

# The Butler eBanner

Newsletter of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Spring 2016

## Art Exhibitions

June 10–Aug. 27

### Butler Center Underground Gallery

An exhibition of artwork created by K-12 students and presented by the Arkansas Art Educators.

July 8–Oct. 1

### Butler Center West Gallery

An exhibition of work by the Arkansas League of Artists, an eclectic and diverse organization formed to promote the visual fine arts in Arkansas to all ages and across multiple disciplines.

July 8–Nov. 26

### Butler Center Loft Gallery

*From Petticoats to the Presidency: Arkansas Women in Politics*, an exhibition of materials from the Butler Center's collections.

Exhibitions open during each month's Second Friday Art Night (2FAN), 5-8 p.m. in the ASI building.

## Arkansas Sounds

Fri., May 20, 7:00 p.m.

**Charlie Rich Jr. and Sonny Burgess & the Legendary Pacers**  
CALS Ron Robinson Theater  
Charlie Rich Jr. will perform a tribute to his Grammy Award-winning father, Charlie Rich, and Sonny Burgess & the Legendary Pacers will present their signature rock music—\$15.

Tues., June 21, 7:00 p.m.

### Ben Nichols of Lucero

CALS Ron Robinson Theater  
Ben Nichols, an Arkansas native and front man of the popular band Lucero, will present a solo acoustic performance of music he has written throughout his career—\$20.

Fri., July 22, 7:00 p.m.

### An Evening with Suzy Bogguss

CALS Ron Robinson Theater  
Suzy Bogguss will perform country and folk classics in addition to her acclaimed original music—\$20.

Tickets: [Arkansas Sounds](#) or [Butler Center Galleries](#).

Fri., May 6, 5 p.m.

### Encyclopedia of Arkansas's Tenth-Anniversary Party

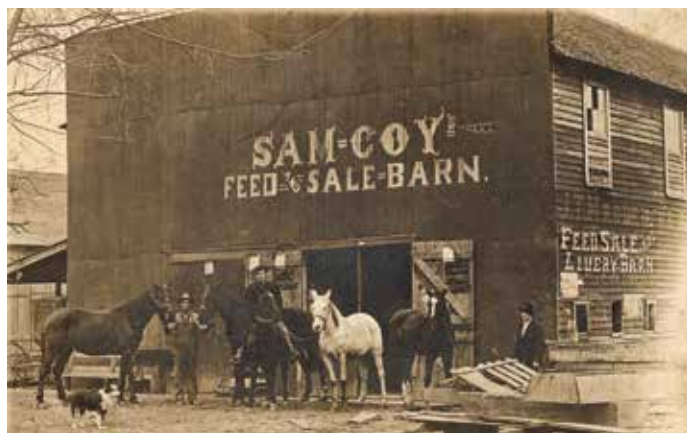
First floor of the ASI building (see page 5)

More events on page 2.

## James Logan Morgan Papers Now Available

James Logan Morgan Jr. was a teacher, historian, and minister. He was born on September 13, 1940, in Oil Trough (Independence County) to James Logan Morgan Sr. (1910–1995) and Eva Irene Landrum Morgan (1922–2009). Morgan graduated from Newport High School in 1958 and earned Bachelor of Arts degrees in history and business from Arkansas College (now Lyon College) in Batesville (Independence County), graduating *summa cum laude* in 1962. He

lived most of his life in Newport (Jackson County) and was a charter member of the Jackson County Historical Society, serving as editor of *The Stream of History*, the society's quarterly journal, from 1964 to 1980. He published numerous articles on Arkan-



*The Sam Coy feed and sale barn in Newport, from the James Logan Morgan Papers.*

sas history with an interest in the northeastern Arkansas region—especially Jackson, Independence, and Woodruff Counties—and in African-American history.

Morgan's interest in genealogy began at a  
*Cont. on page 2*

## Arkansas Women's History Collection

by Stephanie Bayless, archivist and assistant manager of the Butler Center's Research Services division

*"What would men be without women? Scarce, sir...mighty scarce." — Mark Twain*

In celebration of Women's History Month, the Butler Center digitized 260 documents and photographs related to Arkansas women. Whether you are interested in the extraordinary or the everyday, this



*Mount St. Mary's basketball team, 1909, from the Butler Center's Arkansas Women's History Collection.*

resource is a boon for anyone wishing to explore the important contributions of Arkansas women.

Highlights include thirty-eight issues of the *Arkansas White Ribboner*, a temperance paper published by the Arkansas Woman's Christian Temperance Union; a fascinating cache of documents related to Laura Cornelius Conner's stint on the Penitentiary Commission in the early 1920s; and a beautiful 1903 Maddox Seminary yearbook.

Browsing through photographs of some of Arkansas's early female leaders will allow you to put faces with some familiar names, while photos of school groups and sports teams might bring back childhood memories. Complementing the Butler Center's online [World War I collection](#), researchers can read through a 1918 report of the Woman's Committee, Council of Defense for Arkansas. This seventy-two-page booklet details the coordinated wartime efforts of women's clubs across the state.

