

The Butler eBanner

Newsletter of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies

Spring 2017

Art Exhibitions

May 12–August 26, 2017

Butler Center Loft Gallery

Maxine Payne and Robert Scoggin:
Historic Bridges of Arkansas
An exhibition of contemporary photographs, historic memorabilia, and the Arkansas Educational Television Network's documentary *Historic Bridges of Arkansas* featuring Payne and Scoggin.

On view through July 1, 2017

Butler Center Underground Gallery

The American Red Cross in Arkansas
Using posters, photographs, and artifacts, this exhibition documents the work of the Red Cross in Arkansas over the past hundred years.

June 9–August 26, 2017

Butler Center West Gallery

Sammy Peters: "Then and Now"
This exhibition of large abstract paintings and smaller works from 1962 to 2016 offers a complex visual dialogue of color, texture, and space.

On view through July 29, 2017

Butler Center Concordia Hall

The American Dream Deferred: Japanese American Incarceration in WWII Arkansas

An exhibition about the experience of Japanese Americans who were forcibly imprisoned in camps throughout the nation, including two in Arkansas.

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



Arkansas Sounds

Fri., May 19, 7:00 p.m.

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

Legendary Arkansas jazz pianist, singer, composer, and producer Bob Dorough, best known for composing and performing songs for *Schoolhouse Rock!*—\$15 (ages 13+) or \$5 (ages 12 and under)

Fri., June 16, 7:00 p.m.

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

A screening of *45 RPM*, a film by Arkansas Juli Jackson—FREE

Fri., June 30, 7:00 p.m.

CALS Ron Robinson Theater

A patriotic concert from the Dave Rosen Big Band—FREE

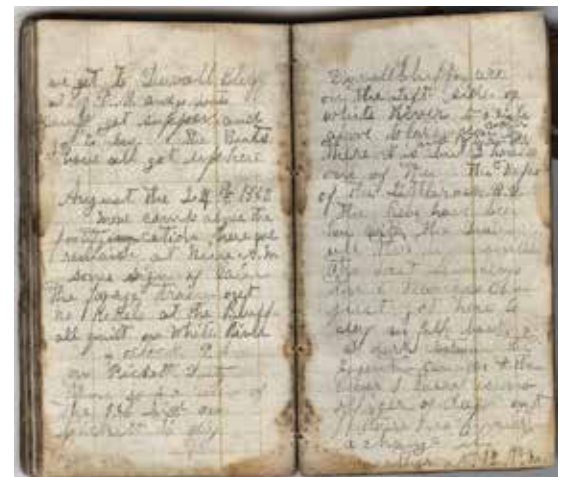
More events on page 5.

Prosser Diary Illuminates Civil War

The Daniel G. Prosser Civil War diary (MSS.16.09) is a significant addition to the Butler Center's already extensive collection of Civil War materials. Prosser, a soldier in Company F of the 1st Indiana Cavalry, kept the diary from 1862 to 1864. Although he refers to time spent at Pilot Knob and other Missouri locations in the fall and winter of 1861–1862, the bulk of the diary entries were written when the regiment was in Arkansas in 1862 and 1863. This includes descriptions of the Union capture of Little Rock in September 1863, as well as the battle fought at Pine Bluff on October 25 of that year.

Daniel G. Prosser was born on September 3, 1841, in Spencer County, Indiana, to Alfred and Mary Prosser. His father died in 1851, and the family continued to operate the farm, which was near Rockport, on the Ohio River.

Daniel responded to the early call for



Pages from the Daniel G. Prosser diary.

troops, enlisting in the 1st Indiana Cavalry (initially the 28th Regiment) on August 18, 1861, at nearby Evansville. The regiment was sent to Missouri, and by mid-September, it had its first encounter with the enemy, at Ironton. After

Cont. on page 2

Butler Center Staff Digitizes Suffrage Publication

During the height of the women's suffrage movement in the United States, many individuals and organizations worked to raise awareness and build public support for an amendment that would give women the right to vote. Alice Paul and Lucy Burns—two women who had participated in the United Kingdom's successful suffragist movement—formed the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage (CUWS) in 1913 to support the U.S. suffrage movement. The organization later became known as the National Woman's Party.

Butler Center staff recently completed a project to digitize the Central Arkansas Library System's collection of *The Suffragist*—the CUWS's publication that was once

referred to as "the only women's political newspaper in the United States."

The Suffragist includes a wealth of information about the suffrage movement in the United States as well as news related to women's concerns from around the world. For example, one issue reported: "The women of Japan are waking up to modern conditions and demanding equality with men....The movement for some change in women's dress is growing stronger daily, due to the fact that the present clothing of Japanese women restricts their muscular development and it is very difficult for them to exercise full use of their arms and legs."

The publication used a combination of news reporting, features, and columns to call attention to happenings at both the national and state levels. The content included both

Cont. on page 2



Cover of *The Suffragist*

Cont. from *Prosser Diary*, p. 1

spending the winter at Pilot Knob, Missouri, the 1st Indiana Cavalry was sent to Arkansas in the spring of 1862.

