

# BRICKWALL GAZETTE

## Genealogy Society Of Craighead County, Arkansas

This month's meeting is  
October 20, 2024

Editor: Nancy Matthews

**VOLUME NUMBER TWENTY-EIGHT, ISSUE NUMBER TEN** **OCTOBER 2024**

### MEETING HAPPENINGS:

Our September Meeting was held on Sunday, September 15, 2024 at the First Community Bank Meeting Room at 630 Southwest Drive.

Our program was "Using Word for Genealogy" presented by Nancy Matthews.

We talked about inserting a "Table" to use as a timeline as well as answer questions from those that attended.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Board Meeting for October was held on October 12, 2024 in the at the First Community Bank Meeting Room.

1. AGS Fall Conference "Watch Party"
2. Christmas Party
3. The next scheduled board meeting will be November 9, 2024.

**OCTOBER MEETING:** Our October meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20, 2024 in the Meeting Room at the First Community Bank Meeting Room, 630 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, AR.

Our program will **Newspaper War** by Professor Mike Dougan. The Newspaper War was between the Jonesboro Evening Sun and the Jonesboro Enterprise. Come join us. Everyone is Welcome.

### November Meeting:

Our November Meeting will be held on November 17 in the Meeting Room at the First Community Bank Meeting Room, 630 Southwest Drive, Jonesboro, AR.

Our program will be on using Research Logs. Presented by Gail Lies and Nancy Matthews.



## Newspaper War

Presented by: Professor Mike Dougan

Genealogy Society of Craighead County Arkansas

Meeting Room - First Community Bank - 630 Southwest Drive

October 20, 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 Ingle is the internationally renowned creator of [CyndisList.com](http://CyndisList.com).

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://argensoc.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. We will be there for the whole program. You are welcome to stay for all of the presentations or just a few.

## ~~~~~ **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Fat City Steak & Grill House**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2024**  
**Noon to 3:00**

**Door Prizes**

**Bring your family and enjoy the fun**

**Everyone is responsible for their own meals and tip**

**Collections for local food banks**  
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# 5 Tips for Finding Women's Obituaries

BY AMY JOHNSON CROW

Obituaries can be rich in genealogical details. However, finding them for our female ancestors can be tricky, especially if you're searching in digitized newspapers. Here are 5 tips to help you find women's obituaries.

## 1. Search for Her Husband's Name

Married women were often referred to as Mrs. Husband Name rather than with her own first name. (This is especially true while the husband was still living.) Searching for an obituary for Mary Miller won't work if the obituary names her as Mrs. Thomas Miller. Try searching for her husband's name, including trying variations (like Jack for John or J. W. for John W.)

## 2. Combine Her Married Name and Her Maiden Name

If you know her maiden name, try leaving off the first name entirely. Do a search with just her married name and her maiden name. This will help you find obituaries that list her parents or her surviving brothers. (Obviously, this works better for *Miller Seiglinger* than it would for *Miller Johnson*.)

## 3. Search for a Surviving Child or Sibling

Do a search either for the full name of one of her surviving children or sibling or search for her last name and the married surname of one of her daughters or sisters. Look at all of the names in part of the obituary for Mrs. Jennie Brooks Kenney.

## 4. Consider Nicknames

Females, especially girls and young women, are sometimes listed with a nickname or diminutive form of their first name. If you're not finding Catherine, try searching for Kate or Katie.

## 5. Try the Name of the Cemetery

There are so many combinations of how her first name could be listed. Try searching for her last name plus the name of the cemetery. If you know Nancy Hopkins was buried in Bethel Cemetery, try searching for *Hopkins Bethel*.

## BONUS TIPS:

**Don't overlook the newspapers in places where she used to live.** It isn't unusual for newspapers to print obituaries for people who used to live in the community, especially if they still have a group of family and friends in the area.

**Skip the search; read the paper.** If you have access to the newspaper where she lived, read it. Yes, searching can be faster. However, OCR (optical character recognition) technology is not 100% accurate. If the print is fuzzy, there's a wrinkle in the paper, or they used an oddball font, it might not be "read" correctly by the computer. The obituary could be in the paper, but it was lost in translation.

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**Query:** My great-great grandfather, Evan Watkins Jr., and his wife, Margaret Ann Brown Watkins, were, according to family lore, among the first settlers in Craighead County. I am seeking any information/records regarding this family as well as Ross Phillip Watkins and Merrill Evan Watkins.

Any information or direction you may be able to provide will be greatly appreciated.

