

# ARKANSAS

## ACTIVITY BOOKLET



**Published by Charlie Daniels, Secretary of State**



# State of Arkansas Secretary of State

**Charlie Daniels**  
Secretary of State

Hi!

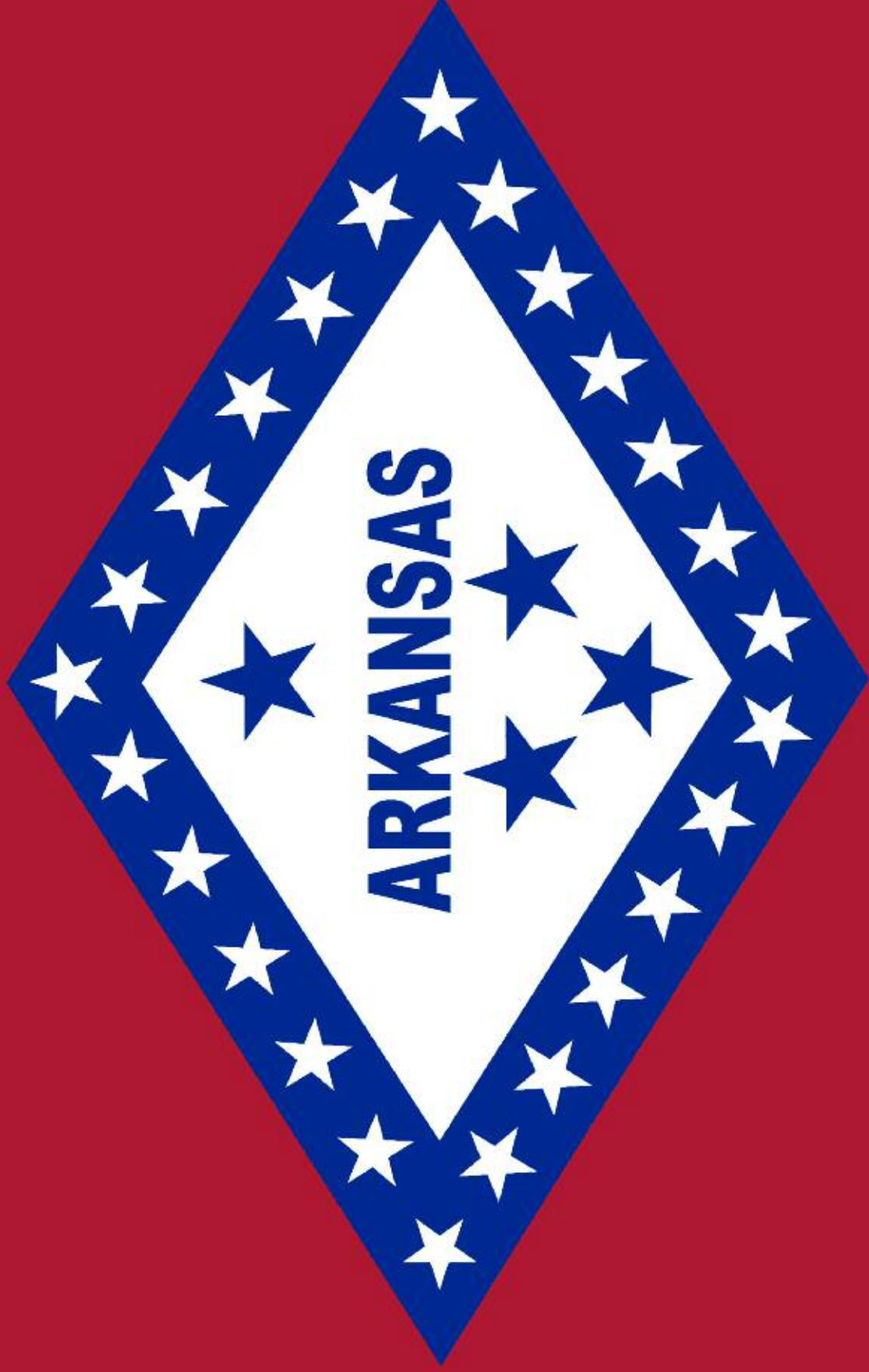
I hope you enjoy this coloring book filled with fun and interesting facts about our state, Arkansas. There are many exciting things about Arkansas that this book will show you. Did you know that Arkansas has diamonds? Did you know Arkansas has a State Beverage? Arkansas is filled with wonderful things.

One of my favorite things in Arkansas is the State Capitol in Little Rock. Did you know as Secretary of State my office is in the Capitol? One of my duties as Secretary of State is taking care of the State Capitol and making sure that there are fun and educational things for you to do when you come and visit. What a great job I have. As Secretary of State I also get to help with Arkansas's election process, businesses from Arkansas, and the State Capitol Police. Just like the Governor I have to be elected every four years.

I look forward to you coming to see me at the Capitol with your family or class.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charlie Daniels".

Charlie Daniels  
Secretary of State



**The Arkansas State Flag**

# THE STORY OF THE ARKANSAS FLAG

Can you imagine Arkansas's flag with an ocean steamer?

Can you imagine Arkansas's flag with a dancing bear?

Instead of the handsome and dignified red flag centered with a diamond and stars, such flags could have flown over the twenty-fifth state if a 1913 committee had not acted with wisdom.

Before 1913 there was no state flag.

The battleship U.S.S. Arkansas was to be commissioned, and the Pine Bluff chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution voted to present a state flag to the ship. But first, the flag committee of the chapter had to learn about the state flag.

A letter to Secretary of State Earl W. Hodges was sent by a committee of three, Mrs. C.W. Pettigrew (whose idea it was in the first place), Mrs. W.A. Taggart and Mrs. Frank Tomlinson. Before long, they had the answer: there was no state flag.

The Pine Bluff group decided to correct the situation by holding a statewide flag contest. Mr. Hodges was asked to act as custodian for entries.

Sixty-five separate designs were entered in the contest. Some were crayon drawings and some were flag miniatures on silk.

As the state flower, the apple blossom appeared on a number of designs. One centered with the flower was scattered with stars representing the United States. There were thirteen rays on it for the original states and the colors were red, white and blue.

One flag used just the apple blossom, four of them in colorful blocks.

One design used the outline of Arkansas and the state seal with red, white and blue.

Mr. Hodges was chairman of the committee to select the flag and he chose a distinguished list of members: Dr. Junius Jordan, the chairman of philosophy and pedagogy at the University of Arkansas; Mrs. Julia McAlmont Noel, a member of the John McAlmont Chapter of the D.A.R. in Pine Bluff; Miss Julia Warner, a teacher in the Little Rock school system, and Mrs. P.H. Ellsworth, a former president of the Arkansas Federation of Women's Clubs.

In the early days of 1913 the committee gathered in Mr. Hodges' office and worked on choosing a flag. As a winner they chose the red, white and blue design of Miss Willie Hocker of Wabbaseka, a member of the Pine Bluff chapter of the D.A.R., where the search originated.

On a rectangular field of red, Miss Hocker had placed a large white diamond bordered by twenty-five white stars on a blue band. Three blue stars in a straight line were centered in the diamond.

Miss Hocker explained that the colors in her design meant that Arkansas was one of the United States of America. The three blue stars had four meanings:

Arkansas belonged to three countries – France, Spain and the United States – before attaining statehood; 1803 was the year of the Louisiana Purchase when the land that is now Arkansas was acquired by the United States; Arkansas was the third state created from the purchase by the United States; and the three stars, the two stars below and parallel to the name

Arkansas signify that Arkansas and Michigan are “twin” states. Both were admitted to the Union about the same time – Arkansas on June 15, 1836, and Michigan on January 26, 1837.

The twenty-five stars mean that Arkansas was the twenty-fifth state to be admitted to the Union. The diamond represents Arkansas as the nation's only diamond-producing state.

The committee decided the flag needed to include the state's name. Miss Hocker agreed and suggested that the three blue stars be arranged with one above the name and two below.

On February 26, 1913, the legislature made it the state's official flag. The U.S.S. Arkansas received her flag from the Pine Bluff Chapter of the D.A.R.

Then there was trouble – there was no indication on the flag that Arkansas had been a member of the Confederate States of America from 1861 to 1865. To correct that, the legislature in 1923 added a fourth blue star above the letter “R” in Arkansas and moved the single blue star to a position above the last “A”. But, a furor arose and many claimed that the original symmetry and meaning of the design were destroyed.

So in 1924 the legislature placed three blue stars below the word “Arkansas” and one above, the way the flag is today.

The three stars below “Arkansas” retained the meaning Miss Hocker had set and the lone star above the word is to commemorate Arkansas's membership in the Confederacy.

And so it remains today – a proud banner that flies for all Arkansans.

## HOW DID ARKANSAS GET ITS NAME?



Many names of places in our state came from the languages of the explorers who discovered and lived in Arkansas. The Native Americans, Spanish, French and Americans all helped name places in our state. The word "Arkansas" came from the Quapaw Indians, by way of early French explorers. The explorers met a group of Native Americans, known as the Ugakhpah, which means "people who live downstream." These Native Americans later were called the Quapaw, who were also called the Arkansaw. This name came to be used for the land where these Native Americans lived.

