



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!

The Arkansas Genealogical Society and its quarterly, *The Arkansas Family Historian*, will be officially 50 years old on 4 May 2012. The society was founded on that date in 1962 at Fayetteville, but it was another year before major organization was accomplished. A history of the society compiled by Russell Baker reveals that in early days the active members of the society and its board came from all corners of the state, and annual meetings were held in locations statewide as well.

These days, approximately 50% of the membership is out-of-state, much of it in California where many Arkansans or their descendants have moved over the years. It is hard for a society to continue to be active, to hold seminars and workshops, and to carry out indexing and publishing projects when only half of its membership is fairly local. On the other hand it is a blessing that so many displaced Arkansas natives and descendants are still interested in their Arkansas ancestry.

Please notice the new golden anniversary logo at the top left corner of this page. The anniversary year is being celebrated by recognizing the many changes that have occurred in genealogical research and publishing during those fifty years. Technology has made our searches for and our storing of information much easier in many ways, and yet the old methodologies and analysis standards still apply and millions of records still must be accessed the old way, in the library, courthouse, or archives. The AGS free workshop on April 21 addressed these issues and the Annual Fall Conference on October 26 and 27 will continue in the same vein. Barbara Renick, the featured speaker, is an “old school” genealogist who is up on the new technology.

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Coming Events

May 3, 2012

Pope County Library, Russellville, Heritage Room, 6:00 pm, Jane Hooker of the Arkansas History Commission will speak on “Genealogy Research at the Arkansas History Commission.” RSVP – call 479.968.4368 or email kfowler@popelibrary.org

May 5, 2012

Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc., 2012 Founders Day Lecture Series, *Randolph’s Roots: Exploring Our Past, The Frontier Period 1800-1812*, at the Historic Imperial Theater, 202 N. Marr Street, Pocahontas, Arkansas, 8:30-4:00.

May 9-12, 2012

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

May 11, 2012

Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: Perspectives on the African American and Latina/o Experience, 6:30 pm, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Douglas Blackmon, author of *Slavery by Another Name*, will speak at Darragh Center, Main Public Library, 100 Rock Street, Little Rock, Arkansas. The talk is part of the Central Arkansas Library System J. N. Hieskell Distinguished Lecturer series.

May 12, 2012

Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: Perspectives on the African American and Latina/o Experience, 9:30 am to 6:00 pm, Darragh Center, Main Public Library, 100 Rock Street, Little Rock, Arkansas, will feature fourteen local, state, and national experts on race and ethnicity in Arkansas.

Coming Events -

June 13, 2012

Free Professional Development Workshop “African Americans and the Civil War in Arkansas,” 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at Lakeport Plantation, Lake Village, Arkansas, hosted by the Arkansas Heritage Sites at Arkansas State University; the bulk of the workshop will take place at the Cowpen Restaurant two miles up the road, <http://thecowpen.com/> ; 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*. To register 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>

June 23, 2012

Arkansas History Commission Workshop, Capitol Building, Room 171.

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 phone 573.443.6052

From Rogers Historical Museum

Portraits in Gray: A Civil War Photography Exhibition Featuring the Collection of David Wynn Vaughan, a traveling exhibition presented by the Southern Museum, Kennesaw, Georgia, will be at the Rogers Historical Museum 322 South Second Street, Rogers, Arkansas, corner of Second and Cherry in the Rogers Historic District April 30 through July 21, 2012 and open 10 am to 5 pm Monday through Saturday. Corporate sponsorship for this exhibition is provided by Bedford Camera and Video, with media sponsorship provided by Cumulus Media.

The Pattillo brothers from Henry County, Georgia, were members of the 22nd Georgia, which served with the Army of Northern Virginia. By the war's end one brother was dead and two others had been wounded. Their ambrotype portrait is part of a rare collection of images that gives insight into the human face of the American Civil War. Through high quality enlarged reproductions of the original photographs in Vaughan's collection, this exhibit provides visitors with both an educational and an emotional experience. Each image captures that moment in time when a soldier had his "likeness" made. Vaughan once said, "Images . . . represent a time capsule, a link to the past. To hold an image and look into the soldier's eyes, just as he was the day it was taken, always gives me goose bumps." This exhibition offers the same experience for the visitor.

