



THE ARKANSAS ARCHIVIST

AUGUST 2014

Promoting Teacher Resources at the History Commission

BRINGING THE AHC TO YOU!

August 4—28

"Fought in Earnest"
exhibit

Jacksonville Museum of Military
History
Jacksonville, AR

August 16

Military Records
Genealogy Workshop
MacArthur Museum of Military
History

This May, the Arkansas History Commission entered into a partnership with the Arkansas Humanities Council in support of the Commission's recently launched initiative to create educational materials for Arkansas teachers. The initiative, which began in summer 2013, involves creating lesson plans and activities for K-12 classroom use based on the Arkansas History Commission's vast collection of primary source documents. The Council awarded the History Commission \$5,000 for phase one of the project, which runs through December 2014. The key activities in this first phase are the creation of an initial group of lesson plans, a teacher workshop, which was held on July 12 at the Commission, and participation in the Arkansas Curriculum Conference in November.



Students at a blackboard learning geometry, Lakeview, circa 1940

In preparation for the July workshop, a planning group composed of History Commission staff and led by Archival Assistant Brian Irby, created lesson plans on topics including the Arkansas state flag, settlement, the Great Depression, oral histories, multiculturalism, and Reconstruction. The plans

incorporate both ADE Curriculum Frameworks and applicable Common Core State Standards. Humanities Council funding provided for a pre-selected group of twelve teachers to attend an all-day workshop at the Commission on Saturday, July 12. Attending teachers came from all regions of Arkansas, spanned elementary, middle and high school grades, and taught various disciplines, although history and language arts were the most heavily represented. During the workshop's morning session, Irby led teachers in a lively discussion of the plans, and introduced teachers to the History Commission's website and the newly revamped digital collections website, [Arkansas Digital Ark-ives](#). Reflecting on the workshop, Irby remarked, "The feedback provided by the teachers far surpassed what I hoped we would get. They really took a lot of time to go over the plans carefully and provide detailed comments on how we could improve them, and make [the plans] even more useful for them and their students. We could have created these plans in a vacuum, but having teachers actually tell us whether or not they would be useful in their classrooms, and how we could make them better, makes this whole effort worthwhile." Irby was especially pleased when several teachers asked if they could start using the plans in their classrooms now, even though History Commission staff will make additional edits to incorporate their feedback.

During the workshop's afternoon session, teachers enjoyed presentations by Jama Best, Senior Program Officer for the Humanities Council, and Dr. Pat Ramsey, State History Day Coordinator and Instructor at the University of Central Arkansas. Best shared information on the various grant programs available to educators through the Humanities Council. Dr. Ramsey led teachers in an activity in conjunction with the 2015 theme of National History Day, "Leadership & Legacy in History." The afternoon concluded with a tour of the Arkansas History Commission, including a sneak-peak tour of the Commission's vault where participants received a special viewing of the 1836 Arkansas statehood Constitution and the 1824 Quapaw Treaty.



School buses drop off students in front of Earle High School, 1910

History Commission Director Lisa Speer hopes the Commission will be able sustain this initiative in the long-term. "We are very grateful to the Arkansas Humanities Council for the funding that has allowed us to get this pilot project off the ground in such a strong way," said Speer. "My hope is that we can make this a regular service offered by the Commission, but we need additional, sustained support." Speer expressed hope that in the next biennium the History Commission would see a position added to support educational outreach. "Working with the ADE in the development of African-American history curriculum has been in the mission of the Black History Commission of Arkansas since the passage of Act 326 of 1997. The addition of an Educational Specialist position would allow us to not only more aggressively pursue this goal, but would allow us to provide greater support to Arkansas teachers across the curriculum."

Conservation Corner



Photo of Brett Ashley (age 28) with her 3rd grade class in Charleston, SC. The photo was taken on May 7, 1995, by Brett's aunt, Frances Bean of Little Rock, AR, two days prior to Brett's marriage to Amory Blaine of Isle of Palms, SC.

This month, we are revisiting the famous Shoebox of Shame. Several months ago, we discussed that shoebox stuffed with Instamatic snapshots of holidays long past or a memorable early morning breakfast—the shoebox that in all probability will be tossed intact into the garbage when it's time to downsize and move on.

Many of you have made the decision to digitize selected photographs that you believe will be meaningful for generations to come. While this is a great idea, I have a sinking feeling that inadvertently you may be recreating the Shoebox of Shame.

Here's an idea: type out or write a legend for each photograph to be digitized in which you identify as many people as possible, indicate the location and date, and briefly describe the circumstances surrounding the photo. Place this at the bottom of the photograph that you are going to digitize and have the legend "shot" with the photograph. If anyone wants to reproduce the actual photo, the legend can be cropped out, but the primary digital record will still contain identifying information that will be useful down the road. Otherwise--well honestly, what's the point of going to the effort of digitizing your family photos if the digital image isn't accompanied by as much information as possible?

