

BRICKWALL GAZETTE

Genealogy Society
Of
Craighead County, Arkansas

This month's meeting is
August 18, 2024

Editor: Nancy Matthews

VOLUME NUMBER TWENTY-EIGHT, ISSUE NUMBER EIGHT **AUGUST 2024**

MEETING HAPPENINGS:

Our July Meeting was held on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library.

We had a wonderful discussion about our finds at the 16th Genealogy Night Lock-In.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Board Meeting for July was held on August 10, 2024 in the Civic League Room at the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library.

1. AGS Fall Conference "Watch Party"
2. Christmas Party
3. Scanning Project
4. New Books
5. The next scheduled board meeting will be September 7, 2024.

AUGUST MEETING: Our August meeting will be held on Sunday, August 18, 2024 in the Meeting Room at the First Community

Bank Meeting Room, 630 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, AR. Our program will be "**What is Cite-Builders.com and How Do You Use It?**" presented by Gail Lies.

I you are unable to attend in person but would like to know about the program you can watch the following YouTube video "How to Cite Your Sources Like a Pro" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e3BhkikIv-E>

NEW Members:

Patricia Vincent: Patricia is our membership winner from the Genealogy Night Lock-In. She is researching the name Bailey. gtpavincent6263@gmail.com

Terri England: Terri joins us from Washington. She is researching Pierce, Rickles, McGuire and Simmons. bleweydldy@msn.com

Welcome Ladies.

Cite-Builder.com
The Citation Generator for Genealogists

What is Cite-Builders.com and How Do You Use It?

Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas
August Meeting - 2:00 pm
Meeting Room - First Community Bank - 630 Southwest Drive
August 18, 2024 --- Time: 2:00 - 3:30

AGS Fall Conference "WATCH PARTY"

Saturday, October 19, 2024
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Speaker: Cyndi Ingle

Cyndi will give four presentations:

- Cyndi's List in Practice
- Navigating Your Way Through FamilySearch
- Newspaper Tools Online: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly
- Accessing Ancestry: The Roots, The Branches, and The Trees

Registration is \$5.00 on the AGS Site <https://argsoc.org/>.

After you have registered, you can come join us for a **WATCH PARTY**. We will be in the Meeting Room of the First Community Bank, 630 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401. We will be ready for you at **8:30 a.m.**

By registering with AGS you will be eligible for their door prizes. Then we will also have some door prizes at the **WATCH PARTY**. Come join the fun.

~~~~~

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

We are looking for a space for our Christmas Party. Do you have a suggestion? In the past we have gone to Lazzari Italian Kitchen, Fat City Steak & Grillhouse or had a Pot Luck at Parker Park Community Center. We need a space where we can have a somewhat private space. So far we have discussed Lazzari, Fat City, Ron's Catfish, Golden Corral or a Pot Luck. Your suggestions are needed in order to make a reservation.

Tell us your preference at the meeting on Sunday or let us know at [gscca@suddenlink.net](mailto:gscca@suddenlink.net) or [nlmatthews@suddenlink.net](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.net).

~~~~~

MEMBERS AT LARGE: We are looking for Members-at-Large. Recently, a couple of our long-time Board Members shifted to Honorary Status and we are now in need of new Board Members.

If you would like to join us as a Member-at-Large, we would love to have you. Please, please contact us at gscca@suddenlink.net or nlmatthews@suddenlink.net.

NEW BOOKS:

Lepanto New Record Obituaries (Poinsett County) 1951 – 1955

by Joyce Whitten

Joyce has completed another book for the Society. Thank you so were much for your hard work.

