

BRICKWALL GAZETTE

Editor: Nancy Matthews

Genealogy Society Of Craighead County, Arkansas

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

October 19, 2014

VOLUME NUMBER EIGHTEEN, ISSUE NUMBER TEN

October 2014

MEETING HAPPENINGS: The September meeting was held September 21, 2014. The program was presented by Anita Belew. She and one of her students from Nettleton High School demonstrated Photo Scanning and Restoration.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING: The Executive Board Meeting for September was held on September 13, 2014.

1. September Meeting
2. Calendars for 2015
3. Beginners Class
4. Christmas Party
5. Genealogy Night Lock-In
6. The next Executive Board meeting will be November 8, 2014

OCTOBER MEETING: The October meeting will be held on October 19, 2014 at the Craighead County Jonesboro Public Library. The program will be presented by Caroline Cox. She will tell us about "Kissing Lights."

BEGINNER'S CLASS: The next Beginning Genealogy Class is scheduled for November 3 & 4, 2014 at the Jonesboro Library from 6:00 to 8:00. The class is \$25. Please contact Nancy Matthews – 870-219-0535 nlmatthews@suddenlink.net.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Fat City Grill
Saturday, December 6, 2014

11:30 - 1:30

Everyone is responsible for their own meal
and tip

Ornament Exchange

for those that wish to participate - \$5 limit

Bring your family and join the fun.

Door Prizes

(We have twice the space as last year.)

2015 Calendars: We are looking for Family Veterans. If you have two or three you would like to share, they can be included on the same page. Please send images as soon as possible. Contact Nancy Matthews – 870-219-0535 nlmatthews@suddenlink.net.

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**1877 & 1880 CRAIGHEAD COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAXES**

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| NAME               | PT / SEC      | SEC | TWP | RNG | ACRES | VALUE     |
|--------------------|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-----------|
| Mrs. N.C. Paramore | E1-2/SE       | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 600.00 |
| Nathan Mosier      | W1-2/SW       | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 480.00 |
| M.D. Hopkins       | /NE           | 6   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$1000.00 |
| N.S. Mosier        | W1-2SW/NW     | 6   | 14  | 4   | 20    | \$ 60.00  |
| J.M. Penix         | N1-2SE/NW     | 6   | 14  | 4   | 20    | \$ 100.00 |
| Same               | N1-2/NW       | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 400.00 |
| W.L. Gage          | W1-2/SE       | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 400.00 |
| Same               | Pt. S1-2SE/NW | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 60.00  |
| M. Mosier          | E1-2SW/NW     | 6   | 14  | 4   | 20    | \$ 100.00 |
| W.L. Gage          | E1-2/SW       | 6   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 600.00 |
| J.M. Bray          | /Pt. NE       | 7   | 14  | 4   | 130   | \$ 300.00 |
| Jas. S. Elder      | S1-2/NW       | 7   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 800.00 |
| Charlotte Bonin    | /SE           | 7   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$ 750.00 |
| Wm. Puryear        | N1-2/SW       | 7   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 600.00 |
| Mary Gant          | N1-2/NW       | 7   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 300.00 |
| Same               | WPt/NE        | 7   | 14  | 4   | 30    | \$ 40.00  |
| Wm. Erwin          | SE/SW         | 7   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 80.00  |
| Mary C. Carson     | SW/SW         | 7   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 160.00 |
| Lafayette Dorton   | W1-2/NE       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 300.00 |
| J.W. Ransom        | /SE           | 8   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$ 480.00 |
| T.D. Culberhouse   | /NW           | 8   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$ 700.00 |
| Wm. Ridgeway       | /Pt. SW       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 106   | \$ 500.00 |
| Charlotte Bonin    | Pt SW/SW      | 8   | 14  | 4   | 10    | \$ 50.00  |
| Wm. Puryear        | /Pt. SW       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 200.00 |
| Z.T. Matthews      | /Pt. SE       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 60    | \$ -0-    |
| John McGraw        | /Pt. SE       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ -0-    |
| A.W. Simpson       | E1-2/NE       | 8   | 14  | 4   | 80    | \$ 250.00 |
| Harvey Dorton      | /NW           | 9   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$ 650.00 |
| J.N. Burk          | /NE           | 9   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$1000.00 |
| Same               | N1-2N1-2/SE   | 9   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 200.00 |
| Wm. H. Perkins     | SW/SE         | 9   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 165.00 |
| Effie Campbell     | S/SW          | 9   | 14  | 4   | 160   | \$ 450.00 |
| Newton Burrow      | SE/SE         | 9   | 14  | 4   | 40    | \$ 160.00 |
| Same               | W1-2NW/SE     | 9   | 14  | 4   | 20    | \$ 80.00  |
| Wm. H. Perkins     | E1-2NW/SE     | 9   | 14  | 4   | 20    | \$ 80.00  |

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### GENEALOGY NIGHT LOCK-IN

(2<sup>nd</sup> Winter Edition)

Saturday, February 7, 2015

5pm - 10pm

**FREE**

Craighead County  
Jonesboro Public Library  
315 West Oak Avenue, Jonesboro, AR 72401

**FREE**

### AGENDA

More information will be posted as the schedule is set.

[www.gscca.net/Feb2015.htm](http://www.gscca.net/Feb2015.htm)

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STODDARD COUNTY SEMINAR WHOOO ARE YOUR ANCESTORS???

Keller Library
402 W. Grant St
Dexter, Missouri
573-624-3764

October 18, 2014

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 - Lunch & Materials included.

