
ALHA

ARKANSAS LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Volume 4, Issue 2

Winter 2010

2010 Conference Huge Success!

Ian Beard

ALHA President

What a conference! Pocahontas, Powhatan, and Davidsonville rolled out the red carpet for ALHA in what is easily our best conference yet. With 80 people registered, and many more coming just for the ALHA ball, we packed courthouses, classrooms, and the conference hotel with an energized group of living historians from across the state and region.

This year we combined the best elements of our past two conferences at DeGray Lake and Fort Smith into what seems to be a very popular package. From your past evaluations we have learned that you want historical settings and site visits as part of the conference, a variety of session topics, and hands-on workshop opportunities. I believe we were able to offer all of this and more, and this year's conference evaluations have been very positive.

2010 also saw some new features on the conference program. The Friday night welcome reception was far more successful than we originally predicted, and conference attendees brought a wide variety of fine foods to share as well as goods to sell. The cooking workshop showed off their skills by preparing a fine pork loin and a couple of other dishes for the reception. My initial fears of running out of



Attendees of the ALHA Conference 2010

food quickly evaporated, and we were still finishing off the ham at breakfast the next morning. Some of my personal favorites were the smoked oyster crackers, homemade chow chow, Cane Hill gingerbread, fresh baked bread, and, of course, the pork! There were so many other dishes that were consumed before I had a chance to try them; I'm still lamenting not getting a piece of the vinegar pie!

We saw a return of the site visit that was so popular in Fort Smith. Heather Hoey and Kathy Cande gave an excellent tour of the Davidsonville town site and the amazing artifacts recovered there through archeology. Kristyn Watts was able to show off the courthouse and jail at Powhatan in its candlelit state, adding to the historic atmosphere of the evening.

And what an evening it was. Holding the business meeting at lunch freed up all of Saturday night for celebration. The historic Powhatan courtroom was a great setting for our banquet, and the food was very pleasing. After dinner we cleared the tables away and were joined by the Pocahontas Heritage Dancers for a grand ball! Josh Williams did a fine job calling the dance, while Lark in the Morning (or at least most of it) provided a fantastic soundtrack to the evening.

Saturday night also featured another conference first: a Silent Auction. Danielle Russell worked tirelessly to gather local donations to be

Table of Contents

- 2 Upcoming ALHA Workshops
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 4 Who's Who!
- 6 Available Online Resource!
- 6 Glimpses of the Past!
- 7 Membership Application
- 7 Classifieds

See "Conference" on page 3

ALHA 1

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 16-18, 2010

Historic Powhatan School of the Lady
Historic Powhatan State Park

The Historic Powhatan School of the Lady is a school for ladies interested in reenacting the mid-19th century. Learn all aspects of life that pertain to women including etiquette, sewing techniques, cooking, history, music, personal hygiene and more. The school emphasizes the accurate portrayal of these aspects during a living history encampment. Our goals include not only the sharing of knowledge between ladies, but the formation of friendships by socializing in a near-total immersion environment. This school helps the novices and the seasoned "veterans" to expand and improve their impressions. There is always room for improvement for each and everyone! Isn't that part of the fun? The registration fee includes 7 meals, High Tea, supplies for all projects, notebook of materials (\$25 of this fee is non-refundable).

Admission: \$75

CONTACT:

*PO Box 93, Powhatan, Arkansas 72458
870-878-6765
powhatan@arkansas.com*

April 17, 2010; 6 pm – 9 pm

Civil War Supper
Historic Washington State Park

Catch a glimpse of a time when brother fought against brother! Visitors will be served a meal Civil War style, and enjoy the fare of the common soldier, who may eat well one day and go without the next. After the meal visitors will participate as refugees from Camden in 1864 as they visit town sites and a Confederate picket line. You never know what might happen on this tour. The cost is \$25 per adult, \$20 for children under 14. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (870) 983-2684.

CONTACT:

*PO Box 129, Washington, Arkansas 71862
870-983-2684
historicwashington@arkansas.com
historicwashingtonstatepark.com*

Upcoming ALHA Workshops

ALHA Apprentice Certification Workshop

Saturday, July 31, 2010

9:00am to 5:00 pm

Shiloh Museum of Ozark History

Springdale, AR

Cost \$15

Anyone interested in learning about living history interpretation, developing presentations, or receiving the ALHA Apprentice certification, join us for a day of fun. The workshop will take place from 9 to 5 and lunch will be provided. The cost for the workshop is \$15. The presenters are Doug Kidd, Billy Nations, Shiloh Museum staff, and others. Call or email Pody Gay at the Shiloh Museum to register, 479-750-8165 or pgay@springdalear.gov. You must complete the entire day, or all three of the first level components, to be certified as an Apprentice by ALHA.