## OUR STATE SEAL



Steamboat



Plow



Beehive



Sheaf of Wheat

### GREAT SEAL OF ARKANSAS



Angel of Mercy



Sword of Justice



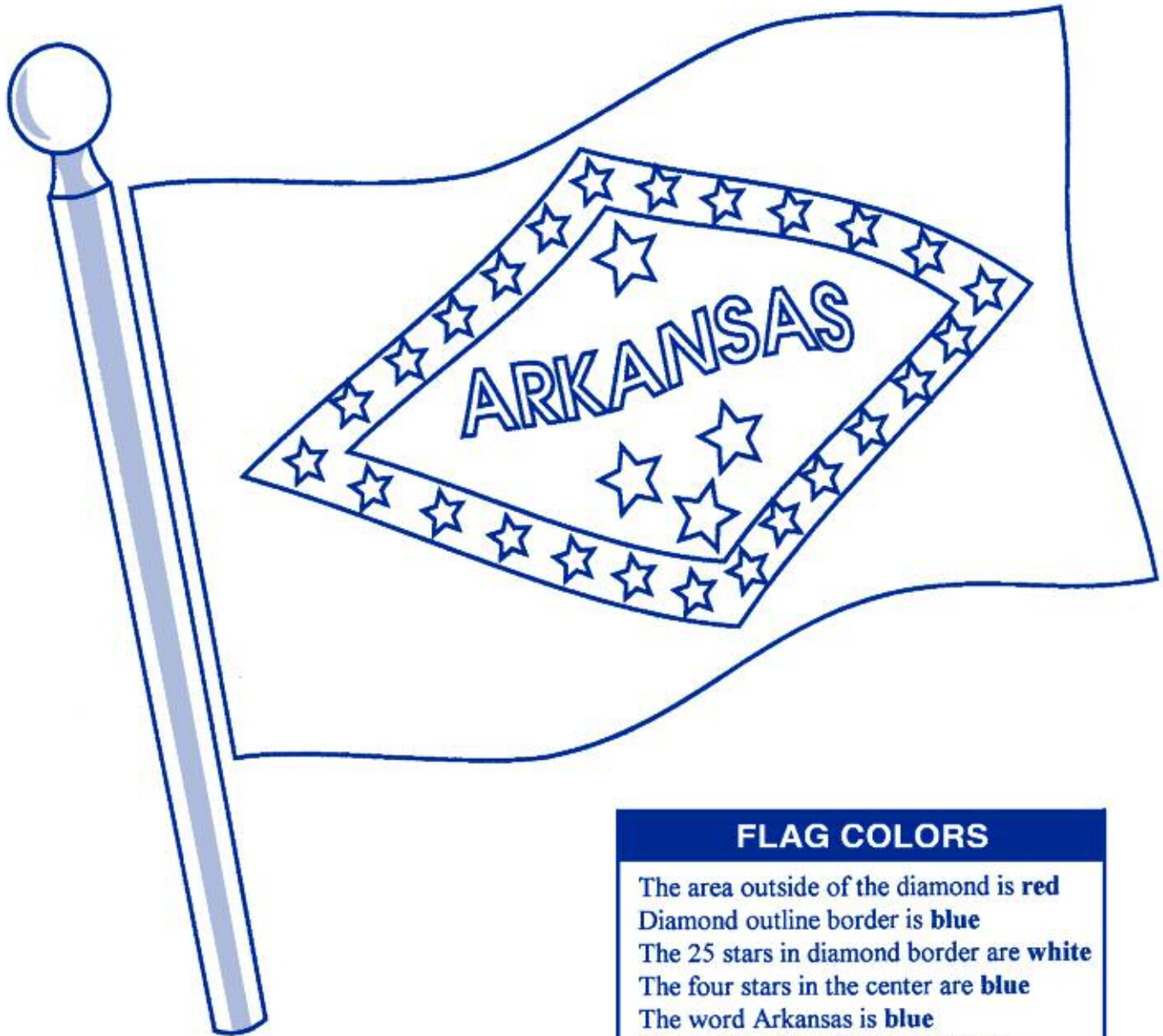
Goddess of Liberty



Bald Eagle

On the shield of our state seal are a steamboat, a plow, a beehive and a sheaf of wheat, symbols of Arkansas's industrial and agricultural wealth. The Angel of Mercy, the Sword of Justice and the Goddess of Liberty surround a bald eagle. The eagle holds in its beak a scroll inscribed with the Latin phrase "Regnat Populus", our state motto, which means "The People Rule". The seal was adopted in its basic form in 1864, and in its present form in 1907.

## OUR STATE FLAG

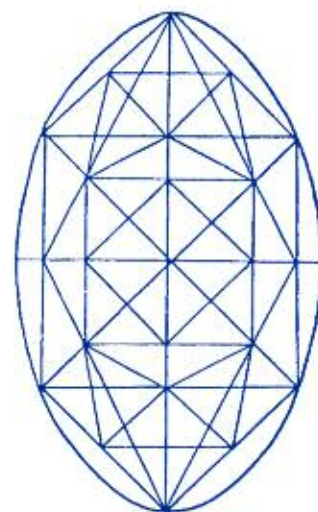
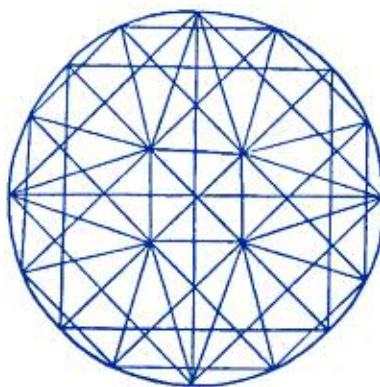
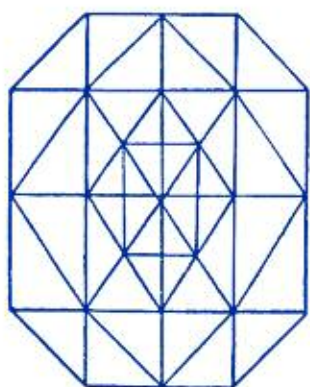
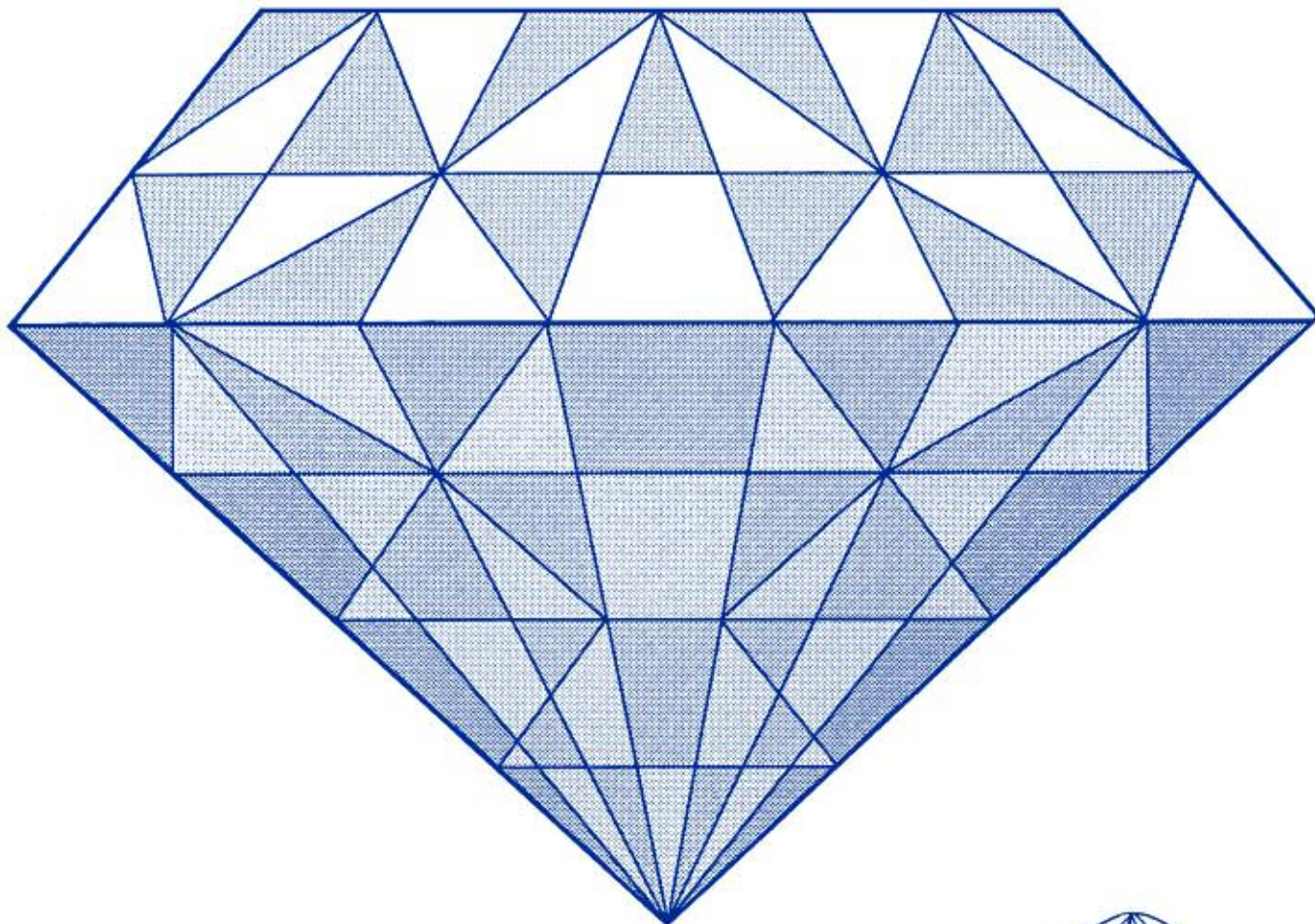


### FLAG COLORS

The area outside of the diamond is **red**  
Diamond outline border is **blue**  
The 25 stars in diamond border are **white**  
The four stars in the center are **blue**  
The word Arkansas is **blue**  
The inside of the diamond is **white**

Our state flag, designed by Miss Willie K. Hocker of Wabbaseka, Arkansas, was adopted in 1913. The 25 stars indicate that Arkansas was the 25th state admitted to the United States. The three large stars in the center stand for the three nations that have ruled Arkansas: Spain, France and the United States. Also, Arkansas was the third state formed from the Louisiana Purchase. The large star above ARKANSAS symbolizes the Confederacy which Arkansas was a part of from 1861-1865, and the diamond formed by the 25 stars represent Arkansas as the only diamond-producing state in the Union.

