



News from the Prairie

AUTUMN 2024

PRESERVING OUR GRAND PRAIRIE REGION'S HISTORY

GPHS Closes Productive Year at Arts Center

Grand Prairie Historical Society met for our autumn quarterly meeting October 17 at Stuttgart's Art Center of the Grand Prairie. Our speaker was Barbara Holt, founder and director of the Keaton Township Project. Some forty members and guests were on hand for her presentation, which closed out yet another productive year of historic preservation for the 71-year-old Historical Society. Holt related the inspirational story of the project and spoke about her book series *Return to Keaton Township*. She told the gathering that her organization seeks to preserve the history of her rural community by way of three art forms: oral history, written history, and artwork. Museum reports were given by Claudia Ahrens, Arkansas Post National Memorial Superintendent Ron Fields, and Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie Director Fara Foster, in which upcoming events were announced. Barbara Menard updated the gathering on the marker commemorating Medal of Honor recipients Gilbert Collier and Lloyd Burke, to be installed in Tichnor once it is received early next year. Ms. Ahrens reported on efforts to place the Casscoe Community Center, formerly a school, on the state or national historical register. Two days later several GPHS members attended a watch party at Stuttgart Public Library in which Arkansas Genealogical Society presented a program by noted family researcher Cyndi Ingle, who authors the popular website *Cyndi's List* (<https://www.cyndislist.com/>). Historical Society President Linda Fischer invites the public to attend our winter quarterly meeting January 16 at Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie.



In 2024 we were presented programs by Dr. Sam Taggart of Benton, who spoke on the value of family doctors in smaller communities last January; Supt. Maria Jackson of Arkansas Post Museum State Park, who presented a program and tour of the facility in April; Janice Streeter of Citizens for Immanuel, who spoke on the history and significance of Immanuel School in July; and, as above, Barbara Holt of Keaton Township Project.

Next year GPHS will meet on January 16, April 17, July 17, and October 16. See last page for details.

Photo: Barbara Holt (left) with Linda Fischer, GPHS President.

Duck Capital Becomes an Art Center

By Ernie Deane: The Arkansas Traveler, *Arkansas Gazette*, September 20, 1964

Arkansas County's people quite naturally are interested in rice, soybeans, and ducks, however a considerable number of them are also arts- and crafts-minded. Their arts festival, which is held each September in Stuttgart, gives full evidence of this fact. Dozens of persons, from grammar school students to grandparents, participate as exhibitors. Visitors come by the hundreds to see their work. This year's festival was held during the weekend just past. I was there for part of it, as I have been each time since it was started in 1960. The growth of interest on the part of artists, craftsmen, and the general public has been a steady one. A. P. (Pete) Finken is founder of the festival and honorary chairman. Its executive committee is composed of Mrs. James Oliver Jr., Mrs. Byron Morris, and Mrs. Jett Cato. Numerous other civic groups, individuals, business firms, etc. all have a hand in arranging and carrying on the three-day show.

Eighty-one year old Pete Finken is one of Arkansas's most remarkable men on a number of counts, not the least of which he was trained as a machinist in the steel mills of imperial Germany and became a competent artist through his own efforts. More about Pete—as his friends call him—in a moment. Most of the festival displays and activities are centered of the spacious drive-in portion of the Peoples National Bank building. There paintings are hung along the walls, craft work is displayed on tables, musical entertainment is presented, and guided tours of rice and soybean processing plants are organized. In downtown store windows and in business buildings nearby, special exhibits are arranged—including one-man shows of the work of artists from other communities. A sidewalk art show ends the festival, at which time awards are made on work judged the best by an out-of-town artist.

Mayme Hostetter of El Dorado was this year's judge. She gave the best-of-show award to a landscape in oil by Mrs. Winifred Clawitter Morton of Little Rock. A \$100 award came with the honor, given by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Van Duyn as a memorial to Maude Bethel Lewis. Mrs. Lewis was an author and poet. A number of her writings were displayed at this year's festival, in connection with a poetry contest sponsored by the Stuttgart Women's Club. One of the heartening results of the work done by festival sponsors is the development of interest among children and adults, too. Pete guided me around the hall to point out some of the work being done by such individuals. He called attention, for example, to a charcoal and ink drawing by Zettie McCollum, a schoolgirl. Zettie was one of the winners in the youth division. Then there was a watercolor of the Monroe County courthouse by Beverly Kaufman of Clarendon, also a winner in the youth division, not only in watercolor, but in oils, too.