A recurring theme in Prosser's diary entries is being short of rations for "both man and beast." On February 5, 1863, he writes, "There has been no hay drawn [*sic*] for feed for near a month. Our horses looks [*sic*] very bad." A few days later, Prosser writes, "We are all ordered out mounted before breakfast while the quarters are searched for turkeys & chickens by some officers but are not found."

Prosser routinely reports on the weather conditions. In the time covered by the diary, the troops encounter excessive heat, rain, flooding, muddy conditions, snow, and sleet. Nevertheless, he frequently enjoys the beauty of the land, taking pleasure in riding out with the young ladies he meets in Helena and later in Pine Bluff.

The 1st Indiana Cavalry remained in Helena until the late summer of 1863. Prosser returned in mid-August from a month's furlough to find that most of his regiment had already left on the expedition to take Little Rock. The following entries give descriptions of the actions leading up to the capture of Little Rock, with vivid detail about locations, move-

ments, and supplies, or lack thereof. One page in this section reads as though it is a copy of a letter and expresses his distress at the situation, perhaps exacerbated by having so recently been home: "To a friend. The soldier's life is dreary and lonesome and especial [*sic*] when on the march to the battlefield or laying in camp for weeks at the time with nothing to cheer his drooping spirits not even a few tender lines from home or from his girl. Nothing is relished more by the soldier than a good letter from home or from some loved friend, but the time for letters is past while we remain in this godforsaken part of Dixie."

Prosser's regiment spent the last part of September 1863 camped near Benton, Arkansas, and then moved to Pine Bluff. The most dramatic entry from this time period is his description of the October 25, 1863, attack on Pine Bluff:

The Rebels, he says, "fought hard and wicked. They did not give time for the women and children to get out of town. We fought behind cotton bales and on the top of the court house for over two hours... They burned two squares of the city and robed [*sic*] all of the citizens['] houses taking all the mules and horses."

Other items in the diary include lists of his income and expenses, of money owed

to him or owed by him to others, and of letters received and written. Several pages include poems he wrote, mostly in the spring of 1863. One poignant note was directed to whoever might find this diary: "Camped near Helena. Feb. the 16th 1863. If it should be my lot to dye [*sic*] or gett [*sic*] shot, I want someone to send this book to my mother M. A. Prosser, Rockport, Spencer County, Indiana."

It did not become necessary, however, for someone else to deliver the diary to his mother. Prosser, along with most of the regiment, left Pine Bluff at the end of August 1864, when their three-year term of service ended. They traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, where they were mustered out of service on September 12, 1864.

Although the book itself is fragile, most of the content of this diary is clear and readable. Daniel Prosser has left us with a record that reflects a wide variety of personal experience, thoughtful reflection, the difficulties of battle, and the struggles of the common soldier and the animals they rode—with bits of humor and personality thrown in.

The diary can be viewed in the Research Room of the Arkansas Studies Institute (ASI) building, and the finding aid is available online [here](#). ■

Cont. from *The Suffragist*, p. 1

informational and inspirational items, including this quote from Elsie Hill, daughter of a former congressman, after she was arrested while climbing onto a statue during a demonstration: "During

my years of suffrage work I've been told and re-told that women's place is on a pedestal; and the first time I get on one, I'm arrested."

The covers featured cartoons by artist Nina Allender, who is credited with changing the traditional image of a suf-



The *Suffragist* was once referred to as "the only women's political newspaper in the United States."

fragist from an unattractive harpy to a modern, intelligent woman. According to the National Woman's Party website, "Allender used her illustrations to present a spectrum of 'The Modern Woman': feminist, wife, mother, student, and activist. This much more complex and positive representation was critical in garnering public support for women's rights."

The Butler Center's online collection



of *the Suffragist* consists of 50 issues, primarily from 1917 to 1919. All of the pages have been processed using optical character recognition software and are fully searchable. The issues are available online [here](#). ■

A Word from the Center

David Stricklin, Director of the Butler Center

As usual, there is a lot going on around the Butler Center but especially with our digital outreach work. In many features of this *eBanner*, you'll find links to digital resources you can use for Arkansas history teaching, research, and programming needs, including one of our fantastic [maps](#).

This map from the early 1820s is interesting for several reasons. One is that it shows both the Arkansas Territory and the Michigan Territory. You probably know those two states entered the Union together in 1836 under the old pre-Civil War arrangement of admitting a slave state and a free state close to the same time, to try to maintain the tenuous balance of power between factions. The spelling of "Arkansas" is the one used today, but Kansas is spelled "Kanzas." That's a little funny if you know how people in Kansas tend to pronounce the name of the Arkansas River. We won't beat them up too much about calling it the "ar-KANSAS" River, but this map's spelling of what became their state's name is, as I say, a bit funny.

Big news is not new at the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture, but I am pleased to report that in March the EOA picked up its first visit by someone

from the Central African Republic. I wish we could find out what about Arkansas history and culture that person was interested in. Maybe he or she gets the *eBanner* and will see this and let us know! That makes 237 countries from which someone has visited the site. People have visited from all seven continents.

