

## NEACWHT dedicates plaque at Sharp County battlefield

By Danny Honnoll  
NEACWHT Chairman

After three years of hard work, the NEACWHT and the Sharp County Historical Society placed a marker for the Battle of Morgan's Mill/Martin Creek.

The dedication took place on Nov. 27, 2004, at the water wheel eight miles east of Hardy on Highway 63/412 in



Sharp County. This site is between Martin's Creek and Morgan's Mill and is on the old Indian trail that ran from Springfield to Memphis. This is where

the twelve-mile running battle took place over 140 years ago.

More than 150 were in attendance on the  
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## NWACWHT names new '05 chairman, working on pair of historical markers

By John C. Scott  
NWACWHT Chairman

Is it just me or has this year flown by? As I look back at 2004, the involvement of the NWACWHT offers the following highlights:

\* The NWACWHT developed a partnership with the Northwest Arkansas Heritage Trail Partners in order to support the development of a regional network of bicycle and pedestrian trails

and facilities that connect Northwest Arkansas citizens and visitors to the rich heritage, recreational and cultural assets and a healthier lifestyle to each other. Historical routes that were used as a part of the Trail of Tears (1839), Butterfield Stage Coach Route (1858) and Civil War troop movements (1861 – 1865) will be the main focus of the trail. The Telegraph Road through Benton and Washington counties was a very important route to the armies on both sides in Northwest  
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## SEACWHT busy in 2004, sets '05 plans

By Mark Kalkbrenner  
SEACWHT Chairman

The year 2004 was another busy one for the Southeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail. But we can do more across the entire region. Several small groups have been extremely hard at work in marking and identifying sites, while other areas have been quiet. I intend to put more focus on this area in 2005 to try and stir up more interest.

We began with the reburial of the Fagan Six at Helena. Although this was a joint endeavor with several other groups, the SEACWHT has taken on the job of marking and interpreting the site and events surrounding it.

Immediately following the reburial, a cap stone with general information about the events was placed over the grave. The stone and engraving was furnished by Edgar Colvin of Pine Bluff. The wording was the work of several individuals. This year we plan to place a VA government marker on the grave.

The busiest part of our region has been in the Pine Bluff area. Work continues at White Sulphur Springs Confederate Cemetery.  
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## For information

### General Information

Mark Christ (501) 324-9880  
mark@arkansasheritage.org

The Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail is a network of regional private, nonprofit, volunteer organizations seeking to identify, protect, interpret and promote Arkansas properties related to the state's Civil War experience. General guidance for the groups is provided by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage.

### Northwest Arkansas CWHT

John Scott (Pea Ridge)  
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John\_C\_Scott@nps.gov  
Robert Still (Harrison)  
(479)741-5443

The Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Benton, Carroll, Boone, Marion, Washington, Madison, Newton, Searcy and Van Buren counties.

### West Central Arkansas CWHT

Tom Wing (479)474-4781  
wcacwht@aol.com

The West Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Crawford, Sebastian, Franklin, Johnson, Logan, Yell, Pope and Scott counties.

### Southwest Arkansas CWHT

Jim Hale (501) 760-2566  
[jim.hale@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jim.hale@sbcglobal.net)

The Southwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Polk, Montgomery, Garland, Howard, Pike, Clark, Hot Spring, Grant, Dallas, Sevier, Little River, Hempstead, Nevada, Ouachita, Calhoun, Miller, Lafayette, Columbia and Union counties.

### Southeast Arkansas CWHT

Mark Kalkbrenner (870) 247-2394  
captk1ark@hotmail.com

The Southeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Jefferson, Arkansas, Phillips, Cleveland, Lincoln, Desha, Bradley, Drew, Ashley and Chicot counties.

### Central Arkansas CWHT

Tom Ezell (501) 961-1937  
tomezell@aristotle.net

The Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail serves Conway, Perry, Saline, Faulkner, Pulaski, White and Lonoke counties.

### Northeast Arkansas CWHT

Danny Honnoll (870) 935-9830  
wdhonnoll@prodigy.net

The Northeast Arkansas Civil War Trail serves Baxter, Fulton, Izard, Stone, Cleburne, Independence, Sharp, Randolph, Clay, Lawrence, Greene, Jackson, Craighead, Poinsett, Mississippi, Woodruff, Cross, Crittenden, Prairie, Monroe, Lee and St. Francis counties.

