



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

**JOIN US!**

This is your official  
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

**Welcome New Members**

Undeen H. Williams  
Memphis, TN  
Geraldine Garmrath  
Paragould, AR  
Nancy Barber  
North Little Rock, AR  
Jill Hynum  
Madison, WI

## Beau Sharbrough to Teach Genealogy Workshop

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, in conjunction with Arkansas Genealogical Society, will host the Eighth Annual Genealogy Workshop. Featured guest speaker Beau Sharbrough will be introduced by the Butler Center's genealogy specialist, Rhonda Stewart. The workshop will be held Saturday, July 18, 2009, in the Darragh Center at the Main Library.



Beau Sharbrough

Genealogy Workshop attendees will learn about practical applications for family history research. Sharbrough will introduce the group to Footnote.com, a website of historical documents and social networking, and RootsWorks.com, where researchers can learn how

*(Workshop, continued on page 2)*

**Put Beau on  
your calendar  
now!**



**Saturday,  
July 18**

*(Workshop, continued from page 1)*

to use the latest technical tools to easily maintain and navigate genealogy research. The group will also discuss the pros and cons of automatic research assistants such as GenSmarts.com, Ancestry.com, and Internet search engines.

The workshop is free and open to the public. Registration is from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m., and the workshop begins at 9:30 a.m. A box lunch will be provided for \$6.00, and reservations are strongly recommended. Contact the Arkansas Studies Institute at (501) 320-5700 or e-mail Rhonda Stewart at [rstewart@cals.org](mailto:rstewart@cals.org).

**Get a head start! Visit:**

- [www.FootNote.com](http://www.FootNote.com), a place where original historical documents are combined with social networking in order to create a truly unique experience involving the stories of our past. There's a free, limited membership and a free trial available of all the site's documents.
- [www.GenSmarts.com](http://www.GenSmarts.com)—There's a trial version available of this utility that uses artificial intelligence to analyze your existing genealogy file and produce research recommendations (it even works with Family Tree Maker 2009).
- [www.RootsWorks.com](http://www.RootsWorks.com)—You can spend days on this site reading [interesting articles](#) written by the genealogical technical master himself, Beau Sharbrough.
- [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com)—And of course it won't hurt to visit the most extensive website for genealogists.

E-mail [Rhonda Stewart](mailto:Rhonda.Stewart) now and get your name on the list for the free workshop! And mark your calendar for Saturday, July 18th. See you there!

## Do You Have Early Arkansas Ancestors (1809-1836)?

Desmond Walls Allen

If you have early Arkansas folks, there's a website you should visit: [Arkansas Territorial Briefs and Records](#). The site has indexes *and* original images, transcripts, and abstracts of records and briefs filed with the Arkansas territorial courts, 1809 through 1836. The site is a work-in-progress, founded by the Donaghey Foundation.

On the site, you can search by case name and those are arranged in chronological order. Genealogists know, however, the title of a case often hides a lot of people who participated, but didn't star in the event. The folks who indexed the site thought of that and all the personal names are indexed—even down to the jurors. There are place-name and subject indexes as well. And just to make certain you miss nothing, there's a general search engine where you can put in any word or text string (like "divorce," for example). It gets better. You don't even need your copy of *Black's Law Dictionary* at hand—legal terms are hot-linked to a glossary.

If you don't find your ancestors here, the site is still useful—there's [list of sources](#) anyone studying our territorial period will be interested in.

What kinds of cases were adjudicated in early Arkansas? Everything you can imagine, from divorces, debt collections, partnership disputes, gambling debts, criminal activities, hog theft, jury tampering, damages, Indian troubles, ferries, libel and slander, duels, preemption rights, promissory notes, slaves, trespass, and a lot more.

The cases sometimes tie people together or point to a previous place of residence. And one of the most important aspects of this body of records is that it *exists* and gives us information about a time when many of our early records, especially at the county level, are lost.



## FGS/AGS Conference News: Conference Update

Paula Stuart Warren, CG  
National Publicity Chair for the 2009 FGS/AGS Conference



Volunteers from the Arkansas Genealogical Society and the Federation of Genealogical Societies are working steadily on last-minute conference details. It's less than three months until the conference opens. The excitement and registration levels are high. We hope you will join us at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock, Arkansas this September 2-5. We are lucky to have such an important event take place in Arkansas where so many of us have ties.

