

Shiloh Scrapbook

SHILOH MUSEUM OF OZARK HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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Ernie's Search Engine



Arkansas Gazette columnist Ernie Deane (left) visits with a local farmer at a strawberry sale in Bald Knob, Arkansas, May 1960. *Ernie Deane Collection*

Susan Young
Outreach Coordinator

Ernie Deane wore many hats: journalist, folklorist, university instructor, historic preservationist. He's probably best known for his "Arkansas Traveler" and "Ozarks Country" newspaper columns. The "Arkansas Traveler" ran in the *Arkansas Gazette* from 1956 to 1965, and from 1970 to 1985 "Ozarks Country" appeared weekly in 17 newspapers across Arkansas and Missouri. Both columns focused on stories of everyday folks—the "Traveler" from a statewide perspective, "Ozarks" from a regional one. Deane

also wrote feature stories and opinion pieces for the editorial page.

Over the course of almost 30 years, Deane's well-researched yet down-to-earth writing style gained him a legion of devoted readers, as well as a massive collection of research materials and correspondence. File cabinets stuffed full of news clippings, magazine articles, letters, and photos related to his columns, feature stories, and editorials, as well as his research on Arkansas place names, lined the walls of Deane's office in

his Fayetteville home. He collected a mountain of information and he did it all in the pre-Internet era. Those files were Ernie's search engine. Today, much of Ernie Deane's research is housed here at the Shiloh Museum.

We've been working for over a year to organize and store the materials so the files can be made available to the public. It's a jewel of a collection that reflects Deane's dedication to tracking down compelling stories about all things Arkansas—a pursuit that took him throughout the state and to 20

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One of the much-discussed topics in history museums—in fact, one that’s also being debated in the cyber world—is the issue of “shared historical authority,” the idea that professionals aren’t the only ones able to interpret and present history. The concept has rocked many traditionalists who believe that museums and historical societies are and should be the authorities on history. The idea of a “shared authority” involves looking at history not just from the top down, but in a collaborative, participatory way that includes interpretation with and by the public. Think Wikipedia, Facebook, StoryCorps.

What happens, what does it mean, when audiences create—not just “receive”—historical content? A 2011 book by the Pew Charitable Trust, *Letting Go? Sharing Historical Authority in a User-Generated World*, discusses how professionals and the public at museums can “co-create meaning.” The book’s authors expand, rather than reject, museum authority, explaining how the public’s contributions cultivate strong

DIRECTOR’S COLUMN



Allyn Lord

community relationships and create more inclusive, full, and rich histories.

In sharing historical authority, museums use their own resources, such as collections, photos, and public spaces, to help tell the stories of non-traditional participants, folks who have been traditionally disenfranchised or underrepresented in history or its telling, or who have simply not been regular museum goers. Nina Simon, often labeled a museum visionary, is author of *The Participatory Museum*. She argues therein that, rather than delivering the same content to every visitor, a

participatory museum collects and shares diverse, personalized, and changing content co-produced by visitors, thereby showcasing the diverse opinions and stories of non-experts.

There’s much to the discussion and, to my mind, there are good points on both sides of the debate. However, I believe strongly in making sure that the stories we tell, the histories we interpret, and the artifacts we exhibit fully reflect the experiences of as many people as possible and express the nuances inherent in multiple viewpoints. That’s a tough job to do in an hour-long program or a small exhibit. But it’s made easier when we partner with our audiences, provide open forums for discussion, meet communities on their home turf, actively seek out different voices, and listen—really listen—to others.

Have a story to tell, an artifact or photograph to preserve, a point of view to express? Share it with us. Make sure that your history is part of our history.

