



Susan G. Boyle, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

JOIN US!

If you aren't a member, this is your official invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member, look at the back of your *Arkansas Family Historian*. Your membership expires on the date printed under your name.

It may be time to renew your AGS membership dues!

Thanks to all of you who have subscribed to the “new” E-zine. It's nice to know the AGS E-zine was missed during its hiatus. The July mailing went off without a hitch.

We will appreciate receiving news of events, museums, libraries, societies and genealogy workshops from around Arkansas so that we can pass it along to others who may be out of your publicity range but interested enough or close enough to take part.

While many of us spend hours alone pursuing our research interests, genealogy is actually a community undertaking. We all depend on others to index, to publish, to post, to share or to uncover information. The sharing of information on the grand scale of the internet has changed our research habits forever. We mustn't forget that someone has to put that information out there for us to find it and use it. Those habits actually begin on the local level where volunteers gather and preserve local and family history and artifacts. Remember the folks at the small local libraries, societies, and museums in the home counties of your ancestors. What they are able to do physically and fiscally can have a profound effect on our ancestral knowledge.

Lonoke County Museum: a gem for browsing and research

The Board of Directors of the Arkansas Genealogical Society had the pleasure of holding its quarterly meeting on July 23 at the Lonoke County Museum at 215 SE Front Street (U.S. 70) in Lonoke, Arkansas. The board was invited to do so by Sherryl Miller, Director of the museum and also a member of the AGS board.

We met in a spacious meeting room which is often rented by groups for meetings and family reunions. A small but very full research room is nearby. It contains many local items not found elsewhere, old newspapers, and family history donated by locals and members.

The museum, established and maintained strictly by volunteers, has a fascinating display of historic items, most gleaned from the surrounding community. In a separate area called The Town, items are displayed in sets that replicate buildings in the 19th-century city. Most items have a known history. In some cases local craftsmen have volunteered their labor to recreate the backdrop of a former time. There is a jail, a hotel, a blacksmith's forge, a ladies shop and so forth.

Visiting small local museums like this and conversing with the volunteer staff can go a long way in helping you to understand the place and time in which your ancestor lived. There are many museums like this in Arkansas and they deserve our support. Many of them, like the Lonoke County Museum, also contain a library or research area where you can delve into unique materials.

The Lonoke County museum is open on Thursday & Friday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., closing from noon to 1:00 each day for lunch. The museum will open any other day to give tours or to do genealogy research. To make an appointment call Sherryl Miller at 501.676.6750 or 676.6635.

Save the date: September 24, 2011, AGS Road Show, Mountain Home

If you live in northern or northeast Arkansas or southern or southeastern Missouri we hope to see you on September 24 at the Baxter County Library between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. The AGS Road Show is a fun time with AGS Board members and volunteers meeting new friends and fellow family historians. You can come and spend the day, drop in whenever you feel like it, or come and go multiple times. It's FREE.

In this case, the Baxter County Historical and Genealogical Society will be hosting and AGS will be supplying speakers. The beautiful new, state-of-the-art, Baxter County Library in Mountain Home will be the setting.

Dr. Dan Littlefield will speak about Native-American research, Lynn Baker will speak about cemeteries, Michael Bentley will speak on Civil War era photos and help folks date old pictures, and Dr. Buford Suffridge will speak about DNA research. More details will be forthcoming in the September E-zine.

Vendors of books and information will be on-site and attendees will be able to "Ask the Experts" about their most pressing genealogical questions and most difficult brick-wall problems. Come and mingle with your fellow family historians, meet some cousins, learn something new, and share your own experiences. Don't forget to explore the genealogy section of the library while you're there.

Save the date: November 4-5, 2011, AGS Fall Seminar, North Little Rock

Join us at the Wyndham Hotel, 2 Riverfront Place, in North Little Rock, Arkansas, on November 5 and 6 to hear Mark Lowe, one of America's favorite genealogical speakers. He is knowledgeable and entertaining.

A Certified Genealogist and a Fellow of the Utah Genealogical Association, Mark's topic on Friday evening will be *Preparing for a Day in Court*, presented in two sessions.

On Saturday, he will present *Out on a Limb, Trapped by Bad Research and Brick Walls; The Big Three: Tennessee's Geographic Regions; Is it Really Online: Finding and Using Original Sources at Home or in the Library; and North Carolina*.

You may register for Friday only, Saturday only, or both days. Registration on Saturday includes lunch. Friday hours are 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Saturday hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Go to www.agsgenealogy.org for a registration form.



Mark Lowe, CG, FUGA

Other upcoming Genealogy Events

August 6, 2011

Arkansas History Commission Seminar, Powhatan Courthouse, Powhatan Historic State Park. See article on p. 6.

