



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

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**JOIN US!**

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

[AGS Membership Application](#)

If you are a member,  
it's time to renew your AGS  
membership dues!

## Save the dates!

AGS events in 2010 are scheduled as follows. Mark the dates on your calendars! Get out of your computer chair and meet real, live genealogists in person. Visit, chat, interact; find new cousins.

### AGS Roadshow

Stuttgart, March 13, 2010

### Butler Center Genealogy Seminar Co-hosted by AGS

Little Rock, July 17, 2010, "The Genealogist's Camera"

Presented by Desmond Walls Allen

### AGS Fall Seminar

Little Rock, November 5 & 6, 2010

Presented by Paula Stuart Warren

## Cemetery Symposium at Marshall is the start of something important

by Desmond Walls Allen

James J. Johnston organized the first Cemetery Symposium held at Marshall on Nov. 7th. About 80 folks showed up. Throughout the day, we heard the same story repeated among ourselves with different details. It went like this: “There’s an abandoned cemetery in our county. The land owner is gradually encroaching on it; cattle are knocking over stones. We’re losing it. We’ve tried to get the county judge involved and he doesn’t want any part of it. We’ve talked to everyone concerned and we’re going to lose this cemetery.” Sound familiar?

George Butler, an attorney from Fayetteville, was supposed to talk about legal concerns but the dear man caught the flu and Skip Stewart-Abernathy with Arkansas Archeological Survey did an admirable job of filling in. In the afternoon, we heard from two more AAS folks who described technology marvels that aid in mapping graves.

When the day was done, I came away with some ideas: State laws are inadequate to address our problems. (For example, to meet the definition of a cemetery, a burying ground must have six commercial markers.) Landowners have no reasons to cooperate with cemetery preservation folks. So we need a state-

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**Skip Stewart-Abernathy and James J. Johnston**

*(Cemetery Symposium, continued from page 2)*

wide organization representing groups and individuals to serve as a clearinghouse and voice for the cemetery preservation cause. It has to start somewhere, but I'm too old and tired to take up the banner on this cause. I am, however, willing to help move the process along to a new level. So some of us are going to put together a second Cemetery Symposium in Little Rock in the early spring. If you're interested, e-mail me, [DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com) and I'll keep you on the list of people to be notified about the event.



**Above: Sue Chrisco and Lynn Baker**

**Left: Michelle Hearn Brasel, Tamela Tenpenny Lewis, and Jan Hearn Davenport**



# Arkansas Genealogy Hall of Fame

Desmond Walls Allen

Through the years, a lot of people have contributed a tremendous amount to the cause of Arkansas genealogy. I started thinking about those folks and decided they're too important to be forgotten. So I'm making a list of them and searching for biographical material and photos. First, I'll gather the information, then I'll find a home for it on the web—on a website or a blog.

First things first. Following is the list I've put together so far. The criteria is simple: the people on the list have made significant contributions to the field of Arkansas genealogy through publications, teaching, volunteer work, leadership, public service, or some other aspect of family history research related to Arkansas. I'm looking for people who've reached beyond their own family lines to help others.

The list is, of course, incomplete. If you can think of others who ought to be included, e-mail me, [DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com) and tell me about them. If you have comments, stories, or memories about the people on the list, send those to me, too.



Baker, Russell (Mabelvale)  
Barnes, Cathy (Conway Co.)  
Beavers, Euna (Morrilton)  
Boles, Frances (Little Rock)  
Boulden, Dorathy (El Dorado)  
Britton, Nancy (Batesville)  
Burdick, David (Pine Bluff)  
Cia, Elaine (Little Rock)  
Clark, Wensil (Little Rock)  
Cline, Inez (Hot Springs)  
Craig, Marion (Little Rock)  
Davenport, Jan (North Little Rock)  
Dennis, Ira Sharp  
"Tootie" (ArkansasGravestones.org)  
Dillard, Tom (Fayetteville)  
Ewbank, Lynn (AHC)  
Foster, Ardith Gayle Olene

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Arkansas Genealogy Hall of Fame (continued)

*(Continued from page 4)*

Futrell, Gloria (Little Rock)

Garr, Margie (Baxter Co.)

Glover, Johnita (Pine Bluff)

Goss, Joe (Conway)

Head, John Calvin & Wanda Volentine [Shreveport, La.]

Johnston, James J.

Kittrell, Adelia Huenefield (Woodruff Co.)

Knotts, Burton Ray (Little Rock)

Landreth, Eddie (Benton)

Lemley, Mrs. (Dolph)

Lewis, Tamela Tenpenny (Little Rock)

Lucas, Emmet (South Carolina)

Lyle, Jenny Belle

McDowell, Linda (Little Rock)

McLane, Bobbie Jones (Hot Springs)

Miller, Mary Cooper (Batesville)

Mills, Betsy (Paris, Texas)

Morgan, James Logan (Newport)

Moore, Theresa (El Dorado)

Murphy, Delores (Conway)

Newton, Wilma

Nutt, Tim (Fayetteville)

Powell, Dorr Wilson (Batesville)

Sanders, John (North Little Rock)

Sickle, Marilyn Hambrick (Prairie Co.)