# NWACWHT goals include making new partnerships

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Arkansas. The partnering of the two groups will further provide a platform for education and the protection of Civil War-related sites in this part of the state.

\* The NWACWHT worked on developing text and obtaining funding for new markers to be placed at Head's Crossing on the White River – the site of the old "Two Rivers Crossing" monument that has been vandalized – and at Camp Stephens.

\* The NWACWHT started work on the development of a list of lesser-known Civil War sites along and in the Buffalo River area.

As for the New Year, Troy Bazhaf will be assuming the duties of chair of

the group. A graduate of the University of Arkansas, Troy received his degree in history. He is very knowledgeable of the Civil War in Arkansas. Dr. Dave Lewis will serve as our person on the Board of Directors of the ACWHT Foundation. Dave is a retired professor from the University of Nebraska and also has a great interest in the Civil War in Northwest Arkansas. I will assume the duties of vice chair of the NWACWHT.

We are going to work on membership and additional partnerships in 2005. Our winter meeting is scheduled for late January, the date and place to be announced later.

The NWACWHT wishes all of you the best in 2005.

# Sulphur Springs, Marks' Mills among SEACWHT projects

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Application was made for the site to be included on the National Register of Historic Places, and it was approved by the state in December. Now we wait to hear from the National Park Service. Also in the Sulphur Springs area, the graves of Mrs. Elisa Curry, her son, and several unknown Confederates were marked.

Marks' Mills is always a busy place. Markers are constantly either being erected or planned. This year we intend

to hold the second Battle of Marks' Mills reenactment on April 23-24. Proceeds will go to further interpretation and preservation efforts.

Work is in progress in the Stuttgart area to place a marker on the Mitchell Plantation. More work will continue in this area.

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 19, following the Cleburne Memorial in Helena. While 2004 was a good year, 2005 will be better.

## *Battlefield Preservation News?*

If your group is working to preserve a Civil War-era battlefield or site, is planning a major reenactment, or has other news of interest to the battlefield preservation community, send it to *Arkansas Battlefield Update*. The newsletter is published quarterly. Send articles to: *Arkansas Battlefield Update*, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 or to [mark@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:mark@arkansasheritage.org).

# Meetings planned for Jonesboro, Chalk Bluff

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cold, windy Saturday marking the 140 years since the battle.

Federal flags were to the left of the marker and various Confederate flags were to the right of the marker.

NEACWHT Chairman W. Danny Honnoll welcomed everyone to the dedication. He told the gathering: "We are here to do our duty; as Lee told us, 'duty is the most sublime word in our language. Do your duty in all things. You cannot do more. You should never wish to do less.'" Terry Bandy gave the invocation.

Greetings were presented by Sharp County Judge Harold Crawford, Dr. Audrey Thompson of the Sharp County Historical Society, Mary Cooper Miller of the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter #1913 of Batesville, Arkansas, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Ed Dudley representing the Col. Robert G. Shaver Camp #1655 Sons of Confederate Veterans of Jonesboro and the Arkansas Division of the SCV, M. Ray Jones, III representing the Gen. James F. Fagan Chapter #280 Military Order of Stars and Bars of Jonesboro, and Walter Forbus of Paragould representing the reenactors of Arkansas.

The NEACWHTC was honored to place this marker to pay final respect to the Federals and Confederates of both armies of centuries gone by.

A planned Pocahontas marker is going

to be delayed until 2006, the sesquicentennial of Pocahontas. We still are about \$1,300 dollars short of our goal. We will keep you posted.

We have the proof for the marker to be placed at Maramduke on June 25. The committee at Marmaduke is raising funds now and we hope to meet our goal and due date for placing the marker.

The Northeast Arkansas Southern Heritage Foundation, a subcommittee of the NEACWHTC, is making plans for a memorial to be placed at Jonesboro at the corner of Southwest Drive, Main Street and Highland. This SCV has received ownership of a parcel of land and plans to place historical markers on this site. The Wallace Fowler family donated this land for this purpose in 2004. The NEASHF has a drawing of what the future monument should look like and it will be an ongoing project for the NEACWHTC, NEASHF, SCV, UDC, and the MOSB. Ed Dudley is president of this committee and has been working very hard on this project.