Portraits in Gray also illustrates the importance of the photographers and photographs of the period. The viewer will learn about the photographers of the time and the many processes they used. The traveling exhibition will be enhanced by images of Union soldiers from the museum's collection, as well as replicas of a Union uniform and items that would have been used by a Union soldier.

There will be a \$2 admission charge for adults 19 and over for this special exhibition. This charge will be waived for students and active duty military personnel (with presentation of ID), teachers, chaperones, and home

Rogers Historical Museum (continued)

school parents accompanying organized student groups, and members of the Friends of the Museum. The admission charge also will be waived for all visitors during a Civil War Family Day on June 23.

The Rogers Historical Museum is located in Rogers, Arkansas, at 322 South Second Street, at the corner of Second and Cherry in the Rogers Historic District. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and general admission is free. For more information call 479-621-1154 or visit www.rogersarkansas.com/museum.

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Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RogersHistoricalMuseum

Penny Postcards: A USGenWeb Archives Web Site

This very enjoyable web site contains images of pre-1940 penny postcards arranged by state and city. You can browse through your ancestor's historic locations and find delightful views of places they may have known.

The home page contains a button for each state. The first section of each state is preserved for mystery postcards. For instance, after clicking on Arkansas, you will find first the mystery section, in this case containing four postcards depicting different views of Sulphur Springs with the caveat that "there are 7 towns called Sulphur Springs in Arkansas." Perhaps someone could enlighten the webmaster as to which Sulphur Springs the postcard actually pictures. The fifth card in the mystery section is titled "Men on Ox Cart" and is indeed two gentleman on a homemade cart with a makeshift oxen yoke displaying the sign, "Traveling-thru-Ark.-on-the-way-home."

Motel and hotel photos are of course represented, but there are also schools, churches, courthouses, mills, buildings, street scenes, bridges, rail depots, lakes and other scenes. Under Yell County, one of the few dated cards shows "Longest Pontoon Bridge in the World, Length 2343 feet, Dardanelle, [1909]." Another under Scott County is titled "Hartsell Family. Charles, James, and William Hartsell ca. 1896. Saw mill workers in Boothe."

I was happily surprised to find a card showing Sherburne Pass in the Green Mountains where my Mead ancestors once lived in Rutland County, Vermont, and another of Mississquoi Park on Lake Champlain at Highgate Springs where my Stevens ancestors lived in northern Vermont.

The postcards are held by private collectors and are not for sale. The web site administrator includes a brief, but informative history of postcards and directions for submitting your own contributions, plus a list of the submitters. Go to <http://www.usgwarchives.net/special/ppcs/ppcs.html> to see what you can find of interest.

Preserve Your Family Treasures

Most genealogists have attended lectures focusing on preserving photos, papers, family artifacts, and data. Usually by the time we need the information we can't locate it and don't know where to look for advice. Now you can go quickly to the web for answers to your questions, courtesy of @YourLibrary.org, The Campaign for America's Libraries.

Perhaps spurred by Preservation Week in April, this website has posted a series of preservation tips. Under "Preserving Your Treasures" is a list of Quick Preservation Tips like handling with clean hands, providing stable conditions, and making copies. "General Preservation Resources" provides links to a variety of sites like the Library of Congress and the Henry Ford Museum for information about preserving all kinds of different objects and materials. Other subsections focus on preserving photographs, preserving film, digital preservation, and digital photographs. In each case, besides advice, many links are provided. There is no excuse for not finding what you need here.

Another large section addresses Disaster Recovery and two others provide suggestions for family projects and activities specifically for kids, some of which can be used in school.

All in all this is a very handy site. Whether you use it for general information or in an emergency, it is sure to provide the information you need or a link you to it.

Go to <http://www.atyourlibrary.org> and click on Preserve Your Family Treasures.

Genealogy Source Citations Quick Reference

UpFront with NGS sent an email early in March recommending a two-page help for source citations created by Thomas MacEntee and made available on his website, Geneabloggers. I finally took a look at it, and I agree with NGS that MacEntee's *Genealogy Source Citations Quick Reference* is a great resource for genealogists.

