

Shinnin' Times

November 2013

Vol. 18, #11

A Publication of the Early Arkansas Reenactors Association (EARA)

Web Page: <http://www.earlyarkansas.com/>

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

Arkansas-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

NEW WEBSITE

In case you didn't know, we have a new website: <http://www.earlyarkansas.com/> If you have any pictures of past events (not currently on the old website), or pictures of other events, please forward them to our new Webmaster, William Hardage at britishofficer@yahoo.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Town in Conflict Living Drama November 2nd & 3rd

The Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Arkansas. The Sesquicentennial will be celebrated between 2011 and 2015 and you are invited to join Historic Washington State Park as they present one of many events scheduled for the upcoming months. The first special presentation will be "Town in Conflict" a Living History Street Drama took place on September 14th, 21st and 28th, and will be presented again on November 2nd and 3rd. Become immersed in 1863 and 1864 as Washington townfolk try to come to grips with this trying time in our nation's history. Become a part of first-hand accounts from politicians, slaves, farmers and others on the critical issues and concerns that the people and the town faced as the Civil War raged on. Step back in time and embark on a unique adventure into not only Washington's past but the past of the great state of Arkansas. Plan your visit to experience this unique opportunity on one of the select Saturdays in November. Tours for the special drama will begin at 3:00 PM and tickets may be purchased at the Visitor Information Center on the day of presentation. Southwest Arkansas's premiere living history state park "Historic Washington" invites you to celebrate 150 years of rich Civil War history. Learning and teaching from the past to make the future better. For more info, call Historic Washington State Park at 870-983-2684 or contact Patricia Thomas (870) 983-2660 (patricia.thomas@arkansas.gov).

2nd Saturday at Cadron November 9

2nd Saturday at Cadron Settlement Park on Nov. 9 will be a Seminar and hands on Cooking event led 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 (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, and enjoy cooking and eating food made with native plants. Call Teresa Lafferty or NoNose for more information.

Petit Jean 'Vous Petit Jean State Park November 28th – December 1

Come out and join your 'Vous family at Petit Jean State Park over the Thanksgiving Holiday. There will be a pot luck on Saturday evening. Come one and all for another Great event

December 27th – 30th Annual Ouachita River Float Trip

Our annual Ouachita River float will be December 27th thru the 30th. We will either float 30 miles from Nix Ferry bridge to Camden, Arkansas, or 60 miles from Camden to Moro Bay State Park. It is only a 9 foot channel to Camden. North of Camden the Ouachita is pretty much what Mother Nature has left. So far, myself, Tom Bristow, and Bill Runyan have signed up to go. Let me know if you plan on going on the December float. Ed Williams (501-944-0736)

RECENT EVENTS

Soggy Bottom (September 20-22)

Soggy Bottom earned its name once again. Nonose, Ms. Hattie, and Five Beavers set camp Thursday morning. Rain set in on Thursday night @ 11:30 pm and lasted until Friday @ 6 pm. It was a well needed quiet rain. The sound of rain is soothing, but after 36 hours it sounds more like water boarding. An importune tea was held for Jimmy Allen, Nonose, Billy Nation, Five Beavers, and Jerry Dukes. Pumpkin Biscuits with caramel sauce, fresh coffee, sweet tea, and lemonade were served by Ms. Hattie. Campers visited awaiting the civil war re-enactors who were invisible due to the rainy event. Soggy Bottom wound up being a private 'vous until Saturday. Some public came in on Saturday. Thanks to Five Beavers and the Venture Crew for their instruction to the public. Ms. Hattie and Nonose had grandkids birthday parties to attend in Little Rock.

School Kid's Days at Old Washington

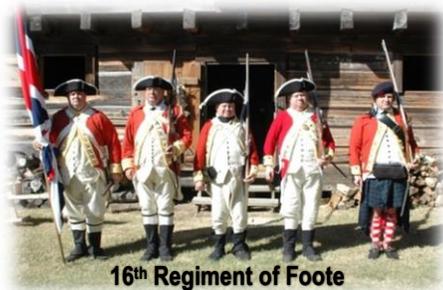
As always Old Washington puts the town on tour. Ms. Hattie and NoNose pitched in and made a two-family encampment on the trailhead going to Texas to homestead. We showed cooking pots, clothing, and washing. We set up next to a wagon, we told the kids about hunting, bows and cooking over the fire. We also discussed bathing and hygiene in the 1800s. Ms. Hattie showed how to make cordage (i.e. Bowstrings). The kids cooked bread on a stick.

Calico Rock (September 13-15) Journal of Miss Hattie

Setting camp beside a babbling brook on the back waters of the White River brought quiet relief to my soul from the hectic days of life. Many campers from Missouri, northeast Arkansas, Central and Arkansas came together. Eleven lodges were counted. Pigs tongue and sauerkraut won the cooking contest. Several Memberships were given out. We have new members Billy and Cathey Bennet from the Mountain View area. They have offered their land to hold a vous next year. Friday brought hundreds of well-mannered school kids from the surrounding area (kindergartners thru 5th). They were shown bow making, athala, firearms, camp cooking, beading, native attire, women's clothing, and camp life. I trekked to Cadron settlement on Saturday afternoon for the Revolutionary War tactical. Ree Walker gave a weaving seminar, and Scooter hosted a tea.

