

# Registration Deadline Approaching for Sand Creek Massacre Symposium

10.24.2014

Chief  
Henrietta  
Pratt

Jerome  
Greene  
Blackburn

A free symposium to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the Sand Creek Massacre is coming Monday, November 3, on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University campus in Weatherford, and the deadline to register is October 31.

Several accomplished speakers will talk about the November 29, 1864 event that involved approximately 675 United States volunteer soldiers who attacked a village of about 700 Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians along Sand Creek in southeastern Colorado Territory.

Using small arms and howitzer fire, the troops drove the people out of their camp. While many managed to escape the initial onslaught, others, particularly noncombatants, fled into and up the bottom of the dry stream bed. Over the course of eight hours, the troops killed around 200 Cheyenne and Arapaho people composed mostly of women, children and the elderly.

The symposium will start at 9:30 a.m. in the SWOSU Conference Center, located at the corner of Davis and Seventh Streets, in Weatherford. Among the guest speakers will be:

- Chief Harvey Pratt, Cheyenne and Arapaho Peace Chief and accomplished master Native American Indian artist.
- Dr. Henrietta Mann, president of the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribal College and direct descendent survivor of the Sand Creek Massacre
- Jerome Greene, author and former historian for the National Park Service
- Dr. Bob Blackburn, executive director of the Oklahoma Historical Society

The opening ceremony will include the Riverside Color Guard and a drum group.

Even though the event is free, an RSVP is needed by October 31 for the lunch. Call the SWOSU Public Relations & Marketing Office at 580.774.3063.

The event is being sponsored by the SWOSU Masonic Lecture Series Endowment.

This fund was established by a generous grant from the Masonic Fraternity of Oklahoma.