

# Shinnin' Times

August 2013

Vol. 18, #8

A Publication of the Early Arkansas Reenactors Association (EARA)

Web Page: [www.arkansaw.us](http://www.arkansaw.us)

To subscribe to the EARA listserve, address your e-mail to:

[Arkansas-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:Arkansas-subscribe@yahoo.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at Cadron August 10**

Ree Walker, Steve Holmes, and volunteers that know about basket making will be there to show us how to make a small oak basket. We will start at 9:00 a.m. Teresa got some materials "2nd hand" for lightweight baskets and handles. Please, bring examples of baskets to show each other and the public. If anyone has large slats to make bigger baskets, call Teresa and bring them. Please, bring books to share with each other, too. If anyone has their own supplies, please bring your projects and get started finishing them, too. Larry Layne will also be demonstrating a leather working stitch. As always, we will have a potluck lunch. Looking forward to a creative, productive, educational day with our EARA friends. Please, come and share the day.

### **Ice Cream Social August 24 Carol's Porch**

We will meet at 10:00 a.m. Bring snacks for before the Ice Cream. Last year, we took almost until 3 to make it and people got hungry. We ordered Pizza. We may need to eat something before the Ice Cream gets done. If all want to do it again, we can order Pizza. Bring your kids, freezer, chairs, ice, and come have fun and play Bocce Ball with us. See Ya there!!

### **Annual EARA Picnic and Board Meeting September 7 Cadron Settlement Park**

We will meet around 10:00 a.m., and will have hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the early afternoon (after we get the cookers going). Please, bring sides for that main dish. Bring any prospective new member that you have been telling about us. We will have a great day. Hope to see all our members in attendance.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at Cadron September 14**

We will be camping at the blockhouse. There will also be a tactical demonstration. Contact Ed Williams for details. There will also be 4 harness overshot weaving if anyone would like to learn. Contact Ree for more information.

### **Indian Heritage Days Rendezvous September 13 – 15 Calico Rock**

Come one, come all to the Indian Heritage Days Voo in Calico Rock at the City Park. There will be a cooking contest, best outfit contest, knife & hawk tournament, storytellers and lots of demonstrations. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the prizes for the contests. Please contact James or Sharon Ross for more details (870-368-2273, cell 870-615-3120, or [mountainmanrzs@aol.com](mailto:mountainmanrzs@aol.com))

### **Soggy Bottoms Voo September 20 – 22 Old Washington State Park**

Old Washington Soggy Bottoms Voo will be held on Sept. 20-22, 2013. Please, come to camp with us under the shade of the 180

year old Pecan tree next to the Catts-Block House dated 1826. We will have a great event with knife and hawk, and archery demonstrations. There will be good food, good times, and good friends. As always, the Venture Troup will be there. We have a great event every year. If you have never been, please drive about 1 3/4 hr from LR and join us. It is not that far. The town of Washington is something to be seen with its mid-1800 homes, graveyard, shops, museum's, tours, carriage ride. It is a walk back into time in a Historic Old Town in SW Arkansas on the SW trail. The history of Arkansas is HUGE in this place. Please, come and see the sites. Call Teresa Lafferty/James Thompson at 501-247-6466 or 501-255-5801 for more details. Email [nonouse812@yahoo.com](mailto:nonouse812@yahoo.com) for a flyer.

### **Two Rivers Bikers (Cowboy) Church September 27-29 Gamaliel, AR**

Contact Red Van Scoyoc (870-404-7916; [dmvanscoyoc@gmail.com](mailto:dmvanscoyoc@gmail.com)) or Bill (870-405-3503) or [greenlade@centurytel.net](mailto:greenlade@centurytel.net). We'll have more information next month.

### **Historic Encampment Mount Magazine State Park September 27-29**

Mount Magazine State Park will host Arkansas's highest living history event September 27-29. The Historic Encampment will not be a typical rendezvous. Our goal is to interpret various types of people that could have visited the Mount Magazine area before statehood in 1836. Personages could include markets hunters exploring up from the Arkansas River, fur traders, soldiers from the garrison at Fort Smith, American veterans of the War of 1812, professional naturalists, settlers in the valley, Osage, or Cherokee.

