



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

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JOIN US!

If you are not 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!

Next month, May 2012, marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Arkansas Genealogical Society. In this anniversary year, the society is focusing on the changes that have occurred in genealogy research in the last fifty years.

Fifty years ago genealogists were not using computers, databases, or CDs and the Arkansas Health Department was denying that it held any records of early births. This year AGS is publishing Volume 10 of the Arkansas Prior Birth Index in book form and on a CD, the latter containing all ten volumes totaling 374,742 birth records.

In addition, AGS board members and others are transcribing 1867 lists of qualified voters compiled in some Arkansas counties during Reconstruction. The lists ended up in Mississippi where the Mississippi State Archives filmed them, a copy of which film was purchased by the Arkansas History Commission. Many of the voters were African American and this might have been the first instance of their names in a record of any kind. These lists will be published on a CD also.

To continue with the year's theme, the Arkansas Genealogical Society is offering a genealogical refresher in the form of a FREE workshop on Saturday, April 21, from 9:00 to 3:15 at the Lakewood Methodist Church at 1922 Topf Road off North Hills Boulevard in North Little Rock, Arkansas. The title of the workshop is *Caught in the Middle: Bridging the Gap Between Fundamentals and Technology*. There will be a break for lunch from 11:30 to 1:00. See page 5 here for more details on speakers, topics, and how to register.

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Coming Events - April

April 14, 2012

Civil War Marker Dedication, Courthouse Square, Clinton; Van Buren County will hold its Civil War Sesquicentennial Celebration marker dedication at 10 am. Following the ceremony, River Valley Genealogy Society will be sponsoring a *Genealogy Expo* in the Van Buren County Senior Center, 570 Yellowjacket Lane, from 12 noon until 4 pm.

April 21, 2012

Arkansas Genealogical Society Free Workshop, *Caught In The Middle....Bridging the Gap Between Fundamentals and Technology*, Lakewood United Methodist Church, Topf Road, North Little Rock, 9:00 am to 3:15 pm, lunch on your own; vendors; NEW *Arkansas Prior Birth Index Vol. X* CD and NEW *50 Years of the Arkansas Family Historian* CD will be available. Register at agsgenealogy.org

April 21, 2012

Village Genealogical Society and Arkansa Chapter, DAR, genealogy workshop, Coronado Center, Hot Springs Village, 8:30–3:30 featuring Debbie Parker Wayne, CG, \$25. See <http://www.hsvgs.org>

April 26, 2012

Gravestone Preservation Lecture by Jonathan Appell, monuments conservator, 6:00 pm, Room 170, Catlett-Prien Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock; hosted by Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Free and open to public.

April 28, 2012

Spring Cemetery Conservation Workshop, Oaklawn Cemetery, Sydney Road, Batesville, Arkansas, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Hosted by Arkansas Historic Preservation Project. Instructor Jonathan Appell. Free registration limited to 40 people. Contact Holly Hope at holly@arkansasheritage.org or call 501.324.9148.

Coming Events - May and later

May 9-12, 2012

National Genealogical Society 2012 Family History Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, Duke Energy Convention Center. For information and to register online, go to http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info

June 13, 2012

Free Professional Development Workshop “African Americans and the Civil War in Arkansas,” 9:00 to 3:00, at Lakeport Plantation, Lake Village, Arkansas, hosted by the Arkansas Heritage Sites at Arkansas State University; speakers Mark Christ, *African American Regiments in Arkansas*; Rhonda Stewart, *The Legacy of Richard Toombs, U.S. Colored Troops*; and Blake Wintory, *Reconstruction and Redemption in Arkansas and Chicot County*.

Register at <http://arkansasheritagesites.astate.edu/AHS/> or email Rachel.Miller@smail.astate.edu

June 14-16, 2012

Palatines to America Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, Marriott East Hotel; German Research Meets Methodology and Technology. Two experts, Warren Bittner and John Neill will share their knowledge. For full information visit the German Genealogy Society, Palatines to America website at <http://www.palam.org>

July 13-14, 2012

Missouri State Genealogical Association Conference, Columbia, Missouri, at the Stoney Creek Inn. Keynote Speakers are Pam Boyer Sayre, CG, CGL and Rick Sayre, CG, genealogy experts who will be presenting lectures on various land records and maps. Supporting speakers include Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL, Pamela Stone Eagleson, CG, Beth Foulke and Carole Goggin. For information contact NancyThomas@Centurytel.net or 573.443.6052

Arkansas Genealogical Society Free Workshop

On April 21, 2012 the Arkansas Genealogical Society will present its spring genealogy workshop called *Caught in the Middle: Bridging the Gap Between Fundamentals and Technology*. It will take place at Lakewood United Methodist Church at 1922 Topf Road off North Hills Boulevard in North Little Rock.

