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# ALHA

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ARKANSAS LIVING HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Volume 4, Issue 2

Winter 2010

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## 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

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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](mailto: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.

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## **“Conference” from page 1**

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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*

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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**

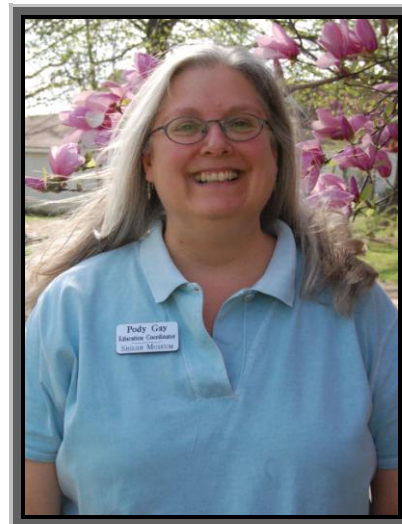
Frog Bayou Founders Day  
Lake Fort Smith State Park

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](mailto: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.

**CONTACT:**

*Ian Beard*  
300 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201  
501-324-8642  
[ian@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:ian@arkansasheritage.org)  
[www.oldstatehouse.com](http://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](http://www.alhfam.org).

**CONTACT:**

*Tom Kelleher*  
1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-347-0337  
[tkelleher@osv.org](mailto:tkelleher@osv.org)  
[www.alhfam.org](http://www.alhfam.org)

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

**May 1.**

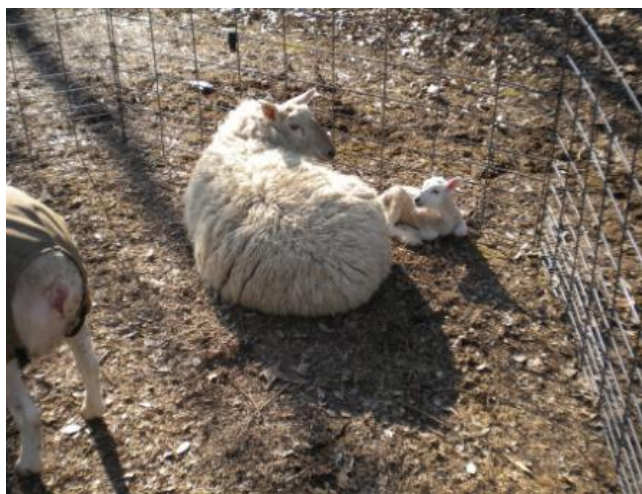
## 2010 CONFERENCE PICTURES



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



*Attendees at the ALHA 2010 Ball*

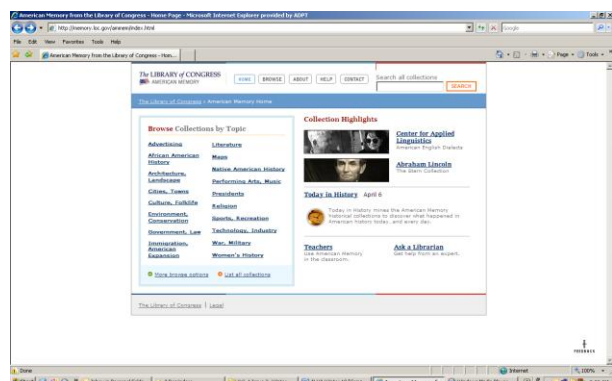


*Newly born lamb arrived just in time for the Caring for Sheep workshop*

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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

<b>President</b>	Ian Beard <a href="mailto:ian@arkansasheritage.org">ian@arkansasheritage.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Barbara Ward <a href="mailto:barbara@arkansasheritage.org">barbara@arkansasheritage.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Kristyn Watts <a href="mailto:kristyn.watts@arkansas.gov">kristyn.watts@arkansas.gov</a>
<b>Treasure</b>	Debra Browning <a href="mailto:histreenactors@wmconnect.com">histreenactors@wmconnect.com</a>
<b>Comm. Dir.</b>	Josh Williams <a href="mailto:josh.williams@arkansas.gov">josh.williams@arkansas.gov</a>

### District Representatives

<b>District 1</b>	Danielle Russell <a href="mailto:dmrnum3@yahoo.com">dmrnum3@yahoo.com</a>
<b>District 2</b>	Ben Swadley <a href="mailto:ben.swadley@arkansas.gov">ben.swadley@arkansas.gov</a>
<b>District 3</b>	Pody Gay <a href="mailto:pgay@springdalear.gov">pgay@springdalear.gov</a>
<b>District 4</b>	Billy Nations <a href="mailto:billy.nations@arkansas.gov">billy.nations@arkansas.gov</a>

# Arkansas Living History Association 2010 Membership Registration

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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

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Cut along line

## Classified ads

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**6th Infantry Regimental Music**  
Field Musicians & Bandsmen Wanted  
[www.6infantry.com](http://www.6infantry.com)

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

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**Jolliff Mercantile**  
Custom Goods  
[www.geocities.com/jolliffmercantile](http://www.geocities.com/jolliffmercantile)

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**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

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