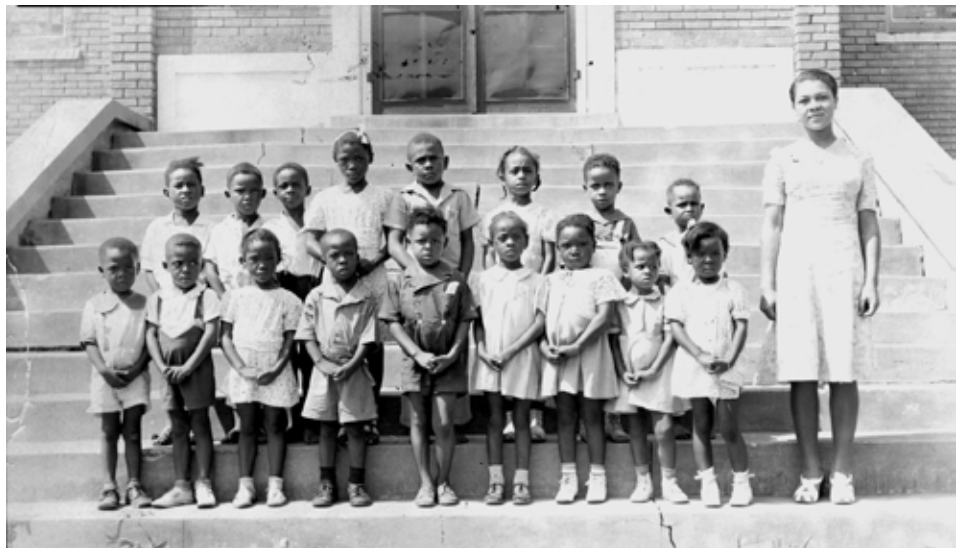
Patrons perusing the collection will see names  
*Cont. on page 2*

*Cont. from James Logan Morgan, p. 1*  
 young age, and he became known as one of the state's expert genealogists. He established the Northeast Arkansas Genealogical Association (1970–1974) and other groups during his career. He also compiled and published numerous genealogical books and quarterly newsletters, and conducted research for family historians from across the country. He also served on the board of the Arkansas Genealogical Society from 1974 to 1989.

In 1969, while teaching at Shorter College (an affiliate of the African Methodist Episcopal Church) in North Little Rock, he joined the AME Church. He was licensed to preach in 1990 and was ordained as a deacon in 1994 and an elder in 1996. He served as secretary of the East-Northeast Arkansas Conference in 1996. Morgan also served as pastor of St. Paul AME Church in Marked Tree (Poinsett County) and Bethel AME Church in Blytheville (Mississippi County) before retiring. James Logan Morgan Jr. died on August 18, 2011.

Morgan's massive collection of papers, donated to the Butler Center by the Jackson County Historical Society, contains personal papers and historical files related to cemeteries, churches, the military, lineage societies, and schools; genealogical correspondence and research; annual black history and Martin Luther King Day programs; newspapers; and maps. It also has more than 1,800 photographs and more than 2,000 funeral programs (not counting obituary notices). The collection's 277 archival boxes are arranged topically and alphabetically. Morgan was able to amass this vast collection of material due to his deep involvement in

*Cont. from Women's History, p. 1*  
 they recognize—such as Hattie Caraway or Willie Oates—as well as have the opportunity to discover stories from unfamiliar individuals. These documents are full-text searchable, which means you can readily pull out names and places buried deep within individual documents. The ability to view these original materials online greatly increases their accessibility. To view these marvels of Arkansas history, click [here](#). And check back often! We will continue adding to this collection in the future. ■



*Kindergarten class at St. Paul AME Church in Newport, 1941, from the James Logan Morgan Papers.*

Arkansas's genealogical, historical, and religious communities.

The collection will be of special interest to those in the northeastern part of the state due to Morgan's fervent documentation of the region. Family historians will find interest in both his family files and genealogy correspondence because genealogists seeking his assistance often included with their inquiries facts already

known about their families and sometimes pedigree charts. In a few cases, subseries were created due to the significance of material, such as for the M. M. Stuckey, Arthur and Iona Oates, Bleakley, Dunaway, and Harrison families.

The collection is available to researchers in the Research Room in the Arkansas Studies Institute (ASI) building, and the finding aid is available online [here](#). ■



*Workers outside a button factory in Newport, from the James Logan Morgan Papers.*

### **Legacies & Lunch Noon–1 p.m.**

Wed., May 4

Main Library Darragh Center

**Chris Dorer**—Social studies teacher at Central High School will discuss his book *Images of America: Little Italy* and his research on the Little Italy community.

Wed., June 1

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

**Lance Restum**—Director of marketing and advertising for the Arkansas Travelers baseball team will discuss the team's history. Presented in partnership with the Clinton School of Public Service.

Fri., July 8

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

**John Brummett** will lead a panel discussion on the summer 1970 Democratic primary for governor and the decade of new political figures in Arkansas that followed. Presented in partnership with the Clinton School of Public Service.

