



News from the Prairie

WINTER 2024

PRESERVING OUR GRAND PRAIRIE REGION'S HISTORY

Winter Meeting Features Author Dr. Sam Taggart

Grand Prairie Historical Society met at the Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie on January 25. The meeting had been scheduled for the previous week, however severe weather conditions led to the change of date. At 6:30 a nice array of refreshments was served as the 32 attendees arrived. The program began at 7:00 with GPHS Vice President Gay Hampton Rusk introducing the speaker, Dr. Sam Taggart of Benton, who presented an interesting program on family doctors and their impact on smaller communities. He is the author of several medical history books centered on Arkansas physicians, including *The Public's Health*, *Country Doctors of Arkansas*, and *For Every Family, A Family Doctor*. Dr. Taggart said "The history of medicine is the history of the generalist. For the first 150 years of Arkansas's existence, physician care was provided by family physicians who did most of the surgery, obstetrics, pediatrics, and medical care. During the first half of the 20th century, medical education shifted its emphasis to training specialists, and by the 1940s, Arkansas was beginning to experience a dramatic decrease in the number of family doctors. In 1947, the Arkansas Academy of General Practice was created, and in 1970, it became the Arkansas Academy of Family Physicians." Dr. Taggart (below left) mentioned several Grand Prairie doctors as examples of the impact such practitioners had on their communities.



The business meeting followed with new President Linda Fischer of Stuttgart (above right) presenting outgoing President Raeann Refeld Braithwaite with a certificate of appreciation for her four years of dedicated service in leading our organization through the difficult pandemic period and beyond. Braithwaite reported on our many efforts during 2023. Our social media outreach included 7,733 followers on Facebook, an increase of 858 since 2022. Our newsletter was emailed to 330 recipients, a loss of five, while our website had 461 views in 2023 and

1,192 views since its inception in 2021. Our membership for 2023 stood at 183, down fifteen from the previous year. As far as the Society's accomplishments in 2023, Braithwaite listed these:

- With funding support from the Black History Commission of Arkansas, we've helped place historical markers at Immanuel High School and Love Rest/Green Grove Cemetery.
- The Society donated funds to sponsor a commemorative bench in the new Stuttgart Rotary Pocket Park.
- We awarded prizes to our writing contest winners Chandler Merritt and Kaydence Kelley.
- Our own Glenn Mosenthin was awarded the NSDAR Community Service Award by the Grand Prairie Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.
- In 2023, we had 23 supporting and 40 contributing memberships. These represent extra revenue for the Society's preservation efforts.
- With the generosity of a couple of benefactors, GPHS donated funds to the Arkansas County Records Preservation Committee to restore thirteen record books most in need of repair, and dedicated these in honor of Claudia Haller Ahrens, Dorothy Jones Core (dec.), John W. Cover, Lena Hampton (dec.), Marvin Henderson (dec.), David Hillman, Webster Hillman (dec.), Tommy Sue Keffer (dec.), Mildred Milliken (dec.), Glenn Mosenthin, Mary Margaret Selig-Trahan (dec.), Ellen West (dec.), and Melissa Wood.
- We sponsored a paver at the Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie in honor of David Hillman as a thank you for his donation to us.
- Our Grand Prairie Historical Bulletin was given the Arkansas Historical Association's W. L. Brown Awards for Best Use of Graphics, and Best Business History for Glenn's article on the history of Riceland Foods. These were our 26th and 27th publication awards.
- We are continuing to sponsor an ongoing exhibit at the Arkansas Post Museum State Park, highlighting Grand Prairie history and our organization.
- Our own Claudia Ahrens presented a program on Stuttgart's history to the local Rotary Club.
- We recognized outstanding members for their 30 and 50 years of service to the Society.
- In October, the Society celebrated our 70th anniversary.

Museum reports were given by Director Fara Foster for Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie, Superintendent Ron Fields for Arkansas Post National Memorial, and GPHS Director Claudia Ahrens for St. Charles Museum. Members voted to continue supporting the Arkansas County Records Preservation Committee with a donation for 2024. Members also agreed to provide a co-sponsorship donation to the Slovak Arkansas Documentary project currently being produced by UpRooted Media of Portland, Oregon in conjunction with Little Rock's Twist Creative Studio. The Society will next meet on April 18 at Arkansas Post Museum State Park, beginning with a social period at 6:30 with light refreshments.

