



# AGS Ezine

Newsletter of the Arkansas Genealogical Society Vol. 16 No. 6 June 2021

Jane A. Wilkerson, Jeanne Rollberg, and Andria Yakoubian editors

Scott Lee, list manager  
**Coming Events**

Click on link below for information on other events around the state,  
<https://heritageseekersar.com/events/>

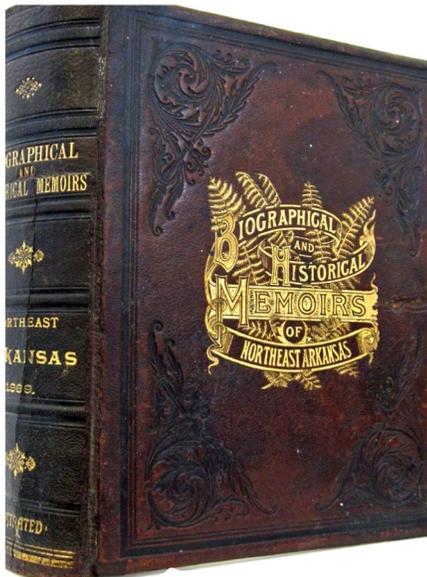
## Coming Up In the Arkansas Family Historian

For avid genealogists doing family history research, *The Goodspeed Histories of Arkansas*, a 7-volume set published in the 1889-1891 period, is one of the most useful early sources for Arkansas local history and genealogy. Each volume contains overview information about several counties in a

specific region of the state.

Most follow a format with a description and short history of each county, with often detailed biographical and genealogical information concerning leading citizens in given communities.

In the forthcoming AGS **Arkansas Family Historian** edited by Russell Baker that will be mailed soon, there will be more detailed information about the 7 volumes in which researchers may find insightful information about our Arkansas families.



### CALS Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History & Art

open to the public the following days and times:

Galleries at Library Square (501.320.5790)

Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Research Room (501.320.5700)

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Email: [arkininfo@cals.org](mailto:arkininfo@cals.org)

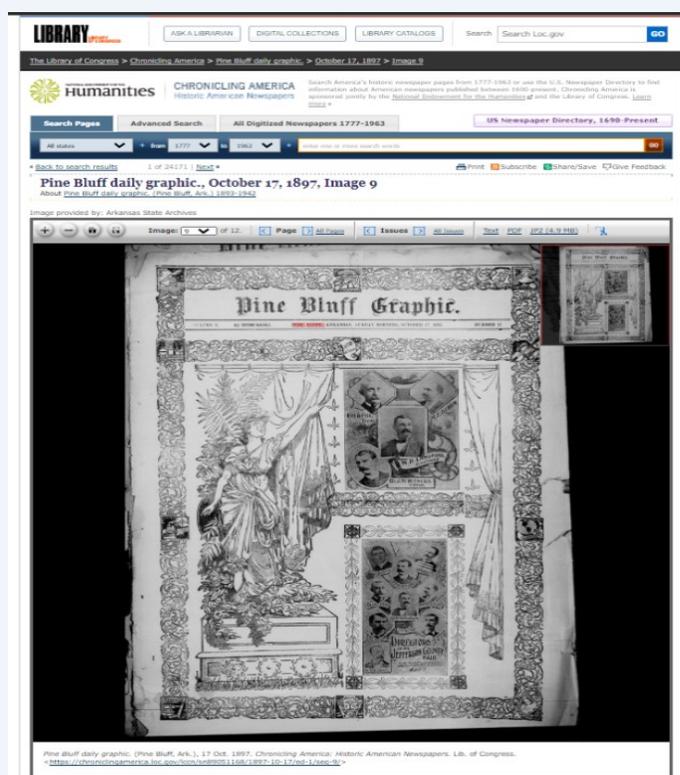
---

## ASA Adds Digitized Newspapers For Research

In the Arkansas State Archives first grant cycle (2017-2019) of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) ASA digitized 100,622 pages of newspapers, which includes 40 Arkansas newspaper titles. The papers range from the 1850s-1920s, with the majority between 1914-1921.