### **Finding Family Facts**

A free genealogy course

May 9, June 13, July 11; 3:30–5:00

ASI building, Room 204

### **Genealogy Workshop 2016**

Sat., July 23; 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (Doors open at 9)

CALS Ron Robinson Theater (see page 8)

## A Word from the Center

David Stricklin, Manager of the Butler Center

On page 5, you can see some exciting things about the tenth anniversary of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture. This milestone deserves a bit of a fuss, so we will make one at the reception on May 6 and in other ways. In fact, I'm pictured here with EOA editor Guy Lancaster, recording an interview about the EOA to be aired on our weekly program Radio CALS. You can hear that interview Friday, May 6, at FM 88.3 between noon and 2:00 in Central Arkansas or at [KABF](#).

Just about every day, we hear from people who rely on the EOA as a dependable one-stop source for Arkansas history. We also receive many requests from people in other states who want to try to start something like the EOA. There are fine online encyclopedias in other states, but in states lacking one, planners look toward Arkansas for a model to emulate.

The success of the EOA owes to several factors. First is the bedrock commitment to reliability that has driven all EOA decision making from the beginning. EOA staff members, interns, graduate students, volunteers, and authors check their facts. If a mistake gets discovered, it gets fixed. That's very important. Second, the EOA's staff members have been dedicated, resourceful, and determined to make the EOA accessible, multi-faceted, and indispensable. Third, the EOA has had excellent financial and administrative support. From the very first money given to the project by Dolores Bruce to the terrific grant from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation to

the sizeable underwriting by the Arkansas Humanities Council, the Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the General Assembly of Arkansas, to grants and gifts from the Ross Foundation, the Dishongh Charitable Trust, Aristotle (which built the site and maintains it), the Carl Miller Foundation, the Tapestry Endowment, Tyson Foods, county and local history organizations, and many individuals, the EOA has received indispensable financial support. Just as important has been the support of the Butler Center's parent organization, the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS), the only library system in the nation to manage a state encyclopedia project. CALS is unique in this way, as in so many others, and



the support of the administration and board of trustees has been a key factor in keeping the EOA vibrant and growing.

If you'd like to see more about EOA supporters, click [here](#). At

the event on May 6, we will announce several developments, including news of the Tom W. Dillard EOA Endowment, to which you can contribute (see page 5). Two other pieces of good news will be shared, along with plans for enhancing the EOA. We hope to see you there!

I'm biased—I know—and I'm proud of *all* the work done by the staff of the Butler Center, but I'm especially proud of archival assistant Linda McDowell, who processed the James Logan Morgan papers described on pages 1 and 2, and of one of our librarians, Chris Stewart, who led our work on a significant new partnership that is creating digital access

ings. Other smaller microfilm newspaper runs will be uploaded soon, such as the *Nashville (AR) News*. All editions are pre-1923 and are in the public domain.


Researchers have free access to the papers provided by CALS, but remote access is not available without subscription. The database can be accessed from any computer on the CALS network. A link to the database can be found on the ASI

The *Butler eBanner* is the quarterly electronic newsletter of the **Butler Center for Arkansas Studies**, a department of the [Central Arkansas Library System](#)

**Mailing address**  
100 Rock St.  
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Physical address**  
Arkansas Studies Institute  
401 President Clinton Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
501.320.5700 • [arkininfo@cals.org](mailto:arkininfo@cals.org)  
[www.butlercenter.org](http://www.butlercenter.org)

Ali Welky: Editor  
Mike Keckhaver: Design



Spring 2016

to newspapers (see on this page, below), with search capability never available previously. The Morgan collection is a remarkable record of life in the Jackson County area, and Linda's work on that was truly extraordinary. And with a lot of help from CALS administrator Carol Coffey, Chris sorted through a myriad of challenges in getting our end of the newspaper deal together and soliciting partnerships with other institutions.

Finally, I have occasion to mark the passing of a true friend of Arkansas history, Dr. Tom Bruce. I hold him up as an example of selfless public service, visionary leadership, and personal generosity. It isn't often that someone gifted in the sciences or the medical profession is also keenly interested in history and in how it can enrich and enliven people's understandings of themselves and where they live. Dr. Bruce was just such a person, and we are deeply in his debt. ■

## Newspaper News

Researchers who visit the ASI Research Room will now have access to digital copies of the *Arkansas Gazette* (1819–1923) and the *Arkansas Democrat* (1878–1923) on [Newspapers.com](#). The digital copies were made from the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) microfilm hold-

Research Room public desktop computers. Other papers from the database can be accessed with a subscription to Newspapers.com (the Butler Center/CALS will also be requesting an institutional subscription). Researchers have the option of creating a set of clippings saved within a free registration on the Newspapers.com website. Otherwise, clippings or entire pages can be saved or printed directly. ■

# Arkansas History Mystery Solved

**W**as she or wasn't she a lawyer in Arkansas?

The mystery of whether or not a Pulaski County woman was the state's first female lawyer has finally been solved, thanks to historian Bernadette Cahill's decision to join a genealogy website—leading to the proof that she had long searched for.

The woman, Clara A. Cox McDiarmid, was so prominent a reformer that when she died in 1899, the *Arkansas Democrat* reported her funeral on its front page. She spent most of her life in Little Rock and is buried in Oakland Cemetery. She was reportedly a lawyer in her native Kansas, but she had to stop practicing when she moved to Arkansas in the 1860s, as women at the time were not allowed to be lawyers in this state.