Grand Prairie Historical Society officers, directors, and staff for 2024:

President	Linda Fischer, Stuttgart
Vice-president	Gay Hampton Rusk, Stuttgart
Secretary	Jessie Walsh, Stuttgart
Treasurer	Raeann Braithwaite, Almyra
Directors	Claudia Haller Ahrens, Glenn Mosenthin, Bill Shrum, Tommy Strabala, Travis Trice, and Dr. Richard Wilson
Editorial staff	Glenn Mosenthin, journal and newsletter editor Ashli Ahrens, John Cover, and Jim Prange, Facebook admins.
Parliamentarian	Glennnda Refeld Fread
Audiovisual	Paul Braithwaite

The Oldest Town of All

By Morris S. Arnold

Three hundred and thirty-eight years ago, when Europeans first came here to stay, Arkansas Post was out in the middle of nowhere, and it still is. One goes there deliberately, on purpose: it is not easy to stumble on accidentally, and it is not on the way to anywhere else. Settled long before St. Louis, and a healthy three or four decades older even than New Orleans, the old town was scene to at least three *bona fide* battles, including one during the American Revolution, when French militiamen, Spanish troops, and Quapaw Indians fought back a British and Chickasaw force with cannon, swivel guns, muskets, pistols, tomahawks, and anything else they could lay their hands on. It is on this seventeenth- and eighteenth-century foundation that the mind's eye may prefer to focus when visiting the Post. There was a Civil War redoubt here, to be sure, but that era is too recent (mere journalism, really), and too redolent with current political concerns for comfortable rumination. The real Confederate flag does not fly here, only some unfamiliar and antiseptic bunting, bereft of ideology, that they say the Confederate Congress once approved as a symbol of their stillborn nation. The Louisiana village is gone, for all intents and purposes a casualty of this Civil War, when Union gunboats reduced the creaky French Colonial houses to dust. Even so, a resolute United States Post Office continued to maintain that there was a town here until 1940, and as recently as 1980, the Geological Survey maps faithfully recorded a ghost of a settlement (three or four houses) bearing the ancient name.

Now, as with much else, the Federal government has taken possession, and helpful park rangers preside over a fine, well-kept brick building with exhibits on the fur and skin trade, and a little theater that features a slide show. Behind the building, a sidewalk channels visitors through the townsite, and a few signs along the way help guide the imagination, but do not intrude upon it. The sheer range of what occurred here during the course of four different centuries makes for a vigorous struggle in the mind. There is the founder of the Post, Henri de Tonty, who lost his right hand to a grenade in Sicily, and whom the Indians called "Iron Hand" because of the prosthetic that he wore. There is Jean-Baptiste B nard de la Harpe, whose name now graces a major street in Little Rock, and from whose ambitious exploration of the Arkansas River came a cropper not far from the city.

There is Jean-Fran ois Dumont de Montigny, who wrote some execrable French verses about Arkansas, but who is withal amusing and engaging. There is Jean-Bernard Bossu, forever the self-absorbed huckster for whom fact and fantasy were evidently indistinguishable, who gave us engravings of the Quapaws and two books full of truthful detail and much disinformation. There is the pirate, Jean Lafitte, fomenting disaffection among the abandoned French. There is the naturalist, Thomas Nuttall, a quintessential Harvard Pecksniff who nevertheless left us affecting descriptions of a prelapsarian land now irredeemably lost. There is even Washington Irving, who used the Post to contrast the *habitants* of the sleepy Creole villages of Colonial Louisiana with the boisterous, westering republicans who were soon to engulf them for good.

Some other names come to mind, virtually unpronounceable names that are just now being rescued from obscurity, names like Guedetonguay, Zenomony, Pasimony, Huatirouinonzis, and Huahitaze, Quapaw chiefs all, who lived symbiotically with their French and Spanish neighbors for upwards of six generations, giving the lie to much recent polemical writing that posits unrelenting conflict between Indians and Europeans on a genocidal scale. These Quapaws sometimes seem irretrievably lost to us, buried at first under layers of unsympathetic commentary by uncomprehending Europeans, and now exploited by social critics who invest them with all the qualities that we modern Americans supposedly lack (an ecologically correct Pocahontas?), exactly as the *philosophes*, including our own Bossu, had done two hundred years and more before. All these and dozens of others have provided us with a lifetime of wondering, their scattered reminiscences so personal and eccentric that even the most watchful skepticism cannot always tease the truth from them. And beyond them, a background barely visible in the half-light of tall, brown prairie sage, black with red-tongued buffalo, slumbering bears, bucks with hooves like hail and breath like smoke, pale does moving quietly, swiftly, barely touching the horizon. A retreat from places long on science and short on appetite.

From the *Pine Bluff Daily Graphic* of January 18, 1923:

Stuttgart Ad Men Direct Travelers by Posting Signs—The roadside from Pine Bluff to Stuttgart today is lined with a series of new signs—and they all point to Stuttgart. The signs were posted yesterday by F. B. Smith and H. B. A. Sickles representing the Stuttgart Ad Club and are the first of 600 similar signs which will be posted along all roads entering Stuttgart. The signs are of metal and have an arrow pointing in the general direction of Stuttgart and the inscription “To Stuttgart.” The name of the Stuttgart Advertising Club appears on the lower half of the signs. The move on the part of the Club is pointed to by Pine Bluff business men as an evidence of the progressiveness and enterprise of the business men of Stuttgart who are boosting their town and making a determined effort to increase their trade territory.

