
◆ Plunder and Possibles ◆

Volume 8, Issue No. 3

October 19, 2005

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

IN THIS ISSUE

**SQUIRREL
CAMP 2005
NOV. 11-13**

**SOUTH
EASTERN
2006**

**SOUTH
EASTERN
2005**

**THE 2005
MIDWESTERN**

**NORTH WEST
OUTPOST**

CALENDAR

Southeastern 2006

The 25th Annual Southeastern Rendezvous will be held April 1-8, 2006, at Bledsoe's Fort Historical Park, Castalian Springs, Tennessee. For those not familiar with Tennessee, this little town is northeast of Nashville. It was also the site of the 2004 event.

Wade Reynolds is Boosway for the event

lina Calicos (a very good place to buy your fabrics). You can email Wade at calicowade@direcway.com, but there is no website yet.

The Jefferson Longrifles will be there as usual, to help out any way we can. The site is beautiful with high ground, good drainage and plenty of close-by parking. Since



again, and he will hold the record for hosting Southeastern Rendezvous as this makes three for him. His first event was many years ago at Sumter, South Carolina. Wade is well known at rendezvous in the east as the proprietor of Caro-

lina Calicos (a very good place to buy your fabrics). You can email Wade at calicowade@direcway.com, but there is no website yet.

The Jefferson Longrifles will be there as usual, to help out any way we can. The site is beautiful with high ground, good drainage and plenty of close-by parking. Since

Squirrel Camp 12 Years Old

Squirrel Camp 2004 was the first event not planned and coordinated by Mr. John Cole, although John did step in to provide consulting services when BeeBe Bryan was impacted by hurricane Charlie.

This year, Craig and BeeBe are planning a great event. It officially starts on Friday, November 11 but everyone will be setting up on Thursday. Beebe is supposed to be there early in the week, which is ok too. Craig provided a schedule for Friday and Saturday events, which I have included on the next page.

For new members, the Squirrel Camp is not a strictly primitive event. You can participate in modern clothes or a mixture of modern and primitive. The same is true for camping, with modern and primitive tents set up at the Rendezvous site.

Hunting is the same, modern shotguns or flintlock and caplock fowlers and Camo

The 2005 Midwest Rendezvous

By Jan Winans

We arrived at the site on Tuesday after a day-long flight and a nights rest with friends Bill and Rita Lurvey, followed by a short drive to Ontonagon, MI. Lake Superior was restless in the background urging us to set camp and prepare for the Midwest - 2005. Boosway Tom Hamilton's staff had been hard at work for several weeks at the site preparing for some 350 campers. And a pleasant site it was with wide streets, freshly mowed grass, plenty of parking and shuttle rides back to camp. Replete with dry firewood, lots of ice, water and clean hooters, we would be ready in time for the arrival of the early set-up campers - that were already arriving.

Ontonagon the village (population listed at 1,700 on the map) was a scant 2 miles away past the Marina and across the Ontonagon river bridge. All manner of provisions were available and there were many sights to see. The village was hosting an all-class high school reunion the week- end we arrived;

there was a county fair just up the road; Porcupine Mountain State Park just a few miles up the road and the world's largest refrigerator within sound if not sight of our camp.

To top it all off we were visited by the Dennis Sullivan, a three-master schooner, the first such visit since 1912 as reported by Harold S. Riter in the Ontonagon Herald on August 3rd, 2005. This writer was aboard the Sullivan when the Midwest 2005 Voyager Crew came along side in a 25 foot primitive style canoe and made off with the ship's Captain. She was taken to Town Hall where she delivered a lively talk about her ship. The Midwest Cannon crew led by Artillery Captain Paul Lando presented a three-cannon salute to the Sullivan and so began the villages welcome to our Rendezvous. The Sullivan's visit was scheduled to coincide with the Midwest-2005 Rendezvous, through the efforts of Boosway Hamilton's staff combined with

"... A cool breeze blew proudly..."

Squirrel Camp Con't.

clothing or hunting frocks.

This works good for new comers to muzzleloading, so they have a chance to take note of the styles and adornments of the dress and camps in case they want to start acquiring their own reenactment gear. This event is a no pressure get together of persons who share a vision of historical life in the wilderness.

FRIDAY:

10am: Blackpowder

turkey shoot (gun discharge)

1pm: Archery shoot in field (best of 2 rounds)

3pm: Tomahawk throw in camp (best of 2 rounds)

5pm: Squirrel fricasse social, Oysters, beer, rum, cheese and shrimp, etc.

Later - tomahawk quarters throw

8pm: Cards - Bring your quarters.

