

Centuries of History featuring the Battle of Rich Mountain

*Civil War reenactors and
Living Historians from 1750 through 1950
Are invited to join us for a joint event:*

Beverly Heritage Days -- Centuries of History Featuring the Battle of Rich Mountain Reenactment July 14, 15, 16, 2017 Beverly and Rich Mountain, West Virginia

Join us in 2017 for a better-than-ever joint event to commemorate the Battle of Rich Mountain and history of nearby Beverly, Randolph County. Civil War camps and reenactment on the Battlefield park property will be joined by timeline living history and multi-period camps in Beverly. Battle reenactment, living history scenarios, displays and music from the range of periods will bring exciting and educational activities for our visitors. Activities for spectators and participants will be shared between the two locations.

Reenactment – at the Battlefield

At the Rick Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site, 6 miles west of Beverly, Civil War camps will share camp life at Camp Garnett, culminating with the reenactment battle on Sunday afternoon as the featured event for the weekend. Participants from Beverly living history camps are encouraged to attend the reenactment, and participate if appropriate. The scenario, held on park land but not at the battlefield site, will replicate the battle to the extent possible, with Confederate position with one cannon surprised by the Federal advance.

Civil War reenactors who choose the battlefield camp will help determine their activity schedule for Saturday, with living history scenarios, tactical, skirmish, and/or military drill options possible depending on reenactor interest. Let us know what you are interested in! Camping will be in a rural, pristine location on the Battlefield park property, with over 400 acres of historic land available for activities. The Civil War camp and reenactment is hosted by West Virginia Reenactors Association.

Living History

Beverly, WV located 6 miles south of Elkins along US Rt 219, is an active heritage tourism destination with historic district, shops, and museums anchored by the Beverly Heritage Center. The timeline living history in Beverly will be featured during the day Saturday, with camps open from Friday through Sunday. Pioneer (ca 1750 – 1820) and Native American camp will be set up near the Stalnaker Cabin, hosted by Tygart Valley Pioneers. World War II camp at the southern end of town will feature Allied and German (no SS please) scenarios and displays. Civil War living history for civilians or those

The History

From the first settlement attempt in 1753, and 10 families who came to stay in 1772, settlers fought to secure the frontier from Indians who claimed the mountain lands. In 1790, Beverly, (West) Virginia was founded as the original county seat of Randolph County, was a crucial crossroads through settlement, Civil War and 20th Century history.

On July 11, 1861, an outpost of Confederates with one cannon defended a mountain pass outside Beverly against a Federal attack in the BATTLE OF RICH MOUNTAIN. Following a spirited defense, the Confederates were forced to abandon the battlefield and Camp Garnett, their major fortification controlling the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike at the base of Rich Mountain.

This early war action was a major victory for commanding General George B. McClellan, who was named to command the Army of the Potomac as a result. The Federals occupied Beverly, retained control of northwestern Virginia, and two years later the state of West Virginia was formed. As the pivotal battle of the First Campaign of the Civil War, Rich Mountain was nationally significant in launching the cataclysm to come.

Following the Civil War, Beverly grew along with the new state of West Virginia. Industrialization brought new cities, and Beverly lost as county seat to Elkins in 1899. Beverly residents through the early 20th century faced changing economy, depression, and World War II, shaping today's community.

who prefer to participate in Beverly will be around the Beverly Jail. Other periods within that time frame, military or civilian, are welcome.

First person or planned scenarios are especially encouraged – let us know what you can do and we will put it on the schedule. Activities for children are great, and displays, crafts, demonstrations, music, or food related to our “Centuries of History” will all be considered. Let us know your impression when you register so we can make plans and promote your presentation as a part of the event.

A timeline fashion show is being planned for Saturday morning, to represent a variety women’s, men’s civilian and military, and children’s outfits. Please let us know if are interested in participating.

Music

An outdoor stage Saturday will host an assortment of musical performances appropriate to the range of periods. Musicians in camps, in the Beverly Heritage Center, traveling minstrels playing informally around town, or at the Battlefield camps are also welcome. A “Time Travel Dance” Saturday evening in Beverly will mix a variety of dances from colonial line dances, to Civil War quadrilles, to the mid-20th century swing.

Selling Goods

Sutlers or other merchants of period appropriate goods are welcome. There will be no extra vendor fee, although pre-registration is required and a donation to support the event is encouraged. Craft demonstrators or camp participants who wish to sell within the period camps may do so with permission from the camp provost, as long as their display is period appropriate. A merchants’ area will be available near the Beverly Heritage Center and near the battlefield pavilion - Civil War sutlers may elect either. Pre-registered merchants may select their location as long as it is appropriate to the look and period of their goods and display. Merchants with modern goods or display will be placed in the BHC area, and only if appropriate with advance approval.

Amenities

Camps in Beverly will be located in the large lawns within the town. Water and portopots will be available near camps, with running water toilets and a shower available at Beverly Heritage Center during open hours. Camps at the battlefield are in fields and woods in front of Camp Garnett. Water and portopots are near the camp sites, with covered pavilion, running water toilets, and shower a short distance away at Field of Fire. Firewood and hay will be provided near camps. A small powder ration will be provided for pre-registered battle participants. Ice will be available for purchase.

One grilled pork meal will be provided to pre-registered participants, with your choice of lunch Saturday served in Beverly, or dinner Saturday evening delivered to the battlefield pavilion.

Draft Schedule *(details subject to change, more will be added as plans are confirmed):*

Friday July 14 – Afternoon camps available, registration open
7:30 pm – special performance (tentative Blue & Gray Choir)

Saturday, July 15

10 am- 5 pm Camps and activities open Beverly and Battlefield
Living History - Each camp is encouraged to schedule your own activities & demonstrations
Music, crafts, demonstrations, displays, children’s activities
10:30 am Fashion Show (IOOF Building, Beverly)
11 – 2 Lunch - pork BBQ by RMBF (provided for pre-registered)
12 till gone Pie sale on Goff House porch, (Beverly)
6 pm Dinner at Battlefield Pavilion, (provided for pre-registered)
7:30 pm Time Travel Dance, IOOF Building, Beverly.

Sunday, July 16

10 am - 1 pm Camps and activities open, Living History, etc, Church service TBA
Drill at battlefield, Safety inspections
1:30 Commemoration Ceremony for Battle of Rich Mountain
2 pm Battle of Rich Mountain Reenactment - Battlefield

Registration and Fees

This event is FREE with early pre-registration. Pre-registration is expected, and is required to get the participant meal. All who pre-register and provide information about your impression and needs before May 1 are free. Registrants between May 1 and June 30 will be charged \$5, and those July 1 or later will be charged \$10

Please communicate with the provost contact for your period to ask specific questions and discuss impressions. This is very helpful for our planning, but does not replace your actual registration.

Frontier: Karl Mulac gryffynklm@aol.com

Civil War: Chuck Critchfield ccritch608@yahoo.com

WWII: Jim Barnes (Allies) jd621hs@gmail.com

Eric Satterfield (Axis) defenderarmsllc@hotmail.com

Musicians: Les Caraher elkinsfiddler@gmail.com (no fee at any date unless camping)

Other Periods, Merchants, Crafts, Special Impressions: Phyllis Baxter phyllisb@meer.net

- You may pre-register by individual, family, or unit. Please give us contact info (email preferred) for everyone attending.
- You can pre-register either by filling out the appropriate on-line registration

OR

- By printing and filling out registration form, and returning to BHC by email or postal mail.
- If May 1 or later, please pay online using PayPal on the registration page, call BHC 304-637-7424 with your credit card #, or mail a check with your registration form. Payment MUST be accompanied by a registration form.

For more information:

Beverly Heritage Days: Beverly Heritage Center, 304-637-7424

www.beverlyheritagecenter.org

info@beverlyheritagecenter.org

[Facebook group for discussion and updates:](#)

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