Cadron Settlement Event September 13, 2013

A few months ago the British Command in Pensacola ordered the British garrison at Concordia, Mississippi to send a force to capture the blockhouse at Cadron located on the Arkansas River and to disrupt trade in that area. The 16th Regiment of Foote sent a small company of men and a few Tories to seize the post. The British force arrived at the blockhouse and found it undefended with soldiers and took the blockhouse.



When news reached the Spanish at Fort Carlos downriver that the blockhouse had been captured, the Spanish quickly organized a force to retake the blockhouse. The Spanish dispatched an ex-French Marine officer, now in Spanish service, one cannon, and a company of militia. The force was ordered to retake the blockhouse and drive the British out of the area. When the Spanish contingent reached the outskirts of the blockhouse on the evening of Sept 14th, they decided to attack the fort and use the dusk to their advantage.

The Spanish Commander ordered the cannon to fire on the blockhouse to bring the British out to fight them. The British Commander realized that the blockhouse could not withstand cannon fire and with no cannon to fire back with decided to order his men to make a stand outside the fort. The British lined up in front of the

blockhouse with the regulars on the left and the Tory militia on the right. The Spanish sent their cannon to fire on the tory militia and the Spanish militia to fight the regulars. The two sides exchanged volleys into each other for over 10 mins with lead flying all over, but few casualties. The Spanish commander decided to bring up the cannon a little closer and fire directly into the British Regulars. The British commander seeing this move ordered the 16th Foote to shift down to the right and the Tory militia to engage the Spanish Militia. Just as the cannon was about to fire a grapeshot into the British regulars the 16th Foote fired! The volley was devastating to the Spanish force, instantly killing the Spanish Commander, and dropping the crew. The British commander ordered the 16th Foote to take the gun and flank the Spanish Militia. The Spanish militias still engaging with the Tories during this time saw the regulars appear on their left flank and were now firing into them. The Spanish militia commander now found out his commander was dead and the cannon were now in British control. The militia commander ordered his men to disengage from the battle in order to save his men's lives. The 16th Foote seeing the militia retreating, fixed bayonets and drove the Spanish militia from the fort and into the woods.



The British commander called a halt to the advancing British line and ordered them back to the blockhouse seeing that the blockhouse was now safe. The British rejoiced in their stunning victory over the overwhelming Spanish force, but it came at a high price for them. The Spanish militia force disbanded after the battle, leaving the British in control of the blockhouse which means that the British now control the trading around the Arkansas River. "God Save King George." To be continued....

The Colonial event at Cadron was a huge success and I hope that EARA will continue to have a colonial event there in the future. A big thanks goes out to Ed Williams who put on the battle.

William Hardage
16th Foote/ EARA Webmaster

Battle of Fort New Richmond 1779 October 5, 2013

October 5, 2013 goes down as a sad day for His Majesty's forces in the Gulf Coast region. The Spanish had orders from General Galvez to take the British fort at Baton Rouge (Fort New Richmond) just outside the community of St. Francis Ville, Louisiana. Despite Hurricane Karen, the Spanish managed to put a force together to attack the Fort. The force consisted of Spanish Regulars from the Louisiana Regiment, Spanish Militia, and a Spanish Artillery Unit. The British forces at the fort were outnumbered and sent word to Mobile and Pensacola for more reinforcements. Due to the Hurricane, no reinforcements would be coming for either side. The British force consisted of a small company of West Florida Provincials, 16th Regiment of Foote, and a small Tory Militia unit.

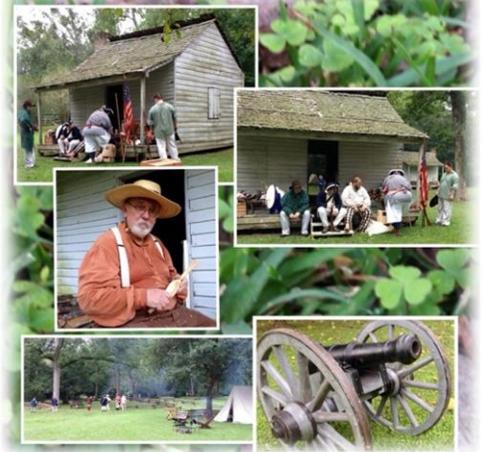
**16th Foote member William Hardage
with Tory Farmer David Flickinger**



At 2 pm, despite the rain and the 100 percent humidity, the Spanish attacked. The Spanish sent their militia forward to skirmish with the British force. The British force moved out of the fort and began pushing back the militia. Then the Spanish Regulars appeared from the woods and checked the British advance. The Spanish now outnumbered the British force and started to drive back the British. The British garrison retreated back to the fort just in time to repulse the Spanish infantry attack.

