



**ARKANSAS  
LIVING HISTORY  
ASSOCIATION**

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# **Transporting Living History to New Destinations**

**February 10 – 12, 2023**  
Paragould Community Center  
Paragould, Arkansas

**Hosted by**  
Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage  
and Tourism

# Conference Supporters



## Keynote Speaker: Peter Friesen



Peter Friesen is the Director of Education at Historic St. Mary's City in St. Mary's City, Maryland.

He has a Bachelor's and Masters' from New Mexico State University. During his senior year at NMSU Peter decided to focus on a career in living history. He took an internship at Valley Forge National Historic Park. After graduating, Peter decided to attend graduate school and focus on public history. While there he took part in a class called Time Traveling where he learned about first person interpretation. His degree plan included a research paper. His research paper titled Hemp, History and Museums, looked at how marijuana laws have affected public perception of hemp and how it is interpreted in living history museums. This led Peter to Colonial Williamsburg where he worked for two years finishing his research and completing a master's degree. During this time, he started to look for a living history museum that also incorporated agriculture, which is how he came to be at HSMC. After his first year at HSMC, he received the New Professional Travel Award for the National Council of Public History's annual conference in Louisville, KY where he presented his research on Hemp and Museums. Peter has continued his agricultural research to include tobacco, apples, livestock, and other aspects colonial farming life. He also serves on the museum studies steering committee at St. Mary's College of Maryland as well as teaching museums studies.

**This project is supported in part by a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.**

## **Session and workshop location:**

Paragould Community Center

3404 Linwood Drive

Paragould, AR 72450

<https://www.cityofparagould.com/312/Community-Center>

# **Lodging and Transportation**

## **Lodging Information**

Hampton Inn Paragould

3810 Linwood Drive

Paragould, AR 72450

(870) 565-1010

\$99 a night with breakfast, parking and Wi-Fi included.  
Reservations can be made online or by calling the hotel.

[https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/pgrfdhx-hampton-paragould/?SEO\\_id=GMB-AMER-HX-PGRFDHX&y\\_source=1\\_MzgxMDkwNi03MTUtbG9jYXRpb24ud2Vic2l0ZQ%3D%3D](https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/pgrfdhx-hampton-paragould/?SEO_id=GMB-AMER-HX-PGRFDHX&y_source=1_MzgxMDkwNi03MTUtbG9jYXRpb24ud2Vic2l0ZQ%3D%3D)

**Reservation must be made by January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

## **Transportation**

Carpooling is encouraged for sessions, and the field trip to Powhatan State park.

## **Direction to Powhatan State Park from Paragould Community Center:**

1. Turn right onto Linwood Drive (heading south).
2. Turn right onto Business 412.
3. Turn left onto U.S. Highway 412 West.
4. Stay on 412 when it merges with Highway 63.
5. Turn right onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Street towards Highway 25, following signs for Powhatan Courthouse.
6. Turn right onto Highway 25.
7. Following Highway 25 to Powhatan State Park.

# Auction Information

Help support the ALHA fellowship program with your donation to the annual auction! We will feature both our traditional silent auction and a live auction. This is a great opportunity to promote your business or site, find new homes for old living history gear, or just make some room on your bookshelf at home. You can drop your item off at the conference registration table and all donations are tax deductible.

## CASH OR CHECK ONLY FOR AUCTION PAYMENTS

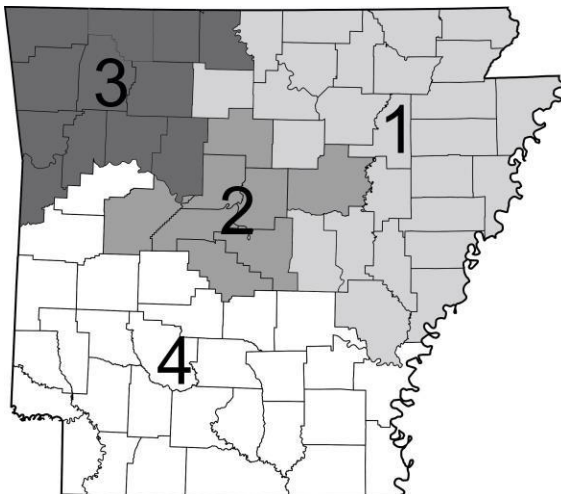
**Have more questions about your region? Contact your district representative.**

District 1: Currently open

District 2: Daniel Cockrell, Old State House Museum  
Daniel.Cockrell@arkansas.gov

District 3: David Fowler, Hunter's Home  
Dfowler@okhistory.org

District 4: Holly Ballard, Historic Washington State Park  
holly.ballard@arkansas.gov



## **Apprentice, Journeyman, and Master Certifications**

The Arkansas Living History Association encourages high standards for living history performances. The ALHA certification process was designed to recognize members' efforts and to assist educators, parks and museum staff, living history event sponsors, and others in identifying quality living historians that are historically/factually accurate and skilled in public performance designed to educate the public.