Clothing, camp gear, and firearms must be period and regionally correct. Teepees will not be welcomed. All firearms should be flintlocks.

Squirrel season will be open and our encampment will be within a short drive to some of the finest squirrel woods in Arkansas. Demonstrations will be held for tourist on that Saturday. So, we can hunt in the mornings and clean guns and cook squirrels as demonstrations. No pets will be allowed. However, canine hunting companions and pack animals will be permitted.

The site is very shady. Trekkers will be allowed to camp in adjoining woods. It is a good event for beginning trekkers. There are two permanent hooters on site. There is no tap water in the area. Participants should bring their own water supplies and vessels. Hopefully, a natural spring will be flowing near the encampment. Hot shower are about 1/4th of a mile away. Firewood will be provided by nature. Enjoy beautiful scenery of the Arkansas River valley from nearby bluffs. Early arrival is encouraged for Friday, September 27th.

RSVP. For more information, contact: Don Simmons ([Don.simons@arkansas.gov](mailto:Don.simons@arkansas.gov))

### **The Battle of Baton Rouge 1779 October 5th & 6th , 10 AM until 4 PM Audubon State Historic Site**

Step into Louisiana's major battle of the American Revolution. Living History volunteers and groups are needed. Military groups may include Spanish, English, Hessian, Native American, as well as

colonial militia. Civilian roles are also needed with period crafts especially welcomed.

Activities will include but are not limited to: musket and cannon demonstrations, drills, quartermaster, blacksmithing, open hearth cooking, clothing talks, medicine, a special display on the wreck of the ship "El Constante Nuevo", and much, much more.

We provide hay, water, rations, and one meal, along with camping on the grounds of Oakley Plantation started by a veteran of the Battle of Baton Rouge. Preregistration is required. Louisiana State Parks Black Powder rules and regulations will be in effect and provided upon request.

Audubon State Historic Site is a Louisiana park located in the town of St. Francisville, 30 minutes North of Baton Rouge, La. Within St. Francisville can be found modern accommodations, B&B's, and various historic attractions. For more information please contact Audubon State Historic Site in St. Francisville, LA at 1-225-635-3739.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at Cadron November 9**

2nd Saturday at Cadron Settlement Park on Nov. 9 will be a Seminar and hands on Cooking event lead by Dr. Tamara Walkingstick from the UA Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service located on University Ave (north of the main UALR campus). She will be giving a talk on Native Arkansas Plants and Their Uses for Medicine and Foods. She will give us an opportunity to cook some native foods and sample her food and ours. She is a Cherokee and is passionate about the topic. She will keep us in stitches and teach us bunches. She loves questions, too. Please, bring charcoal and braziers to cook with. Bring your cookware and some staple ingredients to use with her food additives. We will have more examples of what foods will be used later. (I know one will be acorn flour.) She is a great speaker and will be very inspirational and informative. Hope all will be able to come and learn.

### **CARE FOR LEATHER ARTICLES PART 2**

#### **Cleaning Vintage Leather**

**Professional Leather Cleaning:** If you have a very special or very delicate leather item, or if you do not want to take any chances cleaning it yourself, there are professional leather cleaners that can do it for you.

Many dry cleaners offer leather cleaning services through which your leather is sent off site to a professional cleaning company and then returned to the dry cleaners.

Although this process is done by professionals, slight variations in color, texture, and shape may result; so be sure to clean matching garments together even if only one piece is dirty.

**Cleaning at Home:** In many cases all that is necessary to clean leather is a damp cloth or a store bought leather cleaner. This will remove any surface dust or dirt. (Always follow manufacturer's instructions when using a cleaner specifically for leather.)

If the leather has been in contact with perspiration, water, or is stiff, you may need a more substantial method to cleanse it.

#### **Hand Washing**

- Treat or remove any stains on the leather before washing it.
- Using warm soapy water made with an gentle cleanser like baby shampoo, Dove (unscented), or soap flakes rub the leather with a soft cloth to produce a lather in any area you want to clean.
- Wipe away excess lather with a clean cloth.
- Rinse leather thoroughly either by running through warm water or wiping several times with a damp cloth.
- Pat leather dry with a clean towel to remove excess water.