Along with all the fun things, we had three sad things happen—namely, the departure of three colleagues. Archival assistant Linda McDowell left us this spring for early retirement. If you've visited our research room or come to one of our events, you might have encountered Linda. Her quiet good humor and steadfast devotion to creating greater access to Arkansas history served the B.C. and the many people who use our services. She was here when I got here, and I've been here a while! We miss her something awful. Though he wasn't here as long as Linda was, we also miss Brett Ratliff, who just left to return to his beloved native state of Kentucky. Brett was recruited to take on an exciting new set of responsibilities with the famous Hindman Settlement School in eastern Kentucky. He will direct cultural-heritage programs at Hindman, which has been justly celebrated for more than a century for its fine work on behalf of the people of Ap-

palachia. And archival assistant CaLee Henderson finished a grant-funded project and got a great job in the medical archives at UAMS. She's another talented public historian we're happy we got to work with.

Despite the loss of these fine colleagues, we drive on into what we believe will be a bright future for Arkansas history. Let us know what we do that helps you or what we could do that would help you in your quest to know and understand more about this fine state. ■

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
www.butlercenter.org

Ali Welky: Editor
Mike Keckhaver: Designer



Spring 2017

Thanks to these sponsors of the Butler Center's monthly Arkansas Sounds Concert Series



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Archival Adventures: Connections

In March, Rhonda Stewart—the Butler Center’s genealogy and local history specialist (and all-around research expert)—set researcher Patrick Bieneman on the right track in his search for a very important photograph. Bieneman was looking for a photo of Willie Green Jr. of North Little Rock, who had been killed in Vietnam at the age of nineteen. Bieneman was trying to obtain a picture of every man from his old company who was killed in action in Charlie Troop 1/9 Cavalry from 1965 to 1972. (Bieneman did not know Green personally, as Green died before Bieneman began serving in the war.)

Bieneman said, “I want to honor all of these men with a photo book I am going to have made with their picture and the location that they can be found on the



Willie Green Jr.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I will leave one copy at the Wall this September 18, as myself and many others who served in the same unit go to the Wall to leave yellow roses for all of ‘our fallen Brothers.’ I will also send a copy of the book to the 1st Cavalry Division Museum at Fort Hood, Texas, and then keep one copy that I will bring to our yearly reunions. I cannot thank Ms. Stewart enough for her assistance. I am now only three pictures away from my goal of having a picture for each of the 111 troopers who were killed in action. There is one more Arkansas native that I need a picture of: Billy J. Talley from McCrory.”

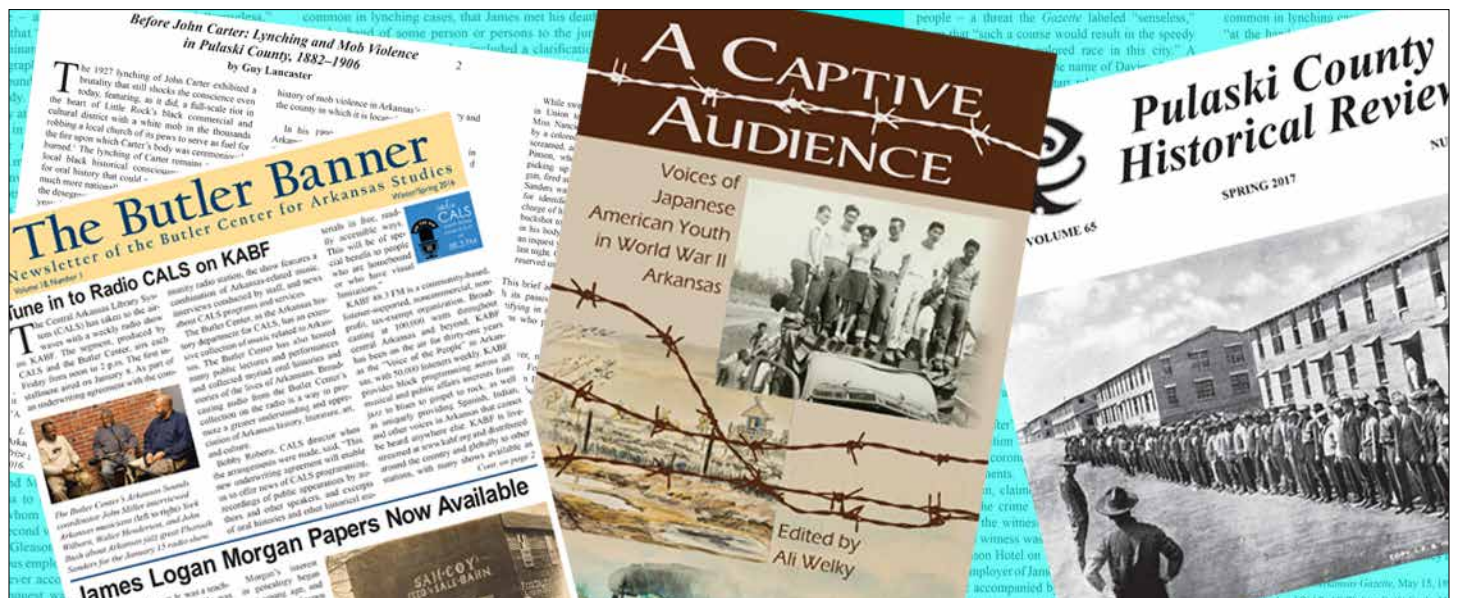
Through Stewart’s resourcefulness and skills as a researcher, she was able to track down family members (Green’s sisters Linda, Brenda, and Charlene) who