- **Making History Come Alive: Developing a First Person Presentation**

This in-depth workshop will cover the basic skills needed to do effective living history interpretation.

- **Special Problems in Living History**

How to handle "problem" visitors, safety issues, working with the public, etc.

- **Research for Living Historians**

How to conduct good academic research to support programs and how to write an annotated bibliography.

**JOIN THE NEW ALHA
FACEBOOK PAGE!**



**SEE PICTURES AND POSTS
FROM
OTHER ALHA EVENTS &
ACTIVITIES!**

April 28, 2010; 12 pm – 1 pm

Lunch Lecture
Old State House Museum

Join the Old State House for a lunch lecture with Kathy Cande of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. Kathy gave a fantastic tour of Davidsonville Historic State Park for the 2010 ALHA Annual Conference, and she will be sharing what archeology has revealed about life in Arkansas in the early 1800's. Drinks will be provided by you're responsible for bringing your own lunch. Admission: Free.

CONTACT:

Ian Beard

300 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201

501-324-8642

ian@arkansasheritage.org

www.oldstatehouse.com

May 1, 2010; 6 pm – 9 pm

"Trial by Jury" Dinner
Historic Washington State Park

After enjoying an evening meal at Williams Tavern Restaurant, guests will proceed to the 1836 Courthouse for an interactive living history drama that places them in a position to judge the guilt or innocence of a man accused of murder. The drama is based upon an actual trial that took place in the courthouse in 1844. Dress casual or wear your favorite 19th-century costume. Reservations are required.

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

CONTACT:

PO Box 129, Washington, Arkansas

870-983-2684

historicwashington@arkansas.com

historicwashingtonstatepark.com

May 6-7, 2010; 9 am – 2 pm

Bandages, Bandits, and Bars School Day
Old State House Museum

The Old State House will feature living history programming in conjunction with our Badges, Bandits, and Bars exhibit on Arkansas law and justice. Multiple living history characters will bring to life some of the personalities found on both sides of the law across Arkansas history. This event is for scheduled groups only, and will take 90 minutes for each group to complete. Admission: Free.

"Conference" from page 1

auctioned off with those brought by ALHA members. A few bidding wars got pretty heated, and even some of the local folks that came just for the dance carried off some auction items. Danielle's efforts in soliciting donations and organizing the silent auction raised \$594 for ALHA!



Attendees of the 2010 Conference enjoy a tour of Davidsonville Historic State Park by the regional archeologist, Kathy Cande

We had a great line up of concurrent sessions this year, and thanks is due to all the people who took the time to present. I learned a great deal about interpreting African-American history in Arkansas; bears, beavers, and bison; historic preservation; great big knives and the people who wield them; steamboats; and much, much more. I also learned never to schedule competing sessions when there are live chickens involved.

By the time the last session was over, everyone was pretty beat. Still, through the help of all our great members we were able to break down all the session rooms in a matter of minutes and head off to home or lunch. At the end of the conference ALHA had managed a small but happy profit, an album full of great pictures, and a plethora of new friends and contacts that will surely strengthen living history wherever ALHA members go. As I said in the beginning, there is no other way to describe the 2010 ALHA conference than as a huge success!

SAVE THE DATE!

**SEALHFAM & ALHA
CONFERENCE**

**FEBRUARY 25-27, 2011
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

CONTACT:

Ian Beard
300 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-8642
ian@arkansasheritage.org
www.oldstatehouse.com

May 13-15, 2010, 10 am – 2 pm

Great Arkansas Medicine Show and Traveling
Through Rural Arkansas
Plantation Agricultural Museum

Living History program at Plantation Agricultural
Museum near Scott, Arkansas. Programs are needed
to fill stations for the event. Anyone that is able to
provide a living history program in keeping with the
above theme of medicine shows is welcomed to
participate. For more information contact Linda
Goza.

CONTACT:

Linda Goza
PO Box 129, Washington, Arkansas
501-961-1409
linda.goza@arkansas.gov
www.arkansasstateparks.com/plantationagriculturemuseum

May 15, 2010

Armed Forces Day at Washington
Historic Washington State Park

The service and sacrifice of soldiers is timeless. This
special day is set aside to remember the soldiers who
fought in wars which have impacted our country
since its founding. There will be exhibits and first
person living history attractions related to the
Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Texas Revolution,
Mexican War, Civil War, Indian Wars, and World
Wars I and II. Representatives of the military
currently will also be on hand. Help us to honor
those that have fought for our freedom.