September 7-10

The Federation of Genealogical Societies annual conference, *Pathways to the Heartland*, will be held in Springfield, Illinois, at the Prairie Capital Convention Center, 1 Convention Plaza. The local host will be the Illinois State Genealogical Society. Register at www.fgs.org/2011conference/registration

September 22-25

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society-Arkansas Chapter hosts the AAHGS 32nd National Conference – *Ties That Bind: Honoring Our Ancestors*, Doubletree Hotel, 424 West Markham, Little Rock, Arkansas. For more information: Contact Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis, 501-425-5578

September 24

Arkansas Genealogical Society Road Show, Baxter County Library, Mountain Home, co-sponsored by the Baxter County Historical and Genealogical Society. FREE. Vendors, exhibits, Ask the Experts.

News from the State Archives: Arkansas History Commission Seminar

Powhatan Historic Courthouse State Park, Powhatan, Arkansas, Saturday, August 6, 2011

9:30-2:00

The Arkansas History Commission will present a seminar August 6, 2011, in the second floor courtroom at the 1888 Courthouse at Powhatan Historic State Park. Although the History Commission has had a seminar at Powhatan for several years, this is an exciting time for the State Archives and all who value the historic documents of the state. In March 2011, the AHC opened the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives (NEARA) at Powhatan, which focuses on the region of the state where some of the earliest pioneers settled in Arkansas. NEARA joined the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives (SARA) in Washington as branch archives of the Arkansas History Commission, which owns the largest, most comprehensive, and most significant holdings pertaining to Arkansas history available anywhere.

This free seminar will give researchers the chance to get acquainted with the resources of the State Archives. Learning about the diverse resources that make the Arkansas History Commission a premier destination for genealogists and historians will enable researchers to use these materials more effectively. Each presentation will include a question-and-answer period.

This seminar counts towards the Arkansas History hours required for professional development for teachers.

Presentations include:

Erasing Boundaries: Celebrating Territorial Lawrence County, Joan Gould, Preservation Matters

Lynching in Powhatan: the Story Behind the Ghost Stories, Vesta Smith, NEARA

Local History, Local Resources: Using the NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives Collections, Lisa Perry, NEARA

(Continued from page 6)

River of Conflict: The White River during the Civil War, Anna Pfeifler, Arkansas History Commission

Arkansas Records in the Missouri State Archives, Christina Miller, Missouri State Archives

Civil War skirmish near Smithville, Arkansas, Blake Perkins, NEARA

Traveled Through a Fine Country: Arkansas Civil War Journals, April Goff, Arkansas History Commission

Lunch will be provided.

The seminar is free, but registration is required. To register, email Lisa Perry at lisa.perry@arkansas.gov, or call 870-878-6521. Registration deadline is August 2, 2011.

The workshop will be held in the second floor courtroom of the Powhatan Courthouse.

Follow the link below to find a map and brochure about Powhatan Courthouse State Park.

<http://www.arkansasstateparks.com/powhatancourthouse>

Arkansas History Commission, One Capitol Mall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

www.ark-ives.com

email.state.archives@arkansas.gov

News from the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives (NEARA)

On July 20, the NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives in Powhatan, Arkansas, received a significant donation of Sharp County records from the Arkansas State University Museum. These historical records, including records from both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, will be a tremendous benefit to historical researchers and genealogists with ties to Sharp County.

The new additions include more than 100 county ledger books—tax, assessment, school, road, and court documents— as well as additional documents related to the county.

In a separate donation the archives has also added several other items of interest to researchers. These items include:

The Civil War History of Milligan’s Campground (Sharp County)

Search for Ancestors and Siblings of Roswell Davis (Lawrence County)

The Biography of John Milligan II

Pioneers to Ol’ Lawrence County Volume I: The Northern Families

Pioneers to Ol’ Lawrence County: Volume II: A Southern Family, The Jeffery’s, Parts I, II, and III



The NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives, a division of the Arkansas History Commission serves a sixteen county area of Arkansas, including Baxter, Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Fulton, Greene, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph, Sharp, and Stone counties. Holdings include original county documents from Lawrence, Sharp, and Randolph counties, over 1400 rolls of microfilm, over 2000 books, and thousands of other records and documents of historical interest. Visitors come from across the country to engage in family research in our collection. The facility is open Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm except state holidays.

Lisa Perry, Ph.D.

Archival Manager

NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives

News from Northwest Arkansas: Walker Cemetery

Susan Young, Outreach Coordinator for the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History shared the announcement below with the Arkansas History List-Serve. The announcement is from Linda Doede with the Southern Memorial Association, an organization that is another great example of what volunteers can accomplish in preserving our history. The announcement includes some interesting local and family history as well.

Southern Memorial Association Receives Deed to Walker Cemetery

At the top of Rock Street in Fayetteville, among the huge trees that cover Mount Sequoyah, is the final resting place of one of Fayetteville's founding families, the Walker family. Because of the historical significance of this small burial ground, the descendents have decided to pass on ownership of this hallowed ground and entrust its care and restoration to the Southern Memorial Association of Washington County.