Steward, Voiceway (Menifee)

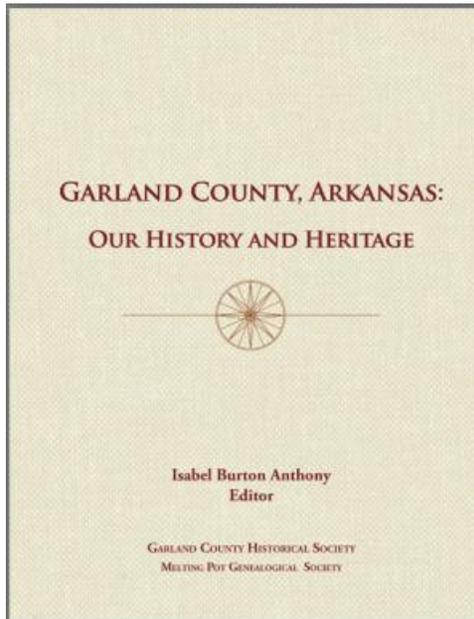
Weathers, Pris (Little Rock)

Wilde, Elfriede Eitel (Texarkana)

Wait! Before you complain about who *isn't* here, stop and e-mail me ([DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com)) and I'll add them to the list. I know a lot of folks but can't think of everyone. I'm counting on *your* help to make this list complete!

# New Book: Garland County, Arkansas: Our History and Heritage

by Elizabeth Robbins



Garland County Historical Society and Melting Pot Genealogical Society announce the publication of *Garland County, Arkansas: Our History and Heritage*, a 700-page volume with a handsome linen hard cover. It's an indispensable guide to the people, places, and history of Garland County.

Twenty-one chapters, prepared by Garland County Historical Society members and edited by Isabel Burton Anthony, cover Garland County's land, settlement, Civil War era, growth, cultural pursuits, transportation, schools, churches, cemeteries, businesses, government, economy, historic sites, civic groups, recreation, health care, townships, and communities, and more. From Memdag to Lonsdale, from Dark Corner to the National Park, from Native Americans mining novaculite to a future U.S. President playing in the HSHS Trojan Band, this book offers the only comprehensive picture of our county ever published.

Hundreds of family histories collected by Melting Pot Genealogical Society give fascinating portraits of the people who have made Garland County their home.

With over 1,000 photographs and numerous old and new maps, this beautifully prepared book makes a wonderful Christmas gift or addition to your family library or coffee table. The book will be available around Dec. 7, 2009. To pre-order a copy, send your name, shipping address, and a check for \$60 (\$50 for the book plus \$10 postage) to Garland County Historical Society, PO Box 21335, Hot Springs, AR 71903. If you're a resident of Hot Springs, save the postage by picking up your book at 328 Quapaw (open 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Monday through Friday).

[Get these while they're hot; I don't think GCHS ordered enough books—order yours now. For more details about GCHS, visit <http://www.garlandcountyhistoricalsociety.com/>. — DWA]

## Meet Our AGS Board Members: Euna Wood Beavers

(Note: Euna's AGS board member term starts January 1, 2010)

My name is Euna Wood Beavers. I was born on a small farm in Oppelo, AR to Don and Euna Wood. I lived in Oppelo until turning 18 and was then sure I could make it on my own. I lived in Morrilton for almost a year and a half when I met and married the love of my life, Burnice Lee "Burnie" Beavers.

Below: The Beavers Clan  
(Euna is in the center)

When I was twelve years old my Grandma Wood died. At that point my Dad felt that he had to be the one to get family information down on paper. It had to be preserved. We sat at the kitchen table many nights doing just that. We had an old antique typewriter and that is what I used. Daddy talked and I typed. We also got information from the old family Bible register pages. At the age of twelve it was instilled in me the importance of preserving this family history. My grandparents and parents are now



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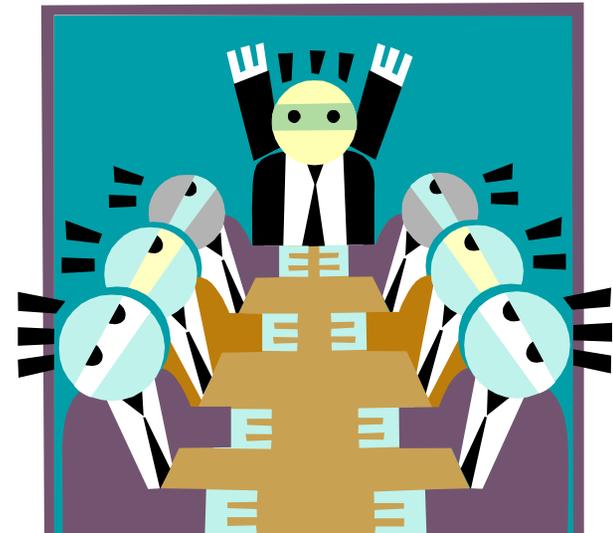
*(Meet Our AGS Board Members: Euna Wood Beavers, continued from page 7)*

deceased. I am the “keeper of the history” for both my family and my husband’s family.

