

# Shinnin' Times

March 2013

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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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## UPDATE

As many of you know, Tom Reedy ("Pole Dancer") was hospitalized late last week. He is now home recuperating and resting comfortably. Please keep Tom and Ms. Betty (and their family) in your thoughts and prayers.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **MARCH 3**

#### **Hide Tanning Seminar at Carol's Barn**

We are going to have a Day at Carol's Barn. It will be a series of Hide Tanning Seminars. We will start it on Sat, March 3. There will be a Deer and Bear commercially tanned and a Squirrel brain tanned. We will start it on March 3 and have a 2nd day to finish it if we need to on March 23. Tom is going to instruct us.

### **APRIL 5-7**

#### **White Oak Lake State Park Colonial Event 1700s Colonial Living History & Skirmish**

In 1783, a French trader named Fabre settled on a bluff above the Ouachita River and called the settlement "Ecore Fabre," which is the present city of Camden, Arkansas. In honor of Fabre, White Oak Lake State Park and the Early Arkansas Reenactors Association (EARA) are hosting the Fourth Annual Colonial Event.

#### Friday (April 5th)

10 am - 2 pm: Flintlock Rifle & Musket Competition at the Arkansas Forestry Gun Range (located 1/2 mile from Park).

#### Saturday (April 6th)

9 am - 3 pm: Tour of Camps

10 am - 12 pm: Flintlock Rifle & Musket Competition at the Arkansas Forestry Gun Range

2 p.m. - Battle/Tactical

#### Sunday (April 7th)

9 am - Noon: Tour of Camps

10 am - Tomahawk Competition

11 am - Fire Making Competition

Directions: White Oak Lake State Park is located in Southwest Arkansas, just west of Camden Arkansas. From I-30 at Prescott, travel 20 miles east on Ark. 24, then go south on Ark. 299 approximately 100 yards, then go two miles southeast on Ark. 387.

Information: Contact EARA members William Hardage, 501-627-6313, [britishofficer@yahoo.com](mailto:britishofficer@yahoo.com) or Ed Williams, 501-944-0736, [ed\\_laurine@juno.com](mailto:ed_laurine@juno.com)

In addition, please contact the park to register. Typical historical camping/reenacting amenities are provided.

White Oak Lake State Park, 563 Highway 387, Bluff City, AR 71722. Ph: 870-685-2748 or [whiteoaklake@arkansas.com](mailto:whiteoaklake@arkansas.com)

### **MAY 16-19** **Saline County Voo**

We are having a Voo at the crossing of the Southwest Trail over the Saline River in South Pulaski Co. The City of Benton/Friend of the Bridge are making a park and we are invited to have a Voo in it. I will find out more information on March 24 about the site and location/directions. Info will follow to be in the next month's ST. Seems like late notice, but it is developing as we speak. James, Glenn, and I are assisting them with the site and development. I will let the group know more later. Hope to see this grow into a big Voo like Pinnacle. The Dates are May 16-19, 2013. Just found out this info on Tues. FOB is a nonprofit organization that is getting this worked through. I will be helping them know what we need and we will go see where they want to put it. They are letting us have 100% input on date...I think that the place will be our choice. We (Glenn, Teresa, and James) will pick out a good spot. We will make sure that they have porta potties, wood, and ice. We will discuss the details when we see them on March 24. If anyone is interested in going with them, contact number is Misshattie at 501-247-6466. They are looking for a really big event in 2015. We have 3 years before they hope to have the 250th anniversary of the Bridge at Saline Crossing and they plan to have a lot more improvements made on the property. It sounds like the group that is doing it is getting 35 acres donated and own the bridge and 5 acres at the site. A Central Arkansas site that might be really good and close. The president has plans to make it as big of a park as Pinnacle Mt. I hope to have a voo similar to that in the future or larger!!! Wouldn't that be great? This is exciting.

### **MAY 16-17**

#### **7th Annual Rockaway Beach Rendezvous Rockaway Beach, Missouri (just north of Branson)**

Overnight Camping Fee for entire weekend is \$15. Early set up and late tear down - no set time (allowances for those who work or are from out of town)

For more information, contact Jennifer Johnson - 417-294-1175 or Sue Estenbaum - 417-561-1166

## THE LOST GOLD MINES OF ARKANSAS

*From an article by John J. Archibald in "Ouachita Life" Vol 7, No. 5, Jan 2013*

Has there ever been gold in Arkansas? There have been reports of mines in years past. Let me share a part of an article found in the "Ouachita Life Magazine", Jan 2013. Mr. Archibald reports in his article, "The Lost Mines of the Caddo," that on the authority of Judge William F. Pope, who in 1895 at age 80 published the book that told of his 62 years of life in Arkansas and the stories that were told to him by the old timers of gold mines along the Arkansas River. With the help of his son, Dunbar H. Pope, a book was published by the Gazette

