



Arkansas Battlefield Update

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Friends of Jenkins' Ferry get \$40,000 grant for plan

The Friends of Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield group has received a grant of \$40,000 from the National Parks Service's American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) to fund a preservation plan for the Civil War Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield in Arkansas.

"We are proud to support projects like this that safeguard and preserve American battlefields," Jon Jarvis, director of the National Park Service, said. "These places are symbols of individual sacrifice and national heritage that we must protect so that this and future generations can understand the struggles that define us as a nation."

This grant is one of 27 National Park Service grants totaling \$135 million

to preserve and protect significant park sites from all wars fought on American soil. Funded projects preserve battlefields from the Colonial-Indian Wars through World War I and include site mapping (GPS GIS data collection), archeological studies, National Register of Historic Places nominations, preservation and management plans.

Federal, state, local, and tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions are eligible for National Park Service battlefield grants which are awarded annually. Since 1996 more than \$14 million has been awarded by ABPP to help preserve significant historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil. Additional information is online at www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp.

Reed's Bridge thrives despite the heat

By Tommy Dupree
RBBPS President

Work on Reed's Bridge improvements was limited during June, July and August due to the hot weather although Mike Kish did get something done during the cooler parts of the cooler days. The family working the garden plot did have a good harvest by watering on a regular basis and keeping the grass and weeds cleaned out of the plot.

On Friday, July 15, ten members of the new Air Force Reserve unit being formed at the base moved rocks, logs, and blocks of firewood and cleaned up

areas that had needed help for some time. Thank you, Colonel Archie Frye and the members of the Air Force Reserve Command Unit at the Little Rock Air Force Base.

On July 20, Reed's Bridge hosted a lunch meeting of the Arkansas Humanities Council and a lecture by Mark Christ about the Battle of Reed's Bridge. Because of the 107 degree heat, the council came to the Jacksonville Museum of Military History where the group was cool and comfortable while eating. Following their meal, Christ gave part of his talk in the theater area of the museum. The tour of the battlefield was not as comfortable to say the least, but we appreciated their visit to the museum and the battlefield.

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120 attend ACWSC/NPS symposium

More than 120 people from across the United States attended "An Empire in Extent: The Civil War West of the Mississippi," a symposium sponsored by the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and the National Park Service August 9-11 at the University of Arkansas Global Campus in Fayetteville.

Lecture topics included the vital issues that were at stake and the Civil War experiences of people living west of the Mississippi River, including Arkansas. Nationally known scholars from across the country offered presentations on the war, life on the home front, and the experiences of the diverse peoples of the Trans-Mississippi. In addition, historians discussed the legacy of the Civil War west of the Mississippi and its meaning today. The symposium also include guided tours to Pea Ridge National Military Park and Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park. DVDs of the symposium are available for sale and information is available at ccoester@uark.edu.

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has awarded ten grants totaling \$16,958 for projects that will commemorate the war in the state.

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For Information

General Information

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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

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

West Central Arkansas CWHT

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

Southwest Arkansas CWHT

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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

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

Central Arkansas CWHT

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

Northeast Arkansas CWHT

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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.

ACWSC awards grants, announces new podcasts

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Recipients of the Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants were:

- * Northwest Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail/Heritage Trail Partners, \$2,000 for battle of Cane Hill wayside exhibits
- * Cross County Historical Society, \$1,000 for the Cross County 150th Birthday/Civil War Celebration Week
- * Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation, \$1,908 for the sixth annual Red River Heritage Symposium
- * Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, \$2,000 for new entries on Civil War Arkansas
- * Sevier County Historical Museum, \$1,050 for "Hoo-Rah Days: Commemorating the Civil War"
- * Mary Jean Sell, \$2,000 for "Voices from Eureka Springs Silent City Cemetery Tour"
- * Bobby Dandridge/Black Butterfly, Inc., \$2,000 for "Southern Life in Pine Bluff, 1863-1900" film.
- * Old State House Museum in Little Rock, \$1,000 for "A Soldier's Song: A Celebration of the Music of the American Civil War," a program held September 13
- * Friends of the Arkansas Post Museum, \$2,000 for the January 20-21, 2013, commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Arkansas Post
- * Glen Schwarz, \$2,000 for seasonal Civil War articles to be published in popular periodicals in central Arkansas.

The deadline to apply for the next round of Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants is November 16, 2012.

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has added 20 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. Buck T. Foster, visiting assistant professor of history at the University of Central Arkansas, on Bill Dark and Martin

Hart, two infamous Arkansas guerrillas

- * William Stevens of the C.S.S.

Pontchartrain Project on Captain John W. Dunnington, Confederate States Navy

- * Dr. Charles Bolton, retired University of Arkansas at Little Rock history professor, on United States Colored Troops in Arkansas and the case of fugitive slave Nelson Hackett

- * Josh Williams of Historic Washington State Park on the 1861 elections in Washington, Arkansas

- * Dr. George Lankford of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission on the Civil War in Batesville and operations against guerrillas in the Ozarks

- * Jodi Morris of Central High School National Historic Site on education from Civil War to civil rights

- * Grif Stockley, lawyer and historian, on the refashioning of black identity during the Civil War

- * Carl Carlson-Drexler of the Arkansas Archeological Survey on the archeology of Arkansas battlefields and civilian Civil War-era sites

- * Travis Ratermann of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program on Arkansas Confederate prisoners at the prisoner of war camp at Alton, Illinois

- * Peggy Lloyd of the South Arkansas Regional Archives on E.W. Gantt, a fire-eating secessionist turned ardent Unionist

- * Susan Young of the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History with several views of the Civil War from the civilian perspective

- * Carl Moneyhon of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock on why we should celebrate, and not just commemorate, the Civil War

- * Mark K. Christ of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission on the 1863 duel of a pair of Confederate generals.

The podcasts can be accessed at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/re->

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CACWHT enjoys Old State House event; two CW 150 markers dedicated at Searcy

By Rick Meadows
CACWHT Chair

There have been many recent events in Central Arkansas and others in the near future that relate to the Civil War in Arkansas. On Saturday, August 25, the Old State House Museum hosted its symposium, "A Divided Arkansas." Speakers included:

* Dr. Carl Moneyhon from the University of Arkansas Little Rock, who gave an overview of the political climate in Arkansas in 1862. Governor Rector considered having Arkansas secede from the Confederacy when General Van Dorn took all the men, arms, and supplies across the Mississippi River. In early May, Rector made a proclamation requesting 4,500 men to join in the defense of Arkansas. A constitutional crisis was averted when President Davis sent General Thomas Hindman of Helena to Arkansas at the end of May.

* Dr. William Shea of the University of Arkansas at Monticello discussed the battles of Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove. At Pea Ridge Confederates had a numerical advantage over the Federals but without success. The Pea Ridge Campaign began in northwest Arkansas and ended in southeast Arkansas at Helena. In the late summer and early fall of 1862 Confederate forces were on the offensive at: Antietam, Perryville, Corinth, and Prairie Grove.

* Dr. Daniel Sutherland of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville discussed the formation of Union guerrilla outfits. General Hindman authorized the use of this new style of warfare.

The Old State House Museum currently has on display many of the Civil War regimental flags in its collection. "Battle Colors of Arkansas" is a must-see exhibit for anyone interested in the Civil War. Allow one hour minimum.

Other events were held on Saturday, September 8. One day-long event was held at the Scott Plantation Settle-



Cannons roar during marker dedication at Searcy golf course

ment in Scott. Also, in Searcy two Sesquicentennial Commission Markers were dedicated: The Searcy Landing in the Civil War at Golf Course Drive at River Oaks and the Brig. General Dandridge McRae marker at the Oak Grove Cemetery.

Another event was held September 22 at the Shoppach House on Military Road in Benton.

October brings the annual Tales of the Crypt performed by students at Parkview Arts and Science Magnet High School at historic Mount Holly Cemetery, which is located at Broadway and 12th Street just south of I-630 in

Little Rock. Confederate soldiers and generals along with many notable Arkansas figures call Mount Holly their final resting place. Watch for times for this candlelight tour, usually the middle of October.

The public is also invited to attend the monthly lectures of the Civil War Roundtables. The Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock at 7:00 p.m. and the Grand Prairie Civil War Roundtable meets in Lonoke on the 2nd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Civil War Arkansas on the Internet!

Log onto these sites to learn more:

www.arkansascivilwar150.com

www.arkansaspreservation.org

www.civilwarbuff.org

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

NEACWHT helps out at events in Jonesboro, Wittsburg and Helena

By Danny Honnoll
NEACWHT Chair

This has been another busy season for us here in Northeast Arkansas. Everywhere you turn there is a dedication of some kind to attend, and that is great. We are working on plans of the Chalk Bluff Reenactment but have not set the date as of yet.

On May 7, W. Danny Honnoll gave a presentation to the Grand Prairie Civil War Round Table on the Battle of Cotton Plant. There was a good attendance and some good questions about the battle that took place on July 7, 1862. Ray Jones rode shotgun for Honnoll.

The dedication of the replica of Fort Curtis took place on Friday, May 11, in historic downtown Helena. The program began at noon at the corner of York and Columbia streets inside the reproduction fortress. The program was open to the public. The event included local and state officials, historians, re-enactors, and numerous civic leaders and members of the public who have been involved in building a focus on the area's heritage to increase tourism to the region. Joe May, Jackie Stevens, M. Ray Jones, and W. Danny Honnoll attended the dedication of the Fort Curtis re-opening. To learn more about the Civil War Helena project or the dedication of Fort Curtis, log on to www.CivilWarHelena.com.

On Memorial Day in Jonesboro, members helped the community observe those who fell during the Battle of Jonesboro (Aug. 2, 1862). Danny Honnoll led the event and Harold Hunt led the color guard consisting of Ben Atkinson of Leachville, Dr. Vance Sales of Jonesboro, Eugene Wittlake of Jonesboro, Jim Markley of Jonesboro, Oliver Hinds of Trumann and Will Silas of Jonesboro. Taps was performed by Will Silas during the ceremony. More than 400 attended this event at the Craighead County Courthouse next to the Civil War marker.

An ACWSC marker was dedicated



Kevin Duke, Danny Honnoll, Ray Jones and David Archer at Wittsburg event.

on June 6 at Wittsburg. The marker reads: Wittsburg in the Civil War. After Arkansas seceded from the Union in May 1861, Confederate officers began to recruit in the Wittsburg area. Companies B, D, F and K of the 5th Arkansas Infantry Regiment were organized at Wittsburg June 12-14, 1861. David Cross, for whom Cross County is named, led the regiment. Union cavalry in the campaign to capture Little Rock stopped here for supplies and built a fortification on the high ground above town in July 1863, and a patrol of the 3rd Iowa Cavalry skirmished here June 6, 1864. 2,157 Confederates were paroled here in 1865. No. 28; Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission; Cross County Historical Society Cross County; Arkansas Natural and Cultural Resources Council; 2012.

Richard Hartness, president of the Cross County Historical Society and author of two books on Wittsburg, was in charge of the dedication ceremony. ACWSC Commissioner W. Danny Honnoll was the keynote speaker. David Archer of Memphis, Kevin Duke of Cross County, M. Ray

Jones, III of Jonesboro and Honnoll unveiled the new marker during the dedication. To get to the Wittsburg marker, turn south off of State Highway 64 East at Levesque and travel three miles on Arkansas Highway 163 to Wittsburg.

For further information on the marker or about the Civil War in Cross County, call the Cross County Museum and Archives at (870) 238-4100. About 70 attended this event.

The NEACWHTC and Shaver Camp SCV took the lead in placing a new cannon at the Southern Confederate Heritage Park in Jonesboro. Jared Dunigan, Doyle Yearta, Will Silas, Ashton Silas, Matt Silas, M. Ray Jones, III, Harold Hunt, Pete Harmon, and Honnoll worked at the park. Special thanks goes to Harold Hunt for painting the cannon and storing it for us until we placed it. New flags were placed as they are every three months with money raised by the SCV at their yearly Christmas Party; last year they raised over \$1,000 for the Park. The UDC Honnoll

Continued on next page.

NEACWHT participates in ceremony honoring fallen soldiers at Mount Holly

Continued from previous page.

Chapter is very supportive along with the Northeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trails Committee. A formal dedication took place on Aug 2.

On June 14, the NEACWHTC took part in Flag Day at the Courthouse in Jonesboro. M. Ray Jones, III, Ben Atkinson, Jerry McAfee and Harold Hunt helped display flags of the Civil War as well as the American flag. Honnoll was MC of this event. About 50 individuals attended.

On June 24, a dedication and memorial service honoring eighteen Confederate soldiers and one Union soldier was held at Mount Holly Cemetery in Little Rock. The General T. J. Churchill Chapter #1373, United Daughters of the Confederacy, took the lead of this event. Kay Tatum was in charge of the event and Honnoll was in charge of the marker dedication, aided by Ray Jones, Jackie Stevens, Mike Loum, and Bill Turney in the honor guard. Bobbie Barnett of

Ravenden and Dyan Bohnert of the Order of the Confederate Rose laid flowers at the grave of 16-year-old Confederate Private George Godwin Borland during the ceremony. It was very hot that day!!!!

In July, Honnoll and Jones journeyed to middle Tennessee and northern Georgia. They visited the battle sites at Murfreesboro, Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga. They also visited the statue of Arkansas General Patrick R. Cleburne at Ringgold Gap, GA.

On August 2, Jones and Honnoll replaced the flags at the Southern Confederate Heritage Park in Jonesboro. They took down the Betsy Ross Flag, Kentucky State Flag, Third Confederate National Flag and the Van Dorn Battle Flag. Doyle Yearta and Jones raised the new flags: a 15-Star Spangled Banner Flag, Arkansas State Flag, Third National Confederate Flag and the 30th Arkansas Confederate Battle Flag (a blue flag with a white St. Andrews Cross on it.). The

flags were placed at half staff in honor of those who died during the Civil War and the Battle of Jonesboro.

We held our fall meeting on August 21 at the Fishboat Restaurant in Jonesboro and had about 20 individuals attend. Jim and Sue Mayo of Bloomfield, Mo., traveled the farthest. Honnoll gave a presentation about the importance of Crowley's Ridge during the war.

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

The next meeting of the NEACWHTC will be on 6 p.m. December 18 at the Fishboat Restaurant in Jonesboro. This will be our annual fundraiser and Christmas Party. See you there!

Cannon ordered

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During May, two cannon were ordered from Donald C. Tolefson of Gloucester, Virginia. Jack and Kay Danielson are planning on bringing them to Jacksonville from Virginia the last week of September and they will be placed on the battlefield.

This will make four cannon sites. RBBPS wishes to thank the Jacksonville Advertising and Promotion Commission, Mrs. Jane English, Mr. Barry Hyde and Mr. Mark Perry for providing the funds for the purchase.

The Arkansas Humanities Council has provided a grant for the final three wayside exhibits to be placed on the battlefield.

Graphic Past has the contract to make, build and install the panels with a completion date of December 1, 2012.

ACWSC approves new markers

Continued from Page 2.

[search-education/podcasts/](#).

The ACWSC also approved several new Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Marker applications. They are:

No. 40: 14th Arkansas Infantry Regiment, Lead Hill, Boone County (PA)

No. 41: Memphis to Little Rock Railroad, DeValls Bluff, Prairie County (PA)

No. 42: Richmond in the Civil War, Richmond, Little River County (PA)

No. 43: Elkins' Ferry/Cornelius Farm,

Prescott, Nevada County (PA)

No. 44: Moro in the Civil War, Moro, Lee County (PA)

No. 45: Prairie D'Ane, Prescott, Nevada County (PA)

No. 46: Yellville in the Civil War, Yellville, Marion County (PA)

No. 47: Skirmish at Haguewood Prairie, Paris, Logan County (PA)

For more information on sesquicentennial plans, visit www.arkansascivilwar150.com or e-mail acwsc@arkansasheritage.org.

Visit the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission website at www.arkansascivilwar150.com for information on upcoming activities!

SWACWHT sees archeological progress, plans several historical markers for region

By Peggy Lloyd
SWACWHT Co-Chair

The second summer of the Civil War Sesquicentennial in Southwest Arkansas has been hot, dry and busy. The archeologists of the Arkansas Archeological Survey under the direction of Dr. Jamie Brandon, working with the volunteers of the Arkansas Archeological Society, finished up their excavations at Washington on June 24. Their finds spanned a period from early Arkansas through Civil War into the twentieth century and included a Civil War button.

Tom Beam of Hot Springs has joined the Friends of Jenkins' Ferry group and also reported the death of 95-year-old Pierce Armstrong Reeder of Leola on July 15, 2012. A native of western Ohio, Pierce came to Arkansas in the 1930s. The former mayor and postmaster of Leola, Pierce was himself a retired army colonel and a long-time advocate of the nearby Jenkins' Ferry battlefield site. He attended SWACWHT meetings held at Tulip.

ACWSC Commissioner Robert Dodson of Camden, who is working with Peggy Lloyd to get a Civil War marker for Woodlawn in Ouachita County, recently reported the death of Bobby Downs of Arkadelphia on February 3, 2012. Downs, a native of Camden, was a U. S. Navy veteran of the Korean War and served as a cryptographer stationed in Tokyo for four years. He retired from Arkansas Louisiana Gas after a career of 34 years. Active in numerous historical and genealogical organizations, he was co-author of a family history, *Davis and Related Families*, and author of *Arkansas Fifteenth (Gee and Johnson) Regiment Infantry 1861-1865*. He was instrumental in the placement of numerous historic markers in Clark County, took an interest in Civil War sites and was a member of SWACWHT.

Applications for Civil War markers in Nevada County have been completed. A marker will be placed at the Missionary



Robin Hartsfield of Caddo Valley School considers a cannonball during a teachers' workshop at Historic Washington State Park in June.

Grove Baptist Church (aka Nubbin Hill Church) on Nevada County Road 37 to commemorate the Elkins' Ferry National Historic Landmark and the nearby Cornelius Farm where the Union Army rested while awaiting the arrival of Thayer's column with 5,000 men from Fort Smith. The second marker will be placed in front of the Travel Adventures Truck stop at Exit 44, Interstate 30 and U.S. Highway 371 near Prescott. This marker will commemorate the Prairie D'Ane National Historic Landmark. Both markers are sponsored by the Nevada County Depot and Museum in Prescott.

The Nevada County markers should be completed by late September or early October. The Depot Museum and Prescott Chamber of Commerce will coordinate dedication ceremonies for the installation and unveiling of the markers sometime in the fall.

The 6th Annual Red River Valley Heritage Symposium took place at Historic Washington State Park on July

28. The theme was "Why We Fight." Dr. Terry L. Jones of LSU/Monroe spoke on "Shreveport Units in the Civil War." Dr. Mary Jane Warde, an independent scholar from Stillwater, OK, discussed "The Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations in the Civil War." Carl Carlson-Drexler of the Arkansas Archeological Survey Station at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia presented on "Archeology of Trans-Mississippi Civil War Encampments." Dr. Bill Gurley of UAMS in Little Rock spoke on the Civil War diary he co-edited, "I Acted from Principle: The Diary of Dr. William McPheeters, Confederate Surgeon in the Trans-Mississippi." After dinner in the 1940 WPA Gym, Dr. Andrew S. Bledsoe, formerly of Hot Springs and now a lecturer in history at Rice in Houston and at Lone Star College in Cypress, Tex., spoke on "The Third Arkansas Infantry."

The symposium also included a teachers' workshop. The teachers

Continued on next page.

WCACWHT holds Devil's Backbone tour

By Larry Puckett
WCACWHT Chair

The West Central Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trail Hosted a tour of Devil's Backbone Ridge on Sept. 1 in cooperation with the South Sebastian County Historical Society. We met at the Old Jail in Greenwood and caravanned out to the site about six miles away.

I led the first group of about twenty interested trekkers. As we got about half way up the hill we were beset by four skirmishers and they chased us down the hill. This is probably the way the Kansas troops felt that day back on Sept. 1, 1863.

On July 23, the Capt. G.N. Spradling Camp # 72 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War met for their first official meeting at the Fort Smith National Historic Site. The swearing in of officers was conducted by the District Commander of the Missouri District. With him was the Past District Secretary Treasurer Walt Busch, who we had helped with all the paper work done for the Camp.

On Oct. 6, there will be a Heritage Day in Paris at which time the steering committee will unveil the new historical marker for the Battle of Haguewood Prairie.

On Oct. 20, the 15th NW Arkansas will bring gunfire back to Massard Prairie on the edge of Fort Smith. The 6th Kansas Cavalry was encamped between three springs on Diamond Grove when attacked by the 29th Texas Cavalry, Head's 5th Texas Cavalry and the Choctaw- Chickasaw Brigades on July 27, 1864. The battle will be portrayed here on a day in the fall when the

weather should be a little better; besides, this is the beginning of the color change in the Ozarks.

On Nov. 3, the Fifteenth NW Arkansas Re-enactors Association will do a living history program in Van Buren.

Then, of course, there is the first weekend in December when we will all be participating in the Battle of Prairie Grove re-enactment.



Larry Puckett visits West Elementary School students at Devil's Backbone battlefield.

Red River symposium a hit at HWSP

Continued from previous page.

participated in hands-on programs, toured the park and heard presentations by three speakers: Mark Christ of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program and the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, Dr. Wendy Richter, director of the Arkansas History Commission, and Jama Best of the Arkansas Humanities Council.

Josh Williams, the park curator, arranged and coordinated the symposium. The 2013 Symposium will take place on July 27, 2013, with the theme of "The Home Front." Josh is also

working on a Civil War marker application for Dooley's Ferry, the site of trenches and a Civil War fort on the Red River south of Springhill, Arkansas.

Dooley's Ferry will also be the site of a series of weekend archeological excavations this fall directed by Carl Carlson-Drexler of SAU, Magnolia. Carl, a Ph.D. candidate at William and Mary in Virginia, is researching the Civil War site for his dissertation.

Patrick Hotard of El Dorado reported that the South Arkansas Historical Foundation and the South Arkansas Community College are sponsoring a Fall

2012 Speakers Series. On Thursday, November 1, 2012, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., Dr. Gary Joiner of LSU-Shreveport, historian and author, will speak on the Camden Expedition and its role in the Red River Campaign of 1864. The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will be in the South Arkansas Community College Library auditorium. A question and answer period will follow the lecture.

Civil War Weekend at Washington will be November 3-4. Re-enactors will camp in the park and participate in a wide variety of activities.

Gristmill destruction new marker's subject

By Alan Thompson
NWACWHT Chair

Napoleon Bonaparte and Frederick the Great are both attributed with saying "An army marches on its stomach." In northwest Arkansas both armies along with guerrillas engaged in campaigns to destroy gristmills to prevent their use by the other groups. In the end the civilians were the ones who suffered, with many starving and thousands becoming refugees in search of food and safety.

On July 6 at Johnson Mill in Johnson, a sesquicentennial marker on "Wartime Gristmill Destruction" was dedicated. Johnson Mill was built in 1865 to replace Sutton's Mill which was destroyed during the conflict. Thanks to the ACWSC, General Manager Jesse Burkes of Inn at the Mill, Representative Jon Woods and the City of Johnson for making this project a success.

The Battle of Cane Hill Driving Tour project received a grant from the ACWSC to purchase the next two

wayside panels which will be placed at Cane Hill College. One of the panels will detail Col. Joe Shelby's withdrawal from the cemetery past the college while the second panel will provide an order of battle and introduce the commanders. A panel already in place covers the opening movements of the

battle. On completion the tour will cover the entire 12-mile route of the battle.

December 7 will mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Prairie Grove, where 22,000 combatants fought to a tactical draw while losing 2,700 men killed, wounded and missing. The reen-



Chuck Shiver, ACWSC Chair Tom Dupree and Russell Pennington at Johnson marker dedication.

actment will take place on December 1-2 at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park.

As of press time plans are not yet finalized but the battle each day will be at 1 p.m. For more information contact the park: 479.846.2990 or email holly.houser@arkansas.gov.



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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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