



### **JOIN AGS**

**If you are not currently a member, we invite you to join today.**

**If you are a member, it is time to renew your AGS membership.**

**AGS Membership Application**

**AGS Website**  
<http://www.agsgenealogy.org/>

### **Add these dates to your 2010 Calendar**

**Make plans to attend the following events. You will be exposed to a wealth of genealogy information and ideas as well as be able to meet some of the top genealogists of the area.**

**AGS Roadshow-see next page for more details  
Stuttgart, March 13, 2010**

**Butler Center Genealogy Seminar Co-hosted by AGS  
Little Rock, July 17, 2010m “The Genealogist’s  
Camera” presented by Desmond Walls Allen.**

**AGS Fall Seminar  
Little Rock, November 5 & 6, 2010  
Presented by Paula Stuart Warren**

We Are on the Road Again!

# ARKANSAS GENEALOGY ROAD SHOW!

**Co-Sponsored by  
Arkansas Genealogical Society & Grand Prairie Genealogical Society**

NEED HELP WITH YOUR RESEARCH?  
BRING US YOUR QUESTIONS!  
ASK OUR EXPERTS!  
VISIT OUR VENDORS!  
SHARE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY & PHOTOGRAPHS

ADMISSION IS FREE!!!!!!  
Genealogical Societies! Family Associations! Vendors!

**Phillips Community College  
2807 Highway 165 South  
Stuttgart, Arkansas  
Saturday, March 13, 2010  
9 AM to 3 PM**

***Reminder: Reserve your tables now-  
First come-First serve!***

**Download registration form at: [agsgenealogy.org](http://agsgenealogy.org)**



## “James H. Burton: Master Armorer of the Confederacy”

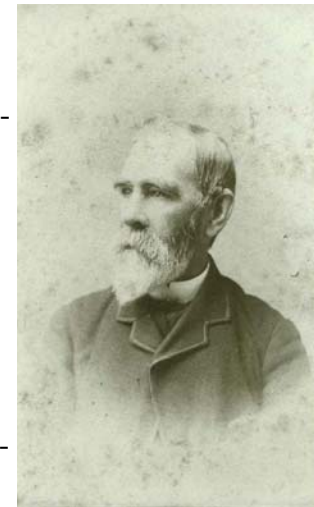
On January 9, 2010, the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History will host a one-day symposium titled, “James H. Burton, Master Armorer of the Confederacy.” The event will feature lectures on James Henry Burton and his role in promoting small-arms manufacturing in the South as well as Burton’s Confederate uniform. This project is supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Admission is free. In addition to hearing the lectures, participants will have one final opportunity to view “Lee and Grant,” the NEH on the Road traveling exhibit developed by the Mid-America Arts Alliance in Kansas City, Missouri. The exhibit has been at the museum since November 12 and will close on January 9.

In 1861, with very few resources, the Confederacy attempted to arm itself. Several factories and armories were created to help meet these needs. James Henry Burton played a major role in the South’s venture in small-arms manufacturing. Born in Virginia in 1823, Burton was apprenticed to a machine shop at the age of sixteen and his abilities and talent were quickly recognized. Ten years later he became acting master armorer at Harpers Ferry.

Burton’s mechanical genius flourished at Harpers Ferry. He invented an altered form of Claud Minié’s rifle bullet, which became the primary small-arm projectile during the Civil War. Burton left America for England, where he became chief engineer of the Royal Small Arms Factory producing the Enfield Rifle. After his return to America, he became the premier small-arms expert in the Confederacy. Dr. Matthew Norman, author of *Colonel Burton’s Spiller and Burr Revolver: An Untimely Venture in Confederate Small-Arms Manufacturing* is a leading expert on Burton and his efforts to promote armaments manufacture in the South.

Burton’s Civil War uniform has been on exhibit at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History since opening in 2001. One of the finest officers’ uniforms in existence, it was professionally conserved by Jessica Hack, noted textile conservator in New Orleans. Ms. Hack is an associate with the American Institute for Conservation with extensive experience in the preservation of Civil War textiles.

