

## Upcoming Events

- **October 5, 2017**— Fall Lecture Series: Jim Woodrick
- **October 7, 2014**— Fall Park Day at the Raymond Military Park. 9:00 a.m. until noon.
- **October 12, 2017**— Fall Lecture Series: Al Arnold
- **October 19, 2017**— Fall Lecture Series—Alan Huffman and Jessica Crawford
- **January 11, 2018**— General Membership Meeting

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# FORward

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September 2017

## Whitworth Rifle Completes Confederate Battery

Installation of a replica Whitworth Rifle barrel at the Confederate battery on November, 2016, completed FOR's long-term goal of reproducing and emplacing every piece of artillery involved in the Battle of Raymond. All 22 Union pieces and two of the three Confederate cannon were already in place in approximately the same positions and in exactly the same calibers as those employed in the May 12, 1863, engagement. According to Gen. Parker Hills (Ret), Raymond is now the only battlefield in the United States to display a working-breech Whitfield rifled cannon.

Whitworths were relatively rare in the Civil War and only about 50 survive. Because the Whitworth factory in England burned long ago, plans for the reproduction required using photographs and taking painstaking measurements from one of the two Whitworths at Gettysburg. Once Gen. Hills finalized the design, FOR contracted with A to B Signs in Clinton to tackle the project. The working breech had to be manufactured from steel and the tapered barrel was made from aluminum with a heavy iron pipe bore. The painstaking work took two years.

The original Whitworth engaged at Raymond fired a 12-pound hexagonal solid projectile called a bolt. It boasted a range of 2,600 yards (1.5 miles) with 10 degrees in elevation and a remarkable 10,000 yards (5.7 miles) at 34 degrees of elevation.



## New FOR General

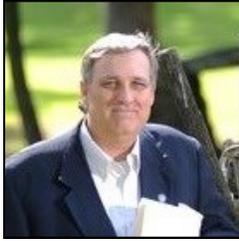
We are pleased to welcome Ben Fatherree as a new FOR General. Ben has also served as a former President of FOR and gives generously of his time. Generals contribute \$5,000 to Friends of Raymond and are lifetime members. We appreciate Ben and all FOR Generals for their contributions, both monetary and volunteer work.

## 2017 FOR Park Days

Our annual Spring Park Day was held on April 1st. Approximately thirty volunteers participated in the clean-up. Activities included painting cannon, picking up limbs, cleaning signs, repairing the broken bollard at the entrance and weeding and replanting the flower bed. Following the activities, volunteers were treated to a hot dog lunch prepared by Ben Fatherree and impromptu history lessons from Ben, and Gen. Parker Hills (Ret).

**Next Park Day October 7th, 9 a.m. until noon.**  
Volunteers needed to do many of the same clean-up tasks that were done in April. To sign up and for information, email [friendsofraymond@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofraymond@outlook.com) or call 601-951-7203.

## Lecture Series Speakers



Jim Woodrick



Al Arnold



Alan Huffman



Jessica Crawford

# October Lecture Series

Friends of Raymond is pleased to present its Fall Lecture Series.

Jim Woodrick, Director of Historic Preservation Division of Mississippi Department of Archives and History, a life-long student of the Civil War and a former participant in living history events, will be the guest speaker at the first lecture, scheduled for **Thursday, October 5, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.** Woodrick's talk will be based on his book, *The Civil War Siege of Jackson, Mississippi*. Woodrick details the devastation and destruction of Jackson and notes that the city has lost most of its significant war-time sites.

The second in the series, scheduled for **Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.** features Al Arnold, descendant of a slave, Turner Hall, Jr. Arnold writes from his perspective as a modern black man who is a direct descendant of a slave of General Nathan Bedford Forest and Orderly of General Robert E. Lee. In his soon to be released book, *Robert E. Lee's Orderly: A Black Youth's Southern Inheritance*, he writes a compelling southern journey for youth. We will be among the first to hear this powerful story from Mr. Arnold. Dr. Otis W. Pickett Professor of History, Mississippi College, relates in the forward to Arnold's previous book, *Robert E. Lee's Orderly: A Modern Black Man's Confederate Journey*, "...Arnold's journey of coming to grips with this history is both powerful, moving, gripping and at times, both sad and side-splittingly funny."

Alan Huffman and Jessica Crawford will be the guest speakers at the third and last program, scheduled for **Thursday, October 19, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.** Huffman is a freelance journalist, photographer, editor, author and political opposition re-

searcher. He has written five books, contributed to numerous magazines and newspapers, made media appearances on major television and radio shows, and has taught at several Mississippi schools and universities. Crawford attended the University of Mississippi where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Master of Arts in Anthropology. She became the Southeast Regional Director of The Archaeological Conservancy in 2006. She is a member of the Mississippi Archaeological Association and the Mississippi Association of Professional Archaeologists.

