



Arkansas Battlefield Update

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Grassroots effort seeks to save Dunagin's Farm battlefield

By Alan Thompson
NWACWHT Chair

The big news in Northwest Arkansas is the grassroots effort of Christene Ashlock to preserve the site of the first battle on Arkansas soil, the Battle of Dunagin's Farm, fought on February 17, 1862.

The battle was a delaying action by Colonel Louis Hebert to slow down Federal troops pursuing General Sterling Price. The fighting lasted an hour and resulted in about 40 casualties. Ashlock's efforts began while doing research for a program she was giving. "While searching the internet for information on the battle, I was stunned to find that the property was for sale and that is when I started



Cannons fire at Prairie Grove re-enactment

contacting anyone who I thought could help. The property was in the NPS budget to purchase a few years ago, but they were told that it was in a trust and couldn't be sold."

Ashlock has been in touch with a number of organizations including the
See "Restoration," Page 3

Marker honors Whitney's Lane fighting

By Scott Akridge
White County Historical Society

Interpretative panel number six in the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Series was dedicated Sunday, October 24, 2010, at the Whitney Lane Family Worship Center in Kensett, Arkansas, less than a mile east of Exit 46 in Searcy.

Titled "Action at Whitney's Lane," the marker summarizes the fighting that took place near Searcy on May 19, 1862, about a mile from the forward Federal encampment of Union

Colonel Peter Osterhaus at Searcy Landing.

That morning a 200-man Federal foraging party was sent out on the south side of the Little Red River to forage southeast in the direction of West Point. The Federal infantry, consisting mostly of immigrant German troops of the 17th Missouri Infantry under command of Major Eugene Keilmanssegge of the 4th Missouri Cavalry, was accompanied by three companies of cavalry and at least a dozen forage wagons. At the intersection of the road to George Washington Hopper's Farm and the Searcy to West Point Road, at that point known as
See "Descendant," Page 3.

ACWSC sets kick-off event for CW 150

The official kick-off event for Arkansas's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at the Old State House Museum in Little Rock.

The event will also mark the opening of Arkansas Heritage Month 2011. The theme for Arkansas Heritage Month, which is celebrated in May, will be "Conflict and Consequence: Commemorating the Civil War."

Events at the Old State House will include a special screening of the new AETN documentary about Civil War Arkansas, living historians re-enacting the May 6, 1861, final vote on secession, flag presentations to two local companies, and state and militia troops camped on the lawn, in addition to hands-on activities.

Visitors will be able to view a new special exhibit about the Civil War titled "An Enduring Union." The exhibit will be the first of five at the museum for the sesquicentennial, with a new exhibit opening each year through 2015. Also, special documents from the Arkansas History Commission will be on display throughout the day on April 30.

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

Peggy Lloyd (870) 983-2633

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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

Rick Meadows (501) 843-9090

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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.

Fort Smith NHS planning events commemorating area Civil War activities

The Civil War sesquicentennial is a significant time at Fort Smith National Historic Site. Gearing up for this momentous occasion, the historic site is creating a new Civil War exhibit and working with the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, the Fort Smith Museum of History and the City of Fort Smith to put up a permanent marker near the park boundary for the 150th anniversary.

Though the fort itself was never in a battle, it served as a strategic hub for conflicts that took place in Arkansas, Missouri, and the Indian Territory. By presenting the ethnic diversity of Fort Smith during the war and sharing how the violence of the war affected the garrison and the surrounding community, the exhibit will tell an all-inclusive story. However, exhibits and a historical marker are not all the park has going on for the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

Kicking off the sesquicentennial at the Historic Site will be an event on April 23, 2011, dedicated to the day the fort fell under Arkansas state occupation. This event falls on the day that Company D and E of the First Cavalry under Union Captain Samuel Sturgis was led to safety by Delaware Indian scout Black Beaver after they abandoned Fort Smith in 1861. On the same day, Arkansas State Troops took control of an unoccupied fort.

