October Tour will Focus on Nashville’s Early Settlers

How Did Those Early Settlers Ever Survive in the Wilderness?

Come and discover how the early pioneers carved out a successful community on the western frontier in just 27 years. The first settlers arrived in December 1779 and more arrived in April 1780. Discover how these courageous men and women arrived at French Lick, built Fort Nashborough and endured the hardships of life in the wilderness. Meet their Leader. Visit with the young 10 year old boy who drove the sheep on the overland trip to French Lick. Chew Crew, the sheep herd, will be coming to the Tour. Introduce yourself to a Native American who wanted to create peace with the settlers. Learn about a 1794 feast hosted for 100 people by a local family. Find out who these people were and why most of them were going to visit President Washington. Hear the remarkable story of a slave who became the most famous jockey in America. A Methodist elder will describe an unusual use of their earliest log church building. Meet the first Judge at the Settlement and hear about the harsh punishments for crimes. Keeping law and order was essential on the frontier. The County Court Clerk will tell you how his salary was paid and it was not with money. You may be quite amazed that a slave was able to successfully run a business on the Public Square in 1794. Not everyone wore homespun. You will see a prominent merchant in a queue and knee britches. A Scotsman came to the frontier to bring Presbyterianism but ended up becoming everyone’s favorite wedding preacher. All of these people will be in costume.

In celebration of the 250th Birthdays of Andrew and Rachel Jackson, Nashville City Cemetery Association and Metro Historical Commission are again coordinating with The Hermitage. All of the people portrayed on the Living History Tour knew the Jacksons. Many thanks to Howard Kittell, CEO of the Andrew Jackson Foundation, and Erin Adams, Director of Education and Interpretation at The Hermitage. All afternoon, strolling through the grounds, will be Andrew and Rachel Jackson when they were a young happily married couple. This was a happy time in their lives before wars, politics and gossip. Chat with them and have your picture taken.

Advance tickets are available at www.eventbrite.com
Search for Living History Tour on October 14. $5 for Individuals or $10 for Families
We have had an interesting time at the old City Cemetery recently. Five graves of former slaves have had headstones put in place. They were for three slaves owned by President James K. Polk, and two slaves owned by Adelicia Acklen. Both the Polk Memorial Auxiliary in Columbia, Tennessee, and the Belmont Mansion Association, presided at the two ceremonies, along with the board of NCCA. It is one of our core missions to put up markers for those people whose tombstones have been lost, and who never had one. We have a list of a number of individuals that we honor as we are able to raise the funds to do so. Between 2005 and 2016 we erected eighty-five tombstones, and we have five more in the works. So, thanks to the hard work of our board and members, we are fulfilling our mission.

Another part of that mission is to maintain what is still in the cemetery. As you know we recently had a magnolia limb fall onto some monuments, and we paid to repair them. Now vandals have damaged eighteen monuments back near the Ephraim Hubbard Foster family lot. Metro Police have agreed to increase patrolling the property to protect it better.

Our Living History Tour is about to happen, and Board Member Fletch Coke, and many others, have been working hard to make it a great success. We are asking for those who can help to guarantee its financial success to send in sponsorship money to help to defray the costs of transportation, “comfort stations”, and medical care on call as needed. There are many not so obvious costs involved in putting the tour together, and any help that you give is greatly appreciated.

Jim Hoobler
President, NCCA
The 18th Annual Memorial Day Dash was run on Monday, May 29, with a trio of Sons of the American Revolution firing their flintlocks promptly at 7:30 in front of Adventure Science Center. After looping around Fort Negley, runners meandered through the City Cemetery before finishing the 5k run where it began. Overall winner Ben Li, age 26, finished with a time of 16:38 (a blistering 5:22 mile pace), 10 seconds ahead of 2nd place finisher Tony White. Kortni Koutrakos ran to an overall victory among women, with an impressive chip time of 23:24. She finished just ahead of Beth Hanson (age 51), who ran a very impressive race. The female masters category winner was Amy Breedlove with a chip time of 25:20, and Robbie McKay (age 49) captured the men’s masters victory with a chip time of 19:54. Kudos also to Ted Wilson who, at the age of 80, ran a time of 31:31.

In addition to a headstone-shaped Teflon trophy, winners received an array of goods from area sponsors, including Gabby’s Burgers, Dozen Bakery, and Vanderbilt University. 309 finished the race, 340 registered participants. The large crowd was dotted with numerous participants adorned with red, white, and blue, and several costumed runners received prizes for their creative displays of patriotic apparel. Generous door prizes were also offered, including various gift cards, cemetery guidebooks, and such. Delicious post-race pastries were provided by Dozen Bakery. Volunteers from Boy Scout Troop 671 (Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church) placed an American flag on the grave of each US military veteran in the cemetery for the occasion, properly memorializing their service for the national holiday. Many thanks to them and to the numerous volunteers on race day representing the Nashville Striders, Hands-on Nashville, and of course the Nashville City Cemetery Association. Lastly, a big thank you to the Adventure Science Center for generously handing over their parking lot to us again this year.

We look forward to the 19th Annual! For a selection of hundreds of photos, go to the Nashville Strider’s website.

Cast for the Living History Tour 2017

Narrator - Fred Zahn
James Robertson, to be played by Jack Allyn
Piomingo, to be played by Anthony Martin
Jonathan Robertson, to be played by Seamus Havron
Judge John McNairy, to be played by Todd Breyer
Andrew Ewing, to be played by Elyon Davis
Mrs. Charlotte Robertson, to be played by Lucy Nading
Mrs. Ann Robertson Cockrill, to be played by Ella Sullivan
Robert Renfro, to be played by Frank Harrison
Edward Hobbs, to be played by Myers Brown
Anthony Foster, to be played by Kem Hinton
Young Andrew Jackson, to be played by Jake Malmstrom
Young Rachel Jackson, to be played by Rachel Meredith
Simon the Jockey – To Be Announced
Rev. William Hume, to be played by Sean Alexander

In support of our mission to raise public awareness of the Nashville City Cemetery, the NCCA has been working to increase our social media presence. To keep up between newsletters, follow along for news and events on our various platforms.

www.thenashvillecitycemetery.org
www.facebook.com/nashcitycemetery
www.instagram.com/nashvillecitycemetery
twitter.com/nashcem
JOIN OR RENEW YOUR NCCA MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Your membership is extremely valuable to us. It helps support our efforts to repair, restore, and preserve the Nashville City Cemetery. It also allows us to offer the Living History Tour each fall, along with other cemetery tours throughout the year, and to sponsor the popular Memorial Day Dash, now designated as a Nashville Striders Grand Prix Race. Members receive the newsletter and are invited to special events. Please provide e-mail address below.

NCCA Membership Levels (circle one):

- Individual (Donor): $20
- Family (Donor): $35
- Donor: $20–$49
- Sponsor: $50–$99
- Supporter: $100–$199
- Contributor: $200–$299
- Sustainer: $300–$399
- Provider: $400–$499
- Patron: $500 + above
- Other ____________________

Gift to be used for (option): __________________________________________________________________________

Join ☐ Renew ☐ I would like information about: tax letters _____ ; volunteer opportunities _____.

If applicable, please list the names of your ancestors buried at City Cemetery: __________________________________________________________________________

Name ____________________________________________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________ State _________ Zip Code _______________________

Telephone ( _____ )__________________________ E-mail ________________________________________________

Please complete this form and mail to NCCA, P.O. Box 150733, Nashville, TN 37215-0733

You can also apply on our website: thenashvillecitycemetery.org

Don't miss the Living History Tour, October 14, 2017