This book is \$40.00 if delivered. If mailed, it is \$44.00. Contact us at gscca@suddenlink.net or nlmatthews@suddenlink.net.

~~~~~

**GenealogyBank Blog**

Do you follow the GenealogyBank Blog? You do not need to be a subscriber to GenealogyBank. Go to <https://blog.genealogybank.com/> then on the upper right you can click on “Subscribe to our newsletter.” Many past articles are available for you to read. Here is a particularly interesting article: Genealogy Tips: Land Records <https://blog.genealogybank.com/genealogy-tips-land-records.html>

~~~~~

GENEALOGY NIGHT LOCK-IN

Our first Genealogy Night Lock-In was held on Thursday, 27 July 2006 from 5:30 p.m. until Midnight. We had 64 researchers and 3 staff members at the event. Most of the researchers actually did stay until midnight. Many things have changed over the years. We have gone from Thursday night to Saturday night, we have added speakers, and the times have varied but underneath it all we have had wonderful research time and made good friends. We have survived not being able to have an event during COVID, Then, we had to deal with reduced library funding. We are a hardy group and we persevere just as our ancestors did.

In July we had our 16th Summer Genealogy Night Lock-In. Even though we were only there from 5:00 until 8:00, we had some quality research time. There were 46 attendees along with about 12 staff.

~~~~~

**GSCCA Board**

President – Irene Goble  
Vice President – Gail Lies  
Treasurer – Candy Ellis  
Membership Director -- Debbie Powers  
Publications/Newsletters – Nancy Matthews

Recording Secretary – Kathy Simpson  
Corresponding Secretary – Susie Grommet  
Historian – Jan Beasley  
Publicity – Elizabeth Stokes  
Members-At-Large: Laura Rooks

Honorary: Lynn Dowdy & Deanna Ketcher

~~~~~  
From: Fishwrap – the Official Blog of Newspapers.com
<https://blog.newspapers.com/>

Headlines in History

August 8, 1906: Diamonds Discovered in Arkansas

August 6, 2024 by Jenny Ashcraft

On August 8, 1906, John Wesley Huddleston found an unusual pebble sparkling in the sunlight on his farm outside Murfreesboro, Arkansas. Huddleston picked it up and, while returning home, found a second brilliant stone. The stones turned out to be diamonds, and Huddleston's farm later became the centerpiece Crater of Diamonds State Park. Since becoming a state park in 1972, millions of visitors have unearthed more than 35,000 diamonds.

In 1889, Arkansas State Geologist John Banner realized that Arkansas had an area of peridotite soil near Murfreesboro in Pike County. This soil was similar to the peridotite soil in Kimberley, South Africa, where diamonds had been discovered. Banner suspected the area might contain diamonds and conducted a search. However, he failed to find any of the valuable gemstones.

In 1904, John W. Huddleston purchased the same land for \$2,100. He intended to establish a farm, but that changed when he found two intriguing pebbles in August 1906. He brought the stones to Murfreesboro and showed them to the town banker, who offered him 50 cents. Huddleston turned down the offer and sent the stones to a jeweler in Little Rock, who identified them as diamonds. Additional experts, including Dr. George F. Kuntz, the vice president of Tiffany & Co. in New York, pronounced the diamonds genuine. News of Huddleston's discovery spread, setting off the Arkansas diamond rush.

In September 1907, after some 140 diamonds had already been discovered, Huddleston sold his farm to investors for \$36,000. The new buyers established the Reyburn-Stiff Mine and later organized the Arkansas Diamond Company. Huddleston took his profits and moved to Arkadelphia, where they had better schools to educate his children. Commercial diamond mining in Arkansas proved difficult, and the diamond field changed hands over the years before becoming a tourist attraction. In 1972, the State of Arkansas purchased the property to create America's most unique state park.

Since its first discovery in 1906, the Crater of Diamonds has yielded some exciting discoveries. In 1924, a large diamond weighing 40.23 carats was uncovered. Known as the Uncle Sam diamond, it was cut into a 12.42-carat emerald-shaped stone and was, for a time, displayed at the Smithsonian.