Park staff and volunteers will tell this fascinating story with historical vignettes about the evacuation and occupation. Special guest Kerry Holton will portray Black Beaver. Holton is a direct descendent of Black Beaver and current president of the Delaware Nation. The highlight of the day will be Holton leading a column of Union cavalry re-enactors out of the fort. Other programs will include an encampment of Confederate soldiers and artillery demonstrations. Overall, this will be an exciting one-of-a-kind event at the park.

On Saturday, September 17 the park will celebrate its 50th anniversary as a unit of the National Park Service. The celebration includes several living history programs covering many periods of Fort Smith's history. In particular, there will be a Union encampment to commemorate Federal occupation and the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. The park's new interpretive program, the 11th United States Colored Troops, will perform demonstrations. This unit was raised from the African-American population in Fort Smith and the surrounding areas in 1863 – three months after the Union reoccupied the post. Other programs throughout the day will include artillery and musket demonstrations. Overall, this will be an interesting event due to the variety of programs that will be offered.

The year 2011 will be an eventful time for the little National Park on the western edge of Arkansas. Beyond the events, exhibits, and historic marker the historic site will offer many programs throughout the year focused on interpreting the Civil War. From events and programs to the recreation of the 11th United States Colored Troop, the Historic Site has a full year of programs planned to interpret Fort Smith's role in the Civil War.

Fort Smith National Historic Site is located in downtown Fort Smith along the Arkansas River. To access the parking lot from Garrison or Rogers Avenue, turn south on 4th Street and right on Garland Avenue. For more information, please call Fort Smith National Historic Site at (479) 783-3961.

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

Restoration of Borden House, battle re-enactment keep Prairie Grove busy

Continued from Page 1.

National Park Service, Arkansas State Parks, the Civil War Preservation Trust, the Ozark Regional Land Trust and various state and federal legislators in her efforts. "I've also spoken on the subject for a few history groups, met some great people with great ideas while trying to raise awareness for this. It is frustrating at times, that the site of the first Civil War battle on Arkansas soil does not get as much attention as land where battles happened in the east, but I will not give up."

To learn more about her efforts and get updates on Dunagin's Farm, join her "Save Dunagin's Farm Civil War Battlefield" page on Facebook.

At Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, the Borden House exterior project is finally complete and it looks great. The appearance, especially of the front porch, is a little different than folks are used to. It was restored to look like the oldest known image we have of the house, taken in the 1920s or 1930s.

There was a great turnout for the re-enactment on December 4-5.

About 700 re-enactors took the field with about 4,000 spectators on Saturday and another 1,500 on Sunday. Everybody should make plans to attend the 150th anniversary re-enactment on December 1-2, 2012.

The NWACWHT is waiting for approval from the county to put up our temporary signs for the Cane Hill driving tour. We are going to use Heritage Trail Partner signs with numbers to mark the stop locations and replace them with wayside exhibits later.

Descendants of casualty attend dedication

Continued from Page 1.

Whitney's Lane and named for road overseer Elijah Whitney, the Union infantry divided into three groups with Company H to guard the intersection while companies G and F scoured the Hopper and Whitney Farms for food and forage. The cavalry was sent further in the direction of West Point and played little role in the action on May 19.

Major Emory Rogers of the 12th Texas Cavalry (Parson's) with 100 men and guided by Captain Francis Marion Chrisman of Searcy advanced from Des Arc Bridge five miles southwest of Searcy to a point near Searcy Landing. There they were joined by 50 local troops under command of Captain William Hicks, a Searcy lawyer. Rogers' scouts reported the Federal party was preparing to return to Searcy Landing and Rogers immediately decided to attack. The resulting hour-long combat resulted in 22 Federal dead and 33 wounded and four Confederate dead and an unknown number wounded.

The very morning of the attack, Union General Samuel Curtis reported that he was moving his entire army forward with the goal of capturing Little Rock. As a result of the attack, he halted his army, then made a retrograde movement to Batesville where he would

later decide to move down the east bank of the White River and finally to Helena.

The importance of this small action, combined with Curtis's supply problems, resulted in the abandonment of the capture of Little Rock, delaying Federal capture of Little Rock for more than a year. The action gave a temporary boost to Confederate morale that had been depleted after Pea Ridge, Shiloh, and other actions that had given the Union Army headway into the south in 1862.

