



Special points of

Interest:

- Saline County History & Heritage meets with surrounding historical societies
- World War I veteran brings back historic postcards.
- The Saline River to be July program.
- Gann Museum offers World War I exhibit for Summer.
- David Hughes to be August speaker.



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Saline County History & Heritage Society meets with representatives from Hot Spring County Historical Association and Garland County Historical Association to discuss common issues.

On May 19, a meeting was held at the Hot Spring County Historical Society in Malvern with Noreen Henthorne Hout, President of the Hot Springs County Historical Society, Liz Robbins, executive director of the Garland County Historical Society, and myself Steve Perdue, President of the Saline County History & Heritage Society. Bob Thompson, President of the Clark County Historical Society was unable to attend.

The meeting was held to discuss the common problems of historical societies including publications, fund raising, grants and other areas of common

concern. We had a very interesting meeting getting to know each other and hearing how we could help our societies to grow.

I learned that there are many grants available and that each has a certain deadline and they are very specific about how you must apply. Also we discussed fundraising options and how to serve the membership better by keeping them involved in our societies.

We hope to have another meeting soon and we hope to alternate between the different meeting places of our societies so we can see what each has available.



L-R, Steve Perdue, Noreen Hout, and Liz Robbins at the Hot Spring County Historical Society building in Malvern.

Connell McGinley of Sardis community saw service in WWI.

In my recent presentation on the Sardis community, I received some great information from Mrs. Maxine Wine, the daughter of Connell McGinley who served in WWI. Here is his photo and one of many postcards he

brought home from the Great War. He enlisted



with the 1st Arkansas Infantry, he was in company E. He attained the rank of Private. Below is a post card he brought back from over there.

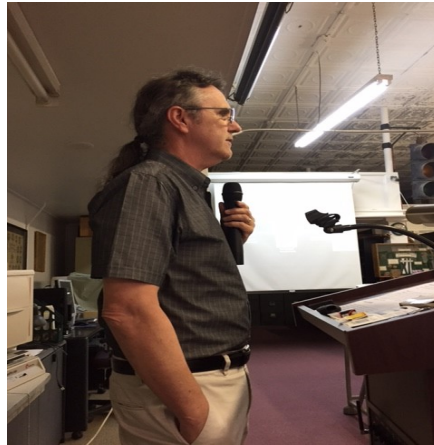


Arkansas Heritage Month program presented in May by author Mike Polston

The Saline County History & Heritage Society presented an Arkansas Heritage Month event in May by having Mike Polston, author of "To Can the Kaiser, Arkansas and the Great War". Mr. Polston a teacher at Cabot High School and the staff historian at the Encyclopedia of Arkansas presented an interesting program on World War I soldiers in Arkansas and their letters home.

Mr. Polston showed several actual letters from World War I soldiers and told of beginning to interview Arkansas World War I soldiers in the early 1980's. Now all of them are deceased.

The letters described some of the things they needed and how they wanted mail from the home front.



Mike Polston of Cabot speaks about World War I letters from Arkansas soldiers as part of the Arkansas World War I centennial celebration.



The Saline River will be July Program



I'm Rob Reep. I am an artist, historian, writer, and filmmaker. Even before graduating from Arkansas State University in 2009, I had already launched my career as a filmmaker with an educational series: **Watch Out! History's Coming**. I have produced a number of documentary films including

Timber: A Heritage of Dreams and Determination - the story of the timber industry in Southeast Arkansas

The Saline - the history of the Saline River, the only free-flowing river in the Ouachita Basin. The program will be Thursday, July 20 at 7:00 pm at the Saline County History & Heritage Society archives and family history research center located at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton. I think you will enjoy this program.

Gann Museum opens exhibit on World War I the weekend of June 30 - 1st. It will be open all Summer.



The Gann Museum has opened its summer exhibit on World War I in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the United States entry into the war.

The museum is open Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

The exhibit contains what the average soldier would have on the battlefield from a mess kit to razors, to a bible, to walky talkies, to knives, to enfield rifles. Also included are what a nurse would wear in the war, what a German aviator would wear, different types of gas masks, for man and horse, also many examples of head-gear.

August Program will feature Saline Courier columnist David Hughes

David T. Hughes, while not an Arkansas native, he lived most of his early life in Saline County, Arkansas, where he worked for the Benton Courier, the Pacesetter, and the Saline County News as a photographer. Most of the time with the Courier.

He is a 1967 graduate of Benton High School and attended Arkansas State University majoring in journalism and Radio and TV. He was also a radio DJ for a time and served as a radio dispatcher for the Benton Police Department in the late 1970's. Later he served as a photographer for the San Antonio Express, the New Braunfels Herald Zeitung in Texas and the Hot Springs Sentinel Record.