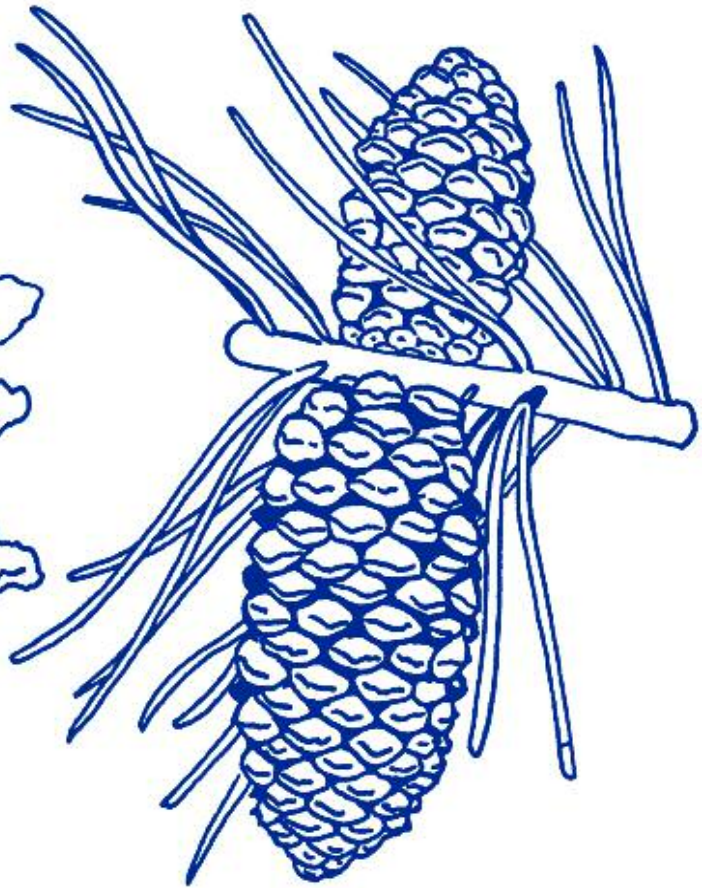
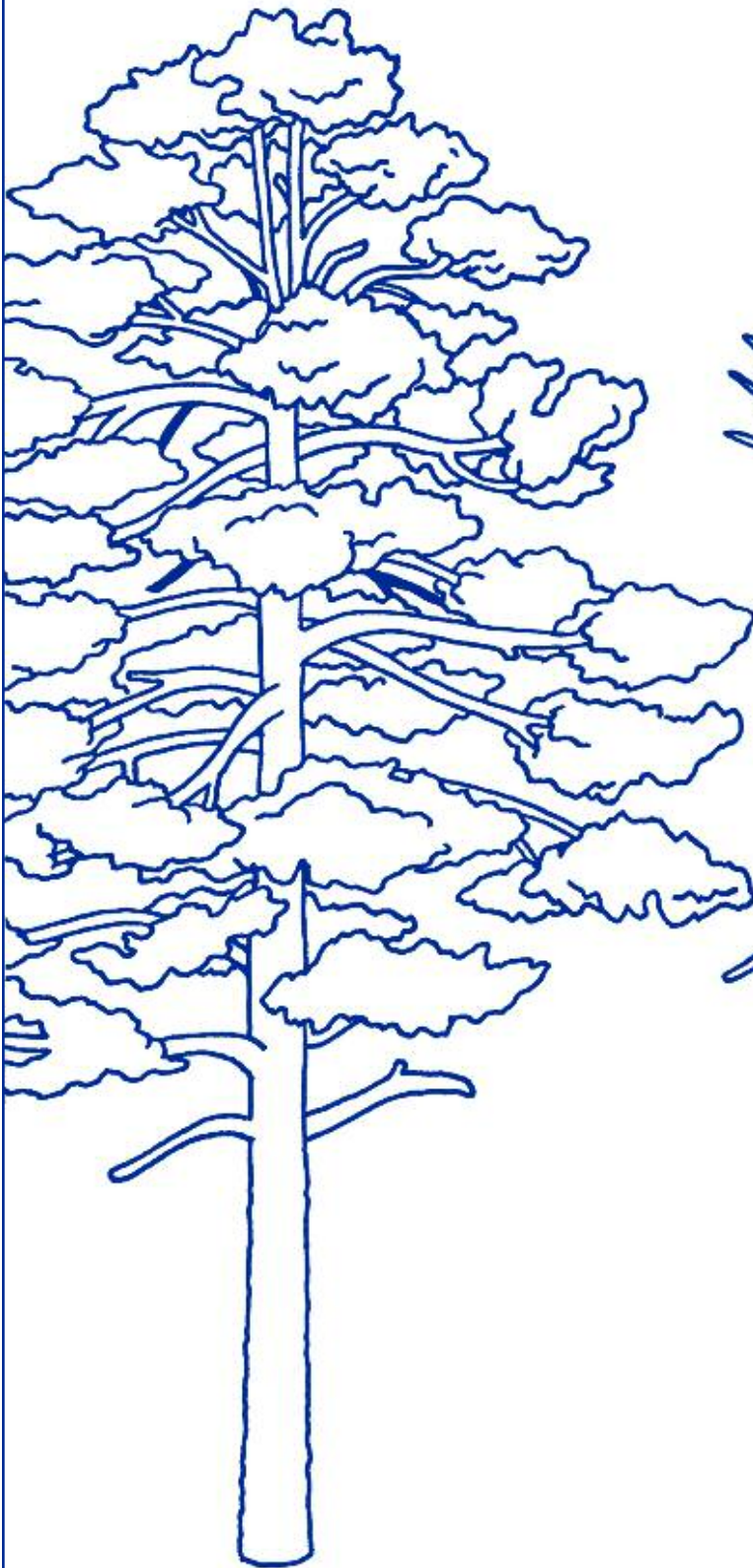
## OUR STATE GEM



The diamond was adopted as the Arkansas State Gem by the General Assembly of 1967. Arkansas is the only diamond-producing state in the United States. The Crater of Diamonds State Park, located in Murfreesboro, Arkansas, is the only place in the nation where you can dig for diamonds and keep what you find. More than 70,000 diamonds have been found there.

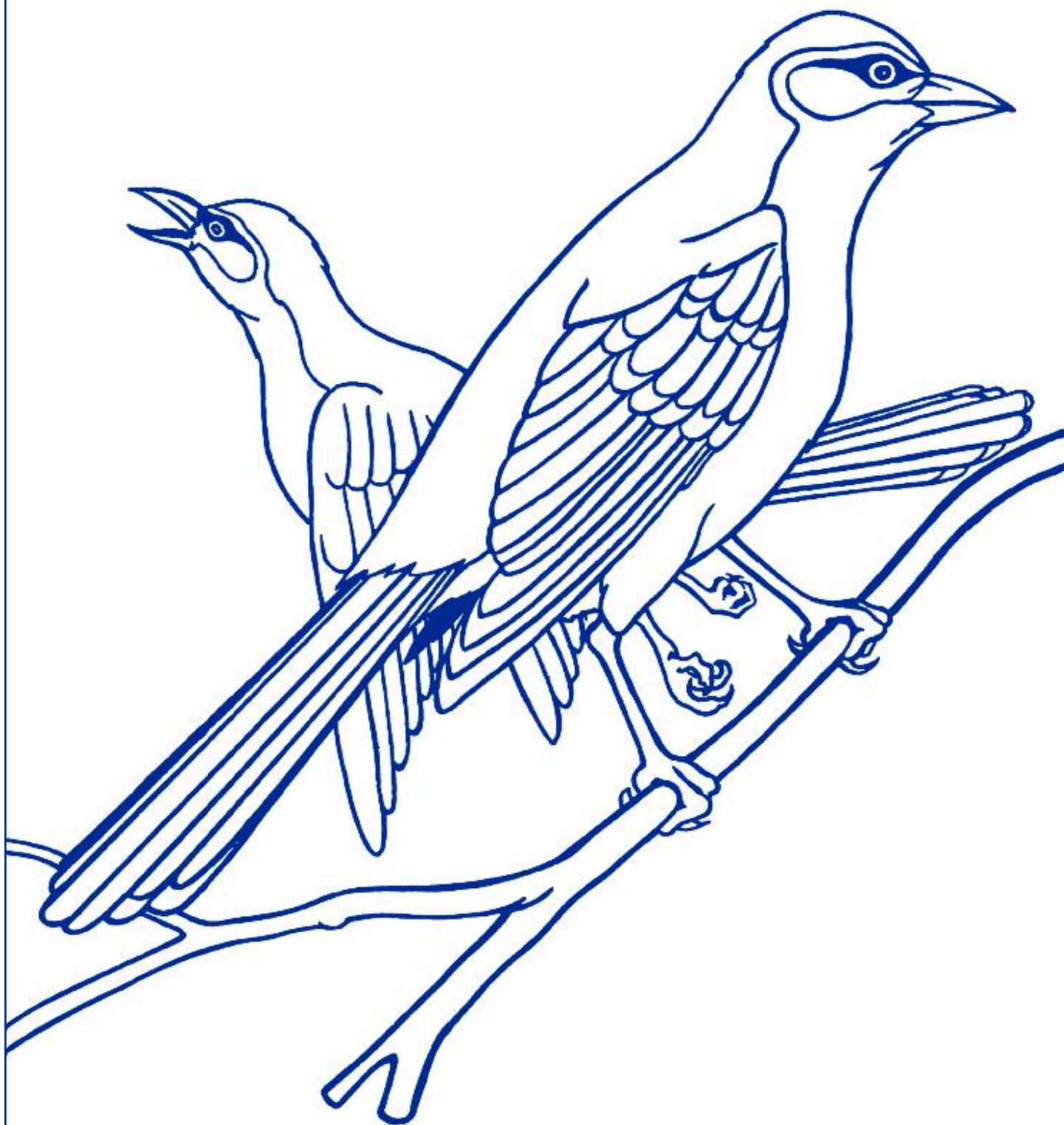


## OUR STATE TREE



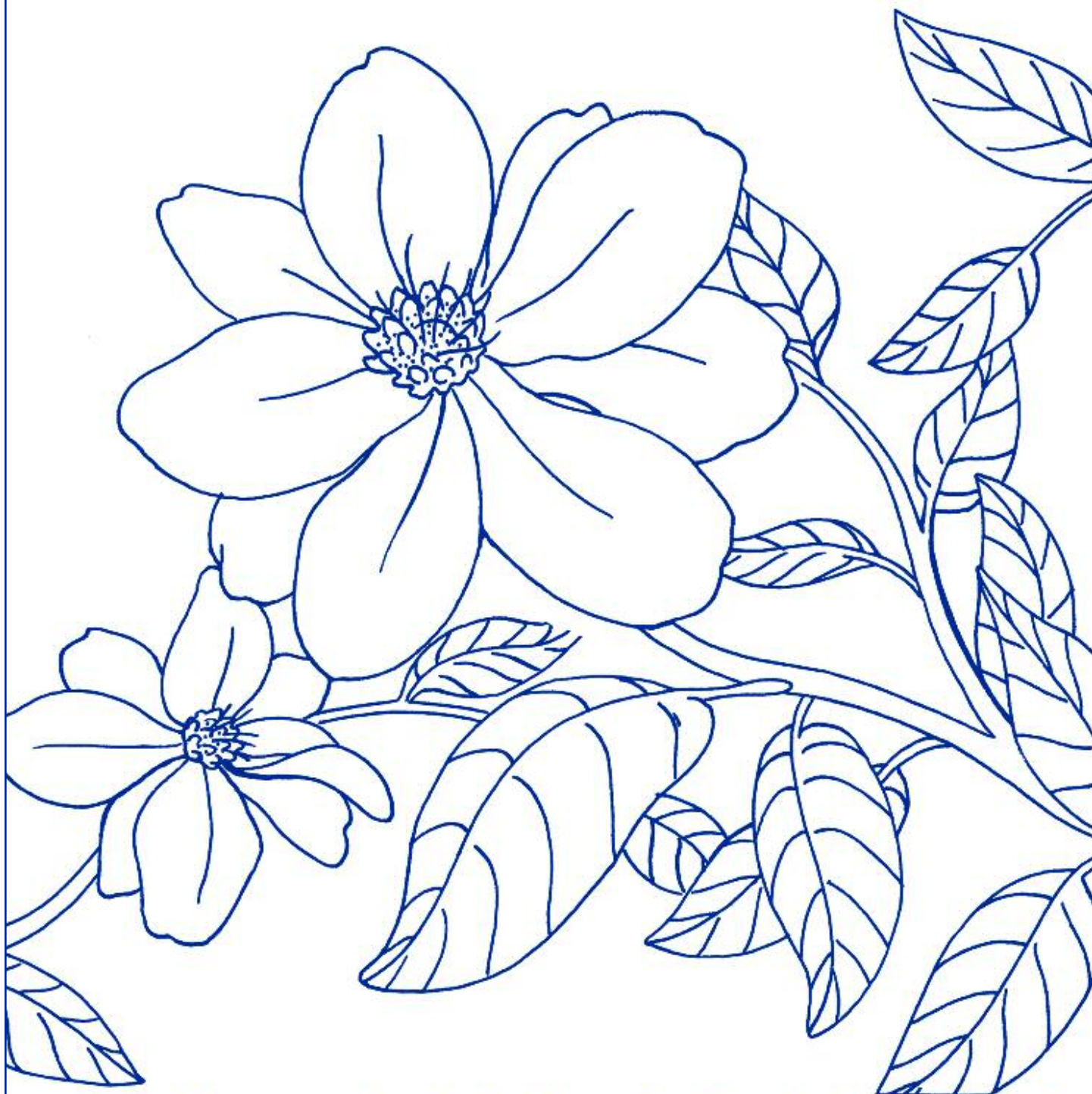
The pine was adopted as the Arkansas State Tree by the General Assembly of 1939. The loblolly and shortleaf pine are varieties of southern yellow pine found in our state. Both varieties may grow to be 100 feet tall and can be found in our two National Forests - the Ouachita National Forest and the Ozark - St. Francis National Forest.