A welcome was given by Bill Leach of the White County Historical Society, followed by an invocation by Reverend Howard Raney of the Whitney Lane Family Worship Center. Kensett Mayor Max McDonald welcomed the crowd of about 75 to the town, and Ellen Lewis of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission spoke briefly on the goals of the Commission. Scott Akridge gave a summary of the skirmish.

Two known relatives of one of the Union casualties were present. Joe Difani, Sr., and Joe Difani, Jr., of St. Louis were present, with the latter in re-enactor uniform of the 17th Missouri Infantry. Their ancestor, Private Lorenz Difani, was killed at Whitney Lane and the Difanis were given the honor of

unveiling the red, white, and, blue sheets from the marker. Scott Akridge then read the names of each of the known 26 soldiers killed in the action. Central Arkansas Civil War re-enactors fired a volley in salute after the Federal names were read and then again after the Confederate names were read.

Members of Barrett's Battery of the Job S. Neill Camp of the Sons of Confederate Veterans of Batesville fired a mountain howitzer after each infantry volley and again near the end of the program. A benediction was given by Reverend Raney and the program came to a pleasant end.

The book *A Severe and Bloody Fight: The Battle of Whitney's Lane & Military Occupation of White County, Arkansas, May & June, 1862*, first published in 1996 and out of print for years, has been reprinted by the White County Historical Society. Persons interested in a copy may send a check for \$13 postpaid to the White County Historical Society, P.O. Box 537, Searcy, AR 72143, visit the website at www.whitecounty.us, or call the WCHS office on the Court Square at (501) 278-5010. All proceeds benefit WCHS projects with several more Civil War marker ideas on the drawing board.

Sesquicentennial Commission offers grants, adds podcasts at arkansascivilwar150.com

As we enter the commemorative period for the 150th anniversary of the American Civil War, the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has been working to help Arkansans around the state prepare local events and activities.

The ACWSC opened a new grants project for projects that support the planning and execution of local commemorations of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War between 2011 and 2015.

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.

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, 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, February 18, 2011. No faxed, e-mailed or incomplete applications will be considered.

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has added

a list of people who offer programs on Civil War Arkansas topics to its website.

"We have been receiving a lot of inquiries from organizations seeking speakers on the Civil War in Arkansas so we have created a speakers bureau as a service to the people of Arkansas," ACWSC Chairman Tom Dupree said. "We expect there will be increasing demand for experts on the conflict as we begin commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in 2011."

The speakers bureau can be accessed at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/research-education/Speakers/>.

The Commission has added several 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. Michael B. Dougan, retired Arkansas State University historian, on the 1861 Secession Convention, Native American Elias Cornelius Boudinot's impact on Civil War Arkansas, and N. Bart Pearce, Arkansas's forgotten Civil War general
- * Cary Bradburn of the North Little Rock History Commission, author of "On The Opposite Shore: The Making of North Little Rock," on Huntersville, a Civil War complex on the north side of the Arkansas River
- * Mark K. Christ of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission on the C.S.S. Pontchartrain, a Confederate gunboat that left a noteworthy artifact, and racial atrocities during the 1864 Camden Expedition
- * Bobby Roberts, director of the Central Arkansas Library System, on the river war in Arkansas and Confederate General Thomas C. Hindman
- * William A. Frazier, editor of *Ready, Booted and Spurred: Arkansas in the U.S.-Mexican War*, on the influence of Mexican War veterans on Civil War

Arkansas

* Ornett Grind of Arkansas State Parks on the memories of Omelia Thomas, an African-American woman whose family was freed during the Civil War

* Cynthia DeHaven Pitcock, a professor of medical humanities at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, on Little Rock as a hospital town and efforts to provide medicine in Confederate Arkansas

* Alan Thompson of Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park on Confederate General Dandridge McRae

* Ellen Lewis of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission on the experiences of Arkansas women during the Civil War.

