

Bledsoe's Fort Colonial Fair

March 1st, 2018

Dear Participant,

The Board & Members of Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association are excited to inform you of our Eleventh Annual Colonial Fair. The event will be held Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, May 4th, 5th, & 6th, 2018 at Bledsoe's Fort Park in Castalian Springs, Tennessee. Event hours will be from 9:00am 'til 3:00pm Friday, 9:00 am 'til 5:00 pm Saturday & 9:00 am 'til 3:00 pm Sunday.

This year as a thank you to all of our participants, we are not charging registration fees; this applies to all registered participants, campers, merchants, or traders. Anyone attending in period attire that has not registered will be required to purchase tickets at the gate.

We plan to offer a Longhunter's camp, and a camping area for 18th Century Tent Campers. Traders Row will feature artisans and crafts demonstrators, clothing and glassware, pottery, and household items from the 18th Century. Educational demonstrations, game areas for colonial games, a children's area, musicians and street performers will be only part of the offerings presented at the Colonial Fair. After so much enthusiasm was generated the first year we will again have shooting competitions. Past year's shooting matches were fun, but very challenging, so bring a sharp eye and even sharper wit.

Enclosed please find a list of rules and an application for the event. In order to provide the most authentic experience for participants and visitors, we ask that you observe all guidelines and comply with jury requests. Upon receipt & approval of your application for participation, we will notify you via email or telephone. **Please return the completed application, with photographs if applicable, by April 25, 2018.**

Registration will begin Wednesday morning, May 2nd at 12:00 pm at the Gatehouse, at which time you will receive your information packet, passes & space assignment. All vehicles and non-period items must be out of the Market Fair and historic area by 9:00 am Friday morning.

We will furnish straw, firewood & water. Ice will be available for purchase. All fire pits should be replaced with sod when you break camp on Sunday, May 6th. It is extremely important to preserve the integrity of the event and give each of our visitors a unique experience, so we ask that all campsites, displays & merchants remain in place until closing at 3:00 pm Sunday, May 7th.

Saturday evening, you are invited to attend "Bledsoe's Tavern Under the Stars" and enjoy Music, Dancing, Sing-A-longs & 18th century Games & Fun.

Bledsoe's Colonial Fair is completely organized & supported by volunteer labor, so your cooperation, understanding and support will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via phone at 615-461-0222. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Your Humble Servants, The Bledsoe Colonial Fair Coordinators

Jurying Process:

All persons desiring to attend the Bledsoe Fort Colonial Fair, who did not complete the jurying process for any previous Fair, must submit an application and provide representative photographs of their merchandise, clothing and equipment **no later than April 25, 2018**.

Upon receipt of your application and photographs, the jurying committee will review your application and scrutinize your photographs for any items, including merchandise, clothing and equipment that violates the Bledsoe Fort Colonial Fair rules or cannot be documented to the 18th Century. Please remember, it is incumbent on the applicant to provide documentation of questionable items to the jurying committee.

After the jurying committee has made its decision on your application:

You will receive notice that you have been accepted to attend the Bledsoe Fort Colonial Fair. You can then pick up your registration packet at the registration tent upon arriving at the Fair.

OR

You will receive notice that your application has been denied because your merchandise, clothing and/or equipment does not conform to the mandatory rules or can not be documented to the 18th Century.

If a minor infraction of the mandatory rules is discovered, the jurying committee also reserves the right to approve your application, contingent upon the applicant making the necessary changes or alterations to correct the infraction. For example, all of the applicant's merchandise, clothing and equipment are acceptable, except, the applicant is wearing Dyer style moccasins. In this instance, the applicant will be notified that their application has been approved; however, this type of footwear is unacceptable and cannot be worn at the Fair.

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Mandatory Rules

This Colonial Fair is being hosted for reenactors who demand the utmost authenticity. To facilitate total immersion, the following rules will be strictly enforced and are enacted to provide the most authentic experience for participants and visitors. Failure to comply with these rules may result in expulsion from the event.

General Rules:

1. By signing the accompanying application form, the participant agrees to abide by the rules set forth by Bledsoe's Lick Historical Association.
2. **Vehicles will not be allowed into the Fair Grounds between 9am and 3pm Friday, after 9pm Friday or prior to 3pm Sunday.**
3. Minor Children are the responsibility of the parent or guardian. Children must be under constant supervision by the parent or guardian and will not be allowed to play around fires, tools or the Live Fire Demonstration Range at any time.
4. Pets are allowed, however, all dogs should fit into your persona and **must** be restrained on an 18th Century style leash and collar and under the control of the owner **AT ALL TIMES**.
5. No cameras will be used while attired in period clothing.
6. Firearms are allowed on the Fair grounds, but shall be unloaded at all times. Weapons will be inspected upon arrival and are subject to inspection by the Fair Master or his/her designee at any time. No demonstration or blank firing of firearms is permitted unless prior approval by the Fair Master or his/her designee has been gained.