CONTACT:

PO Box 129, Washington, Arkansas
870-983-2684
historicwashington@arkansas.com
historicwashingtonstatepark.com

May 22, 2010; 10 am – 2 pm

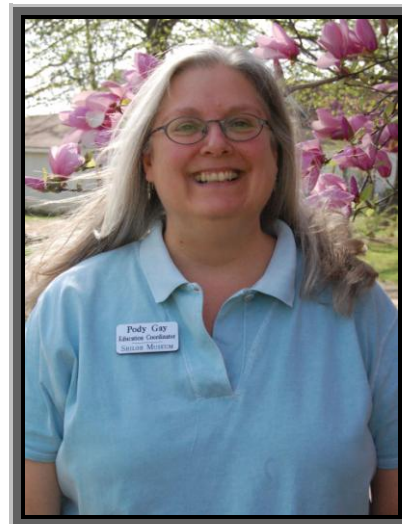
Frog Bayou Founders Day
Lake Fort Smith State Park

Pioneers lived in ways that we cannot imagine.
Explore techniques and activities that were utilized in

Who's Who!!!

PODY GAY **DISTRICT 3 REPRESENTATIVE**

Pody Gay was recently elected the
representative of District 3 to the Arkansas Living
History Association board. District 3 encompasses
the northwest corner of the state of Arkansas. She is
the Education Coordinator at Shiloh Museum of
Ozark History in Springdale.



Pody Gay became fascinated with living
history five years ago when she became the education
coordinator at the Shiloh Museum of Ozark History
in Springdale. She grew up in Little Rock but has
deep roots in the Ozarks as her mother was a fifth-
generation Ozarker from West Fork. Pody earned
her BS in recreation and park administration from the
University of Missouri in Columbia and worked as a
park interpreter in Arkansas, Missouri, and New
York.

She has more than 25 years of experience in
coordinating education programs, managing
volunteers, and running nonprofit organizations in
New Orleans, Seattle, and Northwest Arkansas. She
has a son and daughter who are both graduating from
college in May and Pody will complete her Masters
Degree in Educational Technology in December.

Look Next Time to Meet **Another ALHA Officer!**

the 1800's during the time of early settlement here on the Frog Bayou. Living History Demonstrators wanted. Admission: Free

CONTACT:

Christina Welch
15458 Shepherd Springs Road, Mountainburg, AR 72946
479-369-2469
Christina.welch@arkansas.gov

May 26, 2010; 12 pm – 1 pm

Arkansas Heritage Month Lunch Lecture
Old State House Museum

May's lecture will follow this year's Arkansas Heritage Month theme of rural life and small towns. Staff of the Southern Tenant Farmer's Museum in Tyronza, AR, will discuss tenant farming and agricultural labor movements in the Mississippi River Delta. Admission: Free.

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300 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201
501-324-8642
ian@arkansasheritage.org
www.oldstatehouse.com

June 20-24, 2010

ALHFAM Annual Meeting and Conference
Old Sturbridge Village

The Association of Living History, Farm, and Agriculture Museums returns to its roots even as we look to the future. This international gathering will explore how the roots and branches of living history can better feed the minds of our public, making earlier times relevant in the 21st century, and discuss what cultivation is needed to ensure a healthy future for the past. Conference information is available at www.alhfam.org.

CONTACT:

Tom Kelleher
1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-0337
tkelleher@osv.org
www.alhfam.org

Put your event or program in the ALHA Calendar. Send your Summer Event submissions for the Spring newsletter by

May 1.

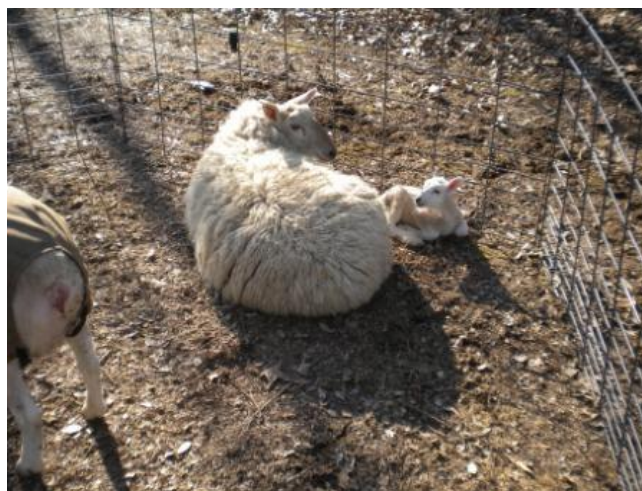
2010 CONFERENCE PICTURES



Pody Gay and Ian Beard see who will give the highest bid during the Silent Auction