Registration will begin at 9:00 am and the first lecture will start at 9:15. Morning speakers will be Lynda Suffridge presenting “Using Basic Research Principles—Even in an Internet World” followed by Russell Baker presenting “Indians and Whites—Looking for Southern Native American Ancestors.”

There will be a break for lunch on your own between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm. You are welcome to bring a sack lunch; coffee, tea, and water will be provided.

Afternoon lectures will begin at 1:00 with Buford Suffridge presenting “Was Grandpa REALLY Grandpa? Using DNA in Genealogy Research” followed by George Mitchell speaking about “Digitizing Your Family History.”

You may register online at www.agsgenealogy.org or send your name, address, email, and phone number to AGS Free Workshop, PO Box 26374, Little Rock, AR 72221-6374. For additional information contact Suzanne Jackson at 501.753.2551.



From the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission

ARKANSAS CIVIL WAR SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS FOR APRIL 2012 ANNOUNCED

LITTLE ROCK—The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has sanctioned several events for April 2012, including festivals, re-enactments, conferences, exhibits and lectures, ACWSC Chairman Tom Dupree announced today. A complete listing of scheduled sesquicentennial activities, as well as additional information on the activities listed below, can be found at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/events/>.

Among the Civil War sesquicentennial events during April are:

- “Union Raids and Recruitment,” a lecture by James Johnston in conjunction with the Buffalo National River, will be held April 3 in the Boone County Library in Harrison; call (870) 741-5913 or log on to http://www.boonecountylibrary.org/Contact_Us.html or more information.
- “Harmony,” a Mountain View-based folk group, will perform Civil War songs at the Bob Herzfeld Memorial Library in Benton April 9; call (501) 778-4766 or email sperdue@saline.lib.ar.us or more information.
- “Civil War Arkansas, 1863-1865,” the ACWSC’s traveling exhibit, will be at the University of Arkansas at Monticello Library through April 10; call (870) 460-1080 for more information.
- “A Divided Arkansas,” the 71st annual conference of the Arkansas Historical Association, will be held April 12-14 in Fayetteville; call (479) 575-5884 or email dludlow@uark.edu For more information.
- Civil War Supper, an event at Historic Washington State Park in Washington, will be held April 14; call (870) 983-2684 or email HistoricWashington@arkansas.com or more information.

Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Events in April

- Van Buren County Historical Marker Dedication, followed by a Genealogy Expo, will be held April 14 in Clinton; call (501) 208-4213 or email rivervalleygenealogysociety@gmail.com or more information.
- Confederate History Weekend, featuring camp life and re-enactors, will be held at Prairie Grove Battlefield Historic State Park on April 14; call (479) 846-2990 or email holly.houser@arkansas.gov or more information.
- “Nothing but Snow, Trouble and Worry,” a lecture by Susan Young of the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History, will be held April 15 at the Elkins Public Library in Elkins; call (479) 643-2904 or email elkinspubliclibrary@gmail.com or more information.
- Confederate Heritage/Flag/Memorial Day will be held at the Arkansas State Capitol in Little Rock on April 17; call (870) 926-2985 or email info@arkansastoothpick.com or more information.
- “Grandiose Schemes, Harsh Realities: The Civil War in Arkansas in 1862,” a lecture by Dr. Tom DeBlack, will be held as part of the Brown Bag Lunch Lecture series at the Old State House Museum in Little Rock on April 19; call (501) 324-9685 or email info@oldstatehouse.org for more information.
- Battle of Fayetteville Commemoration, featuring re-enactors, food, songs and entertainment and sponsored by the Washington County Historical Society, will be held April 21 at the Headquarters House in Fayetteville; call (479) 521-2970 or email dd.lamb@sbcglobal.net for additional information.
- Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas will host a free lecture on “The Army of the Southwest in Batesville” by ACWSC Commissioner George Lankford at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock on April 24; email RMeadows@aaamissouri.com for more information.
- John Jones Pettus Memorial Service, a service for the Mississippi governor who served at the time of secession and is buried in Arkansas, will be held at Flat Bayou Cemetery near Wabbaseka on April 28; call (870) 267-5850 or email DeeM-Lawr@aol.com for more information.

Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Events in April

- Re-Enactment of the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry will be held April 28 at the Grant County Museum in Sheridan; call (870) 942-4496 or email museum4@windstream.net for more information.
- Fort Lincoln Freedom Fest, featuring re-enactors, cannon firing, speakers, exhibits and other activities, will be held in DeValls Bluff on April 28; call (870) 659-5652 or email vesper7272@yahoo.com for more information.
- "Portraits in Gray: A Civil War Photography Exhibition," will be on display at the Rogers Historical Museum in Rogers April 30 through July 21; call (479) 621-1154 or email museum@rogersarkansas.com for additional information.
- "Reel to Real" Exhibit, an exhibit at Little Rock's Historic Arkansas Museum contrasting artifacts from the movie Gone with the Wind with items from Civil War Arkansas, will conclude its run on April 30; call (501) 324-9351 or email info@historickansas.org for more information.
- "Washington 1861: A Community Decides" Exhibit will continue at Historic Washington State Park during April; call (870) 983-2684 or email HistoricWashington@arkansas.com for more information.

For more information on these and other sesquicentennial events, visit <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/events/>.

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission is housed within the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. The AHPP is the Department of Arkansas Heritage agency responsible for identifying, evaluating, registering and preserving the state's cultural resources. Other agencies are the Arkansas Arts Council, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Old State House Museum, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission and the Historic Arkansas Museum.

Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Podcasts

You may not be heavily involved in the Civil War Sesquicentennial observations, but the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission is making a lot of information available that may help you with your family history research. Explore the commission's website at www.arkansascivilwar150.com.

Specifically, if you want to learn more about what your Arkansas ancestors' lives were like during the Civil War, listen to a few of the podcasts that the commission is making available. The podcasts are "short lectures by authorities on different aspects of the war in the state." According to the website, "the podcasts are being produced in cooperation with the School of Mass Communication at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock."

Just a few of the titles are The Arkansas Army, The Arkansas Peace Society, Unionism in Arkansas, Why They Joined, Mexican War Veterans in Central Arkansas, Confederate Women of Arkansas, and Slavery and Slave Resistance. Lecturers include Steven McAteer of the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, Dr. Michael B. Dougan retired ASU history professor, Dr. Carl Moneyhon of UALR, Dr. Thomas A. DeBlack of Arkansas Tech, Mark Christ of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Bobbie Roberts of Central Arkansas Library, and many others whose names or agencies you will recognize.

You may never know what your specific ancestors experienced, but knowing what occurred around them in terms of government or lack thereof, opposing local political sentiments, economic deprivation, and proximity to moving or occupying armies will you understand what they may have endured during the war years in Arkansas.

To listen to some of the podcasts go to <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/research-education/podcasts/>

1940 Census Indexing, again

AGS is receiving inquiries about indexing the 1940 census. No, the Arkansas Genealogical Society is not indexing as a society. But we highly recommend that our members and readers take part in the volunteer indexing project coordinated by FamilySearch to provide quick access to the images and index them immediately to make them searchable online and free and open to all. Go to <https://the1940census.com> and sign up now to index. You can even indicate the state you would most like to index. As each state is fully indexed the index will be uploaded.

The National Archives will upload free digital images of the 1940 census to the internet at 9:00 on April 2 at <http://1940census.archives.gov>. The indexing will begin immediately. Make sure you are part of it. The 1940 census will be online with no indexing coming from the National Archives or Bureau of the Census. Without an online index, researchers would be left to browse the pages of the state, county, and townships or districts where they think their families were residing, perhaps with poor results.

To search the 1940 census successfully, family historians must have an adequate index. Volunteering with FamilySearch will allow us to work together to accomplish this goal. If you have been indexing with FamilySearch already, you will have some idea of the procedure. If you have not previously indexed with FamilySearch, rest assured that the process is simple and easy. You will be asked to enter a small batch at a time, perhaps only one page. Many helps are easily and quickly available when you have questions about how or what to enter. As in the past, you will be able to enter online or to download, enter, and then submit your batch.