- Allow leather to dry flat in a warm place out of direct sunlight and away from a strong heat source (fire, heater, stove, etc.)

**Washing Leather in a Washing Machine:** Some people claim that leather can be washed using a washing machine set on a very gentle (wool or delicate) setting with warm or cool water. This method may not be worth the risk if you are washing a very old vintage piece.

If you choose to use this method, DO NOT use any detergent meant for washing clothes other than Woolite or Soap Flakes. Also, do not use more soap than is necessary to make the water slippery with a small amount of bubbles. Too much soap will make the leather dry and stiff!

**How to Make Soap Flakes at Home:** Soap Flakes (Lux Flakes) are a hard to find item that should be an essential part of caring for both vintage and delicate clothing or fabrics. They are gentle, biodegradable, and you can wash just about anything with them: wool, wood, metal, plastic, pets, antiques...the possibilities are endless.

Though manufactured soap flakes are more convenient, it isn't hard to whip up a batch yourself if you have a few spare minutes with items that are probably hanging around your house already.

Difficulty: Easy. Time Required: Less than 30 minutes

**What you need:**

- Coarse Cheese Grater
- Vegetable Oil (Castille) Based Soap
- Water Tight Container
- Optional: Thick Gloves

**Here's How:**

- Place a cheese grater over a few paper towels or paper plate (something bendable to catch the shavings).
- Grate soap on a medium size so that the shavings are about the size of a grain of rice.
- Pour shavings into the container you wish to store them in.
- Store in a cool dry place in an air tight container until you are ready to use.

**Conditioning Vintage Leather:** Once the leather has completely dried, then it is time to condition it! Conditioning leather replaces the tanning oils that are depleted over time through wear, heat, and moisture. Reconditioning leather every 6-9 months will ensure that it never becomes stiff, dry, or cracked.

A leather conditioner is necessary for this step. There are hundreds of products available for this task, so be sure to read the label before using a leather conditioner to be sure that that particular product is suitable for your vintage leather item. Do not use leather conditioners that contain waxes or silicone which do not allow the leather to breathe.

- Always use a lint free soft cloth when conditioning leather; microfiber cloths are ideal.
- Dampen the cloth with water before applying the conditioner to it so that there is not too much conditioner applied to the leather.
- NEVER apply conditioner directly to the leather, apply to cloth first.
- Apply conditioner to leather by gently rubbing into the lie or nap of the leather until the entire surface has been covered.
- Several light applications are preferred over a heavy soaking of conditioner.
- Allow conditioner to penetrate the conditioner for at least 30 minutes before applying another coat.

**Stains on Leather:** Even leather isn't adverse to stains, especially if it's vintage and lived a previous lifetime before finding its way into your closet. However, you're not required to live with the stains of its past; most leather stains will come out easily with a little soap and water. It is even possible to remove blood, oil, and wax in some cases.

**How to Remove Leather Stains:** Always do a small spot test on a discreet area of the leather (like an inside hem or the under arm) to be

sure that this the method you are using will not damage the leather or remove any color or finish.

For recent stains, mix Soap Flakes (see above) with a few tablespoons of water. Rub the soapy mixture slowly onto the spot. Rinse thoroughly.

Do not use these methods if a garment is rare, valuable, or antique. Seek the advice of a professional if you are unsure of these techniques.

- Bloodstains – If the stain is recent, hand wash the leather immediately with mild soap or leather cleaner. Note: It may not be possible to remove some dried or set in blood stains
- Perspiration – Wash leather in warm water with baby shampoo and/or fabric softener, making sure that the skin is saturated. Rinse lightly and dry flat.
- Wax – Using an iron set on cool, place blotting paper or brown paper on the leather and then heat wax until it transfers from the leather onto the paper. Repeat as many times as necessary until the spot is removed, being sure to clean paper each time so that wax is not transferred back onto the leather or onto the iron.
- Oil Based Stains – Leather skin is highly absorbent of oils and set in oil stains will not come out. Conditioning the entire leather item with an oil based conditioner may help even out the discoloration of the stain, making it less noticeable.

