



# Battlefield Update

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## ACWSC accepting grant bids, unveils new traveling exhibit

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has reopened its grants program, unveiled its traveling exhibit, and announced cell-phone tours of Arkansas Civil War sites during what has been a very busy first six months of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

The ACWSC will again be able to award grants for projects that support the planning and execution of local commemorations of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War between 2011 and 2015, thanks to the release of new funding for the program, ACWSC Chairman Tom Dupree announced.

“Department of Arkansas Heritage Director Cathie Matthews approved funding for the ACWSC from General Improvement Fund monies released by



ARKANSAS  
CIVIL WAR  
Sesquicentennial Commission

the Governor’s Office,” Dupree said. “One of the commission’s top priorities has been to assist local efforts to commemorate the Civil War, and the grant program will help us  
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## Floods can't dampen Chalk Bluff event

By Danny Honnoll  
NEACWHT Chair

I guess our group is all about history! This year we had a historical flood in northeast Arkansas to prove it. The flood washed out our Chalk Bluff reenactment that was set for April 30 – May 1, 2011. The Chalk Bluff Battlefield Park was not damaged but the road leading to the park was under five feet of water in places.

We waited until Wednesday, April 27, to postpone the event and it has taken months of coordination to set the new dates of September 24-25, 2011. Clay County Judge Gary Howell has worked

very hard on this event and we need as many to show up as can to show our support for Clay County and their effort to put on a good reenactment.

Here is the update information on this year’s reenactment at Chalk Bluff:

Amenities include powder for artillery, cavalry, infantry, water, firewood, and hay, and a meal on Saturday evening (for those who make contact with the event coordinators at least four days before the event).

Scheduled events:

Friday, September 23, 4 to 6 p.m. - Sign in by re-enactors & living historians.

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## SEACWHT sees possible battle remnant

By Ron Kelley  
SEACWHT Member

The Civil War Sesquicentennial has gotten off to a productive start in southeast Arkansas. Historians in Jefferson County have identified a section of land in downtown Pine Bluff that very well may be among the most endangered Civil War battlefields in America. By utilizing satellite imagery and an original 1864 map of Union fortifications in and around Pine Bluff, historians may have located a section of preservable, city-owned property in the vicinity where the opening shots of the Battle of Pine Bluff occurred on the morning of October 25, 1863.

The discovery comes on the heels of Mark Christ’s nationally-published article in *North South* magazine, which has led to an increased interest in the south Arkansas battle. At a recent Jefferson County Civil War Sesquicentennial Collaborative meeting, discussions were held involving the economic opportunities in heritage tourism involving the battle site in the vicinity of 10<sup>th</sup> and South Mulberry Street; Pine Bluff is currently on the list of significant places on the Vicksburg Campaign Trail.

Other preservation news from South East Arkansas includes The Friends of Jenkins Ferry Battlefield’s announcement of a CD audio driving  
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## For Information

### General Information

Mark Christ (501) 324-9880

[mark@arkansasheritage.org](mailto: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, a Department of Arkansas Heritage agency.

### Northwest Arkansas CWHT

Alan Thompson (479) 846-2990

[alan.thompson@arkansas.gov](mailto:alan.thompson@arkansas.gov)

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

### West Central Arkansas CWHT

Larry Puckett (479) 769-4738

[larrypuckett@email.com](mailto:larrypuckett@email.com)

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

### Southwest Arkansas CWHT

Peggy Lloyd (870) 983-2633

[peggy.lloyd@arkansas.gov](mailto:peggy.lloyd@arkansas.gov)

Tom Beam (501) 760-1116

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

### Southeast Arkansas CWHT

Mark Kalkbrenner (870) 247-2394

[deovindice@suddenlink.net](mailto:deovindice@suddenlink.net)

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

### Central Arkansas CWHT

Rick Meadows (501) 843-9090

[rmeadows@aaamissouri.com](mailto:rmeadows@aaamissouri.com)

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

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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.

# CACWHT looks back on activities across region



*The Hicks' Station marker unveiling was well attended.*

*By Rick Meadows  
CACWHT Chair*

Members and friends of the Grand Prairie Civil War Roundtable dedicated the "Hicks' Station in the Civil War" Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Marker just east of Lonoke on Highway 70 at Sunset Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Clem Papineau of Maumelle was the keynote speaker at the event on June 25.