The Southern Memorial Association of Washington County was founded by about 40 Fayetteville women in 1872 and is the oldest non-profit, continuous organization founded by women in the state of Arkansas. It was this association which purchased the present cemetery grounds from the Walker family in order to establish the Confederate Cemetery in 1873, and for over 138 years area women have worked tirelessly to provide a beautiful resting place for over 600 Confederate soldiers whose remains lie in this now historic cemetery. It was the women of the Southern Memorial Association who organized the removal of the bodies of the soldiers from mass graves at the battlegrounds of Prairie Grove, Pea



Photo courtesy of BJ's Photos at bjwebb3749..tripod.com

Ridge and the Battle of Fayetteville as well as from the roadsides and the woodlands where they fell and then their re-interment in the Confederate Cemetery. Most of the soldiers reinterred in the cemetery remain unknown, but the founding ladies did record the names of 121 men whose bodies rest in the cemetery they worked so hard to obtain.

Buried in the historic Walker Cemetery is David Walker. He was born in 1806 in Kentucky. It is he who has left the largest imprint on the history and development of Fayetteville, Washington County, and the state of Arkansas. David first came to Fayetteville in 1830 with very little but grit and determination, but used them both with such fortunate results that in 1833 he returned briefly to Kentucky to marry Jane Lewis Washington, the granddaughter of President George Washington's first cousin, Warner Washington.

David and Jane Walker settled down in Fayetteville, where they proceeded to raise six children. His law practice grew quickly because he was a man that people instinctively trusted. Jane's mother, Rebecca Smith Washington, like David's parents, immigrated to Arkansas from Kentucky in 1836. These family members lie buried with their kinsmen within the grounds of the Walker Cemetery.

David Walker was a member of Arkansas' first constitutional convention. He was an Arkansas State Senator in 1840. He became a member of the Arkansas Supreme Court three times, twice serving as Associate Justice and once as Chief Justice. In 1861 Judge David Walker was a pro-Union delegate to the State Convention that met to decide whether to secede from the Union or not. He was chosen president of that convention, and fought for the preservation of the union up to the last hopeless hour. He gave in to the inevitable and offered his services to the new Confederacy. He was commissioned a Colonel in the Confederate Army, serving in South Arkansas as a Judge of the Military Court in General Sterling Price's Army.

After the ravages of the War Between the States, Judge Walker managed to rebuild most of his business and legal affairs. He, like many, lost much during the war, including a son. He was a member of the Building Committee to secure the University of Arkansas for Fayetteville in 1871. He was the spokesman for Arkansas at the 1876 centennial

of the United States of America which was held in Philadelphia. It can be said that Fayetteville owes much of its importance in early state circles to Judge David Walker, who epitomized public-spirited leadership, judicial wisdom, and lifelong respect for education.

To quote Walter J Lemke, founder of the Washington County Historical Society and the first Dean of the Journalism Department at the University of Arkansas, “His influence on our state’s development far transcends that of many of the politicians, soldiers, and others who are featured in Arkansas school histories...He gained fame and fortune for himself and a better life for his fellow-citizens”.

David Walker lived to be 73 years old and died in 1879. His monument is the largest in the Walker Cemetery. Also buried there are two of the founding ladies of the Southern Memorial Association, David Walker’s daughter, Mary Walker and her daughter Miss Sue Walker.

The Southern Memorial Association will accept the deed of ownership to the Walker Cemetery property on August 6, 2011 at 9:00 am. The event will take place at the Walker Cemetery and the public is cordially invited to attend the brief ceremony.

The Southern Memorial Association’s purpose has always been to maintain a beautiful resting place for the Confederate dead and acquiring the Walker Cemetery, its purpose will also be the same, to maintain a beautiful resting place for the Walker family members.

The Southern Memorial Association receives no public funding and has no financial support from any foundations or endowments ever in its history. It continues to exist only by its membership dues and gracious donations from individuals. For more information call 479-824-3910 or 479-527-9301. Email: fayconcem@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~arsma/index.html>

Contact Person: Linda Doede, Historian, SMA, 118 W. Johnson Avenue, Springdale, AR 72764 479-750-8165

Meet Our AGS Board Members: Ginney Pumphrey

Ginney joined the AGS board in August 2010 and she has served on the AGS Audit committee and is a member of the AGS Education committee. Ginney is a member of National Genealogical Society, Saline County History and Heritage Society, Central Arkansas Genealogical and Historical Society, and Heritage Seekers. She is currently serving as treasurer of Heritage Seekers.

Ginney was born in Little Rock, graduated from Mount St. Mary Academy and attended Memphis State University and University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She has been employed at Hickingbotham Investments Inc. for over twenty years and is currently the Payroll/Benefits Manager.



Her interest in family history began at a young age while listening to her grandparents' stories. The real beginning of her genealogical searches started with an invitation to a Pumphrey Family Reunion in Maryland in 1976. She said, "It was the first time that I didn't have to spell my name for someone and I was hooked".

Administrative Stuff

Contributions: If you have news for the Ezine, send it! susanb1996@aol.com –Thanks!

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

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