Ed.—Could this old sign frame at 22nd and Shady Grove Road in Stuttgart be from one of those described in the above article?



Coming Events Planned at Arkansas Post National Memorial for 2024

The following events are tentatively scheduled on the dates given, however please verify with the Memorial at 870-548-2207 or by email at David_Albert@nps.gov.

- April 17 Colbert’s Raid Event
- April 22 Earth Day
- June 8 Fishing Derby, 8:30 a.m. Registration, event 9:00–11:00 a.m. Prizes 11 a.m.
- June 19 Juneteenth and Notable African American History at Arkansas Post.
- Oct. 14 Indigenous Peoples Day/Explorers Day
- Oct. 17 Ghosts of the Past
- Oct. 21 Archeology Day
- Nov. 20 Arkansas Gazette Day - Woodruff’s First Edition on 11/20/1819.
- Nov. 26 Trail of Tears



A Reminder to Area Students Aged 15–18 of February 28th Essay Contest Deadline

The deadline for entries in Grand Prairie Historical Society’s Youth Essay Contest is February 28. Papers on topics related to the Grand Prairie region of Arkansas will be judged on historical accuracy, organization of material, bibliography, quality of references, originality, spelling, grammar, punctuation, neatness, and evidence as the student’s own work. Entries should be at least 800 words in length, and must be typed or prepared on a computer, using black type in a non-script font no smaller than 12-point or larger than 14-point. Essays should have a title page listing the title of essay (plus subtitle if applicable), contestant’s full name, address, phone number, email address, name of school and grade level. The winning essay will be published in the *Grand Prairie Historical Bulletin*, and the student will receive a \$250 prize and will be recognized during our April meeting. All essays should be emailed to grandprairiehistory@gmail.com. Phone 870-830-1425 with questions.

Arkansas Post Museum State Park Calendar of Events

Museum Tour - Guests will join interpretive staff for a guided tour around the museum grounds and exhibits. Take a look into the world of early Arkansas settlers and the lives they lived. Feb. 2–3; Feb. 9–10; Feb. 16–17; Feb. 23–24; Mar. 16–17; Mar. 20–24.

It's About Time – Join the museum staff as we set, wind, oil and learn how to make a mechanical clock tick! Look into the inner workings of clocks dating from the 1890s. This hands-on activity is great for children of all ages who are learning to tell time and read clock faces. Older adults will enjoy inspecting the museum time pieces as well. Feb. 3; Mar. 20.

Doll Making - Learn how to make a one-of-a-kind yarn doll. This craft is a fun way to learn what toys meant to a child in 1877, as well as provide a cool indoor summer activity for all ages. All supplies will be provided, and participants will take home what they make. Mar. 16; Mar. 21; Mar. 23.

Planting Day - Sow seeds into the Arkansas Delta soil as we prepare for the growing season. Participants will be able to plant and cultivate the kitchen garden and planters. Children will be able to start their own little garden to take home as well. Learn what past settlers planted in their gardens and why. Mar. 22.

Our calendar changes regularly, so we encourage everyone to visit our website at:

https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/events?f%5B0%5D=grid_events_park%3A13646#grid-results.

We are having our usual line up of tours, programming, and special events such as Christmas open house, Doll Making, Planting Day, and much more!

Maria Jackson, Facility Manager
Arkansas Post Museum State Park
5530 Hwy. 165 South
Gillett, AR 72055
870-548-2634



Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie Invites You to Visit!

Stuttgart's Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie (MAGP) is a memorial to prairie pioneers with over 10,000 artifacts. The winner of many awards for leadership in the field of conservation, this unique museum depicts the history of agriculture and the pioneers who farmed the Grand Prairie of Eastern Arkansas from the 1800s to 1921. Formed in 1974, lifelong Arkansas County residents Bennie Burkett and Jack Crum created the museum, which has also been known as the Stuttgart Agricultural Museum and the Arkansas County Museum. Funding for MAGP is provided by quarterly donations from the city of Stuttgart and annual contributions from donors. The museum is governed by a board of trustees appointed by the Stuttgart city council.

The original 1,500 square foot building was built with funds raised by a nonprofit group of supportive citizens on city park property. Four additions have been made, bringing the total museum space to 20,000 square feet as well as five furnished exterior exhibits. MAGP completed an expansion in 2017 to accommodate the Arkansas Waterfowler Hall of Fame. Every year, several thousand visitors enter the museum and the various exhibits featuring home living, settlers' entertainment, education, and early farm life. One of the most popular displays is the Waterfowl Wing, which features all species that frequent the Mississippi Flyway, mounted and displayed as if they were coming to the small pond to rest. The exhibit includes audio of each bird's call, as well as a duck blind, a river bottom guide boat, a duck call shop, a presentation of a rice field with geese and ducks feeding, and a distinct display of Indian duck effigy pottery from AD 1100.