### **July 1, 2009: \$50.00 savings deadline is approaching**

July 1st is the last day to save \$50.00 off your full conference registration cost. That is a significant savings, but to take advantage of this make your online reservation [www.fgsconference.org](http://www.fgsconference.org) before the end of July 1st or make sure your regular mail registration is postmarked on or before July 1st.

### **One day vs. four days**

For the early bird registration price of \$175.00 you can attend all days of the conference. Register for a single day at \$95.00 and you get just that one day. Register for two single days and you have already spent more than the early bird registration! Your full conference registration provides entrance to all lectures during the full four days except for the few with an extra fee. Hear speakers from all around the United States. Ask them questions, learn from your fellow

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*Save  
\$50!*

*(FGS, continued from page 4)*

genealogists, figure out ways to find Grandma Griffin's marriage record, and come away with a renewed energy that can only be found at such a conference. You will receive tickets that enable you to participate in door prize drawings. A conference tote bag and a CD containing the handouts from 99% of the lectures is also yours.



### **Heritage Film Festival**

The Heritage Film Festival at the FGS/AGS Conference will be showing documentaries created about family and/or community history. Who will the creators be? You! It's time to think about submitting a DVD film that runs between 5 and 45 minutes. The correct postmark deadline for the films is August 1, 2009.



The Festival will feature your films that are based on material compiled using such resources as county and state histories, censuses, land records, old photos, oral histories, and many other genealogical gems. Visit the Arkansas Genealogical Society website <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/> and click on the Heritage Film Festival logo for more details and the application form.

### **Let's Play Ball**

Do you know about the beautiful new ball park in North Little Rock? The Dickey-Stephens park opened in 2007. On September 3rd you have the opportunity to attend the game with your fellow genealogists. This event is sponsored by the Arkansas Genealogical Society. Join us for a meal of hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas, water, and the trimmings for a true baseball meal. Attend this event and you might win a door prize that evening. A special covered area has been

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*(FGS, continued from page 5)*

set aside for our meal and then we will find our way to our seats to enjoy the game. Don't know much about baseball? This is your chance to be surrounded by many who do! Many of us who have already purchased tickets are baseball fans and will gladly answer your questions. The Arkansas Travelers will play their in-state rival Northwest Arkansas Naturals that evening. Your transportation to the park, food, non-alcoholic beverage, and the ticket to the game cost only \$15.00. Beer will be available at the park's concession stands for an extra fee as will other food items. Add the evening at the ballpark to your conference registration and be a part of history.

#### **Ensuring that a genealogical society runs smoothly**

Don't forget to tell the officers, board members and other volunteers from your genealogical society about the Society Management Lectures on Wednesday, September 2nd. Sixteen lectures are designated for this track that covers many aspects of running a society. Wednesday's Delegate Luncheon will further enhance the conference experience for society workers. The Luncheon will include some special announcements of interest to both FGS members societies and other groups.

#### **What to wear? What to bring? Where to park?**

Future posts on the conference blog [www.FGSConferenceBlog.org](http://www.FGSConferenceBlog.org) will give you all these details plus other tips, highlights, reminders, and previews. Don't forget to register soon (by July 1st) and save \$50.00.

*Let's play ball!  
September 3rd*



## Meet Our Board Members: Gloria Gary Futrell



That's me, Gloria, on left, and going left to right (not including Pluto), are my grandchildren, Turner, Caroline, Julianne, Anna, and Avery.

My interest in family history began as a child, begging my grandmothers to reveal the family's secrets. However, my desire would take years to become a reality as being a teacher, a mother of two, a housewife, and involved in the family business would take precedent.

In 1997 I attended the beginner genealogy course taught by Russell Baker and was hooked. Not having time for a hobby before, I then devoted my free time to research. In fact, it became my passion! I cannot imagine a life without it.

After joining AGS, I began my first project in data entry of the *Arkansas Prior Birth Index* in 1999. In 2001 I was appointed to the AGS board and was given the responsibility of publishing the first Prior volume and CD. Still an ongoing project, this year the seventh volume and CD of the Priors will be published. I volunteered to update other publications of AGS like the *Arkansas Township Atlas* of Russell Baker's and his other book, *Arkansas Post Offices*, as well as the *Masonic Deaths* by Arlene LaGrone. Now as Publication Chair, I oversee the publishing of all the

*(Meet Our Board Members, continued on page 8)*

*(Meet Our Board Members, continued from page 7)*

books, microfilm and CDs. Former jobs include serving on the Editorial board, First Vice President, and Past President for last two years of AGS.