SATURDAY:

7am: Squirrel Season Starts.

- Florida hunting license required.

10am: Archery woods walk/situational trek/edged weapons course

(bow/arrows, hawk & knife, fire kit optional)

1pm: Archery shoot in the field (round 2)

3pm: Tomahawk throw in camp (round 2)

3pm: Hawk off starts (finals at 5pm)

5pm: Prizes awarded /squirrel judging - bring your squirrel.

5pm: Chili cookoff - bring your chili.

5pm: Hawk off finals.

5:30pm: Cast Iron Party - Bring your hot cast iron.

6:30pm: Camp fire: oysters and beer

7:00pm Trade Blanket

8pm: Cards and Guts - bring your quarters.

2005 Midwest, Continued

village Manager Mrs. Penny Hill.

If the village (in fact perhaps the whole County) was happy with our brief visit it could be underscored with the fact that more than 2,000 of them paid for a shuttle ride to our site, paid our gate fee and paid again to have a shuttle ride back to their car. The Mayor, Scott Roehm, even came out one day with a freezer full of ice cream bars for everyone! Way to go Ontonagon!

That we had good weather goes without saying for in that part of the country summer evenings are sometimes known to be in the high forties. We enjoyed them! There was also one day when the temperature hit above the 100 degree mark and that was the day I headed for a swim in Lake Superior. That day was an exception; in fact it was an all time record high according to verbal reports in the community. We were gifted one evening a "light show" that seemed at times to fill the whole sky with lightning. Thunder accompanied to make a most theater like experience that lasted until almost midnight. Clouds billowed and at times the stars peaked through, striking to say the least!

By all reports there were all manner of shooting, hawk and knife throwing and archery activities. All of the events that go to make a successful and well prized event were there and enjoyed by all who participated. There were in addition some outstanding happenings that deserve closer examination.

The whole camp had an opportunity to enjoy the efforts of Chief Watch Captain Jeff Fisher and his partner who most of us know simply as C.W. These two people not only did all the things the camp expects from its Chief Watch Captain but, they helped deliver ice and they helped

transform the camp from one that was built to handle 350 people to one that eventually held well over 400 campers. Of course they used their considerable "real estate" skills and a good share of the Camp Commons to accomplish the fact, but they accomplished that not-so-small feat with enough smiles to cover the camp. Cheers to Jeff and C.W.!

The Beaver Brigade managed the front gate in a great fashion, and with enough style to shame the strongest Disney crew. Rita Lurvey and her crew of Beavers showed the same great spirit that has branded their crew as "First Class" from Wisconsin to Florida and back again. Not only that, but they welded together an all-female crew that bid for, and won the privilege to Staff the 2007 Midwest Rendezvous. It is to be held somewhere in Wisconsin and the site is well known but will not be advertised until the 2006 event has been completed. The Beaver Brigade exhibits the kind of spirit that makes the Midwest worth experiencing. Schedule it at your earliest convenience!

Ontonagon is a long way away from this writers roost; we didn't get ice one day; we set an all-time daytime high temperature and we lost the use of about half the land that we thought we needed due to a misunderstanding with the landowner. Any of these things could have been disastrous, but due to the excellent leadership of Tom Hamilton and his crew, the people that I have mentioned and many more that space disallows mention of, we had a terrific time. We enjoyed the local color, the wildlife in camp (the furry kind) and most of all we all carried away a very welcome feeling from the Village of Ontonagon, MI. We will make very serious efforts to return to that area.

And as we drove away very early on that final morning, a cool breeze blew proudly, in from Lake Superior.

Southeastern Rendezvous 2005

Well, Charlie did it—successfully hosted his first national rendezvous with the Jefferson Longrifle's and Patty's help. We know he could never have done it without us. That makes three we have done and who knows how many more. It is rewarding to see club members step up to the plate and take on the responsibility of the Booshway, and it shows to all what Jefferson Longrifle members know—we are a great club! And we do our part!

For those who do not know, last April we hosted the Southeastern National Rendezvous at the Dixie Plantation, about 13 miles east of Monticello. As Patty said "It's a beautiful new site with plenty of room."

All club members that were there had jobs to do, and Charlie enlisted several for key positions: Jan Winans, Segundo; Duane Ashe, Scribe; Dave Anderson, Clerk; Gary Tehan, Aide de Camp; Bob Pryor, Gun Range Captain; Deni Bloomquist, Archery Range Captain; Bob Sherman, Hawk and Knife Range Captain; Rita Lurvey, Gate Captain; William Wilson was Captain of Transportation and Logistics.