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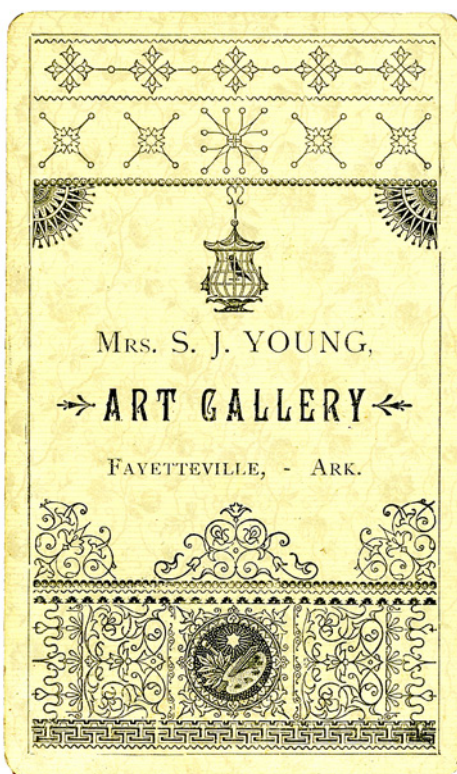
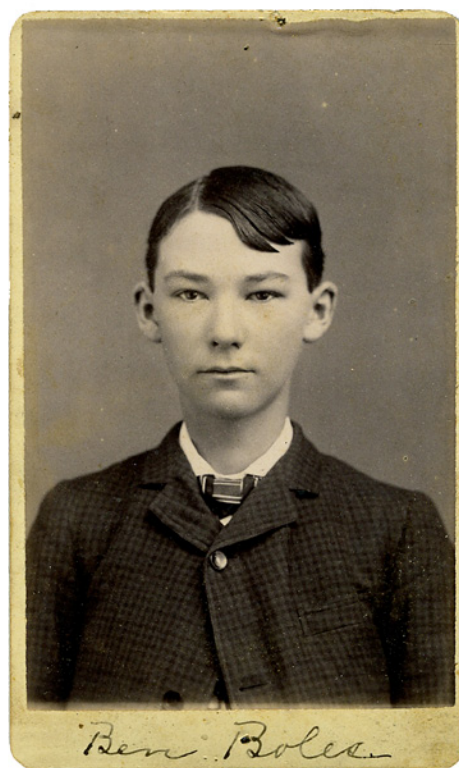
Allyn Lord, director; Judy Costello, education manager; Marie Demeroukas, photo archivist/research librarian; April Griffith, research library assistant; Kris Johnson, photographer; Aaron Loehndorf, collections/education assistant; Curtis Morris, exhibits manager; Kathy Plume, receptionist/gift shop manager; Marty Powers, maintenance; Carolyn Reno, assistant director/collections manager; Carly Squyres, education assistant; Susan Young, outreach coordinator

SHILOH MUSEUM OF OZARK HISTORY

118 W. Johnson Avenue • Springdale, AR 72764 • 479-750-8165
shilohmuseum.org • shiloh@springdalear.gov

Open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. -5 p.m. • Free Admission

From the Studio of Mrs. Young



Fred Meyer of Hondo, Texas, recently donated items from the Llewelyn L. Moore family of Fayetteville, including these early 1880s cartes-de-visite of the Boles family taken by well-known Fayetteville photographer Mrs. S. J. (Sarah Jessie) Young.

Popular from the mid to late 1800s, cartes-de-visite were small photographs mounted on a piece of cardboard about the size of a modern-day credit card. As seen here, the photographer often used the back of the carte-de-visite as advertising space.

Top row, from left: Clifford Boles; his wife, Nettie Barnett Boles; their son, Edwin. Bottom row: Clifford Boles' younger brother, Benjamin.

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What's in Store

Kathy Plume

Gift Shop Manager

As we approach the holiday season, many of us have certain expectations and traditions connected to this time of the year. My favorite aspect is the beautiful music that accents the meaning of the season and brings fond memories of church plays, school choir concerts, and piano recitals.

In our Shiloh Museum store we carry a variety of CDs and music books of the Ozarks and Appalachians genres. For your holiday enjoyment, we have Christmas CDs that feature the delightful sounds of hammered and mountain dulcimers. One of my favorites is an instrumental CD of hammered dulcimer music splendidly performed by one of our own Arkansans, Dennis Lee.

Our featured sale this season is the McSpadden mountain dulcimer. These beautifully handcrafted instruments are Arkansas-made and exhibit an appearance and sound that can only come from the hands of those highly skilled in this craft. We are offering these dulcimers at a 10% discount from now until December 31, while quantities last. Each dulcimer comes with a padded case, instruction book, pick, noter, and a lifetime warranty for the original owner. As with all of our merchandise, sales tax has already been added to the sales price.

This holiday season consider giving the gift of music, the McSpadden mountain dulcimer, a lasting treasure that can be passed on from one generation to the next.



