

Press Release
Overmountain Victory Trail Association,
September 4, 2008

The Overmountain Victory Trail Association will be conducting its 34th annual reenactment of the Campaign of the Overmountain Men to the Battle of King's Mountain.

Beginning in Abingdon, Virginia on September 20th, this group of volunteer historians will follow the route and the timetable of the patriots whose victory at the Battle of King's Mountain on October 7, 1780 turned the tide of the Revolutionary War.

Mike Dahl, leader of this year's reenactment says, "The excitement in the communities all along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail is growing like crazy. Communities are purchasing historic sites along the trail to forever protect and preserve their story. Over the past four years we have seen attendance at our story telling programs grow from 1,200 people to more than 5,800 last year."

Dahl says, "We are the storytellers of the Campaign of the Overmountain Men. We take school children, community leaders and the general public on a ride through history to hear this story about how freedom is won to hear the story of the American Spirit.

This year brings something new and very special Dahl says. "Historic Artist Richard Luce of Louisville, Kentucky is coming on the March this year. He wants to find the stories of the things that happened during the Campaign." Richard says, "Only the Muster at Sycamore Shoals on September 25, 1780 and the Battle on October 7, 1780 have ever been painted. There's more. I'm going to find it and tell that story with my paintbrush."

For more information, please go to www.ovta.org to see this year's schedule and see when the OVTA will be in your community.

This is where we'll be. Come see us!

Abingdon, Virginia:

SEPTEMBER 20-21: MUSTER AND ENCAMP AT THE ORIGINAL “MUSTER GROUND” IN ABINGDON, VIRGINIA. Address: 702 Colonial Road SW, Abingdon.

Saturday and Sunday, 9Am—4PM: Open camp and public scenarios. The Guilford Fife and Drum Corps will spend time with us in Abingdon.

Saturday, 2:00PM. OVTA will present a grant to artist Richard Luce who has come to determine the potential for doing a series of paintings of the Campaign.

Sunday, September 21, 2:00PM: William Campbell’s Gravesite ceremony in Seven Mile Ford. Depart at 1PM.

Monday Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 22 AND 23:

9:AM to 2:00PM: Washington, Smith and Russell County, Virginia school programs. Expecting 400+ children each day.

Bluff City, Rocky Mount

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24: DEPART ABINGDON, VA. ENCAMP AT ROCKY MOUNT STATE HISTORIC AREA IN PINEY FLATS, TN.

Planned Activities:

8:30 AM: Muster at Dunn’s Meadows.

9:00AM: March out of Abingdon.

10:00AM: Shuttle to Pemberton Oak for muster and ceremony.

11:30AM: Travel to Bluff City. Lunch on the way.

12:30PM: Program at Bluff City Middle School.

2:00PM: Certification Ceremony at Choate’s Ford.

7:30PM: Rocky Mount Evening Candle light Tour Program—The Story

8:30PM: Certification of Rocky Mount

Elizabethton and Roan Mountain, Tennessee

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25: DEPART ROCKY MOUNT, ENCAMP AT SYCAMORE SHOALS STATE PARK IN ELIZABETHTON.

8:00—11:00AM: Walk from Rocky Mount to the Quarry above the town of Watauga.

11:30AM: Lunch at city hall in the town of Watauga

2:00 PM: Cross the Sycamore Shoals of the Watauga River.

6:00 PM: Supper provided by the Julius Dugger Chapter of the DAR in the Sycamore Shoals visitor’s center museum. Evening program follows supper.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26: DEPART SYCAMORE SHOALS. ENCAMP AT ROAN MOUNTAIN STATE PARK.

Planned Activities:

8:00 AM: Samuel Doak’s sermon at Sycamore Shoals visitor center by George Cobb. Recognition of fallen OVTA members.

9:00AM: Shuttle to the Shelving Rock Campsite at Roan Mountain.

10:00AM– 2:00PM: School programs on the Shelving Rock Campsite.

6:00PM: Supper by Roan Mountain Citizens Club and then program in the field on the original campsite across from the Shelving Rock.

8:00PM: May camp on the historic campsite or return to Roan Mountain State Park for the night's encampment.

Spruce Pine, North Carolina

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28: ENCAMP AT THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY MINERAL MUSEUM IN SPRUCE PINE.

Walking the Trail: Marchers will arrive at the parking lot outside Unimin Corporation main entrance for the 1.75 mile walk into Robert Sevier's Gravesite.

Planned Activities:

9:00 AM: Meet at Unimin parking lot to walk to Robert Sevier's gravesite, Davenport Springs.

11:30AM: Lunch on our own.

1:00PM: Travel to Joseph McDowell House in Marion for certification ceremony at 2PM.

6:00 PM: Supper and program at the Orchard at Altapass.

Marion, North Carolina

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29: DEPART THE MINERAL MUSEUM. ENCAMP AT McDowell HOUSE IN MORGANTON.

Planned Activities:

8:30 AM: Hike from Mineral Museum to the Apple Orchard at Altapass. Programs to follow.

10:30AM: The Talkers will shuttle either to the Carson House in Marion (Located on highway 70, 2 miles west of Walmart next to Tom Johnson RV dealership or, the Joseph McDowell House in Marion for school programs.

11:30 AM: The Walkers will take Lunch at the Apple Orchard at Altapass.

12 Noon—1:30PM. The Talkers will give a program for McDowell County middle and elementary school students at the Joseph McDowell House in Marion.

1PM—4 PM: Walkers may walk down Hefner Gap across property with original roadbed remnants. This is the CSX property that OVTA provided funds for the survey.

5:30PM: Supper on our own.

6:30—7:30PM: Main evening program at Carson House.

8:00PM: Convoy to Charles McDowell House in Morganton for night's camp.

Morganton, North Carolina

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30: CAMP AT THE CHARLES McDOWELL HOUSE/QUAKER MEADOWS IN MORGANTON.

Planned Activities:

7:00AM: Breakfast on our own in Morganton.

9:00 AM: School programs all day at McDowell House.

5:00PM: Program for the public at McDowell House.

6:00PM: Supper at McDowell House.

Rutherfordton, North Carolina

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3:

7:00PM: Children's program at Gilbert Town.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4:

Planned Activities:

10:30-11:30AM: Program at Gilbert Town with Drum and Fife Corps.

12 Noon: Arrive Rutherfordton for the festival.

1:30PM-3:00PM: Program and center stage for festival. Guilford Fife and Drum Corps attending.

7:00PM: Evening program at Gilbert Town.

Chesnee, South Carolina

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6: DEPART GRAY'S CHAPEL, ENCAMP AT COWPENS NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD.

Planned Activities:

9:00AM—2:00PM: School programs.

6:30PM: Program at Cowpens visitor center with focus on "**The Night Before The Battle**".

King's Mountain National Military Park, SC.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7:

Planned Activities:

10:00 AM: Wreath Laying Ceremony at King's Mountain National Military Park.

3:00 PM: Walk into the amphitheater at Kings Mountain NMP for traditional ceremony.

4:00 PM: Walk to the monument atop King's Mountain for the Mourning of Arms ceremony to those who fell in the Battle.

CONTACT INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION

For more information, contact:

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