"In my research, I found the attorney story relied on conflicting and unreliable information which raised questions about its truth," said Cahill. In her first search of McDiarmid's name in newspapers in [genealogybank.com](http://genealogybank.com), she solved the mystery—McDiarmid was *not* a lawyer in Arkansas.

"I concluded long ago that she was not an attorney, but that her contemporaries assumed she was because she wrote about law in the early 1890s. The truth is she studied a law course. I wish I'd been able to prove she was a lawyer, but I'm glad I've solved the mystery," Cahill said.

Cahill became interested in McDiarmid



*Clara McDiarmid; from The Congress of Women: Held in the Woman's Building, World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, U.S.A., 1893.*

mid after starting research in 2010 which ultimately became *Arkansas Women and the Right to Vote: The Little Rock Campaigns*, published by Butler Center Books in 2015. She wrote another book that includes Arkansas history, *Alice Paul, the National Woman's Party and the Vote: The First Civil Rights Struggle of the 20th Century* published in 2015 by McFarland of Jefferson, North Carolina. Her entry on [McDiarmid](#) appears online in the Encyclopedia of Arkansas.

To add a wrinkle to the story, one day after doing research in the *Arkansas Gazette* microfilms in the Main branch of the Central Arkansas Library System, Cahill noticed a house on Center Street with the McDiarmid name on it. Cahill

investigated further and found that the historic house in the Governor's Mansion District was originally the home of Clara McDiarmid, who figured in both the *Gazette* and *Democrat* stories of [women's campaign for the vote](#) in Little Rock. It was in this house that McDiarmid probably wrote the February 1888 letter that she sent to the Boston-based *Woman's Journal* to record the formation a few days before of the [Arkansas Woman Suffrage Association](#). She also hosted suffrage meetings there.

Information that continuously eluded Cahill was verification of the McDiarmid attorney story, plus confirmation that she had a law office in Little Rock outside which she hung up a shingle offering women free legal services—all pretty revolutionary at the time.

Cahill searched everywhere, including the records of the Michigan college where McDiarmid might have studied. The best clue was information in the *Little Rock Woman's Chronicle* in 1889, which said that McDiarmid was going to Ann Arbor, where her son would be studying law.

Testing her new membership at [genealogybank.com](http://genealogybank.com), Cahill searched for McDiarmid's name. Up popped a short item in the *Springfield Republican* of March 31, 1890, stating that McDiarmid was "taking a course of law at Ann Arbor while she is making a home for her son, who is taking the collegiate course." This note in the Massachusetts newspaper confirms information elsewhere from 1893 that indicates she only took a law course. It also explains the absence of evidence of her having qualified as a lawyer.

"I wasn't expecting anything like this to turn up," said Cahill, adding that this discovery is not the end of her research. "This doesn't mean the offer of free legal services for women is incorrect. Her son could have hung out the sign."

So far, in spite of extensive investigation into the history of buildings and otherwise, Cahill has had no luck confirming this part of the story. "I'd love to be able to unearth the truth," said Cahill. "The story of the sign is such an interesting detail I believe there's something behind it. I'm not prepared to write it off yet." ■

*Jewelry by Eleanor Lux of Eureka Springs, who has been selected as the 2016 Arkansas Living Treasure*



Butler Center Galleries • 401 President Clinton Ave. • Little Rock • (501) 320-5790

# 2016 AHA and PCHS Awards

Several Butler Center staff members and projects have won awards from the Arkansas Historical Association (AHA). The awards were presented at the AHA's annual conference in April 2016 in Little Rock.

The Butler Center's online collection [Arkansas and the Great War](#), spearheaded by Butler Center senior archivist Brian Robertson, won an award of merit.

Guy Lancaster, editor of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture, was named the winner of the inaugural John William Graves Book Award, which is

presented biennially by the AHA for the best book-length historical study (nonfiction) whose primary focus is any aspect of the history of race relations and African American history in Arkansas.

Lancaster also received the F. Hampton Roy Award from the Pulaski County Historical Society (PCHS) for his submitted paper to the Roy competition, "Before John Carter: Lynching and Mob Violence in Pulaski County, 1882–1906." His paper was published in the Spring 2016 issue of the *Pulaski County Historical Review*. Also presented at the PCHS's February meeting was the Peg Smith–Mary Worthen Award given to the author of the best *Review* article published in the preceding year. Bob Razer, Archie F. House

Fellow for Arkansas Bibliography at the Butler Center, received the award for his article "The Spirit of Those Times: Slavery and Arkansas's Methodist Church."

Other pieces published in the *Review* also won Walter L. Brown Awards from the AHA: Colin Woodward's "The Days before Dyess: Johnny Cash's Family" received a certificate for best family history, Bob Razer's "The Spirit of Those Times: Slavery and Arkansas's Methodist Church" received a certificate for best church history, and Christopher Dorer's "Little Italy: A Look Back" received a certificate for best community history.

