



## Arkansas Genealogical Society

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## AGS Ezine

Volume 7, No. 3, March 2012

Susan G. Boyle, editor  
George Mitchell, list manager

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### 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!

When the February E-zine was sent out, the list manager discovered that it was not going to everyone who had subscribed. It seems that the number of subscribers had surpassed the number of emails our server allowed us to send out in an hour. This may have happened in previous months as well. If your email address begins with a letter that is toward the end of the alphabet, like mine, you were not receiving the email that carried the Ezine attachment. We apologize for that and hope you have not been totally discouraged. The problem has been fixed. The maximum number of emails our list manager can send in an hour has been increased greatly and we do not foresee a similar problem in the near future.

Please encourage your friends and fellow family historians to subscribe to the Ezine. We would like to hear from you and publish news of your society's events or projects. If you have books, indexes, CDs or other items to sell concerning Arkansas family research, let us publicize them for you. Let us know about your new or updated website containing information about Arkansas places, families or resources.

If you are ready to partake of a genealogical conference, workshop, talk, or seminar, you have no excuse not to do so this month. There will be a plethora of them. Take your pick from the following pages. Many of them are free or of very low cost and they are spread out across the state from Benton and Washington Counties to Newton County, Pulaski County and Saline County.

If you are not in Arkansas, there probably are plenty of genealogical events going on in your neck of the woods as well.

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## Coming Events - March 2-8

March 2-4, 2012

**Arkansas Living History Association Annual Conference**, various locations in Benton and Washington Counties, Arkansas. Civil War theme. For membership form, schedule and registration form go to [www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/downloads](http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/downloads)

March 3, 2012

**Fayetteville Public Library**. Walker Community Room, 401 W. Mountain Street, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 11 am, Karen Russ will present workshop on researching government documents. Learn how to discover family histories and additional online files through the Library of Congress' "American Memory" project, an ever growing, online, database of audio-visual materials. Free. For more information call 479.856.7250 or visit [www.faylib.org](http://www.faylib.org)

March 6, 2012

**Newton County Library**, Hwy 7 south, Jasper, Arkansas, 5:30 pm, the Buffalo National River presents a Civil War Chat by James J. Johnston entitled "Confederate Mining and Recruitment" concerning the Confederate takeover of saltpeter mining along the Buffalo River and the results of the Confederate Conscription Act.

March 8, 2012

**Central Arkansas Genealogical and Historical Society**, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Little Rock, Arkansas, 6 pm, community room, program on Free and Fee Based Online Databases.

## Coming Events - March 10-26

March 10, 2012

**Saline County Library**, Genealogy for You Seminar, 9:00-3:30. Gene Norris, CG, of the Cherokee Heritage Center, will speak on Cherokee genealogy and the Dawes Rolls. Seminar is free but call 501.778.4766 to register.

March 17, 2012

**Irish Seminar** presented by Ulster Historical Foundation, sponsored by Northwest Arkansas Genealogical Society, Bentonville Public Library, 405 S. Main, Bentonville, Arkansas, 10 am to 4 pm with a break for lunch. There is no cost but space is limited and they need reservations by March 14. Call 479-271-6820. What better way for family historians to celebrate St. Patrick's Day?

March 24, 2012

**Central Arkansas Historical and Genealogical Society**, Spring Workshop, Darragh Center, Central Arkansas Library, 9:00-3:30, speaker Patricia Walls Stamm, CG, CGL; \$15 for members, \$25 for non-members. Email [jhdavenport39@gmail.com](mailto:jhdavenport39@gmail.com) for more information or go to <http://www.caghs.net>

March 25-May 30, 2012

**Finding Your Roots**, ten-part series on PBS Sunday nights at 8 pm with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

March 26, 2012

**Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club**, Laman Library, North Little Rock, 7 pm. Lauren Jarvis will speak about the Spanish Influenza Epidemic in Arkansas.

## Coming Events - April and May

April 14, 2012

**Civil War Marker Dedication**, Courthouse Square, Clinton; Van Buren County will hold its Civil War Sesquicentennial Celebration marker dedication at 10 am. Following the ceremony River Valley Genealogy Society will be sponsoring a *Genealogy Expo* in the Van Buren County Senior Center from 12 noon until 4 pm.