could help Bieneman complete his set of photographs. Bieneman was also able to communicate to Green’s family that they were eligible for the Gold Star lapel pin. He had five Gold Star lapel pins sent to Green’s three sisters and two brothers, and he sent them each a Gold Star lapel banner.

We at the Butler Center are thrilled when we can help people find what they are looking for. Although this situation is a tragic one, the connections made have vast historical and personal value. We’re honored to be able to put our resources to such good use.

The Butler Center has an extensive online collection of materials related to Arkansans who served in the [Vietnam War](#).

When a colleague thanked Stewart for helping connect the patron to the soldier’s family, she said: “That’s just what we do.”



2017 Arkansas Historical Association Awards

Several Butler Center staff members and projects have won awards this year from the Arkansas Historical Association (AHA). The awards were presented at the AHA’s annual banquet on April 21, 2017, in Pocahontas.

The county and local journals awards committee selected the *Butler Banner* as winner of the Walter L. Brown Award for Best Newsletter published by a county or local society or other entity working in

the field of Arkansas history. The committee also chose Guy Lancaster’s manuscript “Before John Carter: Lynching & Mob Violence in Pulaski County, 1882–1906” as winner of the Brown Award for Best Article in a county or local journal. Lancaster is the editor of the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*.

The Brown Award for Best County or Local Journal went to the *Pulaski County Historical Review*, edited by the Butler

Center’s Bob Razer. Ali Welky’s book *A Captive Audience: Voices of Japanese American Youth in World War II Arkansas* was named the co-winning book for the AHA’s Susannah DeBlack Book Award in Arkansas History. This award is given annually for the best books that introduce young readers to Arkansas history. Welky is the assistant editor of the *Encyclopedia of Arkansas*.

Butler Center Offers Free, All-Day Annual Genealogy Workshop

Sat., July 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
CALs Ron Robinson Theater
100 River Market Ave.

The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the archival department of the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs), will offer its annual all-day genealogy workshop on Saturday, July 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the CALs Ron Robinson Theater, 100 River Market Ave. The theater doors will open at 9 a.m. Dr. Robin Hanson will present four sessions geared to helping genealogists of all levels sharpen their genealogical skills and enlarge the scope of their research.

Hanson is a professor of cultural his-

tory and also works as a professional genealogist, assisting clients ranging from individuals wanting to know more about their family histories to companies attempting to locate heirs. She has worked as an Ancestry.com expert and is a registered researcher at the National Military Personnel Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Her extensive academic background, coupled with over thirty years of genealogical research, provides the foundation for her expertise in American cultural history and population migration. In the St. Louis metro area, she provides genealogical research instruction to encourage the study of family history and to promote the understanding of genealogy as part of our shared cultural history.



Dr. Robin Hanson

The genealogy workshop is free and open to the public. Registration is not required.

For details and to see a list of Hanson's presentations, visit the [Butler Center Workshop](#) website. For more information, call (501) 918-3033. ■

Cont. from Events, p. 1

40 Acres and a Block: A Spike Lee Tribute

CALs Ron Robinson Theater

Thurs., July 13, 7:00 p.m.

Screening of Lee's *Do the Right Thing*—\$5

Fri., July 14, 7:00 p.m.

Rodney Block Collective concert featuring music from Lee's films—\$10

Fri., July 28, 7:00 p.m.

CALs Ron Robinson Theater

Greasy Greens reunion concert—\$15

Sounds in the Stacks:

Tues., May 16, 6:30 p.m.

Max Milam Library, Perryville

Michael Heavner (Solo pop/country piano and vocal)—FREE

Thurs., June 15, 6:30 p.m.

Oley Rooker Library, Little Rock

Chris Parker & Kelley Hurt (jazz/pop piano and vocal duo)—FREE

Legacies & Lunch (Noon - 1 p.m.)

Wed., May 3

CALs Main Library Darragh Center

"Tales from the Trash": Betsy Spetich of ADEQ will discuss the Garbage Project, a two-decade-

long investigation into American consumer habits by studying trash and landfills.

Wed., June 7

CALs Ron Robinson Theater

Film screening of the 80-minute documentary

The Great Flood (presented in conjunction with Arkansas Sounds) commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Great Flood of 1927.

Wed., July 5

CALs Main Library Darragh Center

Blake Wintory, assistant director of Arkansas State University's heritage site at the Lakeport Plantation, will describe important new findings into the history of slavery at Lakeport and in Chicot County.

