



Desmond Walls Allen and Lynda Childers Suffridge, editors
Jan Hearn Davenport, list manager

JOIN US!

This is your official
invitation to join AGS.

[AGS Membership Application](#)

Welcome New Members

Pris Weathers

Mabelvale, AR

Leslie Windham Adams

Paige, TX

Joyce Holder

Conway, AR

Marianne Rugeley

Crowley, TX

Roy Wilson

Sheridan, AR

Jerry Blackburn

Little Rock, AR

Sherril Siebold

Springfield, MO

Mark Your Calendar: AGS/GCHGS Road Show—March 28

AGS and Greene County Historical & Genealogical Society are co-sponsoring a spring event, “Arkansas Genealogy Road Show,” to be held at the Paragould Community Center, 3404 Linwood Drive, Hwy 49 S, in Paragould, on Saturday, March 28, 2009, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. In addition to speakers and presentations, a panel of experts will be on hand to answer questions. And there’ll be exhibits by other genealogical and historical societies, museums, and vendors. And the price is right! Admission is FREE.

This is your chance to get out from behind your computer monitor and interact with living people who are as nutty about genealogy as you are. Or almost as nutty. Gasoline prices are down, the weather is warming up, and it’s time to see a beautiful corner of Arkansas.

Use this opportunity to chat one-on-one with leading experts—see the table on page 2 about who these folks are. Soak up some knowledge while you’re there. Guest speakers are:

- Bryce Chandler, author and actor, will portray a Civil War drummer boy
- Bob Branch, speaking on the history of Greene County

(Road Show, continued on page 2)

Free Consultations

Bring your enthusiasm and sign up for a free 15-minute session with any or all of the panel of experts:

- Dr. Dan Littlefield, Native Americans
- John Kennett, photographs
- Nina Corbin, lineage societies
- Susan Boyle, family history
- Dr. Buford Suffridge, DNA
- Lynda Childers Suffridge, general research
- Russell Baker, Arkansas research

The AGS/GCHGS Road Show is your opportunity to meet one-on-one with leading genealogy experts.

(Road Show, continued from page 1)

- Danny Honnell, presents information about the Civil War
- Judy Downs, discusses women's role in the Civil War

Make a weekend of this—take a mini-vacation. There are three nice hotels in the area:

- ◇ Holiday Inn Express, next door to the event, 870/236-9999
- ◇ Best Western Rustic Inn, 3009 Linwood Dr., 870/239-2161
- ◇ Quality Inn Suites, 2310 W. Kingshighway, 807/239-2121

It's not too late to reserve a table if your society, museum, family association, or business needs to reach genealogists. Tables are free on a first-come, first-served basis. For details about table reservations, contact [Kaye Holmes](#), 870/335-6900, or [Norma Addison](#), 870/476-2314, or the GCHGS Research Center, 870/240-8944.

Put this event on your calendar. Gather some friends, pile in to the car, visit cemeteries and courthouses along the way, and spend all day Saturday March 28th with real people!

The program will close with a performance by the Heritage Dancers of Randolph County.



FGS/AGS Conference News: Ten neat reasons to attend the 2009 FGS/AGS Conference for the Nation's Genealogists.

Paula Stuart Warren, CG
National Publicity Chair for the 2009 FGS/AGS Conference



10. The **Free** Ice Cream Social for registrants on the afternoon of Tuesday, September 1st. Pick up your registration materials and then go have some ice cream.
9. An Exhibit Hall filled with genealogical goodies. Check this [preliminary list](#) and check later as more vendors reserve booths.
8. A chance to meet a distant cousin researching one of your families.
7. Learn details about places to research in Arkansas and the surrounding states.
6. A syllabus filled with the handouts for the lectures – everyone gets the full [syllabus](#) on CD.
5. Ah, for the last five you will have to be sure and read the April edition of the *AGS Ezine*.

To see the full program and register, just [click here](#).



What Should You Wear to the FGS Conference in Little Rock?

Desmond Walls Allen

“I’m going to attend the FGS Conference in Little Rock; what should I wear?” If you’re like me, you think first about comfort, then about what the rest of the crowd has on.

Let’s address comfort first—the first week in September in Arkansas can still be hot and humid. Hot we can handle, but the humidity can be something else. There you are, standing outside in the shade, your clothing is drenched and you’re watching sweat run off your chubby elbows. That’s a sign it’s 75 percent humidity and above. Rich people pay for that kind of humidity—in a sauna. Polyester and poly-blend clothing is not your friend in our humidity. Think cotton and linen. And carry a water bottle to replenish the sweat that drips off your elbows. Move slowly and think cool thoughts.