Eddie Landreth, president of the Shoppach House Historic Park in Benton, reported that they had a successful memorial service and flag dedication ceremony on April 30. Members of the David O. Dodd Chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans participated. They marched from the Saline County Courthouse to the Shoppach House on the old Military Road in Benton.

Joann Thompson and Jean Corley made a replica First National Flag of the Confederacy and presented it to the group on Saturday. Robert Edwards of the SCV reported, "We've researched this and learned that on this day (in 1861), the ladies were standing on the porch and presented

these soldiers a flag they had made to take with them as they left Benton. James Fagan was captain of the group and the flag was presented to him." During the memorial service, the names of 248 men from Saline County who lost their lives during the war were read.

The annual Civil War Gun & Artifact Show will be held in September at the Shoppach House. The exact date will be announced soon.

Other upcoming events include:

\* July 26 – Dr. Michael Dougan, retired history professor from Arkansas State University will be the guest speaker at the Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas. The group meets at 7:00 p.m. at the Second Presbyterian Church in west Little Rock. Dr. Dougan will discuss Arkansas after the Secession Convention.

\* August 27-28 Re-enactment of The Battle of Reed's Bridge in Jacksonville. This popular event includes a tour of the newly completed homestead and interacting with the soldiers in camp.



# Chalk Bluff events welcomes re-enactors; May was busy month for NEACWHT

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Saturday, September 24, 9 a.m., Camp Life Demonstrations; 9:30 a.m., Officer's Call; 10:30 a.m., Unveiling of Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Marker; 11 a.m. Cannon Demonstrations; noon, Ladies Tea and Demonstrations of Refugee Camp; 12:30 p.m., Marching and Rifle Firing Demonstrations; 2 p.m. Re-enactment followed by Grand Review Parade of Troops returning to Camp, and 3:30 p.m., Ladies Demonstrations of Refugee Camp.

Sunday September 25, 10:00 a.m., Officer's Call; 11 a.m., Church Service; 1 p.m., Memorial Service; 2 p.m., Re-enactment followed by Grand review Parade of Troops Returning to Camp. Throughout both days there will be living history demonstrations by ladies in refuge. All branches of military and period impressions are welcome. This event is hosted annually by Clay County, the Northeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail Committee, SCV Shaver Camp #1655 of Jonesboro and the Gen. James F. Fagan Chapter #280, Military Order Stars and Bars of Jonesboro.

Artillery is welcomed but must contact before setting up and has to be on site before 10 a.m. on the day of the event. There is no registration fees for re-enactors, sutlers or living historians. Walk-ons must be at site and registered two hours before any listed event. Artillery and cavalry should contact W. Danny Honnoll at (870) 926-2985 or danny@honnoll.com. Infantry should contact Louis Riggs at (573) 717-0909 or louisr@centurytel.net.

We encourage everyone to come early and stay late at this year's Chalk Bluff event. We are still needing reenactors for this year's event.

If you are interested in marking a Civil War site with an Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Marker, which received initial funding from the National Park Service's Preserve America program, the ACWSC will contribute up to \$1,000 toward the creation of individual historical markers. Commission historians will work with the local sponsors to ensure that all of the information on the markers is accurate. Application forms are available by writing Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial

Historical Marker Program, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 or sending an e-mail message to acwsc@arkansasheritage.org. They also can be downloaded at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/historical-markers/>.

M. Ray Jones, III, and W. Danny Honnoll replaced the flags at the Southern Confederate Heritage Park in Jonesboro. They took down the U.S. Flag, South Carolina State Flag, Bonnie Blue Flag, and the Confederate Battle Flag which was raised in honor of Confederate Heritage Month in April and they replaced the flags on June 28 with the Betty Ross (U.S.) Flag in honor of the 4th of July, North Carolina Flag (State Flag of one of the Confederate States), the 3rd National Confederate Flag, and the Calvert Arms Flag (This flag appeared in 1755. It is a black and gold checkered flag with a Union Jack in the corner). We have had many questions on our historical flag display at Jonesboro and the citizens of Craighead County and northeast Arkansas seems to enjoy trying to figure what flags we are flying every quarter.

