

The Butler Banner

Newsletter of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Volume 12, Number 3

Summer 2010

Butler Center Events

Legacies & Lunch

Sept. 1, 2010

As part of the Mexico 2010 celebration, Dr. Kristin Mann will be speaking on Arkansas and Mexico's historical relationship.

Oct. 6, 2010

"Highlights from the Arkansas-Made Collection," with Bill Worthen.

Art News

Aug. 13-Nov. 30, 2010

Raíces, new works by x3mex. Arkansas Studies Institute, Atrium Gallery. Opening reception during 2nd Friday Art Night, Aug. 13, 2010, 5 to 8 p.m.

Sept. 10-Nov. 27, 2010

Arkansas League of Artists Juried Exhibition. Arkansas Studies Institute, Main Gallery. Opening reception during 2nd Friday Art Night, Sep. 10, 2010, 5 to 8 p.m.

Sept. 10-Dec. 10, 2010

Making Pictures: Three for a Dime, by Maxine Payne. Arkansas Studies Institute, Concordia Hall Gallery. Opening reception during 2nd Friday Art Night, Sept. 10, 2010, 5 to 8 p.m.

Don't Miss:

Mid-Southern Watercolorists 40th Annual Juried Exhibition Arkansas Studies Institute, Main Gallery. On view through Aug. 28, 2010.

Luke Anguhadluq: Inuit Artist (From the collection of Dr. J.W. Wiggins, Sequoyah National Research Center, UALR) Arkansas Studies Institute, Mezzanine Gallery. On view through Oct. 9, 2010.



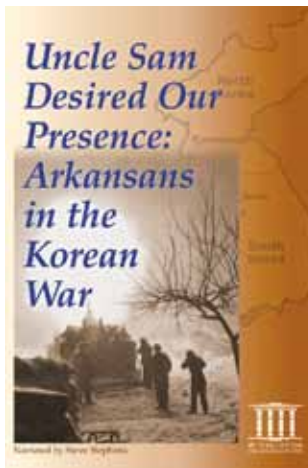
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Visit www.butlercenter.org
for more information

Korean War Project Documentary

In 2008, the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies initiated "FORGOTTEN: The Arkansas Korean War Project" to document and preserve Arkansas's role in the war. Pulling from resources collected through that project, staff members Brian Robertson, Sara Thompson, and Stephanie Bayless produced an hour-long DVD documentary titled *Uncle Sam Desired Our Presence: Arkansans in the Korean War* (2010). The film's narrator is Newport (Jackson County) native Steve Stephens, a well-known television and radio personality as well as a Korean War veteran.

Featuring oral history interview clips from twenty-eight veterans, the documentary



weaves together the oral histories with photographs, video footage, documents, and maps to tell the story of the Korean War. The film covers the entirety of the war from the transition of civilians into combat to the end of the United States' involvement. The backbone of the documentary is the veterans—humble heroes who should not be forgotten.

The Korean War is often overlooked between the headlines of World War II and the tragedies of the Vietnam War, and the Arkansans who served have been overlooked with it. Approximately 6,300 Arkansans fought; 461 of those lost their lives.

To order a DVD, contact Anna Lancaster at (501) 320-5757 or alancaster@cals.org, or visit www.butlercenter.org/koreanwarproject/documentary. ■

Announcing the Jim Davis Hot Springs Collection

The Jim Davis Hot Springs Collection, acquired by the Butler Center in 2009, contains more than 900 images of the Hot Springs area, as well as documents related to the promotion of Hot Springs. Davis, an Arkansas native and a resident of Hot Springs since 1994, began assembling the collection when he opened an antique store in 1996.

The collection includes photographs of buildings, scenes, people, events, and natural disasters, dating from the 1890s to the 1960s. A large portion of the photographs record the fires of 1905, 1913, and 1923, including images of the fires and the ruins of the city. Special events pictured include the Arkansas State Fair, a parade, and the visit of President Franklin Roosevelt to the city.