From: Shirley L. Davis, [twdavis1@suddenlink.net](mailto:twdavis1@suddenlink.net)

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**October 15, 1947**, U.S. Air Force Capt. Chuck Yeager became the first test pilot to break the sound barrier as he flew the experimental Bell XS-1 rocket plane over Muroc Dry Lake in California. On October 15, 2012, retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager, at the age of 89, marked the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his supersonic flight by smashing through the sound barrier again, this time in the backseat of an F-15 that took off from Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada.

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From: **Genealogy in Action** (by Julie Cahill Tarr [julie@julietarr.com](mailto:julie@julietarr.com)) - The Florida Digital Newspaper Library, hosted by the University of Florida, provides digital access to more than one thousand Florida newspapers. You can search the digitized images using a basic, advanced, or text search. I find the advanced search to be the most helpful. You can browse or search the newspaper offerings by title, with the ability to filter by county. There is also a way to choose a geographic area and see the newspapers that are available. <https://newspapers.uflib.ufl.edu>

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**GSCCA Board**

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| President – Irene Goble                   | Recording Secretary – Kathy Simpson     |
| Vice President – Gail Lies                | Corresponding Secretary – Susie Grommet |
| Treasurer – Candy Ellis                   | Historian – Jan Beasley                 |
| Membership Director -- Debbie Powers      | Publicity – Elizabeth Stokes            |
| Publications/Newsletters – Nancy Matthews | Members-At-Large: Laura Rooks           |

Honorary: Lynn Dowdy & Deanna Ketcher

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**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](mailto:gscca@suddenlink.net) or [nlmatthews@suddenlink.net](mailto:nlmatthews@suddenlink.net).

## Transcription of Missouri State Penitentiary Register of Inmates a Volunteer Project Completed

On September 14, we have officially completed transcribing the Missouri State Penitentiary Register of Inmates! The MSP project kicked off our eVolunteer program in 1999, so we find it only fitting that we celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program by finishing its longest-running project. During that time, you've transcribed 150 years of MSP records (from 1836-1986), totaling 148 volumes and over 158,000 entries in our index that will connect researchers to specific inmates serving at the Missouri State Penitentiary.

Final review by our staff will take some time, but once completed the index will be added to the Missouri State Penitentiary database, available at <https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/msp/>. In the meantime, you can contact our reference staff with your research requests by emailing [archref@sos.mo.gov](mailto:archref@sos.mo.gov).

Taking on a gargantuan project such as this could not have been possible without the help of literally hundreds of volunteers over the years – and for this, we at the Missouri State Archives thank you for your service and dedication!

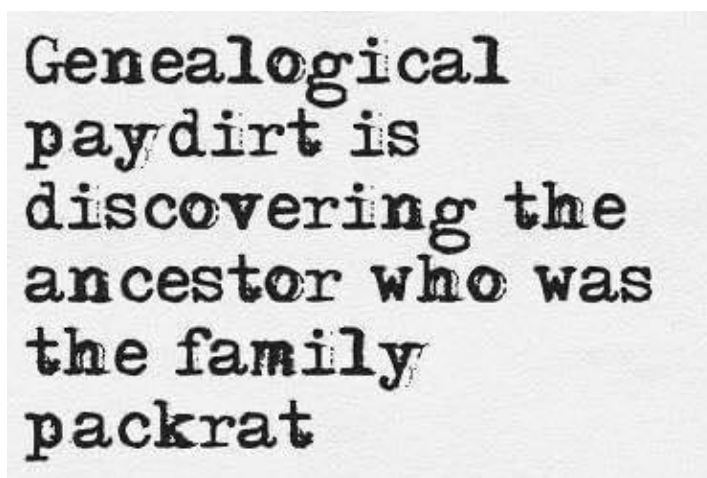
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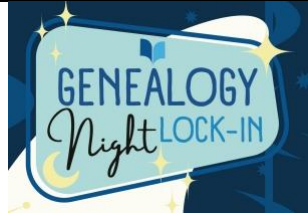


Registration for RootsTech 2025 is open. Go to FamilySearch.org and Register.

March 6-8, 2025

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17<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://www.butlercenter.org/)

Craighead County Jonesboro  
**Public Library**

**Digital Photos Collection**

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



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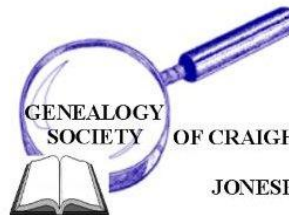
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