



GARLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

April 10, 2014

Dear Friends,

Today I have three interesting programs and some exciting news to tell you about!

Capt. Al Carney, US Navy (Ret) will present the program at our meeting at noon, Tuesday, April 15, at the Garland County Library. Capt. Carney's talk will review not only his career but the operations and mission of the United States Navy. His career included command of the destroyer USS Leftwich (DD 984) and the battleship USS Missouri (BB 63), as well as tours ashore, including two tours of duty in the Pentagon. His coverage of the Navy's mission and operations will include a PowerPoint presentation depicting the size of the Navy in terms of ships and personnel and the average daily scope of Navy operations on a world-wide basis.

Capt. Carney graduated from Hot Spring High School in 1957, Hendrix College in 1961, and the Navy Officer Candidate School in 1961. He received a master's degree in public administration from the University of Kansas and is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval War College Command & Staff School. He served on active duty for over twenty-seven years. After retirement, he maintained close ties to modern development activity in the Navy Department. He established his own "S" Corporation and consulted with leading national defense contractors for over twenty-four years before full retirement. Currently he is an elder in the First Presbyterian Church and chairman of the Hot Springs Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as well as chairman of The Muses, Inc.

GCHS is giving a program about the Majestic Hotel (presented by volunteers Gary and Connie Jackson) at the Garland County Library at 1:00 Monday, April 21. They will have many photos and well as a fascinating history of this historic Hot Springs property.

Another interesting event will be a panel discussion by Orval Allbritten (author of *The Mob at the Spa: Organized Crime's Fascination with Hot Springs, Arkansas*) and Robert Raines (owner of The Gangster Museum of America and author of *Hot Springs: From Capone to Costello*) during the Arkansas Literary Festival. They will speak in the theater of the Historic Arkansas Museum, Little Rock, at 4:00 Saturday, April 26.

The Record 2013 has received the Arkansas Historical Association Walter L. Brown Award for Best Local or County Journal (for the second year in a row). Diana Angelo's article "Bringing Back Brooks Cemetery: An African American Community Retraced" received the award for Best Community History. I'm very grateful to all the authors and volunteers who helped make *The Record* so outstanding.

"History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illuminates reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity." - Cicero

501-321-2159 * 328 QUAPAW AVENUE P.O. BOX 21335 * HOT SPRINGS, AR 71903
e-mail: gchs@hotsprings.net * www.garlandcountyhistoricalsociety.com

We received two grants this month. We're very grateful to the Hot Springs Area Community Foundation for a grant with which we'll purchase a video camera for recording programs and events. We're also grateful to the West Central Arkansas Planning and Development District and Representative John Vines for a grant with which we will replace old computers and purchase a scanner.

This month we're giving programs to the Hot Springs High School Class of 1969, all ninth-graders at Lake Hamilton Junior High, two classes of third graders at Mountain Pine Elementary School, and the Kiwanis Club, Hot Springs Village.

Donations this month include the book *Arkansas Civil War Heritage: A Legacy of Honor* by W. Stuart Towns; photos of Anna Hilpert, the Matthews family, the Garner family, and Ruie Marvin Howard; paintings of the Quapaw Bathhouse and the Observation Tower; Chuck Cuning's scrapbook of the Drug Store History of Hot Springs; a 1959 *Old Gold Book*, 1965 *Torchlight*, and 1962 *Viking Voice*. We also received many photos of the Majestic Hotel. Deep thanks to all our donors!

Coming up May 1-4—Pioneer Days at the Garland County Fairgrounds. This year the event will have even more exhibits and booths. GCHS will give programs to the many, many school children who will attend, as well as programs for the general public on Friday afternoon and Saturday. The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Courthouse.

Thank you again for your support! And I hope to see you at the many upcoming programs and events!

Sincerely,
Liz Robbins, Executive Director