

# Shinnin' Times

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A Publication of the Early Arkansas Reenactors Association (EARA)

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

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## IN MEMORIAM

We were all saddened to hear of the recent passing of one of our fellow 'vowers, Kirk Nielson. Our condolences go out to the family, and please keep Kathy and their family in your thoughts and prayers.

## WANTED: UPCOMING 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).

Also, I have heard a lot of good comments about some of the articles we have been presenting recently. If you have any articles or tidbits you would like to share, please send them also. Thanks!

## HISTORY

### Arkansas History (1800 – 1840s)

**1800** – On October 1, French and Spanish diplomats sign the secret Treaty of San Ildefonso, which returns Louisiana to French control

**1801** – In June 15, Juan Manuel del Salcedo arrives in New Orleans to take up his duties as the last Spanish governor of Louisiana, unaware that France now owns the province

**1803** – American diplomats James Monroe and Robert Livingston negotiate to purchase New Orleans, to ensure continued American shipping rights. The French government offers them all of Louisiana, at a negotiated price of fifteen million dollars. By this purchase, present-day Arkansas becomes part of the United States

**1804** – On March 24, President Thomas Jefferson approves an Act of Congress dividing the newly acquired former French colony into two parts: the Territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana (which includes present-day Arkansas). At the behest of President Jefferson, William Hunter and George Dunbar explore the southern portion of the District of Louisiana, ascending the Ouachita River as far as “the Valley of the Vapors” – today’s Hot Springs

**1805–1806** – The Choctaw and northern Indian (Chickasaw and Cherokee) cessions open up land to white settlement

**1806** – The southern part of the New Madrid district of Louisiana Territory is split off and named “District of Arkansas.” The district will not have civil officers until 1808

**1810** – A special U.S. Census of Arkansas reveals over 1,000 persons living in the district, not including Native Americans

**1811** – On December 16, the New Madrid earthquake strikes, rendering many homeless and causing land subsidence along the Mississippi

**1812–1815** – The War of 1812 between U.S. and Great Britain, ended in a stalemate but confirmed America’s Independence

**1812** – On May 6, President James Madison approves an act setting aside six million acres of land to be surveyed, divided and used as bounty lands for soldiers enlisting to fight the British invasion, or to be given to those displaced by the New Madrid earthquake. Approximately one-third of the bounty lands are in the present-day boundaries of Arkansas

**1812** – On June 4 Missouri Territory, including Arkansas, is created by Congress

**1813** – “Arkansas County” is created by the Missouri Legislature

**1815** – President James Madison orders a survey of the Louisiana District in order to divide and distribute military bounty lands. Surveyors Prospect K. Robbins and Joseph Brown establish the principal meridian and baseline for subsequent surveys of Louisiana Purchase lands beginning on October 27, at an initial point located in a headwater swamp where present-day Lee, Monroe and Phillips Counties intersect. Arkansas, still part of Missouri territory, is divided into two counties: Lawrence, north of the Arkansas River, and Arkansas, mostly south of the stream

**1817** – Arkansas’ first post office is sited at Davidsonville, in Lawrence County. The Cherokee are given lands in northwest Arkansas in exchange for their home lands in Georgia and Tennessee. Fort Smith is established at Belle Point, on the Arkansas River

**1818** – Three new counties (Clark, Hempstead and Pulaski) are carved from Arkansas County. The Quapaw cede their lands between the Red and Arkansas Rivers to the United States

**1819 (March 2)** – President James Monroe signs an Act of Congress creating the Territory of Arkansas. On July 28, the first Territorial Legislature meets at Arkansas Post. On November 20, William Woodruff publishes the first edition of the Arkansas Gazette, also at Arkansas Post

**1820** – On February 7, the first elected Territorial General Assembly meets at Arkansas Post. In March, Amos Wheeler opens a post office at Little Rock. On April 20, the “Comet,” first steam packet to travel up the Lower Arkansas River, ties up at Arkansas Post. In October, General Andrew Jackson signs a treaty with the Choctaw nation, granting the Choctaw lands in western Arkansas

**1821** – Books promoting the beauty and potential of Arkansas are published by explorers Henry Schoolcraft and Thomas Nuttall. On June 1 the territorial government, seeking higher ground for a home, moves from Arkansas Post to Little Rock

**1821 (October 25)** – The capital moves from Arkansas Post to Little Rock

**1822 (March)** – The Eagle, first steamboat to ascend the Arkansas River, arrives at Little Rock

**1824** – The Quapaw are forced to cede their remaining lands south of the Arkansas River to the United States

**1826** – A smallpox epidemic, one of many, reaches Arkansas. Arkansas' first steam-powered sawmill opens in Helena

**1828** – A post road between Little Rock and Memphis is under construction; the Cherokee are persuaded to give up their northwest Arkansas lands and to move further west

**1830 (May 28)** – Congress establishes the boundary separating Arkansas from Indian Territory to the west

**1832** – Author Washington Irving visits Arkansas Post; it will inspire his essay, "The Creole Village." Of its inhabitants Irving notes: "The almighty dollar, that great object of universal devotion throughout our land, seems to have no genuine devotees in these peculiar villages."

