

# BRICKWALL GAZETTE

Editor: Nancy Matthews

## Genealogy Society Of Craighead County, Arkansas

This month's meeting will be at the  
Jonesboro Craighead Public Library

April 21, 2013

VOLUME NUMBER SEVENTEEN, ISSUE NUMBER FOUR

APRIL 2013

**MEETING HAPPENINGS:** The March Meeting was held on March 17, 2013. Tara Bellomy was our speaker. She shared the process necessary for having a Confederate Veteran headstone placed for her Great-Great-Great Grandfather, Private Richardson.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Board Meeting for April was held on April 13, 2013.

1. Beginners Class
2. Find A Grave Memorials
3. May Meeting
4. The next Executive Board meeting will be June 8, 2013 (not a typo)

**APRIL MEETING:** The April Meeting will be held on April 21, 2013 in the Round Room at the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library. Our Speaker will be Scott Darwin. He will speak to us about the Kays Foundation.

**BEGINNER'S CLASS:** The next Beginning Genealogy Class is scheduled for April 29 & 30, 2013 at the Jonesboro Library from 6:00 to 8:00. Please contact Nancy Matthews – [nlmatthews@suddenlink.net](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.net) – 870-219-0535.

The Board Meeting for May has been canceled. Several of our Board Members will not be able to attend. The next scheduled Board Meeting will be June 8, 2013.

**MAY MEETING:** The May meeting will be a Research Work Day. Following a very quick business meeting in the Genealogy Area at the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library you will be encouraged to work on your own research.

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES:** Do you have an interesting article that you would like to see in the newsletter? Maybe you have a success story that you would like share. Send Newsletter Articles to Nancy Matthews [nlmatthews@suddenlink.net](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.net). Deadline is the Sunday before the meeting.

### FIND A GRAVE

The Society has become a member of Find A Grave -- GSCCA member #48046943. If you do not have anyone that you want to designate as the steward for you memorials, you might want to consider the Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas. All you have to do is notify Find A Grave and include the GSCCA member number shown above.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April 2013 --

- April 13 - Executive Board Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Civic League Room - Jonesboro Library
- April 20 - Greene County Historical & Genealogical Society Heritage Fair  
212 West Court St., Paragould, Arkansas
- April 21 - Society General Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Round Room - Jonesboro Library

### May 2013 --

- May 1-31 - Arkansas Heritage Month
- May 4 - The Tennessee Genealogical Society 2013 Spring Seminar - Germantown, TN  
Speaker: Lisa Louise Cooke
- May 11 - Executive Board Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Civic League Room - Jonesboro Library
- May 19 - Society General Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Round Room - Jonesboro Library

### June 2013 --

- June 8 - Executive Board Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Civic League Room - Jonesboro Library
- June 23 - Society General Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Round Room - Jonesboro Library

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## Greene County Historical & Genealogical Society Heritage Fair

Saturday, April 20, 2013

9:00 to 4:00

Research Center

212 West Court St., Paragould, Arkansas

FREE Admission

9:00 a.m. -- Opening Ceremonies - on the Old Courthouse lawn in Paragould. The Colors will be presented by Danny Honnoll and the Robert G. Shaver Camp #1655 of the Sons of Confederate Veterans.

9:30 a.m. -- "David Dodd - The Boy Martyr of the Confederacy" by Danny Honnoll

10:30 a.m. -- "The Last Hanging in Greene County" by Bob Branch

11:30 to 12:30 -- Lunch

12:30 p.m. -- "The NorthEast Arkansas Regional Archives" by Lisa Perry, Ph.D.

1:30 p.m. -- "The Harrisburg Museum" by Sylvia Evans

2:30 p.m. -- "How to Utilize familysearch.com" by Lynda Stewart.

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## Tennessee Genealogical Society 2013 Spring Seminar

**Lisa Louise Cooke**

Host of The Genealogy Gems Podcast

Common Surnames, Newspapers, Finding Living Relatives & Google Earth

Members \$20 Non-Members \$25

(Registration at door starts at 8:30 a.m.)

Lunch Break -- Nearby restaurant or bring a sack lunch -- Drinks provided.  
This seminar will be held in the Pickering Center (Next to TN Genealogical Society)

For more information, please contact Tina Sansone, 901-413-7995 [tinahsansone@gmail.com](mailto:tinahsansone@gmail.com)  
Download the Registration Form -- [www.tngs.org/](http://www.tngs.org/) (scroll down until you reach information on  
the seminar)

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## Save the Date! The AGS Fall Seminar 2013

**Friday and Saturday  
September 20-21, 2013**

Featured Speaker: J. Mark Lowe

Wyndham Riverfront Little Rock  
2 Riverfront Place  
North Little Rock, AR 72114

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**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.** • The Missouri State Archives is working on a project that could allow people to look up old marriage records online.