Black History Commission News



The Black History Commission of Arkansas is interested in letters, diaries, journals, business records, photographs, church and organizational records, yearbooks, personal memoirs, and anything else of a documentary nature related to African American history in Arkansas.

The Curtis H. Sykes Memorial Grant Program offers grants to fund projects related to African American history in Arkansas, and is currently accepting applications. Past projects include historical research, exhibits, workshops, publications, oral history interviews, documentary films, and cemetery preservation and documentation.

The deadline for submitting applications to be considered during the next funding cycle is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1, 2014. Applications can be mailed to the Arkansas History Commission at One Capitol Mall, 2B-215, Little Rock, AR 72201, or delivered in person. Applications should not be emailed unless

you have received prior approval of Tatyana Oyinloye, African American History Program Coordinator. If you have questions about the program, please contact Tatyana Oyinloye, African American History Program Coordinator at 501.682.6892 or at tatyana.oyinloye@arkansas.gov. Please click on link below for application or go to our website at www.ark-ives.com and click on the Black History link

[Curtis H. Sykes Memorial Grant Application](#)

KNOW YOUR COMMISSIONERS

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From the Director

If you are a regular reader of the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* classifieds, perhaps you've seen the notice regarding the Arkansas History Commission. The Arkansas History Commission and the Black History Commission of Arkansas both recently adopted revisions to three policy directives: the AHC's general rules, the services the AHC offers and fees charged for these services, and the guidelines for the Curtis H. Sykes Grant Program administered by the BHCA.

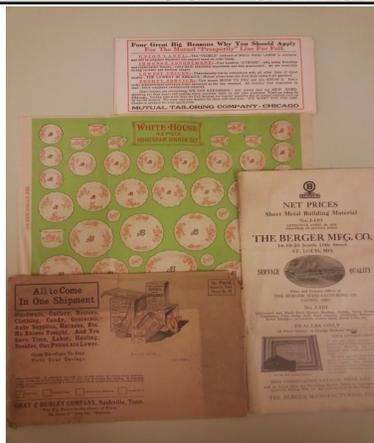


As part of the process established by the Arkansas Legislative Subcommittee on Administrative Rules and Regulations, the Arkansas History Commission is accepting comments from the public regarding the three policy directives between August 5 and September 4. You can email your comments to state.archives@arkansas.gov, or mail to my attention at 1 Capitol Mall, Room 2B215, Little Rock, AR 72201. The revised documents are posted on the AHC's FOI site (<http://www.adptfoi.com/History/>) and on the Arkansas Secretary of State's website at (http://www.sos.arkansas.gov/rules_and_regs/index.php/rules/search/new). Additionally, hard copies are available for viewing in the research rooms at the History Commission in Little Rock, the Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives in Powhatan, and the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives in Washington, Arkansas. A public meeting on comments received will be held on September 11, 2014, in The Sparrow Room at The Lodge at Mount Magazine State Park during the Arkansas History Commission's regularly quarterly meeting.

The primary impetus behind the proposed changes to the AHC policy directives is our desire to introduce some new services to researchers, a number of which include the provision of information (i.e., documents, images) in a digital format. Additionally, we hope new procedures and pricing structures will simplify the process of ordering materials; and a decrease in the price for rolls of microfilm will make the purchase of newspapers more affordable for researchers and institutions who buy or have bought film from us in the past. Proposed changes to the Sykes guidelines will bring the application process more in line with other grant-making agencies. Starting in 2015, the BHCA, in conjunction with Arkansas History Commission staff, will hold grant workshops for potential applicants, so be sure to check our monthly calendar of events, as well as the BHCA's web page (<http://www.ark-ives.com/abhac/sykes.aspx>) for information on when these workshops will be held.

The AHC and BHCA welcome your feedback on these revised policy directives, so please take the time to review them and send in your comments. I look forward to hearing from you. – Dr. Lisa K. Speer

News from NEARA

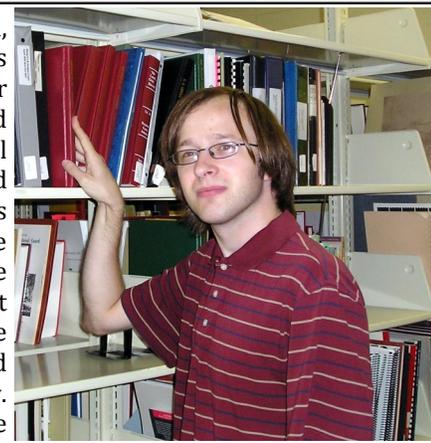


Today, Hulbert is an old section of town in West Memphis but one hundred years ago it was its own little community. In 1909, Brothers H. Ruppel Dabbs and E.O. Dabbs built the first general store in Hulbert. Unfortunately, the little wooden structure could not stand up against the spring flood waters of 1912. Determined to stay in Hulbert, the Dabbs brothers rebuilt with the aid of a Little Rock architect. By the end of 1912, a new brick Dabbs Brothers General Store opened on higher ground.

