



GARLAND COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 16, 2012

Dear Friends,

As part of the Garland County Library's "Great Arkansas Read" theme for the summer, the Garland County Historical Society will display and talk about its publications at noon, Tuesday, July 17 in the Gordonelle Williams Room of the library. Orval Allbritton will chat about his four books, including his latest, *The Mob at the Spa*, and Gail Ashbrook will describe compiling her six books about local city cemeteries. I will give an overview of other books we publish or make available, including a new book published by the Arkansas History Commission (*Documenting Arkansas: The Civil War 1861-1865*).

We thank all those members who attended the Civil War Symposium at the Convention Center July 7. Over 200 people listened to outstanding presentations. We appreciate your support!

Attendees at the symposium saw an interesting artifact: a large blanket chest that had belonged to Gov. Henry Rector. According to a document signed by his granddaughter, Sally Rector Hain, this chest was one of those used to carry state records from Little Rock to Hot Springs in the summer of 1862 when Hot Springs was briefly the unofficial state capital. Thanks to its current owner, Larry Rhodes, this chest is on display at our archives at 328 Quapaw. Larry has also loaned us a large photograph of Gov. Rector's son William, seen in his Confederate uniform. William was killed at Helena as he tried to pick up his unit's colors under fire.

Thank you again for your continuing support!  
Liz Robbins  
Executive Director