The next meeting of the NEACWHTC will be held Feb. 5 at the Craighead County Public Library in Jonesboro, Arkansas. The meeting will start at 11 am. For more information on the NEACWHTC contact Danny Honnoll at 870-935-9830 or my email at wdhonnoll@prodigy.net.

Plans have been made for a meeting at Chalk Bluff on April 30 and May 1. The

NEACWHTC will help sponsor a living history/reenactment of the Battle of Chalk Bluff to mark the 142<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Chalk Bluff.

On Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. reenactments are scheduled to be on the Dalton Farm, which is just south of the Chalk Bluff Natural Area Park. Other events are still being planned and will be announced at a later date.

No registration fees for reenactors! Walk-ons must be at the site and registered two hours before any listed event. Artillery contact: Delbert Hughes, phone 870-598-3942, e-mail: dhughes@piggott.net; infantry contact Capt John Malloy; phone (870) 269-5573, e-mail: jjmalloy@mvtel.net. or Danny Honnoll, phone 870-935-9830 e-mail: wdhonnoll@prodigy.net.

## SWACWHT sets winter activities

*By Jim Hale  
SWACWHT Chairman*

The SWACWHT has tentatively scheduled its next meeting for Saturday, April 16 at Lake DeGray State Park in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Arkansas Historical Association there. Specific times and location will be mailed out at a later date.

Work to identify and mark additional Civil War sites in the region will resume in the next few weeks, focusing on sites in Lafayette County.

Negotiations continue with International Paper and other private landowners to purchase land or easements at the Jenkin's Ferry battlefield site through the Civil War Preservation Trust.

New sites have recently come to light through the interest and generosity of landowners near Calhoun (Columbia County), Dooley's Ferry and Springhill (Hempstead County), Center Point (Howard County), and Carthage (Dallas County). Upon further investigation a more complete report will be made in this newsletter.

## CACWHT to elect officers for 2005

The CACWHT will elect new officers at the January meeting of the Civil War Round Table of Arkansas, held on the fourth Tuesday in January.

The CACWHT meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month, jointly with the Civil War Roundtable of Little Rock (except in December, when there is no meeting) at the John Gould Fletcher Library at H and Buchanan streets in Little Rock. The Civil War Roundtable programs are excellent and guests are encouraged and welcome to attend. CACWHT volunteers are very much needed to help with projects, including

ongoing maintenance of the existing nine interpretive panels located in Little Rock, North Little Rock, Brownsville, Jacksonville and Scott.

For more information on the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, call Tommy Dupree at (501) 833-0265. The Society's meetings are held each month at 12:30 p.m. at the new Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce building at 200 Dupree Drive, and are open to the public. Donations can be made, with checks payable to the Reed's Bridge Preservation Society, 600 Lynx Lane, Jacksonville, AR 72076.

# WCACWHT had big year across region, will work to identify additional sites in 2005

By Tom Wing  
WCACWHT Chairman

The West Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail had an outstanding year in 2004.

In July, work was continued at Massard Prairie with a commemoration of the 140th anniversary of the action. In August, Chairman Tom Wing spoke to the Johnson County Historical Society and made several new contacts to help identify Civil War sites and soldiers' graves in Johnson County. Additionally, members of the WCACWHT are helping author Nancy Reese of Ozone on a Civil War history of Johnson County.

As 2004 came to a close, the WCACWHT was working on the identification and possible interpretation of sites related to the December 1862 attack on Van Buren by elements of the Kansas Division under the command of James Blunt. The attack followed the battle of Prairie Grove and included a

sharp fight at Dripping Springs, followed by an artillery duel across the Arkansas River between Fort Smith and Van Buren. Identification of related sites will pave the way for future preservation and interpretation. Nominations to the National or Arkansas Registers of Historic Places will likely follow once sites are evaluated.

While the bulk of work done by the WCACWHT is Civil War-related, the chapter has provided assistance to other groups with similar interests. The Trail of Tears and proposed Butterfield Trail have both received help from the WCACWHT membership.

As 2005 begins, we are looking forward to new discoveries that will strengthen our understanding of the Civil War in Western Arkansas. If you are interested in helping to preserve and protect our Civil War heritage, the next meeting is January 15. Time and location information can be obtained from Tom Wing at (479) 788-7805



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The Arkansas Historic Preservation Program is an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage. Other DAH agencies are the Arts Council, the Old State House Museum, the Historic Arkansas Museum, the Delta Cultural Center in Helena, the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center and the Natural Heritage Commission.

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