Speakers: Francis Moore

Bill Eddleman

Martha Carwile

Nancy Matthews

Carolyn Cox



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## SEARCHING FOR RYAN FAMILY INFORMATION

I am looking for information on my g-grandfather, Stephen Ryan, born 1848/50, in County Tipperary, Ireland. Stephen came to the US about 1864. He lived in Daviess Co, IND. At one time he worked on the B&O Railroad.

Stephen met and married (in Indiana) Catherine Maher, daughter of John and Mary Lance Maher. About 1900 Stephen and Catherine and their children moved to Arkansas. They lived a little bit north of New Hope Baptist Church, on the old highway 1. I think their house burned down in the 1940s - 1950s. Catherine passed away in 1937. She and Stephen are both buried in Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Jonesboro, along with other family members.

Stephen and Catherine had 6 children: John, Louis, Mary (May), William Sherman, Stephen Leo and Annie (all born in Indiana). William "Will" Sherman was my grandfather. He died in 1916. He was my father, Evans Ryan's father. I knew Aunt May and Aunt Annie, who lived south of Jonesboro on the "old" highway 1, near Apt (I think that's how to spell it. Uncle Steve lived on down toward Harrisburg. The 3 of them passed away, probably in the 1970s - 1990s.

Stephen and Catherine attended Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Jonesboro, but their records were destroyed years ago. All they have are burial records.

I was told his 2 brothers also came to the US. I don't know their names (although a cousin said it might have been John and Patrick), I don't know if the 3 came together or if they all went to Indiana. AND, I do not know their parents' names or the town in Ireland they came from. Don't know much, do I?

So, I'm hoping that someone will read this, it will sound familiar and can share some information with me. I've been searching for so long . . . . .

Carol Ryan Cannon    crcannon1@yahoo.com    573-225-6188

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The Genealogical Benefits of Tax Records

Tax records are some of my favorite places to find additional information on my American families. They are probably the best census substitutes available, in that they often predate federal census records. Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S., a Reference Librarian specializing in genealogy at the Ft. Myers Regional Library distributed the following article, and we are reprinting it with permission. Enjoy...

For genealogists, tax records can help solve a multitude of genealogical problems, especially for tracing ancestors prior to the 1850 census. Clues may lead to the birth, marriage or death year of your early ancestor when no other record may have survived. Taxes were collected annually.

Tax records came in many forms. Poll or head taxes which were levied upon a person, real property taxes which were levied upon a person's land, and personal property or income tax. These can be recorded

separately but may have been combined into one record with various columns representing each property type. In some early colonial areas, quit-rents were collected. The rents, a remnant of the old feudal system in Europe, were collected by the government or by large land owners annually on small parcels sold to private citizens.

The Federal Government levied taxes upon citizens usually to help defray the cost of a war or pending war. Federal records are usually indexed. Researchers can usually locate tax lists in print and indexed for the years 1798, 1814-1816, and 1862-1866 for any given county. The same would also apply to many state and some local jurisdictions. Local laws governing who was taxable and who was exempt changed from time to time and for various reasons. A poll tax levied to raise money for a new courthouse may include persons over the age of sixteen, and a property assessment the same year may only include citizens age twenty-one and above.

Tax records can be used to determine parentage. When an ancestor has been tracked in the tax records for a series of years and suddenly a male with the same surname appears on the lists next to him, he is more than likely a son who is now of legal or taxable age. The legal age for owning land was 21 years which would explain a male who suddenly appears on the same assessment roll as your ancestor.

Some counties created a separate list for unmarried men often labeled singlemen or single freemen which meant they were not indentured to any individual. A young man coming of legal age would be taxed on his personal property—usually a horse or a cow. Once married, his name would leave the single freeman list and suddenly appear on the regular list with other heads of families.

You can determine the year your ancestor arrived and left the jurisdiction by his first and last appearance on a tax record. If the assessment shows enough detail, a match can be made across county and even state lines. Look for a matching occupation, livestock, or any unusual taxable items that would have been transported. Always use a series of years and always look in every township in the county. Like counties, townships were also divided.

Many tax records list occupation as a category, and those that don't will often include the occupation to avoid confusion between two individuals with the same name. A father may have passed his trade on to son. Tax records issued for licenses and permits will be listed under occupations or business and commerce.

Upon his death, a man will disappear from the tax lists, but often the death is confirmed when his estate is still taxed awaiting probate. If you are lucky enough to find an entry listing the estate of your ancestor you can determine the year of his death. Make sure to look at a number of consecutive years because the deceased may be taxed for several years until his estate is probated.

Always check the end of each tax list as your ancestor may have been late or delinquent in paying or have un-resolved issues. Sometimes there will be two lists for each year: the local list and the list sent to the county. Check both because your ancestor may have been accidentally omitted from one.

Tax records and indexes are becoming increasingly available online through Family Search and Ancestry thanks to the efforts of the Family History Library. They can also be accessed at the county courthouse, the county historical society, the state archives, the National Archives, in published county histories, journals and periodicals.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2014 --

October 1-31 - Family History Month

October 18 - Stoddard County Seminar - 10:00 a.m. - Stoddard County Society in Dexter, Missouri

October 19 - Society General Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Round Room - Jonesboro Library

November 2014 --

November 8 - Executive Board Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Civic League Room - Jonesboro Lib

November 16 - Society General Meeting - 2:00 p.m. - Round Room - Jonesboro Library

December 2014 --

December 6 - Christmas Party - Fat City Grill -- 11:30

Ornament Exchange - Door Prizes

Bring Your Family

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### CORPORATE MEMBERS:



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Fat City Grill  
East Johnson  
Jonesboro, Arkansas



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