Gloria Gary Futrell

I was asked to be the Hospitality Chair for the 2009 FGS Conference in Little Rock in September. My main concern is to introduce our visitors to a good dose of southern hospitality and to assist in making their visit fantastic!

My genealogical research is primarily my legacy to my grandchildren so they will have a better understanding of their heritage. My hope is that they will provide the same to their grandchildren. The five of them; Avery, Anna, Julianne, Caroline and Turner are my life, my love, and my joy.

**Editor's Note:** Gloria was the primary force that brought the Federation of Genealogical Society's national conference to Little Rock. Her efforts ensured our fair state was chosen for this honor!

And for the past six years, Gloria has been the unseen presence behind order fulfillment for AGS. She worked tirelessly to make certain books and materials were on hand to ship, she managed and packed orders, and she got them to the post office in a timely manner. Rebecca Wilson has recently volunteered to assume those duties and we're proud of Rebecca for going the extra mile to make sure AGS resources help folks find their ancestors.

If you'd like to contact Gloria to say, "job well done!" e-mail her at [GFutrell@aol.com](mailto:GFutrell@aol.com).

## What's in a Genealogical Conference? Join us at the FGS Conference and Find Out

Susan Boyle, President, Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS board members Jan Davenport, Suzanne Jackson, Russell Baker, Richard Butler, Rebecca Wilson, and yours truly were present in Raleigh, North Carolina, during the recent National Genealogical Society Conference held there in mid-May. We were pleased to see other Arkansans there also. The purpose of our presence was to advertise the upcoming Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference to be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, September 2-5, and to encourage prospective attendees. An unexpected side-effect for me was being reminded of the value of joining with other family historians for classes, workshops, lectures, and meals.



Immersion in conversations about genealogical topics is always energizing, stimulating, and educational for people like us. It's rewarding for us to talk with someone about our latest find or brick wall without their eyes glazing over. There is a palpable excitement generated by the mix of researchers, lecturers, librarians, archivists, societies, publishers, digitizers, web masters, and vendors of all the books, maps, charts, computer applications, and various materials that genealogists use.

Researchers can expect to enjoy a similarly rewarding experience during the first week of September at the Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock with the Arkansas Genealogical Society as the local host. Imagine being surrounded totally by family historians. Many researchers with interests in Arkansas and surrounding states are expected to attend. Speakers are coming from Texas,

*(What's in a Genealogical Conference, continued on page 10)*

*(What's in a Genealogical Conference, continued from page 9)*

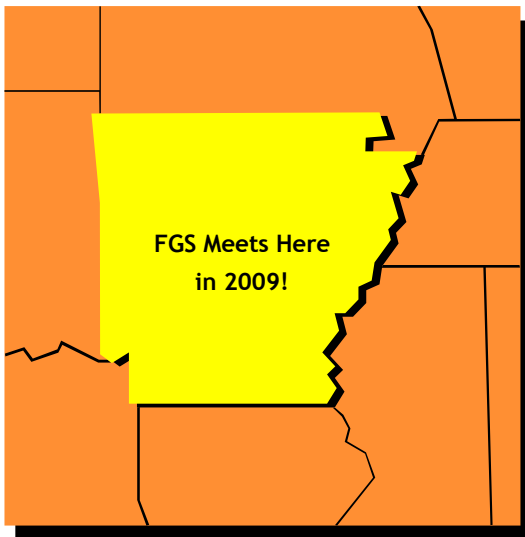
Oklahoma, Missouri, Louisiana, and Tennessee as well as from Arkansas, much of the south, and many other states.

A lengthy list of lecture topics will satisfy the most varied interests. Sit in on classes about society management, internet searching, libraries and archives, all kinds of records—colonial, territorial, federal, state, county, slave, land, migration, military, church, school, death—and maps, DNA, GPS, and NARA. Attendees will be able to listen to experts or participate in hands-on activities. Learn how to create a PowerPoint presentation or to transcribe or abstract original records. The Heritage Film Festival will showcase homemade films about family history and Story Corps will be there to help you record your—or someone else's—memories. Have lunch with friends or make new ones while listening to entertaining and educational talks by the best speakers in the business.

