



Arkansas Genealogical Society

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**AGS Ezine**

Volume 12, No. 4, April 2017

Johnny Mann, editor  
George Mitchell, list manager

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The Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas Spring  
12th Summer Edition Genealogy Lock-In



Saturday, July 15, 2017

6:00 p.m to 12:00 p.m.

Door Prizes

Snacks

Representatives from the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives / History Commission and the Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas will be available to answer your questions.

**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!

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## Tidbits —

Katherine R. Willson, a professional Genealogist, has a listing of genealogical and historical Facebook pages available on her website. It is a 308 page PDF file containing over 10,600 links. She updates it periodically and you can find it at:

<https://socialmediagenealogy.com/genealogy-on-facebook-list/>.

The Genealogy By Barry website provides some good research aids written by Barry. You might be interested in taking a look at his [Genealogy U.S. Federal Census Tutorial](#).

[Reclaim the Records](#), a not-for-profit group, is working to get public data released back into the public domain. They started with New York, New Jersey, and Missouri, and are expanding. It is always good to be aware of these kinds of efforts.

If you have a need to trace ancestors who were slaves, you might be interested in a [September 2016 BBC article](#) *How do you trace ancestors who were slaves?*

Here is an item of interest concerning Missouri Adoptees research. It is an [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#) article from August 30, 2016.

If you have photos to scan, Thomas Watson's November 15, 2016 article in [FamilySearch Blog](#) may be helpful.

## Coming Events

April 1, 2017

The Beginning Genealogy Class, provided by the [Genealogy Society of Craighead County, Arkansas](#), will be held at the Jonesboro Craighead County Public Library from 10:00 to 3:00. There will be a two-hour session with a break for lunch, followed by a second two-hour session. Please contact Nancy Matthews at (870) 219-0535 or by email at [nlmatthews@suddenlink.net](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.net).

April 1, 2017

The Ark-La-Tex Genealogical Association will host an all day seminar on Saturday, April 1, 2017. Featured speaker will be Caroline M. Pointer, professional genealogist and lecturer. The seminar will be at the Miciotto Family Life Center, St Jude Catholic Church, 4700 Palmetto Rd, Benton, LA (just north of Bossier City). Early registration is recommended. Registration fee is \$40 and includes lunch. Visit <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~laaltga> for details and registration form.

April 7, 2017

The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program's [Sandwiching in History](#) will be from 12 PM to 1 PM at the Dibrell House, 1400 Spring St., North Little Rock, Arkansas.

April 5, 2017

The Butler Center **Legacies & Lunch Program** will be WW1 Resources at the Butler Center, centered around the [Online Resouce: Arkansas and the Great War](#). It will be presented by Brian Robertson at the Darragh Center.

April 15, 2017

Gary Pinkerton will be presenting his book, *Trammel's Trace: The First Road to Texas from the North* at 2:00 p.m. in the 1914 Schoolhouse in Historic Washington State Park, hosted by the [Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives](#). He will also be signing copies of his book and there will be a Q and A session after his presentation. See page 11 for more details.

## Coming Events continued

April 15, 2017

The Arkansas Historic Preservation's [Walks Thru History](#) will be the [Keo Commerical Historic District](#), City of Keo, Arkansas from 11 AM to 1 PM.

April 20–22, 2017

*Great War, Great Changes* [Arkansas Historical Association](#) 76th Annual Conference (Pocahontas, Arkansas). By clicking the link in this announcement you can view the program and register.

April 22, 2017

The Family History Conference of Northwest Arkansas will present *I'm Related To Who!* at 6738 Lynch Prairie Ct., Springdale, Arkansas. Register at [www.familyhistoryconfernecewa.org](http://www.familyhistoryconfernecewa.org).

April 22, 2017

The Greene Co. Historical and Genealogical Society Heritage Fair will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the First National Bank, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 200 West Court, Paragould, AR. No registration fee. See page 16.

April 24, 2017

Heritage Seekers normally meets at 6:30 at the Second Presbyterian Church at 600 Pleasant Valley Drive, Little Rock. The program will be *Robbie's Revolutionary War Ancestors*, Richard Peterson presenting.

May 6, 2017

The Arkansas Genealogical Society and the Arkansas State Archives will hold a Spring Workshop in Old Washington, Arkansas. *In the Genealogical Trenches: Tracing Your Wartime Ancestry* will be in the Historic Washington State Park Gym, 103 Franklin St., Washington, AR 70862. See page 10 for more details.

## Coming Events continued

May 10-13, 2017

The [National Genealogical Society's](#) 2017 Family History Conference will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, NC. Conference registration began December 1, 2016. Hotels began accepting reservations for the conference on June 15, 2016.

June 8-10, 2017

7th annual [Genealogy Jamboree](#) and Pioneer Day in the Historic Town of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee.

