

ALHA

ARKANSAS LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Volume 7, Issue 4

Summer 2013

Get Ready for the 2014 Annual Conference



Historic Washington State Park will be the host site for the next Arkansas Living History Association's annual conference and workshop. The date has been set for February 21-23, 2014. The conference committee has already started working on arrangements to make sure you have the best experience possible. Our theme is "Living History Crossroads." This conference will look at the different ways Living History can impact the teaching of history including when and where certain styles of living history are best suited to the occasion.

The theme was chosen because Washington, Arkansas is a town situated geographically at a crossroad of trails made by early travelers. We thought it appropriate to match that to the development of techniques, experiences, and decisions involved in living history presentations. To that end, we are seeking proposals for workshops, sessions, panels, and presentations. Submissions will be accepted by mail, email, or fax. All presenters are expected to register for the full meeting or the day on which they present. Contact Leita Spears at Leita.Spears@Arkansas.gov for more information and a submission form or download the submission form from the Arkansas Living History Association's website.

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www.historicwashingtonstatepark.com

Arkansas Living History Association has a New Secretary

Our former secretary Pody Gay left us and has taken a job in New York so she could be closer to her grandson. We would like to thank Pody for all of her time and hard work she gave us at ALHA as secretary and wish her the best on her new endeavor. We would also like to take this time to welcome our new secretary, Samantha Staggs McKay. Samantha worked at Historic Arkansas Museum before recently becoming a full time instructor at Pulaski Tech. We look forward to working with her in the future. If you see Samantha, tell her congratulations on joining the board and thank her for her willing spirit.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 21, 2013 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Trial by Jury Dinner

Historic Washington State Park

Justice is served and you are the jury. After enjoying an evening meal at Williams' Tavern Restaurant, guests will proceed to the 1836 Courthouse. There they will take part in a living history drama where they judge the guilt or innocence of a man accused of murder. The drama is based upon an actual 1844 trial that took place in the same courtroom. Dress casual or wear your favorite 19th-century costume. Reservations are required.

Admission: \$25 Adults, \$20, Children under 14

CONTACT: Patricia Thomas

PO Box 129, Washington, AR 71862

870-983-2684

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

September 21, 2013; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Basic Dutch Oven Cooking Workshop

Have you ever noticed how everything tastes better around a campfire? Discover the methods and secrets of successful Dutch oven cooking that early residents of Washington would have used. Dutch ovens available for sale in gift shop if you wish to purchase one after the workshop. Class limit is 10, minimum of 6, with a 36 hour cancellation deadline. Reservations required.

CONTACT: Ph: 870-983-2684

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

Admission: \$25

September 28, 2013; 10 am – 2 pm

Historic Games Day

Powhatan Historic State Park

Powhatan, Arkansas

When was the last time you played croquet, jumped a potato sack race, or played marbles? Join the staff at Powhatan Historic State Park to play these games and enjoy the day with us. In partnership with Take a Child Outside Week, the park will have booths featuring games played by all ages from the Victorian Era to today, as well as several races. Some of the games offered to play include old-fashioned sack races, croquet, games, marbles, tag and freeze tag, apple dunking, jump rope, jacks, yo-yos, checkers, horseshoes, and more. So bring your family, a picnic lunch, some lawn chairs, and spend the day enjoying a little bit of Yesteryear!

Contact: mary.buchman@arkansas.gov

Free Admission

Town in Conflict Living History Street Drama

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 we present one of many events scheduled for the upcoming months. Our first special presentation will be "[Town in Conflict "a Living History Street Drama](#)" taking place on September 14th, 21st and 28th as well as October 26th and November 2nd and 3rd 2013.

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 September, October and 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.

September 14th, 21st, 28th, October 26th and November 2nd & 3rd 2013

For more information call Historic Washington State Park at 870-983-2684 or call Patricia Thomas (870) 983-2660
patricia.thomas@arkansas.gov

HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

**RECOMMEND A
BEST LIVING
HISTORY EVENT
OR
BEST LIVING
HISTORY
CHARACTER
OF 2013**

October 5, 2013; – 9 a.m.

Confederate History Weekend

Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

History is in the air as in the days of the Civil War at Prairie Grove Battlefield. Activities during this weekend include camp life and other living history activities throughout the weekend at various times and locations. Visitors are encouraged to wander the grounds and talk with the re-enactors. Presented by volunteer re-enactors from the Prairie Grove Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) Thomas C. Hindman Camp #656.

Meeting place: Dogtrot House and Ozark Village Area
Admission: Free



October 12, 2013; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Harness and Driving Workshop

Historic Washington State Park

This course covers the basics of safe harnessing and driving mule teams. If you like hands-on learning opportunities and want to experience the fun of wagon and carriage transportation, this class is for you! Registration is required. Minimum age is 16 (accompanied by an adult). Class limited to 6, minimum of 3 participants. Advance registration required. Admission: \$50

CONTACT: 870-983-2864

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

October 19, 2013; 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Washington After Dark

Historic Washington State Park

Halloween at Historic Washington gives you a chance to indulge your imagination. After enjoying an evening meal at Williams Tavern, light your candle lanterns and accompany an interpretive guide through selected sites in Washington that have some “unexplained” happenings in their history. You can believe or not, but you’ll have a wonderful evening walk in which to ponder the possibilities! Reservations are required. Minimum of 30, maximum of 60 participants.

