

# The Butler eBanner

## Newsletter of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Summer 2016

### Art Exhibitions

Sept. 9–Sept. 30, 2016

#### Butler Center Concordia Hall

Artwork from the ACANSA Arts Festival, which encourages public appreciation of the arts, showcases and increases awareness of the arts in the region, and enriches the state.

Sept. 9–Dec. 31, 2016

#### Butler Center Underground Gallery

A quilt exhibition from Studio Art Quilt Associates, Inc. (SAQA), which promotes the art quilt through education, exhibitions, professional development, documentation, and publications.

Oct. 14, 2016–Jan. 28, 2017

#### Butler Center Concordia Hall

Artwork created by famous portrait artist Adrian Brewer and other members of his family.

Opening Oct. 14, 2016

#### Butler Center West Gallery

*Fired Up: Arkansas Wood-Fired Ceramics*, an exhibition of functional and sculptural ceramics created with traditional wood fired techniques.

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

### Arkansas Sounds

Fri., Aug. 5, 7:00 p.m.

#### Jim Mize

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

Jim Mize—nationally acclaimed singer, songwriter, and guitarist—will perform his original music, described by the *Arkansas Times* as “electric, regionally inflected redneck rock with glimpses of a kind of vulnerability that is frightening and adult”—\$10.

Fri., Sept. 9, 7:00 p.m.

#### Walter Henderson Group

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

Little Rock trumpeter Walter Henderson and his group play an evening of jazz—\$10.

Fri., Oct. 7, 7:00 p.m.

#### Wayland Holyfield & Randy Goodrum

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

Two of Arkansas's most successful songwriters perform their numerous Top 40 pop and country hits—\$15.

More events on page 2.

## Encyclopedia of Arkansas Moves into the Future

As the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture (EOA) enters its eleventh year in cyberspace, some plans for improvements are in the works to take advantage of new technology, bringing the historic information and media gathered during the past decade to the next level.

Some planned improvements are technical upgrades (including some cutting-edge digital features) and some modernizing cosmetic alterations. The upgrades will include a responsive redesign so the EOA will automatically adjust to the size and aspect ratio of any device, as well as enhanced GPS capabilities so people traveling around the state will find EOA entries on sites in the areas they're visiting.

An exciting new digital feature will include an “enhanced-reality” video experience using the technology presented to the



*Image courtesy of Aristotle*

public at the EOA 10th anniversary event; this video experience allows users to stand in front of, for instance, the Old State House, and see superimposed photos of Union soldiers on the lawn—or visitors to Central High could see videos of the Little Rock Nine actually moving through the space as they did in 1957. What will be called the

*Cont. on page 2*

## Eliza Ashley Papers Open to Researchers

Eliza Jane Burnett Dodson Ashley was born in Pettus Township in Lonoke County on the Oldham Plantation on October 11, 1917—the daughter of William Burnett and Eliza Johnson Burnett. As Eliza was given the same name as her mother, she was often referred to as Liza or Janie.

Although Eliza had spent some time in Little Rock with her mother as a teen, she

was working on the Oldham Plantation when she married Calvin Dodson in 1933. The couple's only child together, Louis Calvin Dodson, was born in Little Rock in 1951. Her second marriage was in 1960 to Fred Ashley.

Eliza Ashley learned to cook at a young age from her grandmother, who was the cook at the Oldham Planation. When her grandmother died, Ashley took over. She left plantation life in 1942 and worked several jobs before taking a position at the Arkansas Governor's Mansion in 1954 under Governor Francis Cherry's administration. She began work in the fall and remained employed when the family left the mansion in December 1955. When Governor Orval Faubus and his wife, Alta, took residence of the mansion in 1955, Henry Scribner was the head cook, with Ashley filling in on his days off. However, Mrs. Faubus insisted on a female cook and Eliza assumed the duties. During the Rockefeller administration (1967–1971), Governor Winthrop Rockefeller came to the mansion with his own personal chef, with Ashley again filling in on off days.

Ashley's smile, enduring personality, and loyalty

*Cont. on page 2*



*Cont. from EOA Future, p. 1*

Arkansas Time Traveler App is a mobile experience of the rich history and heritage of Arkansas through virtual reality and multimedia. Digital agency [Aristotle](#) is collaborating with the Butler Center to develop this revolutionary app, the first

of its kind in the United States. To get an idea of how the technology will work, take a look at the [video](#) Aristotle created.

Help make history as the EOA becomes part of a dynamic mobile experience. You can make a tax-deductible gift to: CALS/EOA, 100 Rock St., Little Rock, AR

72201 (make checks payable to CALS Foundation, with EOA on the memo line) or use the [Contribute](#) tab at the Butler Center website to make a credit card donation. Choose EOA/Arkansas Time Traveler Upgrade from the drop-down menu under “Apply My Gift To.” ■

*Cont. from Ashley Papers, p. 1*

alty won the hearts of Arkansas’s first families and anyone who came into contact with her at the mansion. She spent at least thirty-six years there, and thirty-five as the cook (later called food production manager). Over the years, she created meals for formal dinners, banquets, receptions, and holiday affairs. She fed governors and their families, dignitaries, celebrities, senators, and first and second ladies of the United States. In 1985, Ashley released a book co-written by Carolyn Huber, mansion administrator during Governor Bill Clinton’s time in office. The book, titled *Thirty Years at the Mansion*, was published by August House Publishers of Little Rock. Ashley traveled to book signings, made guest appearances on cooking shows, and was interviewed nationally by CNN and on *Good Morning America*.