It was a very busy May for our group as you can see below.

On May 10, Ray Jones and Danny Honnoll drove to Helena to set up a Civil War display at the Helena State Welcome Center. They answered questions from numerous individuals and handed out Arkansas Sesquicentennial and Arkansas Civil War Trails brochures during the day. They were greeted by Helena-West Helena Mayor Arnell Willis. Mayor Willis said he has a true love of history and thanks Honnoll and Jones for making the long trip from Jonesboro to Helena.

On May 12, The Old State House exhibit "An Enduring Union" opened with Jones and Honnoll attending.

On May 14, at Paragould as part of the Greene County Historical Society annual Heritage Fair, Honnoll was the keynote speaker and Ray Jones and Will Silas, along with John Purcell of our trails group, manned the booth for the NEACWHTC. They met a lot of nice historians from all over the state. Honnoll gave a program on Gen. Robert E. Lee.

On May 21, M. Ray Jones and W. Danny Honnoll attended the annual Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail Meeting.

They had a grand old time meeting their fellow trails members from all over Arkansas.

On the afternoon of May 21, Mark Christ, Honnoll and Jones helped dedicate a Southern Iron Cross to General Dandridge McRae at Searcy, in the Oak Grove Cemetery. Harold Nix and Roger Harvell of the Pvt. Job S. Neill Camp #286 at Batesville SCV got the event together and about 65 individuals attended this very humid event. The Shaver Camp of Jonesboro provided the PA system and the M.C., Honnoll. Alan Thompson of the NWCWHTC and Christ were the keynote speakers. They did an excellent job in honoring General McRae. Harvell, as part of Barrett's Light Artillery Battery, fired three volleys in honor of McRae.

On June 4, Dale and Bobbie Barnett of Ravenden and Joe and Carolyn May of Bay represented the NEACWHTC at Batesville's "Walk Thru History Days." Dale Barnett had his Confederate flag display up and demonstrated the proper use of the flags in public and the history behind the flags of the South.

For more information on sesquicentennial plans, visit [www.arkansascivilwar150.com](http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com) or e-mail [acwsc@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:acwsc@arkansasheritage.org).

You can email Honnoll at [danny@honnoll.com](mailto:danny@honnoll.com), call him at (870) 926-2985 or send him mail at 216 Hillpoint Cove, Jonesboro, Arkansas 72401-5992 if you have any information on any Civil War happening that you would like the NEACWHTC to help with.

The next meeting of the NEACWHTC will be on August 17th at 6 p.m. at the Fishboat Restaurant in Jonesboro. See you there!

## Civil War Arkansas on the Internet!

Log onto these sites to learn more:

[www.arkansascivilwar150.com](http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com)

[www.arkansaspreservation.org](http://www.arkansaspreservation.org)

[www.civilwarbuff.org](http://www.civilwarbuff.org)

<http://history-sites.com/cgi-bin/boards/arcwmb/>

# Archeological dig at Historic Washington unveils artifacts from commercial district

By Peggy Lloyd  
and Tom Beam  
SWACWHT Chairs

The Arkansas Archeological Survey, in conjunction with the Arkansas Archeological Society, held its 2011 Annual Training Program and Dig in Historic Washington State Park from June 11-25.

More than a hundred volunteers excavated and worked in the lab to learn more about the old town that served as the capital of Confederate Arkansas from late 1863 until the conclusion of the Civil War. Dr. Jamie Brandon of SAU in Magnolia directed the excavations.

One of the main sources for observations on Washington at the time of the Civil War is a letter from a Texas soldier who marched through the town and commented on the nice brick buildings that stood there at the time. Where were they? The brick buildings still standing in Washington were built much later.

The excavations at Washington have revealed limestone and brick foundations directly across from the 1836 Courthouse that served as the Capitol building of the state in the latter years of the war. These foundations were of commercial buildings in the original business district of Washington. At the back of this area, the archeologists also unearthed a brick cistern with a pipe and charcoal filtering system to purify the collected rain water.