## OUR STATE BIRD



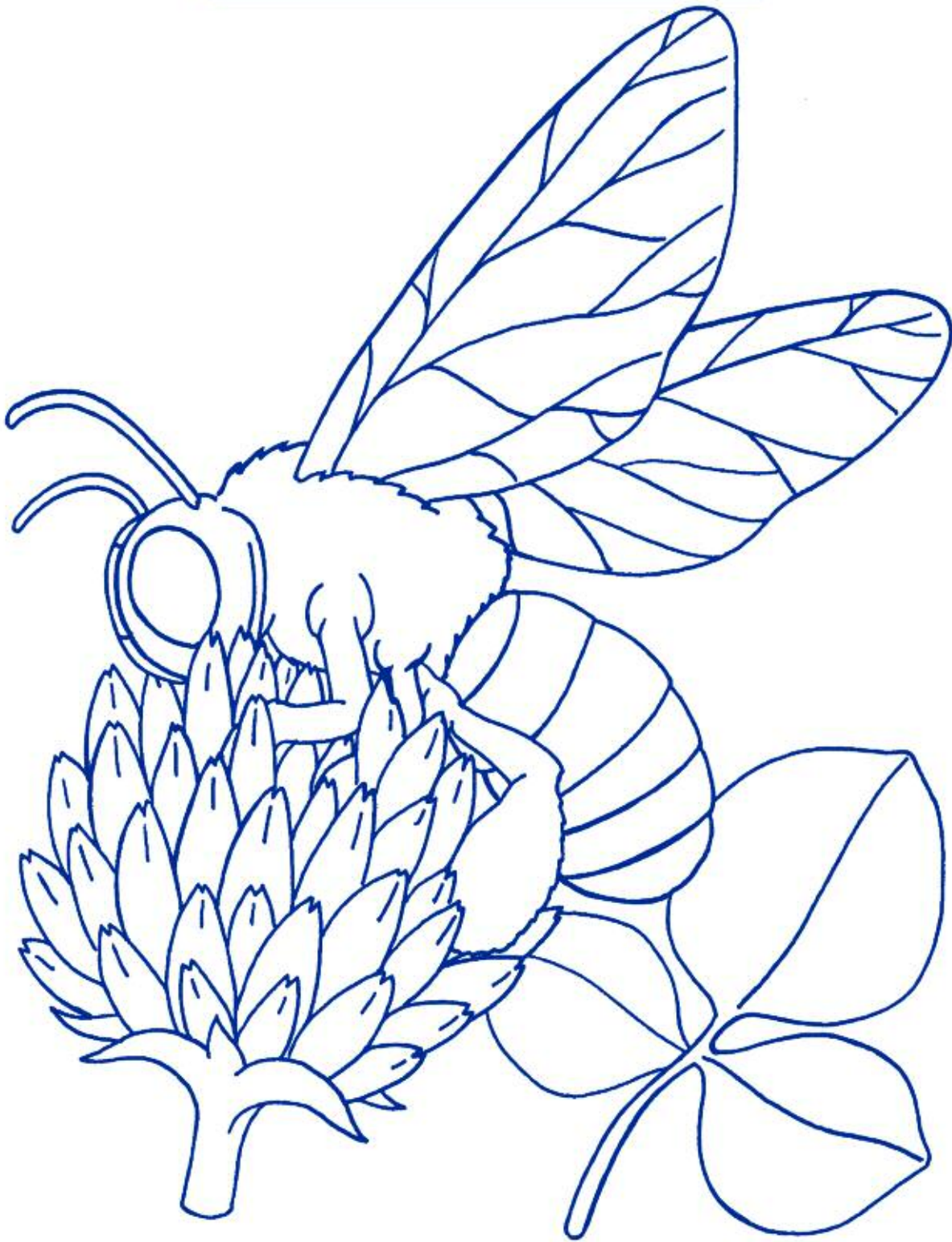
The mockingbird was adopted as the Arkansas State Bird by the General Assembly of 1929. The mockingbird can imitate the song of many other birds.

## OUR STATE FLOWER



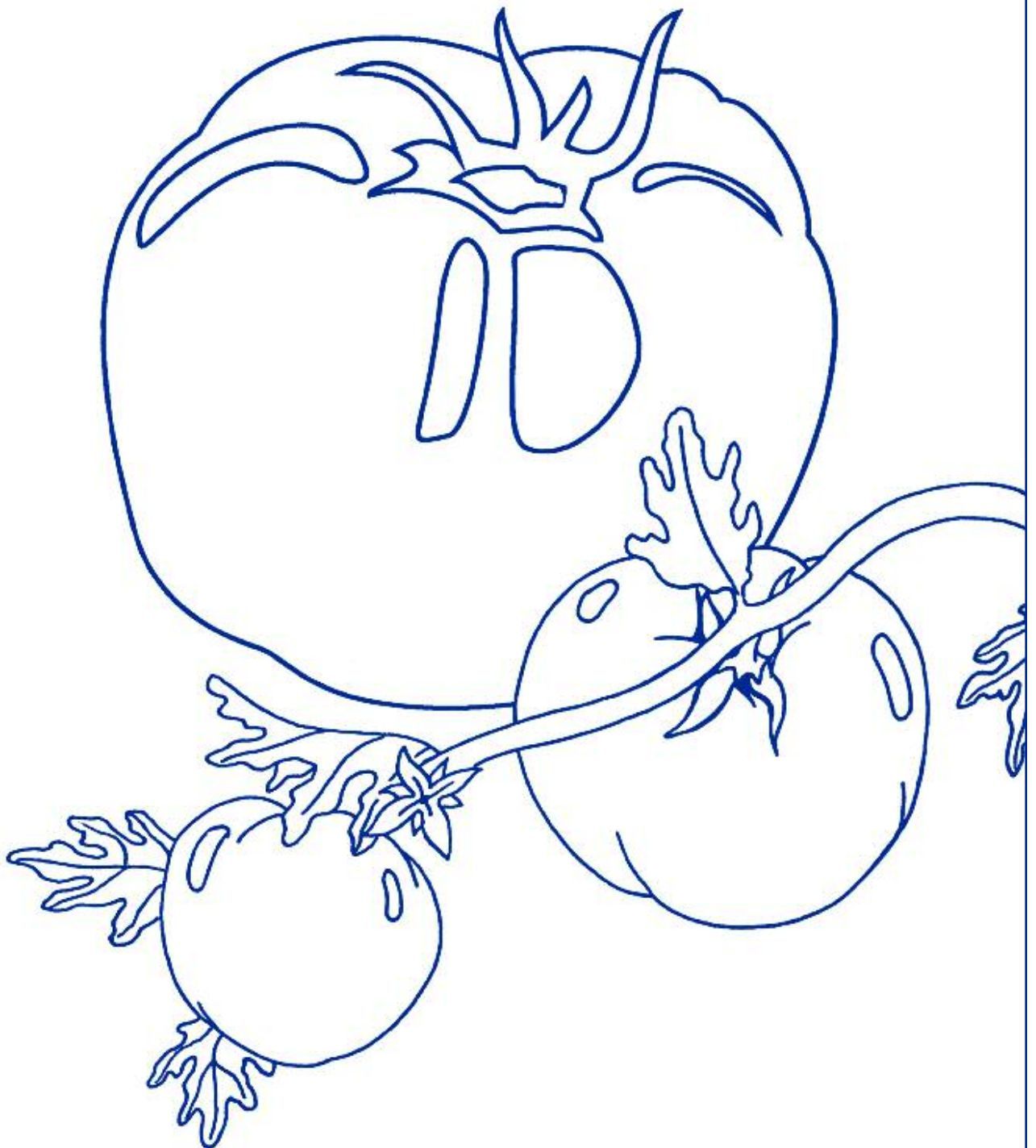
The apple blossom was adopted as the Arkansas State Flower by the General Assembly of 1901. Apple blossoms have pink and white petals and green leaves. At one time Arkansas was a major apple-producing state. The town of Lincoln in Washington County hosts the annual Arkansas Apple Festival.

## OUR STATE INSECT



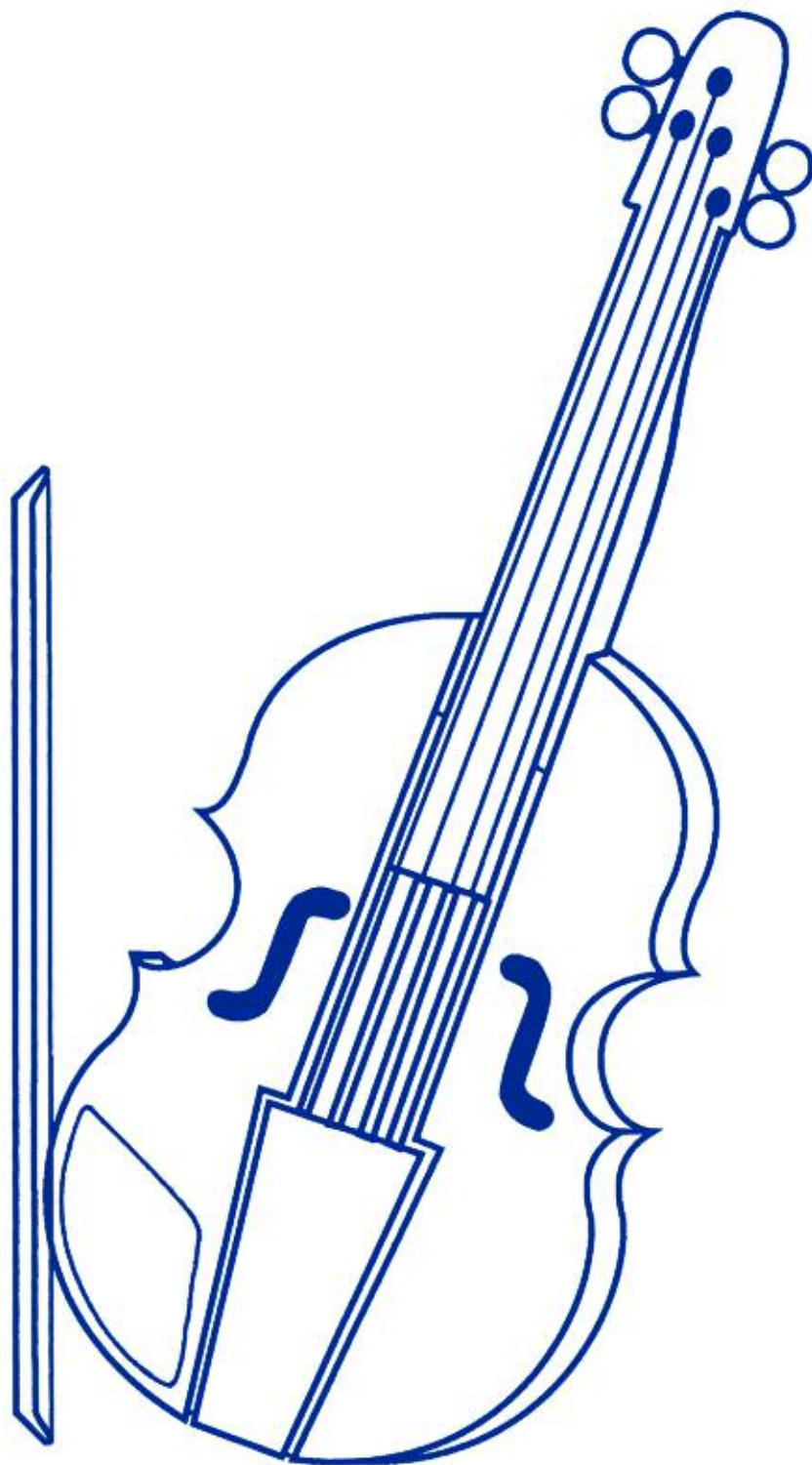
The honeybee was adopted as the Arkansas State Insect by the General Assembly of 1973. Honeybees carry pollen from flower to flower. The bees also produce honey which is collected and sold by beekeepers. An old-fashioned dome beehive is one of the symbols on the Great Seal of Arkansas.