July 15, 2017

The [Genealogy Society of Craighead County, Arkansas](#), will sponsor their summer lock-in, “*Wind Back The Clock*” from 6:00 pm to midnight on Saturday, June 15, 2017. See their website for the details.

July 23-28, 2017

[The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research](#) (IGHR) will be at the Georgia Center's UGA and Hotel Conference Center.

July 28 and 29, 2017

2017 International Germanic Genealogy Conference will be held in Minneapolis, MN, on July 28 and July 29, 2017, hosted by the [Germanic Genealogy Society](#). Click here for the International [Germanic Genealogy Conference flyer](#).

August 5, 2017

The [Heritage Seekers](#) will sponsor a Genealogy Research Day at the Butler Center.

August 30-September 2, 2017

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

## Coming Events continued

October 20-21, 2017

The Arkansas Genealogical Society 2017 Fall Conference will be at the Benton Event and Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. D. Joshua Taylor is scheduled to present. Watch our [website!](#)

May 2-5, 2018

The NGS 2018 Family History Conference will be in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The announcement was in the *NGS Monthly* from May 2016. Call for proposals opened January 3, 2017.

June 2–7, 2018

[The Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research](#) (IGHR) will be at the Georgia Center's UGA and Hotel Conference Center.

August 22-25, 2018

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

October 19-20, 2018

The Arkansas Genealogical Society 2018 Fall Conference will be at the Benton Event and Convention Center in Benton, Arkansas. Cee Cee Moore is scheduled to present.

August 21-24, 2019

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Washington, D. C.

September 2-5, 2020

The [FGS](#) National Genealogy and Family History Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri.

## State Historical Society of Iowa Digitization Project

The following announcement is from a February 17, 2017 posting on [Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter](#).

The following announcement was written by the Advantage Companies, a Cedar Rapids business with a division dedicated to the preservation and digital access of historical newspapers:

DES MOINES - The process to save the first draft of Iowa history just got a lot smoother.

The State Historical Society of Iowa today unveiled a sweeping new plan to preserve more than 12 million pages of newspapers in its collection, giving Iowans greater access to more than 300 titles dating to the state's pioneer days in the 1830s.

Under the authority of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs, the State Historical Society has signed a 5-year contract to loan the newspapers to the Advantage Companies, a Cedar Rapids business with a division dedicated to the preservation and digital access of historical newspapers. Advantage will take on the ambitious new project at no cost to the state, and ownership of the physical newspapers will remain with the State Historical Society.

Advantage and the State Historical Society have already partnered on several preservation projects since 2011. But the new agreement clears the way for Advantage technicians to increase and accelerate the preservation of newspapers dating back to 1837, all of which have been gathered from communities and publishers statewide.

Starting this spring, the newspapers stored at the State Historical Building in Des Moines will be transported to Advantage's secure 80,000-square-foot records-management facility in Cedar Rapids. Technicians will first photograph the pages onto microfilm (which remains the gold standard for newspaper preservation) and then digitally scan the microfilm to provide wider access to the public. Advantage will take similar steps in the future with newspapers at the State Historical Society's Centennial Building in Iowa City.

## State Historical Society of Iowa Digitization Project *continued*

“Continuing to preserve Iowa’s fragile historical newspapers and increasing public access to the collection in a sustainable way have always been high priorities for the State Historical Society,” State Archivist Anthony Jahn said. “In our exhaustive efforts to develop the best solution, the importance of newspapers to every community statewide was top of mind and drove our work to position 180 years of historical newspapers for the benefit of all Iowans.”

Advantage Preservation, the division of the company that focuses on microfilming and digitizing newspapers, will continue to work with local publishers to negotiate copyrights. Content printed before 1924 is considered fair use; content published since then belongs to the publisher.

“As an Iowa company, Advantage is excited to take an even more active role in preserving Iowa newspapers,” Advantage Chief Operating Officer Jeffrey Kiley said. “We believe the preservation of our collective history is a shared responsibility, and we’re proud to continue our work with the state of Iowa to ensure that our ‘first draft of history’ is available for current and future generations.”

Advantage also plans to explore ways to make Iowa’s historical newspapers more accessible to Iowa students as a classroom resource.

The soon-to-be microfilmed and digitized newspapers will enhance the State Historical Society’s vast collection of previously microfilmed content, which currently comprises more than 24 million pages from more than 650 statewide titles on more than 44,000 rolls of microfilm.

Anyone can access the state’s newspaper collection, free of charge, by visiting the State Historical Society of Iowa Research Centers during the recently expanded hours of 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday at the State Historical Building, 600 E. Locust St. in Des Moines, and the Centennial Building, 402 Iowa Ave. in Iowa City.



