



# The Salt Shaker

Award Winning Newsletter of the Saline County History & Heritage Society

Volume 3 Number 1

Spring 2017

*Special points of Interest:*

- SCHHS begins 31st year
- Trail of Tears first program in January
- February program History of Benton Civitan
- 2017 Genealogy For You Seminar
- Member Spotlight



**Inside this issue:**

31st year Begins	1
Trail of Tears in January	1
End of Year Dinner a Success.	2
Camden Expedition Scenic Trail Group to visit	2
2017 Genealogy Seminar at Library	3
Spotlight on Volunteers	3
Renew your membership-Support History.	4

## SCHHS begins its 31st year saving and preserving Saline County History.

As we begin our 31st year, now is the time to send in your membership renewals for 2017. We have many new programs we are planning to offer on the third Thursday of each month except November and December.

Our first program for 2017 will be on Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 pm with a program on The Trail of Tears presented by the Department of Arkansas Historic Preservation.

The Trail of Tears travelled through Arkansas with Choctaws and Chickasaws traveling down what is Main street and turning down River street which also was called the Old Southwest Trail and the Military

Road. Please make plans to attend our first program of the year at the Saline County History & Heritage Society archives and family history research center at 123 North Market street in downtown Benton.

The officers for 2017 are Steve Perdue as President, Shirley Coppock, 1st Vice President, Wilson and Virginia DuVall, 2nd Vice President, Betty Walker, secretary, George Akins, Treasurer, Board Members Marlo Bush Krueger 3 year term, Linda Everett 2 year term, and Robert Edwards 1 year term. Editor of the Saline Virginia White, Librarian Pauline

Brown..

Please send in your memberships for 2017. The memberships are the lifeblood of our society and this helps us to pay our utilities and publish our award winning journal, *The Saline*.

We had several business memberships in 2016 and we hope that if you have a business or associated with a Saline County business you will encourage them to join our society.

We appreciate your membership and support of our society each year and hope you will continue to support the preservation of Saline County history.

Thank you for your support.

### Trail of Tears to be SCHHS first program of 2017

The Saline County History & Heritage Society has scheduled Amy McMillan of the Department of Arkansas Historic Preservation to present the first program of 2017. Her presentation will be on

the Trail of Tears. Saline County and Benton were involved in the Trail of Tears with the Choctaws and Chickasaws who travelled down the Military Road in the 1830's moving into Indian Terr-

itory. William Lockhart who operated a ferry on the Saline River sold supplies to the government for those travelling on the trail through Benton. Check out the historic marker in Randy Mooney park on Main Street.

## End of Year Dinner for 2016 ended with around 25 in attendance.

The Saline County History & Heritage Society held its annual end of year dinner for 2016 with 25 in attendance at the meeting.

We have had many new members to join this year and have had excellent programs.

In 2016 we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our society and we have come a long way. In 1986 when the society was formed we had virtually nothing in print on the county even though we had not had a fire. But with different ones of the society helping we have saved thousands of county documents from destruction, we have conducted tours of historic saline county homes, we have conducted tours of downtown Benton, we have provid-

ed valuable assistance to Saline County residents and their ancestry, we have built a county archive where nothing existed before 1986, we have published thousands of pages on Saline County History. We have archived thousands of pages of Saline County records. It has been a very good 30 years and now we look forward to more years of preserving Saline County history.

New officers were recognized for the coming year by President Steve Perdue.

One new member Dr. Bob Ashby of Benton joined and attended the end of year dinner.

We look forward to a great year in 2017.



## February program will be History of the Benton Civitan Club

2nd Vice President Wilson and Virginia DuVall will present the February 16th program on the History of the Benton Civitan Club in Benton and its service to the community.

Wilson DuVall serves as 2nd Vice President of SCHHS and also serves on the budget committee.

Wilson is a graduate of Bauxite High

School and a former Benton city alderman. Virginia his wife is a long time employee of McClendon Appliances in Benton.

The DuValls attend Saline Missionary Baptist Church.

Wilson has been an active member of the Benton Civitan Club in Benton for many years and has helped with the development of a disabled village here in Benton.

We hope you will be able to attend the program at 7:00 pm at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton.

You may call the Archives and Family history research center at 778-3770 for more information.

