



Arkansas Genealogical Society

AGS Ezine

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Susan G. Boyle, editor
George Mitchell, list manager

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 year is winding down and so are the year's genealogical events. Our thoughts will be turning to holiday preparations and family dinners. But our family history research never really stops, does it. In spite of end of year busy-ness, there are often small pockets of down time that lend themselves to tackling the piles of research notes that have accumulated all year, but haven't been entered or filed. The process of attaching data to an ancestor and entering them in his notes might encourage a fresh analysis of existing information or suggest a new direction for research. That leads to a few hours of searching online or a trip to the archives or library to add to the pile of research notes. And so it continues.

For family historians, a few hours spent organizing notes and data and filing notes and photocopies can be the most productive and satisfying times. Those chores are necessary if we are to keep from being totally overwhelmed by the vast quantity of information that is now available to us. Such chores also help us to rethink our research, analysis and conclusions. Sometimes going through old notes will reveal to us a fact of our ancestor's life that we had forgotten or viewed in a different light. It might give us a different perspective of the ancestor than the one we had before.

Our research suffers when we do not stay organized. No one wants to waste precious time finding the same information over and over again. Life is too short for that. Take some end-of-the-year or winter time to enter, analyze, file, organize, and in general rethink some of your family history. It might jump-start your research. Happy holidays and happy ancestor hunting.

NEW BOOK ON WASHINGTON'S PIONEER CEMETERY IS NOW AVAILABLE

Just published by the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives Foundation is *Thou Wert Dear to Us: A Record of Pioneer Cemetery, Washington, Arkansas*, by Mary L. Kwas and Jami J. Lockhart of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. This guide to Pioneer Cemetery is presented in three sections.

Section 1 outlines the history of Pioneer Cemetery and analyzes the burial population.

Section 2 provides biographical sketches of 85 known and strongly suspected interments. Each listing, arranged alphabetically, includes corrected dates, a discussion of the grave marker, epitaph when available, biographical sketch drawn from information on the grave marker and in published and archival sources, obituary when available, and a list of references.

Section 3 is a discussion of the archaeogeophysical survey using ground-penetrating radar and electrical resistance.

The guide is 85 pages long and includes an index of interred individuals. Color photographs by Jamie C. Brandon, Arkansas Archeological Survey, and Sarah Wade and Joshua Williams, Historic Washington State Park, also are included.

The book will be available for sale through the Historic Washington State Park gift shop.

Email historicwashington@arkansas.com, or inquiries may be directed to the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives at southwest.archives@arkansas.gov. The cost is \$20.00, plus any shipping and tax.

Family History Detective A Step-by-Step Guide to Investigating Your Family History

Desmond Walls Allen, well-known Arkansas writer, publisher, and lecturer, has a new book out called *Family History Detective, A Step-by-Step Guide to Investigating Your Family History*. It is 144 pages in paper back. The book is advertised as an “all-ages guide” that will allow you to “find answers to all your family history questions using the simple, achievable steps found inside.”

The book is said to include tips on how to find family history information in your own home; Websites, resources and techniques for online research; complete instruction on locating and using census, courthouse and church records; an overview of library and archive research; instructions on how to plan, record and organize your research; and fun ways to share your discoveries with others.

To order go to <http://www.shopfamilytree.com/product/family-history-detective/new/>

The book retails for \$16.99, but this site shows a pre-order price of \$11.55 which includes a *Discover Your Family Tree Independent Study Class*—free! You will see if that offer is still available when you go to the website listed above. If it is, you will be able to download the independent study course after purchasing the book. The file is 18 MB and in a .zip file. If you can't open a .zip file, it is recommended that you download <http://www.jzip.com/>

Upcoming Events

December 3, 2011

Fayetteville Public Library, 2:00 p.m. Christmas in the Ozarks with Grandma Stories from the land of “use to be.” Linda Doede presents Civil War living history in period clothing reading holiday tales from the region. Stories are geared for elementary ages through adults. Part of their *Beyond Battlefields: Making Sense of the Civil War* series.

December 11, 2011

Fayetteville Public Library, 2:00 p.m., Let's Talk About It: Choosing Sides, book discussion led by Dr. Daniel Sutherland. Part of their *Beyond Battlefields: Making Sense of the Civil War* series.

February 2-4, 2012

RootsTech 2012, Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

April 21, 2012

Arkansas Genealogical Society, Free Workshop, Lakewood United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, AR

Louisiana Digital Library

The Weekly Genealogist from the New England Historic Genealogical Society carried the following article about Louisiana's Digital Library. Since many Arkansas families, especially in southern Arkansas, have connections in Louisiana I thought you might be interested in the article.