## State Historical Society of Iowa Digitization Project *continued*

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and its three divisions - the State Historical Society of Iowa, the Iowa Arts Council and Produce Iowa, the State Office of Media Production - empower Iowa to build and sustain culturally vibrant communities by connecting Iowans to the people, places and points of pride that define our state. The department's work enables Iowans to foster creativity and serves as a catalyst for innovation where the stories of Iowa are preserved and communicated to connect past, present and future generations.

[www.iowaculture.gov](http://www.iowaculture.gov)

The Advantage Companies, based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, consist of three divisions that share in the mission of preserving, protecting and providing digital access to printed documents. Advantage offers secure document storage, document conversion services, and historical document preservation solutions to organizations across the United States. Advantage Preservation is a division of Advantage Companies and focuses exclusively on newspaper collections. Newspapers are microfilmed and stored in accordance to ANSI/AIIM standards for long-term preservation. Digitization of newspaper microfilm is an enhancement to the preservation process and a means to unlock content that would otherwise be impractical to access. [www.advantage-companies.com](http://www.advantage-companies.com).

## Arkansas State Archives & Arkansas Genealogical Society May Symposium

The following information has been released by Danyelle McNeill of the Arkansas State Archives

The May Symposium, hosted by the Arkansas State Archives, Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives, and the Arkansas Genealogical Society, will be held from 9:30 a. m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. The theme of the event is *In the Genealogical Trenches: Tracing Your Wartime Ancestry* and will focus on researching 20th Century military and war records. It will be held at the Washington Historic State Park but the building hasn't been decided yet - it will either be the 1914 Schoolhouse or the Gym. The location will depend on the number of people who sign up.

Registration for the event will begin May 6 by contacting [events.archives@arkansas.gov](mailto:events.archives@arkansas.gov) or calling 501-682-6900. The scheduled speakers are Mark Christ, Mary E. Dunn, Mike Polston, and Peggy Lloyd. There will be coffee and light pastries in the morning and lunch will be provided.

## Lecture and Book Signing about Trammel's Trace

The follow announcement is from the Arkansas State Archives

The [Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives](#) (SARA) and the SARA Foundation will host a lecture and book signing at 2 p.m. on Sat., Apr. 15, 2017, at the 1914 Schoolhouse in Historic Washington State Park, Department of Arkansas Heritage Director Stacy Hurst announced today.

Gary Pinkerton, author of *Trammel's Trace: The First Road to Texas from the North*, will present the history of Trammel's Trace, the first road from the United States into the northern boundaries of Spanish Texas. The road was named for Nicholas Trammel and served as a smuggler's road between the two areas. Mr. Pinkerton will also sign copies of his book after his lecture. Light refreshments will be served.

The lecture is free but registration is required. Registration is limited and deadline for registration will be Thursday, April 13.

State Historian and Archives Director Dr. Lisa Speer noted that having Mr. Pinkerton to SARA to speak about Trammel's Trace is especially fitting. "Gary used the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives extensively in his research for this book," said Speer. "He built on the work of James and Mary Dawson, who had conducted research in the 1940s, and later donated their materials to the archives at Historic Washington. In a sense, Gary's lecture and book signing brings his research on Trammel's Trace full circle."

Located in Historic Washington State Park, the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives is a branch of the Arkansas State Archives and is dedicated to collecting and preserving primary source materials that bring together the unique history, culture, and heritage of Southwest Arkansas.

## Lecture and Book Signing about Trammel's Trace *continued*

The Arkansas State Archives is an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage and is responsible for collecting and maintaining the largest collection of historical materials on Arkansas in the world.

Other agencies of the Department of Arkansas Heritage include the Arkansas Arts Council, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Old State House Museum, the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and the Historic Arkansas Museum.

For more information or to register, contact [events.archives@arkansas.gov](mailto:events.archives@arkansas.gov) or call 501-682-6900.

## Time to Take Another Look at the Future of Your Past

The following article by Curt B. Witcher is from *Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library*, No. 156, February 28, 2017

There are dozens upon dozens of reasons that individuals give for beginning the research into their families' histories, their families' stories. While we have heard most of the reasons, I sense at least a few of us believe that underlying these reasons is what Alex Haley famously called a hunger. "In all of us there is a hunger, marrow-deep, to know our heritage--to know who we are and where we have come from. Without this enriching knowledge, there is a hollow yearning. No matter what our attainments in life, there is still a vacuum, an emptiness, and the most disquieting loneliness. "

Whether we cumulatively have spent moments, months, or many years researching our families' histories, what we have collected is important to us. Why else would have we invested the time and often the expense? And because it is important to us, it should be important for us to actively and persistently take steps to preserve the information we have found--preserve the stories we have discovered. It will be meaningful to our grandchildren and their great grandchildren. We should take steps to incorporate what I call simple preservation techniques into our overall research process. The future of our past depends on us consistently and purposefully taking meaningful steps to ensure our stories live on beyond our years.