Beginning with the Faubus administration, Eliza’s birthday in October was cel-

ebrated at the mansion with great fanfare. She retired as mansion cook in December 1990 under the Clinton administration. First families maintained close connections with Eliza throughout the years, even successors who came after her retirement.

Because of her service to the state, “Eliza Jane Ashley Day” was proclaimed on December 20, 1974, by then-Governor Dale Bumpers; she was given the key to the city of Lonoke in 1986; “Liza Ashley Day” was declared in North Little Rock on August 25, 1994, by Mayor Patrick Hays; and she was made “Countess of Pulaski” on October 12, 1997, by County Judge Floyd G. “Buddy” Villines III.

In addition to her professional life, Ashley was an American Legion Veteran Affairs volunteer and chaplain, a member of the Sunshine Charity Club (affiliated with the National Council of Negro Women), and active church member who served on the usher board of Canaan

Missionary Baptist (formally Collins Temple) in Little Rock. She moved to California sometime after her ninetieth birthday.

The Eliza Ashley Collection, consisting of two series, contains personal papers, memorabilia, news clippings, correspondence, special invitations, campaign material, and scrapbooks. As Ashley was known for her stylish dress and love of hats, the collection also includes two hats—one gifted by Hillary Clinton and the other by Willie Oates. The collection also consists of photos capturing Ashley’s everyday life and numerous activities; images of other African American staff members who served the mansion from the 1950s and beyond; and candid shots of Ashley’s annual holiday visits to the White House during the Clinton presidency. The collection can be accessed in the Research Room of the Arkansas Studies Institute building, and the finding aid is available online [here](#). ■

### Legacies & Lunch (Noon – 1 p.m.)

Wed., Aug. 3

#### Main Library Darragh Center

Dent Gitchel and Judge Mary McGowan will discuss *Gridiron*, a biannual musical spoof of Arkansas people and politics. The Butler Center’s collections include *Gridiron* materials, and some will be on display. *Gridiron* is performed by a group of local lawyers and others associated with the legal profession and will be presented at The Rep August 2–6, 2016. Tickets are available [here](#).

Wed., Sept. 7

#### Main Library Darragh Center

William B. Jones—author, attorney, and teacher—will talk about his novella *Petit Jean: A Wilderness Adventure*, to be published in September 2016.

Wed., Oct. 5

#### Main Library Darragh Center

Attorney and author Roger Glasgow will discuss his book *Down and Dirty Down South: Politics and the Art of Revenge*, published by Butler Center Books in March 2016.

### A Prized Evening

Thurs., Oct. 27, 6:00 p.m.

#### Main Library Darragh Center

Celebrate the recipients of the Porter Prize and the Booker Worthen Literary Prize.

#### Finding Family Facts

A free genealogy course  
Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10; 3:30–5:00  
ASI building, Room 204



## Gifts by Arkansas Artists at Butler Center Galleries

Butterfly Plate: Julie Holt, pottery, lives in Little Rock.

Citrus Peel Necklace Earring Set: Pati Trippel, jewelry, lives in Hot Springs.

Watercolor: David Paul Cook, painting, lives in Maumelle.

Monday–Saturday 9–6

401 President Clinton Ave. • Little Rock  
(501) 320-5790 • [www.butlercenter.org/art](http://www.butlercenter.org/art)

# A Word from the Center

David Stricklin, Manager of the Butler Center

As you can see, we're enjoying another summer of full-blast activity. A couple of annual events have wrapped up successfully: the seminar for educators under the guidance of George West and the genealogy workshop planned by Rhonda Stewart, Chris Stewart, Brian Robertson, Kate Chagnon, and others of our staff and taught by Ketina Taylor of the National Archives and Records Administration. The regular pattern continues for our monthly events, with big crowds for Legacies & Lunch (Kate Chagnon again) and our monthly Arkansas Sounds Concert Series (John Miller), along with the usual good-sized turnout for Second Friday Art Night (Colin Thompson and Shannon Holmes and their colleagues). New books are out (Rod Lorenzen), including one on Arch Ford by Cindy Burnett Beckman. New collections keep coming in (Brian Robertson and his colleagues). The EOA keeps growing (Guy Lancaster and colleagues). Radio CALS (Glenn Whaley, CALS community outreach leader Lee Ann Hoskyn, and a bunch of other people) keeps cranking out weekly broadcasts (more about that below). In short, the normal amount of spectacular

work is going on—no slacking off just because it's summer.

We've been gratified by the response to the tenth anniversary of the EOA and to the accompanying drive to build up the Tom Dillard Endowment for the EOA. Thanks, donors. We'll be working on this throughout the year and beyond, so if you haven't given yet, get in touch with us. It's a nice way to honor Tom for his visionary leadership in Arkansas history, which, among many other things, helped give us the EOA itself.