Spotlight:*LOUISiana Digital Library* [LOUISiana Digital Library \(LDL\)](#)

by Valerie Beaudrault , the Weekly Genealogist, NEHGS

The LOUISiana Digital Library (LDL) is an online library containing photographs, maps, manuscript materials, books, and oral histories documenting history and culture. Its purpose is “to make unique historical treasures from the Louisiana institutions’ archives, libraries, museums, and other repositories in the state electronically accessible to Louisiana residents and to students, researchers, and the general public in other states and countries.” Twenty-two libraries, archives, museums, and historical centers contribute digital items from their collections to the online library. Currently LDL contains more than 144,000 items. The participating institutions include: Amistad Research Center, Louisiana State Archives, Louisiana State Museum, Louisiana State University (LSU), Loyola University New Orleans, New Orleans City Archives, New Orleans Public Library, State Library of Louisiana, The Historic New Orleans Collection, Tulane University, and University of New Orleans.

The collections in the LOUISiana Digital Library can be browsed or searched. You can browse by Topic, Institution, Media Format, Geographic Focus, Time Period, and Collection Name. If you want to browse by institution, click on Institution in the collections list on the left side of the page. This will open a new page with links to the participating institutions’ collections. Click on the institution’s name to access its collections.

To search the collections you can enter keywords in the search box, which is located in the upper-right side of the page, or you can run an advanced search by clicking on the Search All Collections link in the menu bar at the top of the homepage.

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Louisiana Digital Library (continued from page 5)

With Advanced Search you can search across all fields, selected fields, by proximity or by date. You can also search specific collections from this page.

Louisiana State University contributed forty-six collections, which include photographs, oral histories, newspapers, maps, and letters that could be of interest to family history researchers. They include the following:

Civil War Photograph Album – This album contains portraits of military personnel who fought during the American Civil War, 1861-1865. Most of the photographs are cartes-de-visite of Confederate enlisted men and officers.

George C. Strong Photograph Album – This album contains two photographs of sites around the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, and forty-two photographic portraits of cadets in the classes of 1857 and 1858.

Hermann Moyse Sr. World War I Collection – This collection contains letters written by Hermann Moyse, Sr. (1891-1985), a native of St. Gabriel, Louisiana, when he was a soldier in World War I.

The Louisiana Newspaper Access Program – This collection contains digitized images of select regional Louisiana newspapers from the 19th and early 20th centuries. Click on the View All Items in the Collection link to access them. There are seventy-one different newspapers in this collection.

LSU Libraries Civil War Collection – This collection “represents the cultural and political aspects of the conflict, and life in antebellum Louisiana.”

Maps of Louisiana Collection – This collection consists of important original maps associated with the French colonization of the territory of Louisiana, and the Louisiana Purchase.

Marshall Dunham Photograph Album, ca. 1861-1865 – This photograph album, which contains photographs taken in Louisiana during the Civil War, was compiled by Sgt. Marshall Dunham of the 159th New York regiment.

Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War- A Scholar-led Discussion Series at the Fayetteville Public Library

From Jennifer Koenig Johnson, Intern Assistant Librarian, Fayetteville Public Library:

The Fayetteville Public Library will host a free six-part reading and discussion series called "Let's Talk About It: Making Sense of the American Civil War." The library is one of 65 public libraries nationwide receiving grants to host the series developed by the American Library Association (ALA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The discussions will take place monthly and each will focus on a different facet of the Civil War experience, using one or more common texts as a foundation and touchstone. The texts include works of historical fiction and interpretation, speeches, diaries, memoirs, biographies, short stories and nonfiction.

Dr. Daniel Sutherland, Distinguished Professor of History at University of Arkansas, will lead each discussion. Dr. Sutherland has written eight books and edited five others. He has published over forty book chapters and articles in both popular magazines and scholarly journals. He has received over thirty honors, awards, and research grants. Five of his books have been selected by the History Book Club.

Book Discussion Schedule:

Sunday, December 11, 2pm-3:30pm - Choosing Sides

Sunday, January 15, 2pm-3:30pm - Making Sense of Shiloh

Sunday, February 19, 2pm-3:30pm - The Shape of War

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Let's Talk About It (continued from page 7)

Sunday, March 18, 2pm-3:30pm - War and Freedom

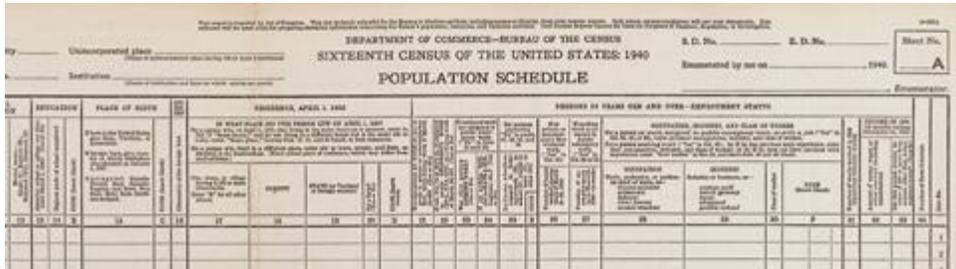
Sunday, April 15, 2pm-3:30pm - A Savage Conflict / End of War

While you are encouraged to attend all discussions, please feel free to attend one, some and/or all of the meetings. Books for discussions are available to checkout at the Fayetteville Public Library. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information, call 856.7250.