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# Schedule for “James H. Burton: Master Armorer of the Confederacy”

9:00—9:30 Registration

9:30—10:30 “James H. Burton, Master Armorer,” Dr. Matthew Norman

10:30—11:00 Break

11:00—12:00 “Conservation of the Burton Uniform,” Jessica Hack, AIC

12:00—1:00 Lunch Light Refreshments Provided

1:00—2:00 Harpers Ferry and Confederate Armament,” Dr. Matthew Norman

2:00—2:30 Break

2:30—3:30 “Burton’s Efforts to Create a Confederate Armory,” Dr. Matthew Norman

## **MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History**

503 E. 9th St.  
Little Rock, AR 72202

Located in Historic MacArthur Park  
in downtown Little Rock

### **For more information:**

Phone: 5013764602

Fax: 5013764593

[www.arkmilitaryheritage.com](http://www.arkmilitaryheritage.com)



From Arkansas Democrat Gazette, Friday, December 04, 2009, Arkansas section, p. 18

——MARIO BRUNO CIA, 94, of Little Rock died on Dec. 1, 2009. He was born on Dec. 1st, 1915, in Chicago, Ill. He retired from Teletype. He then pursued interest with printing genealogy materials with his wife.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Johnny Cia; father, James Giovanni Cia; Mother, Verina de Paolo Maioli; wife, Elaine Weir Cia; and son, Mario Bruno Cia Jr. (Buddy). He was a baseball coach for many years to many youth leagues in the '50s.

He is survived by brothers, Wilbur of Mayflower and Harry (Stella) of Little Rock; daughter-in-law, Kandyce Cia of Little Rock; four grandchildren, Genovina Parker (Kevin) of Greenwood, Maria McClendon (Don) of Fort Smith, Mario Bruno Cia III (Trey) of Myrtle Beach, S.C., and Kristin Cia of Little Rock; five greatgrandchildren, Cody Arnold, Dakota Reed, Haiden O'Brian, Alex Cia and Alexis Jacques. He was a great husband, brother, father and grandfather to all that knew him.

Visitation is from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4th, 2009, at Griffin Leggett Healey & Roth Funeral Home, 5800 W. 12th St. Funeral Services will be held Saturday, Dec. 5th, 11 a.m. at the Funeral Home. Burial will take place at Roselawn Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to Arkansas Hospice. To sign our online guestbook go to [www.GriffinLeggett.com](http://www.GriffinLeggett.com).

Mario Bruno Cia's wife, Elaine, printed the Arkansas Family Historian for many years. Mrs. Cia died in 2001.

Our sympathy goes out to this family.

I was pleasantly surprised to find a blurb about the Yell Co. Cemetery site on the e-News of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Vol. 12, no. 50, Whole #457, Dec 16, 2009.  
Submitted by Susan Boyle

*Thanks Susan!*

### Cemetery Records of Yell County, Arkansas

<http://bethg.shutdown.com/yell/ycemeteries.html>

Yell County is located in west-central Arkansas. The records that make up this database have been compiled by and made available through the Yell County Historical and Genealogical Association. There are more than 150 cemeteries in the database. Click on a cemetery name link to access location information, brief historical information, and the list of individuals buried in the cemetery. The data fields include name of the deceased, when born and died, and additional verification. Sources cited in the additional verification include Confederate and Union Pension Files, the Social Security Death Index, and World War I records. In some instances there are photographs of individual gravestones.



## Arkansas Genealogy Hall of Fame

**In the December Ezine Desmond began a list of people who have contributed greatly to the Arkansas genealogy cause. I do believe we need to add Desmond to this list also.**

Desmond is a past president, life member, and former member of the board of directors of Arkansas Genealogical Society.

She is co-founder and former secretary-treasurer of Professional Genealogists of Arkansas; past editor of *Arkansas Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, the bi-monthly publication of PGA.

She has been the genealogy columnist for *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*.

She is a past trustee of the Association of Professional Genealogists, 1993-1994; winner, in 1993, of APG's Grahame Thomas Smallwood Jr. Award of Merit.

She was the 1994 recipient of the Federation of Genealogical Societies' Distinguished Service Award, and the 1995 recipient of Dallas Genealogical Society's Distinguished Service Award.

Desmond is a member of the Arkansas Historical Association and National Genealogical Society.

She has authored or compiled over 300 books and many articles about Arkansas historical materials; including *Guide to Family History Research* and *How to Become a Professional Genealogist*.

She is the author of *First Steps in Genealogy*, published by Betterway Books of Cincinnati.

Desmond teaches and lectures for genealogical workshops and seminars all over the US, including national NGS and FGS conferences since 1992.

She is a graduate (magna cum laude) University of Arkansas at Little Rock BSE; member of Phi Kappa Phi honor society and Mensa the international society for individuals with IQs in the top 2% of the population.

