



Oklahoma Chapter

Coalition of Historical Trekkers

Newsletter



April 1, 2008

Greetings to All,

Soggy start for a new month and an even wetter finish to the last, here in this area the storms didn't hit near as hard. To the east / northeast folks weren't near as lucky with severe flooding and storm damage. Yet another go round of it first part of the week with more to follow next weekend, to much water on this side with western Oklahoma and Texas on fire, go figure.

The redbud, dogwood and flowering pear trees are blooming pretty strong in this area, a sure sign Spring has arrived. Noticed a lot of the hardwoods starting to bud out also, curious to see how the trees leaf out after all the ice storm damage. The recent storms have brought down more damaged limbs, plenty more to drop when we get into the real storm season.

WHAT'S GOING ON, the main topic of conversation as of late has been the National Gathering at Ft. Osage, Sibley, Missouri April 15 - 20, 2008.

Everyone received the current schedule of events in the last issue, if there are any changes sure Tater will get the info posted and updated by the time you arrive at Ft O. April 4 - 6, 2008, Colonial Trade Faire at Fort de Chartres, with the high water and expectation of increased chance of flooding best double check on this one, 618-284-7230.

April 5 - 6, 2008, CSMLA Winter Convention held at the Ft. Lupton High School, Ft. Lupton, Colorado. For more details contact Ron Saner 720-933-9469.

April 19 - 20, 2008, Fort Gibson Heritage Festival and timeline event at Ft. Gibson, Oklahoma contact Chris Morgan site manager at 918-478-4088, if it's not storming expect tons of curious school kids.

April 26 - 27, 2008, Colorado State Squirrel Rifle championship held near Loveland, Colorado, contact Ron Ring at 970-416-5784.

May 3 - 4, 2008, Pomme De Terre Rendezvous held near Hermitage, Missouri, haven't been to this one for several years but the food use to be pretty darn good, Rod Gates at 417-988-6535 for more info.

May 24 - 26, 2008, 33rd annual Black Powder shoot and Rendezvous sponsored by the Colorado Springs Muzzleloaders held in Florence Park outside of the town with the same name. If you like to shoot black powder and a lot of it plan on this weekend, from pistol to cannon plus other events, for more info contact Joy Hicks at 719-598-5715. (plan to include flier in next issue)

NATIONAL NEWS, if anyone has tried to reach me over either of the COHT email accounts as of recent I'm not ignoring you, it isn't working properly, seems other reps in our area have been dealing with the same problems, hopefully get things squared away asap. Not much else currently on the National level, May issue will have business reports, summary of events from Ft. Osage.

ADVERTISEMENT, silent round robin trade blanket event as well as the National Gathering auction Saturday evening, don't forget to bring and throw out a trade blanket of your own, never know what kind of deal you'll make!

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, Treerat season opens May 15th, more importantly Spring turkey opens April 6th, can't wait! Spoke with one of the ODWC biologists the other day regarding the heavy rains, flooding as to whether it would effect the Spring brood season. At this point didn't foresee a problem as they haven't started nesting just yet, department is watching things closely along the eastern third of the state due to future forecast of heavy rains.

BOOK REVIEW, left this one off last issue trying to stay under postage rate.

A Few Acres of Snow, The Saga of the French and Indian War by Robert Leckie, published by John Wiley and Sons, Inc. ISBN # 0-471-39020-8.

The author covers the four great colonial wars, War of the Grand Alliance (King William's War) war of the Spanish Succession (Queen Anne's War) War of the Austrian Succession (King George's War) and the French and Indian War (Seven Years War) in detailed layperson's terms that explains exactly why we speak English today instead of French, an excellent read.

Wilderness Empire by Allan W. Eckert published by Jesse Stuart Foundation Ashland KY ISBN # 1-931672-02-04. This is

Mr. Eckert's second volume in the Winning of America series, The Frontiersman being the first. This book deals with the two European powers trying their best to ally the greatly feared Iroquois League to their particular cause knowing full well whichever controlled the League could then destroy the other. As with his other works Mr. Eckert has woven yet another extremely well detailed, enjoyable story highlighting the grave incompetence of one side and the devastating corruption of the other, guess politics hasn't changed much in over 250 years.

I've also read the third volume of the series, The Conquerors but will save the review for later as I've also started the fourth volume, The Wilderness War.

I really enjoy and recommend Mr. Eckert's work, the man just writes history the way I like to read it, his books start out much like starting an old 265ci Chevy, have to play with the choke for a bit till it warms up then it just runs flawlessly.

Until the post rider arrives again be Safe on your event travels, outdoor adventures. To those attending the National Gathering don't forget, SCT potluck Friday evening hosted again by Bryant and Kathy so plan accordingly.

Take / Give Care,

Brad Pickle

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