The larger Hot Springs hotels such as the Arlington and the Majestic are shown, as are a number of smaller hotels and rooming houses, many with guests standing in front. These include the Cozy Hotel, the Home Hotel, the Jefferson Hotel, and the Rock-



1903 photograph of the Arkansas Club in Hot Springs, from the Jim Davis Collection.

afellow Hotel. Other group pictures show hotel employees such as waiters and kitchen staff.

The collection also includes numerous photographs taken at McLeod's Happy Hollow, a popular amusement park in Hot Springs, as well as photographs of other tourist attractions such as the Arkansas Alligator Farm, the Os-

Cont. on page 2

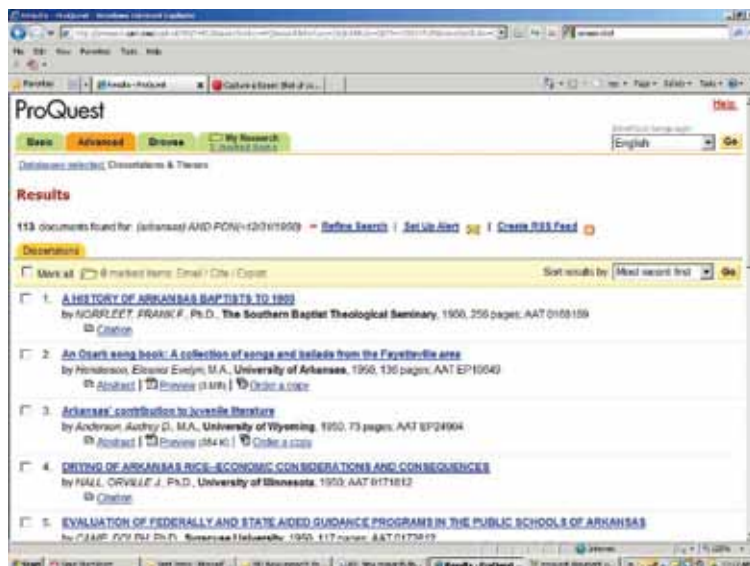
New Database Will Assist Researchers

ASI researchers will have access to another source of information thanks to a new service recently added: the ProQuest Dissertations & Theses database. Often, dissertations and theses provide the only written information about an event or person. Graduate students in history and other disciplines do extensive research and recording of information as part of their degree requirements, and their research papers often analyze a topic or period of history in new and innovative ways.

The database provides abstracts of the dissertations/theses, and if the full document is needed by a patron, it can be acquired through interlibrary loan if the Butler Center does not already own the item. This database will also help the Butler Center staff know which documents the Butler Center should acquire to assist its patrons. Using the database,

researchers—including the Encyclopedia of Arkansas's writers, fact-checkers, and editors—will gain access to in-depth coverage of a variety of fields. Genealogists seeking information about the times in which their ancestors lived, or perhaps even information about those ancestors themselves, will find the database highly valuable.

ProQuest will be available in the ASI Research Room as well as in the Reference Department at CALS's Main Library, at branch libraries, or from home for patrons with a CALS library card.



More than 1,000 academic institutions worldwide contribute to the database with abstracts available for material added since 1980, though the database contains citation information about dissertations and theses dating back to 1637. Material can be identified through searches by subject, title, author, or degree-granting institution.

Flag Expresses Students' Patriotism

During a unit on patriotism, Wayne Levering's ninth-grade civics class at the Arkansas School for the Deaf created a painting as an expression of their patriotism. Other students in the school were also included in the project. The painting, a depiction of the American flag using students' handprints, was donated to the Arkansas Studies Institute galleries.



The nine high school students cut the wood, made the frames, stretched and secured the raw canvas, primed the canvas, and painted the background. The hands

of the high school students were rolled in red paint and placed on the canvas to form the lower three stripes on the flag. The middle school students' handprints formed the shorter upper four stripes. The lower school students' hands made the stars in the blue field.