Radio CALS is on the radio at 88.3 FM every Friday from noon to 2:00. You can also check out the [Radio CALS](#) website to enjoy podcasts of episodes. You can also get them on iTunes [here](#). And while you're at it, take a peek at the [Butler Center Blog](#) for more details of what is included in each show. We're creating new content every week and pulling it out of the broadcasts so it can be enjoyed any time by people who were unable to listen to the show live. And we are working on a map (UALR public history graduate student Josh Couch) for people who want to visit the great eating places Rex Nelson and Paul Austin describe in their weekly feature "Chewing the Fat with Rex and

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

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Summer 2016

Paul." Rex and Paul are asking when we're going to start a line of merchandise for them. Their favorite idea so far is a "Chewing the Fat" apron with simulated gravy stains on it. As I said, it's summer. It's hot. We're going full-blast. But sometimes we just have to wait and see when an idea's time has come. We'll see. ■

## Summer Support for the Butler Center

Summer is generally a time of rest and relaxation, especially for students, but some interns and student workers at the Butler Center are taking another route, helping with projects while developing skills they will take into their professional lives. Learn more about some of these dedicated workers and what they've been up to this summer:

Keeley Wooten, from Calico Rock, is a senior at Lyon College in Batesville. She is working in the manuscripts department, sorting through the Pulaski County Bar Association's *Gridiron* Collection. This year is the *Gridiron* show's 100th anniversary, and she is helping find some noteworthy materials for the association to use in its promotions and its upcoming Legacies & Lunch presentation on August 3. She has learned a lot about research and using archives, especially

finding ways to use varied forms of technology to access resources.

Chasiti Summons, from Little Rock, is a student at Little Rock Central High. A student intern working in the genealogy department with genealogy/local history specialist Rhonda Stewart, she is helping file papers and reshelve books. While working at the Butler Center, she has learned how to stay organized and has discovered some family history.

Ciara Madden (*pictured here labeling microfilm*) originally from Pontiac, Michigan, but now living in Little Rock, is a sophomore at Grambling State University in Louisiana. In her third year working with Rhonda Stewart in the genealogy department, she has learned how to be organized, correctly shelve books, and file articles and important papers. She has also found a lot of information



about her family.

Zach Nicholson, from Cabot, is a master's student in world history at Arkansas Tech University. He is working for the Encyclopedia of Arkansas, fact checking prospective entries to make sure that the sources are accurate and relevant. He has learned about researching in a local database and how that can broaden the scope of one's understanding of local history. Being able to access documents that can't be found anywhere else has allowed him to learn a lot more about Arkansas and how public historians work.

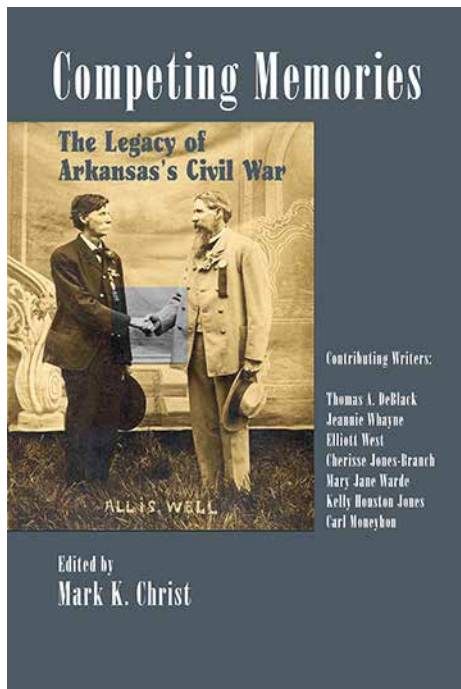
Abigail Lee, from Fayetteville, is a senior.  
*Cont. on page 5*

## New from Butler Center Books



Butler Center Books, the publishing division of the Central Arkansas Library System, adds three new titles this fall to its impressive catalog of books on Arkansas history.

Mark Christ, who has edited and written more than a dozen books on the Civil War, has compiled a new collection of essays titled *Competing Memories: The Legacy of Arkansas's Civil War* (available in September), which collects the

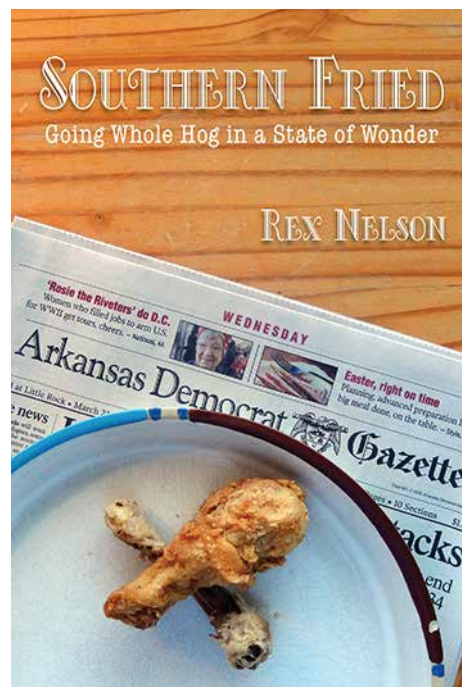


proceedings of the final seminar sponsored by the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, which sought to define the lasting impact that the nation's deadliest conflict had on the state by bringing together some of the state's leading historians. While the sesquicentennial commemoration held between 2011 and 2015 highlighted the Civil War events that occurred in the state and honored the people who experienced the war in Arkansas, the question of the war's significance to modern Arkansas remained. The essays provide a compelling account of how America's bloodiest war continues to affect Arkansas and its people today.