Williams' Tavern Restaurant

Admission: \$25 adults, \$20 children under 14

CONTACT: Ph: 870-983-2684

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

Put your articles or events in the ALHA Newsletter! Have your submissions for the Fall edition in no later than September 31, 2013

Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission Update

Newsletters will be sent out periodically to keep readers up to date on recent activities of the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission, which is housed in the Historic Preservation Program, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to a friend.

For more information on the commission’s activities, or to subscribe to the e-newsletter, visit the ACWSC web site at <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/>. To become a fan of the ACWSC on Facebook, go to <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/pages/Arkansas-Civil-War-Sesquicentennial-Commission/279474924191?ref=ts>.

To see what the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission has listed for events in Arkansas during the month of September go to, <http://www.arkansascivilwar150.com/enews/message.aspx?mid=22739>

Share Living History Interpretation

To increase the visibility of all the good work that is going on with living history interpretation ALHFAM president, Debra Reid has started the Share Living History Interpretation column in the ALHFAM newsletter. [Learn more about it.](#) This column posts about conferences, workshops, training seminars, and any other event that a living historian or interpreter would be interested in. If you do not already receive the [ALHFAM newsletter](#) you should, it is free to you. Because ALHA has an institutional membership, all of us (ALHA members) are members of ALHFAM. There are people from different organizations from all over the United States involved in this group including the ALHA communications director. So, if you are aware of something that living historians or interpreters would be interested in, send me an email to make me aware of it and I will send it on. Here is one that I would like to go to but I guess I will settle for NAI Region 6 in Guthrie, OK instead.

Nov. 6–9, 2013: **National Association for Interpretation conference**, Reno, NV:
<http://www.interpnet.com> ♦

Kerry Spears, ALHA Communications Director
ALHAcommunications@gmail.com

November 2 & 3, 2013; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Civil War Weekend

Historic Washington State Park

1874 Courthouse Visitor Center

The Civil War was one of the most trying times in our nation's history. During Civil War Weekend, visitors will walk the streets of a town touched by the hand of war. We will interpret the many conflicts of the area when Washington was Arkansas's Confederate Capitol. Reenactors from across the region will present living history demonstrations, including combat scenarios, throughout the weekend. Guided tours of the many historic homes and buildings of the town will be available, as well as as surrey rides. Contact the park for a detailed program schedule.

Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 children

Ph: 870-983-2684

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

November 9, 2013; 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Soap Workshop

Powhatan Historic State Park

Creating soap is not a difficult process – no more challenging than following a recipe for pastry and turning it into pie. Come join us in learning the art of making soap with the cold-process method. Participants will receive a booklet with soap recipes, several bars of home-made soap, and the knowledge of how to become squeaky clean! The registration fee covers the cost of materials. Please bring protective clothing, as some materials used are caustic and can burn. For more information, or to register, contact the park at

Ph: 870-878-6765 or email powhatan@arkansas.com.

Registration Fee: \$20

November 16, 2013; 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Dutch Oven Style--Holiday Sweets & Treats

Historic Washington State Park

The upcoming holidays present an opportunity for you to show off your outdoor cooking skills. Sugar cookies, gingerbread, and other holiday favorites can all be made with ease in a Dutch oven. This half-day workshop will be devoted to advanced recipes, so beginners are encouraged to take the basic skills class first. Class limit is 10. Reservations required.

Admission: \$25

CONTACT: Ph: 870-983-2684

HistoricWashington@arkansas.com

Special Letter to all Members of Arkansas Living History Association!

To AR Living History Ass'n members:

We are currently in the process of working on a 30-min program showcasing plantation homes in Arkansas. Primarily we're focusing on those which are accessible to the public, so that our viewers can enjoy them as well.

Some type of reenactment portraying the plantation era from the mid-late 1800's would add tremendously to this program.

"Doorways to the Ole South" is the working title...and we were envisioning maybe some sort of reenactment setting on the inside..as the doorway comes open....and/or on the outside.

The Elms Plantation is available for our use on Monday Sept 9...or, if that day won't work, another day that week could be arranged. (late aft time frame for better light) - unless of course the entire reenactment is inside.

Due credit will be given to the Arkansas Living History Association in the program, along with mileage reimbursement round trip.

The other "reenactment" we have in mind dealing with the time period...is a "southern belle ghost" affect at the Lakeport Plantation, since it is antebellum...with the figure briefly walking up the stairs to the door. (This we might also be able to shoot during the week of the 9th)

We hope this is something we can all work out within the time we have between now and then.

Thank you all for your consideration on this, and hopefully your involvement as well! We appreciate it!!

Chuck Dovish
AETN-PBS
501-682-0322

Arkansas Living History Association 2013 Membership Registration

Name: _____
Institution: _____
Position: _____
Street: _____
City, State, ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
FAX: _____ Web site: _____

Type of Membership:

___ **Individual: \$12** Any adult, 18 yrs of age or older. The member shall have full voting privileges in the ALHA as a general member.

___ **Institutional: \$50** This includes 5 members with full voting privileges. \$10 per additional member over the first 5.
_____ Number of Additional Members X \$10 = _____

Please list the 5 members to receive the newsletter and their email addresses:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Help us learn more about you.

Periods of Interest: _____

Areas of Interest: _____

What you would like to receive from ALHA: (this will help us develop training opportunities, meetings, workshops, etc.)

Please make Checks Payable to: ALHA

Please send Registration along with Payment to:

Pody Gay, ALHA Secretary
Shiloh Museum of Ozark History
118 West Johnson Avenue
Springdale, AR 72764

Visit us at <http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.org> and find us on [Facebook](#)