Carry a fan—any sort of fan. Flat paper fans with Jesus on one side and a funeral home ad on the other are good, especially if your burial policy is paid up with the advertiser. A week of

fanning will aggravate your carpal-tunnel troubles but Wal-Mart sells wrist braces in three sizes.

The first week in September in Arkansas can also be hot and dry. All the above applies, but you’re much less apt to slip down in the elbow sweat. Less makeup is better in the heat, dry or humid. When your upper lip accumulates perspiration, dab it daintily with your lace handkerchief. Remember, ladies: hogs sweat, men perspire, we glow.

The heat and humidity are only a problem outdoors. Inside, we have frigid air-conditioning. Everywhere. In cars, meeting rooms, lobbies, hotel rooms, restaurants, restrooms. You’ll have icicles on your elbows. Carry a lightweight wool sweater with you. You want a wool one because it breathes. Sometimes you don’t need the full

(What to Wear? Continued on page 5)



What else could you do at the conference?

- Bring your curiosity.
- Attend a lecture on some topic or ethnic group you've never heard of before.
- Learn about new kinds of records.
- Pick up research tips and tricks.
- Collect new friends.
- Put faces with the names of vendors.
- Most of all, have a good time!

(What to Wear?, continued from page 4)

benefit of the sweater, so you fold it flat and toss the garment's arms over your shoulders.

What to wear? Something comfortable. Jeans and t-shirts come to mind for me. We're gathering to learn about new research methods and sources, not to wear pantyhose. (Does anyone still wear pantyhose?)

This isn't the time to buy new shoes. Wear those old Birkenstocks that are kind to your feet. Do, however, polish your toenails.

What else should you bring? A spare pair of eyeglasses. A seat cushion if yours isn't built-in like mine. Insect repellent: the conference hotel is on the Arkansas river. We have mosquitoes large enough to stand flat-footed and kiss a turkey. Dusk is their favorite feeding time. They can hear a drop of sweat falling off your elbow two miles away. Arkansas Wal-Marts sell over a dozen varieties of insect repellent. Skip the herbal remedies and go straight for the ones with heavy-duty DEET content. In addition, Wal-Marts in eastern Arkansas sell small baseball bats to help combat our mosquitoes.



Bottom line: wear something comfortable; everyone else will, too.



If you're coming with other folks from your local society, buy matching t-shirts or polos or denim shirts and celebrate your membership.

Jan Davenport and Gloria Futrell at the March 2008 AGS Road Show in matching AGS logo shirts.

Just Reprinted: Perry County, Arkansas, Its Land & People

In 2004, Perry County Historical & Genealogical Society published a lovely county history. It contains a history of the county, articles about the county today, chapters about all the communities, and family histories. It's packed with information. All 500 copies sold quickly!

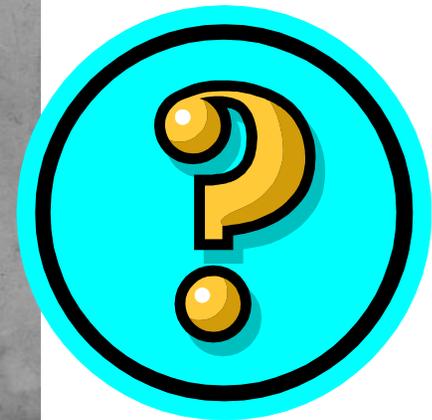
The group decided to order a limited reprint, and those are available right now. *Perry County, Arkansas, Its Land & People* (600 pages, cloth-bound) costs \$80 plus \$10 postage. Order from PCHGS, PO Box 156, Perryville, AR 72126.

Below is a photo of PCHGS members and guests at this year's Christmas party held at Lynda and Buford Suffridge's county home in Perryville. (Lynda and Buford are on the right; Euna Beavers representing Conway County, is standing in the middle row wearing a purple sweater.) This is a lively, interesting group of folks!



Mystery Photos! Do you have suggestions?

Jan Davenport



I need help in identifying the couple in these tintypes. They more than likely have a Faulkner County connection as they belonged to husband's parents, George and Ruby Hall Davenport. They did not know who they were. Some of the families they may be a part of are: Davenport/Rhoads/Davis/Pearson or Hall/Stanphill/Tilley/Elliott/Nixon. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact me, [Jan Davenport](#).

Meet Our AGS Board Members: Russell P. Baker



Russell P. Baker

Russell P. Baker, archivist, lecturer, historian, teacher, and author, is a native of Arkansas. He attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, where he became a member of Phi Beta Kappa and received a B.A. in History in 1967. In 1985 he was granted an M.A. degree in Public History by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Since 1970 he has been employed by the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives in Little Rock and is now that institution's Archival Manager. He is currently Arkansas's senior archivist. Over the years, he has also taught history and archival courses at several public and private central Arkansas colleges/universities.

