

## Cash Project Continues!

**Elista Istre**

Jonesboro, Arkansas

On October 5, several artists including Willie Nelson, Dierks Bentley, the Civil Wars, and Rosanne Cash gathered at the Convocation Center in Jonesboro, Arkansas, to pay tribute to the “Man in Black” at the second annual Johnny Cash Music Festival. The nearly sold-out benefit concert raised over \$200,000 that will go towards the restoration of Cash’s hometown of Dyess, Arkansas. Yet as Rosanne explained, “It’s not just about restoring the house, but also about establishing a heritage site in Arkansas and providing scholarships for kids to go to Arkansas State University.” She added, “This part of the country needs the attention, frankly. I think the musical importance of this area is not understood by a lot of Americans. It’s time to shine a light on it.”

During the concert, before and after photographs of Cash’s restored boyhood home were projected on large screens as well as video



*Exterior of the restored Cash home in Dyess, Arkansas.*

footage of Cash’s 1968 visit to Dyess. Rosanne was just a twelve year old child when she accompanied her father on that trip. She has returned to Dyess several times since then and has been amazed by the restoration of her father’s hometown. “When I saw the pictures yesterday, I cried,” she told reporters. “I was not hopeful, truthfully, when I saw the state it [the house] was in when they [Arkansas State University] bought it. I thought how are they going to do this? It was almost falling to the ground.”

The day after the concert, Joanne Cash-Yates and Tommy Cash, Johnny’s only surviving siblings, traveled to Dyess to witness the progress. As Joanne explained, “You know, they say you can’t go home again, but me and Tommy are.” Since Joanne and Tommy grew up in the home, their memories and descriptions of the house, as well as family photographs they have shared, have all contributed significantly to ASU’s ability to accurately restore the simple New Deal-era structure. As they walked from room to room, Joanne and Tommy expressed their overwhelming gratitude to ASU for preserving such an important part of their

### Table of Contents

- 2 Education Opportunity
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 4 Regional Workshops
- 5 2013 Conference Announcement
- 5 ALHA Officers

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **January 12, 2013; 6pm—9pm**

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:

PO Box 129, Washington, AR 71862

870-983-2684

[historicwashington@arkansas.com](mailto:historicwashington@arkansas.com)

### **January 19, 2013; 9am—2 pm**

Beginner's Knitting Workshop

Powhatan Historic State Park

*Have you always admired your grandmother's knitted scarves, hats, and sweaters, but never thought you could recreate them? You can, and it's easier than you might think! Join us to learn the basic stitches you'll need to get started making handmade clothing, gifts, and household items. Tools and materials are provided, and participants are given a project to take home. Please bring a sack lunch.*

*Admission: \$15/person*

CONTACT:

Mary Buchman

PO Box 93, Powhatan, AR 72458

870-878-6765

[powhatan@arkansas.com](mailto:powhatan@arkansas.com)

### **January 26, 2013**

5th Annual Fort Smith History Conference

"Women of the Southwest Frontier: From Settlement to Suffrage"

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith

*The 5th Annual Fort Smith History Conference to be held January 26, 2013 at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith is an interpretive and scholarly program which will highlight the significance of women to the region.*

*Admission: \$30 per person*

CONTACT:

Martha Siler

479-783-3000

[martha.siler@uafs.edu](mailto:martha.siler@uafs.edu)

## **Educational Opportunity**

The 5th Annual Fort Smith History Conference to be held January 26, 2013 at the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith is an interpretive and scholarly program which will highlight the significance of women to the region.

Papers, displays, and living history presentations on topics, which may include, the contribution of women, their life ways, contact and interaction with others on the frontier, the landscape, slavery, war, legislation, funeral customs, dress, suffrage, employment, childbirth and rearing, teacher and classroom directed content, and other subjects connected to women on the Arkansas frontier and living in Indian Territory will be considered.

The conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Reynolds Room at the UA Fort Smith campus in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Meals will be provided with the registration fee of \$30.

An evening of entertainment featuring Josh Williams with an interactive opportunity to learn and observe historic ballroom dance will follow the evening meal.

Discounts will be available for senior citizens and students.

For more information contact

[martha.siler@uafs.edu](mailto:martha.siler@uafs.edu) or

[leita.spears@arkansas.gov](mailto:leita.spears@arkansas.gov).