April 21, 2012

**Arkansas Genealogical Society Free Workshop**, *Caught In The Middle....Bridging the Gap Between Fundamentals and Technology*, Lakewood United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, lunch on your own; vendors; *NEW Arkansas Prior Birth Index Vol. X* CD and *50 Years of the Arkansas Family Historian* CD will be available. To register go to [agsgenealogy.org](http://agsgenealogy.org)

April 21, 2012

**Village Genealogical Society and Arkansa Chapter, DAR**, genealogy workshop, Coronado Center, Hot Springs Village, 8:30–3:30 featuring Debbie Parker Wayne, CG, \$25. See <http://www.hsvgs.org>

April 28, 2012

**St. Louis Genealogical Society's 42nd Annual Family History Conference** "Methods for Cultivating Our Family Trees." Maryland Heights Centre, 2344 McKelvey Road, Maryland Heights, Missouri. Registration 7:30 am, conference begins at 8:30 am. Dr. Thomas Jones and Leland Meitzler will present talks. Visit [www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org) for more information.

May 9-12, 2012

**National Genealogical Society 2012 Family History Conference**, Cincinnati, Ohio, Duke Energy Convention Center. For information and to register online, go to [http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference\\_info](http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/conference_info)

## Sharing Samplers and Family History

A new genealogical resource is in the works. You may want to keep up with the results or share a sampler and/or family information. *The Weekly Genealogist*, a weekly newsletter from the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Vol. 15, No. 7 Whole #570 on February 15, 2012, edited by Lynn Betlock, Jean Powers, and Valerie Beaudrault included the following:

### **A Note from the Editor: Genealogical Sharing and Sampler Databases**

by Lynn Betlock, Editor

#### ***Samplers and Sampler Databases***



The cover story of the spring issue of *American Ancestors* magazine – which has just been mailed to members – has given me a new appreciation for samplers and the stories behind them. Dan and Marty Campanelli’s article, “Following the Threads of the Carver Fruit Tree Family Register,” traced the history and genealogy behind a sampler created in the early nineteenth century in Taunton, Massachusetts. The story has heightened my sampler awareness, and I know now about two initiatives designed to collect sampler information.

Recently launched by the University of Delaware, the University of Oregon, and the Sampler Consortium, and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the [Sampler Archive Project](#) intends to create an online searchable database of information and images for all known American samplers and related girlhood embroideries from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. As the project progresses, an online database that will make information and digitized images available to the public will be unveiled.

(continued on page 7)

## Sharing Samplers continued

"Our hope is that historical societies, art museums, private collectors and families will help us build this online database by contributing information and digital photographs of the antique samplers in their possession," says University of Delaware history professor Ritchie Garrison. Project staff members estimate that there may be as many as 15,000 to 20,000 American samplers in existence. "Our goal," says University of Oregon professor Lynne Anderson, "is to find them all." If you have an historic sampler or know of a collection that should be included in the Sampler Archive, you can let the Project know by filling out a brief questionnaire by visiting <http://samplerarchive.org/>, clicking the downloads tab, and then selecting "sampler survey." For more on the Project and for background on samplers, you can read "[Stitches in Time Go Online.](#)"

The National Society of Colonial Dames of America has a long-standing interest in samplers. In 1921, the National Society of Colonial Dames in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts published *American Samplers* by Ethel Stanwood Bolton and Eve Johnston Coe, now available on GoogleBooks.

In order to bring this knowledge up to the present day, the Society has undertaken a decorative arts sampler survey which includes samplers in museums, historical societies, and individual collections. To learn more, visit [http://www.nscda.org/site3/decorative\\_arts\\_sampler\\_survey.php](http://www.nscda.org/site3/decorative_arts_sampler_survey.php). To participate, fill out a sampler survey form, available on the webpage. Survey results and a link to the sampler database are available at [http://www.nscda.org/samplers/samp\\_home.php](http://www.nscda.org/samplers/samp_home.php).

## The Arkansas Historical Association

Informed genealogists know that to fully and successfully research their ancestors they must have an understanding of the history of the times and places in which they lived. Historical organizations can help them do that.

The Arkansas Historical Association was formed in 1941 and is housed at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. The association's mission is to "promote the presentation, publishing, teaching and understanding of Arkansas state history." Since 1942 the AHA has published the very fine *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* containing historical research, articles, news, and notes covering Arkansas from early times to the current day.

An annual conference is held in various venues around the state to "allow people from all walks of life to engage in freewheeling exchanges of information and ideas, and also honor the best in teaching, research, and local study of Arkansas history." This year the conference will be in Fayetteville April 12-14.

At the conference the association honors excellence in writing and teaching of Arkansas history with a variety of awards. Categories include elementary or secondary school teaching of Arkansas history, books for young readers of Arkansas history, manuscript articles about any aspect of Arkansas civil war history, book length studies of Arkansas history, manuscript articles of local or Arkansas history, masters or doctoral theses addressing an aspect of Arkansas history, and Arkansas county and local historical journals. There are also awards for individual writers of best biography, best family history, best church history, best community history, best school history, best business history and best edited document in county or local journals.