One of Pete's former students, to whom he gave a short course in instruction, is Mrs. Lynn Kinder of Ulm, wife of a rice grower. Several of her oils were on display, including one of a sailing vessel that I asked her to hold for a photograph. Mrs. Kinder's nickname is "Nunnie," and she's better known by it than by her given name of Carolyn. She has been painting for about a year and a half and has converted a bedroom of her home into a studio. Some of her work on local subjects, including a farm cabin, was especially interesting. I took a walk to see some of the one-man shows set up in business establishments. These included works by R. H. Madding of Little Rock, Aline Cantrell of Stuttgart, Mayme Hostetter of El Dorado, and Val Mathews of Hot Springs. I also saw work by Isabel Weathersby and Mart Mason of Little Rock and Imogene Ragon of Clarksville.

On the same walking tour of the downtown area, I stopped to admire a collection of foreign art and crafts objects by collected by Mrs. Alice Stevens of Stuttgart during the years she lived outside the United States. These included tapestries, tiles, brass items, pottery, and cloth. Mrs. Stevens made the collection in Central and South America and in Iraq. Back at the exhibit hall, I found some craft work of children that serves to get them involved in artistic creation, too. For example, there were some "paintings" with religious themes done by members of the junior department of a local church, but instead of paint, colored roofing granules had been spread on glue-covered boards to form colorful designs. Nearby was an exhibit of fifth grade students, in which beads and sequins had been utilized for similar purposes. In this exhibit also were decorative pieces in which cutouts had been made from pages of newspapers and glued into position to form trees, houses, and other forms.



A display of dolls caught my attention, and I soon got acquainted with Miss Clara Spratlin, who got into doll making some years ago while working with retarded children in the Washington, D.C. area. She is a retired federal worker with 40 years of government service, the last 18 with the Federal Housing Administration in Washington. She has returned to her hometown of DeWitt to live. I also saw some excellent handicraft work at a display arranged by the Stuttgart Council of Garden Clubs.

This was the council's first year to exhibit work of its members at the festival. Table and wall decorations of native flowers, nuts, weeds, leaves and so forth were shown. I was much pleased, too, to note that the garden clubs are carrying on a campaign to encourage young people to avoid "litterbugging." The display included some of the educational materials being used in the campaign.

Overall, this year's Arkansas County Art Festival showed an increase in participation, which indicates increased interest in culture in the area. Sponsors of the festival expressed considerable pleasure at the response shown by exhibitors as well as the public. As for Pete Finken, he was all smiles, and with good reason. His idea for a festival of arts on the Grand Prairie once more had proved to be a good one.

Ed. note—The photos are from the Ernie Deane Photograph Collection, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock. The collection contains more than 7,000 images from Deane's career as a journalist, most notably from his time writing his "Arkansas Traveler" column for the *Arkansas Gazette*. Deane had a bit of a Grand Prairie connection in that his father Ernest "Ed" Deane was a Cotton Belt Railway engineer on the Stuttgart-Gillett branch during part of his long tenure with the company.



Editor, The Daily Leader:

The Daily Leader, on Thursday Nov. 19 [1953], carried an account of a talk by Sidney Neel Jr. about the history and needs of the Stuttgart Public Library. You quoted Mr. Neel as asking for suggestions. Here is mine: Apparently, the most pressing problem at the moment is lack of space to properly house the books. The preliminary plans for a proposed new City Hall provide for eight second floor rooms. These are to provide for the city's future growth and would be surplus to its present needs. They would adequately serve the library's need for increased space for many years or until it is properly housed in its own building, which seems sure to come. Certainly, no city the size of Stuttgart should be without a public library and certainly, no library should be forced to give its books away for lack of space to house them. H. V. Glenn [mayor].
Stuttgart Daily Leader, December 15, 1953.

From the Editor—A Tribute to Great Friends

We all have known people who came along at a good time in our lives, who had common interests and similar ways of pursuing them. People who just naturally “clicked” with us in many ways, and from whom we learned a great deal about subjects we were already interested in, but not as knowledgeable of as we wanted to be. People who always were available to accommodate you or assist in common goals. For me, such a couple were John and Linda Cover. I first met them at a Grand Prairie Historical Society meeting in DeWitt in 1996. We immediately hit it off and would get a good visit in each time the organization met. Eventually, I moved from Little Rock to Memphis with my job, meaning I wasn’t as able to make a day trip to meetings as before. John and Linda threw their home open to me for an overnight stay whenever we met in the south of Arkansas County. This became our tradition.