Attendees at the ALHA 2010 Ball

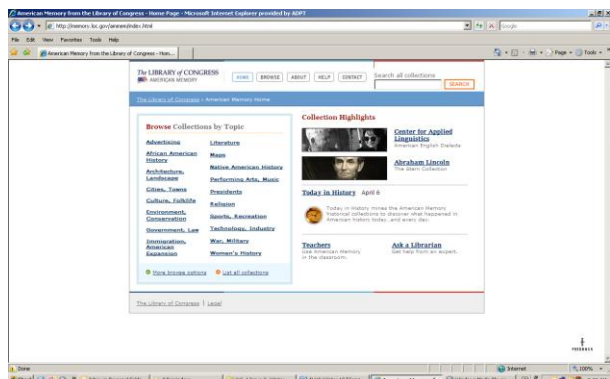


Newly born lamb arrived just in time for the Caring for Sheep workshop

Available Online Resources!

Trying to find a particular book about a living history character you want to develop? Trying to find a period book on games of the early 19th century? There are several online resources available to you for FREE on the internet to help you with these problems.

One of these is the American Memory Project of the Library of Congress. The American Memory Project has focus on digitizing several of the different collection of the Library of Congress. This includes maps, books on any number of topics from cooking to dancing, and sheets of music. The items range over a period of at least 500 years to about 1950. For more information visit <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>.



Worldcat.org Home Page

Glimpses of the Past!

The following is a poem or song that was published in the Washington Telegraph of Washington, Arkansas. For those interested in doing period poetry with your living history program, look at period newspapers for possible ideas!

THE MINSTREL OF OUACHITA

Oh! Heard ye at nightfall, when quietness fell
On hamlet and palace, on dingle and ell,
The voice of some Minstrel, in varied strains,
Rise sweetly and softly o'er woodland and plains?

Ah! Yes as the magic of moonlight and shade,
Refiningly pleasing, began to pervade
The forest-clad vallies and deep-shaded glen,
And solitude reigned in the bosoms of men.

The low dreamy cadence of minstrelsy stole
In metrical numbers deep into the soul,
Then mournfully sinking, soon melted away,
Like tinges of glory as closes the day.

Oh! Sweet was the music that fell from her tongue,
And mystic the magic that round it there hung,
Fore ere she concluded her beautiful lay,
A tear from its fountain would secretly stray.

Ah! Mellow and mournful and sad was the song
She measured so strangely, yet sweetly along;
And as it was uttered with feeling and art,
It found a deep welcome home—home in the heart.

Its tones were as soft as the sigh of the sea
That tranquilly murmurs along the sand lea;
And low as the whisper of mutual love
When Cynthia pours richly her light from above.

At times into volume its measures would roll,
In numbers that startle and kindle the soul;
Then faint as the echo of virginal sigh,
Would sink into murmurs to mellow and die.

Oh! Like the first vision of infantile years,
And cherished affections that childhood endears,
Will sonnet and minstrel and melody find
A home in the heart and throne in the mind.

I. C. T.

*~Washington Telegraph, November 27, 1844
Washington, Arkansas*

2010 ALHA Officers

President	Ian Beard ian@arkansasheritage.org
Vice President	Barbara Ward barbara@arkansasheritage.org
Secretary	Kristyn Watts kristyn.watts@arkansas.gov
Treasure	Debra Browning histreenactors@wmconnect.com
Comm. Dir.	Josh Williams josh.williams@arkansas.gov

District Representatives

District 1	Danielle Russell dmrnum3@yahoo.com
District 2	Ben Swadley ben.swadley@arkansas.gov
District 3	Pody Gay pgay@springdalear.gov
District 4	Billy Nations billy.nations@arkansas.gov

Arkansas Living History Association 2010 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 = _____

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:

Kristyn Watts, Secretary
PO Box 93
Powhatan. AR 72458

Cut along line

Classified ads

6th Infantry Regimental Music
Field Musicians & Bandsmen Wanted
www.6infantry.com

Miss Ellie Presents....
Speaking of Ladies
<http://speakingofladies.com/>

Jolliff Mercantile
Custom Goods
www.geocities.com/jolliffmercantile

New Hats Available
Del Warren of James County Mercantile has informed us that he has gotten a new shipment of Mexican War military hats. Contact Jean at 816-781-9473 for further information