In November, we will publish *Southern Fried: Going Whole Hog in a State of Wonder*, a collection of columns by Rex Nelson, one of the state's most high-profile writers and speakers. With a long

career in government, journalism, and public affairs, he has become an expert on Southern history, culture, and politics and has appeared on radio and television stations across the country. Nelson—who is senior vice president, director of corporate community relations for Simmons Bank—writes a weekly column for the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* and is the author of the popular “[Southern Fried](#)” blog; he also appears with Paul Austin on [Radio CALS](#) each week in a segment called “Chewing the Fat with Rex and Paul.”

In this collection of columns from the *Democrat-Gazette*, Nelson brings to life the personalities, communities, festivals, and tourist attractions that make Arkansas unique. As he says, “Arkansas is a

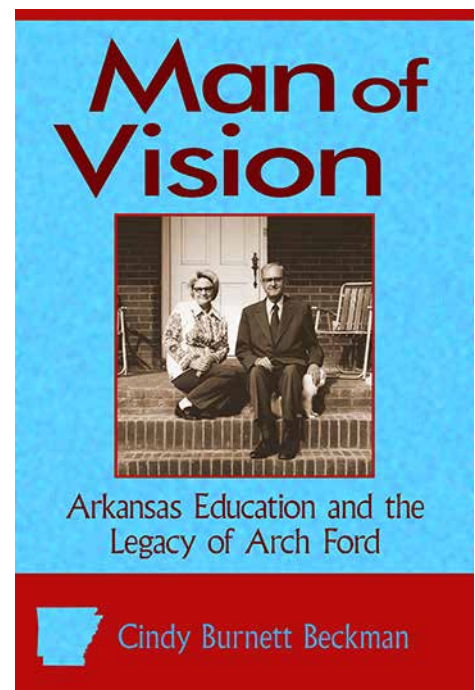


hard place to explain to outsiders. We're mostly Southern but also a bit Midwestern and a tad Southwestern. The Ozarks are different from the pine woods of the Gulf Coastal Plain, and the Delta is different from the Ouachitas. Invariably, though, those who take the time to get off the main roads and get to know the real Arkansas are entranced by the place.”

Finally, now available is *Man of Vision: Arkansas Education and the Legacy of Arch Ford* by Cindy Burnett Beckman. This biography profiles Arch

Ford, longtime commissioner of the Arkansas Department of Education and the man who brought Arkansas education into the modern era.

Ford believed education was the foundation for improving people's lives. Throughout his career, he campaigned for increased educational funding, better-qualified teachers, and higher teachers' salaries. Ford helped lead the state in peacefully integrating its schools and established twenty-three vocational-technical schools across the state. During Ford's tenure, the Arkansas Children's Colony was established to provide educational services to people with developmental disabilities, and the Arkansas Educational Television Network was set up to provide instructional programming across the state. The state also expanded educational opportunities to include kin-



dergarten, special education, community colleges, and adult education. His leadership left Arkansas with a strong educational system that continued to advance. This was his legacy.



Butler Center Books, which publishes six books a year, is funded solely through sales of its books and donations from the public. Donations may be made through the [Butler Center](#) by clicking on the Con-

tribute tab. Butler Center Books has more than fifty titles in print and available to order. For a complete list, click [here](#). Our books are available in bookstores, including River Market Books & Gifts on the Main Library campus in Little Rock at (501) 918-3093; from major online retailers; and from our distributor at (800) 621-2736. Your purchase of our books as well as your donations will help ensure that we continue to bring you the best in Arkansas history. For purchasing information, click [here](#).



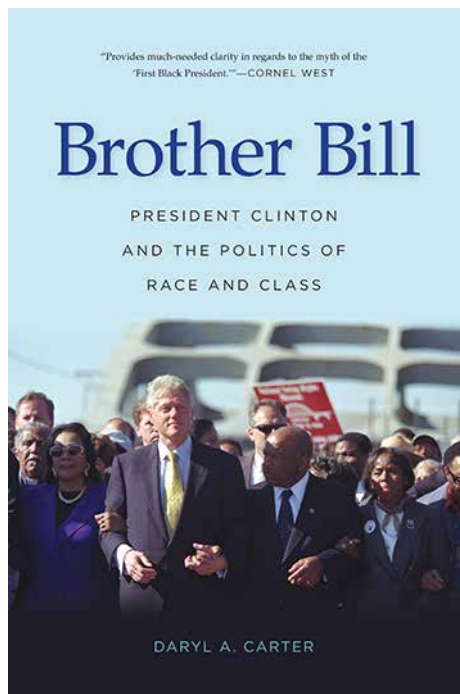
The University of Arkansas Press will also present new Arkansas-related titles this fall. Butler Center Books and the University of Arkansas Press share the mission of publishing works on the history and culture of Arkansas and the South. Two new books from UA Press, *Brother Bill* and *United States District Courts and Judges of Arkansas, 1836–1960*, will be of particular interest to those who study important figures in Arkansas history.