The *Pulaski County Historical Review* is published in a partnership between the PCHS and the Butler Center. ■

## The EOA: Ten Years and Counting



A decade ago—on May 2, 2006, to be exact—the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture (EOA)

debuted to the public as a project of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) in Little Rock. At the time of its launch, this "work in progress" offered about 700 entries and 900 photos and other pieces of media. During its first month, the EOA had about 47,000 visits.

Major funding for the establishment of the EOA was provided by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation. Over the years, the EOA has received funding from the Department of Arkansas Heritage, the Arkansas General Assembly, the Arkansas Humanities Council, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, as well as donations from individuals, foundations, and organizations.

In 2009, the EOA won the Diamond Award from the Arkansas Historical Association. In 2013, the EOA was named a Notable Government Document of 2012 by the Government Documents Round Table of the American Library Association. In 2013, the mobile version of the website received an Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History. The EOA has also published two books: the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas Music* (Butler Center Books, 2013) and *Arkansas in Ink: Gunslingers, Ghosts, and Other Graphic Tales* (Butler Center Books, 2014).



The EOA has gotten bigger and better over the last ten years, but a lot remains the same. It is still the only state encyclopedia in the country to be produced by a library system, and it still strives to collect and disseminate information on all aspects of the state's history and culture and provide a comprehensive reference work for historians, teachers, students, and others seeking to understand and appreciate Arkansas's heritage.

The EOA now receives more than 1.6 million visits each year and is an oft-quoted resource for news organizations, from local newspapers to international outlets. As of 2016, the site offers more than 4,300 entries and more than 5,800 pieces of media, and users have hailed from every continent (including Antarctica) and 232 countries (including territories and autonomous provinces). CALS has pledged to keep the EOA in operation

in perpetuity, so this "work in progress" will keep progressing.

Please help the EOA celebrate this milestone! There will be a reception on the first floor of the ASI building in Little Rock on Friday, May 6, at 5:00 p.m. to honor past and present EOA staff members; the many EOA authors, reviewers, and other contributors who are responsible for the EOA's success over the years; and the project's myriad supporters and well-wishers. At 6:00, Butler Center manager David Stricklin and EOA editor Guy Lancaster will make a few remarks, including several announcements about what is coming up for the EOA. There will be libations, light hors d'oeuvres, and cake. The EOA's two books, the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas Music* and *Arkansas in Ink*, will be for sale at the event.

Spoiler alert: one of the announcements is that a fund created several years ago as an endowment named for EOA founding editor Tom Dillard has reached permanent endowment status. The goal is to add \$10,000 to the endowment in honor of ten great years. To make a tax-deductible donation to the endowment, visit the [donation page](#) and select "Tom Dillard EOA Endowment" from the list of donation options. Donation envelopes for cash or checks will also be available at the event.

The public is cordially invited to the May 6 reception. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. RSVP to [bcersvp@cals.org](mailto:bcersvp@cals.org) or (501) 320-5793. In your RSVP, indicate the total number of guests in your party, including yourself. ■

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## ... Butler Center Events in the Spotlight

In February, the Butler Center's Fiona Dudley gave a talk at the Arkansas Arts Center about photographer Dorothea Lange and the impact her work had in Arkansas. *Photo courtesy of Kelly Crow/Arkansas Arts Center*



Book launch party at the offices of author Roger Glasgow's law firm Wright Lindsey Jennings. Former Arkansas governor Jim Guy Tucker accepts a copy of Glasgow's book, *Down and Dirty Down South: Politics and the Art of Revenge* (Butler Center Books, 2016), before well wishers, including Ernie and Elaine Dumas. *Photo courtesy of Wright Lindsey Jennings.*



February's [Legacies & Lunch](#) featured Kyle Day discussing the Southern Manifesto.



In February, Arkansas Sounds hosted a tribute to Florence B. Price and William Grant Still, featuring a concert and a documentary screening. Pictured here is the ASO Youth Orchestra performing a work by Price.



Books purchased through a grant given to [BASE](#) (Books for Arkansas Students' Education), which is an innovative program from the Butler Center/CALS that provides free books to public schools across the state about Arkansas's natural, cultural, and political history.



In February, coeditors of the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas Music* (Butler Center Books, 2013), Ali Welky and Mike Keckhaver, spoke to members of the Music Teachers Association of Central Arkansas (MTACA). Left to right: Welky, Capital Keyboard owner Cece Rich, MTACA second vice president Kay Lindley, Little Rock Coterie president Nancy Griffin, Keckhaver, MTACA president Susan Robbins, and longtime MTACA member and nationally known composer Carolyn Setliff. *Photo courtesy of Kay Lindley*

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March's Arkansas Sounds concert featured the Lyon College Pipe Band (*pictured here*) and Lark in the Morning.



March's [Legacies & Lunch](#) featured retiring CALS director Bobby Roberts (*right*) being interviewed by Skip Rutherford.



For April's [Legacies & Lunch](#), Butler Center Books author Nancy Hendricks discussed her book *Notable Women of Arkansas: From Hattie to Hillary, 100 Names to Know* (Butler Center Books, 2016).