WISH LIST

For photo archive and research library

- *Black Hillbillies of the Arkansas Ozarks*, Dr. Gordon D. Morgan, 1973
- Polyester photo sleeves, \$226
- 5-drawer file cabinet for research files, \$400 (or used one in good condition)

For education programs

- Walmart gift card (any amount) to purchase perishable items
- Hobby Lobby gift card (any amount) to purchase artificial fruit and vegetables
- Old-fashioned wooden clothespins, \$10
- Modern mechanical kitchen timer, \$10

For oral history projects

- Sony MDR-7503 headphones, \$50

For museum store

- small whiskey barrel (for displaying walking sticks)

Thank you for these “for-use” items (August–October 2014)

Abby Burnett: Family Photo Detective; Gone to the Grave; The Voices of Moccasin Creek

Mary Jane Dyson: Hay fork

Eureka Springs Carnegie Public Library: The Honorable Clayton Powell

Crow Johnson Evans: Cotton bolls

Regina Gabel: Table skirts; window curtains

Roberta Hamilton: Raw wool

Cecelia Jaffe: dyed skeins of yarn

Mira Leister: Fabric; Walmart gift card

Linda Long: Coverlet fragment

Jill Maddox: Raw cotton

Dorothy Miller: Washington County Cemetery Locator

Larry Mizell: Dyed yarn sample

Laura Redford: Hand-woven blanket

Jane-Ellen Ross: Meals for Sheep to Shawl demonstrators

Ann Webb: cast iron trivets; tea kettle; grain mortar and pestle; microwave oven

DONATIONS TO THE COLLECTIONS

August–October 2014

Jackie Ahrens: Crazy quilt made for Henry Marshall's retirement from ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Rogers, 1910

Mary Braun estate: Trumpet, jewelry, family items, letters, papers, and photographs from the Millard Berry and Percy Braun families, Springdale, late 1800s-2000s

Rick Collins: Springdale High School 1968 AAA champions commemorative football

Karen Cordell: Serving tray, salad-dressing pitcher, and postcard from Brogdon's Chickenlittle Restaurant, ca. 1950s; handmade cane, mid-1900s, all from Springdale

Glynda F. Dames: Autographed photo postcard of Robert Wadlow, 1930s

Linda Deitelhoff: Ozark nut head dolls, Bella Vista, mid to late 1900s

James Gately: T-shirt and medal from Beaver Lake Games, 2014

Kim Harper: Placemat from Basin Park Hotel and Coffee Shop, Eureka Springs, 1949

John W. Johnson: Springdale Fire Department helmet, 1967, and bunker suit, 1985; Springdale PTA papers, 1978; Arkansas State Board of Pharmacy certificate for Rivers M. Duncan, 1939; and Dr. M.W. Duncan receipts, late 1890s, Centerton

Robert Mayes: 1959 Rodeo of the Ozarks and 1980 Washington County Fair booklets; vest-pocket dictionary, 1910; Mayes family photographs, St. Paul (Madison County) and Elkins; early 1900s

Fred Meyer: Bible, photo album, papers, and photographs from the Llewelyn L. Moore family, Fayetteville, ca. 1900

Casey Mileham: Photographs of the Graham family, Springdale and Fayetteville, early-late 1900s

Joan Pharr: World War II service star ring and Red Cross volunteer pin, from the Pool family, Cincinnati (Washington County)

Jared Phillips: Ozark Mountain Folk Fair video from original film by Gary Crabtree, Eureka Springs, 1973

Ronald Pile: Crosley Icy Ball, 1920s, and canvas ice bag, early 1900s, Springdale

