

# Beverly Heritage Days: Centuries of History

— *Forgotten Stories* —

**July 17, 18, 19, 2020 – Beverly, West Virginia**

**Living Historians and Reenactors from 1750 through 1970** are invited to join the Beverly Heritage Center for our timeline heritage event to share the history of settlement, conflict, and daily life in the Tygart Valley. For 2020, we will be focusing on the less-told voices of women, people of color, Native Americans, and other groups who are under-represented in traditional history, in addition to stories of those in the military and the communities they impacted.

Beverly, West Virginia was the original county seat of Randolph County, and was a crucial crossroads through settlement, Civil War and 20<sup>th</sup> Century history. Located 6 miles south of Elkins along US Rt 219, Beverly is an active heritage tourism destination with town historic district, Rich Mountain Battlefield, and multiple museums and shops anchored by the Beverly Heritage Center. Beverly Heritage Days is our primary heritage event of the year.

**Living history camps** will include 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> century eras with scenarios welcome for any part of our timeline, military and civilian. Living history, first person impressions, demonstrations, presentations, displays, and heritage crafts are all welcome.

**Forgotten Stories** – We want to tell stories that are not usually told, including groups and individuals that are often not included in mainstream reenactments or history. We are researching some local history stories to share, and encourage you to come up with less heard voices and additional time periods to help make this event something different.

**Planned scenarios, demonstrations, and presentations** are strongly encouraged that can be offered either continuously, or at scheduled times. We invite all of our reenactor and living history participants to present stories of your own. Period crafts demonstrations are welcome, and could be offered either in the camps, or at separate stations through the event. Interactive activities and engagement for young people are highly encouraged. **LET US KNOW YOUR SCENARIO PLANS IN ADVANCE** so that we can get them on the schedule and include them in the event promotions. Describe on your registration form or call or email us to discuss.

**History Parade** along the streets of Beverly will kick off the event Saturday morning. Please let us know if you can participate in color guard or music for the parade. Military and civilian groups and individuals from all periods, musicians, and period appropriate vehicles are welcome (rumor has it some suffragettes may march). NO non-historic participation – no cars with politicians, twirlers, or fire trucks!

**Music** - An outdoor music tent Saturday midday will host musical performances appropriate to the range of periods. Musicians in camps or in the Beverly Heritage Center are also welcome. A “Through the Centuries Dance” Saturday evening in Beverly will mix a variety of dances from colonial line dances, to Civil War era quadrilles, to the Lindy Hop.

**Sunday Recruitment Participation** – Camps and scenarios will continue on Sunday morning. We want to invite interested members of the public to come experience living history activities for themselves. Activities could include military drills, campfire cooking, craft activities, period dress instruction, or other scenarios your camp could offer for those interested in trying it for themselves. Let us know if you can offer hands-on, public participation, or “apprentice” opportunities for this. We would expect fewer numbers, but aim for more engagement with members of the public.

**Selling Goods** - Sutlers or other merchants of period appropriate goods are welcome. There will be no 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 to that camp. A merchants' area will be available near the Beverly Heritage Center. Merchants with relevant modern goods or display will be placed in the BHC area, and only with advance approval. Please indicate your preferred location in your pre-registration.

**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. Firewood and hay will be provided and ice will be available for purchase. An ice-cream social for participants will be available Friday evening, as you arrive, set up and get registered.

Saturday lunch of grilled pork sandwich meal will be provided to pre-registered participants. You MUST pre-register by July 13 to get a lunch ticket.

Tentatively – we again want to offer “Stone Soup” for all who are still participating Sunday midday.

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

Friday July 17

Afternoon	camps available
7:00 – 8:30 pm	ice cream social for participants

Saturday, July 13

10 am- Parade of History

10:30 - 6 pm Camps and activities open Beverly

Living History - Each camp is encouraged to schedule your own activities & demonstrations

Forgotten Stories scenarios

Activities will be added to event schedule at planned times

Music, crafts, demonstrations, displays, children's activities - ongoing

11:45 Lunch - pork BBQ by RMBF (provided for pre-registered); Pie sale on Goff House porch

8 pm Through the Centuries Dance, IOOF Hall, Beverly.

Sunday, July 14

10 am – 2:00 pm Camps and activities open, public participation scenarios encouraged.

1 pm – Stone Soup in Frontier Camp

## Registration

This event is FREE with pre-registration. Pre-registration is expected, and is required by **July 13** to get the participant meal. You may register by individual, family, or unit. Please give us contact info (email if you use it) for everyone. Please pre-register and provide information about your impression and needs by early June if possible, so that we can plan and promote the event.

See [www.beverlyheritagecenter.org](http://www.beverlyheritagecenter.org) for information and online pre-registration.

Or contact us directly for information, or to pre-register by mail, email, or phone:

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Event sponsored by Beverly Heritage Center, [www.beverlyheritagecenter.org](http://www.beverlyheritagecenter.org)

Hosted by West Virginia Reenactors Association [www.wvra.org](http://www.wvra.org)