Secretary of State Jason Kander says the online database will include more than 3 million Missouri marriage records from the territorial period through 1969.

Those records already are available at county courthouses and on microfilm at the State Archives in Jefferson City. But Kander says this will mark the first time they can be searched through a free state website.

Marriage records often are important to genealogists and family historians, because they contain the names of the bride and groom and the date and location of the ceremony. They also sometimes include ages, parents' names and other information.

Kander says his office is working on the project with FamilySearch.

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## Marriage Records Checklist

2/13/2013

By Maureen A. Taylor published in Family Tree Magazine

**Your ancestors' weddings generated all kinds of records. Here are 12 types of marriage records to look for.**

Marriage records encompass more than just a marriage certificate, which is lucky for you if your ancestors' wedding happened before vital record-keeping began where they lived.

But even if your genealogy research has led you straight to that all-important marriage certificate, see if you can find these other records of your ancestors' unions. You'll confirm genealogical information and maybe even uncover new details:

- **Annulment:** Legal or religious annulments are retroactive and declare the marriage invalid from the date of the marriage. Records are typically found in church or court records.
- **Banns:** A church would announce three times a couple's intent to marry, in case there were any objections to the couple marrying such as bigamy or another marriage intention.
- **Bond:** In Southern states, the groom or male relatives of the bride posted a bond in a public place in the bride's county, in case the marriage was nullified. The marriage generally followed within a few days.
- **Consent affidavit:** A guardian would sign this document to grant permission for his ward to marry. Most common in the South and on the frontier, these documents are among town and county records.
- **Contract:** An engagement was viewed as a legally binding business contract. Similar to the prenups of today, this protected the assets of the wealthy party. If either party broke the contract, he or she could be held in breach of contract and the matter settled in court.
- **Declaration of intention:** A couple would file this document with a town clerk, who would post them in a public place in case someone had the right to contest the upcoming nuptials. Note that this doesn't prove the marriage took place, only that the couple intended to marry.
- **Divorce petition and decree:** The petition for divorce often includes depositions from family and friends, as well as the couple themselves. The court's decree grants the divorce. Remember that a petition may have been filed even if a divorce wasn't finalized.
- **Marriage license:** A civil authority, such as a county court, issued a license to a betrothed couple. It can include their full names, place of residence, place of birth, age and whether it is the first marriage.
- **Marriage return:** After the wedding, the officiant would fill out the marriage return and send it to the local registrar as proof the marriage occurred.
- **Marriage certificate:** This document, given to the couple after the ceremony, records the names of the parties and other wedding details.
- **Marriage register:** Towns or counties kept registers of civil and religious marriages reported to them.
- **Newspaper announcement:** Check local papers for engagement, wedding and anniversary notices.

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## THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

**April 11, 1970** - Apollo 13 was launched from Cape Kennedy at 2:13 p.m. Fifty-six hours into the flight an oxygen tank exploded in the service module. Astronaut John L. Swigert saw a warning light that accompanied the bang and said, "Houston, we've had a problem here." Swigert, James A. Lovell and Fred W. Haise then transferred into the lunar module, using it as a "lifeboat" and began a perilous return trip to Earth, splashing down safely on April 17th.

**April 15, 1912** - In the icy waters off Newfoundland, the luxury liner *Titanic* with 2,224 persons on board sank at 2:27 a.m. after striking an iceberg just before midnight. Over 1,500 persons drowned while 700 were rescued by the liner *Carpathia* which arrived about two hours after *Titanic* went down.

**April 18, 1942** - The first air raid on mainland Japan during World War II occurred as General James Doolittle led a squadron of B-25 bombers taking off from the carrier Hornet to bomb Tokyo and three other cities. Damage was minimal, but the raid boosted Allied morale following years of unchecked Japanese military advances.

**April 21, 1918** - During World War I, the Red Baron (Manfred von Richtofen) was shot down and killed during the Battle of the Somme. He was credited with 80 kills in less than two years, flying a red Fokker tri-plane. British pilots recovered his body and buried him with full military honors.

**April 27, 1865** - On the Mississippi River, the worst steamship disaster in U.S. history occurred as an explosion aboard the *Sultana* killed nearly 2,000 passengers, mostly Union soldiers who had been prisoners of war and were returning home.

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## WARNING!

Genealogy can be hazardous to your health!  
Researching your ancestors can be addictive!  
There is no known cure for the disease!

## SYMPTOMS

A haunting curiosity about your ancestors: relentless searches of libraries, courthouses, old cemeteries and Grannie's attic. Burning, itching eyes, blurred vision, tired feet, stiff neck and low back pain. Cold, sweaty palms, heart palpitations and lack of sleep. This may be accompanied by an uncontrollable urge to travel and have lengthy telephone conversations with total strangers. If these symptoms persist: Consult a professional genealogist.

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