Joshua and Mary Swift, whose personal collection *Photographic Arts: African American Studio Photography* from the Joshua & Mary Swift Collection was featured in Concordia Hall from October to March, pose in front of several photographs from the collection.



April's Arkansas Sounds concert offered a retrospective celebration of the career of Bob Boyd. Boyd is shown playing the accordion.



Chris Parker playing at the Terry Library on February 11 for Sounds in the Stacks.

# Butler Center Resources Play Part in New Veterans' Project

The Central Arkansas Library System (CALS) has received one of seventeen national grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) for *Fiction & Fact: A War Dialogue with Veterans*, a two-year project to be offered beginning in fall 2016. Over the two years, the grant of \$99,772 will fund the project, which provides opportunities for veterans to reflect on the war and homecoming experiences through various activities, including facilitated discussions based on different humanities sources: books, art, film, museum exhibits, oral histories, and blogs.

"Through *Fiction & Fact*, CALS has the wonderful opportunity to offer innovative programming for veterans utilizing the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies' extensive Korean and Vietnam War materials. By bolstering the war-related offerings at the 2017 and 2018 Arkansas Literary Festivals and producing a new film screening series augmented by hu-

manities scholar panels in the Ron Robinson Theater, CALS reinforces its vital commitment to serve the general public with thoughtful, free events. We're simply thrilled that the NEH has entrusted CALS to undertake such a significant, worthy project," notes Brad Mooy, CALS's Arkansas Literary Festival coordinator and assistant director for the *Fiction & Fact* project.

Specific issues to be explored include the nature of duty, heroism, suffering, loyalty, and patriotism. Project director Dr. Alex Vernon, who is a professor of English at Hendrix College, says, "The opportunity to discuss artistic and testimonial accounts of war with other veterans will be enormously gratifying. There's no single veteran perspective, and we'll all bring different ideas to the table and take new reflections with us. Thinking about a war story that isn't one's own offers the power of connection as well as the liberty of emotional dis-

tance and imaginative engagement. It's going to be great."

The Butler Center's online collection about the Vietnam War can be found [here](#), and its collection about the Korean War can be found [here](#). Brian Robertson, the Butler Center's senior archivist and manager of the Research Services division, says, "We are excited about the opportunity to use the Butler Center's resources to connect veterans and assist them in sharing their experiences. This project will provide the veterans with greater insight into their shared experiences, and it will also facilitate a greater understanding of their sacrifices by non-veterans. We are gratified to be part of such a special project."

For more information on the many activities surrounding *Fiction & Fact*, email Brad Mooy at [bmooy@cals.org](mailto:bmooy@cals.org) or call him at (501) 918-3098. Additional information about the NEH and its grant programs is available [here](#). ■

## Socialism in Arkansas

By Guy Lancaster, editor of the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture*

The presidential campaign of Vermont senator Bernie Sanders has raised a lot of eyebrows, given that he openly embraces the mantle of "democratic socialism." Though other nations regularly elect socialist politicians, political elites in the United States tend to eschew such collectivist politics, and the candidacy of Senator Sanders is thought to be dead-on-arrival in more conservative states such as Arkansas. However, the Natural State has its own socialist heritage.

The Populist movement in Arkansas provided a seedbed for later [Socialist Party](#) activism. The state's first socialist organization, though short-lived, was established in 1898, the same year that [Winfield Scott Morgan](#) ran for governor on the [People's Party](#) ticket. A second wave of socialism soon rose in the state, and Morgan became greatly involved, writing for a St. Louis-based socialist periodical in the 1910s. While there were a number of members in Little Rock, the real base of Socialist Party activity was the coal fields of western Arkansas,

where unions such as the United Mine Workers provided a strong membership base. Lawyer [Dan Hogan](#) started the socialist newspaper *Southern Worker* there, and his daughter, [Freda Hogan Ameringer](#), became secretary of the Socialist Party of Arkansas in 1914, advocating also for women's suffrage. [Bertha Hale King](#), who graduated from high school in Fort Smith and worked with Dan Hogan, later moved to Chicago and worked her way up the party ranks to become the national executive secretary.

The Socialist Party's opposition to World War I damaged its electoral chances in an era of increased militarism, and [Clay Fulks](#), the party's candidate for governor in 1918, secured fewer than 5,000 votes statewide. The interwar period witnessed a resurgent interest in socialism after national party leader Norman Thomas visited Arkansas and encouraged the development of a sharecroppers' union that would become the [Southern Tenant Farmers' Union](#). However, the fortunes of the political party did not fare so well, with the 1936 socialist candidate

for governor, J. Russell Butler, receiving only 733 votes statewide.

Arkansas does not currently have an organized Socialist Party, but that does not mean that some Arkansans are not still out there campaigning under its banner. [Mary Cal Hollis](#), a native of Pine Bluff, was the national Socialist Party's candidate for president in 1996 and vice president in 2000. ■

### Genealogy Workshop 2016

Sat., July 23, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

(Doors open at 9 a.m.)

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

100 River Market Ave.

*This event is free, and registration is not required.*

Archivist Ketina Taylor will discuss working with records in the National Archives (including military records), accessing Native American records at the National Archives and elsewhere, and proper handling and storage of family documents and photos. The program will close with a Q&A session.