Because the structure was lauded as permanent, it became a host to the community. A school met in the store until the one-room school was built across the railroad tracks. It served as the first Post Office from 1923-1948. The Dabbs brothers were deeply invested in Hulbert. In addition to serving as merchants, they owned a cooperage company, lent money to residents to purchase land and homes and E.O. Dabbs held elected offices including Justice of the Peace and County Coroner.

The original brick building is still standing in West Memphis and today functions as an office for Pat Kelley Magruder Architects. Ruppel sold the store to Pat Magruder, Sr. in 1979. The new owners placed the building on the National Register of Historic Places and expertly renovated the space, preserving the majority of the original structure and details. The Dabbs Brothers collection at NEARA provides a glimpse into the personal, political, and business lives of these Hulbert businessmen.

News from SARA



Cody Harvey of Waldron, Arkansas, is serving as SARA's 2014 Summer Intern. Cody graduated from Waldron High School in 2010 and then attended the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville. In 2011, he transferred to the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith where he majored in history and minored in anthropology. He volunteered at the Pebley Center, the archives at UAFS, and then later served as a student worker and intern processing collections. Cody received his BA from UAFS on May 10, 2014, and came to work at SARA on June 3 where he will continue until August 9.

Cody plans to go to graduate school in the near future and hopes to have a career as an archivist. His special interests are military history, naval history and railroads. At SARA, Cody has processed collections, assisted in the research room, and monitored the vault. He also worked on transcribing Freedman's Bureau Records from Lafayette County before completing his internship.

The seventh SARA Summer Internship is sponsored by SARA Foundation, the Friends group for SARA, and Historic Washington State Park. SARA Foundation provides the intern's salary, and the Park provides housing and utilities in Washington.

Staff Picks



This month we feature Archivist Jeff Lewellen's pick, a songbook from country singer Patsy Montana.

What is it and what makes it unique? It is a songbook from country singer Patsy Montana. It is in the Goughler Collection here at the AHC.

Who was Goughler? Lawrence Goughler was a music collector in Oklahoma. He collected tons of music books and materials. He donated his collection to the AHC. The Patsy Montana book is one of hundreds of songbooks in his collection.

Who was Patsy Montana? She was a country singer from Garland County. She became one of the first major female country stars. Her biggest hit was "I Want to be a Cowboy's Sweetheart." What made her so unique at the time is that she wrote her own songs, which was rare at the time.

What can researchers learn about pop culture by looking at this book? I think researchers can learn a great deal about music in the 1940s. Not only does it feature the sheet music for the songs but there are also a lot of photographs in the book. There are posed pictures of her and her family as well as publicity photos. I think it would also be a good source for researchers to learn what Americans are interested in. It seems that during the 1940s there was a craze for cowboy music. Plus, the scrapbook goes well with some of our recordings that we received from the Ozark Folk Center.

New at the AHC

July Donations and Accessions

AHC

Sturgis Miller Collection: 13 General Assembly Composites; 2 cu ft of plaques and framed photographs; Scrapbook

James L. and Jeanne McDaniel Collection, 1 25 caliber colt, 76 matchbooks
Heritage of Tattal County, Ga., 1801-2012

History of Dodge County, by Mrs. Wilton Philip Cobb

Old Times Not Forgotten: A History of Drew County, by Rebecca DeArmond

Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America, by David Hackett Fischer
Vaughans in Wales and America: A Search for the Welsh Ancestors of William Vaughan(1750-1840), by James E. Vaughn

Dowdy Aka Israel, by Emma Israel Sanders

Telfair County: A Pictorial History

Bleckley County Georgia Marries, 1913-2004, by Betty J. Smith

The News from Milan, Rhine and old Telfair, Volume I to VI, by Tad Evans

Alabama Newspaper Clippings: Taken from Georgia Newspapers, 1814-1907, by Tad Evans

Pulaski County, Georgia, Newspaper Clippings, Volume I to V, by Tad Evans

The News from Chauncey, Volume I to VI, by Tad Evans

The Life and Times of Reverend N. C. Denson: Reminiscences of a Confederate Soldier, Dedicated Minister, and Arkansas Leader, by Dillard Denson, M.D.

NEARA

Three checks from Black Rock Pearl Button Company (1 payroll, 2 expense)

Craighead County Marriages, 3 vols., Craighead County Genealogical Society

Greene, Greene County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter,

September, 1998 - March, 2008

Greene, Greene County Historical and Genealogical Society Quarterly, 1998 - Fall, 2005

The Ozarks Mountaineer, March, 2004 - July - Aug, 2008

We appreciate the generous support of our donors!

August is sadly the last month of summer. So, we thought we would bid the summer adieu by showing off some summer vacation pictures from our collection. The AHC wishes you a happy rest of your summer!

