

Garland County Historical Society

Dear Friends,

Meeting February 19

Do you know that the Dierks Forests company started in Iowa in 1880 or that it first purchased timberland in Garland County in 1922? Do you know that over ninety-five percent of Hot Springs Village was originally Dierks Forests timberland? Don Dierks will tell about these facts and much more as he presents the history of Dierks Forests, Inc. at the noon, Tuesday, February 19 meeting of the Garland County Historical Society at the Garland County Library.

Don is the author of *The Legacy of Peter Henry Dierks 1824-1972* and *Full Circle 1957-2002*, a historical narrative about the Dierks Forests timberland which became Hot Springs Village. He worked in several capacities for Dierks and then Weyerhaeuser Co. from 1960 to 1973. After working as a financial manager for twenty-one years, he served from 1995 to 2005 as the financial director and executive director of Christopher Homes of Arkansas, a Catholic ministry which provides housing for the low income elderly in twenty-two Arkansas cities.

Catherine Thornton Program

The January program about the images in Catherine Thornton's *The Art of History* had to be cancelled because of bad weather. That program will be presented at our March 19 meeting at the library.

Meet the Prez

Our new president, David Fastenow, is hard at work at GCHS. David, a former computer systems executive, moved to Hot Springs with his wife, Jackie Jo, upon retirement. He received a BA in Mathematics and an MS in Computer Science from the University of Iowa. After a three-year stint in the Air Force as an instructor at the Joint Services Computer Science School in Quantico, Virginia, David joined Rockwell Collins as a Computer Systems Business Analyst. In his twenty-nine year career with Rockwell Collins, he held positions in Information Systems, Marketing, Business Development, and Service Center Operations. He was also a key member of the Rockwell Collins Lean Business team, implementing initiatives that helped the company save millions of dollars annually in operating costs through efficient worldwide operations.

David was a scoutmaster for many years, leading scouts through many high adventure treks. He enjoys music, athletics, outdoor activities, and volunteering. His main volunteering activities are with the American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, GCHS, and Oaklawn United Methodist Church.

We're very glad to welcome him to the helm!

Digitizing Project

Very soon we'll send you an email about our exciting project to digitize our 30,000 photos. This project will safeguard our historic images in case of a disaster and also make them more available to the public. Stay tuned!

Thank you again for your support. You make our mission of preservation and education possible.

Liz Robbins
Executive Director