Many family historians avoid the use of source citations when they pass information along or publish items in print or online. This makes it difficult for other historians to access the same sources and thereby intelligently judge the research findings. Genealogists should not pass along information, wherever it's found, that does not include indications of where the information was located. Many genealogists have worked long and hard to garner respect for our field, and documentation of sources is a major component of that respect. It is discouraging to observe others ignoring standards requiring sharing of sources when sharing information.

MacEntee's Quick Reference could change some minds and help reduce source citation avoidance among family historians. His citation reference is quick and easy to read. It explains every term (source, citation, footnote, end-note, bibliography), lists some do's and don'ts, describes the components of a citation, and provides examples of the different styles of citation, all in a simple, uncomplicated manner. MacEntee also recommends good online sources for further reading and specific help in writing source citations, plus a special section of help for bloggers and website creators and some suggested reading.

You can refer to this Quick Reference anywhere you have web access or easily print it off on two sides of one sheet of paper to carry with you when researching. Source citation should begin during your research as you find information. That is the time to record everything necessary to identify the source.

Check this out at http://www.geneabloggers.com/Citations_Quick_Reference.pdf and remember to cite your sources!

Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: Perspectives on the African American and Latina/o Experience

From John Kirk, Donaghey Professor and Chair of History, University of Arkansas at Little Rock:

This is to let you know about a conference on "Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: Perspectives on the African American and Latina/o Experience" taking place in Little Rock on May 11 and 12, 2012, co-sponsored by the UALR History Department, the UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture, the Central Arkansas Library System, and the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies. The conference is part of the Rockefeller Centennial Celebration to mark the one-hundredth anniversary of former governor Winthrop Rockefeller's birth.

Friday, May 11, at 6:30 pm will feature a plenary talk by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Douglas Blackmon whose book *Slavery by Another Name* was recently featured as a documentary on PBS. The talk will be part of the Central Arkansas Library System J. N. Hieskell Distinguished Lecturer series.

Saturday, May 12, (9:30 am to 6 pm) will feature fourteen local, state and national experts on race and ethnicity in Arkansas.

All events will be held at the Darragh Center, Main Public Library, 100 Rock Street, Little Rock, AR. All events are free and open to the public, so come along!

More information on the conference website here (which contains full program and speaker details): <http://www.ualrexhibits.org/rockefeller/events/race-and-ethnicity-in-arkansas-perspectives-on-the-african-american-and-latino-experience/>

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Randolph's Roots: Exploring Our Past, the Frontier Period 1800-1812

Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc. is presenting its 2012 Founders Day Lecture Series on 5 May 2012 at the Historic Imperial Theater, 202 N. Marr Street in Pocahontas, Arkansas. The symposium is entitled "Randolph's Roots: Exploring our Past, the Frontier Period 1800-1812." Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the program will end at 4 p.m.

Considering that knowledge of history is so important to genealogists' understanding of their ancestors' lives, the lecture titles in this series appear to offer a great deal to family historians. Morning lectures will include:

9:10 "A Journey into the Past—American Settlement in the Eleven Point River Valley" by Tommy Jameson and Joan Gould

10:00 "Life on the Ozarks Frontier: Multi-ethnic Settlement" by Robert A. Myers

10:45 "Life on the Ozarks Frontier: the Peril of the Wilderness" by Gerry Barker

Following a lunch break lectures will proceed with:

1:00 "Life on the Ozarks Frontier: the Lubricant that Allowed America to Move West" by Christopher M. Branam

1:20 "Life on the Ozarks Frontier: Building a Foundation for Community" by Joan Gould

1:40 "The Peril of the Wilderness: A Family Frontier" by Gerry Barker

2:15 "The Peril of the Wilderness: Material Culture on the Frontier" by Maria Barker

3:00 "Transitioning to the Territorial Period, Tales from the Courthouse" by Dr. Lisa Perry

3:30 "Establishing Context for Material Culture"

Go to <http://5rhp.org> to find out more about this group and their projects.

Administrative Stuff

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

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