Click [here](#) for more information.



George West presenting information on the Memory Project at the national conference of the Southern Historical Association (hosted by the UALR History Department) on November 14, 2015. Photo courtesy of Dr. Kristin Mann, UALR

# Education News

By George West, Butler Center education outreach coordinator

## Student-Produced Civil Rights Memory Project

A team of high school students at historic Central High in Little Rock is collecting, preserving, and interpreting oral history about civil rights in Arkansas, the nation, and other countries. Over the past thirteen years, this student group—called the Memory Project Team—has created a website, published two books of interview essays, and produced a readers’ theater and spoken-word poetry performances based on the stories. The Butler Center has been a community sponsor of the Memory Project Team, dating back to co-publishing the team’s first book of family interview essays in 2010, *Beyond Central, Toward Acceptance: A Collection of Oral Histories from Students of Little Rock Central High*.

The Butler Center recently organized two training workshops led by Memory Project students, at the national conference of the Southern Historical Association (hosted by the UALR History Department on November 14, 2015) and at the annual statewide conference of AGATE: Arkansas Gifted and Talented Education (in Hot Springs on February 11, 2016.) This spring, the Memory Project students are editing a script for a podcast/walking tour called *Voices of Civil Rights: The 1<sup>st</sup> Day at Central High*. The script will be shared with teachers and school librarians coming to the Butler Center’s fourth annual Summer Seminar in June (see below), which will focus on Pulitzer Prize winners and nominees

with Arkansas connections. Among that list are several journalists honored for their coverage of the historic 1957 desegregation of Central High. The script will be recorded by students with help from CALS programs and the CALS Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library and Learning Center. The script will then be used for an audio walking tour by visitors to the historic Central High site.

## Summer Seminar—Words That Matter: Pulitzer Prize Authors with Arkansas Connections

The Butler Center and the Arkansas Humanities Council are offering an exciting opportunity for professional development for fourth–twelfth-grade teachers and school librarians in Arkansas. The seminar is part of a national Pulitzer Prize Boards Centennial Campfires Initiative celebrating 100 years of the Pulitzer Prize. The Pulitzer authors featured in the seminar are listed [here](#).

This fourth annual summer seminar for teachers will be held at the Butler Center June 9 and 10, 2016, in the Arkansas Studies Institute building on the CALS Main Library campus. The sessions will start at 9:00 a.m. Thursday and run through 1:30 p.m. Friday. Participants will develop lesson plans for their grade and subject area, including student-produced “Pulitzer Podcasts”—featuring the students’ selection and reading of “words that matter and why” by Arkansas’s Pulitzer Prize authors. These podcasts will

be shared at the [Arkansas History Hub](#), hosted by the Butler Center.

The workshop sessions will give teachers background materials on the Pulitzer authors and related historical documents that can be turned into hands-on, project-based lesson plans. Participants will leave with starter kits for lesson plans that include passages by the Pulitzer authors, related historical documents, samples of projects students can produce and share as teaching resources for other classrooms, and links to other online materials.

Arkansas teachers of social studies, English language arts, and drama and communication, as well as school librarians, for grades 4–12 who will be active during the 2016–17 school year are eligible to apply, especially those who teach the following or related courses: Arkansas History (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>); U.S. History (8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, APUSH); Civics & U.S. Government; English (11<sup>th</sup>); Communications/Speech; Drama; Creative Writing; English/Language Arts; Social Studies; and G&T (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>). Participants will earn 12 hours of professional credit.

## To Register for the Seminar

Thanks to the Arkansas Humanities Council and its Pulitzer Centennial Initiative, **this training event is free to Arkansas teachers and school librarians**—and includes lodging and food, as well as teaching materials. Additional support is provided by the Arkansas Historical Association. To make the seminar possible for educators outside of central Arkansas, the Arkansas Humanities Council is providing a block of 20 suites for Thursday night at a hotel in the River Market District. Teachers will be asked to share a suite with another participant.

To request a spot, email a brief note to [George West](#) telling the grade level and subject(s) you teach or work with and how this seminar’s material could enrich your classroom curriculum. Please indicate if you will be willing to share your lesson plan and sample student works on the Arkansas History Hub. Also let us know if you will need lodging and if you are willing to share a suite as described. The seminar is limited to 48 participants. For more information, contact West at [gwest@cals.org](mailto:gwest@cals.org) or (501) 320-5713. ■



## THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY & CULTURE

### WANTED: AUTHORS AND MEDIA

We need entries, photographs, documents, videos, maps, and audio clips to help make the EOA the most comprehensive and engaging resource on Arkansas history.