She is the immediate past editor of the AGS Ezine.

*Thanks Desmond for all you do.*

If you have names to add to the Hall of Fame feel free to send them to me.

# Arkansas Genealogy Hall of Fame

**Roberta Averett Hollis**, founder of the Ouachita/Calhoun Genealogical Society, author of several books, *Dunn's of Calhoun Co., AR, Locust Bayou School History, and Hollis of Calhoun Co., Arkansas and Connections*. Also former editor of the *Lafayette Co., AR Lookback*, the Ouachita/Calhoun Genealogical Society publication, *Researchin'*, and the Ouachita Co. Historical Society *Quarterly*, past member AGS Board of Directors, and Board member of SARA, Old Washington, AR. Most recently Roberta joined me as co-author of a 2005 article for the Ouachita County Historical Society titled *On the Street Where You Live, How Camden Streets Got Their Names*.

**Carol C. Smith**, Coordinator of <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arouachi/contents.htm> and <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arcalhou/contents.htm#Contents> websites. These represent the single greatest free collection of Ouachita and Calhoun Co., AR genealogical information on the Internet. Carol is a serious researcher and genealogist and freely shares her time and knowledge for the benefit of others with her contributions to these websites. The Ouachita/Calhoun Genealogical Society doesn't have a webpage and Carol's excellent work fills that void and covers two counties.

**Gerald G. Keith**, Long-time President of Ouachita/Calhoun Genealogical Society. Gerald authored *Early Schools of Ouachita County*, in 2004, and *A History of the Town of Ouachita, Dallas County, AR*. He is also a re-enactor in Camden's Oakland Cemetery Walk where he portrays the sexton and shares genealogical information about his character.

**Jerry McKelvy**, Author of *Sandyland Chronicles*, <http://sandyland.dreamhosters.com/>, a monthly electronic publication about Nevada Co., AR people and history. He and his wife have canvassed every cemetery in Nevada Co., AR, and he is considered an authority on Nevada Co., AR. He is also a contributor to the Ouachita County Historical *Quarterly*. Jerry's work includes Nevada County Cemetery Survey <http://www.depotmuseum.org/>, Ouachita County Cemetery surveys <http://usgwtombstones.org/arkansas/arkansas.html>, Rural Churches of Nevada County and Nevada County Communities Obituaries <http://www.argenweb.net/nevada/>.

Cont.

**Rebecca DeArmond-Huskey**, Writer of at least 3 books, *Bartholomew's Song - A Bayou History*, *Old Times Not Forgotten: History of Drew County*, *Bayou Bartholomew*, *The Portland Area History*, and considered an authority on the Bayou Bartholomew area.

**Mary Medearis**, Former SARA Director at Old Washington Historic State Park, and author of *Washington, Arkansas: History on the Southwest Trail*, 1976, editor of *Sam Williams: Printer's Devil*, 1979, and *Big Doc's Girl*, August House 1985 reprint. She was a major force in sharing genealogy during her years at SARA and aided many many visitors from other parts of the United States with south Arkansas genealogical research.

**Ed Sanders**, One of the most sharing genealogist's I've ever met, he continues to contribute, despite ill health, via mailing list responses, message board postings, articles for quarterlies, etc. He reaches out with patience and kindness to help anyone with an interest in genealogy.

Please add "Calhoun Co." behind Wilma Newton's name. She would have been pleased to be recognized, I'm glad others didn't forget her contribution to south Arkansas genealogy. Her column, *I Discover Calhoun Co., AR.*, continues to be a tremendous resource for those doing genealogical research in Calhoun County.

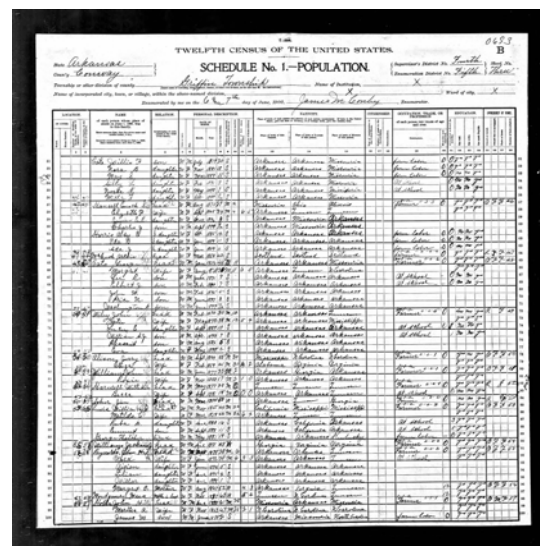
Submitted by Teresa Harris, Camden, AR  
*Thanks Teresa.*