The Spanish commander understood that attacking the fort with infantry again would be costly for his army and decided to bring up his artillery and destroy the fort with cannon balls. For 15 mins, the Spanish fired their cannon into the British fort while the Spanish army surrounded the fort. The British force keeping their heads down inside the fort could not prevent this from happening. The British commander seeing his fort being slowly destroyed and with no hope of reinforcements raised his white flag and asked for terms. The Spanish commander and the British commander agreed that the regular British soldiers could leave the fort, but the loyalist militia were to return to their homes and could not fight no more for the British cause. The Fort and all its supplies now belong to "His Most Catholic Majesty King Carlos III, of Spain."

The event had over 30 reenactors there, despite the weather. The event site is very reenactor friendly and the park staff is very pro- reenactor. The Park will be hosting the 235th Anniversary of the battle next October 4-5th 2014. The 16th Regiment of Foote will return and will bring more soldiers and hopefully some EARA members too. My wife and I had a wonderful time and look forward next year. Thanks



William Hardage
16th Foote/ EARA Webmaster

**2nd Annual Leslie 'Vous
October 8-12**

Ms. Hattie and Nonose arrived Thursday morning. Thunder Bear and daughter, Possums Clan, Medicine Bears Clan had trekked there earlier. We dismounted our trusty gelding called Rialto. We set camp and visited with friends. Many others arrived post haste. A long hunter from Tennessee as well as new members (Billy and Cathey Bennett) arrived. Traders from Missouri and Oklahoma arrived with trade goods from the east and south. Natives played drums and danced every night. Skinners told stories and life experiences day and night. Town folk came to see all the hustle and bustle. The keelboat was made ready because of the heavy rain on Friday night. Nonose was told that it rained and that thunder and lightning was all around but he slept thru it. We camped in a meadow on the banks of a nearby creek. A shooting competition was held; archery, knife and hawk were practiced. There was a cooking contest held by Cori - she gave us 2 limes, strawberry kool-aid and box macaroni and cheese. There were 31 camps counted. The children played and played with some begging to go to bed but were denied by a seasoned Vous'er. A gentleman only known as Smitty gifted EARA 3 pistols, 3 Hawks, several round ball molds. He also wants to give us some rifle kits next year. As the fog rolled in @ 2:30 am Sunday, early shopping was done by anxious shoppers, scouting for bargains in the antique shops windows. Some broke camp on Sunday. Possums Clan, Ms. Hattie and Nonose stayed until Monday and enjoyed hunting for knappable material in the creek. Flint, fossils, and colored sandstone were found.

THE SHINNIN' TIMES

Mr. Hardage and I have been talking and we would like to find older copies of *The Shinnin' Times* (dating before June 2012) so they can be scanned and downloaded to the new Website (or if any previous editors happen to have them saved electronically, that would also be appreciated). If you have any copies you would like to loan us, please get them to Mr. Hardage, NoNose or Ms. Hattie (with your name on them so they can be returned), or bring them to Petit Jean (I'm planning on being out there on Thursday). I will collect them and scan them in so we can start an archive. I think it would be a wonderful resource for new members, to look at and see what we've done in the past. Thanks!!

If you know of any events scheduled for 2014, please forward them to me so we can update our calendar. And if you attend an event, please feel free to submit a short article about your experience. Some folks can't make it to as many events as they'd like, but I know I get a lot of enjoyment reading about someone's else great time (and more than a little envy that I wasn't there).

Renee Moore, Editor

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.

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. Contact Ed Williams (501-944-0736 or e-mail ed_laurine@juno.com)

JANUARY 2014

4 – Twelfth Night, Cadron Settlement Park

11 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron. Undetermined event at this time

FEBRUARY 2014

8 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron. Undetermined event at this time

MARCH 2014

8 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron. Undetermined event at this time

APRIL 2014

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

____ - Wooley Hollow Rendezvous, Wooley Hollow State Park

MAY 2014

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

JUNE 2014

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

JULY 2014

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

AUGUST 2014

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

SEPTEMBER 2014

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

OCTOBER 2014

11 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron. Undetermined event at this time

____ - 3rd Annual Leslie Rendezvous, Leslie, AR

NOVEMBER 2014

8 – 2nd Saturday at Cadron. Undetermined event at this time

27-18 – Petit Jean Voo, Petit Jean State Park

DECEMBER 2014

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

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 or bubbamoore1208@gmail.com.

"Pepper" is the password to access the online edition of the EARA Newsletter, via the EARA website (<http://www.earlyarkansas.com/>)

EARA OFFICERS AND BOARD:

Officers:

President – Glenn Cook – gc1760@yahoo.com

Vice President – Ree Walker – tomandree@yahoo.com

Secretary – Teresa Lafferty – misshattie1234@gmail.com

Treasurer – Michael Bethea – michaelbethea@msn.com

Directors:

Neil Curry, Steve Dunlap, Larry Layne, 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 or bubbamoore1208@gmail.com

Events – Teresa Lafferty – misshattie1234@gmail.com

Keelboat – Ed Williams

EARA WEBSITE

William Hardage – britishofficer@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

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
www.freeweb.com/ridgerunnercanvas*

Shinnin' Times
November 2013 – Vol. 18, #11
P.O. Box 21491
Little Rock, AR 72221-1491