Save Paper, Reduce Waste

The Butler Center wants to save paper and reduce waste. If you have an active email address, help us by opting to receive email-only alerts about our programs and events. Contact Kathryn Heller at kheller@cals.org or (501) 320-5717 to update your information.

Cont. from Jim Davis Collection, p.1
trich Farm, and the Hot Springs Observation Town. No collection of Hot Springs photographs would be complete without images of the bathhouses themselves; photographs in the col-

lection have both interior and exterior views.

Four boxes of related documents contain promotional brochures and souvenirs from railroads, government agencies, and tourism groups. These include

a photogravure dated 1893, the 1912 souvenir yearbook and parish guide for the Church of St. John the Baptist, the 1974 Miss Hot Springs Pageant program, and a management plan and assessment done for Hot Springs National Park in 1985.

A Word from the Center

David Stricklin, Head of the Butler Center



Like everybody else in Arkansas, we've been trying to keep from roasting this summer. But that hasn't kept us from turning up the heat on a couple of projects. Last time, I mentioned our award-winning "FORGOTTEN: The Arkansas Korean War Project," managed by my colleagues Brian Robertson, Stephanie Bayless, and Sara Thompson—more about that appears on pages 1 and 5 of this *Banner*. We're working to accelerate the speed of the project by seeking some additional funding. I expect to have some good news about that in the next couple of columns. Let me know if you would like to help us. The interviews, photographs, and documents we have gotten from Arkansas veterans of that neglected

conflict are truly remarkable, but time is not our ally. We need to speed the pace of our work. That takes money.

Funding for our Concordia Hall Museum effort is starting to come in. We have received several nice gifts for that and will announce more soon. I'm hoping to make significant progress on getting the money necessary to establish the museum during the rest of 2010 and the early part of 2011. I like to call the museum space we're going to develop a "historical gallery." It will exhibit documents and photographs about the history of the various people who live in Arkansas, how they came to be here, and how they created communities for themselves. Because the Butler Center is, at its heart, a repository of archival collections, however, we won't be a major collector of artifacts. We will exhibit three-dimensional objects in the museum space, but those will mainly be things we have borrowed from people or from other historical in-

The *Butler Banner* is the quarterly newsletter of the
Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Arkansas Studies Institute
Central Arkansas Library System
100 S. Rock St.
Little Rock, AR 72201
501.320.5700 - arkinfo@cal.org
www.butlercenter.org
www.arstudies.org

Printed and distributed with private funds.

Kathryn Heller: Editor
Mike Keckhaver: Design/Layout



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stitutions. We've had a great response to our plans. I look forward to sharing more information about that with you soon.

In the meantime, keep cool, and come see us at the Butler Center in the ASI! ■

Structural Steel Award for ASI

The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) in Chicago honored the Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects' design of the Arkansas Studies Institute (ASI) with its highest recognition possible, a National Award, in its prestigious annual awards. Just twelve building projects from around the country earned national recognition in the 2010 Innovative Design in Engineering and Architecture with Structural Steel awards program (IDEAS2). The IDEAS2 awards recognize outstanding achievements in engineering and architecture on structural steel projects.



AISC representative Larry Flynn presents Bobby Roberts with the commemorative plaque.

*Reese Rowland
of Polk Stanley
Wilcox Architects
discusses the ASI
during the award
ceremony, July
21, 2010.*



*David Stricklin
speaks
with
CALS
deputy
director
Linda Bly.*

Education & Outreach – The Butler

In partnership with the Arkansas Genealogical Society, the Butler Center presented “**The Genealogist’s Camera**,” its ninth-annual genealogy workshop, on Saturday, July 17, 2010. Desmond Walls Allen, author of *First Steps in Genealogy: A Beginner’s Guide to Researching Your Family History* (1998), presented four sessions: camera technology, photographing family members, retouching photographs, and digital scrapbooking. Door prizes, including six talking Bill Clinton dolls, were given away throughout the day.



Rhonda Stewart, the Butler Center’s genealogy and local history specialist, and two workshop participants examine one of the Clinton doll doorprizes.