When we married in 1973 my husband and I began to work on our genealogy together. A few years later there were three sons born to us, Steven Lee, Bobby Allen, and Timothy David. We have made many trips to libraries, cemeteries, family reunions and the living rooms of some very interesting relatives. We made it a family affair.

I have always worked our genealogy research in around family and work. I own a daycare and have for about 30 years. The daycare business allowed me to raise my children rather than giving that job to someone else while I worked outside the home. I have three wonderful sons, two wonderful daughters-in-law and three grandchildren that are the light of my life. Our goal in the research we have done is to find and preserve the history and photographs of our ancestors. Our wish has always been to pass this along as a legacy to our children, grandchildren, etc.

I am or have been a member of AGS, charter member of Conway County Genealogical Society, Perry County Historical Genealogical Association, past member of Ancestors Unknown in Conway and the Pope County Genealogy Society. A new group, River Valley Genealogy Society, has been formed in Conway County. I am on the organization committee and a charter member of that group. I have made many friends along the way while being a part of these groups. I was recently asked to be on the AGS Board. I consider that an honor and am looking forward to serving on this board to the very best of my ability.



# Randolph County Heritage Museum

By Bill Carroll, President, Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.

The Randolph County Heritage Museum was established in 2006 by Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc. It's located in two buildings on the old court square in the heart of the 17 block National Historic Commercial District in Pocahontas.

RCHM is open:

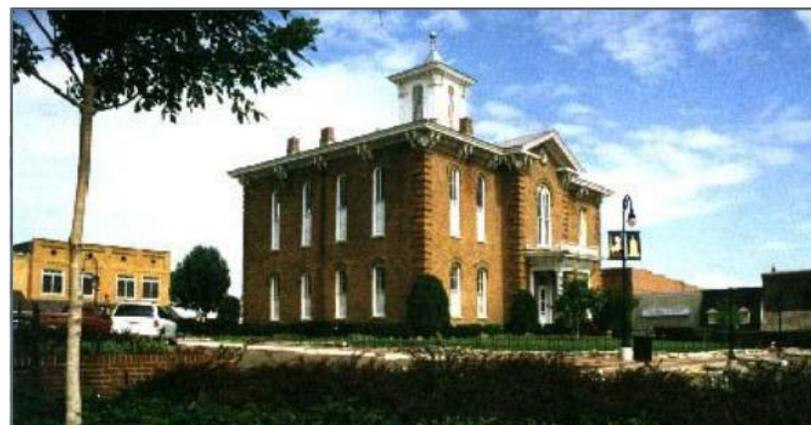
- **Monday, Wednesday & Friday**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.,
- **Tuesday & Thursday**, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
- and **Saturday** 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Its address is 106 E. Everett St., Pocahontas, AR 72455. The goals of the Museum are to preserve and exhibit artifacts and information related to the history and heritage of Randolph County. The Museum has an ever-growing archive of county records back to 1836, genealogical materials, oral histories, publications, and the papers of local people. It features computers with features such as Ancestry.com for use by visitors.

Please see [RandolphCoMuseum.org](http://RandolphCoMuseum.org) and [5rhp.org](http://5rhp.org) for more information about the Museum and Five Rivers.



Randolph County Heritage Museum in Pocahontas



Randolph County Courthouse with the museum in the background



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# Press Release

Contact: Janet A. Alpert, NGS President

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Phone: (800) 473-0060

9:00 AM EST, 20 November 2009

**SUBJECT: CELEBRATE YOUR FAMILY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON WITH NEW VIDEO DOCUMENTARY, *PATHS TO YOUR PAST*** ARLINGTON, VA, NOVEMBER 20, 2009: As families gather together during the holiday season, it is a perfect time to share family stories, reminisce about times past, and learn how to research your ancestors. By discovering your family history you learn about the struggles and accomplishments of your ancestors that molded your family values and influenced who you are today. The National Genealogical Society announces the release of *Paths to Your Past*, a twelve-minute video documentary available online and on DVD, in which noted genealogists and family researchers tell why they are passionate about researching their family history.

