



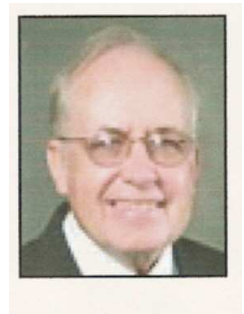
Flashforward

Published by The Washington County Historical Society
118 East Dickson Street * Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701
November 2011 Whole Number 67

2011 WCHS Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting, held October 16, a new slate of officers and Board members was elected. Two WCHS Distinguished Citizens were also recognized, Dee Dee Lamb and A D Poole.

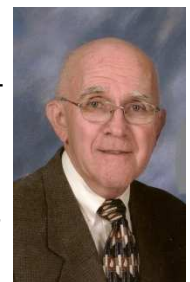
President of WCHS for 2011-2012 is **Hoyt Purvis**. Hoyt is a professor of journalism and an adjunct professor of political science at the University of Arkansas. He is a newspaper columnist, an author & editor of a number of books, and a frequent television commentator on politics and public affairs. Originally from Jonesboro, Hoyt holds a BA and MJ from the University of Texas; he also did graduate study at the University of Nancy (France) and Vanderbilt University. He worked as a staff member in the U.S. Senate and was press secretary and special assistant to Senator J. William Fulbright and advisor to Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd. Hoyt has served as Recording Secretary for WCHS for several years.



Dee Dee Lamb has been Director of Historic Programs and a WCHS Board member for 15 years, serving also as chair or co-chair of the Ice Cream Social, Battle of Fayetteville Commemorative and Annual Meeting many times. But she is best known for developing and directing the Society's Heritage School which she started in 2003 to teach students about the history and culture of northwest Arkansas. She also has represented WCHS at Arkansas Historical Association, Arkansas Museum Association, National and Arkansas Trail of Tears Associations, Governor's Conference on Tourism and Civil War Roundtable. In addition, Dee Dee helped organize and Northwest Arkansas Museums Consortium. She is a native of Little Rock with degrees in elementary education, and taught 15 years in that school system.



A D Poole has been a member of WCHS since 1980 and began as a volunteer in 2002 after returning to Fayetteville. He has served on the Board of Directors, and also as Treasurer and President. Current duties include maintenance of the WCHS website, publishing the FlashForward newsletter, and directing a project to create an online index to the Flashback journal. A D is a native of Fayetteville whose father's family first moved to Washington County in the 1850's. After graduating from Fayetteville High School in 1957, he earned a BS in Geology at the U of A. Starting in 1963, his working career included 16 years with Humble Oil/Exxon followed by 20 years at Phillips Petroleum. In 1963 he married Janet Freeze of Newark in Independence County, and they have two adopted daughters and now have seven grandchildren.

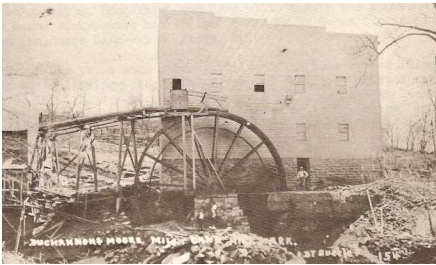


In presenting Lamb and Poole as Distinguished Citizens, outgoing President Strange said they represent the many volunteers who work at WCHS, and work full time jobs at the Society without any pay. Dee Dee was able to accept her award. A D was unable to attend because of illness and accepting for him was his daughter, Carol Cordell.

Historic Washington County

Early Mills in Washington County

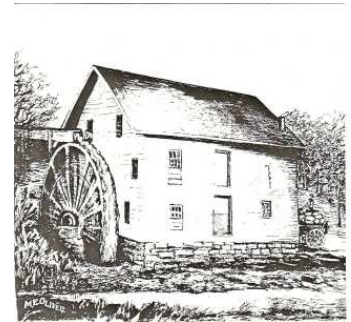
With the fertile soils in the prairies and river valleys of the County which attracted some of the earliest settlements, by the 1840's Washington County was a leading producer of wheat, corn and oats. Initially these were crops to support the settlers and their livestock but the output soon grew to a level to be utilized for commercial purposes. At first small mills were used by individuals to grind flour and meal for families and neighbors. Many of these were powered by horses or mules or small water driven wheels.



The first land survey maps and field notes from 1831 to 1834 have locations and mentions of 10 mills. Certainly one of the earliest was located south of Lincoln and north of **Cane Hill** and was owned by a Mark Bean who moved to the area when he was forced to leave his salt operations to the west when it became Indian Territory in 1828. In the 1860's a mill was located just north of Cane Hill and about 1902 it was moved to the site shown in this 1909 picture southwest of Cane Hill and was operated by Pyeatt and Moore families. Flour, meal, sawed lumber and even carded

wool were produced in the Cane Hill mill at various times.

The well known mill at **Johnson** on Clear Creek dates at least from the 1830's and possibly much earlier as the 1830's survey maps and notes mention an "old mill house.." at that location called the Truesdale Mill. Bobbie Lynch, late local historian, speculated a mill was built there much earlier to serve Cherokee and Osage Indians and early settlers. John Truesdale probably bought the early mill around 1830. He later bought and operated a mill in the Cane Hill area. The mill at Johnson passed through a number of owners, was burned during the Civil War and afterwards was rebuilt by the Johnson family. It remained in that family and was operated until the 1970's. Today, the old mill building is part of a hotel and an old over-shot water wheel stands to the west side as it did originally. It appears very much the same as in this sketch of the early operating mill.