## OUR STATE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE



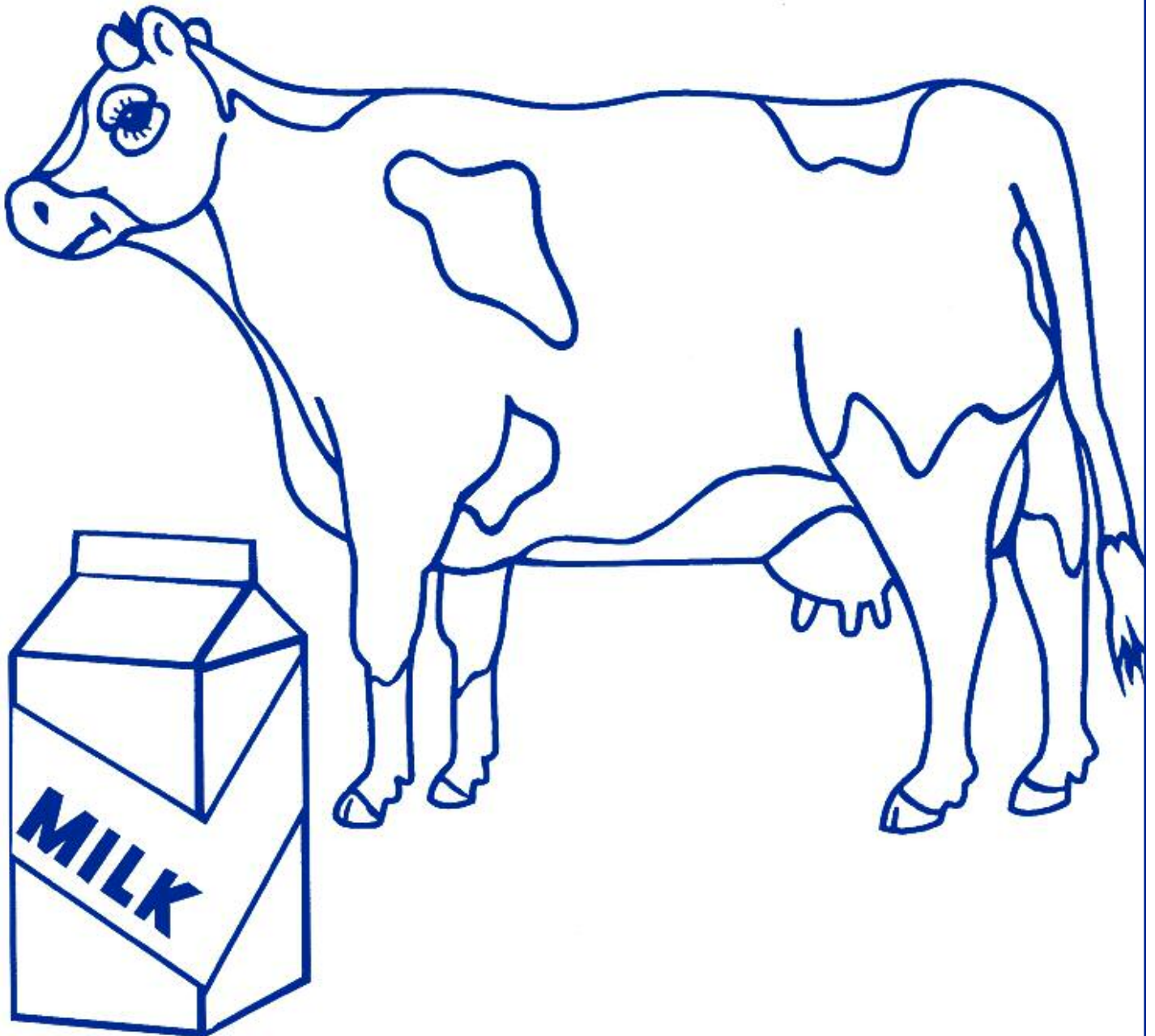
The South Arkansas Vine Ripe Pink Tomato was adopted as the Arkansas State Fruit and Vegetable by the General Assembly of 1987. The tomato is officially defined as a fruit but is commonly used as a vegetable. The Pink Tomato Festival is held each year in Bradley County.

## OUR STATE INSTRUMENT



The fiddle was adopted as the Arkansas State Instrument by the General Assembly of 1985. Otherwise known as the violin, the instrument has been commonly associated with Arkansas folk music and culture.

## OUR STATE BEVERAGE



Milk was adopted as the Arkansas State Beverage by the General Assembly of 1985. Dairy farming is an important part of Arkansas agriculture.

## OUR STATE MAMMAL



The white-tail deer was adopted as the Arkansas State Mammal by the General Assembly of 1993. The deer raises the white underside of its tail when frightened. Young white-tail deer have a white-spotted red coat which changes to brownish-gray before the end of its first year.



## OUR STATE ROCK



Bauxite was adopted as the Arkansas State Rock by the General Assembly of 1967. Bauxite is used to make aluminum which is used to make soft drink cans and aluminum foil. Arkansas is home to the largest bauxite deposits in the United States, located in Saline County.

## OUR STATE MINERAL



The quartz crystal was adopted as the Arkansas State Mineral by the General Assembly of 1967. Quartz crystals are mined in the Ouachita Mountains and are used in computers and sold to visitors to our state. Sometimes called “Arkansas diamonds”, quartz crystals are not true diamonds.

## OUR STATE AMERICAN FOLK DANCE



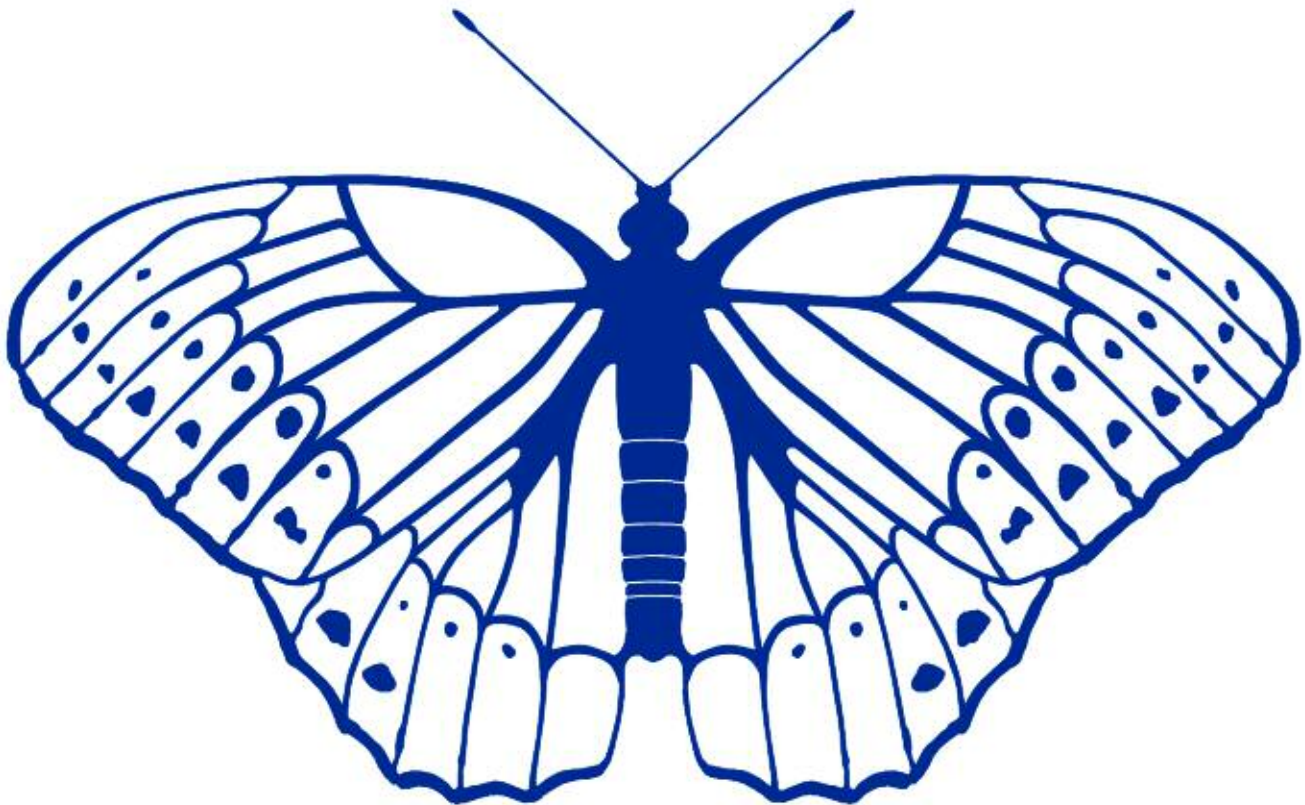
The square dance was adopted as the Arkansas State American Folk Dance by the General Assembly of 1991. Square dancers perform a variety of steps which are usually told to them during the dance by a person known as a square dance caller.