Richard Butler Jr. collects his conference bag and name-tag from Jan Davenport.



Desmond Walls Allen presenting one of the four workshop sessions.

flash

... Butler Center Events in the Spotlight



Butler Center archival assistant Glenn Whaley (center), with CALS staffer Patrice O’Donoghue, takes part in World Wide Knit In Public Day at the Arkansas Studies Institute.



Pictured from right to left: Butler Center Books authors Brian Robertson, Steve Teske, and Mark Christ sign copies of their books at the Secretary of State’s unveiling of the exhibit *Call of Duty: Arkansans at War*.

er Center's 2010 Educational Programs in Review

"Arkansas in the Forgotten War: The Korean War Remembered," the Butler Center's first Korean War conference, was held in the Darragh Center at the Main Library on May 22, 2010. The speakers included Dr. James I. Matray of California State University, Dr. Roger Pauly of the University of Central Arkansas, and Steve Rucker of the Arkansas National Guard Museum. The day included overviews of the war, hill fighting, and Arkansas National Guard efforts, as well as a panel discussion of local Arkansas Korean War veterans. The Butler Center also debuted its documentary, *Uncle Sam Desired Our Presence: Arkansans in the Korean War*. The documentary features photographs, documents, and oral history interviews from "FORGOTTEN: The Arkansas Korean War Project," as well as video footage and photographs from the National Archives and Records Administration. See page 1 for purchasing information.



Steve Rucker speaks about the Arkansas National Guard's involvement in the Korean War.



Brian Robertson speaks with one of the veterans at the conference.



Arkansas Korean War veterans pose for a picture during the day-long conference.

CALS Hosts Lincoln Exhibit

The Central Arkansas Library System is one of twenty-five libraries chosen to host *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. The exhibit will be on display in the Main Gallery of the Arkansas Studies Institute from December 1, 2010, to January 28, 2011.

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War, a traveling exhibition for libraries, was organized by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association Public Programs Office. It is funded by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Abraham Lincoln was confronted with enormous challenges when he was elected president in 1860. The nation was on the brink of the Civil War, and Lincoln

struggled with issues of secession, slavery, and civil liberties—all questions our country's founding charter left unanswered. President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront these three intertwined crises of war, ultimately reinventing the Constitution and the promise of American life. The exhibit and related programs help develop a more complete understanding of Abraham Lincoln as president and the Civil War as the nation's gravest constitutional crisis.



The exhibit programming will revolve around Arkansas's role in the conflict and include a Readers' Theater and two Legacies & Lunch lectures.

For further exhibit and program information, call (501) 918-3032 or click on the Lincoln Grant link at www.cals.org. ■

Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War
Arkansas Studies Institute, Main Gallery
On view December 1, 2010–January 28, 2011
Free admission

Schedule of events:

Thursday, October 28, 2010, 6:30 p.m., Darragh Center—Readers' Theater
Abraham Lincoln presents the Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet.

Saturday, October 30, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., River Market Books & Gifts—Kick-off for One Community, One Book. Participants will read *Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt. The day will include fiddle playing, as well as poetry about Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

Tuesday, November 16, 2010, noon to 1:00 p.m., East Room, Main Library—It's Always Something. Kay Meador talks about knitting a Civil War shawl and discusses Civil War-era knitting.

Wednesday, December 1, 2010, noon to 1:00 p.m., Darragh Center—Legacies & Lunch
Dr. Trey Berry of the Department of Arkansas Heritage talks about Arkansas's role in the Civil War.

Thursday, December 9, 6:30 p.m., Darragh Center—Dishong Lecture
Dr. Carl Moneyhon discusses how Abraham Lincoln was viewed during his time as president of the United States.

Wednesday, January 5, 2011, noon to 1:00 p.m., Darragh Center—Legacies & Lunch
William Sutton, Lincoln scholar.



THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY & CULTURE

WANTED: AUTHORS AND MEDIA

We need entries, photographs, documents, videos, maps, and audio clips to help make the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture* the most complete resource on Arkansas history.

