cannon. Dougan cites Read's memoirs about the end of the tale—Gov. Henry M. Rector invited Read to his home to meet Bradley Bunch, "tenderest man that ever lived."

It made a great story, didn't it?

1. Michael B. Dougan. *Community Diaries: Arkansas Newspapering, 1819-2002*. Little Rock: August House, 2003, p. 166.
2. If you missed that issue, [it's available in PDF at our AGS website](#).
3. History of Benton, Washington, Carroll, Madison, Crawford, Franklin, and Sebastian Cos., Arkansas. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1889, pp. 1048-1049. [All the [Arkansas Goodspeed volumes](#) are available in electronic format from Arkansas Research, Inc.]

Military History Workshop



Ronnie Nichols, second from right, at drill during the filming of the movie, "Glory." From the Aaron Hervey page on [The Civil War in Arkansas](#) website.

What? Military history workshop, the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies' seventh annual genealogy workshop.

Who? Presented by Ronnie Nichols, who will give presentations on beginning and expanding one's research and will focus on military records covering the Revolutionary War through World War II with an emphasis on the Civil War.

When? Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where? Central Arkansas Library System's Main Library, 100 Rock, Little Rock.

How much? It's FREE, but pre-registration is requested. Contact [Rhonda Stewart](#), phone: (501) 918-3056.

Arkansas Revolutionary War Database

Russell P. Baker

Ann Pounds is compiling a database on all Revolutionary War Veterans buried in Arkansas. If you have information, contact her directly: 105 Kathryn, Prescott, AR 71857, phone (870) 887-5956, ap5056@centurytel.net



AGS "LET'S GET STARTED IN GENEALOGY" Seminar

REMINDER! 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.

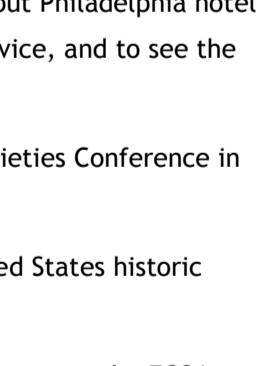
The speaker is [Desmond Walls Allen](#). Contact her for more information.

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!](#)

Important FGS/AGS Dates for Your Calendar

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG,
National Publicity Co-Chair



2008

- NOW** Visit www.fgsconference.org to learn more about Philadelphia hotel reservations, a special roommate matching service, and to see the entire program for that FGS Conference.
- August 30-31** Pack for trip to Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference in Philadelphia.
- September 1-2** Travel to Philadelphia, the home of many United States historic sites.
- September 3-6** FGS Conference in Philadelphia. Work a shift or two at the FGS/Arkansas Genealogical Society Booth and share info about Arkansas and the 2009 Conference. (If you work at the booth, you get some advance knowledge about some special and unique parts of the FGS/AGS Conference.) To volunteer contact [Jan Davenport, Conference Chair](#).)
- September 4-6** Visit Exhibit Hall and pick up some of the 4-page preliminary fliers to take back home to your genealogy friends, societies, and libraries.
- September 7 +** Be among the first to visit the initial postings on the FGS/AGS Conference Blog. We will tell you the link right here when it is live. The 2008 Blog is at www.fgsconference.org.
- Sept.-Dec.** Think about items about Arkansas, Arkansas research, AGS, and travel tips you could contribute to the FGS/AGS Blog. Figure out who will be your roommate during the FGS/AGS Conference.

2009

- September 3-5** Of course, we need to tell you the most important dates. The FGS/AGS 2009 Conference will be held in Little Rock from September 3-5. Stay tuned for some news on events for September 2nd.

Follow up: Elgin School photo

In last month's issue, we ran an Elgin school-group photo from Cathy Sisson. Her dad is in the picture, but she doesn't know which tyke is him. [Helen McMIndes](#), a noted historian and genealogist of Harrison, Arkansas, offered the following idea, "Does she have any pictures of her dad? By comparing facial features, ears, nose etc., she might be able to determine which child is her father. Those features do not change a lot, especially the ears." Great idea!

Next question—how many of your photos did you annotate since last month?

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.

Missed an issue of the AGS Ezine? Check our online file of [back issues](#).

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