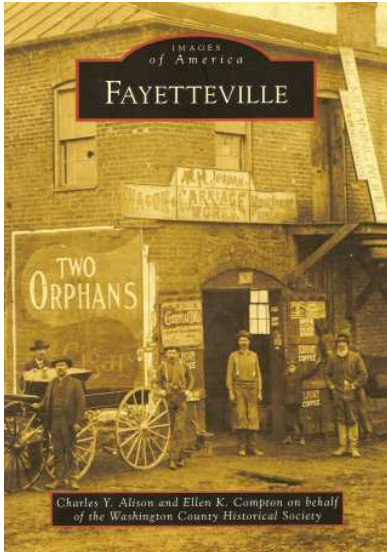
Another mill site shown on the 1830's survey maps and notes was called "Banner's Mill" but was thought by Bobbie Lynch to have been owned by the Dameron family. It was also located on Clear Creek probably near the south end of what is now Lake Fayetteville dam. This mill was known only by it's foundation by 1900. Little more is known about this mill.

Fayetteville's earliest mill was located on White River just to the northeast of Greenland. John Stelle came to the area in 1836 and built his mill shortly afterwards according to Walter Lemke based on an account book Stelle kept from 1838 to 1840. Lemke also visited the site with Stelle's son and saw foundation stones and part of the drive mechanism. Like other mills this was used to grind grain and also powered a sawmill producing lumber for many of Fayetteville's early homes.

Other significant mills were located in Savoy, Rhea, Dutch Mills, Elm Springs and on Richland Creek. Many of the early mills, such as at Johnson and Cane Hill eventually converted to water turbine and later to steam power. Each of these mills provided not only flour and meal but also in many cases lumber for the earliest settlers. It can be safely said that they were critical in the development of this area .

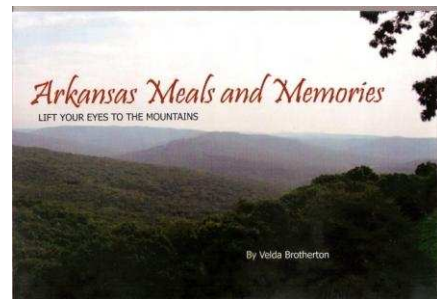
Christmas Gift Shopping at WCHS Bookstore

For people with an interest in area history, there are many excellent choices among our books.



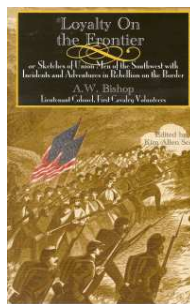
The new “**Fayetteville**” book compiled and authored by Charles Alison and Ellen Compton of WCHS Board, and published by Arcadia Publishing in their Images of America Series.

“**Arkansas Meals and Memories**” by Velda Brotherton gives not only stories of how our area ancestors lived and what they ate, but also how to fix some of the definitely interesting sounding fare.

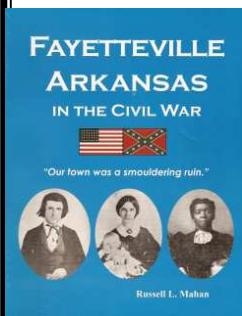
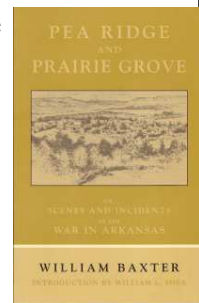


If you have seen some of our Living History presentations, you can read the source of some of this material in the “**Journal of Marian Tebbetts Banes**” in which she describes her family’s life in their new house, now Headquarters House, and life in Fayetteville in the 1850s and leading up to the tragic events of the Civil War.

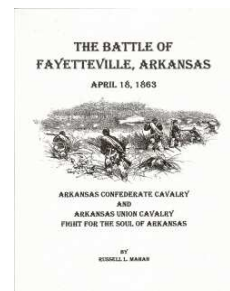
The Civil War effects on the described in first hand ac-
tier”, “**Pea Ridge and Prairie** as well as in the Tebbetts Journal.



town and area and inhabitants are counts in “**Loyalty on the Frontier**” and “**Mecklin Letters**”



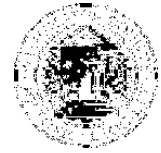
Historical accounts of the actual “**Battle Fayetteville**” is detailed in that book, and description of the “collateral damage” town and inhabitants as well is given in **in the Civil War**” .



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done to the
“**Fayetteville**”

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Special Occasion to be Celebrated _____

WCHS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. The portion of the membership above \$25 is tax deductible. The membership will run for a full 12 months beginning in the month following the month membership is received.

A New Vision for Celebrating History Gift Form

I wish to contribute to the WCHS New Vision Endowment Fund in the following amount

- \$100,000 Heroes for History \$5,000 Visionary \$250 Marian Tebbetts
 \$75,000 Platinum Visionary \$2,500 Jonas Tebbetts \$100 Lillian Tebbetts
 \$50,000 Gold Visionary \$1,000 Matilda Tebbetts Other Amount \$ _____
 \$25,000 Silver Visionary \$500 Hale Tebbetts

Checks should be made payable to: **WCHS New Vision Endowment**

Please send to: WCHS; 118 E. Dickson St.; Fayetteville, AR 72701

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Are you and/or your spouse employed by a company that matches charitable gifts? If so, please obtain the proper form from the employer, complete it, and forward with the gift. (Please do not include your company's match in the pledge amount above).

- Company form is attached for initial match payment
 Company form will be sent later

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The Washington County Historical Society

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House Mouse Tour Dec. 3

**Christmas Open House
Dec.11**

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