Many seminars and activities were done, and competitions held, including the National Farkel Championship. I will attempt to list some of the winners at the end of this article.

Jackie and Johnny set up Mama's kitchen for the Camp Feast, and prepared an excellent chicken pileau with help from William and several others. As with any meal Jackie supervises, the food was great.

Charlie was kept busy, as any Booshway should be, visiting throughout the camp spread-

ing good will and solving problems.

By far, the heroes of the event were the tractors, provided by William and Duane, and those who drove them (usually William, Duane, Gary and Jan). In addition, all club members owning four wheel drive vehicles were drafted into service. Again, for those who did not make it to the event—it rained a little. Charlie told me we had something like 17 inches during the week, which is not typical at all. Except for those set up early, all camps had to be transported into and out of the site with vehicles that could negotiate the mud.

Once set up however, the site proved to be very good and into the week, it dried out enough to keep your moccasins dry.



Another popular item was the hot showers. We have a reputation for providing good showers, and Williams design for two trailer mounted units worked very well. They were located about 100 yards from camp in a pine thicket, and many folks made the daily walk to them.

The ranges worked out well, with an open range area and woods walk, and the archery was kept in a constant state of change to provide the ultimate challenge. Hawk and knife always had people competing or practicing. Congratulations to the range captains for doing a great job.

As for attendance and success of the finance plan, we had 335 adults, at least 40 juniors, 44 registered traders. Our income was almost \$22,000. with expenses around \$15,000. We

2005 Southeastern , Con't

will not know all finances until NRLHF finishes processing payments they made and deducts administration fees. But we made over \$6,000 for the organization.

Competition results:

Glenn Dickey—Men's Rifle Aggregate

Jeannine Marchesseau-Women's Rifle Agg.

Larry Marchesseau-Men's Smoothbore Aggregate.

Darylee Foertoch-Women's Smoothbore Aggregate

Brianna Anderson—Junior rifle champion and winner of a TVM flintlock rifle.

Tony Long Eagle-Men's Hawk and Knife Aggregate

Val Galliano-Women's Hawk and Knife Aggregate

Spencer Preston-Junior Hawk and Kife

Dave Anderson—2005 National Farkel Champion

Competition was tough, and there were a few Jefferson Longrifles who won or placed during the daily event shoots.

Congratulations to all who participated and many thanks to all the Jefferson Longrifles and members of other Clubs who helped out.

Look for the story on next year's Southeastern. We hope to see many of you there. Dave Anderson

News from the Northwest Outpost

Bert Bryson

Thought it about time to check in. It was good seeing everybody at the Southeastern last April, although I was only able to stay for a couple of hours. Two deaths in the family within 3 days and 2500 miles apart kept me hopping. Thanks to everybody for offering tents, sleeping gear, etc. Ms. Em and I were really looking forward to that week. So much for that. Well, we've had our first good snow of the season and a couple of hard freezes. Cottonwood and aspen are turning

gold, and the wildflowers are all gone. The bears are getting fat for winter, and the elk are bugling all over, gathering up their cows for the fall rut. The old timers up here say that Montana has 4 seasons like anywhere else, they just call it different. It's winter, more winter, worse winter, and road construction. We always look forward to that. Antelope season opens in the morning so I'll see if that old .50 cal. Hawken gun that Gris-set built for me will

shoot more than 100 yards. So much for Bert's ramblings from the mountains. It's starting to snow again, but I've got a good fire going and got the cabin warmed up to about 55°. Warm supper of mule deer, mashed potatoes, and little green peas. I'll sleep good tonight and get up about 4:00, coffee up, and go get my antelope. Walk quiet in the woods and I'll see you down the trail,

Hawk Overhead



Jefferson Longrifles
PO box 14073
Tallahassee, FL
32317

Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

In This Issue...

2005 Squirrel Camp, 2006 and 2005 Southeastern, 2005 Midwestern

Club Schedule

Upcoming meetings are as follows all scheduled at the shoot site.

Club Schedule

Nov 3, Club Meeting
Nov. 11-13 Squirrel Camp
Dec. 1, Club Meeting
Dec. 11, Club Shoot
Jan 5, Club Meeting
Jan. 8 Club Shoot
Jan. 14-22 Alafia Renezvous.

Make Plans now for the
Southeastern Renezvous April 2-10

Officers:

Jackie Shaffer, Pres.
jjshaffer@directway.net
539-8960
Ken Morris, VP
kenharris@aol.com
(850)942-8836
Cathy Morris, Sec.
COM4GOOD@aol.com
(850)942-8836
Dave Anderson,
Treasurer
alfaguy@nettally.com
(850)575-7559