Browse the exhibit hall for books and other materials relevant to your areas of research. Vendors will be on site from the best genealogical publishing houses as well as from a variety of societies. Come a day or two early to

research in the state archives at the Arkansas History Commission or visit the Butler Center at the new Arkansas Studies Institute. And, of course, everywhere you go there will be other family historians to talk to, to learn from, or to tell your latest research success story. If you wish to help AGS by volunteering during the conference, email Jerrie Townsend at [jerriet@suddenlink.net](mailto:jerriet@suddenlink.net).

AGS will not be having an annual fall seminar this year due to the FGS/AGS National Conference. AGS will hold its annual meeting during a breakfast at the Convention Center on September 4 from 7:30-9:00 a.m. We will be voting for board members and on a change to the bylaws. As president of AGS, I urge you to come and join us in Little Rock on September 2-5 and make this national genealogical conference **your** conference. Help us give the rest of the researching world a taste of mid-South hospitality.



# J. French Hill: A Discussion of President Theodore Roosevelt and His Arkansas Connections

Kathryn Heller, Programming and Outreach Coordinator, The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies



**When?** Thursday, June 4, 2009, 6:30 p.m.  
**Where?** Darragh Center, Main Library  
(100 S. Rock St.)  
In Little Rock's River Market District

Theodore Roosevelt's image on Mount Rushmore reminds us that he represented a new century and a new style in presidential leadership.

His impact on Arkansas is lasting. Arkansas became the Natural State in part because of Roosevelt's sense of stewardship of natural resources, which helped preserve vast areas of Arkansas's land.

Join us as J. French Hill discusses Roosevelt's visits to Arkansas and his impact on the state before, during, and after his presidency.

Reception, sponsored by Delta Trust & Bank, will follow. RSVP to Kathryn Heller by June 2, at 501/320-5717 or [kheller@cals.org](mailto:kheller@cals.org). This event is free and open to the public.

\*If the library parking lot is full upon your arrival, paid parking is available for a modest fee in the River Market parking garage located across Commerce Street.

# FORGOTTEN: The Arkansas Korean War Project

Kathryn Heller, Programming and Outreach Coordinator, The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

In 2008, the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System, initiated “FORGOTTEN: The Arkansas Korean War Project” to document and preserve Arkansas’s role in the war. Oral histories, documents, photographs and other memorabilia are being collected in order to ensure that the materials are preserved for educators, researchers, and family members to help future generations understand more about the war and our veterans’ experiences in it. The Butler Center believes it is critical to honor our veterans’ service and contributions to the war effort.

The Korean War began on June 25, 1950, when the communist forces of North Korea invaded South Korea. The Korean War is often overlooked between the stories of World War II and the Vietnam War, and the Arkansans who served are often overlooked with it. The Butler Center project intends to develop a collection in tribute to those Arkansans that will benefit future generations of researchers. Many materials have already been donated and several oral histories have been recorded. They are now available to public through the website, [www.butlercenter.org](http://www.butlercenter.org), under the Digital Collections tab.

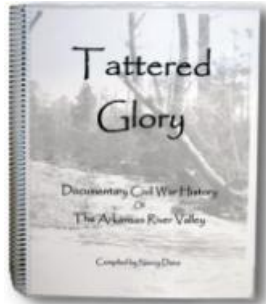
The Project hopes to continue documenting Arkansas veterans with letters, photographs, diaries, and other materials. Items that are being solicited include ones that document life both on the battlefield and the home-front. There is also an oral history component in the collection, allowing veterans to share their personal memories of the war.

Veterans and/or family members interested in contributing to the project should contact the Butler Center at 501/320-5723 or email Brian K. Robertson at [brian@cals.org](mailto:brian@cals.org).

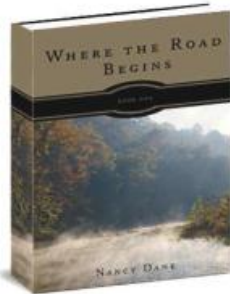


# Read Nancy Dane's Novels About Civil War Arkansas

Desmond Walls Allen



Nancy Dane, a resident of the Ozarks (and mother of four, grandmother of 12), has compiled a valuable non-fiction book, *Tattered Glory: A Documentary Civil War History of the Arkansas River Valley*. It's a compilation of official records, diary entries, and photos of the Civil War experience in primarily Johnson and Pope Counties in Arkansas.