One of the first, best things we can do is to write-up our research. So many just collect. Indeed, I fear many of us could more accurately be called "stuff gatherers" rather than researchers. We conduct searches on all kinds of databases, we sometimes use books and other print sources, we save countless images (sometimes without really noting where specifically we found those images), we place items in folders (physical or virtual) that make sense to us without reality-testing our organizational schemes to see if they make sense to others, and we more or less call it a day. It is so very useful to actually take the time to explain your findings in writing. So you made a copy of a probate packet. Who are all the individuals mentioned? What property of all

## Time to Take Another Look at the Future of Your Past *continued*

kinds is mentioned? Is there an inventory? Are there receipts, and if so, what do they indicate? Why is a doctor's bill a part of the estate? Writing an analysis not only helps with preserving our discoveries in an organized way, it may also enlighten our thinking.

Collecting "stuff"--finding documents to support a notion or belief that particular individuals are our ancestors--should be the beginning of a process that includes seriously analyzing what we have collected followed by an articulation of that analysis. If you have six documents that evidence a particular ancestor's life, articulate how those documents truly are evidence and narrate what they indicate. Engaging in that process gives the documents meaning and the "story" can be more easily understood and retold.

Many will tell you there is no one right way to put together one's documentation, to organize, and to tell one's story. That may be true; however, there are clearly wrong ways. One such misguided way is to create such a complex filing or numbering scheme and then *\*don't\** provide a key. You are tempting your descendants to declare your gathered documents to be little more than clutter, and relegate those items to the landfill. Recall the KISS approach, keep it simple & straightforward, making sure there are plentiful copies of an easily understood key.

Another clearly wrong way to ensure your stories live on is to do a lot of assuming, e.g. assume everyone will understand your filing system, assume everyone will know how a particular set of documents link together, and assume everyone will get the same story from the assembled pages or images without your narrative. We frequently have heard what assuming does--well, it's true! When creating folders, physical or virtual, for the documents we have gathered and narratives we have compiled, it is so helpful to have a table of contents, a summary document describing the gathered materials, or even a general statement of topics covered by the items in a particular folder. It makes dealing with physical folders so much easier and clearer, and it greatly facilitates discovery in virtual folders.

## Time to Take Another Look at the Future of Your Past *continued*

Most of us have heard the adage that a picture is worth a thousand words. Why not make it a thousand words plus a few more? Take the time to label all your photographs and photographic images. Lamenting that you haven't, or that your family members have been negligent in identifying photographs, will not help in the least. Begin identifying now. Don't let one more day pass without identifying in some archival manner as least a couple of images, and don't stop until you are done. It's that important. Even if the identification cannot be individual-specific, identify what you can. Set the image in as many contexts as you can, i.e. time, geographic location, and setting. Use modes of transportation, clothing, backgrounds, and the like to establish contexts for images even if you don't know the individuals represented.

Many parcels representing lifetimes of genealogical work are donated to The Genealogy Center each week. We are grateful, indeed honored, to preserve and present this research for generations of genealogists to come. Our Center, though, is one of the few locations in the country that will take loosely organized documents and do the time-consuming work of organizing and describing what has been donated. It is not a trivial undertaking. Indeed, the majority of research centers will not take research collections that are poorly organized. Whether donated to a research center like ours or passed along to a family member, the future of your past rests largely in your hands.

## Greene County Historical & Genealogical Heritage Fair

### **GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY HERITAGE FAIR**

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK, 3RD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
200 WEST COURT STREET, PARAGOULD, AR,  
PHONE 870-240-8944

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks

10:00 a.m. Joe Burns, Tennessee Genealogy Society, *Newspaper Research for Genealogy*

11:00 a.m. Dr. Daniel F Littlefield, Jr., Director, Sequoyah National Research Center, *Soul Searching and Seeking Indian Ancestry*

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Richard L. Hartness, Sr., Adjunct History Professor, East Arkansas Community College, *Where Are You, Dad?*

2:00 p.m. Dr. Blake Perkins, Assistant Professor of History, Williams Baptist College, *"Ain't Servin" Them Ungodly Silk-Hatted Fellers: World War I Draft Resistance in Arkansas*

3:00 p.m. Closing Comments

*You can eat nearby or order a sandwich by printing and mailing the order form on the next page.*



Greene County Historical & Genealogical Heritage Fair *continued*

**GREENE COUNTY HISTORICAL & GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY HERITAGE FAIR**

**LUNCH ORDER FORM**

SUBWAY SANDWICH

The price for Sandwich, Chips, Cookie and Water is \$7.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the kind of sandwich you want to order.

- 1. Ham
- 2. Roast Beef
- 3. Turkey

Send completed order form and money or check by April 15, 2017 to

GCHGS  
PO Box 121  
Paragould, AR 72451  
870-240-8944

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## **Administrative Stuff**

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

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