Entries Needing Media (photographs, etc.):

Evening Shade (Sharp County)
Caddo River Lumber Company
Cotton States League
Bobby James Hutton
William Erwin Halbrook
Narrows Dam
Delight (Pike County)
Fayetteville Shale
Narrow Gauge Railroads
Chinese Americans
Tri-State League
Fulbright Industries
Harold Raymond (Hal) Smith
Mississippi Flyway
Nicholas Bartlett Pearce
Roosevelt "The Honeydripper" Sykes
Frances Lillian (F.L.) Blaisdell
Hanger Hill Historic District
Rodeo of the Ozarks
John Garrett Whiteside
Bobby Hopper Tunnel
Blakely Mountain Dam

John Edward Murray
Nick Daniel (Nicky) Bacon
Grider Army Air Field
Sulphur Rock Academy
Missionary Baptist College

If you have pictures or other media, please
contact Mike Keckhaver at mkeckhaver@encyclopediaofarkansas.net

Entries Needing Authors:

Civil War Refugees
Union Occupation of Arkansas
Cossatot River
Hell's Half Acre
Lake View v. Huckabee
Helen Spence
Ozark Folklore Society
Quitman Male and Female College

If you would like to write one of these entries,
please contact Anna Lancaster at
alancaster@encyclopediaofarkansas.net

Explorations of Arkansas History

Guy
Lancaster

Sometimes it's fun to follow links on the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* website and see where you end up. Here's a little tour I took recently, starting and ending with wine and bumping into such unlikely companions as German chancellor Otto von Bismarck, the Beatles, and noted African-American lawyer Scipio Jones.

You see, wine was outlawed in Arkansas in 1916 when Governor Charles Hillman Brough signed a law banning the sale and manufacture of all alcoholic beverages. Three years later, Brough personally led the government response to what became known as the Elaine Massacre. The lawyer who defended those facing the death pen-

alty following the Elaine Massacre was Scipio Africanus Jones. Jones had earlier worked to defend African Americans in the Argenta Race Riot of 1906. Argenta was then a part of Little Rock but managed to secure its independence when the Arkansas General Assembly passed an annexation-related bill called the Hoxie-Walnut Ridge Bill. Hoxie, located right next to Walnut Ridge, was created in late 1870s after town leaders were unable to agree on a place for the railroad to go through. However, Walnut Ridge ended up being the more prosperous of the pair and was home to a flying school during World War II, later converted to a civilian airport. The Beatles stopped over at this airport

in 1964 during a U.S. tour.

That city today is home to Williams Baptist College, which moved there from Pocahontas in 1946 and was originally known as Southern Baptist College. This college was not Pocahontas's first experience with religious outreach. German-Swiss Catholic missionary Eugene Weibel operated in the area in the late nineteenth century, resulting in many Germans settling in the area. Many of these Germans, fleeing persecution from "Iron Chancellor" Otto von Bismarck, took to Arkansas's hill country, where they helped build the railroads.

What did they do when railroad work ended? Among other things, they made wine. ■

New from Butler Center Books

Incredible True Story Is Basis of New Novel

A real-life story of a young woman fleeing the Nazis at the start of World War II is the basis for a compelling new novel released by Butler Center Books, *The Broken Vase* by Phillip H. McMath and Emily Matson Lewis.

The Broken Vase is a *roman à clef* (“novel with a key,” or novel based on real life) written in close collaboration with Holocaust survivor Penina Krupitsky, who appears in the novel as the fictional Miriam Kellerman. Krupitsky currently resides in Little Rock.

Born to middle-class parents in July 1924 in North Bukovina, Romania (now Chernivtsi, Ukraine), Miriam Kellerman grows up in an atmosphere of culture and privilege that is interrupted when her country is invaded—first by Stalin in July 1940, then by Hitler in June 1941.