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!**

**RECOMMEND A  
BEST LIVING HISTORY  
EVENT  
OR  
BEST LIVING HISTORY  
CHARACTER  
OF 2012**

**SEND TO BARBARA WARD  
[BARBARA@ARKANSASHERITAGE.ORG](mailto:BARBARA@ARKANSASHERITAGE.ORG)  
DUE FEBRUARY 1, 2013**

**February 16, 2013; 9am – 2pm**

Potato Basket Weaving Workshop  
Powhatan Historic State Park

*There is something about weaving a basket that takes you back to a simpler time and place. With today's busy lifestyle, we all need to find a relaxing and enjoyable hobby. Join us at Powhatan Historic State Park and learn to weave a Potato basket. This basket has a rich history that has traveled from the East coast across Tennessee with the settlers of Arkansas.*

*Admission: \$30/person*

**CONTACT:**

Mary Buchman

PO Box 93, Powhatan, AR 72458

870-878-6765

[powhatan@arkansas.com](mailto:powhatan@arkansas.com)

**February 16, 2013, 6:30pm – 9pm**

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Ball

Pocahontas, Arkansas

*This event will be hosted by Judy Downs and the Northeast Arkansas Heritage Dancers. The event will feature the Pilot Knob Mountain Boys band. The ball will be held at the Black River Development Center on the campus of Black River Technical College in Pocahontas. Period dress of the 1800's or union or confederate uniforms or today's uniforms but are not a requirement, however they period dress would be appreciated as we attempt to create a scene from the past.*

*Admission: \$8 per person*

**CONTACT:**

870-892-1960

[della\\_anderson@rocketmail.com](mailto:della_anderson@rocketmail.com)

**February 16 – 17, 2013**

Frontier Days at the Hill of the Five Trails  
Historic Washington State Park

*The frontier spirit lives on the Southwest Trail. Walk through a frontier encampment and learn about survival skills used by Arkansas settlers. Watch reenactors demonstrate tomahawk throwing, use of muzzleloading rifles, and more! Admission to the camp is free. Tours of the park are available at regular price.*

*Admission: Admission to the camp is free. Tours of the park are available at regular price.*

**CONTACT:**

Billy Nations

PO Box 129, Washington, AR 71862

870-983-2860

[Billy.nations@arkansas.gov](mailto:Billy.nations@arkansas.gov)

---

---

*“Cash” from page 1*

---

---

family's heritage.

Restoration on the Cash home's exterior is now finished, but the work in Dyess is far from complete. As funds continue to come in through private donations, fundraising efforts, and grants, plans include rebuilding the Theater and transforming that structure into a visitor center and live music venue. The Administration Building will feature offices for Dyess' current mayor and city council members, as well as a permanent exhibit that tells the story of Dyess Colony and the Cash family's connection to the WPA community. The master plan also calls for rebuilding the Commissary and opening it as a gift shop that features Cash memorabilia, as well as local arts and crafts items.

The Grand Opening of *Historic Dyess Colony: Boyhood Hometown of Johnny Cash* is scheduled for September 2013, on a day near the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cash's passing. In order to meet this deadline, ASU is actively seeking donations to help furnish the interior of the home. Everyday objects typical of a 1930s/1940s farmhouse such as clothing items, kitchen utensils, and farm implements are needed. Larger items like metal bed frames, chairs, a sofa, and a kitchen table are also needed.

If you or someone you know has items you think might help bring the Cash home back to life, or if you are interested in assisting in any way with this restoration project, please contact Dr. Ruth Hawkins at Arkansas State University. She can be reached at [rhawkins@astate.edu](mailto:rhawkins@astate.edu).



*2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Johnny Cash Music Festival in Jonesboro, Arkansas.*



## February 16 – 17, 2013

Introduction to Forging Workshop  
Historic Washington State Park

*Join the park smiths at the James Black Forge, home of the Bowie Knife, for a hands-on class covering the basic operations of blacksmithing. Participants will make simple art objects and more functional objects with the beauty that only hand forging can give iron and steel! Materials and tools are supplied. The minimum age is 16 and the class is limited to six.*

*Admission: \$50*

CONTACT:

Billy Nations

PO Box 129, Washington, AR 71862

870-983-2860

[Billy.nations@arkansas.gov](mailto:Billy.nations@arkansas.gov)