***Brother Bill: President Clinton and the Politics of Race and Class* by Daryl A. Carter**

President Bill Clinton long enjoyed the support of African Americans during his political career, but the man from Hope also had a complex and tenuous relationship with this part of his political base.

*Cont. from Summer Support, p. 3*  
nior at Hendrix College in Conway, majoring in religious studies and minoring in classics. She is primarily working with Butler Center Art Administrator Colin Thompson, while also working on other projects, such as BASE Books and programming and outreach efforts. She has learned about what goes into managing an art collection and putting on exhibitions, including displaying and handling art and being aware of measurements and how to work with limited space.

Christian Leus, from Altheimer, attends Hendrix College. Working in the Butler Center's archival collections, she is creating indexes for home movies from Arkansas families, describing and tagging their largely undocumented content. This summer, she has learned the histories of



Clinton stood at the nexus of intense political battles between conservatives' demands for a return to the past and African Americans' demands for change and fuller equality. *Brother Bill* examines President Clinton's political relationship with African Americans at the end of the twentieth century, an era of technological, political, and social upheaval.

***United States District Courts and Judges of Arkansas, 1836–1960*, edited by Frances Mitchell Ross**

The essays in this book—one each for a judge and his decisions—come together to form a chronological history of the Arkansas judicial system as it grew from its

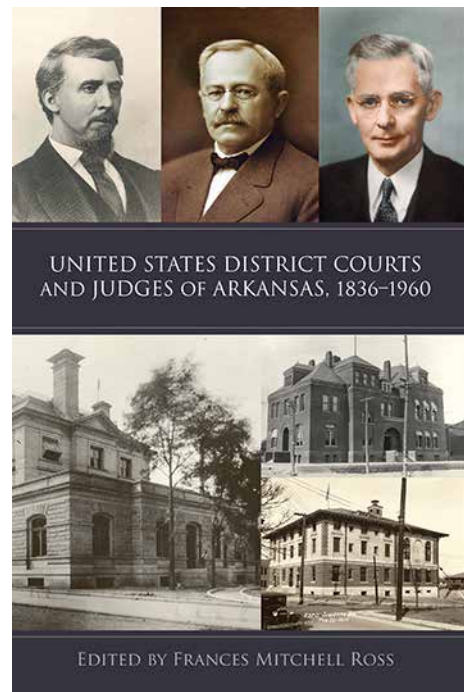
these films, as well as the skills necessary to document those histories to help future researchers.

Josh Couch, working toward a master's in public history at UALR, has assisted in the galleries, created a database for an interactive map for the "Chewing the Fat" segment of Radio CALS, and helped organize archival materials. He has gained hands-on experience and has seen how a history-related public institution is promoted, managed, and utilized.

Also assisting with Butler Center efforts this summer were students from the Little Rock Central High School Civil Rights Memory Project. These volunteers helped with a project that became part of the Butler Center's Summer Seminar on June 9–10: *Words That Matter: Pulitzer Prize Authors with Arkansas*

beginnings in a frontier state to a modern institution. This book relates to Arkansas legal and judicial history as it intersects with the local and national issues that came before these judges.

Contributors to this collection include judges, practicing attorneys, academics, and thoughtful and informed family members who reveal how the judges made decisions on issues involving elec-



tion laws, taxes, civil rights, railroads, liquor and prohibition, quack medicine, gangsters, bankruptcy, personal injury, the draft and Selective Service, school desegregation, prisons, and more. ■

*Connections.* The students researched, edited, and created a script for a walking tour to recreate the experience—in spoken and written words—of the infamous "1st Day at Central High" (September 4, 1957). Student volunteers working on the project were Senior Editors: Jessie Bates, Julia Greer, Morgan Hibbard, Zoie Moore, Tristram Thompson, Zia Tollette, and Angela Wang, as well as Contributing Editors: Ethan Dial, Olivia Igwe, Jamee McAdoo, and Norel McAdoo.

Copies of the script are available from [George West](#), the Butler Center's education outreach coordinator. The student team is currently producing an audio version of the walking tour.

The Butler Center is grateful to have benefited from the talents of these incredible interns and student volunteers. ■

# flash

## ... Butler Center Events in the Spotlight



July's Legacies & Lunch hosted a panel discussion, "[Happy Hours and High Times](#)," about Arkansas politics in the 1970s, with moderator John Brummett (*left*), Ernie Dumas, Archie Shaffer, and David Pryor.



June's Legacies & Lunch featured Lance Restum discussing the history of the Arkansas Travelers baseball team.



Chris Dorer spoke about the history of Little Italy at May's Legacies & Lunch.



Charlie Rich Jr. (*in the black jacket*) and Sonny Burgess & the Legendary Pacers (*in red jackets*, with Sonny Burgess holding the guitar) performed for the May Arkansas Sounds concert. They are pictured here with Arkansas Sounds music coordinator John Miller.

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June's Summer Seminar for Educators participants, pictured with George West (*far left*), the Butler Center's education outreach coordinator.



Jeff Coleman (pictured here with Arkansas Sounds music coordinator John Miller) opened for Ben Nichols at the June Arkansas Sounds show.



Arkansas Sounds, June, featured Lucero frontman Ben Nichols.



*Water Festival*, oil on canvas, was donated to the CALS Permanent Collection by longtime supporters Ray and Sue Khoo of Jacksonville. It is on display in the Butler Center's Loft Gallery through October 1, 2016.



July's Arkansas Sounds show featured Suzy Bogguss (pictured here with John Miller) performing country and folk classics as well as original songs. A highlight of the show featured Bogguss performing several Merle Haggard songs featured on her recent album *Lucky*, a collection of songs written by Haggard.

# Six EOA Entries Everyone Should Read



by Dr. Bobby Roberts, retired director of the Central Arkansas Library System



[Richard Colburn Butler Sr. \(1910–1999\)](#)

Take a few minutes to read the biography of Richard Butler, for whom the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies was named. Without his moral and financial support, the Butler Center and the EOA would not exist. All who are interested in Arkansas history and culture owe a debt to Richard (pictured here circa 1957).



[Action at Wallace's Ferry](#)

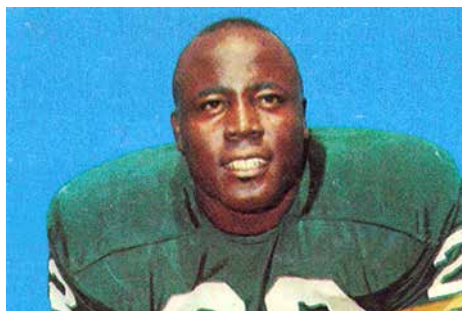
We cannot understand the history of our state without exploring the Civil War that almost destroyed the Union. The EOA has good coverage of the major battles but is an even richer resource on those smaller actions that show just how destructive this war was. Each entry provides information about the principal commanders, the units involved, the casualties, and the result. On July 26, 1864, for example, a Union detachment of mostly African-American infantry clashed with Rebel cavalry around Wallace's Ferry near Helena. The action was a draw, but 63 U.S. soldiers and 12 Confederate cavalrymen were casualties. Thousands of soldiers fought and often were injured or killed in small actions like this one. Pictured here is William O. Kretsinger, one of the officers of the Fifty-sixth U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment, formerly the Third Arkansas Infan-

try (African Descent); he was cited for gallantry at the Action at Wallace's Ferry.



[Grand Army of the Republic \(GAR\)](#)

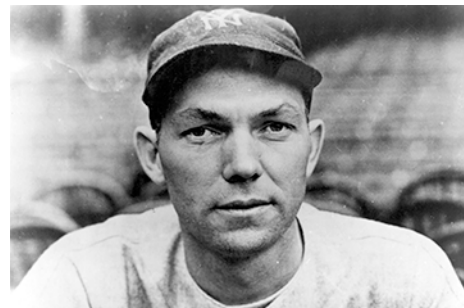
After the Civil War, millions of veterans joined fraternal organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic or the United Confederate Veterans (UCV). Both organizations became politically powerful in the late nineteenth century, but Union groups in the South were in a decided minority. However, thousands of Arkansans did serve in the Union army and many became members of one of the more than 100 state GAR chapters. The GAR never had the political power in Arkansas of the UCV, and African American veterans were often excluded from membership. Still, the mere existence of these GAR chapters reminds us that many Arkansans chose not to follow their neighbors down the road to secession. Pictured here is a GAR gathering, probably in Eureka Springs.



[Elijah Eugene Pitts \(1938–1998\)](#)

You can always stir up a spirited argument about who was Arkansas's greatest professional football player. My vote is for Elijah Pitts, who came not from our mightiest college football power, the University of Arkansas, but rather from tiny Philander Smith College. Pitts was one of those early African American players who came from the segregated South and made it in the pros. He spent most of his playing time (nine years) with the Green Bay Packers in the Vince Lombardi era. I saw him play. If Arkansas produced a

better pro running back, I would like to know who it was.



[Major League Baseball Players](#)

Elijah Pitts was a great football player, but Arkansas's real athletic niche has always been baseball. Take a look at Steven Teske's entry covering the state's major league players, including George Kell, Dizzy Dean, Bill Dickey (pictured here—he once played for the Little Rock Travelers), Lou Brock, Brooks Robinson, Travis Jackson, Wally Moon, Johnny Sain, Preacher Roe, Floyd "Arky" Vaughan, Charles Schmidt, and many more great players. Six made it to the Hall of Fame. If I could snap my fingers and make all play at the same time, no team could take us in the World Series!