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

In addition, the ACWSC completed a round of regional meetings around the state to inform people about the sesquicentennial and the commission's programs. Meetings were held at Brinkley, Arkadelphia, Hope, Little Rock, Van Buren, Pine Bluff, Monticello, Camden, Springdale, Harrison, Batesville, Mena, Russellville and Jonesboro. ACWSC members met with hundreds of Arkansans during the meetings, and there promises to be plenty of exciting projects coming up in the next five years.

Four new sesquicentennial historical markers have been placed, as well.

Albert Pike Chapter No. 2057, United Daughters of the Confederacy sponsored a marker commemorating the period during which Confederate state records were stored at the village of Rondo in the spring of 1864. The marker is in the Rondo Cemetery in Miller County.

The marker says: "When Gen. Frederick Steele's Union army invaded southwest Arkansas in April 1864, threatening the Confederate state capital
Continued on next page.

Natural Heritage Commission sets 2 markers

Continued from previous page.

at Washington, Gov. Harris Flanagin moved the state archives to Rondo, where they were deposited in James Abraham's store. Editor John Eakin moved the press and type for the *Washington Telegraph* to Rondo for safekeeping during the Union invasion. Some of the Confederate soldiers detailed to guard the government records died and were buried in the Rondo cemetery before the records were returned to Washington."

Another, sponsored by the White County Historical Society, remembers the fighting at Whitney's Lane near modern Kensett in 1862. The marker says: "One hundred Texas Rangers and 50 local men on May 19, 1862, attacked a foraging party from the 17th Missouri Infantry (U.S.), a unit composed largely of German troops, fighting near here along Whitney's Lane. Union losses were 22 killed and 33 wounded while four Confederates were killed. The attack convinced Union Gen. Samuel Curtis to abandon his advance toward Little Rock and instead march cross-country to Helena on the Mississippi. Arkansas's capital would remain under Confederate control another year before falling to the Union." The reverse of the marker lists all of those killed in the engagement.

Both of the markers were co-sponsored by the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and Preserve America, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

The Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the ACWSC sponsored two other markers.

One is at Chalk Bluff Natural Area in Clay County. The marker says: "Chalk Bluff was a major crossing point for raids between Arkansas and Missouri. On May 1-2, 1863, Gen. John S. Marmaduke's Confederates, after crossing the swollen St. Francis River on a makeshift bridge, fought off pursuing Union troops, ending Marmaduke's second Missouri raid. On July 19, 1863, Gen. J.W. Davidson's cavalry crossed at



The sesquicentennial historical marker at Rondo was dedicated September 19.

Chalk Bluff, beginning a drive down Crowley's Ridge that ended with the Union capture of the capital at Little Rock on September 10, 1863. Chalk Bluff today is one of Arkansas's state natural areas."

The second is at Dardanelle Rock Natural Area in Yell County. That marker says: "Confederates under Col. Robert Brooks, who were testing Union positions' strength along the Arkansas River, attacked Federal troops at Dardanelle on Jan. 14, 1865. Maj. J.D. Jenks' 276 Union soldiers fought Brooks' 1,500 soldiers for 4 hours before the Confederates withdrew. Sgt. William Ellis of the 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, who was wounded 4 times in the fight, was awarded the Medal of Honor for valor. Dardanelle Rock, a major landmark on the river, is protected today as part of the state system of natural areas."

Information on how to apply for a Civil War sesquicentennial historical marker is available at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/historical-markers/markers.aspx>.

Finally, the ACWSC, in cooperation with the Department of Arkansas Heritage and the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, is developing a series of cell-phone audio tours that will be unveiled sometime in 2011. Initial offerings will be several Camden Expedition sites (Elkins' Ferry, Prairie D'Ane, Fort Southerland, Poison Spring, Marks' Mills and Jenkins' Ferry), Ditch Bayou, Fourche Bayou and Cane Hill.

The next meeting of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission will begin at 10 a.m. Wednesday, January 26, 2011, in the fourth-floor conference room at One Capitol Mall in Little Rock.

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/>

Re-enactment in 2014 set for Prairie D'Ane

By Peggy Lloyd
and Tom Beam
SWACWHT Chairs

As the sesquicentennial of the Civil War fast approaches, the news from Southwest Arkansas is varied.