## February 21-24, 2013

Coalition of Historical Trekkers  
Fort Gibson, Oklahoma

*The Coalition Of Historical Trekkers, a national group of living historians, spanning the time line of 1600 - 1860, will have a winter gathering at Fort Gibson Oklahoma in February 21 - 24 2013, for the South Central Region. There will be seminars, games, and lots of fellowship. There is a minimal charge to camp. The C.O.H.T. will also have their National Gathering at Fort Osage, Sibley Missouri in April 17- 21 2013, again there will be a minimal charge.*

CONTACT:

Billy "Skunk" Ferguson

[skunkokla@hotmail.com](mailto:skunkokla@hotmail.com)

## March 1-2, 2013, 7:30pm – 9pm

Shakespeare in the Park  
Historic Washington State Park

*Enjoy two evening performances by the American Shakespeare Center of Staunton, Virginia. On Friday, March 1 enjoy a performance of "Love's Labour's Lost" and on Saturday, March 2 enjoy "Twelfth Night." Each performance begins at 7:30 p.m. with a pre-show performance at 7 p.m. in the 1940 WPA Gym. Daytime workshops will be provided on Saturday, March 2 covering topics of how to perform Shakespeare on the modern stage. Workshop admission is \$5 per person. Call ahead to reserve tickets. Tickets may be picked up at the 1874 Courthouse Visitor Center. Admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children (ages 6 - 12)*

CONTACT:

Billy Nations

PO Box 129, Washington, AR 71862

870-983-2860

[Billy.nations@arkansas.gov](mailto:Billy.nations@arkansas.gov)

**Put your event or program in the ALHA Calendar. Send your Spring Event submissions for the Winter newsletter by February 15.**

# Regional Workshops

## ALHA Living History Apprentice Training

January 30-31, 5-8 pm

Old State House Museum

A full-day workshop covering the basic of Living History 101: creating a character, basic performance skills, research, dealing with special problems in living history, event planning basics, and other topics. Certification guidelines can be downloaded from the Arkansas Living History Association website:

[http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/!Userfiles/downloads/ALHA\\_Certification.doc](http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/!Userfiles/downloads/ALHA_Certification.doc)

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Beverages

February 18, 9 am-5 pm

Historic Arkansas Museum

Ryan Beckman of Old Sturbridge Village will lead a workshop on how to create 19th century beverages. She will also discuss the temperance movement and how it shaped 19th century foodways and American food and beverages to this very day.

For more information contact:

Ian Beard, District 2 Representative

Old State House Museum

300 West Markham St.

Little Rock, AR 72201

(501) 324-8642

[ian@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:ian@arkansasheritage.org)

## ALHA Positions to Elect!

**President  
Secretary  
Communications Director  
District 2 & 4 Reps**

*Merry  
Christmas*



*Happy New  
Year*



*To all Members*

*From  
The Arkansas Living History  
Association Board*

*Sign Up Today!!!*

*ALHA Conference*

*Helena, AR*

*Deadline:*

*March 1-3, 2013*

*See conference schedule @*

*[www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/downloads](http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.com/downloads)*

*Current ALHA Membership: 126*

*Tell more people about ALHA!!!*

## JOIN THE ALHA FACEBOOK PAGE!



**SHARE PICTURES  
AND EVENTS WITH  
OTHER LIVING  
HISTORIANS IN THE  
STATE**

**POST YOUR OWN PICTURES OF  
THE CONFERENCE ON  
FACEBOOK AND BECOME A  
FRIEND!!!**

## 2011 ALHA Officers

President	Kristyn Watts <a href="mailto:kristyn.watts@arkansas.gov">kristyn.watts@arkansas.gov</a>
Vice President	Barbara Ward <a href="mailto:barbara@arkansasheritage.org">barbara@arkansasheritage.org</a>
Secretary	Pody Gay <a href="mailto:pgay@springdalear.gov">pgay@springdalear.gov</a>
Treasure	Tess Kidd <a href="mailto:tesstucker@aol.com">tesstucker@aol.com</a>
Comm. Dir.	Josh Williams <a href="mailto:josh.williams@arkansas.gov">josh.williams@arkansas.gov</a>

### District Representatives

District 1	Ben Swadley <a href="mailto:ben.swadley@arkansas.gov">ben.swadley@arkansas.gov</a>
District 2	Ian Beard <a href="mailto:ian@arkansasheritage.org">ian@arkansasheritage.org</a>
District 3	Steve Dunlap <a href="mailto:sedunlap@agfc.state.ar.us">sedunlap@agfc.state.ar.us</a>
District 4	Leita Spears <a href="mailto:leita.spears@arkansas.gov">leita.spears@arkansas.gov</a>

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