Finding Family Facts

A free genealogy course

May 8; June 12; July 10—3:30–5:00 p.m.

ASI building, Room 204

Genealogy Workshop 2017

Sat., July 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

CALs Ron Robinson Theater

100 River Market Ave.

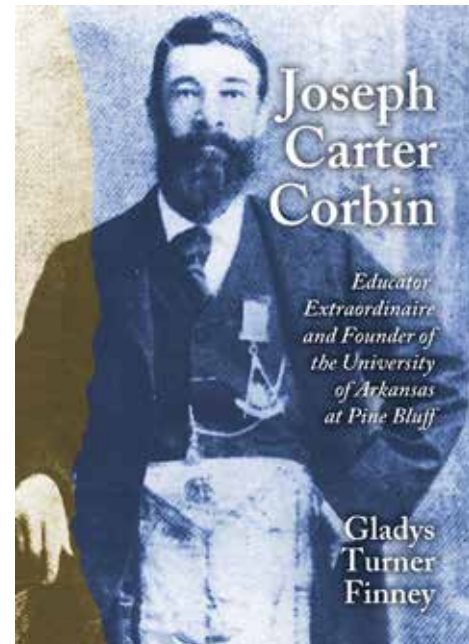
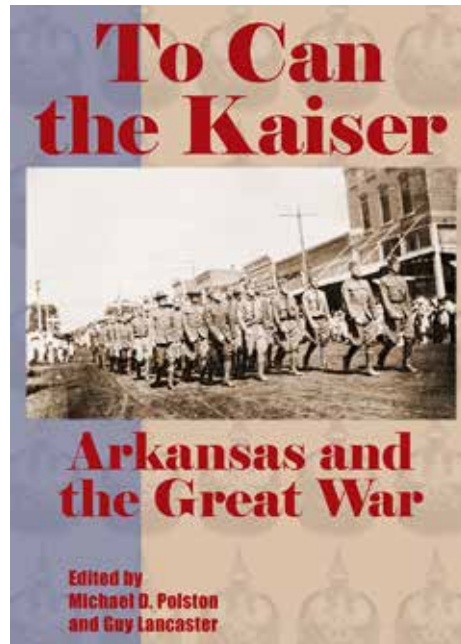
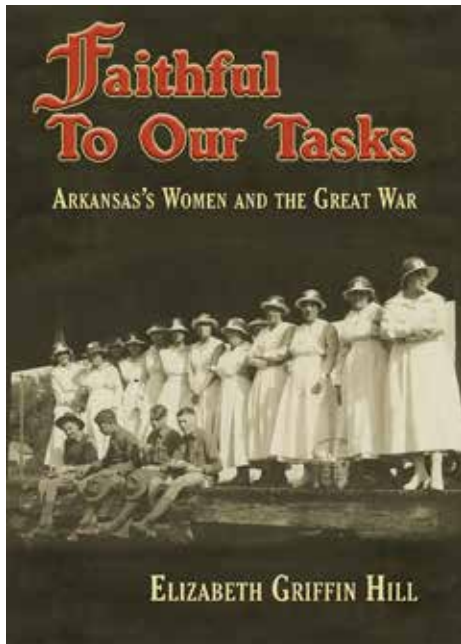
This event is free, and registration is not required.

See [butlercenter.org](#) for more information.



The mission of the Central Arkansas Library System Foundation is to provide support for educational and cultural programming for the patrons, communities, and neighborhoods being served by the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs) and its branches, including the Butler Center. Please contact Christine Gronwald or go to [cals.org](#) to make a donation.





In commemorating the 100th anniversary of U.S. participation in World War I, the Butler Center has published two outstanding books on how the Great War affected Arkansans.

Faithful to Our Tasks:
Arkansas's Women and the Great War
By Elizabeth Griffin Hill

The United States was a vital, if brief, participant in World War I—spending only eighteen months fighting in “the Great War.” But that short span marked an era of tremendous change for women in Arkansas and around the country as they moved out of the Victorian nineteenth century and came into their own as social activists during the early years of the twentieth century.

To Can the Kaiser:
Arkansas and the Great War
Edited by Michael Polston and Guy Lancaster

More than 70,000 Arkansans served as soldiers during the war. On the home-front, military bases such as Camp Pike and Eberts Field were built to train soldiers in the new technologies of war, while the American Red Cross provided civilians, especially women, a way to support the troops. Wartime propaganda led to suspicions directed against Germans, Jehovah’s Witnesses, and African Americans in Arkansas, but war produc-

tion proved a boon to the state. In these twelve essays, the authors tell the story of how World War I connected Arkansas to the world in ways that changed the state and its people forever.

New this spring!

Joseph Carter Corbin:
Educator Extraordinaire and Founder of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

Corbin, a native of Ohio and the son of former slaves, founded UAPB as Branch Normal College in 1875 to help meet the state’s demand for African American teachers. His story, told by a former UAPB student, is monumental for the scope of what one man was able to accomplish.