# Discovering Your Family History Genealogy Class at UCA in Conway By Desmond Walls Allen

I'm teaching Discovering Your Family History at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway this spring. Don't miss out on six weeks of classes about finding your ancestors. We'll meet on Wednesday evenings, from 6:15 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., on March 17, 24, and 31, and April 7, 14, and 21. In the classes, you'll learn how to use materials at home to lay a foundation and collect data from public and private records to turn up all sorts of interesting information on your folks. We'll learn about census, courthouse, cemetery, military and land records. And most of all, we'll explore the importance of seeing your family as part of the interwoven fabric of society, including allied and associated families. The class is basic enough for beginners, yet more advanced researchers can use the information to jump-start their searches.

UCA offers comfortable meeting rooms in Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center. Parking is ample and close. Register before February 1<sup>st</sup> and the course fee is \$70, after that it's \$90, but there's a senior fee of only \$65. To register, call UCA Academic Outreach at (501) 852-2598, or register online at [www.uca.edu/outreach](http://www.uca.edu/outreach) (then on "community education" in the links on the left side of the page, and "courses A to Z," then you'll see "Discovering Your Family History.") For questions about the course itself, e-mail me at [DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com).

This will get you out of the house and in touch with other real, live humans who are working on genealogy. Your computer will still be there when you get home. Join us!



### **Kathleen Louise Dawson**

(March 6, 1931 - December 27, 2009)

Kathleen Louise Patterson Turner Dawson, 78, of Rison, died Sunday, December 27, 2009 at Jefferson Regional Medical Center. She was born March 06, 1931, at Shaver, Boone County, Arkansas, a daughter of the late William Van Dyke and Martha Minnie Harry Patterson. A graduate of Alpena High School, Arkansas Polytechnic College and the University of Arkansas, she moved to Rison in 1953 to serve as County Home Demonstration Agent with the Agricultural Extension Service. She later worked with her first husband, Aubrey L. Turner, in his law office and Turner Feed and Poultry, a pioneer business in poultry and egg production. She was an entrepreneur who marketed her original hand made soaps and skin balms for many years, both locally and nationally. She will long be remembered for her soap-making demonstrations at the Cleveland County Pioneer Arts and Crafts Festival. She also was a preparer of income tax returns for over 50 years and was enthusiastically involved in genealogical research her entire life. She was a fifty-year member of the Rison United Methodist Church, the John McAlmont Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 83 and the Rison Extension Homemakers Club. She was also a member of the Ouachita Valley Chapter National Society Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century, Thomas Bradford Chapter National Society United Daughters of 1812, Ouachita-Calhoun County Genealogical Society, Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas, Arkansas Genealogical Society, Harry Family Association, University of Arkansas and Arkansas Tech Alumni Associations, Arkansas Craft Guild, and a charter member of the Cleveland County Historical and Genealogical Society. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Aubrey L. Turner, on November 04, 1959 and by her second husband, Alexander Banks Dawson, on May 05, 2004. She is survived by three sons, Jeffrey P. Turner and wife, Jo Anne, of Rison, Alexander B. Dawson and wife, Melanie, of Little Rock, and Bruce C. Dawson and wife, Leah, also of Little Rock; a stepson Jimmy Turner and wife, Patsy, of Rison; a stepdaughter, Janet Smalley, and husband, Mike, of California; three grandchildren, Nicholas Dawson and MacKean Dawson, both of Little Rock, and Anjinine Turner of Rison; one brother, James J. Patterson, of Harrison; four sisters, Alice Stroman, Grace McGehee, and Elizabeth Milligan of Alpena, Eleanor Hodges of Omaha Route, Boone County, and numerous nieces and nephews. Services will be held Wednesday, December 30, 2009 in Rison at the Rison United Methodist Church at 2:00 p.m., and Thursday, December 31, 2009 in Alpena at the Alpena Methodist Church at 2:00 p.m. Burial will be in Green Hill Cemetery at Roscoe, Boone County, Arkansas.

Visitation will be Tuesday, December 29, 2009 from 6:00-8:00 at Buie Funeral Home in Rison. Memorials can be made to any charity. Arrangements are by Buie Funeral Home of Rison (870) 325-6216



**Many in the genealogy community knew and admired this lady. Our sympathy goes out to the family.**