The obelisk shown in the photo at right commemorates Confederate dead buried in a mass grave in the Old Washington Cemetery after the Battle of Prairie D'Ane. A metal marker nearby lists the units from Arkansas, Texas, Missouri and Indian Territory that took part in the battle. Dan Singleton of Hot Springs has been doing extensive research in Confederate service records and pension files and has identified six of the seventy-three men buried there. Markers are waiting to be installed to commemorate these men. Their names and regiments will be announced later.

SWACWHT met on November 14 at the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives in Washington. Tom Beam, who was unable to attend, telephoned his best wishes. The group discussed the feasibility of a large re-enactment of the Battle of Prairie D'Ane near Prescott in April 2014. Keenan Williams of Hope has already contacted local groups in the Prescott area regarding establishing a food court for participants and spectators. His group of re-enactors will handle contacting other interested re-enactors from states, both north and south, that took part in the engagement.

Margaret Lloyd of New Orleans, a marketing specialist and daughter of Peggy Lloyd, has agreed to plan and handle advertising for the event using social media. The event is already on a national calendar and has an experienced director from Texas lined up to handle event arrangements.

Civil War Weekend at Historic Washington State Park took place on November 6 and 7. About 100 re-enactors from Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana took part. Participants included men, women and children as well as sutlers in period dress. The men gave Civil War demonstrations.



Work is proceeding on the coal-fired power plant near McNab, Arkansas. Road-building activities have just skirted the Civil War fort on Highway 195 just to the north of Fulton. The Civil War fort on 1.5 acres in the woods between Highway 67 and Interstate 30 was recently sold. It

guarded the Fulton to Springhill Road, which is now cut off by the Interstate.

Hans Stiritz and son of Russellville, Arkansas—independent documentary film makers—were recently in Washington, Arkansas, on an assignment for the Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and AETN. They filmed interviews of Joe Buckley, Superintendent of Historic Washington State Park; Billy Nations, Park Chief Interpreter, and Peggy Lloyd, Archival Manager of the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives on December 1. The interviews touched on why we should celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War and will be part of a project that will eventually be aired on AETN.

The staff and board of the Prescott/Nevada County Depot and Museum are in the process of establishing a non-profit to follow the recommendations of the final report from the American Battlefield Protection Program grant completed recently on Elkins' Ferry, Prairie D'Ane and Moscow Church sites. The purpose will be to protect, preserve and interpret Civil War sites in Nevada County. If you are interested in supporting or participating in this effort, contact Peggy Lloyd at (870) 983-2633 or peggy.lloyd@arkansas.gov or the Depot Museum at (870) 887-5821 or curator@depotmuseum.org.

Battlefield Preservation News?

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

NEACWHT plans Chalk Bluff re-enactment, graveside ceremonies, marker in Lee County

By Danny Honnoll
NEACWHT Chair

Well, the sesquicentennial is on us now. We will all be reliving the past and feeling history in the first person at numerous events across Arkansas. Other states are in full swing.

Here in northeast Arkansas we are doing the same. Judge Gary Howell has agreed to have Clay County sponsor the re-enactment at Chalk Bluff this year. See the other story on this page for details about the event.

On December 21, the NEACWHTC and the Shaver SCV Camp in Jonesboro hosted its annual meeting. This is our annual fund-raising raising event to raise money for the NEACWHTC and the NEASHF to have maintenance money for the Southern Confederate Heritage Park in Jonesboro.

Another event coming up after the first of the year is the annual David O. Dodd Memorial set for January 8 at the Mount Holly Cemetery in Little Rock. A change from last year is that we will not parade in the street. (The police escort cost us too much money). Mark Kalkbrenner will be in charge of the squad. A second squad will form at Mt. Holly Cemetery for those who do not wish to march the mile to the cemetery. The second squad will fall in with the first squad coming from the Arsenal.

The ceremony itself will start at 11:30 near Dodd's grave. Everyone attending the Memorial is invited to bring a rose, carnation, or wreaths to honor the gravesite. There will be a presentation after the firing ceremony. Everyone will be asked to clean up afterward, picking up papers etc.