This indexing project will be the best way for all family historians to work together to index a valuable resource in a fairly efficient manner, so that everyone will be able to locate the persons they would like to find in 1940 with relative ease and speed. The National Archives and FamilySearch.org will always provide the index for free to all researchers.

The NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives

Congratulations are in order for the NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives which celebrated its first anniversary on 3 March 2012. NEARA was constructed in 2010 at 11 Seventh Street in Powhatan Historic State Park, Powhatan, Arkansas, and is a branch of the Arkansas History Commission. The purpose of the archives is to make Arkansas resource materials available in the northeast counties of the state, much as the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives (SARA) does at Washington in the southwest counties of the state.

The archive holds the historic Lawrence County records donated by the Lawrence County Historical Society that were housed for several years at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. After opening with 500 cubic feet of records from the old courthouse, 1400 rolls of microfilm, and 3000 books, the archives acquisitions in 2011 doubled the number of books and records available to researchers. Previously, most records were unprocessed and unavailable for public research, but now thousands, including marriages, probates, pensions, and court cases, have been processed, indexed, and made available for research. Government records from Crittenden and Sharp counties, aerial photographs of Lawrence County in the 1930s and 1950s, family bibles, photographs, scrapbooks from the Jonesboro Civitan Club, more Lawrence County tax and court records, and additional microfilm have been added.

The research room is open to researchers from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Tuesday through Saturday, except for state holidays. Patrons must sign in and first time visitors must fill out a registration form and show a photo ID to receive a research number.

Lisa Perry is the NEARA Archival Manager and can be reached at lisa.perry@arkansas.gov or by phone at 870.878.6521. Visit the archives website at http://www.northeastarchives.org/about_us.aspx or email at northeast.archives@arkansas.gov

Standridge Family Reunion From Russell P. Baker

The Standridge National Family History Society announces its next biannual National Family Reunion for Friday and Saturday, September 21-22, 2012 at the Magnuson Hotel and Convention Center, 737 S. Meridian Avenue, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Members, friends, and anyone with an interest in the Standridge surname are invited to attend.

Members of the Standridge family show up in northern Arkansas about 1834. Others settled in western Arkansas before the Civil War. Family roots have been located in Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Illinois.

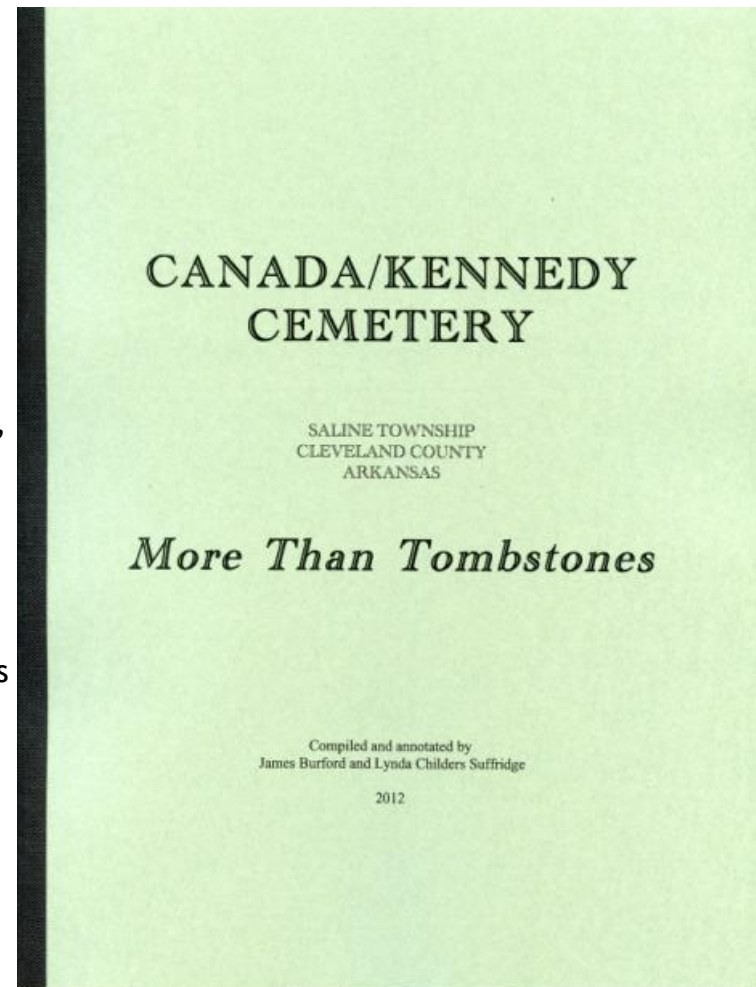
Field trips, tours, and research opportunities are planned for the reunion. This year's theme is Fun, Family, and Fellowship. For additional information contact Russell P. Baker at gob-gob3@mindspring.com or call 501-888-6981.

