



The Salt Shaker

Award Winning Newsletter of the Saline County History & Heritage Society

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Special points of Interest:

- July Program tour of the Bauxite Museum
- August Program Green B. Hughes, Saline County Pioneer
- September Dr. Wendy Richter, Arkansas State Historian to speak
- SCHHS receives Small Museum Grant



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July program to tour Bauxite Museum

Our county has many interesting historical sites which we often fail to appreciate. Our July 19th program will be in a different location.

We will meet at 6:00 pm at the Bauxite Museum in Bauxite to tour this historical building. The building better known as the Bauxite Community Hall was built in 1926 with money held out of the Miners pay checks to pay for the construction of this magnificent building.

In the late 1970's as the Alcoa owned town of Bauxite was having many of its buildings torn down an effort was made by the late Arnold Wright and others to save this building. The Alcoa Employees and Descendants Association

was formed to preserve the history of the community hall and the memories of the company owned town of Bauxite.

Today the Bauxite Historical Association and Museum maintain this building for all to see the history of this mining town in central Arkansas.

The Museum has family history and mining history all through out the building.

The history of the industry, the homes, the school, the churches, the hospital, the movie theater and other items of interest are available for viewing.

The museum is open on Wednesday and Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

each week.

Please make your plans to attend the July meeting of the Saline County History & Heritage Society on Thursday, July 19th at 6:00 pm at the Bauxite Museum. Do not come to the historical society, please meet at the Bauxite Museum in Bauxite.



Construction of the Bauxite Community Hall in 1926

Dr. Wendy Richter , Arkansas State Historian to be speaker in

September

Dr. Wendy Richter an old friend of the Saline County History & Heritage Society has been named the new Director of the Arkansas State Archives. Dr. Richter will present our September 20, 2018

program on her plans and projects for the Arkansas State Archives and what opportunities the state archives has available for you.

The program will be at 7.



Cody Berry to present August program on Saline County pioneer Green B. Hughes

Cody Berry, who graduated from Benton High School and received his Bachelor's degree in history from UALR and his Masters in public history from UALR and who will be teaching at the UALR graduate center in Benton this fall will present our August program on Thursday, August 16, at 7:00 pm at the Archives and Family History Research Center located at 123 North Market Street in downtown Benton.

Cody has written on historical topics for the Saline Courier and the Encyclopedia of Arkansas.

He has also written articles that have been published in the Saline.

He will speak on an early Saline County pioneer Green B. Hughes,

who was instrumental in establishing Saline County, Arkansas.

Green B. Hughes served as a Saline county judge and was active in Saline County politics for many years.

The Hughes family owned a mercantile store in downtown Benton and were well known all over Saline County.

Green B. Hughes son John L. Hughes senior was a Confederate veteran of the Civil War and prominent land owner in Saline County, John L. Hughes son George Hughes was the third generation of this family and operated John L. Hughes and son mercantile. George Hughes son John L. Hughes served

As a judge in Saline County for many years. Many acres of Saline County land were owned by the Hughes family.



Hughes building later purchased by H.J. Gingles and became Gingles hardware. It was destroyed by fire around 1991.

Saline County History & Heritage Society is awarded a grant by the Department of Arkansas Heritage for preservation materials.

In May the Saline County History & Heritage Society was awarded a small museum grant to purchase preservation materials for our collection.

The grant was written by Steve Perdue and will enable us to properly store and take care of the many photos, county records, and local history records that

the society maintains.

State Representative Lanny Fite notified the historical society that the grants had been made available by the General Assembly and we appreciate his efforts.

The grants were awarded by Stacey Hurst, Director of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.



2nd Vice President Steve Perdue accepts the Small Museum Grant from the Department of Arkansas Heritage

Maine Resident Clyde McCulley presents his memories of the boy on Shady Grove Road in Benton in April and becomes an Arkansas Traveler

In April former Benton resident Clyd McCulley presented a program on his book “The Boy on Shady Grove Road” In it he tells about things that only those of us who grew up in the fifties and sixties remember about good ole Saline County, Arkansas.

Clyde has a unique way with telling his memories of growing up on what is now Longhills. He mentions many people who you will recognize in his book and many memories you will identify with. Plan to attend this interesting program.

He now lives in Maine and is retired, but he still has a deep love for Benton and Saline County, Arkansas.

A large crowd turned out to hear his presentation. Mr. McCulley was in for a unique surprise when State

Representative Kim Hammer surprised Mr. McCulley with an Arkansas Traveler certificate.

Many in the crowd purchased copies of his book and enjoyed visiting with their old friend.

Here are some photos of the evening.



Former Mayor Lynn Moore gives updates on the preservation of the Old Saline River Bridge

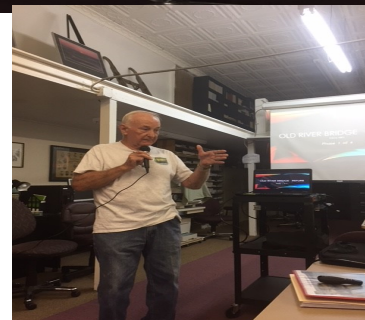
On Thursday June 21, a program about the updates and progress on the restoration of the Old River Bridge in Benton was presented by former Mayor Lynn Moore. Recently it was announced that a \$500,000 dollar grant would allow work to begin restoring the second oldest bridge still standing in Arkansas, which crosses the Saline River in Benton. It’s hoped it will eventually be part of an extensive cycling and pedestrian trail between Little Rock and Hot Springs.

Built in 1891, the Old River Bridge today is little more than a rusted frame.

U.S. Representative French Hill joined the county judges from Saline and Garland counties and the director of the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department to tour the area recently.

The grant will cover the first steps to make the bridge usable.

Here are some photos from the presentation.



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Saline County History & Heritage Society Photo

1953 Opening of the Western Auto Store on Market Street owned by David and Sybol Carter.

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Saline County World War I Tree planted at Bryant in May

Saline County Judge Jeff Arey was also placed. speaks at the planting of the World War I memorial tree at Bryant. The tree one of 75 across the state is the county tree to recognize the 100th anniversary of World War I and the Saline County men who served. The tree was placed in front of the Center at Bryant. Also a memorial to former Bryant resident and Medal of Honor recipient Oscar Miller