Interested persons can visit the ALHA website to download requirements for the certification process:  
<https://arkansaslivinghistory.com/Downloads>.

Anyone wanting to begin or continue the process may sign up for the certification training workshops held on Friday, February 10. See the Workshops page on the website. Any member of the Arkansas Living History Association who desires to be certified as a journeyman level in a first or third-person living history performance will submit an application packet as posted on the website. Master and Journeyman presentations will take place Friday, February 10, from 5:30–8:30 p.m.

For more information, or to sign up for the Journeyman and Master certification, contact Josh Williams: [josh.williams@arkansas.gov](mailto:josh.williams@arkansas.gov).

## Conference at a Glance

### **Friday, February 10**

### **Paragould Community Center**

8:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.	All Day Workshops
1:00–4:00 p.m.	Afternoon Half Day Workshops
5:30–8:30 p.m.	Opening Reception & Performances for ALHA Certification
9:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room

### **Saturday, February 11**

### **Paragould Community Center**

8:00 a.m.	Registration Table & Silent Auction Item Drop off
8:30–11:20 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions
11:30–12:30 p.m.	Lunch and Business Meeting
1:30–4:00 p.m.	Field Trip – Powhatan State Park
6:00–6:30 p.m.	Silent Auction Preview and District Meetings
6:30–7:30 p.m.	Dinner and Keynote
7:30–9:00 p.m.	Live Auction
Following Auction	Hospitality Room

### **Sunday, February 12**

### **Paragould Community Center**

8:30 a.m.	Registration
9:00–10:50 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions

# Friday, February 10

## Workshops

Workshops will be held at Paragould Community Center. Lunch is included for the Apprentice Workshop.

**All Day**  
**9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**

### **Apprentice Workshop (Lunch Included)**

Cost: \$10

Full-day workshops covering the basics 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.

*ALHA Certification Board*

**Half Day Afternoon**  
**1:00–4:00 p.m.**

### **The Victorian Art of Hairwork**

Cost: \$10    Limit: 10

Brief history of hair work, set-up and tutorial, crafting individual hair work pieces, creation of final product, discussion and questions.

*Amy Armstrong, Living History Coordinator, Historic Arkansas Museum, Morgan Weithman, Education Program Assistant, Historic Arkansas Museum*

### **Brewing on a Small Scale**

Cost: \$20    Limit: 8

Brewing was a useful skill for both house and tavern keepers alike during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The "Beers" of the time provided everything from crisp refreshment to meal-like sustenance to yeast for baking. We'll explore period recipes, ingredients, and techniques while learning how to make our own beer on a scale fit for any site.

*Ian Beard, Education Director, Historic Arkansas Museum*



# Friday Evening Events

## **Opening Potluck and Reception ALHA Journeyman Certification Review 5:30–8:30 p.m.**

ALHA members wishing to complete their Journeyman certification must stand for the review panel. You must have already received your Apprenticeship certification, notified the committee, and completed all other requirements for Journeyman certification. All ALHA members are invited to observe the review process.

Conference attendees are invited to bring a historic delicacy to share during the potluck meal.

## **Conference Hospitality Space 9:00 p.m.**

Enjoy informal networking, camaraderie, and late night refreshment at the host site.

# **Saturday, February 11**

**Registration & Silent Auction Item Drop Off  
8:00 a.m.**

**Concurrent Session I  
8:30–9:20 a.m.**

## **Early Steamboats of Arkansas**

This program will cover the importance of steamboats to Arkansas growth and settlement.

*Richard Spilman, Education Coordinator, Delta Cultural Center*

## **Introduction to Blacksmithing – Limit of 20**

Come swing a hammer and learn the basics to 19<sup>th</sup> century blacksmith shop. We will cover the different parts of the anvil, the tools of the trade, and some simple hammer techniques. While in the comfort of a classroom, participants will get the opportunity to "forge" on their own.