Other exhibits show recreation and retail in Stuttgart's early days, with its mercantile store, toy store, grocery, millinery shop, jail, post office, and doctor's practice. An exact reproduction of an early Conestoga covered wagon was given to this museum after being used for the 1976 American Bicentennial trek across the United States. Come visit us at 921 E. Fourth St., Stuttgart. Hours of operation: Tuesday–Friday 8–4; Saturday 10–4.

Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project Adds State Papers to National Database

By Katie Adkins, Project Director for the Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project

It is a new year, and the newspaper digitization team at the Arkansas State Archives (ASA) is gearing up to digitize more historic newspaper content from across the state. The Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project (ADNP) is a group of seven archivists, historians, and microfilm professionals at ASA who collaborate with the Library of Congress to bring historic newspapers to researchers and the public as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). Content digitized as part of this program, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, is available for free on the Library of Congress's *Chronicling America* website.

The State Archives began its relationship with NDNP in 2017 and continues to receive grant funding to add additional newspaper content to *Chronicling America*. To date, ASA has added more than 318,000 pages of historical newspapers from Arkansas. Spanning the years 1830–1959, these papers cover a broad range of ideologies, subjects, and interests, including Black-owned newspapers (*Arkansas State Press*), women-owned newspapers (*Woman's Chronicle*), partisan political newspapers, foreign-language papers (*Arkansas Echo*), and special interest papers (*The Pulaskian*). View the full list of Arkansas titles currently available on *Chronicling America* at: <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/?state=Arkansasðnicity=&language=>.

In this new two-year cycle, our team will be working to digitize an additional 100,000 pages of content, focusing on titles between 1819 and the mid-1930s that document the evolving relationship between the environment and the economy of Arkansas. These papers examine the development of territorial and state governments, changes in settlement, and the evolution of agriculture and other industries significantly influenced by Arkansas's environment.

To read more about Arkansas's involvement in the NDNP project, please visit our website at <https://www.arkansasheritage.com/chronicling-america-digitized-newspapers>. Visit *Chronicling America* at <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> to start your research. For questions or comments, please email us at state.archives@arkansas.gov | katherine.adkins@arkansas.gov | Phone 501.682.6339 | fax: 501.682.6916.



Examples of digitized newspapers—*Stuttgart Germania*, February 27, 1908. Courtesy of Arkansas State Archives.

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DIGITAL NEWSPAPER PROGRAM (NDNP)?

The NDNP project is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress (LC) to provide free online access to historic newspapers from across the United States and U.S. territories. Grants are awarded to one “cultural heritage institution” from each state or territory. Each state or territory typically completes three grant cycles with the option to continue on a more competitive basis for further cycles. For more information about the NDNP project and participating states, visit www.loc.gov/ndnp/about.

ARKANSAS’S CONTRIBUTION TO NDNP

The Arkansas State Archives began work on the NDNP project in 2017 when it was awarded a two-year (2017-2019) grant to digitize historic Arkansas newspapers, which they defined as up to 1963. At that time, the Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project (ADNP) was created. In order to select newspaper titles to be digitized as part of the project, an advisory committee of experts from across the state advised staff and recommended titles varied by the time period they covered, their geographic spread throughout the state and their political or specialized focus. For each cycle, new and returning advisory board members guide ADNP staff in the selection of newspapers titles in order to get the most varied coverage that tells the history of Arkansas.

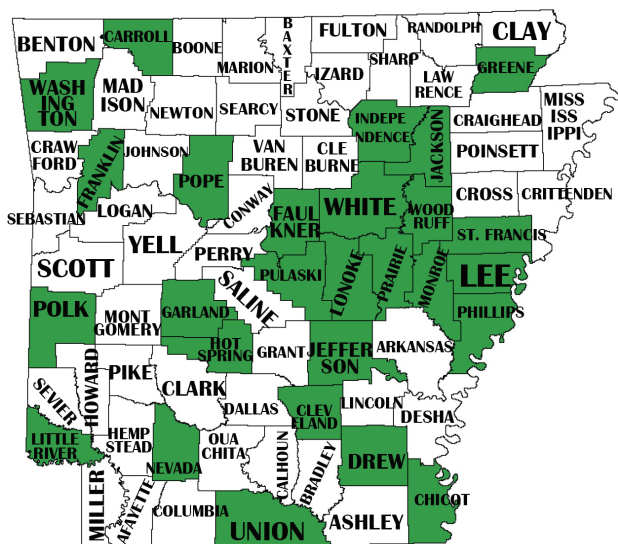


CHRONICLING AMERICA

All content digitized as part of this project is housed on the Chronicling America website chroniclingamerica.loc.gov where you can keyword search for content by state, date, newspaper name, city or county. Additionally, images and text files can be downloaded directly to your computer. Unlike other newspaper repositories, Chronicling America is free and requires no signup or memberships.