## Camden Expedition Scenic Trail committee coming to Benton on Monday February 13th

The Arkansas Department of Historic Preservation has formed a committee of representatives from Saline, Grant, Hot Spring, Clark, Cleveland, Ouachita and Nevada counties to develop a map of places to see in each county that are related to the ill fated Camden Expedition of the Red River Campaign of Union Troops in 1864 during the Civil War. This committee started out in 2015 in Clark County in Arkadelphia and then went to Hot Spring county

and Malvern, next came Sheridan and Grant county and Jenkins Ferry, Cleveland County Marks Mill, Ouachita County and Poison Springs and Camden, Nevada county, Praire De Ann, Elkins Ferry, and Moscow church. Benton will be the seventh stop on the tour. The committee will check out the Lenz house, Col. Crawford tomb, the Shoppach house, and the Saline River (weather permitting). As President of SCHHS, I was invited to serve on the committee from Sa-

line County. The last meeting of the committee will be held at McArthur Park in Little Rock. It is the purpose of the committee to develop a map of civil war sites in these counties to encourage Civil War tourism.





## 2017 Genealogy For You Seminar to be held at Saline County Library

The Saline County Library will host its 11th annual Genealogy For You Seminar on Saturday, March 12 at the Saline County Library. The presenter will be nationally known Genealogist Judy Russell, known as the "Legal Genealogist".

Here are a list of her topics:

"From Blackstone to the Statutes at Large: How knowing the Law Makes Us Better Genealogists"; "Don't Forget the Ladies": A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law"; "No Vitals: No Problem!: Building a Family Through Circumstantial Evidence"; "Facts, Photos, and Fair Use: Copyright Law for Genealogists"

You may register by calling the library at 501-778-4760.

You will have an hour and fifteen minutes for lunch on your own.

Judy Russell has spoken at genealo-

gy conferences all over the United States. She has spoken at the national conference of the National Genealogical Society and the national conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies. She attended the National Institute on Genealogical Research (NIGR) at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and completed Elizabeth Shown Mills' course in Advanced Methodology and Evidence Analysis and Thomas W. Jones' course in Writing and Publishing for Genealogists at the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University. I'm privileged now to serve on the faculty at IGHR, at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), and at Boston University's Center for Professional Education.



Judy Russell

## Spotlight on SCHHS Volunteers



Tom and Gail Blackburn

Our society has many volunteers who help our society to succeed. This time we feature Tom and Gail Blackburn. Tom and Gail are charter members of the Saline County History & Heritage Society. Tom has served in many offices of the organization and has helped save many precious documents of Saline County history. He is currently the immediate past President of SCHHS and has worked hard to improve the organization over the years. Gail Blackburn has also served in many offices of the organization over the past 30 years. She has served as program chairman in past years securing many interesting speakers. Gail and Tom were responsible for securing the Pat Dunnahoo collection for the society which includes many excellent photos of early Saline County.

They are both long time members of the First Baptist Church of Benton and Gail is a member of Provincia De La Salle DAR chapter of Benton. They are the parents of one son and two grand daughters. We thank you Tom and Gail for your dedication to the Saline County History & Heritage Society and the history of Saline County, Arkansas.

# SALINE COUNTY HISTORY & HERITAGE SOCIETY

# Scenes of Saline County, Arkansas

P.O. Box 1712  
Benton, AR. 72018

Research Room  
123 North Market Street

Phone: (501) 778-3770  
Website: [www.schhs.us](http://www.schhs.us)

Steve Perdue Editor of the Salt Shaker



North Fork Singing School c. 1910

Saline County History & Heritage Society photo

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## New Saline County Marriage Book Now Available

## Renew your membership for 2017

George Akins who has done a wonderful job completing Saline County Marriage Books for the society has just finished his newest book. This marriage book covers the years 1939—1941 and covers the books number 5, 6, 7, and 8. If you had a relative from Saline County who married in Saline County during those years this would be a great asset in your genealogy research.

There are only 7 books available of this series and it has 169 pages and the cost is \$23.00 each. You may purchase it from our society anytime.



Membership in the Saline County History & Heritage Society is on a calendar year basis. So in January your 2017 dues are up for renewal. Our organization is a non-profit 501C3 organization and your membership and any donation is tax deductible. You receive the Saline two times a year and you receive the Salt Shaker our newsletter four times a year. Also a program on a historical or genealogical topic are presented each month except November. I hope you will renew your membership to our society and help us preserve Saline County history.