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| ***April 2014*** | ***Shinnin’ Times*** | ***Vol. 19, No. 4*** |
|  | A Publication of the Early Arkansaw Reenactors Association (EARA)  Web Page: <http://www.earlyarkansas.com/>  To subscribe to the EARA listserve, address your e–mail to:  [*Arkansas–subscribe@yahoogroups.com*](mailto:Arkansas–subscribe@yahoogroups.com)  *Editor: Joyce Hetrick at* [*joyce@heifercreek.com*](mailto:joyce@heifercreek.com) |  |

**Get your shinnin’ times by e mail—contact joyce**

**YOUR CHANCE TO OWN A (REPLICA) PRE-1840 HAND MADE QUILT**

**The sewing Bees have started**

The ladies of EARA had a wonderful quilting seminar lead by Pam Zabicki March 1.  We were graciously given a wonderful seminar/ workroom at Sew Much More to hold the event and offered use of the room in the future.  We worked hard for 4 hours and got almost 1/2 of the quilt top blocks made. We went to MissHatties house for a late Soup and Salad lunch and more work.  Pam, Denise, and Teresa worked until late putting together more squares.

     As EARA is going to having a beautiful quilt, we decided to put the project to good use having a donation/raffle of the quilt for EARA as a fundraiser. We will draw for it at the potluck at Petite Jean Voo in Nov 2014 on Sat. night.  The ladies need your help to sell tickets.  We have

made a form that can be emailed and sent to anyone.  Misshattie will be taking them to all events and distributing them to the members as packets.

      Please, assist with the fundraising work.  Thank-you to the ladies that helped get this started and the great day of catching up on all the winter's news.....Wasn't that what a Bee was for back in the day?

TICKETS: $3 FOR ONE, $5 FOR TWO, AND $10 FOR FIVE….Let’s see who can sell the most tickets.

**new Upcoming Events**

May 17th - Pioneer Day at Queen Wilhelmina State Park.  Park is looking someone to

demonstrate muzzleloader shooting and fiber arts.  Call or e-mail, Yvonne Duvall at

the Park, 479-394-1364, [yvonne.duvall@arkansas.gov](https://www.tcworks.net/squirrelmail/src/compose.php?send_to=yvonne.duvall%40arkansas.gov)

August 23rd - Cultural Celebration at Lake Dardanelle State Park.  The keelboat has

been invited, so, we need a crew.  For more information on the event contact Sasha

Bowles at the Park, 479-890-7477, [sasha.bowles@arkansas.gov](https://www.tcworks.net/squirrelmail/src/compose.php?send_to=sasha.bowles%40arkansas.gov). To be a part of the

crew, call or e-mail Ed Williams, 501-944-0736, [ed\_laurine@juno.com](https://www.tcworks.net/squirrelmail/src/compose.php?send_to=ed_laurine%40juno.com)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

If you know of any events that are not on our calendar of Upcoming Events, please send them to the Editor*.* Thanks!

**April 2014**

**3-6 –  White Oak Lake.** Call Ed Williams 501-944-0736

**11-13 – Scout-A-Rama Voo**, Texarkana, TX.  Contact Lori Bennet

**18-20 – Woolly Hollow Rendezvous**, Woolly Hollow State Park. Call Tom Reedy

**26 – Colonial Celebration at Arkansas Post**. Call Ed Williams 501-944-0736

**26-27 – Newton County Voo**. Call Glenn Cook 501-941-7917/  
501-350-6640

**May 2014**

**10 – Spring Festival Days at HAM.** Call Glenn Cook   
501-941-7917

**15-18 – 2nd Saline Crossing Voo**, Benton, AR. Call Teresa Lafferty   
501-247-6466

**May 17 Pioneer Day @ Wilhelmina state park. Yvonne Duvall 479-394-1364**

**July 2014**

**4 – 4th of July at HAM.** Call Glenn Cook 501-350-6640

**17-20 – MOJAM/Bow Building Seminar/Campout**, Marshall, MO. Call James Thompson 501-247-6466. Modern camping allowed. Non-period clothing and equipment used.