Fearing for their lives, Jews like her begin to flee into the Soviet Union to escape the German advance. Separated from her parents, Deborah and Max, and later from her fiancé, Isaac, Miriam finds herself alone and on foot, trudging ever eastward into Russian territory.

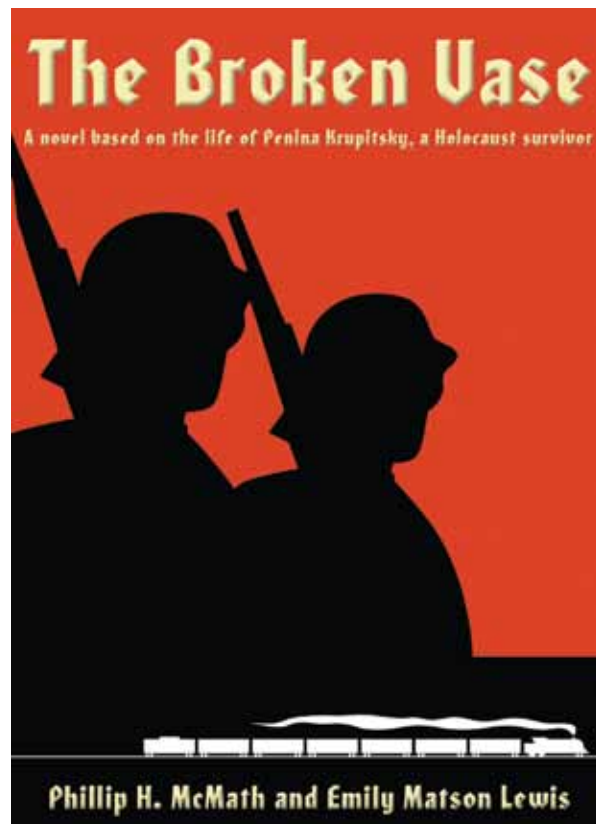
This novel’s compelling narrative chronicles her incredible struggle to stay alive as World War II rages and she is forced to travel the breadth of Russia. Ultimately, it is Miriam’s native tongue, German, and her ability to learn the Russian language that save her life, as she becomes a translator for the Russian government.

McMath, a Little Rock attorney, said that he and Lewis wrote the book as a novel because Krupitsky “wanted something unique and artistic to memorialize her parents, not just another memoir of which there have been so many.” While permitting certain artistic liberties, she has insisted on scrupulous attention to the facts. Both of Krupitsky’s parents died in a concentration camp.

“The more I have written,” McMath said, “the more I have realized the importance of her story as a symbol of that sublime something we can only call the greatness of the human spirit.”

Krupitsky, who emigrated with her family from Russia to Little Rock in November of 1980, remembers that she was overwhelmed by the welcome she and her family received. “People came from all over—from companies, synagogues, churches—to our apartment, offering help, support, money. I fell in love with this small state and its local population.”

Krupitsky still lives in Little Rock, along with her husband, children, and grandchildren, remaining active in Holocaust remembrance organizations around the world. She says that she wants *The*



Broken Vase “to help young people and become an inspiration to them. It will teach them how to build a world of love and not of hatred.”

The book is available through local and national book sellers and Butler Center Books’ distributor, the University of Arkansas Press, at (800) 626-0090 or www.uapress.com. Butler Center Books is a division of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, part of the Central Arkansas Library System. ■

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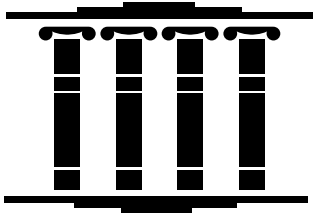
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Images from Our Collection



Central Avenue in Hot Springs after 1913 fire. This excerpt from an article in the *Ogden Standard* in Utah ran on September 16, 1913: "Grand avenue, leading from the burned area to the fair grounds, today presented a picturesque sight. Hundreds of families with what little they saved from the ruins, were gathered along the roadway, gradually working their way to the camp grounds. The militia will aid these people and guard the devastated district." *From the Jim Davis Hot Springs Collection.*