WHAT ARKANSAS NEWSPAPERS ARE DIGITIZED?

Counties in green (map to left) have digitized titles from the first two grant cycles. More counties will be added as content from grant cycle three is added. The full list of up-to-date digitized titles can be found on the Chronicling America website by searching for Arkansas on the drop down list under the “All Digitized Newspapers” tab (see back of this guide for more information on using the Chronicling America search features).



After two grant cycles, ASA has digitized 209,854 pages of content and is currently working on adding an additional 100,000 pages for a third grant cycle (2021-2023).

HOW CAN I USE THE NDNP PROJECT FOR RESEARCH?

Newspaper titles and pages digitized as part of this project can be found on the Chronicling America website at chroniclingamerica.loc.gov. With a robust search function and high resolution photographs, OCR technology and cropping abilities, it is easy to sort and search for specific information from Arkansas newspapers (or any other participating state's newspapers).

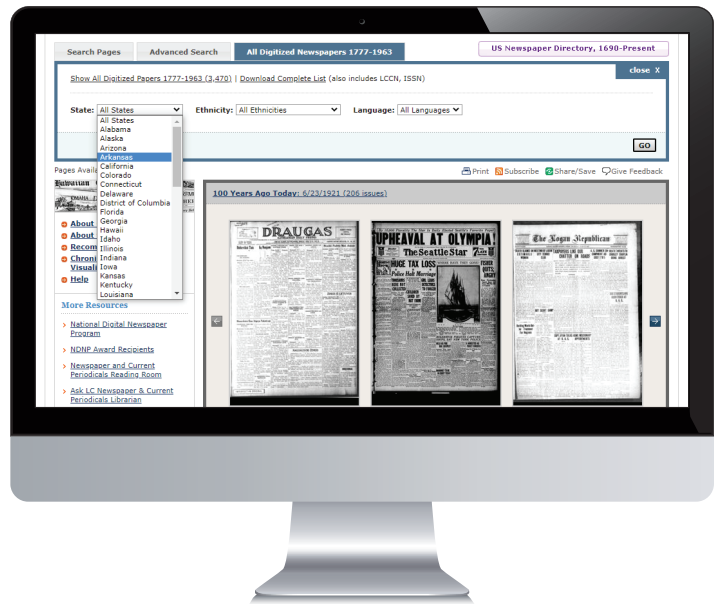
For example, to search for Juneteenth celebrations in Arkansas newspapers, select Arkansas from the drop down menu and in the keyword box, using quotes or "" around exact search terms. For example, "Emancipation Day," "Jubilee Day," "Freedom Day" or "Liberation Day." When searching for a subject, you may need to look for alternative names. Juneteenth is a more recent term for the now federal holiday. If you are looking for a specific time period, you can also use the date drop down boxes to narrow your search.

If you are interested in seeing all of the Arkansas newspapers digitized on Chronicling America, select the "All Digitized Newspapers 1977-1963" tab above the search function and filter by state. This will give you a complete list Arkansas newspapers.

By clicking on the title of each newspaper, you will be taken to specific information about that title including location of the paper, publishing details such as how often the paper was published, different names the paper was published under and an essay with a written history of the paper, its publishers and the relevance to the history of Arkansas newspapers.

Another search feature offered on Chronicling America is the "U.S. Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present." This directory includes all U.S. papers that have been registered with the Library of Congress. This can be a helpful tool if you are looking for information about specific newspapers from across the state. Please note: all newspapers digitized on Chronicling America can be found in the U.S. Newspaper Directory but not all listed in the Directory will be found on Chronicling America.

For a presentation about the National Digital Newspaper Program, Chronicling America or how to research using the Chronicling America website, please contact us at state.archives@arkansas.gov.



Results: Digitized Newspapers

39 newspapers from Arkansas are available for viewing on this site.