*Paths to Your Past* was produced by award-winning cinematographer Allen Moore at the NGS Family History Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina, in May 2009 and on location at the National Archives, the Alexandria (Virginia) Library, the Maryland Historical Society, and other research sites. The documentary video may be viewed online at <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org> under the Videos and Publications tab.

The National Genealogical Society also offers a companion publication, *Paths to Your Past*, which

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provides an overview of how to begin your family research. The fifty-page soft cover book or a downloadable PDF version can be purchased online at the NGS Store (<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org>).

The National Genealogical Society was founded in 1903 and is the largest national organization for all family researchers, including beginner, intermediate, and professional genealogists, interested in expanding their research skills and preserving their family history for future generations. Whether you have been researching your family history for a number of years or you are just beginning, membership in the National Genealogical Society will enhance your research experience. The media may contact [press@ngsgenealogy.org](mailto:press@ngsgenealogy.org) for a press package including a copy of the DVD and information about the society.

For more information, contact Janet A. Alpert, President, National Genealogical Society, 3108 Columbia Pike, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22204-4370, [jalpert@ngsgenealogy.org](mailto:jalpert@ngsgenealogy.org), or 800/473-0060.

## New Hobby: Genealogy!

Desmond Walls Allen

Don't you love it when someone contacts you who is brand-new to genealogy? Everything is amazing—you mean Grandpa's family members are actually listed in a government record I can get to online? (And us old-timers take census records for granted.)

My insurance agent called the other day and was curious about how to get started. He has an unusual Italian last name and knew his grandparents well. And it helped that they came directly from Italy to Illinois and stayed put. And erected real tombstones and got married without burning down the courthouse. He was astonished as I e-mailed him the easily-obtained, low-hanging fruit I snatched from the Internet.

He bubbled over with stories about his family. He'll never take time to write his family stories in pixels or on paper. So I suggested he buy a digital voice recorder and make small audio files, three to five minutes long, about the stories. (I really liked the one about his grandpa shooting the neighbor's dog.) I explained he could title those files just like text files: Grandpa shoots dog.wav. And attach the files to the media pane in Family Tree Maker 2010. Yes, I cautioned him to identify himself and give whole names of the folks he's telling about. It's a quick and dirty way to preserve his family's oral history. I reminded him that when he goes, the stories go with him unless he makes an effort to leave them behind. You really don't even need a voice recorder—Windows has built-in recording software now. All you need is a \$10 microphone. Start now...

## New Editor for the AGS Ezine

By Desmond Walls Allen

I've edited the AGS Ezine for two years now, and it's someone else's turn. I have a theory that *any* publication can benefit from a fresh editor. New ideas, perspectives and approaches are out there, and it takes a fresh pair of eyes to bring them into a publication. Any publication. If you're an editor and feel things going stale, perhaps it's time for you to step aside.

When I announced my retirement as AGS Ezine editor a couple of months ago, I heard wailing, "Oh no! Who'll do it?" We're fortunate in AGS to have lots of talented folks who can do just about anything they put their minds to. Euna Beavers spoke up and said she (a) had experience with publications, and (b) was willing to do it. The January 2010 issue will be her first and I'm looking forward to it. If you'd like to send some words of encouragement to Euna, her e-mail address is [ebeavers@suddenlink.net](mailto:ebeavers@suddenlink.net).

But I haven't quit writing about genealogy—I'll write a regular publication for my own company, Arkansas Research, Inc. It'll be full of news and nonsense. Sign up here: <http://www.ArkansasResearch.com/emailsignuppage.htm>. And Euna says I can still contribute to the AGS Ezine.



Old and New AGS Ezine Editors

Left: Desmond Walls Allen (Old)

Right: Euna Beavers (New)

# New Group Formed: River Valley Genealogical Society

The very first meeting of River Valley Genealogical Society was held Nov. 19, in Morrilton. An interim board, headed by Amanda Sefton, was established. The second meeting is set for 6:30 p.m., Dec. 17th and will be held at the Farm Bureau building, 201 E. Shady Lane, Morrilton. The group will cover Conway, Faulkner, Perry, Pope, Van Buren and Yell Counties. Everyone is welcome!

**Seated: L to R, David Anderson, Marty Kehoe, Amanda Sefton, Euna Beavers, Steve Beavers.**

**Standing: L to R, Sondra Johnson, Suzee Cia, Roberta Anderson, Betty Morrison, Sharon Robertson, Elton Robertson, Charlotte Hamling, and Mary Earnhart**

**Look for more photos for this group on Facebook!**



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## Administrative Stuff

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! [ebeavers@suddenlink.net](mailto:ebeavers@suddenlink.net) –Thanks!

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

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](mailto:DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com) (DesmondWallsAllen@gmail.com)

Missed an issue of the AGS Ezine? Check our online file of [back issues](http://www.agsgenealogy.org/e-zine.htm). (<http://www.agsgenealogy.org/e-zine.htm>)

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

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