Also the Gen. Patrick R. Cleburne Memorial will take place on March 12 at noon at the Maple Hill/Confederate Cemetery in Helena, Arkansas. W. Danny Honnoll will be the keynote speaker this year. All re-enactors are asked to be at the cemetery by 11:15 a.m. for briefings on the

148th Anniversary of the Battle of Chalk Bluff

Friday, April 29, 2011:

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm – Re-enactors & Living Historians sign in

Saturday, April 30, 2011:

9:00 am – Grounds open to the public – Explore what camp life was like during the Civil War with demonstrations featured around the park

9:30 am – Officer's call

10:30 am – Talk on Confederate President Jefferson Davis by W. Danny Honnoll

11:00 am – Cannon demonstrations

12:00 pm – Ladies' tea and demonstrations of a refugee camp

12:30 pm – Marching and rifle firing demonstrations

2:00 pm – Battle re-enactment followed by a grand review parade of troops returning to camp

3:30 pm – Ladies' demonstrations of refugee camp

Sunday, May 1, 2011:

10:00 am – Officer's call - open to the public

10:30 am – Full grounds open to the public

11:00 am – Church service

1:00 pm – Memorial Service for Confederate President Jefferson Davis

2:00 pm – Living history re-enactment followed by grand review parade of troops returning to Camp.

This event is hosted by Clay County, the Northeast Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trails Committee, the SCV Shaver Camp #1655 of Jonesboro and the Gen. James F. Fagan Chapter #280 Military Order Stars and Bars of Jonesboro.

memorial. The Cleburne Memorial will begin at noon.

We are still working toward helping Lee County raise monies for an ACWSC historical marker for the Battle of L'Anguille River. This battle took place just north of Marianna, on August 3, 1863. Anyone wanting to help with this project can contact Danny Honnoll at (870)926-2985.

If you interested in marking a Civil War site through this program, 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/>.

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

You can e-mail Honnoll at 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 "War Between the States" happening that you would like the NEACWHTC to help with.

CACWHT looks back on year's successes

By Rick Meadows
CACWHT Chair

As we complete another year, I want to review a few of our accomplishments.

Sesquicentennial markers were placed at the following locations:

- The MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History in Little Rock – depicting the Arsenal Crisis of 1861
- Searcy – depicting the Action at Whitney Lane, which prevented Little Rock from falling into Union control in 1862
- DeValls Bluff – telling the importance of this town during and after the Civil War as a river port, head of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, key Union supply base, and Freedmen's Bureau after the war.

Successful Civil War Roundtables in the following communities:

- Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas, Inc. – meets in west Little Rock
- North Pulaski Civil War Roundtable – meets in North Little Rock
- Grand Prairie Civil War Roundtable (established in 2010) – meets in Lonoke
- White County Civil War Roundtable – meets in Searcy

Three other successes are worth mentioning:

First, local historian William Stevens has done extensive research on the location of the Confederate ram *CSS Pontchartrain*, which was burned by Confederates when Little Rock fell on September 10, 1863. Stevens' work has centered along the north bank of the Arkansas River in North Little Rock. He has made presentations of his findings to the Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas in March and to an audience at the Old State House Museum in December.

Second, members of the Civil War Roundtable of Arkansas made a \$1,000 gift to the Civil War Preservation Trust. The CWPT has helped purchase Hallowed Ground at Prairie Grove (365 acres) and Devil's Backbone (10 acres).

Third, the Reed's Bridge Battlefield Preservation Society in Jacksonville will be awarded the "Outstanding Service in Neighborhood Preservation" by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas at its Award Dinner on January 14, 2011. A replica homestead has been constructed at the seven-acre site during the past year and a successful Civil War re-enactment was held in September with over 1,000 spectators in attendance for the weekend event. Congratulations!

I am looking with great expectations to the opening of events that will be held in 2011, which is the beginning of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. A major "kick-off" will be held at the Old State House Museum on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Arkansas Historic
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www.arkansaspreservation.org

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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