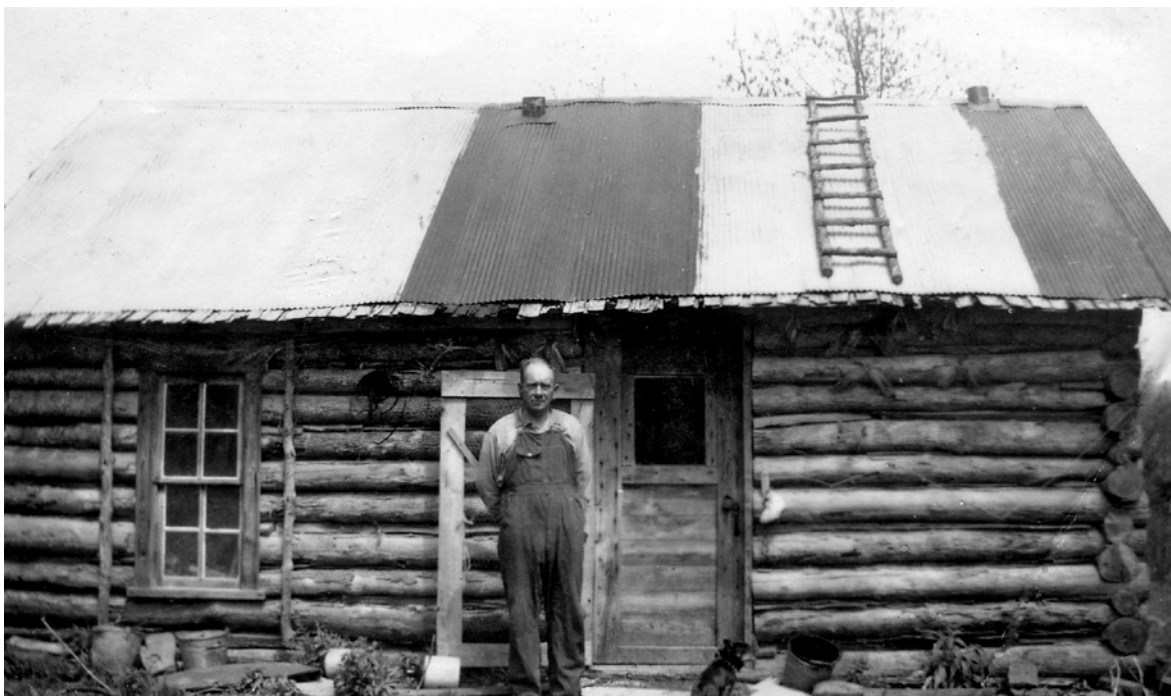
Erika Sutherland: Barbecue sauce pitcher from Brogdon's Chickenlittle Restaurant, Springdale, ca. 1950

Mike and Carol Tillery: J. K. Pool and Son Store ledger, Thompson (Madison County), early 1920s

Photographs loaned for copying:
Karen Cordell, John W. Johnson, Tony McGarrah

To learn more about artifacts and photos in our collection, visit our website's [Artifact of the Month](#) and [Photo of the Month](#).

Subscribe to our website's [RSS Feed](#) to keep up with the new offerings each month.



Ernest Clyde Bundy at his home in Elkins, circa 1940. Robert Mayes Collection

Deane

From page 1

foreign countries. The subjects (over 1,000 of them) are wonderfully diverse. Chances are good that if it related to Arkansas (especially the Ozarks), Ernie Deane researched and wrote about it.

Take Ernie's folder on bees. He began this file in 1968 while gathering information for an *Arkansas Gazette* feature article that ran on May 26 of that year. The story focused on the importance of honey bees as pollinators and the decline of wild bees, which was prompting farmers to "rent" bees from commercial beekeepers in order to ensure their crops were pollinated.

Today we hear a lot about the plight of honey bees, but Ernie Deane was sounding the alarm way back in 1968. He wrote, "Until comparatively recently in American agriculture, there was little need for bees 'for hire.' Wild bees, and those kept on farms and in towns, did much of the pollinating so vital in nature's plan, and they did it on their own. But nowadays [1968], wild bees are disappearing. Insecticides sprayed on crops are killing vast numbers of them; land clearing is destroying their natural nesting places, and at the same time, many other insects that help pollinate plants are being destroyed by the same forces."

To flesh out the story, Deane accompanied Arlis Keller and Ray Langston, commercial beekeepers and bee-renters from Green Forest (Carroll County) to a Springdale apple orchard owned by Lowrey Walker. Walker, wrote Deane, "owns 66 acres of apple trees, has been a grower much of his life, and his father was a grower ahead of him... Walker's orchards produce around 30,000 bushels of Summer Champions, Delicious, and Jonathans



Beekeeper Arlis Keller places a pollinating hive in the Lowrey Walker apple orchard in Springdale, April 1968. *Ernie Deane, photographer/Ernie Deane Collection*

annually. Most of his crop goes to Eastern and Northern markets, and some of it is sold to a processing plant in Fort Smith."

As the beekeepers went to work, Deane took notes: "Here and there under the trees, Keller and Langston placed box-shaped, wooden hives. Into and out of the hives poured an almost endless stream of worker bees—all females, for only they gather nectar and pollen."

Researching further for the article, Deane interviewed Joe Parkhill of Berryville, state director of the State Apiary Board. He collected state and national statistics on honey and beeswax production. He studied testimony given to the House Subcommittee on Agriculture by Glenn Gibson, secretary of the American Beekeeping Federation. In other words, Deane gathered a lot of important, but potentially boring, factoids. But he masterfully wove those facts into the human interest story. The result was a substantive yet engaging discourse on why we humans ought to care about bees.