After I retired and moved to Fulton County, this routine was even more helpful to me, enabling me to remain active with GPHS in ways I couldn’t have otherwise managed. Equally beneficial to me as the Covers’ hospitality was the fact that I was able to meet most of the town of Gillett at some point and get to know so many of its great citizens. When John and I would sit at the “table of knowledge,” first at the Rice Paddy Motel, then later at the local mini-mart, I was made to feel like one of the bunch. Having grown up in a small agricultural community myself, I easily related to their personalities and conversation topics. I was often invited into some of their homes over the years as well. John and I often visited the two Arkansas Post facilities, which was always a delight for me.

After all, my interest in this region’s history had begun on a hot June afternoon in 1964 at Arkansas Post when I rode down from Stuttgart with my grandfather to attend a deed transfer ceremony, in which the National Park Service acquired the site from the State of Arkansas for a National Memorial. I got to meet a governor, NPS director, congresswoman, Ed Bearss (historian of the NPS), and my favorite travel writer, Ernie Deane, as well as many other dignitaries. My grandfather gave one of the speeches. All this made quite an impression on a 12-year-old youth. Linda’s father, Jim Place, had worked with my grandfather in order to get the park site upgraded to national status.

John and I enjoyed our runabouts. One I particularly recall was in 2009, when we visited the ruins of the James H. Moore Plantation, the Joseph Stillwell DAR gravesite, Yancopin and its rail bridge over the Arkansas, Napoleon, where we got close enough to the townsite by land that we said we “could’ve heard the bar fights in its heyday,” and the Japanese Relocation Center at Rohwer. Also that day, John showed me an original Spanish grant marker stone on their farm. He had the land surveyed by modern GPS methods, and the resulting stake was placed within two feet of the original stone! Other times, we visited a number of other historic sites which I had never been to—former ferry sites on the Arkansas, Camp Fagan, Nady, Prairie Landing, Big Island, to name but a few. Again, I can’t say enough about the hospitality shown me by John and Linda Cover over a quarter-century. I was saddened by the loss of both, and I will never forget our friendship. John William Cover died March 30, 2024 aged 82. He had been a GPHS board member for 30 years.



H. Glenn Mosenthin

We appreciate and value our premium memberships!

Supporting—Judge Morris Arnold (honorary), Claudia Ahrens, Johnathan Baker, Shelly and Billy Churchwell, Suzanne and Frank Doughty, Darla and Randy Grantham, Brad and LeighAnn Haynes, Tommy and Margaret Holzhauser, Dr. Yulin and Melissa Jia, David Leech, Eddie and Pat Lumsden, Lester McKinley, Nolan Law Group, Jean Prange, Stephen Reid, Dwight and Barbara Ross, Marian Stephenson, Gale Stewart, Charles Whiteside III.

Contributing—Ashli Ahrens, Lisa and Charles Anderson, Paul and CeCe Blackwell, M/M Ray Bohanon, Corita and David Boyd, Bill and Martha Brothers, Michael Crum, Greg Cunningham, Phillip Daniels, William Daviss, Nealon Devore, Chris and Mary Doughty, Ted Doughty, Mary Fields, Leona Fletcher, Dr. Yolanda and Jerry Franzen, Dennis Goeke, David Grandgeorge, Roger Henderson, Dr. Allison Holland, Barbara Holt, James Kirkland, George Lehmann, Gary McGaughey, Sarah Merchant, Glenn Mosenthin, Ted and Susan Moss, Walter H. Partridge, George Prange, Lester and Donna Quandt, Terry Rasco, Sonny and Julie Rhodes, Bill Shrum, Roger and Sondra Turner, Mary Jill Vacek, Charles and Wanda Vester, James Bob Waggoner (dec.), Lewis Wells, JoAnn West, Charles Whiting, Martha and Tom Whiting, Dr. Richard and Vicki Wilson, Marsha Winkelpleck, Helen Wolfe.

The following persons joined GPHS for 2024 after our October Bulletin went to press: Mary Jane Baxley, Sheridan; Phillip Daniels, Rancho Cordova, CA; Ron Fields, Pine Bluff; Sheila Forester, Springfield, MO; Randy and Darla Grantham, Tichnor; Eddie and Pat Lumsden, Bayou Meto; Ron Greenwood, Rocklin, CA; Tara Maguffey, St. Charles; Tom and Joyce Roth, Stuttgart; and Judy Terrell, Humphrey. We thank all of you!