Then Nancy went a step farther—a giant step, actually. She wrote a novel, *Where the Road Begins*, based on her research for the non-fiction volume. She created characters that seem to have actually been there in the Ozarks when the Civil War got started. Their dialogue is in “hill speak,” a language some of our relatives still use today.



She carried the story of those characters into a second novel, *A Difference of Opinion*. This one focuses on the conflict between Northern and Southern sympathizers. Nancy uses romance and mystery with strong characters to tell her stories.

It's interesting to imagine this continuing story taking place here in Arkansas and the books are entertaining. Nancy plans two more in this series.

To learn more about the books, or to purchase online, go to [www.NancyDane.com](http://www.NancyDane.com). The novels are also available from the publisher, Tate Publishing at [www.tatepublishing.com](http://www.tatepublishing.com).



Nancy Dane

# North Central Arkansas Ancestor Fair at Clinton was a Huge Success

Desmond Walls Allen



The North Central Arkansas Ancestor Fair at Clinton on April 4th was a huge success! We visited with lots of old and new friends.

If you missed it, you still have two opportunities this summer to mingle with folks who are as tickled about dead people as you are... (just turn the page)

Jan Davenport represented Arkansas Genealogical Society and her lovely personality sparkled as she told attendees about AGS.



Jane Wilkerson (left) and Elizabeth Freeman told folks about the resources available at the Arkansas History Commission.

## Two Opportunities Remain to Attend Ancestor Fairs: Twentieth North Arkansas Ancestor Fair June 5th & 6th



Ancestor Fair Movers and Shakers, James J. Johnston (organizer of twenty years of the North Arkansas Ancestor Fair) and Martha Jean "Marty" Loftis Kehoe, (energetic promoter of the North Central Arkansas Ancestor Fair).

### North Arkansas Ancestor Fair

**When:** June 5 & 6, 2009

#### FRIDAY

Side Shows begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4:15 p.m.  
\$10 for all day

Mixer Dinner is 6:30 p.m. until whenever, \$10

#### SATURDAY

Set Up for Providers, 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. No charge for tables.

Ancestor Fair, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. FREE

**Where:** EH Building, Searcy County Fairgrounds, Fair & Armory Streets, Marshall, Arkansas

**Contact:** James J. Johnston, 479/442-3691;  
[johnston@ipa.net](mailto:johnston@ipa.net), or go to [www.ancestorfair.us](http://www.ancestorfair.us).

**Hurry! Or you'll miss another fun time.**

## Two Opportunities Remain to Attend Ancestor Fairs: Arkansas River Valley Ancestor Fair, August 1st

### Arkansas River Valley Ancestor Fair

Sponsored by Conway County Genealogical Society

Saturday, August 1, 2009, 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Multi-purpose building, Conway County Fairgrounds  
just off Hwy 64 East, Morrilton, Arkansas

Providers come to share their family history and research in hopes of connecting with someone else who is also researching those lines. Vendors come to sell books, CDs and other genealogy related things.

There is no charge for tables for providers or vendors. Tables must be reserved in advance.

There is no charge for visitors. Concessions will be available.

For more information or to reserve a table, contact:  
CCGS, ATTN: Euna Beavers, P.O. Box 865, Morrilton,  
AR 72110, Email: [ebeavers@suddenlink.net](mailto:ebeavers@suddenlink.net) or call  
501/354-4428.

Here's another Ancestor Fair Mover and Shaker (in addition to James Johnston and Marty Kehoe on the previous page): Euna Beavers has been the force behind the Arkansas River Valley Ancestor Fair and one of the primary reasons for its continuing success. In this photo, Euna (left) is showing her son and daughter-in-law a new publication offered by Conway County Genealogical Society.



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## Administrative Stuff

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

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

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](#) ([DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com))

Missed an issue of the AGS Ezine? Check our online file of [back issues](#). (<http://www.agsgenealogy.org/e-zine.htm>)

To remove yourself from the AGS ezine list, [click here](#).

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### Links used in this issue that aren't given in full within the text:

[This list is here in the event you printed a hard copy of the Ezine and can't click on the links.]

Page 1: Join AGS <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/membership.htm>

Page 2: Interesting articles by Beau Sharbrough <http://www.rootsworks.com/genarticles2.htm>

Page 3: Arkansas Territorial Cases <http://arcourts.ualr.edu/index.htm>, Sources <http://arcourts.ualr.edu/sources.htm>