Baker is the author of several award winning historical and genealogical publications. His *Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832 - 1971* and *Arkansas Township Atlas*, recently revised and reprinted, are modern classics. During his professional career, he has contributed articles on southern history and religion to local, regional, and national publications. He is the author of a number of articles for the new online *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*. He is a frequent lecturer on modern family history research theory at regional and national genealogical conferences and has taught in a number of the Society of American Archivists' continuing education programs. He is a former member of the Society of American Archivists and current member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. He has been a certified archivist since 1989. He is a life member of the Arkansas Genealogical Society and has served on its board of directors for more than three decades. He is a past president of that organization.

North Central Arkansas Ancestor Fair: April 4th

Martha Jean Loftis Kehoe



Martha Jean Loftis Kehoe

Chairperson of the North Central Arkansas
Ancestor Fair

This year's North Central Arkansas Ancestor Fair will be held in Clinton on Saturday, April 4, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at North Central Career Center, on Shake Rag Road behind the Court House Annex (on Hwy 65) and across from the Library.

The event is sponsored by Maria Van Buren Chapter of Daughters of American Revolution. It's sometimes described as a "Genealogical Swap Shop: where people with information about families come to share information with those looking for that information; it's where folks who are stuck or just starting come to find leads/ contacts or to buy books about the area; it's where people with books go to sell those books."

It's a fun-filled frenzy of ancestor hunting, one day long. Family historians who share their information with all comers are known as "Providers." County historical or genealogical organizations will also have tables to consult, display and sell their materials. Senior Consultants or older residents will also attend and be available to recall what they can of earlier times.

"Gatherers," those searching for information, may come at any time; however, we warn you that most people come early and spend the day, because there is so much to do and so many people to talk to. This is your opportunity to make contacts with others researching and publishing. A copy machine will be available at minimal charge

"Providers" are encouraged to Contact [Martha Jean Loftis Kehoe](#), 510 Green Mountain Circle 97, Little Rock, AR 72211, 501/227-7731 or 501/745-6371, to confirm attendance and make a request for tables.

Everyone is invited, and it's all FREE!

Twentieth North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, June 5-6

James J. Johnston

North Arkansas Ancestor Fair Celebrates Twentieth

On June 5-6, 2009, the North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, sponsored by the Searcy County Historical Society, will celebrate its twentieth fair bringing researchers together with family historians to answer difficult questions of family history. The ancestor Fair began in 1990 in the meeting room of the Marshall Restaurant in Marshall as a small family history information-sharing get together for Searcy County families. Because families did not observe county lines it soon expanded to the surrounding counties, and then to all of north Arkansas. The Ancestor Fair has met in schools, civic centers, libraries, co-op meeting rooms, and on the county fair ground in the county seat and in towns where the population was smaller than the Fair-but always in centrally located Searcy County.

The concept of the Ancestor Fair is to share information, so naturally the more people with information that attend, the more information gets shared, and more searchers get their questions answered. Saturday, June 6, 2009, is set aside as 'sharing day' and all family historians, county genealogical/historical societies and publishers with Arkansas Ozark materials are invited and provided with table space and chairs-for free. Attendance is also free, because we encourage the free exchange of information. It is a network of family history researchers meeting at one place to exchange information. It is a Genealogical Swap Meet. Over the years, hundreds have found vital clues to help their research, met kinsfolk and forged long-lasting friendships. Some regularly come to the Ancestor Fair over the years for the fellowship. Researching at the Ancestor Fair is not only informative,

(North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, Continued on page 11)



James J. Johnston

(North Arkansas Ancestor Fair, Continued from page 10)

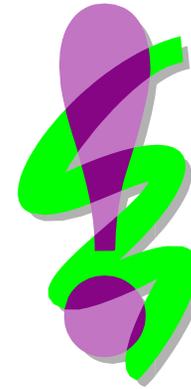
it is fun.

Friday has become the day for seminars on subjects useful to north Arkansas researchers. Since fairs have side shows, we have labeled the North Arkansas Ancestor Fair seminars our Side Shows. Whole Saturday's activities are free, there is a small fee for the Side Shows: \$5 for the morning session of two one-hour presentations and \$5 for the afternoon two one-hour presentations. In 2009 the Ancestor Fair is fortunate to have members of the Arkansas History Commission give the presentations: 'Baptist Records' by Commission Director Dr Wendy Richter; 'Land platting and using legal descriptions to locate ancestors on the ground' by Archival Manager Peggy Lord; African-American History Coordinator Linda McDowell presents 'How to use newspapers in genealogical research'; Archivist Lynn Ewbank will explain why 'One picture is worth a thousand words: glean information from Arkansas photographs'; and George Butler, Washington County attorney will describe 'Arkansas Cemetery Law: Protection and Access.'