This photograph from Riceland Foods' archives is labelled "Ed McGahhey 1907 dredge boat ditch west of Stuttgart to drain city."

Some Snippets from Newspapers of the Past

An anonymous correspondent who signs himself “A friend of good order,” wishes through the medium of our paper, “to communicate to the public and to the officers of the Territory that there is a most notorious and wretched set of COUNTERFEITERS AND HORSE THIEVES in the northeast part of Arkansas County. . . . complaints to the Grand Jury have been made, to no effect.” *Arkansas Gazette* (Little Rock), February 20, 1833.

MOUTH OF ARKANSAS—The following is an extract of a letter to the editor, from a gentleman from the interior of the territory, who was sojourning at the above place until the passing of a steamboat should afford him the opportunity of proceeding to New Orleans: “Mouth of the Arkansas, April, 1835—I was agreeably disappointed, on landing here, to find the point so much improved as it is. Your old friend, Lieut. Ryan, is here, and well. He has a very large warehouse, and a large and convenient dwelling-house, for the accommodation of travelers. The river bank is above high water mark, and the landing is good. The ground over which the road runs is high, and a cane-brake, from the Mouth of Arkansas to the point where it crosses the Arkansas River above Godin’s Bayou. After crossing that river, it runs along a high spice-wood ridge to near the residence of the widow Mitchell [ed.—Michel?], where it intersects the old road from Godin’s to the Post. The road is cut about fifteen feet wide, and the cane is all burnt off. This road must be of considerable importance to travelers as well as the persons emigrating to Arkansas.” *Arkansas Gazette* (Little Rock), May 5, 1835, p. 3.

[Ed. note—The name of Mouth of Arkansas post office was changed to Napoleon on September 7, 1837, presumably at the urging of Frederick Notrebe, a business partner of Stephen Van Rensselaer Ryan.]

NEW TOWN ON WHITE RIVER—The *Memphis Enquirer* has the following reference to a new town recently laid off on White River: “We have in our possession some days [now], a map or plan of a new city in embryo, laid off by our old friend Capt. C. P. Halley, formerly of Fayette County. It is situated on the west bank of White River, on the commanding and convenient location known as “Pickens Bluff.” We are informed that it possesses many advantages, not only as to navigation and location, but a fine back country to support it. It will be called “Cass-Coe,” in honor of two distinguished democrats. It would be well enough for those making investments in Arkansas to look at this new place. The White River Country is fast gaining upon public attention, and will now rapidly settle up with an enterprising, industrious and intelligent population, and a town located at so favorable a point as this, is well worth attention. The White River trade with Memphis is now rapidly increasing.” *Arkansas State Gazette & Democrat* (Little Rock), May 10, 1850, p. 2.

[Ed. note—The two Democrats mentioned were Sen. Lewis Cass of Michigan, 1848 Democratic nominee for the presidency (later defeated by Gen. Zachary Taylor), and Tennessee legislator Levin Coe, nominated as Cass’s running mate, but later replaced by William O. Butler. There was nearly a Cass-Coe Democratic ticket in the 1848 election!]

SAD OCCURENCE—In the past twelve months it has fallen our sad and solemn duty to publish many events so serious and lamentable, that we almost shrank from the task, but in no instance none more heart rending than the following, near Red Fork, on the Arkansas River, on the 22nd inst: Dr. Sam Pendleton, who was the conservative candidate on the convention question, and who resides near Red Fork on the Arkansas River, as rumor had it, had been practicing his profession on Mr. Joseph Branch’s place, who also resides near Red Fork, and in some way, which we are unable to learn, some misunderstanding was created between them regarding the Doctor’s fees. Mr. Branch gave the Dr. the d--n lie, when he, the Dr. pulled his pistol out, shot Mr. B. twice, the last shot taking effect in the thigh, mortally wounding him. These two gentlemen are among the best citizens of our country, and the sad affair is deplored by the friends of both parties. Dr. P. surrendered himself to the Desha Co. authorities. *Arkansas Daily Gazette* (Little Rock), December 10, 1867.