Visit the AHA website at [www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org](http://www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org). There you can learn more about the organization, become a member, see the details of the awards applications, use a cumulative index to the Arkansas Historical Quarterly 1942-2000, peruse a very good list of historical and genealogical societies in each Arkansas county, or subscribe to the Arkansas History Listserve.

## Table of Contents of the March *Arkansas Family Historian*

The March issue of *The Arkansas Family Historian* is at the printers and should be in the mail in a few days. The contents include the following:

Green V. Childers' Southern Claims Commission Application by Lynda Childers Suffridge

History of Harvey and Viola Young Simpson from Illinois to Arkansas, Iowa, and back to Illinois by Marylea Gazette

Writing Home to Arkansas during the Civil War by James Miller

Calhoun County Maimed and Dead Soldiers transcribed by William T. Carter

Deaths in the 1901 *Paris Express*, Paris, Logan County, Arkansas compiled and annotated by Bill Hanks

Knight-Wayman-Owens Family Bible contributed by EuGene Smith

Bakersfield, California, Obituaries of Former Arkansans Who Died in 2011 compiled by Mildred Tatum

Obituary of Mrs. Susan H. Norris of Pope County, Arkansas, transcribed by Russell P. Baker

The Ashley Township Tragedy, November 6, 1873 transcribed by Sherryl Miller

Arkansas Ancestry Certificates through Joseph Laffette Copeland and through Thomas Baker Franklin

Arkansas Queries and Book Reviews of *The Ultimate Search Book* and *The Canaday/McCormick Families*

You can receive the *The Arkansas Family Historian* by joining AGS. Go to [agsgenealogy.org](http://agsgenealogy.org) for the membership form.



## The DAR's Forgotten Patriots

“UpFront with NGS” alerted me a few weeks back that the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution had put their *Forgotten Patriots* books online for all to use. In the words of the DAR website “The Forgotten Patriots Project focuses on the important contributions made by African American and American Indian patriots of the American Revolution. To date, thousands of Forgotten Patriots have been identified, and DAR researchers continue to uncover these individuals and their unique stories.”



The DAR has collected these names since the 1980s and published a series of small books for each of the original states. In 2000 the individual books were combined into one and the content expanded in the book entitled *African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War*. In 2008 that book was expanded from 200 pages to 874 pages and published as *Forgotten Patriots: African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War*.

Now the 2008 book and a 2008-2012 supplement are on the DAR website for everyone to read or download. This book is more than a list of patriots. The introduction is instructive and full of information. For each state there is a significant history of the period, a list of abbreviations and sources from which the patriot information came and a significant bibliography. Go to <http://www.dar.org/library/fp.cfm> to read about the project and the publication. The download options are on the same page.

If you don't wish to download, this is still a wonderful resource to keep in mind when needing to find information or published sources about the first colonies and the earliest states during the Revolutionary period and some possibly hidden ancestors. Whether looking for African Americans or Indians or not, you will find much of interest in this book.

## Would you like to transcribe for the National Archives?

The National Archives is looking for transcribers to take part in its pilot transcription project. If you enjoy transcribing take a look at the project at <http://transcribe.archives.gov> where they have posted a number of letters, diaries, telegrams, petitions, oaths of enlistment, acts, certificates and a great variety of other documents. Transcribing these documents will increase their accessibility by the public.

To help orient the transcriber, there is a page of transcription project policy, a page of tips, and another page of frequently asked questions. On the Browse Documents page you may select level of difficulty from beginner, intermediate and advanced. If you are interested in a certain time period you may pick a certain year for a document to transcribe, although I was unable to find any really early ones. You would not want to choose a very early document if you do not have extensive experience in reading very early handwriting. You may also choose documents that are not yet started, are partially transcribed, or are finished. The idea is that you may proofread someone else's transcription and make changes if you find errors. I noticed a transcription in which "child" in the original document had been transcribed as "children."



Each "Browse Documents" page contains eighteen documents and each document has a title which identifies it, a date, a difficulty level, number of pages and number of pages transcribed. On the first Browse Documents page only seven of the eighteen documents were not completely transcribed. When you click on the title of a document, the first page of the document is displayed and beneath it the transcription, if there is one. To the right are image resize buttons to decrease or increase the size of the document.

One document I found interesting was "Letter from a slave to soldier husband" dated January 19, 1864, and categorized as Advanced. Nine of its twenty-three pages were transcribed. Take a look at this website—you may be encouraged to help out.

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## **Administrative Stuff**

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! [susanb1996@aol.com](mailto:susanb1996@aol.com) –Thanks!

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

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