| September        |       |
|------------------|-------|
| On-Site Visitors | 1,785 |
| Museum Website   | 1,610 |
| Explore Website  | 1,054 |

## **Community Improvement Projects**

We have received a grant to sandblast the mural along the wall on Main Street and, depending on the condition of the wall, to paint a basecoat or preserve the wall. We have had three metal signs made to dress up the wall. The wet-weather spring behind the wall makes it impossible to maintain the mural, so we are hoping this solution makes Main Street a welcoming front door.

We also have a grant to install artistically painted rainbow trout throughout the community in a program similar to the "painted cows" sculptures that appeared in Chicago some years ago.

We are also hoping to refurbish the informational signs in East Calico this winter.

## **Observations from the Museum**

We wanted to share with you some observations since we opened the new Heritage Center:

One day a man came into the museum and ventured back to the huge American flag that we have hanging on our back wall. He stared at the flag for a time and then went up to each uniformed mannequin standing there. He inspected each one carefully and then turned. He approached Kedra Sugg, with tears welled up in his eyes, and told her that the medals on the uniform are to be 1/8" below the bars. He immediately said, "You all got it perfect. Nobody gets it right. Thank you for getting it right." The 1/8" was everything to him because it meant we were telling the story perfectly.

Another day, a family of five came into the museum. They assembled by that big American flag, took up their positions neatly in a row, and raised their hands to their hearts. Then, they recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Calico Rock Museum & Visitor Center is impacting people in ways we might never have imagined and we thought it was important to let you know the difference you have made in supporting the work we do.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