Original Map in
Book A. 38 Commission

True Meridian
Latitude 36° 00' East
Auguste Mariani



N^o. 2424 ✓
Surveyed for Pedro Pertuis who claims in his own right 640 acres of Land, situate joining the Western shore of White River in Township N 4 South of the Base line of Range N^o 1 West of the fifth principal Meridian.

Beginning at a post corner on the margin of White River from which a Sweet Gum 20 ins diam: bears N 41. 30' W 64 links and a Pecan tree marked P. I. bears S 43^o 40' E 62 links - Thence S 50^o E 52. 80' chains (meandering down White River) Thence S 35^o E 29. 50 chains to a post corner on the margin of the River from which a Sweet Gum 27 ins diam: marked P. I. bears N 11. 45' W 17 links & a Sweet Gum 27 inches diam: bears S 5^o W 36 links. - Thence S 40^o W 72. 72 chains to a post corner from which a post Oak 13 ins diam: bears S 59. 30' E 46 links and a B. Oak 16 ins diam: marked P. I. bears N 43. 40' W 71 links - Thence N 50^o W 81. 00 chains to a post corner from which a Post Oak 7 ins diam: marked P. I. bears N 54. 20' E 50 links and a B. Oak 22 ins diam: bears S 54. 40' W 57 links. - Thence N 40^o E 80. 30 chains to the beginning. The 22^d July 1818.
Mr. Russell Deputy Surveyor
Commission 24th do "

Land Grant Certificate No. 2424, grantee Pedro (Pierre) Pertuis, encompassing the present-day town of St. Charles, Arkansas County. From the Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands (Little Rock), Spanish Land Grant Certificates, Book 2, p. 73.

Excerpts from the Gillett (Ark.) Herald, November 10, 1898

- There were two stave men and a sawmill man looking over our timber resources this week.
- Married, Nov. 1st, 1898, at the residence of the bride's father, M. J. Taylor, Mr. Charles P. Refeld and Miss Rose Taylor.
- Staples in Groceries, Summer Goods, Hats, etc. at FAIRCHILD & DEAL, Gillett, Ark.
- W. J. Moss, Physician and Surgeon, Gillett, Ark. Calls attended promptly, office at residence.
- Train schedule, going south:

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Lv. Stuttgart | 2:30 P.M. |
| Yoder | 2:45 |
| Porter | 2:55 |
| Almyra | 3:18 |
| Olena | 3:28 |
| DeWitt | 3:58 |
| Durell | 4:12 |
| Arr. Gillett | 4:40 |

[This indicates an average speed of approximately 18-20 miles per hour for the Cotton Belt branchline train.]

Newspaper Digitization Project Continues

By Katie Adkins

The Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project (ADNP) staff at the Arkansas State Archives has been working to digitize additional Arkansas newspapers that will soon be available on Chronicling America. Chronicling America is a free online database of historic newspapers from all 50 states as well as Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Arkansas joined the project in 2017 and has added over 300,000 newspaper pages with an additional 100,000 currently in production. This project is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and is facilitated by the Library of Congress and state partners like the State Archives.

New content has started going up on the website including issues of *Grand Prairie News* (1918-1923) and *Paris Express* (1900-1925). Additional dates for both of these will be added in future batches. Other newspaper titles currently in the final review stages are the *Evening Republican*, *Morning Republican*, and *Little Rock Daily Republican*. By the end of August 2025 we expect to add the following titles: the *Arkansas Gazette*, *Calico Rock Progress*, *Colony Herald*, *Union Labor Bulletin*, *Arkansas Farmer*, *Columbia Banner*, *The Mountain Echo* and many more.

One significant update to this project is in regards to accessing the newspaper content via the Chronicling America website. The existing stand-alone website has been merged with the Library of Congress's collections website. Newspapers digitized as part of this project can now be accessed at:

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/>. The old website platform will be phased out starting with redirecting from the old site to the new one at the end of the year. *The old website is no longer being updated with new content, therefore, it is important to start using the new link in order to search the most recent newspaper additions.*

To learn more about Arkansas' involvement with the ADNP project, visit our website at:

<https://www.arkansasheritage.com/chronicling-america-digitized-newspapers>.

Find research guides, lesson plans, topic guides and more on our *new* resources page at:

<https://ar-digital.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/adnp>.

For questions, please contact Katie Adkins, Project Director of the Arkansas Digital Newspaper Project at katherine.adkins@arkansas.gov.