ASA has added another 9,600+ pages of historic newspapers to #ChronAm. This includes issues from The Green Forest Tribune, Southern Shield, The Arkansas Banner, Arkansas Democratic Banner, The Pulaskian, and The Arkansaw Traveler.

To see a full list of the current Arkansas papers digitized, visit <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>. For questions about the digitization project, visit <https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/> to read all about it.



---

## Research From AHA Conference For Genealogists

AGS members may want to know about presentations at the virtual Arkansas Historical Association Conference June 3-5 that connect to Arkansas family history research.

AGS Board Member Carla Coleman spoke about "The Meaning of Commemorate: Why We Should Commemorate African-American Cemeteries and Burial Grounds."

In a session called "New Understandings of European Immigration to Arkansas," there were three presentations from UA-Fayetteville. "Italian Migrants, Racial Politics, and Radical Thought" was presented by Ryan Calabretta-Sajder. Kathleen Condray presented on "German Settlers, Racial Voter Suppression, and the Election of 1892." Linda C. Jones spoke about "Two Hundred Years of French Immigration and Quapaw Alliance in Arkansas."

For a broader overview of conference presentations/presenters for potential research contact, please see: <http://arkansashistoricalassociation.org/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/Program2021.pdf>.

---

## Former AGS Member and Arkansas Genealogist Passes Away

### Sally Jo Foster Gibson



Sally Jo Foster Gibson, 88, formerly of Harrison, died Sunday, May 16, 2021, at Woodlawn Nursing Home in Batesville, Arkansas.

The daughter of Clarence Bryan and Sallie (Land) Foster-Watts-Leggett was born October 25, 1932, at Tallulah in Madison Parish, Louisiana. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Harrison.

Sally Jo was a public school choral music teacher with thirty-one years of experience in Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Twenty-eight of those years were in the Harrison School District. She also served many years as the choir and music director at both St. Paul's Methodist and the First United Methodist Churches in Harrison. She was a member of the Harrison Colony Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR); the Arkansas Retired Teachers Association; the Disorganized Bird Club (DOBC) and a life member of the Arkansas Audubon Society. Sally Jo loved researching her family genealogy. She loved her children and grandchildren, and she had a fond attachment for those she affectionately called her "former students and forever friends."

Through the years, Sally Jo received many awards and accolades for her accomplishments, contributions, and community service. While there are too many to mention, one very special award she received was the Distinguished Educator Award from the Harrison Public Schools Foundation on September 24, 2019. She was preceded in death by her loving husband, James O. Gibson, Jr., her parents and one brother, Reid Foster.

---

She is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, James O. Gibson, III and wife Dorothy of Harrison; daughters and sons-in-law, Janet and Frank Salman of Victorville, Calif., Carolyn and Don Hubbell of Batesville and Sally and Don Hennard of De Queen; a sister, Eloise (Foster) Latoof of New Orleans, Louisiana; a brother Tilford Watts of Tallulah, Louisiana; nine grandchildren; and eighteen great-grandchildren. Memorials may be made to the Boone County Library, 221 W. Stephenson Ave, Harrison, Arkansas 72601; the Boone County Heritage Museum, 124 S Cherry Street, Harrison, Arkansas, 72601; or the Square Rock Methodist Church and Cemetery Fund, c/o Susan Ray, PO Box 523, Waldron, Arkansas, 72958.

**The Arkansas State Archives**

hours are:

Monday – Friday  
9 AM – 12 PM  
& 1 PM – 4 PM

We are open on select Saturdays

**By Appointment Only.**

Call 501-682-6900 or  
email [state.archives@arkansas.gov](mailto:state.archives@arkansas.gov)  
for reservations.

Per Arkansas Department of Health recommendations--:

We encourage all patrons  
(and REQUIRE non-vaccinated patrons) to wear face masks in this facility.

Thank you!

---

#### **Administrative Stuff**

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

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

**Subscribe:** 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.

**Comments:** If you have suggestions or comments about our ezine, contact [ezine@agsgenealogy.org](mailto:ezine@agsgenealogy.org)

**Un-subscribe:** To remove yourself from the AGS Ezine list, [click here](#).

**Credit:** 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 Jane A. Wilkerson, Jeanne Rollberg, and Andria Yakoubian.

---