Because research-attendees need time to relax, renew old acquaintances and meet new information searchers, the Ancestor fair has a Mixer-Dinner Friday night, often with musical entertainment, so folks can meet and mix.

Taken all together, this twenty-year-old event is informative, entertaining and a great place to meet kinfolk one didn't know they had. For more information or to request table/display space get in touch with: James J. Johnston, 2333 N East Oaks Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72703; 479/442-3691; <johnston@ipa.net>, or go to: <www.ancestorfair.us>.

See you there!



North Arkansas Ancestor Fair

When: June 5 & 6, 2009

FRIDAY

Side Shows begin at 9:30 a.m. and end at 4:15 p.m. \$10 for all day

Mixer Dinner is 6:30 p.m. until whenever, \$10

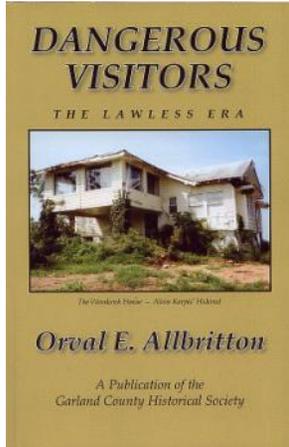
SATURDAY

Set Up for Providers, 7:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. No charge for tables.

Ancestor Fair, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. FREE

Where: EH Building, Searcy County Fairgrounds, Fair & Armory Streets, Marshall, Arkansas

New Book: Dangerous Visitors: The Lawless Era



Garland County Historical Society has just published *Dangerous Visitors: The Lawless Era* by Orval E. Allbritton. It's about gangsters, prostitutes, murders, shoot-outs, and bank robberies.

The book starts with the James-Younger gang's 1874 visit to the Spa City and continues through Tom Slaughter, the Kimes gang, Harvey Bailey, Frank Nash, Alvin Karpis, and more. It's interesting story telling by a good writer.

Order your copy today from Garland County Historical Society, PO Box 21335, Hot Springs, AR 71903. The price is \$24 which includes postage. For more information, contact [Elizabeth Robbins](#), Executive Director, GCHS.

The Butler Center is Moving!

Kathryn Heller, Programming and Outreach Coordinator, The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

In order to move our collection and materials to the new Arkansas Studies Institute, the Butler Center research room will need to close for a short time.

Please note the following schedule:

- ◇ Monday, February 23, the Manuscripts Division will close (no manuscripts will be available for patron use)
- ◇ Monday, March 2, the Butler Center research room will close

We will re-open in our new home, located at 401 President Clinton Avenue on Monday, March 23, 2009. Mark your calendars for our grand opening celebration on Saturday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. — [Kathryn Heller](#)



Administrative Stuff

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

To learn more about [Arkansas Genealogical Society](#), visit our website.

If you have friends and relatives who would like to receive this ezine, direct them to the [ezine sign-up link](#) on our website. Membership is not required to receive the AGS ezine, but we heartily encourage you to join our wonderful organization! [Membership details](#) are on our website.

If you have suggestions or comments about our ezine, [rattle the editor's cage](#).

Missed an issue of the AGS Ezine? Check our online file of [back issues](#).

To remove yourself from the AGS ezine list, [click here](#).

Items in this ezine are copyrighted by the editors or the author of the piece. If you want to reprint any of the items in this ezine, please give us credit, citing “Arkansas Genealogical Society Ezine, (the date), edited by Desmond Walls Allen and Lynda Childers Suffridge.”

Links used in this issue that aren't given in full within the text:

[This list is here in the event you printed a hard copy of the Ezine and can't click on the links.]

Page 1: Join AGS <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/membership.htm>

Page 2: Kaye Holmes' e-mail bkholmes@grnco.net, Norma Addison's e-mail normamannaddison@yahoo.com

Page 3: preliminary list http://www.fgs.org/2009conference/exhibits/exhibitor_list.php

syllabus <http://www.fgsconferenceblog.org/2009/02/conference-syllabus.html>

click here <http://www.fgs.org/2009conference/program/index.php>

Page 7: Jan Davenport's email jhdavenport@comcast.net

Page 9: Martha Kehoe's e-mail martikehoe97@aol.com

Page 12: E. Robbins's e-mail: robbins.eliz@gmail.com

K. Heller's e-mail: kheller@cals.org