For recent stains, mix Soap Flakes (you can make your own by grating a bar of unscented vegetable based soap) with a few tablespoons of water. Rub the soapy mixture slowly onto the spot. Rinse thoroughly.

**Removing Leather Odors:** Leather can be stubborn about holding on to odors. You may be able to locate a leather specialist or dry cleaner in your area that can remove the odor, but it won't come cheap. Instead try removing unwanted odors at home. There are many safe and gentle methods of removing odors like using baking soda.

If your previously loved vintage item has a detestable odor like cigarette smoke, it's going to take some work to get it out, but it is not impossible.

First try cleaning the leather item. If cleaning the leather doesn't work try one (or a few) of these remedies at home.

- **Febreze** – If the leather item has a lining, Febreze is a great first response. It will undoubtedly take the smell out of any fabric. For the leather part of the item, it is possible to use Febreze even though it is not recommended for use on leather by the manufacturer due to the possibility of staining or dye removal. A spot test before applying the Febreze to the entire item is essential to ensure that you will not damage the leather by using it. If the spot test shows no change to the leather, saturate the item inside and out with Febreze and allow to dry flat.
- **Baking Soda** – Baking soda can be used a few different ways to remove odors from leather, all of which are very gentle, however it is always best to perform a spot test to be safe.
- **Dry Baking Soda** – Put item in a paper bag or pillow case with an open box of baking soda for at least 24 hours. You may also sprinkle baking soda into the pockets and interior of the item or fill a sock with baking soda and leave it inside.
- **Baking Soda Solution** – Mix one teaspoon or baking soda with one liter of warm water and saturate the leather item (you may also increase the mixture and soak the item). Rinse item and dry flat.
- **Vinegar**
  - Sponge the item with straight vinegar and rinse. May need to be repeated several times.
  - Dilute vinegar in equal parts warm water and let item soak. Rinse and repeat. Allow to dry.
- Always use white vinegar as other vinegars may stain

**Leather Care Don'ts – What to Avoid When Caring for Vintage Leather:** Although leather is very durable, it is not indestructible. Improper care or cleaning can crack and dry leather skin, remove finishes and colors, or make it too stiff to wear. Keeping leather away from chemicals, heat, and humidity are key. If leather is like skin, think

of its care as anti-aging; if you wouldn't put it on your own skin, it probably isn't very good for the leather either.

As strong and durable as leather might be, it is fairly easy to ruin its appearance. NEVER use the following chemicals or substances on leather:

- Bleach
- Alcohol
- Household cleaners
- Turpentine and mineral spirits
- Waxes or silicone (prevent leather from breathing)

**Rule of Thumb:** Leather is skin; if it would harm your skin it is going to harm the leather.

*Excerpted from an Internet Article*

*(Editor's Note: If anyone has any comments or suggestions to add, please email me and I will add your comments to next month's "chapter". Thanks! Renee.)*

**JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2013 CELEBRATION AT  
THE HISTORIC ARKANSAS MUSEUM**

American Patriots and visitors gathered at the Historic Arkansas Museum to celebrate the Declaration of Independence from the tyranny of King George and Great Britain. There were people making patriot balloons, kids making flags, live music, and American Militia reenactors training young new patriots. Meanwhile, the British Redcoats from the 16th Foote came across the Mississippi River to occupy the Arkansas Capital in the name of King George. They setup inside the entrance of museum to greet all the visitors who came in the museum to show that King George was your rightful leader. The results of their success were very low, but one thing everyone wanted



was their picture taking with these redcoats, especially the ladies! The British hearing of rebels were in Little Rock and having

very little political success decided to find these Rebels and drive them out of Little Rock. Around 2:30 pm, the British began their search through the town, but finding no rebels. Finally a loyalist told them that

the Rebels are camped on the outskirts of town. The 16th Foote and there loyalist ally approached a clearing and spotted a loan Spanish Militia man standing guard, the militia man took aim and fired at the approaching Redcoats.



The Battle is on!