These buildings may have been destroyed by town fires that occurred in the 1870s and 1880s. In addition to the foundations, the archeological work has unearthed many artifacts including nails, metal items, broken glass of many types, broken pieces of crockery and buttons. All the artifacts will be washed and analyzed in the lab to further understanding of the activities in this area of the town.

Though the June weather was unusually hot this year, the archeologists and volunteers had an exciting and

enjoyable experience in Washington and it seems likely that they will return next year to continue the work done this year.

Another event of interest to Civil War buffs will take place at Washington on July 23. Josh Williams, the curator at Historic Washington State Park and a member of SWACWHT, is

arranging the 5th Annual Red River Heritage Symposium. The event offers a morning workshop for teachers and events from 1 to 8 p.m. Four guest lecturers will speak on Civil War-related topics in the afternoon, followed by a short late afternoon tour, and an evening

meal with a lecture. Call 870-983-2684 for further details and reservations.

Peggy Lloyd of Washington and Patrick Hotard of El Dorado are tentatively planning a meeting for late September. Further details will be released later.



Archeologists examine a historic cistern unearthed at

## WCACWHT activities planned

By Larry Puckett  
WCACWHT Chair

A new Civil War Marker has been placed in Van Buren at the top of Log Town Hill to mark the location of Gen. James Blunt's artillery location as his men poured into the town on December 28, 1862. They chased the Confederates down the hill and along the river road toward Ozark. The Union Army captured and sank four riverboats and took about two hundred men prisoner, only to be chastised by Gen. John Schofield for proceeding on a foolish endeavor without authorization from headquarters.

The Fort Smith National Historic Site installed a new Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial historical marker commemorating the takeover of Fort Smith by state troops on April 23, 1861, on one side and the recapture of Fort Smith by Federal troops in Sept. 1, 1863, on the other.

Fort Smith was honored to host the great-great grandson of Black Beaver, who led the two companies of Federal soldiers garrisoning Fort Smith into Indian Territory and away from the fort in 1861. Kerry Helton is not only a descendant of a chief of the Delaware Nation, but is himself the president of the Delaware Nation (the Lanape people).

The Fort Smith National Historic Site will celebrate on September 17, 2011, the 50th anniversary of its opening as a unit of the National Park Service.

The Fort Smith Museum has an ongoing exhibit about the battles that occurred in Sebastian county. There will be a program on Massard Prairie on July 23.

The Massard Prairie Battlefield reenactment will be held October 15 and sponsored by the Fort Smith Parks and Recreation Department and the 15th Northwest Arkansas Re-enactors Association.

# Revamped exhibit area, historical marker unveiled at Prairie Grove Battlefield park

By Alan Thompson  
NWACWHT Chair

The newly remodeled museum at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park is officially open following a grand-reopening ceremony held on June 18. About 300 people attended the event which included speeches, living history demonstrations and, of course, the new exhibits. Thus far the exhibits have received rave reviews. The museum is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

The new sesquicentennial marker was also unveiled. It is installed near the Borden House and the orchard where the most severe fighting in the battle took place. One side of the marker talks about the struggle around the Borden House while the reverse side addresses the legacy of the battle.

The archeology project is ongoing and they are working on a couple of sites that they think might be the Hugh Rogers home and the Ada Post Office. The Rogers home is where Confederate Generals Thomas C. Hindman and John S. Marmaduke and Union Generals Francis J. Herron and James G. Blunt met to discuss a truce the evening following the battle. Herron later used the home as his headquarters in the aftermath of the battle. The Ada Post Office, which doubled as a harness shop, survived the battle and was torn down in the mid-20th century. The door of the building, which sported a number of bullet holes was preserved by ladies of the local UDC chapter but it was later lost in a house fire.

Heritage Trail Partners, a group dedicated to researching and preserving the "Heritage Trail" consisting of the Trail of Tears routes, Butterfield Trail and Civil War troop movement routes in Northwest Arkansas, has added the roads used in the Prairie Grove Campaign to the Heritage Trail. The group is now attempting to nail down the Confederate retreat route from the Battle of Pea Ridge.



NWACWHT Chair Alan Thompson unveils the new Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial historical marker at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park.

The Washington County Historical Society is having its annual Ice Cream Social on August 20 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. From 5:15-5:45 their Heritage School will do a presentation on Civil War music and dancing. Tours of Headquarters House will be given from 6 to 7 and the 11th Missouri Infantry will be doing living history. Other living history characters portrayed will be Ben McCulloch, Ras Stirman, Jonas Tebbetts, Alexander Asboth and his dog, and Rebecca Stirman.

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas named the Dugagin's Farm Battlefield in Benton County as one of its 2011 Arkansas's Most Endangered Historic Places. Dunagin's Farm Battlefield was the site of the first Civil War battle fought in Arkansas and is part of the Pea Ridge Campaign. The battle of Dunigan's Farm (also called the battle of Little Sugar Creek) took place on February 17, 1862. The site

is privately owned. The property is not protected from the removal of artifacts or development from nearby Fayetteville and Rogers areas. An ideal outcome for the property would be for it to be added to Pea Ridge Military Park and interpreted.

## Jenkins' Ferry tour planned

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tour of the April 30, 1864, Jenkins Ferry battlefield. The driving tour will include 11 stops outlining the progression of the battle from Tulip, Arkansas, to the location where General Fredrick Steele burned his wagons following the engagement. Narrated by professional talent Joe Frost, the audio tour includes a well-researched account of the battle, complete with sound effects. The CD is expected to be released by the fall.



# ACWSC grant deadline is August 19; traveling exhibit available free of charge

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achieve that goal.”

Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants of up to \$2,000 will be awarded four times per year, as funding is available. County or municipal governments, non-profit organizations, and individuals may submit proposals for grants. The deadline for the next round of grants will be August 19, 2011.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants may be used for, but are not limited to, the following types of projects:

- \* Development of plans for local commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial
- \* Speakers' fees and materials for symposia, conferences and workshops
- \* Development of museum exhibits or interpretive materials related to local Civil War events

- \* Development of printed materials, educational software, films, or videos interpreting the Civil War in Arkansas.

Grant applications and guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/historical-markers/grants.aspx>, or can be requested by writing to ACWS Grants, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201, sending an e-mail to [acwsc@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:acwsc@arkansasheritage.org), or calling (501) 324-9667.

Applications for the next round of ACWS Grants must be delivered to the ACWSC at 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201 no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2011. No faxed, e-mailed or incomplete applications will be considered.

The ACWSC, in cooperation with the Old State House Museum and the Arkansas Humanities Council, now offers “Civil War Arkansas, 1861-1865,”



*The ACWSC Traveling Exhibit can be scheduled through the Arkansas Humanities Council.*

a traveling exhibit about the state's involvement in the war.

“This exhibit will be available for display at venues all over the state,” Dupree said. “It will allow people throughout Arkansas to learn more about what happened here between 1861 and 1865.”

The exhibit includes a timeline and dozens of images of people, places and battles in Arkansas. The ACWSC created the text and located the images for the exhibit, the Old State House Museum designed and built it, and the Arkansas Humanities Council will be in charge of distribution.

To request “Civil War Arkansas, 1861-1865,” contact the Arkansas Humanities Council at [robinphelps@sbcglobal.net](mailto:robinphelps@sbcglobal.net) or visit <http://www.arkhums.org/What/resource-center.html>. There is no charge for the exhibit, though exhibitors are responsible

for returning it to the AHC office in Little Rock.

The ACWSC now offers free cell-phone tours of historic battlefields around the state.

The cell-phone tours can be accessed by calling (501) 203-3015 or by visiting <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/civil-war-sites/audio/>. Current tours include the Fourche Bayou Battlefield (Stop 11) in Little Rock; Cane Hill Battlefield (Stop 10) in Washington County; Elkins' Ferry (Stop 12) and Prairie D' Ane (Stop 13) Battlefields in Nevada County; Poison Spring Battlefield (Stop 14) in Ouachita County; Fort Southerland (Stop 18) in Camden; Marks' Mills Battlefield (Stop 15) in Cleveland County; Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield (Stop 16) in Grant County, and Ditch Bayou Battlefield (Stop 17) in Chicot County. Other battlefield cell-

**Continued on next page.**

# Cell phone tours of Arkansas battlefields, new podcasts are among ACWSC offerings

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phone tours are being developed.

Additional historic site tours offered by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program can be found by calling the same number or by visiting <http://www.arkansaspreservation.com/tours-events-workshops/audio-tours/>.

“CW150: Remembering the Civil War in Arkansas,” a collaboration between the ACWSC and AETN, debuted in April as part of the kickoff for Arkansas’s sesquicentennial commemoration.

“CW150” is an original one-hour program that will reflect on the anniversary of the Civil War and its impact on the state a century and a half later. Host Tommy Sanders talks with guests about Arkansas’s involvement in the Civil War, why it is relevant to modern culture and how it changed the state socially, economically and politically. Guests include: history professors Tom DeBlack and Cherisse Jones-Branch; living historian Josh Williams; Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism Executive Director Richard Davies; and archeologist Jamie Brandon.

The ACWSC has added ten new podcasts about the state’s Civil War history to its website.

The new podcasts were created in cooperation with the School of Mass Communication at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The new offerings include:

- \* Dr. Kenneth C. Barnes of the University of Central Arkansas on the Williams clan, a noted band of “Mountain Feds”
- \* Archie Moore of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission on the efforts of soldiers in the United States Colored Troops to acquire education for themselves and their families
- \* Jack Myers of the Delta Cultural Center on the career of the gunboat U.S.S. Tyler
- \* Alan Thompson of Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park on the post defense colonies in northwest Arkansas and the



*Descendants of the Arkansas Peace Society "Chain Gang" gathered at the Searcy County Courthouse in Marshall in June to dedicate an Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission marker honoring their ancestors.*

adventures of cross-dressing Confederate guerrilla Howell A. “Doc” Rayburn

\* Ronnie A. Nichols, historian of African-American troops in Arkansas on the road to freedom and military service of former slaves in the state

\* Dr. Bill Gurley of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences on the “Confederate Grizzlies” in Mosby Parsons’ Missouri Division and on the life and death of General Parsons

\* Dr. Jamie Brandon of the Arkansas Archeological Survey on conflict archeology in Arkansas.

To hear the ACWSC podcasts series, visit <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/research-education/podcasts/>.

The ACWSC now has worked with groups around Arkansas to place Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Markers in 17 counties. Through the program, the ACWSC works with local partners to help tell the stories of how the Civil War affected

communities around the state. The Commission hopes that there will be at least one marker in each of the state’s 75 counties by the end of the sesquicentennial commemoration in 2015.

The application for the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Historical Marker Program can be downloaded at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/historical-markers/markers.aspx>.

For more information on sesquicentennial plans, visit [www.arkansascivilwar150.com](http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com) or e-mail [acwsc@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:acwsc@arkansasheritage.org).

**Visit the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission website at [www.arkansascivilwar150.com](http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com) for information on upcoming activities!**



# Reed's Bridge gearing up for August event

By Ann Hooper  
RBBPS President

It is really wonderful to see all the work that is being done to preserve the Civil War Battlefields and the programs presented to commemorate the actual battles. I know it costs a lot of money and the research to keep everything as accurate as possible is tremendous. But again, we all have to "fess up" and tell how very much fun and enjoyment we are having reliving this history and teaching it to others.

Reed's Bridge Battlefield will host a re-enactment on August 27 and 28. Preregistration will be available in July. We will have several sutlers, along with food vendors, and numerous other booths. A great meal will be served to the re-enactors and workers and then, of course, we have to have a dance to wear off all that food.

It will be hot in August, but wonder how it was on August 27, 1863? We had

some sturdy ancestors, but if they could do it then we can too.

Reed's Bridge Battlefield is just south on 161 going out of Jacksonville, Arkansas.

You'll recognize it by the 1850s homestead that is standing so proud behind the split-rail fence. Work has really

progressed this spring and summer. The rock walkways and fireplace have really brought it together. We have already had two weddings out there this June and we are looking forward to many more. We also will be able to accommodate anni-



*Reed's Bridge Battlefield Park in Jacksonville*

versary and retirement parties in the near future. So, if you have not been out to Reed's Bridge lately, please come on out and join us. Please direct any questions to ah1823@att.net or phone (501) 831-8427.



Arkansas Historic  
Preservation Program  
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Little Rock, AR 72201  
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info@arkansaspreservation.org  
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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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