The most valuable diamond ever found in the park is the Esperanza Diamond. It was discovered in 2015 and is an 8.52-carat, flawless diamond estimated to be worth about \$1 million. To learn more about the Arkansas diamond discoveries and the development of Crater of Diamonds State Park, search Newspapers.com™ today.

By K8 Newsdesk

Published: Aug. 7, 2024

MURFREESBORO, Ark. (KAIT) - A recent father-son trip to the Natural State turned out to be a real gem.

During their “boys week” road trip, Will and Marshall Barnett of Buckeye, Arizona, made a stop at Arkansas’s Crater of Diamonds State Park to try their luck.

According to a state park news release, the father-son duo arrived at the park on the morning of July 27 with buckets and shovels in hand and began combing through a recently plowed field.

After filling a few buckets with dirt, they headed to a wash pavilion to sift it through a screen.

While sifting, Will spotted something glittering at the bottom of the screen and called his son over. Marshall reached in and pulled out a 2-carat diamond.

“You could tell they knew they had found something special from the smiles on their faces,” said Park Interpreter Ashlyn Keys.

According to the park, the diamond is “about the size of a pencil eraser with a light brown color resembling iced tea.”

Keeping with park tradition, the Barnetts named the diamond “Minor Find,” since Will often calls his son a “minor miner.”

~~~~~

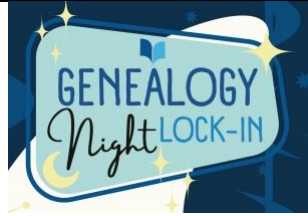
**THE GENEALOGY DISEASE**

**SYMPTOMS** : Continual complaint as to need for names, dates and places. Patient has a blank expression, sometimes deaf to spouse and children. Has no taste for work of any kind, except feverishly looking through records at libraries & courthouses & scanning genealogical websites. Has compulsion to write letters & e-mail. Swears at postman when no mail is left & at computer when there is no e-mail. Frequents strange places such as cemeteries, ruins, & remote, desolate country areas. Makes secret night calls, hides credit bills from spouse, & mumbles to self. Has strange, faraway look in eyes.

**TREATMENT** : Medication is useless. Disease is not fatal, but gets progressively worse. Patient should attend genealogy workshops, subscribe to genealogical magazines & newspapers, frequent genealogical chat-rooms, and be given a quiet corner in the house where he or she can be alone.

**REMARKS** : *The unusual nature of this disease is : the sicker the patient gets, the more he or she enjoys it!*

~~~~~

17th Summer Lock-In
July 2025

Craighead County Jonesboro
Public Library

315 W. Oak Ave, Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-935-5133
<http://libraryinjonesboro.org>



HAIR STYLIST COLOR SPECIALIST



630 Southwest Drive
Jonesboro, AR 72401
870-932-5600



906 Southwest Dr. St. A-1
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401

THE BUTLER CENTER
FOR ARKANSAS STUDIES

www.butlercenter.org/

Craighead County Jonesboro
Public Library

Digital Photos Collection

<http://libraryinjonesboro.contentdm.oclc.org/>



JoAnne Powell, Ed.S., LPC. 5301 Linwood Drive, Unit C
870-919-3871 cell Paragould, AR 72450
870-474-8140 fax Carriage Hills Plaza
www.ElysianCounselingServices.com
joanne@elysiancounselingservices.com

STEVE
SCHMIDT

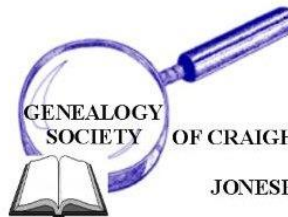
Certified Fabricator-Installer
Licensed Contractor

(p) 870.781.9429
(c) 870.919.1888

130 Colony Drive
Bay, AR 72411

schmidtcoutertops@gmail.com

*P.O. Box 17236
Jonesboro,
Ar. 72403*



GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS
P. O. BOX 844
JONESBORO, ARKANSAS 72403