#### Entries Needing Media (photographs, etc.):

American Missionary Association  
American Taekwondo Association (ATA)  
Amish  
Beryl Franklin Anthony Jr. (1938–)  
Anthony Timberlands, Inc.  
Arkansas Academy of Science  
Arkansas AFL-CIO  
Arkansas Chamber Singers  
Arkansas Craft Guild  
Arkansas Diamonds [Football Team]  
Arkansas Methodist Medical Center  
Arkansas Press Association  
Arkansas Right to Life  
Arkansas Wildlife Federation  
Audubon Arkansas  
Hubert Carl (Hugh) Ashley (1915–2008)  
Annie Mae Bankhead  
Black Fork Mountain Wilderness  
Thomas Boles (1937–1905)  
Irma Hunter Brown  
Stephen Brundidge Jr. (1857–1938)  
Rodger Bumpass (1951–)  
Veronica Campbell-Brown (1982–)  
Carden Bottom  
William Henderson Cate (1839–1899)  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Civil Air Patrol Arkansas Wing  
Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Communist Party  
William Fado Cravens (1899–1974)  
Criminal Justice Institute  
Delta Symposium  
*Die Goldsucher von Arkansas* [Movie]  
Dollarway Road  
Poindexter Dunn (1834–1914)

John Edwards (1815–1894)  
James Thomas Elliott (1823–1875)  
Barry Lee Fairchild (Trial and Execution of)  
Far West Seminary  
Lewis Porter Featherstone (1851–1922)  
Jay C. Flippen (1899–1971)  
John Charles Floyd (1858–1930)  
Lucien Coatsworth Gause (1836–1880)  
D. D. Glover (1868–1952)  
Hershel Wayne Gober (1936–)  
William Shields Goodwin (1866–1937)  
Governor's Mansion  
Graham (Independence County)  
Thomas Montague Gunter (1826–1904)  
Harmonial Vegetarian Society  
Jeffrey Hawkins  
James Hinds (1833–1868)  
Hmong  
Kaneaster Hodges Jr. (1938–)  
William Judson Holloway (1888–1970)  
Alpha Rex Emmanuel Humbard (1919–2007)  
William Joseph Hynes (1843–1915)  
I-30 Speedway  
Island 37  
Charlotte Moorman (1933–1991)  
Norristown Cemetery  
Ozark Foothills FilmFest  
Tilman Bacon Parks (1872–1950)  
Pentecostal Church of God  
Pfeiffer (Independence County)  
Pine Bluff Film Festival  
Hiram Heartsill Ragon (1884–1940)  
James Byron Reed (1881–1935)  
Charles Chester Reid (1868–1922)  
Benjamin Franklin Rice (1828–1905)  
William (Willie) Roaf (1970–)

Anthony Astley Cooper Rogers (1821–1899)  
Lewis Ernest Sawyer (1867–1923)  
William Ferguson Slemons (1830–1918)  
Oliver P. Snyder (1833–1882)  
Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV)  
George Lloyd Spencer (1893–1981)  
Boyd Anderson Tackett (1911–1985)  
John "Big John" Tate (1955–1998)  
Chester William Taylor (1883–1931)  
Samuel Mitchell Taylor (1852–1921)  
William Leake Terry (1850–1917)  
Whittling  
James William Trimble (1894–1972)  
Trucking Industry  
James David Walker (1830–1906)  
Edward Allen Warren (1818–1875)  
If you have photos or other media, please contact Mike Keckhaver at [mkeckhaver@encyclopediaofarkansas.net](mailto:mkeckhaver@encyclopediaofarkansas.net)

#### Entries Needing Authors:

Act 76 of 1983 (a.k.a. Teacher Testing Law)  
Oliver Baker  
ReShonda Tate Billingsley  
Willie Davis  
Ernest Joshua  
Edward Moore Jr.  
Herwald H. Morton  
J. Donald Rice  
Fatima Robinson  
Lavenski Smith  
Sheryl Underwood

If you would like to write one of these entries, please contact Guy Lancaster at [glancaster@encyclopediaofarkansas.net](mailto:glancaster@encyclopediaofarkansas.net)

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# Inside Our eCollections

This feature of the *Butler eBanner* invites readers to click their way into our many digital resources. In honor of the EOA's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we will look back at some of our favorite April Fools Day entries from years past—on the heels of this year's entry on the disastrous [Gospel Bridges Relay Race](#) of 2011.



[Ouachitater Buffaloes](#) The first April Fools entry after the EOA launched in May 2006 featured a group of water buffaloes presented to Arkansas by officials in the Vietnamese government as an overture of peace and reconciliation between Vietnam and the United States.



[Woo Pig Brie](#) April Fools 2012 featured the delectable Woo Pig Brie, a pig's milk cheese produced in Arkansas starting in 1969 and a licensed product of the University of Arkansas, the name being a pun on the famous "hog call"—Woo Pig Sooie—associated with UA's Razorbacks football team.



[Elija Caesar Swann](#) (1848–1919) Profiled in April 2014 was Elija Caesar Swann, a Confederate soldier who achieved national fame for his refusal to surrender to federal authorities for over three decades following the end of the Civil War.



BUTLER CENTER  
FOR ARKANSAS STUDIES



[Bartleby Clown College](#) This entry, from 2008 on the short-lived institution in Jonesboro for the training of clowns and other circus performers is probably the most beloved (and believed) of all the EOA's April Fools Day entries.



[Possum of Tomorrow Program](#) In 2009, the April Fools Day entry shed light on a failed program developed by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture in the early 1950s to encourage the breeding of opossums (commonly referred to as possums) for mass human consumption.