The Rebel force was ordered to fall in and move up to fight these Redcoats. The 16th Foote commander, William Hardage, told his men to take cover behind the wooden Fence and fire down on those rebels. The Patriots decided to drive the British away, so they marched closer to the British line to within about 25 yards and fired a volley that wounded a couple of redcoats. The militia Commander, Steve Shore, ordered his men to take aim and fire on those lobsterbacks! The 16th Foote then fired a deadly volley that dropped 2 patriots; the American line was stunned by this volley. The Patriot commander then ordered his men to fall back to the



defensive position at their camp. The British seeing the Rebels falling back decided to make a final push to capture these rebels. The 16th foote advanced to within 20 yards of the Americans, fired one last volley. The British Commander, William Hardage, ordered his men to charge bayonets saying huzzah, and drive away the rebels. The American line stunned by seeing redcoats charging with bayonets coming straight for them decided to fire one last volley to stop the



British Juggernaut. The commander said "don't fire till you see the whites of their eyes" and fired his musket at the British Commander, which dropped him instantly. The rest of the Militia line fired dropping another redcoat. Then the American commander said charge and the rest of the British force were captured. A costly, but complete victory for the American Patriots for the 4th of July! The crowd up to almost 200 watched the tactical battle and cheered their heroes and the British for a good reenactment. The combined British and American soldiers fired off a volley to celebration the 4 of July! After the battle, the Museum Director read the Declaration of Independence from a Historic building; the British did try to stop him, but were unsuccessful due to numbers of American Patriots there. The event was a huge success this year and I hope we can continue to grow this event. I think the official account of Colonial Reenactors was around 20. The next Colonial event is the 234th 1779 Battle of Baton Rouge at the Audubon State Historic Site October 5-6th. The 16th Foote will be going and we will be joining forces with the 60th Foote down there, so it looks like a good event.

---

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you know of any events that are not on our calendar of Upcoming Events, please send them to Renee at [bubbamoore1208@gmail.com](mailto:bubbamoore1208@gmail.com).

### AUGUST 2013

**10 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Basket Weaving. Larry Layne will also be showing a leather working stitch.

### SEPTEMBER 2013

**7 – Annual EARA Picnic and Board Meeting.**

**14 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Tactical demonstration; contact Ed Williams for details. 4 harness overshoot weaving. Contact Ree for details.

**13–15 – Indian Heritage Days Rendezvous,** Calico Rock, AR. (Contact James and Sharon Ross (870-368-2273, cell 870-615-3120, or [mountainmanrss@aol.com](mailto:mountainmanrss@aol.com))

**20–22 – Old Washington Soggy Bottoms**

**21 – Celebrating the Outdoors,** Felsenthal Wild Life Refuge, Old Beer Joint Access, under the River Bridge, Crossett Harbor, 10 AM – 3 PM. Contact Amanda Wilkerson (879-364-3168) or Ed Williams (501-944-0736 or e-mail [ed\\_laurine@juno.com](mailto:ed_laurine@juno.com)) for more details

**27-29 – Two Rivers Bikers (Cowboy) Church,** Gamaliel, AR

**27-29 – Historic Encampment,** Mount Magazine State Park

### OCTOBER 2013

**5–6 – The Battle of Baton Rouge 1779.** Contact Daniel P. Wilcox at Audubon State Historic Site (225-635-3739 or [Audubon\\_int3@crt.la.gov](mailto:Audubon_int3@crt.la.gov)) or William Hardage ([britishofficer@yahoo.com](mailto:britishofficer@yahoo.com)) for more information.

