

GCHS Newsletter March 2017

Dear Friends,

At our next meeting, the society's program will feature Dr. Nancy Hendricks, award-winning author of the acclaimed new book "Notable Women of Arkansas: 100 Names to Know," at noon, **Tuesday, March 21**, at the Garland County Library.

Nancy will present stories of local Arkansas women who shined in the national spotlight. One Arkansas woman was single-handedly nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, Tony Award, and three Grammys, while another was killed by her costume. Nancy will be available after the program to sign copies of her book.

Says Nancy, "Each of the 100 Arkansas women in the book has her own story. Seeing them together really spotlights their impressive legacy. These Arkansas women made their mark on the national stage, with names as well-known in Fort Worth as Fort Smith, and Garland County is very well represented."

She is an award-winning author whose book "Senator Hattie Caraway: An Arkansas Legacy" was named by *Cosmopolitan* magazine as one of the "Twenty Political Books All Women Should Read." She is a founding member of the National Women's History Museum in Washington D.C., and is the recipient of a Pryor Award for Arkansas Women's History, the Arkansas Governor's Arts Award, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 'Women in American History Award,' and the White House Millennium Award.

In the past, we have greatly enjoyed Nancy's programs about Senator Hattie Caraway and about the Sultana ship disaster. This program will be exceptional, too!

GCHS was instrumental in discovering and bringing to the community's attention the fact that a two-time Congressional Medal of Honor winner is buried here, and a ceremony honoring him has been a part of the St. Patrick's Day celebration since 2004. A wreath-laying at the grave of Irish immigrant and US Navy veteran John King, who died at Hot Springs' Army and Navy Hospital in 1938, will kick off the annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Hot Springs on **Thursday (March 16)** at 10 a.m. at Calvary Cemetery at the intersection of Greenwood Street and Third Street. Members of Hot Springs veterans groups annually participate in the wreath-laying ceremony, and the public is welcome.

John King received his first Medal of Honor in 1901 and a citation signed by President Theodore Roosevelt. His second Medal of Honor came eight years later, and this time he received the medal from President William Howard Taft.

Thursday, April 6, 8 AM to 8 PM: You can help us earn bonus dollars and prizes given by the Arkansas Community Foundation by donating on **Arkansas Gives Day**, a twelve-hour statewide online giving event the foundation sponsors. Go to ArkansasGives.org between 8 AM and 8 PM to make a donation.

This is the last time this event will be held—ever. In the last two years, donations made on Arkansas Gives Day helped the society tremendously. And remember—your tax-deductible donation goes further thanks to the ARCF’s generosity. We deeply appreciate your support!

Please check out the **GCHS Facebook page!** We’re posting photos, announcements, and news to reach out to more people. Join us!

We appreciate the donations of historic material to the archives. Recently, Larry Williams donated four scrapbooks that document county activities and news from 1995 to 2010, when he served as Garland County’s longest-serving county judge. Thank you, Larry!

If you haven’t discovered the online digital collections of the Arkansas State Archives, you need to take a look. They are wonderful. The newest addition to their online collections is material related to Japanese American internment camps in Arkansas. The launch coincides with the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which authorized the removal of people of Japanese ancestry from the west coast in February 1942 and led to the creation of internment camps across the interior of the country during World War II.

The collection, “[You Fought Prejudice and Won: Japanese American Internment Camps in Arkansas](#),” contains over 750 documents and images from the State Archives, relating to the Rohwer and Jerome Relocation Centers in the Arkansas Delta. Materials in the online collection include photographs, letters, official documents, newspaper articles, personal narratives, and artwork from internees and camp officials.

“You Fought Prejudice and Won: Japanese American Internment Camps in Arkansas” is the 20th online collection created by the Arkansas State Archives since the launch of its digital collections website, the [Arkansas Digital Ark-ives](#) in 2014. This collection joins others on the site, including ones relating to World War I, the Arkansas Territory, and the Civil War.

As always, the society is busy giving programs, helping students and researchers, preserving historic materials, and working on ways to tell Garland County’s story. Thank you for making this work possible!

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Leave a legacy. Please remember GCHS in your estate planning.