



Oklahoma Chapter

Coalition of Historical Trekkers

Newsletter



January 14, 2010

Greetings to All,

A bit late getting after this one sure didn't think things would be this hectic to start the new year but then it beats the alternative. Looks like the rest of our Christmas snow will gone by the weekend, can't say as I'll really miss it all that much. It wasn't much fun dog walking or I should say slip sliding all the way, that furry four paw traction is kind of handy though Shadow did bust her backside several times where it was ruttad bad. We are definitely glad to be rid of that strong North wind especially when the temps were in the teens and lower, that wasn't a whole lot of fun but we had it a lot better than the folks further on North of us.

As we are only three months out to the Fort Osage National Gathering enclosed is a pre-registration form for the 2010 Gathering, they need to be returned to Scott no later than April 1st so please get them filled out and on their way.

Wish everyone the best in trying to attend as it is always a great time for all involved plus the folks at the Fort are always gracious to help anywhere possible, a great group.

The Membership Director's transition period is moving along very smoothly as I figured it would. Wart had that one squared away so well Jim should have no problems getting things adjusted to his liking.

Said it before, say it again, Wart did one heck of a job while in office, a real pleasure to work with though we didn't see eye to eye quite all the time, thankfully Becky kept the step ladder handy.

Not much else to report on the National level, there have been some very good discussions recently on the membership boards, always good to hear others thoughts and how different parts of the country approach some things.

It's amazing how the same topic can be looked at and presented in so many ways yet with near on the same result thus the old saying "more than one way to skin a cat"

Speaking of cats, especially large ones, finally with my own eyes got a real good and a bit to close for comfort view of a mountain lion, extremely impressive animal. This one was female and guessing her weight somewhere around 100

pounds which was later confirmed by the game warden who has seen the same cat several times plus it's probable mate who is larger. Not sure how much their tail weighs but there is a lot of it, almost as long as their body.

Two weeks left of tree rat hunting for this season opens back up on May 15th.

There is some decent late season waterfowl hunting still available with the no limit snow goose hunting just around the corner hope to burn some powder on them birds.

In addition to the local Cooper's hawks we now have a large Owl patrolling the neighborhood, have seen the bird quite a few times recently and it never seems concerned till the bluejays or crows find its hiding spot. Early morning of the 4th we had a large hawk sitting in the back oak tree eating a bluejay, got a couple poor light pictures which later proved it to be a juvenile eagle.

The OWDC has several new changes its working on everything is listed on their website in a straight forward format. They've been doing a good job of it so would have to say any changes would be for the best.

The January / February issue of Muzzleloader magazine has a lot of very good articles as always, please pay particular attention to Elanor Labine's work entitled "Working for Exposure... or Exploitation" a really good and enlightening piece it'll get you to thinking.

After several years reread Harriette Simpson Arnow's "Seedtime on the Cumberland", Library of Congress Catalog # 60-7414, I almost forgot what a wonderful volume this is and highly recommend it to all with historical pursuits though the area covered might not be of a particular interest. The last chapter, Around the Family Hearth, is extremely informative that would mirror lifestyles in many other areas of early settlement.

Since the end of deer seasons and the snow storm haven't been out and about in the woods very much, with the weather moderating to more seasonable terms it looks promising for some great late winter adventures. Not a lot going on in the area event wise for now, that will change pretty soon as Spring gets a little closer.

In closing wish everyone good fortune in their Historical endeavors for the New Year and beyond.

Best to All, Take / Give Care,

Brad Pickle
Oklahoma State Rep