



Press Release for immediate distribution

The 2009 Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference, hosted by the Arkansas Genealogical Society, invites you to the annual special educational day designed for librarians. The FGS Librarians' Day, graciously sponsored by ProQuest, will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 during the FGS/AGS Conference for the Nation's Genealogists.

Are you a librarian or archivist working with family historians and genealogy reference areas in a library, archive or historical society? This is a day designed for you. The Conference theme is "Passages through Time" and you know that many aspects of historical time and ancestral journeys affect your job. Five presentations and a tour of the new Arkansas Studies Institute provide topics that will help you in the daily work and knowledge. This is a day with time for networking with others in similar jobs.

The location of Librarians Day has been moved to the Conference Hotel, the Peabody Little Rock, in order to accommodate all those who have expressed an interest in attending. The tour of the ASI is just a two block walk from the Peabody. There is plenty of space for more registrants.

The impressive and recently opened Arkansas Studies Institute is located at 401 President Clinton Avenue in Little Rock. The ASI houses the well-known Butler Center for Arkansas Studies and part of the University of Arkansas Little Rock's Archives and Special Collections. The material housed in the ASI building covers much more than Arkansas, especially for southern states.

Arkansas Studies Institute: <http://www.cals.lib.ar.us/arstudies/index.htm>

Butler Center for Arkansas Studies: <http://butlercenter.org> and the blog <http://butlercenter.blogspot.com>

UALR Archives and Special Collections: <http://www.ualr.edu/archives/>

This is an all day event for librarians to network with each other as well as hear from gifted speakers. The day starts at 9:00 AM and runs to about 4:00 PM. The ASI and Butler Center library have extended its hours and will close at 8:00 PM so there will be plenty of time to do research.

Librarians' Day Agenda:

8:45 AM – Welcome, Peabody Hotel

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Building Bridges – Connecting Libraries, Archives and Genealogist by Russell L. Baker, Retired Archival Manager, Arkansas History Commission and State Archives.

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM

American Memory (The Library of Congress) by Karen Russ, MLS, Government Documents Librarian/Assistant Professor at Ottenheimer Library, Univ. of Arkansas at Little Rock

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Lunch sponsored by ProQuest – presentation by William Forsyth, PMP, Director of Product Management and Ms. Lanell James, MSI, Manager, Genealogy

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Quick Overview of African American Resources by Lisa Parry Arnold, Content Manager for The Generations Network.

2:15 PM – 3:15 PM

Share in the Arkansas Experience – The Arkansas Studies Institute by David Stricklin, Ph.D., Director of the Arkansas Studies Institute

3:15 PM

Tour Arkansas Studies Institute

The cost is FREE and includes lunch courtesy of ProQuest! A RSVP is required to attend the day. Please register at librariansday@fgs.org and include your name, address, email, and library affiliation. FGS thanks ProQuest and the Arkansas Studies Institute for their important participation in this day.

FGS invites librarians to attend the rest of the conference, too. For program details and registration information visit www.fgsconference.org. That site also has details should your library want to be a part of the exciting Exhibit Hall. For conference updates, special announcements, important links, and additional lecture and speaker information visit www.fgsconferenceblog.org.

Bios for the Librarians' Day Speakers:

LISA PARRY ARNOLD is Content manager over African-American records for Ancestry, as well as Native American, Jewish, church and other challenging records. Lisa is a Brigham Young University graduate in Family History, a frequent presenter and an active member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, currently serving as Chapter Coordinator of the Utah Valley Chapter. She attends national and regional genealogical conferences regularly and teaches Family History classes in her local community.

RUSSELL P. BAKER, archivist, lecturer, historian, teacher, and author, is a native of Arkansas. He attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, where he became a member of Phi Beta Kappa and received a B. A. in History in 1967. In 1985 he was granted a M. A. degree in Public History by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. From 1970 - May 2009 he was employed by the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives in Little Rock and most recently was that institution's Archival Manager and Arkansas's senior archivist. Over the years, he has also taught history and archival courses at several public and private Central Arkansas colleges/universities. Mr. Baker the author of several award winning historical and genealogical publications. His Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832 – 1971 and Arkansas Township Atlas, recently revised and reprinted, are modern classics. During his professional career, he has contributed articles on southern history and religion to local, regional, and national publications. He is the author of a number of articles for the new on line Encyclopedia of Arkansas. He is a frequent lecturer on modern family history research theory at regional and national genealogical conferences and has taught in a number of the Society of American Archivists' continuing education programs. He is a former member of the Society of American Archivists and current member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. He has been a certified archivist since 1989. He is a life member of the Arkansas Genealogical Society and has served on its board of directors for more than three decades. He is a past president of that organization.

KAREN RUSS is currently the Government Documents Librarian in Ottenheimer Library at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Originally from Western New York, she has a Bachelor of Arts in History from the State University of New York at Fredonia and a Masters of Library Science from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

DAVID STRICKLIN is Head of the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the Arkansas history department of the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs), the library system's Associate Director for Special Collections, and Adjunct Professor of History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR). He received a B.A. and an M.A. in history from Baylor University and a Ph.D. in history from Tulane University. He came to the Butler Center after ten years at Lyon College in Batesville, where he was Associate Professor of History. At Lyon, he served as President of the Faculty Assembly, Chair of the Humanities Division, and Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees. In 1999, he was named Arkansas Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Association for the Advancement of Teaching and Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He served two terms as the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Humanities Council. He has worked on a number of radio and television documentaries over the years and has many articles and reviews in print, including a piece in the 2005 Oxford American annual Music Issue, as well as three books, including Southern Music/American Music, co-authored with Bill C. Malone. He oversees the work of the Arkansas Studies Institute, a joint project of CALs and UALR, which opened in the River Market in downtown Little Rock in the spring of 2009.