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

Galleries open Mon. - Sat. 9-6

Gifts from the Galleries

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for news and updates

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

Second in Series of Japanese Confinement Sites Exhibitions

Opening August 11, *The Art of Injustice*, assembled by curator and historian Dr. Sarah Wilkerson-Freeman, will display images taken by Paul Faris during his visit to Rohwer Relocation Center in 1945. His captivating black-and-white photographs capture the community created by Japanese Americans during their incarceration in Arkansas in World War II. *The Art of Injustice* is free and open to the public, and it will be on display in the Butler Center Galleries through December 30, 2017.

Grant funding is available for field trips to the exhibition. Visit our [website](#) or contact [Kim Sanders](#) for information.

This project was funded, in part, by a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. ■



Photo taken by Paul Faris from the upcoming exhibition The Art of Injustice. Mr. Toyokichi Usui, shown here, was known as “the calligraphy master of Rohwer.”

Tom and Dolores Bruce Historical Research Fellowship

Applications are now being accepted for the first Tom and Dolores Bruce Historical Research Fellowship. The fellowship will assist scholars, teachers, graduate students, documentary producers, and other researchers who use materials held by at least two of the following institutions: the Arkansas State Archives, the CALS Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the Historical Research Center at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock’s Center for Arkansas History and Culture. Possible outcomes include publications, media productions, web-based presentations, or curricular resources. Any topic relating to the state’s history is acceptable, but research in under-studied topics is encouraged. The award is to be used to help defray expenses, which can include reproduction of materials, travel, or lodging. Funded by an initial gift by

Dr. Tom Bruce and matched by the Central Arkansas Library System, this award was renamed in 2017 to honor Dr. and Mrs. Bruce after Dr. Bruce’s death.

Application Requirements: Applications for research assistance will consist of a 250-word abstract of the proposal; a letter describing prospects for public accessibility of the finished work; expressions of interest from prospective publishers, media outlets, or, in the case of web-based and curriculum materials, likely users; the applicant’s resume; the names and contact information of three references who may be asked to write letters of support; a projected timeline; an estimated budget; and a preliminary list of collections to be used at the archival institutions.

Deadlines and Notification: Applications must be received by May 15. Recipients will be notified by June 1 and will have until July 1 to accept or decline the

award, at which point either the recipient will be announced or a runner-up will be notified.

Award Value and Payment Details: The award has a maximum cash value of \$1,000, for reimbursement of approved out-of-pocket expenses. Recipients will be asked to sign an award letter attesting to their willingness to follow expense and reimbursement guidelines. Documentation will be required for reimbursements, and award recipients will be required to report on how award funds were used within six months of visiting the archival facilities. ■

Submit Applications by May 15 to:

Brian Robertson, C.A.
Butler Center for Arkansas Studies
Central Arkansas Library System
100 Rock St., Little Rock, AR 72201
Email [Brian Robertson](#) or call (501) 320-5723

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... Butler Center Events in the Spotlight

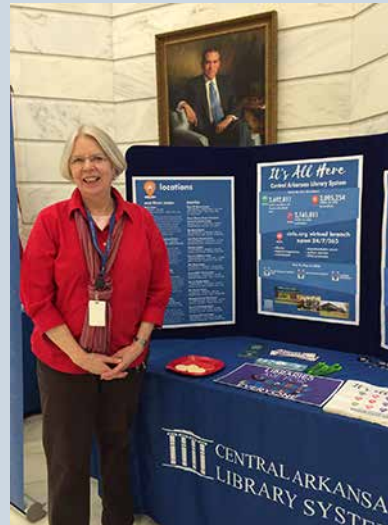


Butler Center graduate assistant Katie Barron working on the Arkansas Sounds music collection and other projects.

William Staggers playing for Sounds in the Stacks at the McMath Library, March 1.



The Butler Center's exhibit at the newly renovated Robinson Auditorium profiling Joseph T. Robinson, for whom the auditorium was named.



Butler Center Operations Manager Glenn Whaley with the CALS display at the Arkansas State Capitol for Library Day on February 8.



The April 20 Sounds in the Stacks concert featured Tommy Priakos playing the piano at the Thompson Library. Richard Deutsch (*standing*) is owner of Piano Kraft, which delivers and tunes the pianos as one of our Arkansas Sounds sponsors.



Rodney Block playing trumpet and Bijoux Pighee singing at the March premiere of the documentary film *Dream Land: Little Rock's West 9th Street*. Photo courtesy of AETN.



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For April's Legacies & Lunch, Brian Robertson—manager of the Butler Center's Research Services Division—talked about World War I resources available at the Butler Center.



Ali Welky, assistant editor of the Encyclopedia of Arkansas and the editor of the *Butler Banner*, speaking on March 31 to the American Girls reading group at the CALS Nixon branch about what goes into producing a newsletter.



March's Legacies & Lunch featured Elizabeth Griffin Hill discussing her new book, *Faithful to Our Tasks* (Butler Center Books, 2017), and women's efforts in Arkansas during World War I.



In April, Arkansas Sounds welcomed the Wildflower Revue to the CALS Ron Robinson Theater.



