WHITE SMOKE COMPANY OF BUCKSKINNERS, INC.

Presents the FRITZTOWN FREE TRAPPERS Spring Rendezvous - April 10-13, 2014

You are welcome to the 2014 FFT Spring Rendezvous to be held in Shiner, Texas at the site of a previous Southwestern Regional Rendezvous. It will be at Gene Nagelmueller's property whom we thank for the use of the site.

Please see the attached map for directions to the property. There is no "address" for your GPS for this site. Just follow the map and look for the FFT signs posted along the road. We haven't lost anyone yet. The yellow route on the map is for RVs.

Early set up beginning 3:00 pm on Thursday, April 10th. Modern camping in parking area.

Membership fee: \$10.00 per year

Competition fee: \$15.00 per competitor (includes camping fee).

Non-competitor camping fee is \$10.00 per lodge.

COMPETITION NEWS!!

Competition will be Friday as available and starting as early as possible on Saturday. The order of competition will be: Archery Walk, Rifle Shoot, Hawk/Knife Throw and Fire Starting. We will start with the archery walk. The event captain (Justeve) gets people who are waiting their turn to help with the event. The first competitors are the other event captains starting with the captain of the Rifle Shoot. The Rifle Shoot Captain will complete archery before anyone else starts. As soon as he finishes archery, the other captains do their archery walk, then the rest of the competitors in small groups. This gives the Rifle Shoot Captain time to open the Rifle Shoot. The first competitor is the captain of the knife/hawk competition who will complete all of his targets. He can then open Knife/Hawk competition. The first competitor will be the person in charge of Fire Starting. I hope you get the idea.

Now here is the part that relieves the captains from waiting the whole time for a few stragglers. As soon as there is no one in line waiting to do archery, the archery captain closes the event, and he goes through the other events in order. When the archery captain completes each event, that event is closed. If he or she does not compete in a particular event, or if he or she competed in the event on Friday, that event is over as soon as he or she gets to the event and there is no line.

Depending on the number of competitors, this may allow the competitions to be over by 12:00 noon. If not, we would take lunch at 12:00 and resume competition at 1:00. Anyone can compete in any order they see fit, but they take the risk of showing up at an event after it is closed. So compete early to complete everything.

This does not mean to say that if you are driving in from a long distance and you arrive at 10am Saturday to find archery closed, that you can't compete. Just go on and do the other events, then find Justeve and he will take you through the archery.....he just has no intentions of sitting in the sun at the archery range all day long.

It has always been the policy of the Fritztown Free Trappers that everyone who competes gets a prize. We use to buy some of our prizes from the vendor who came to our rendezvous, but Cuz is no longer a vendor. Our members also use to be very good about donating an item for the prize blanket. The handmade items were always appreciated. Our prize box has gotten very very lean.....and we have no prizes at all for kids events! So I am putting out a plea to all members to please bring something for the prize blankets - adults or kids or both!

If you are not into making items, you can always go to Half-Price Books and find books on the 1830's, or books on rifles, archery, black powder, etc.

There will be activities for the kids and if enough women show up, Hummingbird might even have a skillet toss contest.

"Primitive" camping. While we are not strict, we do request that you keep your camp as close to period as possible. That simply means that if it's plastic, stainless steel or has a screw top, use it and then please cover it or put it into your tent. Please do not interpret this to mean that if you're just getting started your camp won't fit in; it will and we welcome you.

There's plenty of parking, so please unload and get that horseless carriage out of the campsite area as soon as you can. Let's get to looking like skinners as soon as you can after entering the camp area.

Not sure if there is a fire ban in Lavaca County, but all fire pits should have a bucket of water nearby.

One of our new members, Cindy Moellendick, has graciously consented to cook a brisket for our Council Fire. Please plan on bringing a side dish or dessert that will compliment the brisket. Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. Saturday night, followed by competition awards, tall-tales, singing, drinking, and the usual rendezvous rowdiness!

Your Booshway, Glenn "Iron Burner" Darilek cell: 210-410-0036