**August 2014**

**9 – Ice Cream Social,** Carol's Porch. Call Carol Fritts   
501-821-0121

**Aug 23..Lake Dardenelle state Park, need Keel boat crew Sasha Bowles 479-890-7477**

**30 – Bow Seminar,** Carol's Porch. Call Nonose 501-255-5801/  
501-247-6466

**September 2014**

**2 – Crossett Event**. Call Ed Williams

**6 – EARA Picnic** at Cadron Call Glen Cook 501-941-7917/  
Teresa Lafferty 501-247-6466

**11-14 – Calico Rock Voo.** Call James Ross 870-368--2273

**18-21 –  Soggy Bottoms Voo.** Call Teresa Lafferty 501-247-6466

**25-28 – Cowboy Church Voo.** Call Jennifer Johnson  
 417-634-0132/Glenn Cook 501-941-7917

**October 2014**

**2 – Old Washington Home School Days.** Call Teresa Lafferty   
(501-247-6466)

**2-5 – Critter’s Voo**. Foydyce, AR. Call Critter/Bobby

**9-12 – 3rd Annual Leslie Rendezvous**, Leslie, AR 9-12 Leslie Voo   
Call Glenn Cook 501-350-6640

**November 2014**

**1 – Searcy Pioneer Village.** Call Melinda LaFevers

**1 – Old Washington Fall Civil War Days.** Call Washington St. Pk.

**27–30 – Petit Jean Mountain Voo.** Petit Jean State Park. Call Glenn Cook 501-350-6640

**December 2014**

**7 – Christmas at HAM.** Sunday only. Call Glenn Cook   
501-941-7917

**EARA INFORMATION**

**Newsletter Notice**

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For calendar and/or event schedule changes, newsletter articles, or correction notifications, please contact Shinnin’ Times Editor Joyce Hetrick at [*joyce@heifercreek.com*](mailto:joyce@heifercreek.com).

“Pepper” is the password to access the online edition of the EARA Newsletter, via the EARA website (<http://www.earlyarkansas.com/>)

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*Events* – Teresa Lafferty – misshattie1234*@*[*gmail.com*](http://gmail.com)

*Keelboat* – Ed Williams

**EARA WEBSITE**

William Hardage – [*britishofficer@yahoo.com*](mailto:britishofficer@yahoo.com)

**Liability Insurance**

To be covered you need to sign the book or if not available, a sheet of paper needs to be signed and sent to Glenn Cook. All volunteer events are covered, whether in the state or not. If in doubt always sign a sheet and send it to EARA President, c/o Glenn Cook, 331 Mark Lynn Cir., Cabot, AR 72023

**Frontier Medicine**

**The Great Speckled Monster--small pox**

Many people today never think about one of the terrible scourges of our ancestors because today we have vaccines and antibiotics to prevent or heal these maladies.

I have a small scar on my left arm from a small pox vaccination, but my sons never had this vaccination because the speckled monster had been finally wiped from this earth and was no longer a danger by the early 1970s.

Small pox was a plague to Europeans for centuries, having four types, two of which only about 3% of people survived.. Those not killed by this horrible, painful disease which grossly scarred survivors. The Turks and Africans though, for generations prior to 1700 inoculated their children against small pox by making a small incision in the person's arm (or other place) and putting a few drops of the pus from a person with the mild type of the pox. It would raise a few blisters and then the person would be immune to small pox for the rest of their lives. European medicine at that time was still bleeding and purging, sweating or chilling the patients in a futile attempt to combat the disease. Many times the “cure” caused the death of the patients.

In the early 1700s, several people who lived in the American colonies, and England, independently discovered the “secret” of small pox inoculation about the same time. In the colonies,  Rev. Cotton Mather purchased a slave who told him about it. In England, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, a formerly beautiful woman who had herself been scarred beyond belief by a barely survived bout with the pox, heard about it when she, along with her Ambassador husband, had learned about it from the Turks. Mather, along with a barber/surgeon in Boston, Zabdiel Boylston, spread the word and fought the battle for acceptance of inoculation.

When knowledge about the inoculation spread, many people refused and fought against it, because, after all, about one in a hundred people would succumb to the disease from being inoculated. Without it though, natural contagion killed over all up to 20% with the two worst kinds killing about 95% or more. I have a Revolutionary Pension document showing that “we received the operation of the pox” by George Washington's solders at Valley Forge.

During the Revolution, the British, knowing that pox could be spread by blankets and filth from victims, used this as a sort of “biological weapon” against Americans, and had used it earlier against native Americans. Pox was rife in the British prison ships during the Revolution, and a great many patriots died as a result, their bodies tossed overboard in the harbor to float, stink and terrorize the survivors.

It was only after the revolution, in 1796, when the cow pox virus was found to prevent small pox at least temporary. Only maybe 1 in 10,000 or less would become seriously ill from the cow pox vaccine.  Today, only maybe one in a million people would succumb to the vaccine. The vaccine I had was cow pox vaccine, but am probably no longer immune to the small pox virus, but with pox effectively being eradicated from the earth. I don't have to worry, and neither do you.

Our ancestors here in early Arkansas may have, at least some of them, had either the inoculation (live virus) or the cow pox vaccine, but small pox was still fairly common.  While medicine in Boston and other large cities may have been more “up to date”  and had vaccines available, frontier medicine lagged behind. In fact, my daddy, born in 1922 here in Arkansas, had small pox as a child, though a very mild case, and was immune.

Small pox changed the world by killing both nave and king, but what was  at first considered “folk medicine” by “savages” by the entrenched physicians,  turned out to be life saving knowledge. Wonder how many more “old wives tales” will be proven to be beneficial.

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