The new headstone to the right was placed by Standridge Family Members in a Mount Ida, Arkansas, cemetery to mark the graves of family members who died in 1873.



New Book: *Canada/Kennedy Cemetery, Saline Township, Cleveland County, Arkansas: More than Tombstones* from Lynda Suffridge

Canada/Kennedy Cemetery, Saline Township, Cleveland County, Arkansas: More Than Tombstones compiled by James Burford and Lynda Childers Suffridge is now available. 166 pages, fully indexed, include landowner maps of the area over different time periods, and a plat map of the cemetery. A photograph of every tombstone along with a transcription of the stone is included and accompanied by a photo of the person, if available, and his obituary, if available. Some of the surnames included are Banks, Burford, Carter, Cearley, Cheshier, Childers, Finley, Gage, Garlington, Garner, Green, Hardway, Hasty, Kauffman, Kennedy, McAllister, Mahaffey, Morgan, Rogers, Shields, Smith, Swazy, Wallingsford, West, Wilson, Wolfe, and Wright. All profits from the sale of this book will be used for upkeep of the cemetery. The price of the book is \$30 which includes shipping. Make checks payable to the Canada/Kennedy Cemetery Association and be sure to include your mailing address. The book may be ordered from Lynda Suffridge, 3801 Caraway Court, North Little Rock, AR 72116. Phone: 501.771.1012. Email: Lcsuffridge@comcast.net



New Book: *The Norwoods of Conway County: A Family History* from Diane H. Norton

In his early 20s, Daniel B. Norwood and a brother left their home in Cherokee County, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. They traveled over the mountains to the Arkansas River Valley and the Ozark foothills of Conway County, Arkansas, on foot, it has been said. In 1859 Daniel married and settled at Springfield, beginning a peaceful life of subsistence farming in the gentle rolling hills in the northern part of the county.

In just a few years, the plans of many men like Daniel were interrupted, many destroyed forever, when war broke out between North and South. Conway County would soon become as divided as the Union itself. In 1862 Daniel was conscripted into Gordon's Company of Confederate Cavalry. Following the 1863 fall of Little Rock, however, Daniel escaped and joined the Union Army as a quartermaster sergeant. His federal pension records reveal the many facets of his story, much of it relayed in first person. It served as the catalyst for the author to take her research in this line back three more generations.

She discovered that Daniel was not the only Norwood in his line to defend a growing nation during some of its most painful years of development. While neither famous nor sometimes easy to find, these Norwoods volunteered, fought, suffered and died while contributing to the monumental events that shaped our country. There were Norwoods of this line who fought in the world wars, the Civil War, Indian Wars, American Revolution, and French and Indian War.

In addition to presenting the line's history in Arkansas, the lives of its members in Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, and other states are thoroughly presented as well. The collateral family lines of Thompson and Tiner are also dealt with in detail, as well as more general coverage of unrelated Arkansas Norwoods and others of interest.

(continued on page 15)

The Norwoods of Conway County (continued)

Extensive endnotes provide documentation and explanatory information. Along with thorough historical information regarding the geography and historical events, many photographs, maps, record images and personal memoirs accent the bulk of research. These include military pension records, marriage certificates, and many other types of images.

This 486-page book is bound using a classic hard cover binding with gold stamping on the front and spine. In addition to copious endnotes, it contains both a table of contents and a full name index. Acid-free paper and Buckram binding are used to guarantee a quality book that is archive safe with no yellowing over time. It is meant to be passed down from generation to generation. At \$55 including postage and handling, it is available from the author Diane H. Norton, P. O. Box H2, Snowmass Village, CO 81615.

Administrative Stuff

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

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