In closing, Deane wrote, "[E]verybody benefits when millions of these insects go to work. This includes that great multitude of us who own not one hive nor a single apple tree, but who eat fruit and dearly love golden honey on our biscuits." That's classic Ernie Deane wordsmithing and maybe even a little Ernie Deane psychology. He knew his readers, and he knew that leaving us with the thought of a honey-drenched biscuit (surely homemade by Mama or Grandma) would resonate.

After the 1968 article was published, Deane continued to collect clippings on honey bees for the next 15 years. The result is a folder chock-full of varied materials with a regional focus, accessible by simply opening a file cabinet drawer. It's one hit on Ernie's search engine—a relevant destination on the information highway and a lesson in the fundamentals of doing good research. 🐝

Visit our [website](#) to explore the 1,000+ research file subject headings in the *Ernie Deane Collection*.

A Sweeping Accomplishment



Groundskeeper Marty Powers turned out a fine stand of broom corn (top left) this past season, so fine that our education staff decided to try their hand at making brooms just like the pioneers did.

After using a very modern method of instruction—watching a Wisconsin Public Television’s [online video](#) about pioneer-era broom making—Marty, education manager Judy Costello, and education assistant Carly Squyres went to work. Judy (top right) harvested the stalks and combed out the seeds. Marty cut some nice long sticks to use as handles. Carly (lower left) wrapped the cleaned stalks around the sticks, weaving string throughout the stalks to secure them. The finished products (below) are a lovely addition to our Ritter-McDonald log cabin!



It bears mentioning that the broommaking video featured a volunteer broommaker at [Schumacher Farm Park](#), a living history farm museum in Waunakee, Wisconsin, hometown of our own collections/education assistant, Aaron Loehndorf. Small world indeed!



CALENDAR

Through March 24, 2015. *A Boy's Toys*, an exhibit of toys from the 1930s and 1940s from the Orville Hall Jr. Collection.

Through January 10, 2015. *Just Doing My Work*, an exhibit featuring the paintings of folk artist Essie Ward.

Through December 13. *Healing Waters*, a photo exhibit about medicinal springs in Northwest Arkansas.

December 16–May 16, 2015. *Lime Light*, a photo exhibit about the lime industry in the Arkansas Ozarks and the dangers the workers faced.

January 10, 2015, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Cabin Fever Reliever, the museum's annual open house featuring displays by local collectors.

January 21, noon. "Disappearing Ground: Karst, Sinkholes, Caves, and More," a program by Arkansas master naturalist Denis Dean.

January 26–January 9, 2016. *Out of the Darkroom*, a photo exhibit featuring images from the museum collection chosen by photographer [Don House](#).

February 18, noon. "Kith, Kin, and Claims on Chicken Bristle Mountain," a program about the effects of the Civil War on a Washington County community, by museum outreach coordinator Susan Young.

March 18, noon. "Preserving Our Heritage: Documenting Historic Arkansas Cemeteries," a program by Kathleen Cande, senior project archeologist with the [Arkansas Archeological Survey](#).

April 15, noon. "The Circle of Ozark Life," a program on the interactions between native plants, insects, and animals (birds) by Donald Steinkraus, professor of entomology at the University of Arkansas.

May 19. Opening of *Silver Screen Memories*, an exhibit featuring photos and memorabilia of area movie theaters and filmmaking.

May 20, noon. A program on the history of Springdale's First United Methodist Church by longtime church members Earlene Henry and Fay Marie Johnson.

June 17, noon. "The Back-to-the-Land Movement: Ozark History and Memories," a program by local historian and author Denele Campbell.

July 15, noon. "A History of Fly-Fishing in Arkansas," a program by fishing guide [Scott Branyan](#).

August 19, noon. "Kodaking with Mulkeepmo," a program about early 1900s Johnson-area people and places as seen by Marion Mason, photographer and correspondent for the *Springdale News*, by museum photo archivist/research librarian Marie Demeroukas.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Shiloh Museum of Ozark History serves the public by providing resources for finding meaning, enjoyment, and inspiration in the exploration of the Arkansas Ozarks. Adopted by the Shiloh Museum Board of Trustees on July 13, 2006

Join the Shiloh Museum Association

- Satisfaction of knowing you are supporting an important cultural institution and helping preserve our Arkansas Ozark heritage, *and*
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