Huffman's second book, *Mississippi in Africa: The Saga of the Slaves of Prospect Hill Plantation and Their Legacy in Liberia Today*, relates the tale of two hundred freed slaves from the plantation of Isaac Ross who journeyed to Liberia in Africa in the 1840's to settle in an area called Mississippi in Africa. Huffman's tale brought to light the declining state of Prospect Hill. Crawford spearheaded the effort to save and restore Prospect Hill. In addition to saving the Prospect Hill house from ruin, Crawford hosted reunions of descendants of all the different groups linked by the story of Mississippi in Africa. Huffman and Crawford will update us on new developments in the preservation project as well as what has been learned over the last few years.

The Fall Lecture Series will be **October 5, October 12, and October 19, 2017** at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 205 W. Main Street, Raymond. Following each program, a reception will be held at St. Mark's Parish House, immediately behind the church at 109 N. Oak Street where there will be an opportunity to meet the authors and purchase their books. The lectures are free and open to the public at no charge. **The October 5<sup>th</sup> and October 12<sup>th</sup> programs will begin at 6:30 p.m. The October 19<sup>th</sup> program will begin at 6 o'clock p.m.**

## Boy Scouts Paint Cannons



Several of the Raymond Military Park cannon received a much needed cleaning and new paint job recently through the efforts of Brady Renfro and his fellow Troop 92 Boy Scouts along with family and friends. Brady's hard work was part of his Eagle Scout service project. Instruction on painting technique was provided by FOR members Mickey Roth and Bill Schmeigel.

There are 25 cannon on the Raymond Military Park grounds and they need repainting every few years.

The Friends of Raymond appreciates the efforts of Troop 92. We have many volunteer opportunities for groups or individuals to help maintain the Raymond Military Park. **To volunteer, call 601-951-7203.**

# Message from the President

I recently had someone ask me why I was involved with Friends of Raymond. With so many needs in our state, why is historic preservation important? To me historic preservation is a means to explore our history and tell the stories of our nation's past in a way that encourages us to seek knowledge and understanding that will inform our future decisions.

Preserved spaces prompt us to ask more questions, seek more understanding and look beyond the obvious. They can capture the imagination and spur investigation. So historical preservation can educate us. The Raymond Military Park has served this purpose through its School Days events where local children could hear the Gettysburg address delivered by President Lincoln, see a working blacksmith, talk with native Americans and experience life in the caves of Vicksburg through the efforts of dedicated reenactors.

But in addition to education, historical preservation connects the community to its past. It allows people to honor the good parts of their history and make peace with the bad. Our cemetery walks have allowed us to remember past residents of Raymond and appreciate their contributions to our region.

Historical preservation also provides a resource for tourism. Our Raymond Military Park is visited by people from many states and even foreign countries who would never think to stop in Raymond were the park not here. The park also provides a

source of recreation with our walking trail used by many in the community for exercise or just a relaxing stroll. It provides a place to encourage volunteerism as we've seen each time we hold a Park Day cleanup effort and in the recent painting of cannon by a Boy Scout troop. Historical preservation connects us to our history and to each other.

The group of individuals who formed Friends of Raymond in 1998 considered their work to save the battlefield important. Through the generous support of many people along the way FOR saved an important piece of history that has fulfilled many purposes. But our mission is large and there is more that can be done. I believe that we all benefit not from just saving important places, but in maximizing their impact on the community.

I encourage you to consider helping us continue our mission by becoming a member of FOR and participating in our activities. And we always welcome your input and feedback at : [friendsofraymond@outlook.com](mailto:friendsofraymond@outlook.com).

Please see the article about our upcoming October Lecture Series and notices of our October Park Day and January general membership meeting. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and that you will give us your email address so that we can deliver more news to you in a cost effective manner.

And I do hope to see a lot of you on the walking trail soon.

*Pam Howorth*

## 2017 FOR Board of Directors

Pam Howorth  
(President)

Mickey Roth  
(Vice President)

Isla Tullos  
(Secretary)

Dan Hogan  
(Treasurer)

Charles Davis

Ben Fatherree

Don Lacy

K P Lewis

Billy Pape

## Annual Friends of Raymond General Membership Meeting & Covered Dish Dinner

**Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.**

*At the home of*

***Isla Tullos***

***234 Town Square***

***Raymond, MS***

*Agenda:*

Election of New Board Members and update on FOR activities.

*Please bring a covered dish and your vote.*

*Membership renewals may be paid at the meeting or by mail. Please see the back page of this newsletter for membership and mailing address information.*



## Friends of Raymond

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**FORward**  
Friends of Raymond

## Friends of Raymond Mission and Membership

Friends of Raymond, Inc. was founded in 1998 as a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, management and promotion of Raymond's history and historical sites. Friends of Raymond is a 501 (c)(3) corporation and all memberships and donations are tax deductible.

### Contribution Options

FRIEND—Under \$100 (Annual)    VOTING MEMBER—\$100 and above (Annual)    GENERAL—\$5000 (Lifetime)

I/We would like to support the mission of FOR. Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

Email for Newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE, WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO PROVIDE NEWSLETTERS AT A REASONABLE COST**

Please mail your check made payable to:  
Friends of Raymond, P. O. Box 1000, Raymond, MS 39154-1000