From UpFront with NGS

[Archives.com Partners with the National Archives to Unveil the 1940 Census](#)

Posted: 17 Nov 2011 03:00 PM PST



[Archives.com Parent Company Inflection Awarded Project to Make 1940 Census Records Free to the Public](#)

REDWOOD CITY, Calif., Nov. 17, 2011 -- [Archives.com](#), the website that makes discovering your family history simple and affordable, has joined in partnership with the National Archives of the United States to provide the public with free digital access to the [1940 Federal Population Census](#) beginning on April 2, 2012. In close collaboration with the National Archives, Archives.com will build a website for researchers to browse, view, and download images from the 1940 Census, the most important collection of newly released U.S. genealogy records in a decade.

Archives.com is pleased to contribute to this momentous project, allowing researchers to digitally access the latest release of the U.S. Federal Population Census, the ultimate resource for family historians, at no cost. Census day occurred April 1, 1940 and due to the 72-year privacy restriction these records will be available to the public for the first time in 2012.

CEO Matthew Monahan said, “We are thrilled to have the opportunity to participate in this historic moment and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to the advancement of online genealogy research. Access to 1940 Census records will allow researchers to

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Archives.com and 1940 census (continued from page 9)

discover new family members and previously unknown connections to the past. We're happy to have the opportunity to facilitate the discovery of these records, which document over 130 million U.S. residents, more than any previous U.S. Census.”

The 1940 Census will be available to the public April 2, 2012 at 9:00 AM (Eastern Daylight Time) on a new website created in collaboration between Archives.com and the National Archives. The collection will consist of 3.8 million images that the National Archives scanned from over four thousand rolls of microfilm. Public access to the images will not require payment or registration, and will be available to any person with internet access. The name and web address of the website will be announced at a later date.

Chief Digital Access Strategist for the National Archives Pamela Wright notes, “The importance of the 1940 Census cannot be underestimated. At the National Archives, we have been preparing for the launch of these records for years. We are working closely with Inflection to ensure researchers will be able to search the 1940 Census when it opens next year.” At launch, researchers will be able to search the 1940 Census by address, Enumeration District (ED), and geographic location. Researchers will be able to browse images by ED number directly, or use address or geographic information to locate the appropriate census schedule.

To learn more about Archives.com and the National Archives bringing the 1940 Census online, please visit www.archives.com/1940census. The National Archives also has published a number of helpful resources available to researchers on [their website](#), which can help you to prepare to most effectively search the 1940 Census on April 2nd. As the project progresses, updates and additional information will be posted at www.archives.com/blog. Join the conversation on Twitter using the hashtag #1940Census.

About Archives.com

Archives.com is the website that makes family history simple and affordable. Archives.com is owned and operated by Inflection a data commerce company headquartered in the heart of Silicon Valley. It has proven its leadership in the family history industry

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Archivres.com and 1940 census (continued from page 10)

through its commitment to building powerful, easy to use tools, and helping researchers discover new family connections with its growing database of over 1.5 billion records. Archives.com parent company Inflection was chosen by the National Archives to host the 1940 Census. Learn more about the project at www.archives.com/1940census.

About the National Archives

The National Archives and Records Administration is an independent Federal agency that preserves and shares with the public records that trace the story of our nation, government, and the American people. From the Declaration of Independence to accounts of ordinary Americans, the holdings of the National Archives directly touch the lives of millions of people. The National Archives is a public trust upon which our democracy depends, ensuring access to essential evidence that protects the rights of American citizens, documents the actions of the government, and reveals the evolving national experience. Visit www.archives.gov.

Meet Our AGS Board Members: Sherryl Miller

Sherryl Guthrie Miller was born at Leachville in Mississippi County, Arkansas. She grew up at Lake Providence, Louisiana, moving to Lonoke, Arkansas in 1978. She and her husband Jack Miller, who was born in Eudora, Arkansas, have three grown children.

Sherryl has been doing family research since 1979 and became very interested in Lonoke County history about 1994. She was in the “genealogy room” at the Lonoke Public Library so often they gave her a job. She still works there three days a week.

In 1998 Sherryl was elected the first president of the newly organized Lonoke County Museum Board of Directors. In 2005 the museum was given a building and she was chosen Executive Director, a position she still holds. She can be found there the other three days of the week, researching and transcribing old court cases.

Sherryl has a great love for history and family research. She became a member of the AGS Board of Directors at the beginning of this year.



Administrative Stuff

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

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