At February's Legacies & Lunch and Arkansas Sounds event, the latest honorees from the UA Little Rock Anderson Institute on Race and Ethnicity were inducted; choirs and soloists also performed music of the civil rights movement. Pictured here is singer Tonya Leeks.



February's Arkansas Sounds event was the world premiere of *Moving Forward*, a musical by Little Rock recording artist itsjusbobby (pictured here).

2017 Summer Seminar for Arkansas Teachers—WWI Centennial: Finding Arkansas’s Stories of Challenge and Change in the Great War

The Butler Center and the Arkansas Humanities Council will host the fifth annual Summer Seminar for Arkansas Teachers in Little Rock on June 8–9, 2017. The seminar is free to Arkansas educators and librarians, and offers 12 hours of Arkansas Department of Education–approved professional development.

This year’s seminar joins the statewide effort to discover and remember the role of Arkansas’s men, women, and families in “the Great War.” The seminar features hands-on workshops using historical documents as well as visits to World War I archives and historical sites, including the Arkansas State Archives and the Arkansas National Guard Museum.

Participants will learn ways to use World War I–era documents from online archives as well as local history collections around the state. They will leave with classroom-ready lesson plans and document sets their students can use to explore the lasting impacts of WWI on life in Arkansas, America, and the rest of the world.

A special focus of the seminar will be the World War I Student Digital History Project, working with the Arkansas Great War Letter Project (see sidebar). Samples of exemplary student projects along with instructions and research guides will be provided. Teachers will also learn ways

to partner with local historical societies and veterans’ groups to identify and digitize important documents in hometown and family collections.

These student digital history projects and teacher lesson plans will be shared as teaching resources on the Arkansas History Hub used by teachers. Contributing teachers, students, and schools will be named in author credits and can use links to that credential on resumes and applications for college, scholarships, internships, and jobs.

Seminar presenters include leading historians, museum professionals, and authors from universities, archives, and heritage sites around Arkansas. Special topics will include the history of Camp Pike, soldiers’ letters published in local newspapers, changing roles for women, experiences of African American soldiers, propaganda posters, and patriotic recipes from food conservation and rationing campaigns.

This seminar is sponsored by the Arkansas Humanities Council and is part of the education outreach of the Arkansas WWI Centennial Commemoration Committee and the Arkansas Women’s History Institute. To register, contact Butler Center education coordinator [George West](#). For more information about this and other education initiatives of the Butler Center, click [here](#). ■

The Arkansas Great War Letter Project

For this project initiated by the Museum of American History at Cabot High School (whose director is Mike Polston, staff historian for the Encyclopedia of Arkansas), volunteers are transcribing soldiers’ letters published in local newspapers and, where possible, making a copy of the original newspaper column from microfiche archives. Soldiers during the war often sent letters home that were intended to be shared with the community as a whole, and local newspapers published these letters. The project is intended to make these little-known letters of Arkansas World War I soldiers easily available. This treasure trove of primary documents has great value to researchers.

The process is simple. Letters are located in the local newspapers, a copy is made, and then the letter is transcribed exactly as it appears in the newspapers. No corrections or additions are made. The letter is then posted on the website for research purposes.

The project seeks individuals who are interested in assisting with the project. All transcribers need is a computer, a careful eye, and a willingness to help preserve history. Visit the project [website](#) for more information.



Recently on the *Primary Sources* podcast, host Matt DeCamp interviewed Korto Momolu, Little Rock–based fashion designer, about her childhood in Liberia, emigrating to Canada, discovering her talent for art and design, and her life since moving to Little Rock and appearing on Project Runway.

Listen in with Radio CALS!

Radio CALS now airs on KABF 88.3 FM each Wednesday from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m., featuring music and stories about Arkansas from the collections of the Butler Center and from the Encyclopedia of Arkansas History & Culture, as well as news of CALS programs and services. On the radio show, we preview CALS’s podcasts—Primary Sources, *Chewing the Fat* with Rex and Paul (with Rex Nelson and Paul Austin), and Radio CALS—and air segments such as *Bizarre Arkansas*. Radio CALS is presented by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies and the CALS Communications and Public Outreach Department.

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THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ARKANSAS HISTORY & CULTURE

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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.):

Pernella Anderson (1903–1980)
 Antimony Mining
 Arkansas Farmers Union
 Arkansas Humanities Council (AHC)
 Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre
 Arkansas Synodical College
 David Auburn (1969–)
 Ballet Arkansas
 Barker-Karpis Gang
 Sylvanus Blackburn (1809–1890)
 Frances Lillian (F.L.) Blaisdell (1884–1924)
 Virgil Tracy Blossom (1906–1965)
 Bonanza (Sebastian County)
 Bracero Program
 Bradley Bunch (1818–1894)
 Cabotfest
 Camden Army Air Field
 Cave Springs (Benton County)
 Erle Rutherford Chambers (1875–1941)
 Marcellus Holmes Chiles (1895–1918)
 Choctaw Freight Terminal
 Osro Cobb (1904–1996)
 Cobbites
 Kevin Earlee Cole (1960–)
 Lorraine Albert Cranford (1918–2004)
 Crossett Light
 Diamond City (Boone County)
 Dimension Stone Mining
 Ecclesia College
 Eleventh Regiment,
 United States Colored Troops (US)
 Fulbright Industries
 Clay Fulks (1880–1964)
 Gangster Museum of America
 Gibson Baskets