## OUR STATE HISTORIC COOKING VESSEL



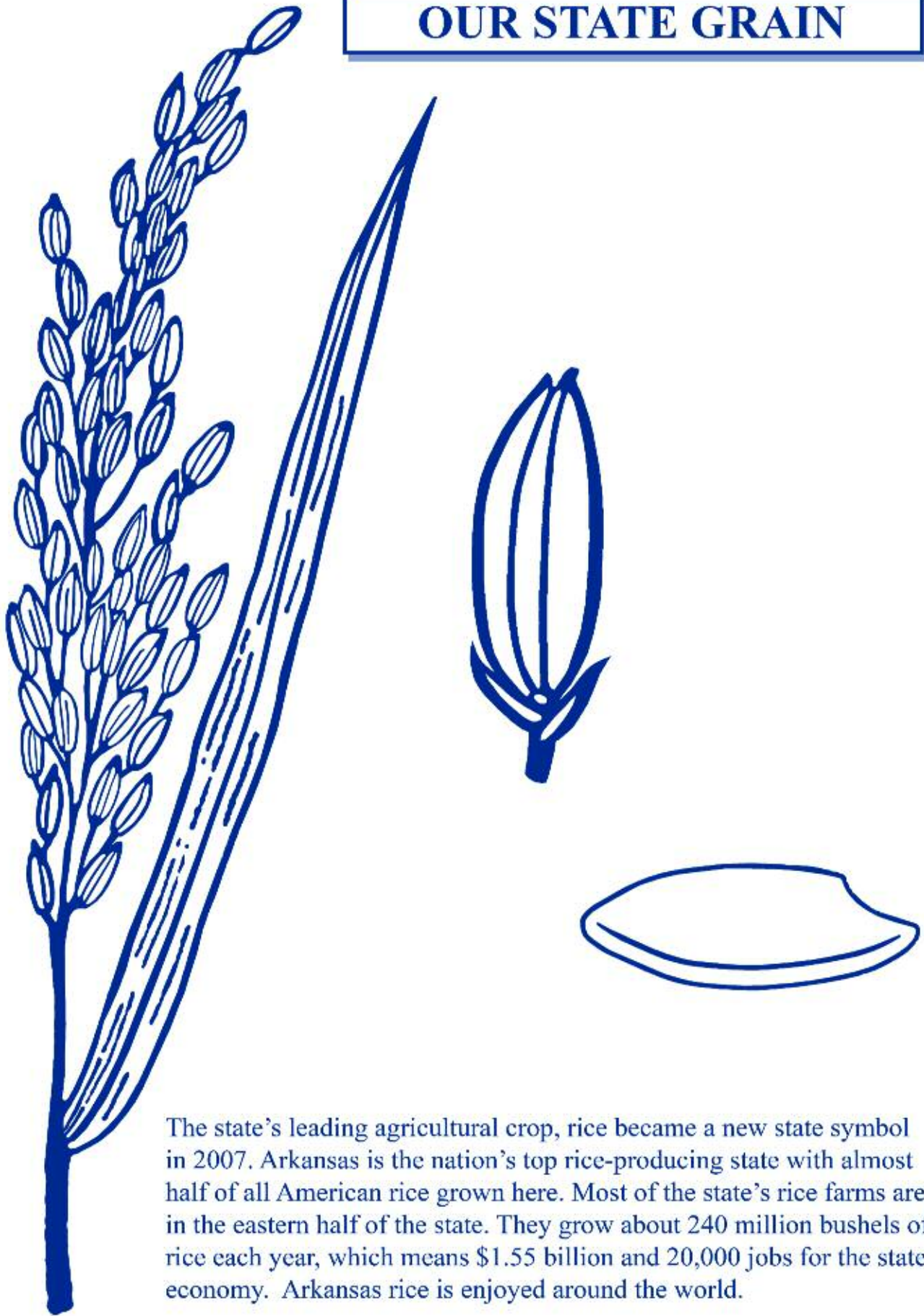
The dutch oven was adopted as the Arkansas State Historic Cooking Vessel by the General Assembly in 2001. It is a deep, thick-walled cooking pot with integral legs, a close-fitting flat lid and bail handle. The dutch oven was commonly used in colonial, territorial and early statehood periods; today, this link to Arkansas's culinary past is still used by campers and chefs alike.

## OUR STATE BUTTERFLY



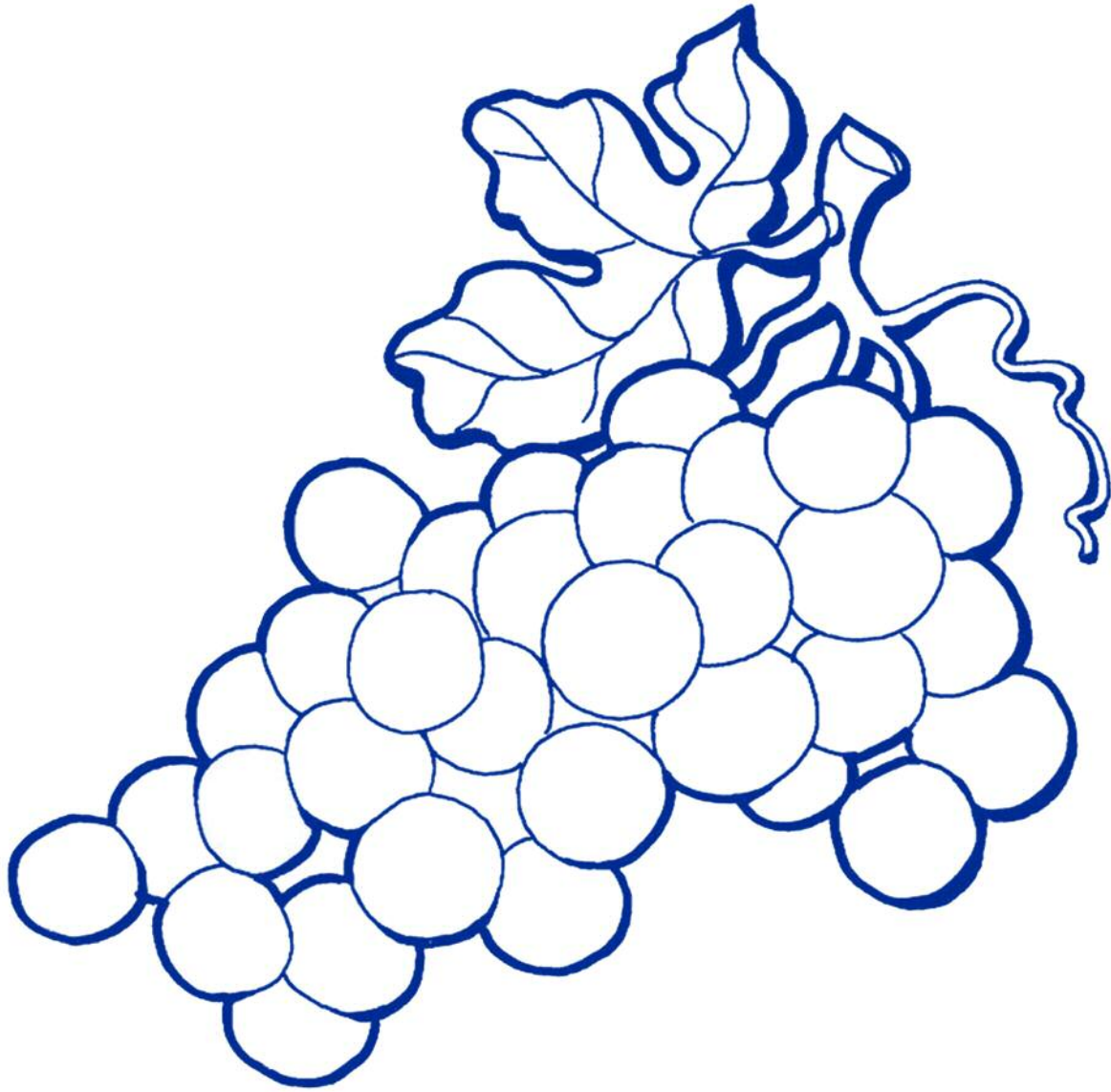
In 2007, the Diana Fritillary became the official state butterfly. These butterflies are large and beautiful with a wingspan of about 3.5" and bright colors on their spotted wings. Males are dark brown with orange markings. The larger females are black with bright blue markings and white spots. Diana Fritillary butterflies live in the moist mountain areas of Arkansas and feed on the nectar of flowers. Mount Magazine is one of the best locations to see them during the summer.

## OUR STATE GRAIN



The state's leading agricultural crop, rice became a new state symbol in 2007. Arkansas is the nation's top rice-producing state with almost half of all American rice grown here. Most of the state's rice farms are in the eastern half of the state. They grow about 240 million bushels of rice each year, which means \$1.55 billion and 20,000 jobs for the state's economy. Arkansas rice is enjoyed around the world.

## OUR STATE GRAPE



The north central part of Arkansas has a rich heritage of vineyards and wineries. Approximately 150 commercial wineries have operated in Arkansas since 1870; as of 2009, seven wineries continue this tradition. Acknowledging this unique part of our state's history, the General Assembly named the Cynthiana as Arkansas's official state grape. Cynthiana is the oldest native North American grape variety grown commercially. Arkansas and Missouri are the nation's main producers of the grape.

## OUR STATE NUT

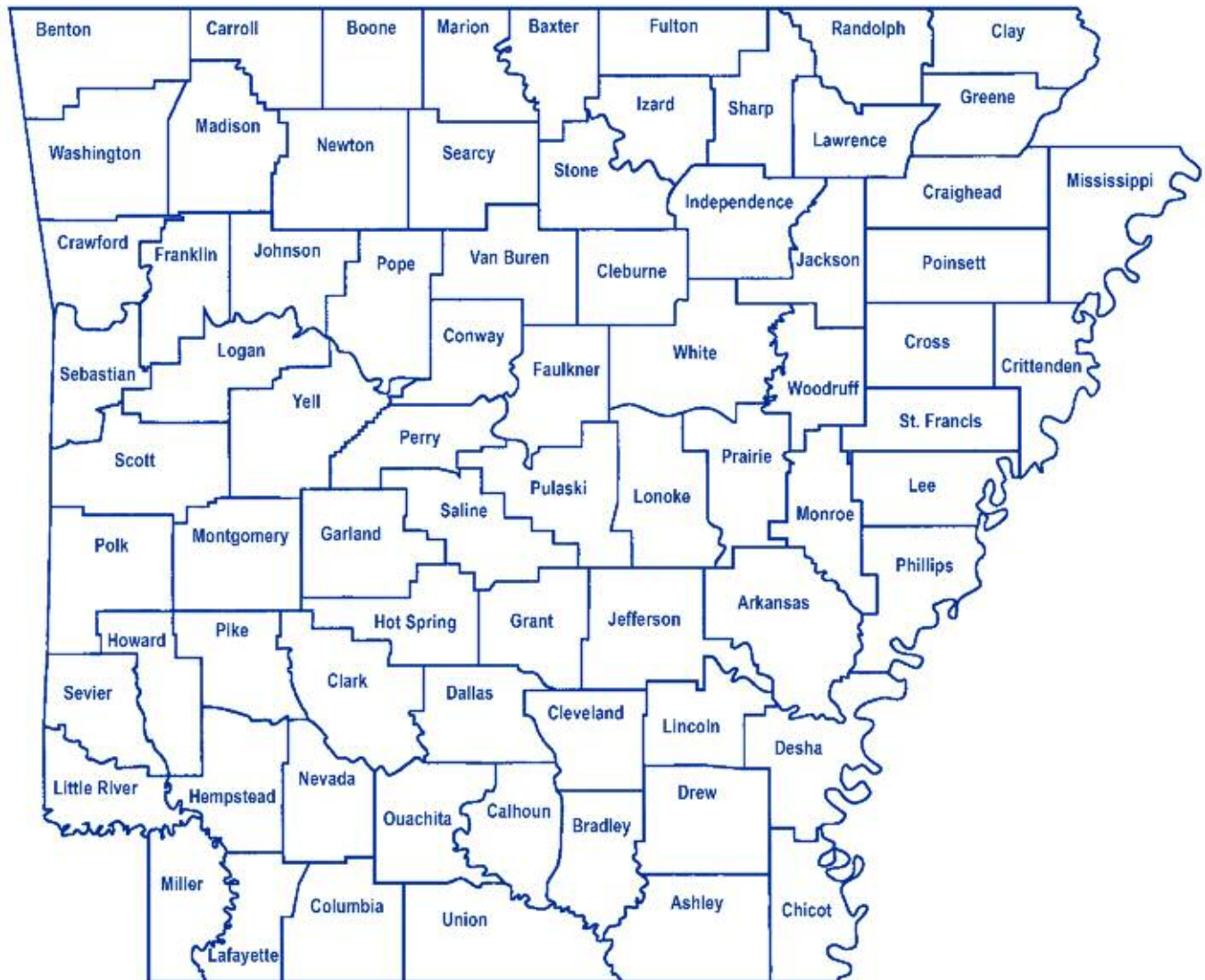


Act 638 of 2009 designated the pecan as the official nut of the State of Arkansas. Pecan trees grow throughout much of the South and produce dark brown nuts that grow 1 - 2 inches long. The tasty nuts are a staple in many southern recipes. In 2008, Arkansas's pecan groves produced approximately one million pounds of nuts.