[Alligator Snapping Turtle](#)

The EOA is a great reference about our history and culture, of course, but it is also a good place to start learning about the creatures that live with us. Over in the Delta where I come from, we just call these prehistoric beasts snapping turtles. Just look at the jaws on this big fellow and then believe me when I tell you I have seen one smaller than that snap a broom handle in two! Many years ago, as I was about to leap into a muddy lake, I wondered if something like this might be waiting. I jumped anyway. ■

# Presidential Candidates from Arkansas



Hillary and Bill Clinton; circa 1980.

Democratic nominee for president of the United States, [Hillary Rodham Clinton](#), is one of fourteen people with significant ties to Arkansas to run for president. Her husband, [Bill Clinton](#), remains to date the only campaigner of those fourteen to win the election and serve as president.

Nine of the campaigners were born in Arkansas; the other five, including Hillary Clinton, spent many years living in Arkansas. Six have sought the [Democratic](#) nomination and two the [Republican](#) nomination; six others have sought the presidency through smaller political parties. Five of the campaigners have been active candidates in the primary elections, while two others were nominated

at party conventions as “favorite son” candidates.

[George Edwin Taylor](#), born in Little Rock, was nominated by the National Liberty Party in 1904, making him the first Arkansan to seek the presidency. [Senator Joe T. Robinson](#) was the first to be considered by a major party; he was a “favorite son” at the Democratic convention of 1924. [William “Coin” Harvey](#), [Gerald Smith](#), and [Eldridge Cleaver](#) all used their national reputations to seek the office as third-party candidates. Most recently, [Mary Cal Hollis](#) of Pine Bluff twice sought the [Socialist Party](#) nomination, receiving it in 1996 but withdrawing from the race in 2004.

Governors [Orval Faubus](#), [Winthrop Rockefeller](#), Bill Clinton, and [Mike Huckabee](#) have all been considered for the presidency—Faubus with the National States’ Rights Party in 1960, Rockefeller as a “favorite son” candidate at the Republican convention in 1968, Clinton as the successful Democratic candidate in 1992 and 1996, and Huckabee as a hopeful in the Republican primaries of 2008 and 2016. Representative [Wilbur Mills](#) sought the Democratic nomination in

1972, Senator [Dale Bumpers](#) considered entering the Democratic primaries in 1988, and General [Wesley Clark](#) ran in some Democratic primaries in 2004.

[Presidential visits](#) to Arkansas were rare until after the middle of the twentieth century. Each of the last ten presidents has visited Arkansas while in office. Those visits include President John F. Kennedy dedicating [Greers Ferry Lake and Dam](#) in October 1963 and Richard M. Nixon attending the football game between Arkansas and Texas in December 1969. Another significant visit to Arkansas was that of Franklin D. Roosevelt during the state’s [centennial celebration](#) in June 1936. Perhaps the most noteworthy post-presidential visit to the state was that of Ulysses S. Grant during his world tour of 1880, although the dedication of the [William J. Clinton Presidential Center and Park](#) was notable for bringing together President George W. Bush and former presidents Jimmy Carter, George H. W. Bush, and Bill Clinton. On May 7, 2014, President Barack Obama conducted his first presidential visit to Arkansas in order to survey [tornado](#) damage in the [Vilonia](#) (Faulkner County) area. ■

## Archival Adventures: An Exciting Find

by Butler Center archival assistant Shirley Schuette

While processing an addition to the Mount Holly Cemetery Association records ([MSS.98.32](#)), I discovered the original register for the sale of cemetery lots in the [Mount Holly Cemetery](#). That in itself was exciting, since the cemetery was founded by the City of Little Rock in February of 1843, making the record book nearly 175 years old.

What made the find more special, however, was discovering that the book itself had been used by the city from 1839 to 1842 to record licenses issued for drays and carts. Some familiar names appeared among the licensees, but the most interesting record was the one shown here for licenses issued to Nathan Warren.

So who was Nathan Warren? He was a free man of color well known in pre-Civil War Little Rock as a confectioner,

Date of License	Vehicle licensed granted for	No. of Drays	No. of Carts	No. of Wagons	Remarks
1 <sup>st</sup> March, 1839.	1 Dray	5	"	"	
	1 Cart	"	5	"	
1 <sup>st</sup> March, 1840.	1 Dray	5			

fiddler, barber, and carriage driver. Warren came to Arkansas from Virginia in 1834 as a slave in the household of [Robert Crittenden](#). While no manumission papers were recorded in Pulaski County, family tradition held that he purchased his freedom sometime between Crittenden’s death in December 1834 and the year 1840. This document suggests that

he achieved his freedom sometime before March 1, 1839, when his business had grown to the point that he needed five drays and five carts.