Clothing, Camp and Appearance Rules:

1. Participants must remain in period clothing at all times from 9am Friday until 3pm Sunday.
2. While on the Fair Grounds, **YOU ARE IN THE 18th CENTURY!!** All items used and worn are to reflect this.
3. Your appearance, camp, accoutrements and goods, etc, will be inspected for authenticity by the Fair Master and/or his/her agents. The burden of proof shall be upon the bearer of a questionable item, therefore, the bearer should be prepared to provide documentation.
4. Only 18th Century eyewear is permissible. Contact lenses are allowed. Modern eyewear is prohibited.
5. Only 18th Century footwear is permissible, to include shoes, boots and moccasins.
6. Men's Clothing - Must be typical 18th Century colonial apparel. *Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: calico shirts, long fringe western buckskins, mountain man clothing, western clothing and blanket capotes.*
7. Women's Clothing – Must be typical 18th Century colonial apparel. Gowns, petticoats, shifts, short gowns or bed jackets. A cap or kerchief should be worn to cover the hair. Jewelry should be appropriate to the 18th Century. Make-up should be conservative and not detract from the Colonial appearance. *Prohibited items include, but are not limited to: calico prints, off-the-shoulder shifts or bodices worn as outer garments.*
8. Shelters accepted include simple lean-to's, diamond fly's, marquees, wedge and wall tents, and documentable Native American shelters. *Civil War tents, teepees, Bakers, Walens, centerpoles and nylon tents are prohibited.*
9. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited by Sumner County ordinance.
10. No cigarettes or brown cigar-like cigarettes are allowed at any time while in period clothing.

Live Fire Demonstration Rules:

1. Weapons shall only be loaded while within the physical boundaries of the Live Fire Demonstration Range.
2. The Range Master is responsible for the safe operation of the Live Fire Demonstration. All commands and instructions given by the Range Officer will be followed implicitly.
3. **NO** loaded weapons will be taken from the Live Fire Demonstration Range. Weapons are subject to inspection at any time by the Fair Master, Range Master and/or their designee.
4. Anyone wishing to participate in the Live Fire Demonstration shall supply a blanket prize in the amount of \$20.

Merchant Rules:

1. Tables must be correct to the 18th Century or skirted to the ground.
2. All items sold at the Fair will be authentic to the 1750-1790 time period, excluding modern media (CD's, books, or magazines) that pertain explicitly with the above time period. No western or Plains Indian articles should be sold. The following items may NOT be sold: bamboo flutes, popguns, Archaeological artifacts, any item that represents post 1790, holiday items, mass-produced items (T-shirts, etc), furs of domestic animals, souvenir type items, photographs, pictures or stationary.
3. All goods may be inspected by the Fair Master or his/her designee at any time. Any item that is deemed to violate the above rule shall be removed.
4. No food or drink is to be served unless prior approval is gained from the Fair Master or his/her designee. Any food or drink that is served must be served in an 18th Century cup, mug, plate or other vessel.

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2018 Participant Application

All participants that have not completed the jurying process must submit photographs of their camp, gear and themselves in 18th Century attire. Demonstrators and Merchants must submit representative photographs of their merchandise and/or craft. New applications received without photographs will be discarded. Photos will be returned if requested.

1. Participants. *Anyone attending the Fair in 18th Century attire, including Campers, Non-Campers, Merchants, Blanket Traders or Artisans/Craftsmen.*

_____ Number of Adults.

_____ Number of Children (Ages 6-12).

_____ Number of Children (5 and under).

Type of Person: _____

Type of shelter _____

Is there someone you would like to camp near? _____

2. Merchants. Please check one of the following:

_____ **Tent Merchant.**

Size requirement for display (including ropes) _____ w _____ d Type of merchandise to be sold _____

_____ **Blanket Trader.**

Display size limited to the size of a 4-point blanket (72"x90") Type of merchandise to be sold _____

_____ **Artisan/Craftsman (with sales).** Artisan/Craftsman must demonstrate their craft during Fair hours.

Size requirement for display (including ropes) _____ w _____ d

Type of craft _____

Name(s): _____ Age(s): _____

Group or Business Name: _____

Street Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Email: _____

Have you been previously juried for the Bledsoe Fort Colonial Fair? What year(s)? 2008-2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

EMERGENCY CONTACT:

Name: _____ Relation to you: _____

Street Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Do you have any medical conditions that you would like the Fair staff to be aware of? If so, please explain briefly: _____

I have read and understand the application and the mandatory rules and agree to abide by policies as set forth. Furthermore, I agree that the organizers of said event have the right to expel anyone from the event who does not abide by those policies. Likewise, the organizers have the right to inspect attire and merchandise and those items that do not meet authenticity requirements will need to be removed.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: **Bledsoe's Fort Colonial Fair**

Return completed application, photographs and registration fee to: **Bledsoe's Fort Colonial Fair**
P.O. Box 1316
Gallatin, TN 37066