Hughes actually spent more of his life as a reporter and later editor of daily and weekly newspapers in Texas, Florida, and the Northern Marianas Islands. He was news editor at the Jacksonville Daily News, and later editor of the Hope Star twice, the El Dorado Daily News and weeklies in Salem and Lincoln, Arkansas and Illinois.

David was editor of a paper in North Point, Florida and later started his own paper in that town.

He later edited papers on Guam and Saipan in the Northern Marianas.

He later spent almost twenty-seven years on papers in Virginia.

He was editor of Loudoun Business. He also spent several years as customer service representative for a major internet provider in Virginia.

He is widowed and is the father of a twenty-seven year old son and grandfather of a two year old grandson, Keegan Toby Hughes.

David plans to speak on the newspapers of Saline County in the 1960's and 1970's and personalities involved in the newspaper business.

He currently writes a column for the Saline Courier.

The program will be Thursday, August 17th, 2017 at 7:00 pm at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton.

September Program will feature the Shaped Notes commonly used at Tull Old Folks Singing in Grant County

2nd Vice President, Wilson and Virginia DuVall are working on a program for our September meeting on September 21 at 7:00 pm. Wilson DuVall serves as the President of the Tull Old Folks Singing which has been around for over a hundred years. In the annual Old Folks Singing, the members sing a style that was common in the early days of gospel singing. The Christian Harmony songbooks are used in the morning and have been used since 1885 when the singing began.

Tull is on the Saline and Grant county line, however the children in Tull attend the Bauxite school district in Saline County.

The Old Folks Singing takes place at the Ebenezer Methodist Church in Tull each year in May.

The singing of the notes first and then the words is believed to have come from Ireland and was an easy way to learn how to sing unfamiliar songs.

We hope you will mark your calendars to attend this program on the third Thursday of September at the Archives and Family History Research Center at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton.

We know you will enjoy it.



Tull Old Folks Singing 1913.

SALINE COUNTY HISTORY & HERITAGE SOCIETY

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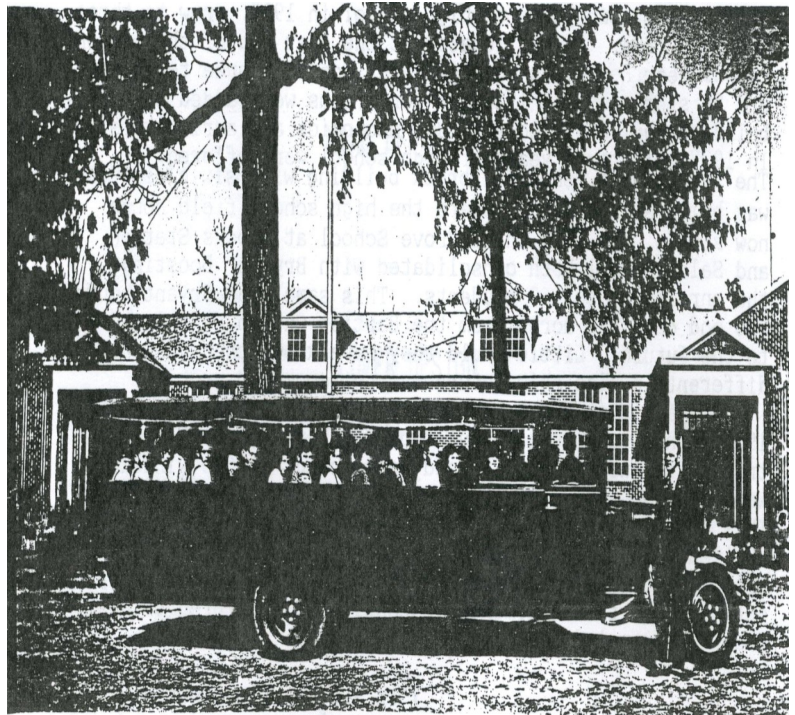
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Steve Perdue is Editor of the Salt Shaker

Scenes of Saline County, Arkansas



Bryant's First Bus - built in the early twenties

October 19th Program to Feature Mr. Tom Dillard Arkansas Historian

Here is a list of the upcoming programs for July, August, September, and October.



Our October 19th program will feature Arkansas Historian, Mr. Tom Dillard. Mr. Dillard is retired former head of Special Collections

at the University of Arkansas Mullins Library. He writes a weekly column on Arkansas history for the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette*. The program will begin at 7:00 pm.

We will have more on his topic in the winter *Salt Shaker*, so check back with us at that time.

Program chairman Shirley Parsons Coppock has worked very hard on our program line up this year and we thank her.

Thursday- July 20th 7:00 pm—The Saline River with Mr. Rob Reep.

Thursday- August 17th 7:00 pm—Newspapers in Saline County in the 1960's and 1970's with David Hughes.

Thursday- September 21-7:00 pm—Shaped Note Singing.

Thursday- October 19th-7:00 pm—Mr. Tom Dillard— Arkansas History.

All programs will be held at the SCHHS Archives and Family History Research Center located at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton.