



# Arkansas Battlefield Update

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## Cane Hill driving tour leads visitors over 1862 battlefield

By Alan Thompson  
NWACWHT Chair

The Battle of Cane Hill Driving Tour project has officially reached the halfway point as panels 2,3 and 4 are now in the ground. There are now two panels at the Cane Hill Cemetery on the north side of town where the opening shots were fired and two more at Cane Hill College. A dedication ceremony is set to take place on Saturday, November 9, at 1:00 p.m. Besides speakers, the 1<sup>st</sup> Arkansas Light Artillery and 11<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry re-enactment units will be present and Heritage Trail Partners, Inc. will provide refreshments. Y'all come!

A flurry of good news has come from Cane Hill recently. Funding for the remaining four panels and the driving guide



has been offered, which will eliminate the need for numerous time-consuming grants and should bring the project to its conclusion sooner.

It also appears that the organization that oversees the college and other sites in Cane Hill  
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## Hot summer does not slow SWACWHT

By Peggy Lloyd  
SWACWHT Co-Chair

It was a hot, busy summer in Southwest Arkansas with events of interest to Civil War enthusiasts and more on the schedule for 2014 and the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Red River Campaign and its Arkansas portion, the Camden Expedition.

Curator Josh Williams of Historic Washington State Park arranged and hosted the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Red River Heritage Symposium at Washington. The park provided a teachers' workshop on July 26 and on the morning of July 27. The Symposium began on the afternoon of July 27, 2013. The overall theme was "The Home Front."

Four speakers presented in the afternoon session. Bradley Clampitt, associate

professor of history at East Central University in Ada, OK, spoke on "'Living in Constant Dread of Great Danger': The Relationship between the Civil War Home Front and Battlefield." Josh Williams discussed "Washington, Arkansas and the Civil War." Vicki Betts, a librarian at the University of Texas at Tyler since 1977, presented on "Civilian Reaction to the Red River Campaign, 1864: Natchitoches to Mansfield, Louisiana." Dr. David Jurney, archeologist and Heritage Program Manager for the Ozark-St. Francis National Forests, rounded out the afternoon program with a presentation on "Excavation of Marshall, Texas, Powder Mill" in 1994. The symposium concluded with dinner in the 1940 WPA Gym. After dinner, Dr. Clampitt spoke again on "'For Our Own Safety and Welfare': What the Civil War Meant in Indian Territory."  
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## Power lines could loom over PRNMP

By Douglas Stowe  
Save The Ozarks Member

In April 2013, landowners across Carroll, Madison, Washington and Benton counties received warning from AEP/SWEPCO in the form of certified letters, informing them that they just had 30 days in which to hire attorneys for the defense of their properties from eminent domain proceedings and the construction of an Extra High Voltage 345 kV power transmission line.

Residents of Carroll County reacted immediately, forming a group called Save the Ozarks, which launched an aggressive public awareness campaign and hired attorneys to fight the power line, based on three errors in the application. First it could be proven that the power line was not needed, secondly, the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was deeply flawed, and third, while state law requires the applicant to analyze the economic impact of the project on the local community, no such analysis had been done.

One of the tragic effects of the power line would be its impact on the Battlefield Park at Pea Ridge. In a letter from the  
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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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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.

# Historical association will meet in Washington in 2014

## Continued from Page 1.

Seventeen teachers from all over the state attended the teachers' workshops. The 50 attendees at the Symposium came from Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. The next Symposium will be on July 26, 2014, with the theme of "Conflict at the Doorstep."

Patrick Hotard of the South Arkansas Historical Foundation has also announced a speaker of interest to students of Civil War. Terry Winschel, a retired National Park Service historian from Vicksburg, will speak on "Vicksburg: Strategic Campaign of the Civil War." The event will take place in El Dorado at 6:30 PM at the SouthArk Library Auditorium on November 7, 2013. It is free and open to the public.

As part of the on-going sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, the Arkansas Historical Association will hold its annual meeting at Washington, Arkansas, on April 2-5, 2014. There will be three days of tours, talks, and receptions. Mark Christ is the program chair. Josh Williams of Historic Washington State Park is in charge of local arrangements. Planners of the event are encouraging membership in the Arkansas Historical Association and attendance at the meeting at one of Arkansas's premier historic state parks. More details on the Arkansas

Historical Association are available on its website at

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

Re-enactors will also begin to gather in April, 2014, for a national re-enactment of the Prairie D'Ane Battle near Prescott in Nevada County. Confederate forces tried to protect the road to Washington, then the Confederate state capital, against the advancing Union Army under the command of General Frederick Steele in the spring of 1864. The battle will be re-enacted on April 11-12, 2014. Arrangements are still being finalized by the re-enactors and the Nevada County Depot and Museum in Prescott.

In other news, Carl Drexler of the Archeological Survey Station in Magnolia completed his dissertation for his Ph.D. in archeology at William and Mary University in Williamsburg, Virginia. Over a period of six years, he conducted excavations in Hempstead County at Dooley's Ferry, an important crossing point on the Red River during the Civil War. He entitled his study "Dooley's Ferry: The Archaeology of a Civilian Community in Wartime." He successfully defended his dissertation on May 20, 2013, in Virginia to fulfill all the requirements for his doctorate.

# SWEPCO plan opposed

## Continued from Page 1.

National Park Service, serious flaws were noted in the Environmental Impact Statement. The preferred route 33 would pass right between the main body of the park and the detached area of the park, and through a part of the battlefield that the park hoped to acquire through future expansion. In addition the power line would desecrate a portion of the Trail of Tears, currently recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.

Attorneys arguing for SWEPCO and the Southwest Power Pool, noted that it would take an act of Congress to keep them from building the power line through these important historic properties.

It is my hope that concerned citizens will let AEP/SWEPCO and the Arkansas Public Service Commission

know that desecration of the park by this EHV power line would not be acceptable. [SavetheOzarks.org](http://SavetheOzarks.org) has set up a website, [stoplines.com](http://stoplines.com), to assist those wanting to make a comment at the APSC website in opposition to the Shipes Road to Kings River EHV power line.

In case folks wonder what the impact of this power line would be, it is not your ordinary power line. The 150 foot right of way is equal in width to a 12-lane highway, and the 150-foot-tall power poles would be over twice the height of the tallest oaks and visible from overlooks within the park. The right-of-way would be kept sterile of natural forest growth in perpetuity by the application of herbicides.

We must not let this happen.

# CACWHT notes abundance of activities as Scott community notes anniversaries

By Rick Meadows  
CWACHT Chair

Sponsored by The Grand Prairie Civil War Roundtable, local historian and Camp Nelson researcher, R.D. Keever will share a display and history of Confederate Camp Nelson on Saturday, October 12. The event will be from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Keever will set up his period tent and will bring his horse that will have period tack. On display will be artifacts from Camp Nelson. During the fall of 1862, 1,500 Texas and Arkansas Confederate troops died of disease while at the camp. Keever will answer any questions concerning the history of the camp. Camp Nelson is located at the corner of Cherry Road and Rye Drive, south of Campground Road east of Cabot. For additional information contact Rick Meadows with the Grand Prairie Civil War Roundtable at 501-327-9222 or rmeadows@aaamissouri.com.

The community of Scott has been extremely busy recently. The Plantation Agriculture Museum sponsored the 150th anniversary of the Marmaduke-Walker duel on August 31. The weather was hot, but a good crowd came to observe the duel of two Confederate Generals as Federal forces were on the outskirts of Little Rock. John Sappington Marmaduke and Lucius Marshall (Marsh) Walker fought the last duel in Arkansas with Marmaduke mortally wounding Walker. Re-enactors included Mike and Ellen Lewis, who read letters from the Generals that led up to the duel. Scott Plantation Settlement Event recognized the 150th anniversary of the skirmish at nearby Ashley Mills on Saturday, September 14. An open house was held in the morning and free tours were held during the day. Families from all ages and races attended. After lunch Paul and Mary Lee Fray gave lectures on the Underground Railroad and the



*Union re-enactors form up at Ashley's Mills commemoration.*

skirmish, which was part of the Campaign for Little Rock. In the afternoon, the Blue and Gray once again squared off for the re-enactment of the skirmish. Smoke from cannons and weapons filled the air.

The Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas met in Little Rock on Tuesday, September 24 with Aaron Barnhart and Diane Eichkhoff of Kansas City bringing us a program on their new travel book: *The Big Divide: A Travel Guide to Historic and Civil War Sites in the Missouri-Kansas Border Region*.

Several key sites to visit were mentioned in their talk. Included in their book is Pea Ridge on the Arkansas/Missouri border. Other "must see" sites are: the new Island Mound State Park, off Highway 71 in Missouri, where the 1<sup>st</sup> Kansas Colored played such an active role. The home of Jessie James in

St. Joseph, and the Arrow Rock Historic Site, which is 90 miles east of Kansas City, were also mentioned on the must see list. The roundtable meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, except December, at 7:00 P.M. at the Second Presbyterian Church at Cantrell and Pleasant Valley Drive.

The "Last Stand Marker" on Stagecoach Road in Little Rock was moved to the Ten Mile House and re-dedicated by the General T.J. Churchill Chapter United Daughters of the Confederacy on Saturday, September 14. This is about 1.1 miles east of I-430 on Stagecoach Road. The marker was moved because the Highway Department improved the road over McHenry Creek, the site of the last skirmish as Confederates retreated from Little Rock after the fall of Little Rock on September 10, 1863.

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

# NEACWHT spends summer dog days at battlefields, CW 150 events

By Danny Honnoll  
NEACWHT Chair

Well, the Dog Days of Summer are here!!! It reminds me of what our Civil War soldiers endured during the war wearing all of that wool. Both sides had trouble finding good water and a shady place to rest during the long hot summers. We are right in the middle of that heat right now and my heart breaks knowing of the lack of food and rest all of the soldiers put up with. Whenever I don the wool it makes me feel closer to what these individuals went through.

When the vapors of heat are rising up to the heavens it is like the ghost of all of the soldiers appear for just a moment then they are gone and you have witnessed the ELEPHANT!! Then when you march and look at the trees in the distance it is like the trees are moving from side to side as you sway as you walk from side to side—it is like the forest comes to life to reveal the beauty and the dark side of nature. Now that is just me – I do not know how it affects you.

I am honored to bring to life those individuals as we conduct memorials, living histories, historical marker dedications, or just attend a lecture or two. We here in northeast Arkansas have been very busy again this year.

It started when ACWSC Commissioner M. Ray Jones and I changed out the flags at the Southern Confederate Heritage Park on April 16. We lifted up the U.S. – aka Betsy Ross – Mississippi State Flag, Cherokee Braves Flag and the Gen. Earl Van Dorn Flag. The different colors sure look good as you drive down South-west Drive in Jonesboro.

On May 9W. Danny Honnoll spoke at the Independence County Historical Society. He gave a talk about young David Owen Dodd – about 20 were in attendance. Ray Jones took along some items as a Civil War display that the group really enjoyed.

Next was a long day for Honnoll. On May 18, Honnoll got up at 6 a.m. and drove 205 miles to Star City to help dedicate a military marker with local members of the SEACWHT and the 9th Arkansas Infantry Regiment Camp #652-SCV of Star City. More than 60 individuals were in attendance as the headstone was dedicated with full honors for all of the Confederates buried in the Star City Cemetery.

Stuart Towns of Forrest City gave a Civil War talk in Jonesboro on May 21. Twenty people attended when he gave a presentation on “*Enduring Legacy: Rhetoric and Ritual of the Lost Cause*,” which demonstrates Towns’



5th Arkansas Infantry marker dedication at Camp Ground Methodist Church. L to R: Rev. Eddie Harris, W. Danny Honnoll M. Ray Jones, III, Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill, Greene County Judge Jerry Shipman, Bobbie Barnett, Kay Holmes, and Harold Hunt.

interest in examining the history of southern rhetoric and oratory. He was working on an anthology of southern speeches and saw that some of the segregationist speakers in the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and 1960s were expressing some of the same points and using many of the same words as southern orators from the 1880s and 1890s.

He soon discovered that debates of the 1990s and on into the 21<sup>st</sup> century over Confederate flags, Confederate monuments, and other memorabilia were still repeating some of the same 19<sup>th</sup> century messages. The Civil War was alive and well in southern public memory. “*Enduring Legacy: Rhetoric and Ritual of the Lost Cause*” examines the crucial role of rhetoric and ritual in creating and propagating a “Lost Cause” public memory in the South, while exploring the vital place of ceremonial oratory in the regional oral tradition. Towns argues that the Lost Cause orators who led the South in the decades after the Civil War laid much of the foundation for the post-Civil War culture of the South—a foundation which still undergirds much southern memory well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The group enjoyed Towns’ presentation.

The re-enactment of the Battle of Helena took place on May 25-26 at Helena. Our group had numerous representatives present at this event. Ron Kelley did an excellent job with

others presenting the day’s events on July 4, 1863.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> Honnoll presented to our group his program on “The Battle of Helena.”; 23 attended the presentation in Jonesboro.

Honnoll and Jones traveled to Harrison for a good Ole Bean Feed presented by the Shelby Camp SCV of Harrison. The group of about 26 discussed events of the Boone County area during the Civil War.

During July, Harold Hunt, Ray Jones, and Honnoll made a trip to Vicksburg to visit the battle field on the 150<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Battle of Vicksburg. They visited Grand Gulf and Port Gibson on one day and on another they covered the battlefield of Vicksburg where they visited the areas of the battlefield where Arkansas troops fought. Both Honnoll and Jones found their connection to Vicksburg – Jones’ ancestor Private Walden of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Alabama fought there. Honnoll visited the bust of General Samuel Bell Maxey, a distant cousin of his who took part in the Battle of Vicksburg. They made a special trip to Grant’s Canal on the Louisiana side of the Mississippi River; it made quite an impression on both Honnoll and Jones. When they crossed the Mississippi River near Lake Chicot they stopped at Lakeport, a Civil

**Continued on next page.**

# NEACWHT maintains display of flags, helps dedicate Battle of LR memorial

**Continued from previous page.**

War-era plantation house near the river. Arkansas State University has done a great job in bringing this house back to its past glory.

The flags at the park were changed out and the group put up a current U.S. Flag, Arkansas State Flag, Second National Confederate Flag, and a 30<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Battle Flag. Our flags last about three months before wear starts to show and we change them out at the Southern Confederate Heritage Park in Jonesboro.

Our two ACWSC Commissioners Honnoll and Jones traveled to Sheridan to attend the ACWSC Quarterly Meeting at the Grant County Museum. Carolyn Ashcraft and her mother provided the food for the group. It was some of the best food that we have partaken in a while.

On August 20 Vernon Dutton from Little Rock presented a program on the 3rd Arkansas Infantry, which was the only Arkansas unit in the Army of Northern Virginia under General Robert E. Lee. The Arkansas Division Sons of Confederate Veterans presented Vernon Dutton with the SCV. Cunningham Award for Literary Accomplishment for his book "Civil

War Reflections: Honoring the Battles, Soldiers, and Spirits." Dutton is a poet, author, Civil War re-enactor, historian and time traveler. He is a member of the Robert C. Newton Camp in Little Rock and a member of the 3rd Arkansas Infantry Regiment of the Texas Brigade of re-enactors. We had over 20 folks at the meeting and special guests were Walter and Ann Meals of Colt, Arkansas.

Jack Stevens, Joe C. May, Jimmy D. Stevens, Jones and Honnoll went to Little Rock to scout out the Ten Mile House just south of Little Rock. Mr. Hooker, the owner of the house, gave them a tour of the ground that is considered the confinement site of young David Owen Dodd. This site is also considered the Last Stand site for the Confederates as they retreated from Little Rock in 1863

The Greene County Historical Society asked our group, along with the Shaver Camp SCV, Fagan Chapter MOSB, Honnoll Chapter UDC and Mitchell Chapter C of C to help with their 5<sup>th</sup> Arkansas Infantry CSA ACWSC historical marker at the Camp Ground Methodist Church north of Paragould. It was a very hot day and we had over 100 in attendance at the

dedication. Rev. Eddie Harris of Camp Ground Methodist Church and Vic Hosman did a great job during the proceedings. Kay Holmes of Greene County was the driving force in getting this ceremony done. We were honored to have Greene County Judge Jerry Shipman and Paragould Mayor Mike Gaskill bring greetings to the gathering. Greene County is looking into placing another marker at the Gainesville Cemetery. They have asked us to help dedicate it.

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 mail him 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 December 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fishboat Restaurant in Jonesboro. This will be our annual fund raiser and Christmas Party. See you there!

## Sign me up!

I want to find out more about battlefield preservation in Arkansas. Send me future issues of [Arkansas Battlefield Update](#).

Mail form to Battlefield Update, AHPP, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72205

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Name of Friend: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

## Preservation is main goal at Cane Hill

**Continued from Page 1.**

has been restructured and that funding has been made available to restore the college building as well the red brick structure to the south, the only war-time structure left within the boundaries of Cane Hill. The college building is post-war but serves as a museum and houses exhibits on Cane Hill history including the Battle of Cane Hill. Depending on who you talk to, the red brick building served as the headquarters during the area's occupation by Federal troops or served as the Confederate hospital.

On July 10 the Rogers Historical Society dedicated a marker at the site of Camp Halleck, the site of a Federal camp prior to the Battle of Pea Ridge. A nice crowd attended the dedication of the marker, which is located in the area of the Promenade shopping area just east of I-540.

# WCACWHT commemorates Fort Smith, Devil's Backbone 150th anniversaries

By Larry Puckett  
WCACWHT Chair

The Capt G.N. Spradling Camp #72 Sons of Union Veterans and the Fort Smith National Historic Site celebrated the 150th Anniversary of the Union return to Fort Smith on July 7.

The Union Army under the command of Gen. James G. Blunt spearheaded a campaign to secure the western Arkansas River after a Confederate attack was defeated at Helena in July of 1863. He took out from Fort Gibson to route all Confederate forces near the Arkansas River. His forces charged deep into Indian Territory pushing Choctaw and Texas troops south to the Muddy Boggy River before turning and making a run for Fort Smith. With his 2nd Kansas Cavalry in the lead, his troops moved rapidly to Skullyville on August 31, 1863, and set up camp before attacking across the Poteau River on Friday the 1st of September.

Confederate Gen. William L.

Cabell, knowing there would be a fight in the morning and knowing they could not hold Fort Smith any longer, set the wagons moving from Fort Smith with all the war supplies they could load including 800 head of cattle headed for Waldron. About midnight, Cabell started retreating from the battle lines at the Poteau River along various country roads to cross into the Ouachita Mountains toward Waldron. The majority of troops headed for Jenny Lind to protect the commissary train headed south across Devil's Backbone Ridge.

Blunt split his forces with Col. Cloud taking his 2nd Kansas Cavalry, the 6th Missouri Cavalry, and the 1st Arkansas Infantry and two batteries of artillery and proceeded to chase the Confederate forces south from Jenny Lind.

Near the present-day community of Excelsior the Union's 2nd Kansas Cavalry ran into the regiment commanded by Col. Morgan. His four companies were arranged in echelon ascending from the bottom of the ridge up the road on both the right and left



*Larry Puckett and Frank Burke present a new Union flag at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park*

sides of the road. The 2nd Kansas Cavalry's Company C came charging up the road and as it started uphill the ambush was sprung on the men on horseback at very close range. Capt. Lines and his corporal were two of the first casualties as they were unhorsed.

The company surgeon was soon attending to these men as the company fell back in good order about fifty yards across what is now Boone Road. There were about one thousand men in the 2nd Kansas Cavalry and they were backed up by the men of the 6th Missouri Cavalry and forty wagons with the 1st Arkansas Infantry.

Other Confederate troops were the 22nd Arkansas under Col. Hill, and Col. Woosley with two batteries of mountain howitzers.

This battle raged from noon until about 4 p.m. when the Union Artillery began to slow their rate of fire because they were beginning to run low on ammunition. As the fire began to slow, some of Col. Hill's troops began to run headlong up the ridge stumbling through the rocks and over the hill into the

stockade which held 80 men that were being held for desertion, loosing them into the forest south of Greenwood. This battle was considered a Union victory but it helped Gen. Cabell keep Union troops from overtaking his supply train from Fort Smith.

The Paris Chamber of Commerce and area re-enactors held a re-enactment of the Battle of Haguewood Prairie at the Paris Industrial Park on October 5.

Gene McVay will present "The Clinton Brothers: Arkansas History Makers" at the Clayton House in Fort Smith at 2 p.m. on October 27. Call (479) 783-3000 for information.

Scott County will dedicate its new Arkansas Civil War Historical Marker on the Scott County Courthouse grounds in Waldron on November 10, with lectures on the war in Waldron and period dances at the Gary Blight Museum in Waldron. Contact Larry Puckett at larrypuckett219@mail.com or (479) 769-4738, or call Wanda Gray at (479) 637-0421 for more information.

# Things happening in Helena, Jenkins' Ferry

By Ron Kelley

SEACWHT Member

The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War is still quite active in Southeast Arkansas. In Helena, the third major Civil War site is entering its final stage of construction. Atop a commanding position, known during the Battle of Helena as Battery C, a large-scale project is taking shape into one of the most interesting and historically significant sites in Arkansas. Fort Curtis was completed last summer, Freedom Park was completed in February, and Battery C is slated for completion this fall.

When visitors go to the Battery C, upon its completion, they will get a commanding view of Battery D, B, and A. The view of historic downtown Helena leaves little to the imagination as visitors recount the July 4, 1863, battle with the help of wayside markers and a reconstruction of the artillery emplacement. The shape and location of the hilltop fort is accurate through the assistance of archeologist Steve McBride and the planning and interpretation of this site was possible with the help of historical consultants Mudpuppy and Waterdog, Inc.

Mudpuppy and Waterdog are no strangers to Arkansas's role during the Civil War. They completed the interpretation plan for Helena and are now working on a preservation plan for the Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield in Grant County. The firm recently completed the draft of the preservation plan with the help of a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program (National Park Service). Among the many action points the firm related to the Friends of Jenkins' Ferry Battlefield regarding the preservation plan, a 150<sup>th</sup> battle re-enactment was recommended. The weekend of April 26, 2013, will see the 150<sup>th</sup> re-enactment of the last battle in the Red River Campaign in Arkansas at



*Construction underway at Battery C Park in Helena-West Helena.*

the community center and sports complex in Sheridan. Former National Park Service Chief Historian Ed Bearss will be the keynote speaker during the event. Grant County was also approved for a 150<sup>th</sup> historical marker on the Battle of Jenkins' Ferry that will be placed at the Grant County Museum.

Devall's Bluff is also gearing up for more Civil War programming. On

October 5, the Devalls Bluff Museum will feature, for three weeks, a Civil War exhibit including local artifacts and interpretative panels. The museum will also feature the Arkansas History Commission's African-American legislators temporary exhibit. These exhibits will be available to the public from October 5-26.

## Reed's Bridge 150th is held on Jacksonville battlefield

By Tom Dupree  
RBBPS President

Reed's Bridge has had a good summer starting with a land donation from Marsha and Denny Ward. Also, a 5.5 acre piece of land where the Confederate cannon sat during the 1863 battle has been appraised and an offer has been accepted for the appraised price. One-half of the purchase price has been pledged at this time and hopefully RBBPS can close on the land soon.

September 6, 7 and 8 was the re-enactment for the 150th anniversary of the battle, which took place on August 26 and

27, 1863. Heat was the enemy this year, which showed itself in red faces and numerous bottles of water. The invaders unknowingly crossed the stream and appeared in the Confederate positions firing at the lounging soldiers. Taking up their guns, the defenders, after several minutes of action, held off the Federals who, after tiring, came to the shade and joined the Rebs in cool water and conversation. The re-enactment battle was on Saturday the 7th and it turned out to be quite good and satisfied the large crowd that attended. Thanks to everyone who helped make the event a success, especially the 15 Marines who helped with the parking.

# ACWSC awards grants, notes visitation

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has awarded \$11,450 in grants for projects around the state that will commemorate the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War.

Recipients of Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants were:

- \* MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, Little Rock, \$2,000 to return the flag of the Third Iowa Cavalry to Little Rock
- \* Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation, Washington, \$2,000 for the seventh annual Red River Heritage Symposium, "The Home Front"
- \* Heritage Trails Partners, Inc., Rogers, \$700 to refurbish the Battle of Dunagin's Farm historical marker
- \* 2nd Chance @ Life Emancipation Committee, El Dorado, \$2,000 for the 2013 Juneteenth Celebration.
- \* MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History, Little Rock, \$750 for a seminar titled "David Owen Dodd: The Man, The Myth and The Window"
- \* Mississippi County Historical and Genealogical Society, Osceola, \$2,000 for



**ARKANSAS  
CIVIL WAR**  
Sesquicentennial Commission

the "Civil War on the Mighty Mississippi" commemoration

\* Emerald City South Publications, Little Rock, \$2,000 for a series of articles on the Civil War in Arkansas.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Grants of up to \$2,000 are awarded four times per year, as funding is available. The next deadline is Friday, November 15.

The commission continues to sanction events around the state that are being held in commemoration of the Civil War. To date, the ACWSC has commis-

sioned 43 events that have been attended by at least 163,783 people. You can find a list of upcoming events at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/events/>.

Six more Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Markers have been approved and sent for fabrication. They are:

- No. 61: Skirmish at Branchville, Star City vic., Lincoln County
- No. 62: Sinking of the Sultana, Marion, Crittenden County
- No. 63: Clarendon in the Civil War, Clarendon, Monroe County
- No. 64: Skirmish at Ames Bayou, Kelso, Desha County
- No. 65: Clark County in the Civil War, Arkadelphia, Clark County
- No. 66: Battle of Jenkins' Ferry, Sheridan, Grant County.

Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Historical Markers are now located in 45 Arkansas counties, and the commission hopes to see markers in all 75 Arkansas counties before the commemoration ends in 2015.

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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