What a treat to find this early city record and to see, among city leaders such as Matthew Cunningham and [William Woodruff](#), evidence of the work of free man Nathan Warren. ■



## THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY & CULTURE

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 Samuel Thompson Busey (1867–1962)  
 Carpenter's Produce  
 Florence Clyde Chandler (1901–1984)  
 Chinn Spring (Independence County)  
 Richard D'Cantillon Collins (1801–1841)  
 John Carroll Cone (1891–1976)  
 William Delford (Willie) Davis  
 William Emmet Davis (1918–2016)  
 Wayne Dowd  
 Elizabeth (Jackson County)  
 Floyd Hurt Fulkerson Jr. (1921–)  
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 Jonesboro Municipal Airport  
 Kate Hart [Steamboat]  
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 John Alexander Meek (1791?–1863)  
 David Miller  
 Carl Avriette Moosberg (1905–1990)  
 Herwald H. Morton  
 David Wiley Mullins (1906–1987)  
 David W. Mullins Jr.  
 Benjamin (Ben) Murphy  
 Napoleon (Desha County)  
 William David Newbern (1937–)  
 Palmyra (Lincoln County)  
 Josephine Irvin Harris Pankey (1869–1954)  
 Nathan Lee (Nate) Powell  
 Prairie Grove Airlight Outdoor Telephone Booth  
 Rivervale Inverted Siphons  
 Winthrop Paul Rockefeller  
 St. Anthony's Hospital  
 Saddle (Fulton County)

Tom Slaughter (1896–1921)  
 Alfred Edgar Smith (1903–1986)  
 Jane Rita Ellenbogen Stern (1918–1989)  
 Roy Sturgis  
 Barney Alan Sugg (1938–)  
 Union Labor Party  
 Daniel Phillips Upham (1832–1882)  
 USS *Poinsett* (AK-205)  
 USS *Sebastian* (AK-211)  
 Vaden (Clark County)  
 Win "Skinny" Whipple (1915–1937)  
 Wickes (Polk County)  
 Wildwood Park for the Arts  
 Virginia Anne Rice Williams (1919–1970)  
 Donald Roller Wilson (1938–)  
 C. D. Wright (1949–2016)  
 Wynne Post Office

If you have photos or other media, please contact Mike Keckhaver at [mkeckhaver@encyclopediaofarkansas.net](mailto:mkeckhaver@encyclopediaofarkansas.net)

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Arkansas Rural Education Association  
 Faye Clarke  
 Gladys McFadden and the Loving Sisters  
 Our House  
 Ozark Howler  
 Pyramid Place (a.k.a. Southern Trust Building)  
 George Tribou  
 Parker Westbrook  
 Lenny Williams  
 Woman's Christian Temperance Union  
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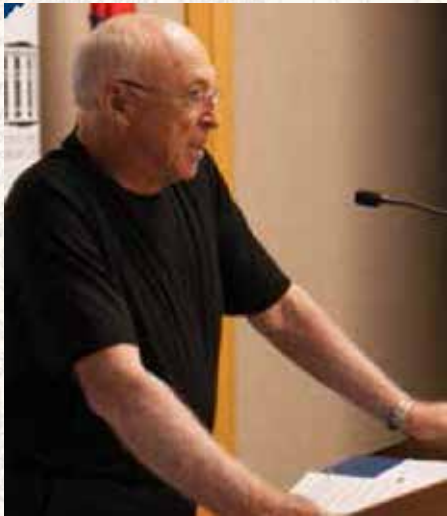
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# Inside Our eCollections

This feature of our *Butler eBanner* invites readers to click their way into our many and varied digital resources. Featured this time are interviews with four important figures in Arkansas music. Click on each photo to hear the interview.



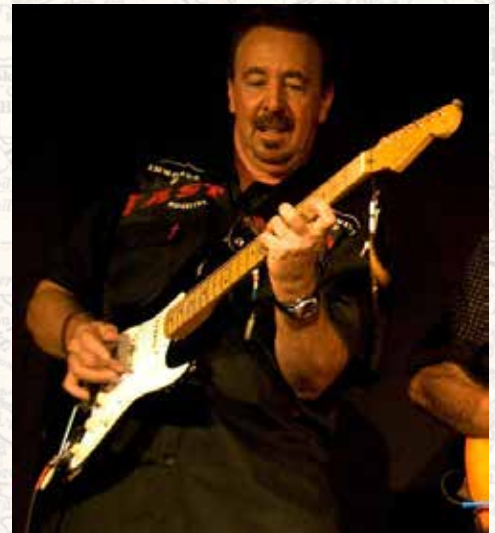
*Bill Carter—who was the Rolling Stones' attorney from 1973 to 1990—describes his life and career, running the gamut from growing up in Rector to working with some of the state's top politicians to representing major musical acts.*



*Longtime musician and music store owner Bob Boyd (playing accordion, right) describes his life as a musician in Little Rock and the development of his store, Boyd Music Center.*



*Al Bell of Brinkley and North Little Rock—considered the driving force behind Stax Records as a producer, songwriter, and executive during the company's most productive period, from 1965 to 1975—was responsible for promoting the careers of such talent as the Staple Singers, Isaac Hayes, and Otis Redding, among many others. In this interview, Bell describes growing up in Arkansas, his participation in civil rights activities, and his career in the music business.*



*Since the 1960s, Louie Shelton has played or worked with luminaries such as Barbra Streisand, Whitney Houston, John Lennon, Lionel Richie, Boz Scaggs, Stevie Wonder, the Jackson Five, Seals and Crofts, and Marvin Gaye. In this interview, he describes his musical career, first as a session guitarist and later as a producer. He describes his upbringing in Arkansas, his participation in the Baha'i Faith, and his move to Australia.*