**8–12 – 2nd Annual Leslie Rendezvous,** Leslie AR – early setup 8th-10th. \*\*Please Note: We will be having a Ladies Tea. More info to come.\*\*

**11–12 – Cadron Days**

**12 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

**18–19 – Ouachita River Celebration,** Union Parish, Bayou D'Arbonne Lake State Park, Farmerville, LA. Contacts: Stephanie Herrman (318-368-9288/9226, ([sherrman@state.lib.la.us](mailto:sherrman@state.lib.la.us)) or Ed Williams (501-944-0736, [ed\\_laurine@juno.com](mailto:ed_laurine@juno.com)) for more details

**18–20 – Hardy Voo,** Hardy, AR

### NOVEMBER 2013

**2 – Voo at Natchez, MS**

**9 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Dr. Tamara Walkingstick, Native Arkansas Plants and Their Uses for Medicine and Foods

**9 – Candlelight Gala @ HAMM.** Contact HAMM for more details

**11/28-12/01 – Petit Jean Voo,** Petit Jean State Park

### DECEMBER 2013

**8 – HAMM Christmas**

**13–15 – Fort St. Jean Baptist,** 300th Anniversary of the Founding of Natchitoches, LA. Contact: Rhonda Gauthier (888-677-7853)

**14 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

**26–29 – Keelboat Float Trip on the Ouachita River,** Nix Ferry to Camden (40 miles). Contact Ed (501-944-0736 or e-mail [ed\\_laurine@juno.com](mailto:ed_laurine@juno.com))

## EARA INFORMATION

### Newsletter Notice

2011 All Rights Reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any manner without explicit permission. The Shinnin' Times and/or EARA assumes no responsibility for injuries or loss incurred by anyone utilizing the information in this publication.

For calendar and/or event schedule changes, newsletter articles, or correction notifications, please contact Shinnin' Times Editor at [rmoore@wlj.com](mailto:rmoore@wlj.com) or [bubbamoore1208@gmail.com](mailto:bubbamoore1208@gmail.com).

"Pepper" is the password to access the online edition of the EARA Newsletter, via the EARA website.

### EARA OFFICERS AND BOARD:

#### Officers:

President – Glenn Cook – [gc1760@yahoo.com](mailto:gc1760@yahoo.com)

Vice President – Ree Walker – [tomandree@yahoo.com](mailto:tomandree@yahoo.com)

Secretary – Teresa Lafferty – [misshattie1234@gmail.com](mailto:misshattie1234@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Michael Bethea – [michaelbethea@msn.com](mailto:michaelbethea@msn.com)

#### Directors:

Neil Curry, Steve Dunlap, Larry Layne, Dave Lefler, Tom Reedy, James Thompson, Larry Thompson, and Lynita Langley-Ware.

#### EARA Committees & Chairs:

Education–Julia Bethea (501 231-9730)

Newsletter Editor–Renee Moore [rmoore@wlj.com](mailto:rmoore@wlj.com) or [bubbamoore1208@gmail.com](mailto:bubbamoore1208@gmail.com)

Events – Teresa Lafferty – [misshattie1234@gmail.com](mailto:misshattie1234@gmail.com)

Keelboat – Ed Williams

#### EARA WEBSITE

Dave Cutchall - [skilletdancer@yahoo.com](mailto:skilletdancer@yahoo.com)

#### Liability Insurance

To be covered you need to sign the book or if not available, a sheet of paper needs to be signed and sent to Glenn Cook. All volunteer events are covered, whether in the state or not. If in doubt always sign a sheet and send it to EARA President, c/o Glenn Cook, 331 Mark Lynn Cir., Cabot, AR 72023

# **ADVERTISEMENTS**

**YOUR EARA ADVERTISEMENT COULD GO HERE!!**

## **Wye Mountain Trading Company**

Hand-crafted powder horns,  
woven straps, and leather goods  
(including pouches)

Craig, Shy, Mason, & Conner Cox  
501-454-5646

*E-Mail: [wymtntradingco@yahoo.com](mailto:wymtntradingco@yahoo.com)*

## **Ridge Runner Canvas**

Steve & Jennifer Johnson  
520 Monarch Road  
Chadwick, MO 65629  
Ph: 417-634-0132  
Cell: 417-294-1175

*E-Mail: [ridgerunnercanvas@hotmail.com](mailto:ridgerunnercanvas@hotmail.com)  
[www.freeweb.com/ridgerunnercanvas](http://www.freeweb.com/ridgerunnercanvas)*

Shinnin' Times  
August 2013 – Vol. 19, #87  
P.O. Box 21491  
Little Rock, AR 72221-1491