**1832–1839** – The "Five Civilized Tribes" (Seminole, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Creek Indians) are removed from the Southeast through Arkansas to Indian Territory

**1833** – A new "courthouse" for the territory, to become the first state capitol, is under construction in Little Rock

**1835** – On November 12, Tennessee politician David Crockett pauses in Little Rock, while traveling to Texas on business

**1836** – Statehood – Arkansas becomes the twenty-fifth state of the Union on June 15, with Little Rock as its capital; James Conway is elected its first governor. State Motto – Regnat populus – translated as "The people rule"

**1836–1837** – The Second Creek War (Seminole War)

**1838** – A steam-powered ferry begins operation at Little Rock

**1839** – The last of the Seminole, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw and Creek Indians, known as the "Five Civilized Tribes" are removed to Indian Territory

**1840** – The Federal government begins construction of its Arsenal in Little Rock

**1846** – Disillusioned by the collapse of two state-chartered banks, legislators ratify a constitutional amendment barring any banking institution from being established in the state

**1846** – Congress declares war on the Republic of Mexico; Arkansas raises a regiment of volunteer cavalry, commanded by War of 1812 veteran Archibald Yell

**1847** – On February 23, Arkansas troops participate in the battle of Buena Vista. Faced by a larger Mexican force, the Arkansas troops break and run until rallied by Yell, who is killed in the action

Sources:

(1) <http://www.e-referencedesk.com/resources/state-history-timeline/arkansas.html>;

(2) <http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/namerica/usstates/artimeln.htm>

(3) [http://visionmena.com/arkansas\\_history\\_-\\_a\\_time\\_line.htm](http://visionmena.com/arkansas_history_-_a_time_line.htm)

(4) <http://www.history-timelines.org.uk/american-timelines/04-arkansas-history-timeline.htm>

## MEDICINE IN THE WOODS

### Benefits of Cedar

The major uses of cedar tree are from its bark and oil. The bark of the cedar tree produces scented wood, known as cedar wood and the color of the wood varies from dark

brown to red. Cedar oil is extracted from the cedar wood and sometimes from its roots and foliage. The uses of cedar wood and oil are elaborated below.

**Uses of Cedar Oil** – As mentioned in the above paragraph, the cedar wood and its oil have numerous benefits and here are some of them.

- It is used as an insect repellent.
- In ancient times, it was used to preserve dead bodies.
- It is used as incense in temples.
- It is used as aromatic oil, because its woody odor works as a sedative and effectively treats stress and anxiety in people.
- Due to its aroma, it is used as an ingredient in perfumes.
- It is used for preservation of spices.
- It is used as an antibacterial.
- Its health benefits include effectively treating respiratory infections.
- It is beneficial to hair, as it helps eliminate dandruff and protects the hair against hair fall and graying.
- It also effectively treats skin infections such as acne.
- It is also used in treating arthritis, especially rheumatoid.
- It is also used for its antiseptic property.

**Uses Of Cedar Wood** – The cedar wood is light weight and used for construction of homes and furniture. It is eco-friendly. The wood from various kinds of cedar trees is used for different purposes.

- It is resistant to decay and hence is suitable to build outdoor furniture.
- It produces aesthetically beautiful furniture.
- It is easy to work with as it is lightweight and doesn't crack or split easily.
- It is highly durable.
- It can absorb sound effectively, so are used in building ceiling shingles.
- It is a good insulator; hence, when a home is built using cedar wood, it helps keep the home warm in winter and cool in summer.
- Though its color fades after a while, it can easily be restored.
- It doesn't spread fire easily hence it is suited for building purposes.
- It is a natural anti-termite, which is it prevents furniture from rotting.
- Due to its lightweight and strength, western red cedar is used to make guitars.

**Uses Of Cedar Tree Types** – There are different types of cedar tree, and each one has its own distinct features that serve a lot of purposes. Here are some of them.

- Northern white cedar is used for building canoes and fences.
- Australian red cedar is most valuable of all cedar since it used in building ships.
- California incense cedar is used for making pencils.
- Eastern red cedar is also used for fence-building.
- Japanese cedar is used for building houses.
- Spanish cedar is used on clothing for its fragrance and insect repelling quality.

The above are only some of the many uses of cedar trees and tree parts. Looking at them, you can now picture how important cedar trees are to people today.

<http://cedartrees.net/uses-of-cedar>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DECEMBER 2012

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Christmas Open House**, Historical Arkansas Museum – Call Museum – 501-324-9351

**8<sup>th</sup> – 2nd Saturday at Cadron**

Ree Walker (tomandree@yahoo.com)

**26<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> – Keelboat Trip on the Ouachita River**

Contact Ed Williams (ed\_laurine@juno.com or 501-944-0736)

### JANUARY 2013

**5<sup>th</sup> – 12th Night at Cadron**

Cadron Settlement Park

Ree Walker (tomandree@yahoo.com)

### MARCH 2013

**9-16 – After the End of the World – Southwestern Regional Rendezvous**, Graham, TX

### APRIL 2013

**5-7 – White Oak Lake State Park Colonial Event.**

1700s Colonial/ Rev War living history and skirmish

Contact William Hardage (501-627-6313 or britishofficer@yahoo.com) or Ed Williams (ed\_laurine@juno.com or 501-944-0736)

**5-7 – Twin Bridges Mountain Man Spring Rendezvous**, near West Plains, MO

**20-21 – 2013 Woolly Hollow Rendezvous.** Contact: Ree Walker (tomandree@yahoo.com)

### MAY 2013

**3-5 – Rendezvous at Pomme de Terre Lake**

**Damsite, Missouri.** Black powder shoot; hawk contest, etc.

**17-19 – Rendezvous at Rockaway Beach, Missouri**

### JUNE 2013

**15-22 – High Plains Regional Rendezvous**, Blaine, KS

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## EARA INFORMATION

### Newsletter Notice

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"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 – [mshattie1234@gmail.com](mailto:mshattie1234@gmail.com)

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#### 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 – [mshattie1234@gmail.com](mailto:mshattie1234@gmail.com)

Keelboat – Ed Williams

#### EARA WEBSITE

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

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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

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