
◆ Plunder and Possibles ◆

Volume 10, Issue No. 2

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The Newsletter of the Jefferson Longrifles, Inc., an NMLRA Affiliated Muzzleloading and Reenacting Club

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In Memory of Art Ayotte

Our Club has lost a dear friend and the muzzle-loading and historical reenacting community lost a great ally and participant with the passing of Art Ayotte, early Saturday morning, July 14, 2007. Art went under due to irrecoverable complications in his diabetic condition. Those of us who knew Art were aware of the difficult time he was having with a long term heart condition.

Some of our newer members may not have personally known Art and Nancy, because as Art's health deteriorated, he and Nancy were not able to attend our events. But they have always supported Rendezvous. Not too many years ago, they regularly attended the Southeastern, Alafia, the Eastern Rendezvous, and often traveled to the Western and Mid-Western Rendezvous.

The couple are well known around the coun-

try as the founders of Fugawee, Inc. where they have supplied reenactors with historically correct foot-ware, provided artful medallions for historical events, made fine metal castings, and many other items for our pastime.

Art helped the Longrifles get started and played an important role by serving as Pursor for our first national event – the 1995 Southeastern Rendezvous. He also contributed greatly to the success of the 1998 and 2005 Southeastern Rendezvous in the Tallahassee area.

Art did not want a formal funeral service, but asked that he be recognized at an event, which we will certainly do. In keeping with his personality, we celebrated Art's life, with an Irish style Wake, at the Rose and Thorn Pub. We could only get the word out by email and a few phone calls. I apologize

to anyone we could not notify of the wake. Gary counted about 50 friends and supporters in attendance and some who could not be there sent messages and stories to Nancy to be read at the Wake. I did the reading, after many pints of Guinness, and only got lost a couple times. Our good friend Boomer did a great job and we will read his story again at Squirrel Camp or the Ocklocknee Rendezvous.

Art Ayotte was well known and respected by so many in the muzzleloading and reenacting community. Though he will be missed by all, his memory will be celebrated in camps around the country for years to come.

Dave Anderson

Club Dues

Club Dues were due in April, and normally incur a late fee after June. We have extended the grace period to the end of August, so pay your dues quickly if you have not done so. Call me at 850-591-1482 if you are not sure if you have paid them already. Dues are \$35.00 payable to the Jefferson Longrifles now, \$45.00 later.

Pay Now and avoid
Late fees...

Ocklocknee Rendezvous 2007

This year's successful club rendezvous was held Thursday, February 15 to Monday, the 19th. And was organized by Co-Booshways Jackie Schaffer and Beth Bloomquist.

As usual we had a busy schedule with plenty of events, with Deni setting up and running Archery, Bob Pryor on the Range and Roger Whitt on Hawk and Knife. The schedule was closely followed and with great events occurring every day.

The Camp fee structure was similar to other years with camp fees including a raffle ticket and extra tickets were available for purchase. This year however, the majority of donated items were awarded to club members by winning the items at auction.

The auctioneer was Deni, who kept bidding active for each item and assured major benefits to the club. And we had a great time bidding and kidding each other in the process.

A club social was held again this year on Friday evening with deserts pro-

vided by the ladies. And Smiley Joe's did cooking for the camp feed as well as having a full house every morning at breakfast time. We owe Joe and Ruth Pye major thanks for helping us out with



cooking services.

As usual, everyone pitched in and helped assure a great event. Thanks to the Co-booshways for a great event.

The 2008 Ocklocknee Rendezvous will be coordinated by Roger Whitt, so lets pitch in an help him do a great job too.

Southeastern Rendezvous 2007

The 2007 Southeastern Rendezvous was held March 31 through April 8, 2007 at Cherokee Farms, off Old Mineral Springs Rd., in LaFayette, Georgia (near Chattanooga,). We had a number of members in attendance. Jan Winans and Kent Johnson, Ken and Cathy Morris, Gary Tehan, and William Wilson camped in the same area. Denny Bloomquist and Buck Jackson camped at the top of Heartbreak Hill, and Pete Brinkmyer and his lady were a little lower on the hill.

The legend of Heartbreak Hill would need to be told by one of the two guys who camped at the top, but it has something to do with Maria Harbin and her petit young

friend who made quite a few trips up the hill. The ladies were in attendance for a good portion of the Rendezvous too.

I was there for a long last weekend of the event, bunking in Gary's big tipi, so I missed the competition. It must have been good though. We know the seminars were good, because our own Ruth Pye helped coordinate them.

The most unusual happening at the 2007 Southeastern Rendezvous was the snow-storm. Yes, when William Wilson came out of the tavern to head back to camp, he had snowflakes falling upon his noggin. He needs to tell the story though.....

Dave Anderson

Squirrel Camp 2007

The time has come to start thinking about Squirrel Camp, since summer is quickly coming to a close. Of course Graig and BB have already been planning this one and I have attached a copy of Craig's flyer.

Squirrel Camp will be held the first weekend of the season, November 8-11, 2007. on the Rendezvous site at the Grey Fox Farm.

We are planning a big effort for this event to get people to attend that we have not seen for awhile. We can call it a homecoming event, and it will work if everyone makes phone calls to encourage everyone to come.

Craig does not have an email address,

so if you have questions for him you will have to call.

Rendezvous rules and dress are encouraged but not mandatory, as we have always used squirrel camp and a good event to introduce newcomers to our great group.

In addition to the great hunting opportunities on Saturday and prize for the biggest bagged squirrel, there will be primitive competitions on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoon.

Sounds like a great time, so call those old club members and invite friends and family who you want to expose to our way of life.

Outreach Opportunities

We have been asked to participate in two educational events. The Tall Timbers Youth Day will be held September 22, 2007, with 8:00 am selected as the set up time. We have done this event for the past three years.

The Longrifles were also asked to participate in the second Wildlife Heritage Festival, February 2, 2008 at the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, after putting on such a good show last year performing black powder demonstrations and educational discussions.



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Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

In This Issue...

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Club Schedule

September 6, Club Meeting
September 9, Club Shoot
October 4, Club Meeting
October 14, Club Shoot
November, 1 Club Meeting
November 8-11, Squirrel Camp
December 6, Club Meeting
December 9, Club Shoot

Club Meetings start at 7:00 pm, but come early for food.

Club Shoots begin at 12:00 for food, 1:00 pm for Archery and 2:00 pm for guns.

Congratulations to Ron Dod who was nominated as our new Club Secretary, and he accepted.
Thanks Ron....we appreciate your participation.

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