State	Newspaper	Browse Issues	No. of Issues	Earliest Issue	Latest Issue	More Info
Arkansas	The Arkansas banner, [volume] Little Rock, Ark., 1857-1862	[Link]	310	1843-09-16	1851-03-04	
Arkansas	Arkansas democratic banner, [volume] Little Rock, Ark., 1851-1852	[Link]	25	1851-02-11	1851-12-30	
Arkansas	Arkansas true Democrat, [volume] Little Rock, Ark., 1857-1862	[Link]	259	1857-06-25	1862-09-24	Yes
Arkansas	The Arkansas traveler, Little Rock, Ark., 1882-1919	[Link]	339	1882-06-04	1889-11-23	
Arkansas	The Brinkley avenger, Brinkley, Ark., 1883-current	[Link]	652	1896-05-27	1920-02-05	Yes
Arkansas	The Carlisle independent, Carlisle, Ark., 1909-current	[Link]	435	1906-02-01	1921-03-10	Yes
Arkansas	Cleveland County herald, Honey, Ark., 1908-current	[Link]	151	1918-04-11	1921-10-26	Yes
Arkansas	The constitutional union, Des Arc, Ark., 1860-1891	[Link]	20	1860-11-16	1861-04-03	Yes
Arkansas	The Conway log cabin, Conway, Faulkner County, Ark., 1897-1901	[Link]	59	1900-06-26	1901-08-27	Yes
Arkansas	The courier-index, Marionna, Ark., 1917-current	[Link]	205	1917-07-27	1921-07-01	Yes
Arkansas	Daily saturday, Fayetteville, Ark., 1929-1921	[Link]	346	1908-04-06	1921-07-15	Yes

About Arkansas True Democrat, [volume] (Little Rock, Ark.) 1857-1862

[Browse Issues](#) | [About](#) | [Libraries that have it](#) | [HABC Record](#)

Title: Arkansas True Democrat, [volume] (Little Rock, Ark.) 1857-1862

Alternative Titles:
• True Democrat

Place of publication:
Little Rock, Ark.

Geographic coverage:
• Little Rock, Pulaski, Arkansas | [View more titles from this City, County, State](#)

Publisher:
Johnson & Yerkes

Dates of publication:
1857-1862

Descriptions:
• Old ser., v. 14, no. 35 (June 9, 1857)-v. 19, no. 36 (June 5, 1862).

Frequency:
Weekly

Language:
• English

Subjects:
• Arkansas--Little Rock--Hist--(DCLC)J9D1206922
• Arkansas--Pulaski County--Hist--(DCLC)J9D1206923
• Little Rock (Ark.)--Newspapers.
• Pulaski County (Ark.)--Newspapers.

Notes:

The True Democrat, Arkansas True Democrat, True Democrat Bulletin, and True Democrat

The True Democrat (1852-?) was first printed on September 7, 1852, in Little Rock, Arkansas by owners and publishers Richard Henry Johnson and Reuben S. Yerkes, with Johnson serving as editor. Its preceding title, the [Arkansas Democratic Banner](#) (1851-2), was changed to the True Democrat for political reasons. The new publishers described the reason for the name change as "renewed assurance of fidelity to the noble principles of our party," an effort to our patrons and the public--THE TRUE DEMOCRAT. The True Democrat and its successor--Arkansas True Democrat (1857-62) and True Democrat (1862-3)--were published as weeklies. Daily editions were published for a short time, including the [Daily True Democrat](#) (1861) and the [True Democrat Bulletin](#) (1862-3), but these editions

Pages Available: 18,251,951

Search U.S. Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present

This directory of newspapers published in the United States since 1690 can help identify what titles exist for a specific place and time, and how to access them. Use the options below to select a particular place and time, using keywords to locate specific titles. Titles currently listed: 156,721.

Browse the Directory by newspaper title:
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Select where the newspaper was published:
(Select States) | (Select Counties) | (Select Cities)

Select when the newspaper was published:
from 1690 | to 2021

Enter keywords:

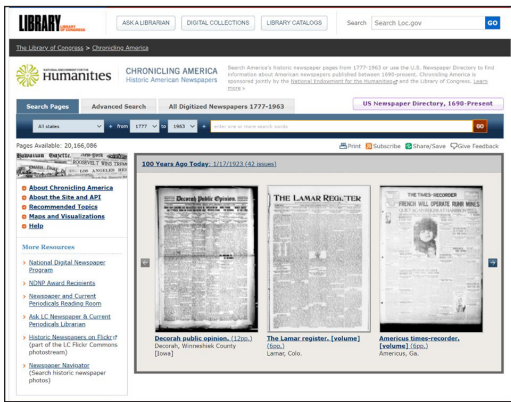
More search options:
Frequency: [Select] | Language: [Select]
Intensity Press: [Select] | Labor Press: [Select] | National Type: [Select] | LCCN: [Select]

Connect with the Library: [Find Us On](#) [Subscribe & Comment](#) [Download & Play](#) [Questions](#)



Quick Guide to the Library of Congress's **Chronicling America**

Go to <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/> to start searching historic Arkansas newspapers.