# OUR STATE COUNTIES

Arkansas is divided into seventy-five local governments called counties.

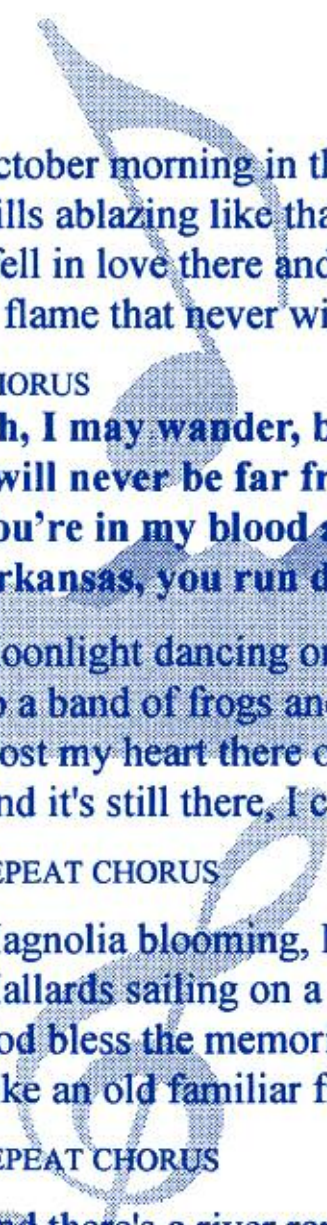


1. Draw a star where the state capital, Little Rock, is located.
2. Color the county where you live.
3. Write in the name of the county seat of your county.



# ARKANSAS

(You Run Deep in Me)  
by Wayland Holyfield



October morning in the Ozark Mountains,  
Hills ablazing like that sun in the sky.  
I fell in love there and the fire's still burning  
A flame that never will die.

CHORUS

**Oh, I may wander, but when I do  
I will never be far from you.  
You're in my blood and I know you'll always be.  
Arkansas, you run deep in me.**

Moonlight dancing on a delta levee,  
To a band of frogs and whippoorwill  
I lost my heart there one July evening  
And it's still there, I can tell.

REPEAT CHORUS

Magnolia blooming, Mama smiling,  
Mallards sailing on a December wind.  
God bless the memories I keep recalling  
Like an old familiar friend.

REPEAT CHORUS

And there's a river rambling through the fields and valleys,  
Smooth and steady as she makes her way south,  
A lot like the people whose name she carries.  
She goes strong and she goes proud.

REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as an Official State Song.

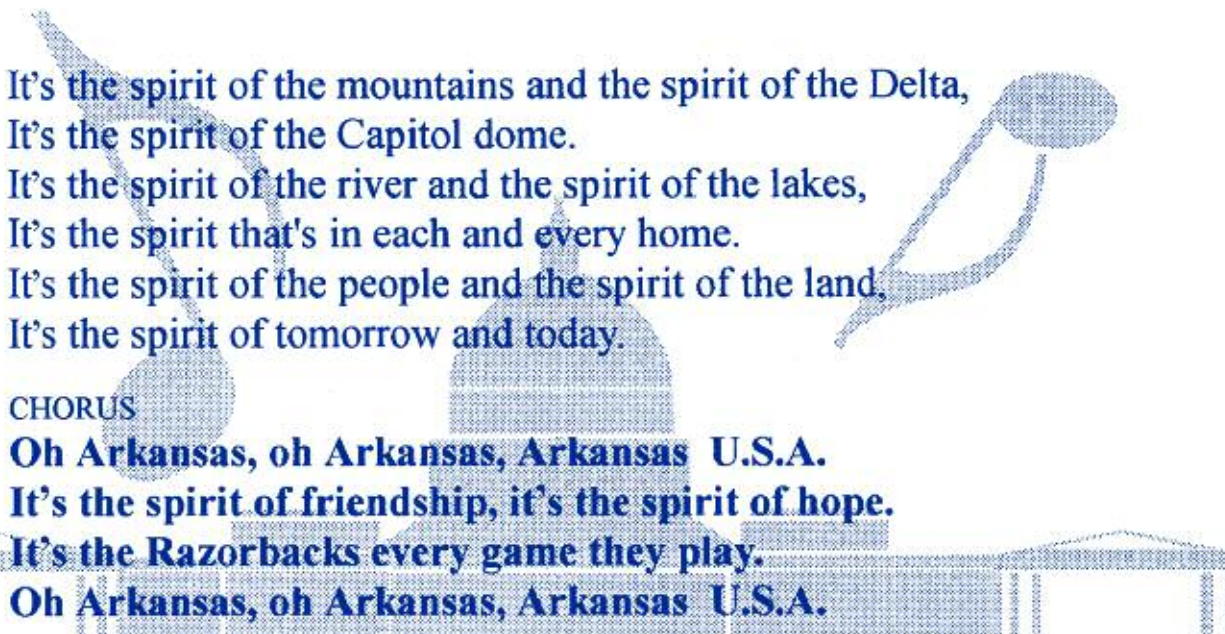


# OH, ARKANSAS



by Terry Rose

Gary Klaff



It's the spirit of the mountains and the spirit of the Delta,  
It's the spirit of the Capitol dome.  
It's the spirit of the river and the spirit of the lakes,  
It's the spirit that's in each and every home.  
It's the spirit of the people and the spirit of the land,  
It's the spirit of tomorrow and today.

## CHORUS

**Oh Arkansas, oh Arkansas, Arkansas U.S.A.**

**It's the spirit of friendship, it's the spirit of hope.**

**It's the Razorbacks every game they play.**

**Oh Arkansas, oh Arkansas, Arkansas U.S.A.**

It's the spirit of the forest, it's the spirit of the eagle.

It's the spirit of the country that we love.

It's the spirit of pride that we all feel deep inside,

It's the spirit that shines from above.

It's the spirit of our fathers, it's the spirit of our kids,

It's the spirit of the music that we play.

Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.

Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.

Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas, Oh Arkansas U.S.A.

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as an Official State Song.

# ARKANSAS

by Eva Ware Barnett

I am thinking tonight of the Southland,  
Of the home of my childhood days,  
Where I roamed through the woods and the meadows  
By the mill and the brook that plays;  
Where the roses are in bloom  
And the sweet magnolia too,  
Where the jasmine is white  
And the fields are violet blue,  
There a welcome awaits all her children  
Who have wandered afar from home.

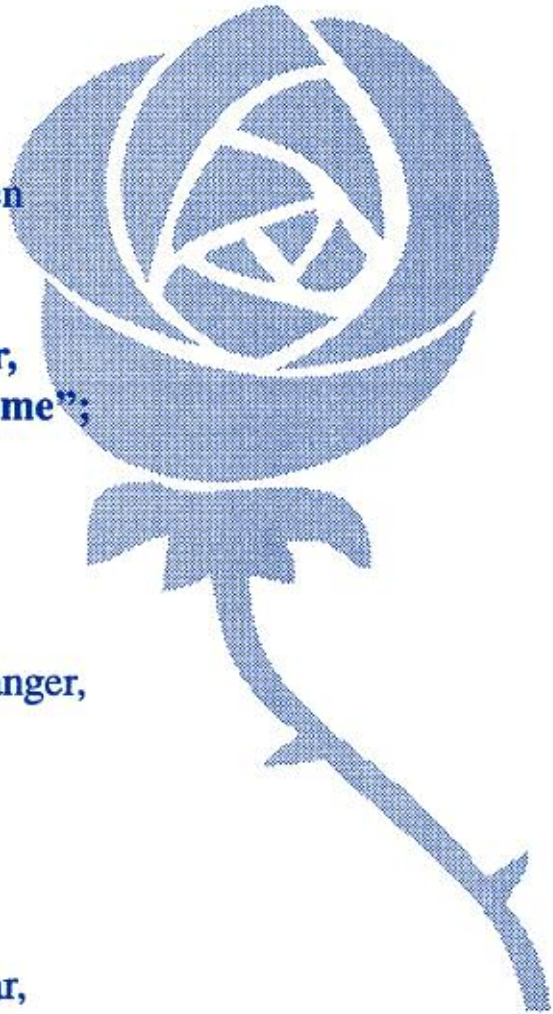
## CHORUS

**Arkansas, Arkansas, tis a name dear,  
'Tis the place I call "home, sweet home";  
Arkansas, Arkansas, I salute thee,  
From thy shelter no more I'll roam.**

'Tis a land full of joy and of sunshine,  
Rich in pearls and in diamonds rare,  
Full of hope, faith and love for the stranger,  
Who may pass 'neath her portals fair;  
There the rice fields are full,  
And the cotton, corn and hay,  
There the fruits of the field,  
Bloom in winter months and May,  
'Tis the land that I love, first of all, dear,  
And to her let us all give cheer.

## REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as the Official State Anthem.

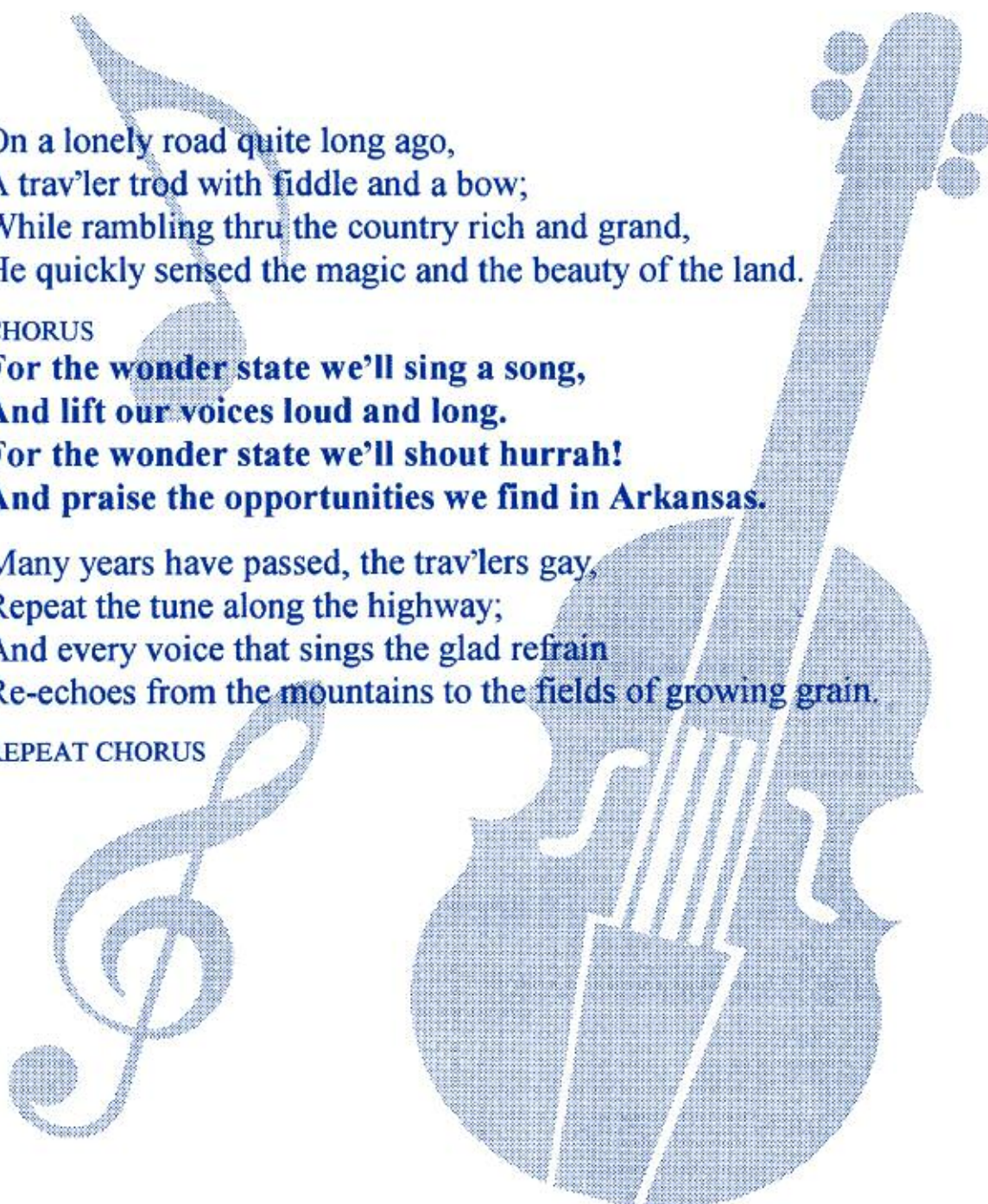




# THE ARKANSAS TRAVELER



Lyrics by the Arkansas State Song Selection Committee, 1947  
Music by Colonel Sandford "Sandy" Faulkner, about 1850



On a lonely road quite long ago,  
A trav'ler trod with fiddle and a bow;  
While rambling thru the country rich and grand,  
He quickly sensed the magic and the beauty of the land.

## CHORUS

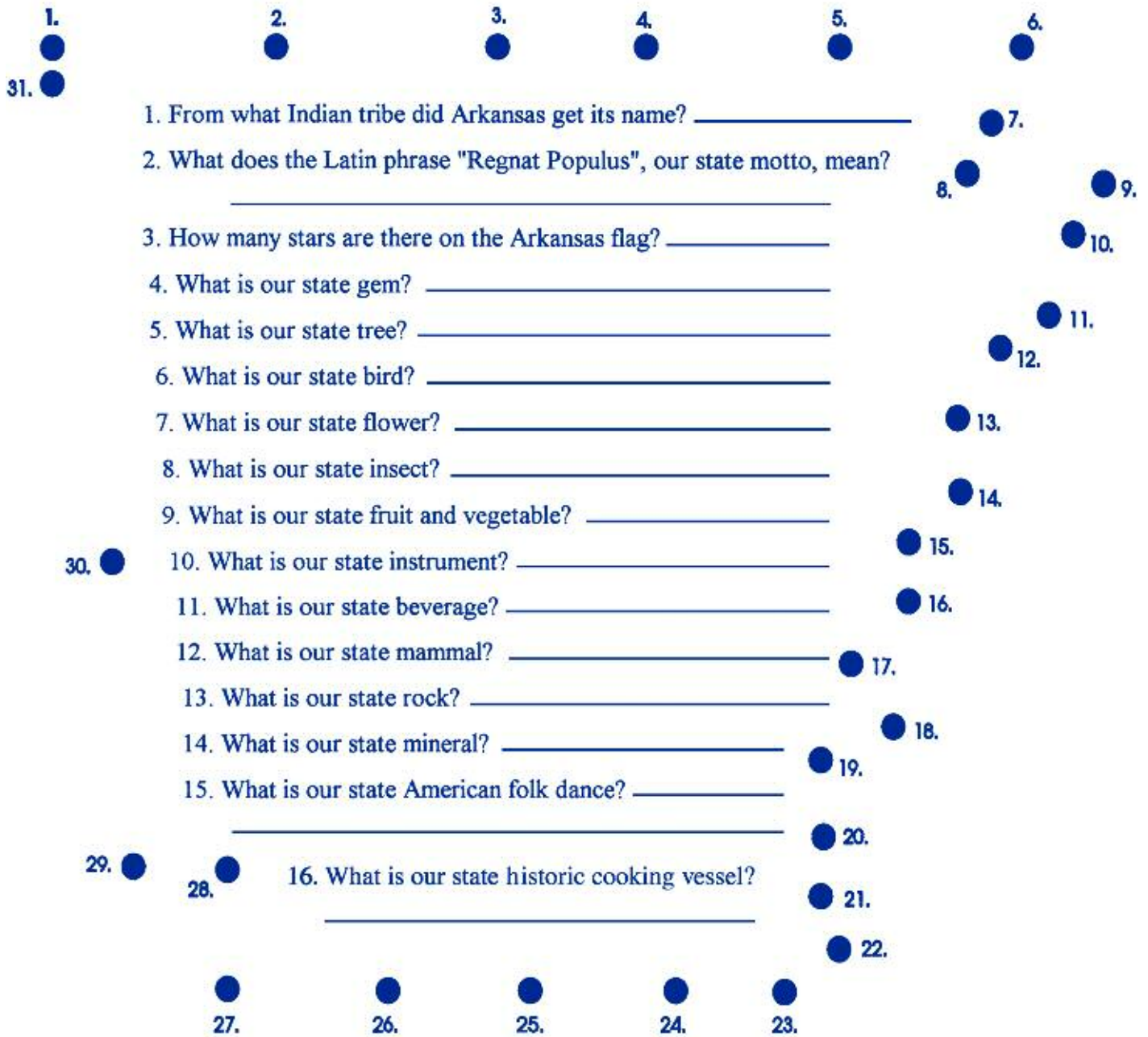
**For the wonder state we'll sing a song,  
And lift our voices loud and long.  
For the wonder state we'll shout hurrah!  
And praise the opportunities we find in Arkansas.**

Many years have passed, the trav'lers gay,  
Repeat the tune along the highway;  
And every voice that sings the glad refrain  
Re-echoes from the mountains to the fields of growing grain.

## REPEAT CHORUS

Adopted by the 1987 General Assembly as the Official State Historic Song.

# ARKANSAS QUIZ

- 
1. From what Indian tribe did Arkansas get its name? \_\_\_\_\_
  2. What does the Latin phrase "Regnat Populus", our state motto, mean?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  3. How many stars are there on the Arkansas flag? \_\_\_\_\_
  4. What is our state gem? \_\_\_\_\_
  5. What is our state tree? \_\_\_\_\_
  6. What is our state bird? \_\_\_\_\_
  7. What is our state flower? \_\_\_\_\_
  8. What is our state insect? \_\_\_\_\_
  9. What is our state fruit and vegetable? \_\_\_\_\_
  10. What is our state instrument? \_\_\_\_\_
  11. What is our state beverage? \_\_\_\_\_
  12. What is our state mammal? \_\_\_\_\_
  13. What is our state rock? \_\_\_\_\_
  14. What is our state mineral? \_\_\_\_\_
  15. What is our state American folk dance? \_\_\_\_\_
  16. What is our state historic cooking vessel?  
\_\_\_\_\_
27.      26.      25.      24.      23.

Connect the dots starting at number one; then answer the questions above to see what you have learned about Arkansas in this book.

# Proclamation

This is to certify that

Has Completed a study of  
the Great State of

## ARKANSAS

and promises to continue  
to learn more about his/her state.



*Charlie Daniels*

Secretary of State

Teacher's or Parent's Signature

Date

Tear here to detach bookmark.

**Pledge  
to the  
Arkansas Flag**

**I Salute**



*"I Salute the Arkansas Flag  
With Its Diamond and  
Stars. We Pledge  
Our Loyalty  
to Thee."*

**Virginia Belcher Brock**  
*Author*

*Provided by*  
**Charlie Daniels**  
Secretary of State

# **THE ARKANSAS CREED**



**I BELIEVE IN ARKANSAS AS A LAND OF  
OPPORTUNITY AND PROMISE.**

**I BELIEVE IN THE RICH HERITAGE OF  
ARKANSAS AND I HONOR THE MEN AND  
WOMEN WHO CREATED THIS HERITAGE.**

**I BELIEVE IN THE YOUTH OF ARKANSAS  
WHO WILL BUILD OUR FUTURE.**

**I AM PROUD OF MY STATE, I WILL  
UPHOLD ITS CONSTITUTION, OBEY ITS  
LAWS, AND WORK FOR THE GOOD OF  
ALL ITS CITIZENS.**



# My name is

---

## and this is my book on Arkansas

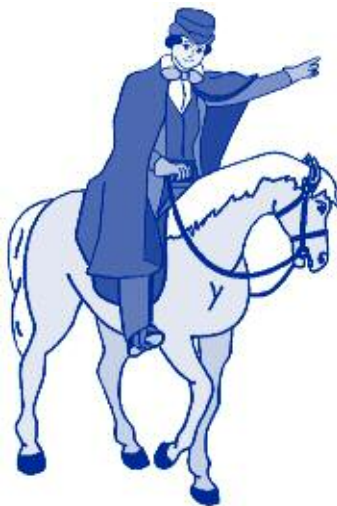
I live in \_\_\_\_\_ County.

I go to school at \_\_\_\_\_ .

My teacher's name is \_\_\_\_\_ .

I was born in \_\_\_\_\_ (year).

I am \_\_\_\_\_ years old.



**For more fun facts about the Natural State, follow the  
Arkansas Traveler to [www.soskids.arkansas.gov](http://www.soskids.arkansas.gov)**