Publishing Company of Little Rock, "Early Days in Arkansas: Being for the Most Part the Personal Recollections of an Old Settler" is rich in the details that the Judge appears to have written down as he heard them since coming to live in Arkansas in 1832. The details of the lengthy story are about a gold mine near Little Rock and another in Montgomery County. These places were known by white man and Indians alike according to Judge Pope's old time settlers. The story began in 1809 with a hunter named Trammell (no other name was given in the book) who found what looked like gold at the foot of Crystal Hill. Crystal Hill was a bluff about 15 miles about Little Rock on the Arkansas River. Trammell's find was purchased by one Colonel Notrebe at Arkansas Post. He took it to New Orleans where it was found to be "pure gold." A Frenchman by the name of Captain Hillare (believed by some to be the infamous pirate Jean Lafitte) organized an expedition into the heart of Arkansas' territory. His crew met Trammell and he led them to the Crystal Hill location where they made an attempt at mining "a considerable amount of gold" out of a downward shaft. The Arkansas River currents, however had other plans. Soon after the shafts were dug, the river filled them in and the location has been lost forever. Disappointed in the endeavor, the expedition crew left and went to a Place called "Dardi" by the local Indians (present day Dardanelle.) There they met a band of friendly Caddos. These Indians occupied the lands between the Arkansas and the Caddo rivers. They had in their possession specimens of gold ore which they said had been obtained in the mountainous regions to the SW near the Caddo River. That region referred to by these Indians is now in Montgomery County near Bear City, Ark and written about by Judge Pope as he was told by older settlers. A new plan was devised for the expedition to trade with the Indians and explore the area seeking for gold. Guided by some Caddos, part of the crew equipped themselves and got ponies for the trip. The crew walked "three or four days" to a spot showed them by the Caddos. A precious metal of some kind was seen by the miners in the group and digging began. The gold seekers sunk a shaft at the foot of one of the mountains and obtained large amounts of gold. The last area was occupied by roving band of hostile Lipan Indians who would clash with the Caddo. Fighting ensued. A few days later, the Lipans returned with a larger war party and outnumbered the miners. They fled the diggings to go back to their comrades left back at Dardi. With their exhibition a failure, they left the region stopping at Crystal Hill sharing their story with Major James Pyeatt. Judge Pope said he heard the story from Major Pyeatt in 1833. The expedition failed, but it's story lives on being told from this early Arkansas settlers to settlers. ....and now from me to you. ....

MsHattie

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### 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).

#### FEBRUARY 2013

**9 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

**14-17 – Washington 5 Trails Voo**

#### MARCH 2013

**6-16 – After the End of the World – Southwestern Regional Rendezvous,** Graham, TX (early setup 6-8)

**9 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

#### 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](mailto:britishofficer@yahoo.com)) or Ed Williams ([ed\\_laurine@juno.com](mailto:ed_laurine@juno.com) or 501-944-0736)

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

**13 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time.

**19-21 – 2013 Woolly Hollow Rendezvous.** Contact: Ree Walker ([tomandree@yahoo.com](mailto:tomandree@yahoo.com))

#### MAY 2013

**3-5 – Rendezvous at Pomme de Terre Lake Damsite, MO.** Black powder shoot; hawk contest, etc.

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

**10-12 – Trade Days at Cadron**

**11 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron**

**25 – 2nd Annual Audubon Colonial Market Faire,** 10 AM-4 PM. For more info, contact Audubon State Historic Site, St. Francisville, LA (225-635-3739).

**Late May 2013 – Saline County Bridge Voo**

#### JUNE 2013

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

#### JULY 2013

**4 – 4th of July at HAMM**

**6 – An 1812 Independence Day Celebration,** 1 PM -4 PM. For more info, contact Audubon State Historic Site, St. Francisville, LA (225-635-3739).

**18-22 – MOJAM** (not an EARA event, but we have had interest as a needed skill/learning event)

**13 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

#### AUGUST 2013

**10 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

**31 – The Battle of Baton Rouge 1779,** 10 AM until 4 PM. For more info, contact Audubon State Historic Site, St. Francisville, LA (225-635-3739).

#### SEPTEMBER 2013

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

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

**20-22 (tentatively) – Old Washington Soggy Bottoms**

## **OCTOBER 2013**

**8-12 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Leslie Rendezvous, Leslie AR** – early setup 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>.

**11-12 – Cadron Days, Cadron Days**

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

**10/18-20/13 – Hardy Voo, Hardy, AR**

## **NOVEMBER 2013**

**9 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron.** Undetermined event at this time

**11/28-12/01 – Petit Jean Voo**

## **DECEMBER 2013**

**8 – HAMM Christmas**

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

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## **EARA INFORMATION**

### **Newsletter Notice**

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For calendar and/or event schedule changes, newsletter articles, or correction notifications, please

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

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#### **EARA WEBSITE**

Dave Cutchall [skilletedancer@yahoo.com](mailto:skilletedancer@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

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