Birthday of Arkansas 1986

Seven score and ten years ago Arkansas became a state of the union U.S.A.
We celebrate and sing songs of joy today.
This is our state and the one we love best.
Where the Magnolia blooms and the mocking bird sings far into the night.
The pine tree grows tall in the forest's green.
Warm April showers bathe apple blossoms soft pink and white.
People gather in groups large and small, to the music of The Arkansas Traveler.

Hernando de Soto crossed the mighty Mississippi in 1541 and landed in Arkansas.
The Quapaw Indian gave the land, their home, the name of Arkansas.

Surely the Lord had a beautiful garden in mind
When He splashed colors of every kind on valleys, meadows, and hills of Arkansas.
Arkansas, we call you the Wonder State:
Home of kind and gentle people.

Mary E. West