Gilmore (Crittenden County)
 Greers Ferry (Cleburne County)
 Isaac Scott Hathaway (1872–1967)
 Helen Dunlap School for Mountain Girls
 Hermitage (Bradley County)
 James Earl King Hildreth (1956–)
 Hopefield (Crittenden County)
 Bobby James Hutton (1950–1968)
 Incoming Kingdom Missionary Unit
 Joseph Walter (Joe) Jackson (1928–)
 Junction City (Union County)
 Bernice Lichty Parker Kizer (1915–2006)
 LaCrosse Collegiate Institute
 Mary Martha Lambert (1951–)
 David Levering Lewis (1936–)
 London (Pope County)
 Massard Prairie
 Ralphie May (1972–)
 Mechanics' Institute of Little Rock
 Mercury Mining
 Missionary Baptist College
 James Sayle Moose Jr. (1903–1989)
 Narrow Gauge Railroads
 Negro Boys Industrial School Fire of 1959
 Charles M. Norwood (1840–1920)
 Ogden (Little River County)
 Old Austin (Lonoke County)
 Oxford (Izard County)
 Jimmy Dale "Red" Parker (1931–2016)
 William Pickens (1881–1954)
 Luther G. Presley (1887–1974)
 Sharon Priest (1947–)
 John Pruitt (1896–1918)
 Rodeo of the Ozarks
 Seventh-Day Adventists
 William LeVan Sherrill (1894–1959)

Harold Raymond (Hal) Smith (1931–2014)

James Howell Street (1903–1954)
 John Herman Stroger Jr. (1926–2008)
 Superfund Sites
 Ruth Harris Thomas (1900–1973)
 Thompson-Robbins Air Field
 Tripoli Mining
 Sidney Wallace (1851–1874)
 John Garrett Whiteside (1885–1947)
 WOK [Radio Station]

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

Entries Needing Authors:

Act 76 of 1983 (a.k.a. Teacher Testing Law)
 Arkansas Public Defender Commission
 Aromatique
 Bank of the Ozarks
 Margaret Jones Bolsterli
Command and Control [Book and Movie]
 Crossett Strike of 1985
 Fort Smith Tornado of 1898
 HIPPI USA
 Lassis Inn
 Robert Leflar
 Little Portion Hermitage
 Religious Exemptions to Civil Code
 Rhoda's Famous Hot Tamales
Treemonisha [Opera]
 W. G. Huxtable Pumping Plant
 Writers' Colony at Dairy Hollow

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

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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. Spring has sprung in Arkansas, which makes it a good time to read up on some of Arkansas's outdoor treasures and activities.



Wildflowers

From the river deltas to the mountaintops, Arkansas has an abundant array of more than 600 native wildflowers. The majority of wildflowers in Arkansas are along rural roads and secluded areas. Due to the growing population and changes in the environment, the areas in which wildflowers grow are in constant fluctuation. Pictured here are yellow coneflowers (*Ratibida pinnata*) growing in the Cherokee Prairie Natural Area in Franklin County.



Trees

When European explorers first came to Arkansas in the sixteenth century, they found the vast majority of the state covered by some type of forest or woodland. In 2016, a total of 436 kinds of woody plants were known to occur in the wild in Arkansas, comprising 419 species plus another seventeen varieties and subspecies. Pictured here is the T. Texas Tyler Tree, a large water oak (*Quercus nigra*) growing at the Mena (Polk County) homestead of the 1940s country music singer [T. Texas Tyler](#).



Birds

The birdlife of Arkansas comprises just over 400 species, although that number includes more than forty species that no longer occur in the state, are completely extinct, or are rarities that have strayed into Arkansas fewer than a half dozen times; around 350 species can be found in Arkansas with some regularity. About 145 species nest within the state. Others nest north of Arkansas and spend the winter here or pass through the state in spring and fall as they migrate to and from nesting grounds to the north and wintering areas to the south. Pictured here is the red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), also known as the "chickenhawk," which can be found throughout Arkansas.



State Parks

The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism (ADPT) manages the state's fifty-two state parks and promotes the state of Arkansas as a tourist destination for people around the country. Shown here is the [DeGray Lake Resort State Park](#) on the north shore of DeGray Lake.

Hiking

Hiking is one of the most popular outdoor recreational activities in Arkansas. Hikers can choose from over 250 trails (including the [Delta Heritage Trail](#), a portion of which is pictured here) to meet a range of objectives—casual strolls, exploration of history, nature appreciation, scenic beauty, vigorous day hikes in rugged terrain, or backpacking. The state has an estimated 1,800 miles of trail, taking advantage of two mountain ranges, 600,000 acres of lakes, 9,700 miles of streams and rivers, and varied terrain. Each of the [six geographic divisions](#) of Arkansas has hiking trails.