*Casey Marshall, Museum Programs Specialist, Historic Arkansas Museum*

**Concurrent Session II  
9:30–10:20 a.m.**

## **Railroads**

Delta Heritage Trail State Park is a story of transportation. Under development, primarily as a Rail-to-Trails project, telling the story of how the establishment of the rail line served as a transportation artery that spurred economic development across the landscape it connected is a goal of the park. This session will showcase how we connect visitors to this railroad legacy from interpretive programs and exhibits, gift shop resale, and outreach. A secondary goal is to demonstrate how railroad development impacted all of Arkansas and how this story can be integrated at other public history sites.

*Ryan Smith, Park Interpreter, Delta Heritage Trail State Park*

## **Recreating a Funeral**

Learn about the research and steps it took to recreate a funeral that took place in 1866 Washington, Arkansas. Hear the unique story of the funeral of Jennie Vann.

*Josh Williams, Curator, Historic Washington State Park, Chris Adams, Park Historian, Historic Washington State Park*

## **Concurrent Session III**

**10:30–11:20 a.m.**

## **Amplifying Voices**

This round table discussion of examples of community partnerships will provide participants a chance for active conversation about the strengths of partnering and creative solutions to find new and unconventional partners from our communities.

*Daniel Cockrell, Director, Old State House Museum*

**Saturday Lunch and Business Meeting 11:30–  
12:30 p.m.**

**Field Trip  
1:30–4:00 p.m.**

## **Field trip: Powhatan State Park**

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6. Turn right onto Highway 25.
7. Following Highway 25 to Powhatan State Park.

## **Saturday Evening Events**

All events will take place at the **Paragould Community Center**. Dressing in your favorite living history outfit is encouraged.

Silent Auction Preview and District Meetings 6:00–6:30 p.m.

**Dinner and Keynote** 6:30-7:30 p.m.

### **Keynote Address**

Peter Friesen, Director of Education, Historic St. Mary's City

**Live Auction** 7:30–9:00 p.m.

### **Conference Hospitality Room**

10:00 p.m.

Enjoy informal networking, camaraderie, and late night refreshment at the host site.

# Sunday, February 12

## Session IV 9:00–9:50 a.m.

### **A Blind Guy Walks Into a Museum**

In this program we will discuss the ways one can adapt programming to accommodate people with disabilities. We will look at accommodating adaptive technology while not limiting access to programming for other visitors. We will also discuss the advantages of having an accommodation plan in place and how accommodations might also be useful to members of the general public

*Leon Tidwell, Education Coordinator, Historic Arkansas Museum*

## Session V

### **Un-varnishing History: How Historic St. Mary's City is Evolving to Create Engaging Programs and Exhibits Without the Whitewash**

Historic St. Mary's City is nearing the four hundredth anniversary of the founding of Maryland. This fast-approaching landmark date offers an opportunity for HSMC to grow beyond our original Anglo-centric mission and to tell an inclusive unfiltered version of history that does not just glorify it, but chooses to examine it critically. Over the last five years, Historic St. Mary's City has begun the process of changing the narrative of the stories interpreted at our museum from beyond the standard “great white fathers” narrative to a more diverse collection of stories about all the people, from three different continents, who converged on this landscape in the 17th century. From programs for school groups to the award winning “Sin and Scandal”, and “Adults-Only” Tour, we have developed programs for all demographics. This presentation will illustrate the process we have experienced and are experiencing while working with various underrepresented groups with a great variety of successes and missteps.

*Peter Friesen, Director of Education, Historic St. Mary's City*

**2023 Conference Committee:** Jeannine Thompson, Daniel Cockrell, Kim Hosey, Aaron Loehndorf

**Have a Safe Trip Home!**

**2024 ALHA Conference  
Historic Washington, Arkansas  
TBD, 2024**

## 2022 ALHA Budget

Total Income

Grants  
Auction  
Conference  
Membership Dues

Total Expenses

ALHA Fellowships  
ALHFAM Fellowships  
Operations  
Paypal & Bank Charges  
Conference

**Arkansas Living History Association  
PO Box 648  
Little Rock, AR 72203  
[www.arkansaslivinghistory.com](http://www.arkansaslivinghistory.com)**