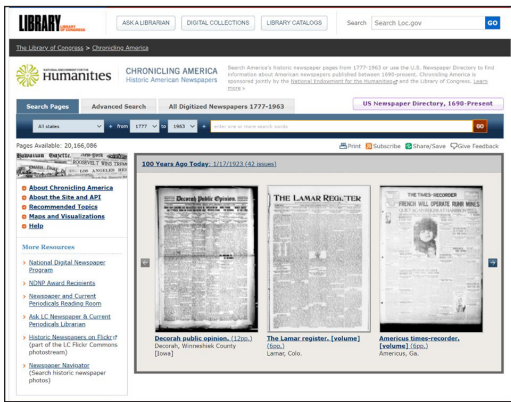
<https://www.arkansasheritage.com/arkansasstatearchives/home>

Our Mission:

The mission of the Arkansas State Archives is to keep and care for the official archives of the State of Arkansas; collect material bearing on the history of Arkansas from the earliest times; copy and edit official records and other historical material; and encourage historical work and research by the public. Hours: Monday—Friday and the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Phone: 501-682-6900.

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

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

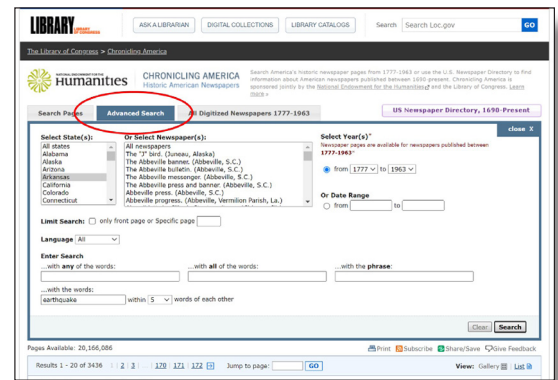


Basic word or phrase search in Arkansas newspapers

- 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.

The Arkansas Historical Association invites your membership!

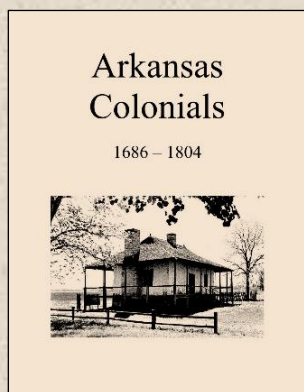
Our mission is to promote the preservation, understanding, writing, publishing, and teaching of Arkansas's rich history. Membership includes four annual issues of our Arkansas Historical Quarterly journal. Annual dues are:

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

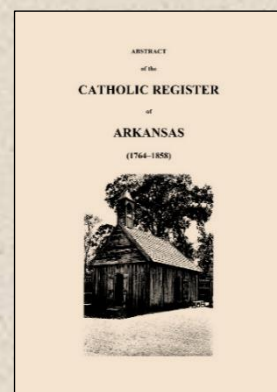


Renewal and new memberships may be paid securely online at www.arkansashistoricalassociation.org.

Arkansas Colonials 1686–1804: A Collection of French and Spanish Records Listing Early Europeans in Arkansas, compiled by Morris S. Arnold and Dorothy Jones Core, is available from GPHS for \$25 postpaid. This 104-page book was published by the Society in 1986 and includes censuses, militia, and other civil records from Arkansas Post in the French and Spanish periods. The book is indexed by surnames.



Abstract of the Catholic Register of Arkansas 1764–1858, compiled by Dorothy Jones Core, is available from GPHS for \$25 postpaid. This 100-page book is an abstract of baptisms, marriages, and burials by Catholic priests in the Parish of Arkansas, including the only records kept during the Spanish era. Accurate translations by language professor Nicole Wable Hatfield. Originally published in 1976, this indexed reference was long out of print. To order these reprinted editions, send payment to P.O. Box 15, Almyra, AR 72003 or order online at www.grandprairiehistory.org.



Future Grand Prairie Historical Society meeting dates/places:

January 16, 2025, Museum of the Arkansas Grand Prairie, Stuttgart; April 17, County Courthouse, DeWitt; July 17, Phillips Community College, DeWitt; October 16, 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.

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| <p>Grand Prairie Historical Society P. O. Box 15 Almyra, AR 72003 870-830-1425 www.grandprairiehistory.org</p> | <p>Officers President: Linda Fischer Vice-Pres: Gay Hampton Rusk Secretary: Jessie Walsh Treasurer: Raeann Braithwaite</p> | <p>Newsletter Editor Glenn Mosenthin GPHS is a 501(c)(3) organization.</p> |
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