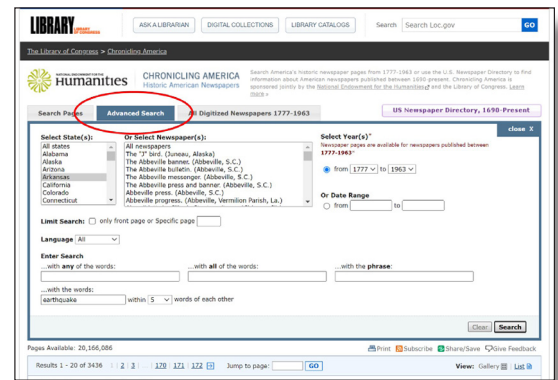


Basic word or phrase search in Arkansas newspapers

- Click the "All states" drop down menu to select "Arkansas" and select a date range to search within.
- Type the words or phrase to search for in the text box and click "GO". (You do not need to use "and" between keywords or use quotation marks ("")) around a phrase.) The best way to narrow your focus is to choose one or two unique words or phrases, rather than a longer phrase. Keep in mind terminology for people, places, and things has changed over the years, so adjust search words as needed (ex. search for Indian rather than Native American).
- Filter your search results using the drop down "sort by" menu to view results by relevance, state, title or date.

Advanced search options in Arkansas newspapers

- Search within just one or a few newspapers by selecting the newspaper name under "Select Newspaper(s)."
- Search within a specific date range by selecting the "Date Range" option and type in the dates you want to search or select the dates on the drop down calendar. This can be used to search specific date ranges like May to July in one year or for one day only (by setting the date range in the "from" and "to" dates to the same date).



To customize how the words are searched:

- Typing in the "with any of the words" search box will show results for either of the words, not necessarily all the words together.
- Typing in the "with all of the words" search box will ensure that all the words you are searching will be on the page, though not in any order.
- Typing in the "with the phrase" search box will only show results of the exact phrase in order. This is the only search box that will show an exact phrase.

To view all Arkansas newspapers and browse the issues:

- Click the "All Digitized Newspapers 1777-1963" tab and select "Arkansas" on the drop-down menu. To search for papers from a single ethnicity or language, select those from the drop-down menus. Then click "GO" on the right to see the results.
- The papers are listed in alphabetical order by title. Click a newspaper title to learn more about that paper and browse the issues.
- To browse by year and date, click the "Calendar View" link. In calendar view, you can change the year shown on the left under "Issues for." To view an issue, click on one of the days that have a date highlighted in blue on the calendar.



For more tips, tricks, and tools for searching Chronicling America, download our comprehensive research guide.



The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Library of Congress. The Arkansas State Archives is a state partner for the NDNP. Content digitized as part of NDNP is freely available to the public at chroniclingamerica.loc.gov. Don't see a newspaper? Get in touch at statearchives@arkansas.gov.

Arkansas Historical Association

Founded 1941

Our mission is to promote the preservation, understanding, writing, publishing, and teaching of Arkansas's rich history. Membership includes four annual issues of our *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* journal, as well as our newsletter. Annual dues are:

- Individual, one year, \$25; Individual, two year, \$45
- Digital, one year, NEW \$20; Student, one year, \$15
- Institutional, one year, \$25; Institutional, two year, \$45
- Family, one year, \$35; Family, two year, \$55
- Foreign, one year, \$35; Student, one year, \$15
- Contributing, one year, \$55; Sustaining, one year, \$100
- Supporting, one year, for \$200
- Life Membership for \$500 (payable over three years)
- Permanent Membership for \$1,000 (payable over five years)

Annual corporate/business memberships:

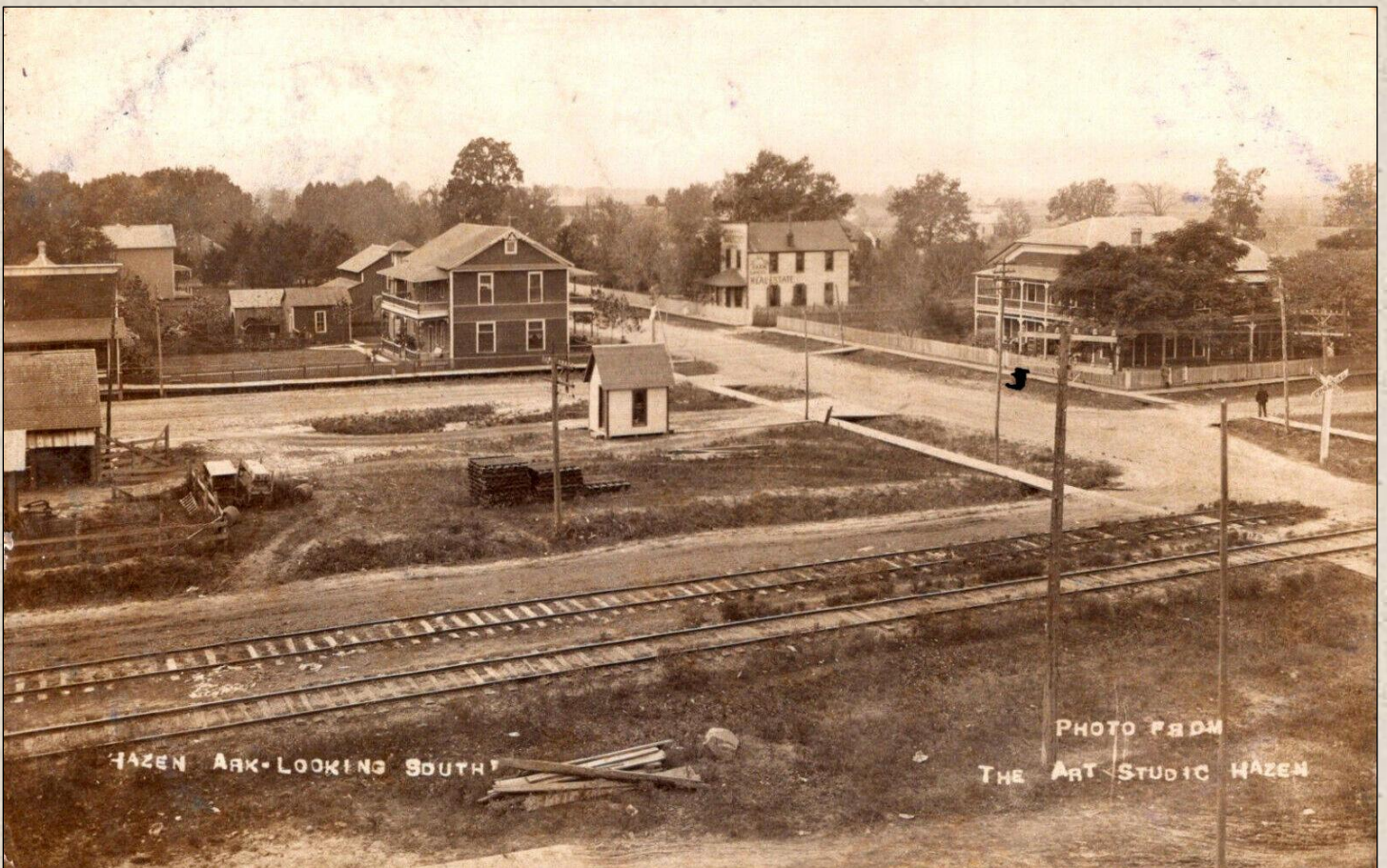
Sponsor, \$120; Patron, \$500; Benefactor, \$1,000

Renewal and new memberships may be paid securely online by visiting our website at arkansashistoricalassociation.org.





Sixty years ago: Christmas snowfall of 1963—The *Stuttgart Daily Leader* described it as “the whitest since ’26, recalled old-timers.”



Undated postcard view of Hazen.



SHS CLASS OF 1943 - 20TH REUNION

Front, seated: Jack Essex

Row 1, from left: Margaret Jeane McCauley, Emma Jane Williams, Beverly Jeanne Glenn, Jewel Biggs, Bonnie Elms, Nadine Nickles, Loretta Foster, Mary Helen Hardister, Earlene Rabeneck, Ruby Lee Engelkes, Dixie Jones, Betty Jeanne Kitley, Mary Jim Allen, Mary Beth Clark, Margaret Barrett.

Row 2, from left: Alice Jane Schafer, Jackie Abel, Annett Hicks, Dorothy Abel, Dorothy Laverne Hemme, George Green, Lucille Seidenschwarz, Betty Hair, Catherine Cox, Georgia Etta Knoll, Pauline Ives, Raymond Hahn.

Row 3, from left: Crandall Hagan, _____, William Charles Moll, Harold Hansen, Kenneth Bull, Edwin Stovesand, Jr., Ray Freeman, Lloyd Kinder, Walter Heien, _____, Roscoe Jones, Lynwood Henderson, Kenneth Burdett, Louis Wilhelm, Walter Kennedy, Roger Wessels, Bill Plafcan, Paul Erstine, Joe Householder.

Stuttgart High School Class of 1943 20th reunion, 1963. *Courtesy of Stuttgart Public Library.*

2024 GPHS meeting dates/places:

April 18, 6:30 p.m., Arkansas Post Museum State Park; July 18, 6:00, Phillips Community College (DeWitt), (annual potluck precedes general meeting); and October 17, 6:30, Arts Center of the Grand Prairie, Stuttgart.

GPHS household membership levels: Basic, \$25.00; Contributing, \$50.00; Supporting, \$100.00.

Grand Prairie Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization dedicated to promoting preservation and education of the heritage of Arkansas's Grand Prairie region.

**Grand Prairie
Historical Society**

P. O. Box 15
Almyra, AR 72003
870-830-1425
www.grandprairiehistory.org

Officers

President: Linda Fischer
Vice-Pres: Gay Hampton Rusk
Secretary: Jessie Walsh
Treasurer: Raeann Braithwaite

Newsletter Editor

Glenn Mosenthin

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