

**January 16-18, 2025**

**Jourdan-Bachman Pioneer Farms**

10621 Pioneer Farms Drive Austin, TX 78754

**Keynote Speakers**

**Bob O’Dell, producer Andrew C. Richey, director**

**Bob and Drew will be discussing their work with the Tonkawas to create a documentary film telling the extraordinary story of the Tonkawas’ protection of the city of Austin in the 1840s and the current work of the tribe to learn, portray, and protect their history and culture.**

**Learn more about their work here.**

**REGISTRATION: $85 TLHA**

**members**

**$135 non-TLHA members**

**Conference lodging options: for these discounted rates, use the links**

* **Fairfield Inn and Suites Austin Parmer/Tech Ridge Rate $88 per night including taxes and fees.**
* **Hilton Garden Inn Austin North Rate $92.39 per night including taxes and fees**
* **Courtyard Austin Parmer/Tech Ridge Rate $98.98 per night including taxes and fees**

**There are other hotels and RV parks in proximity to the site.**

Transportation to field trip sites will be your own responsibility. We do suggest you consider carpooling from the hotel.

Arranged Tours: Thursday, January 16, 2025

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Time | Place | Cost |
| 9: 30 am. | Pioneer Farms10621 Pioneer Farms Drive Austin, TX 78754 | Tour is free. Parking is free at Pioneer Farms |
| 10 am | Bullock Texas State History Museum1800 Congress Ave.Austin, TX 78701 | Admission $15 adults, $11 seniors.Parking garage $15 |
| 10 am | Oakwood Cemetary1601 Navasota St, Austin, TX 78702 | Admission is free. On street parking is free. |
| 2 pm | Neill-Cochran House2310 San Gabriel St, Austin, TX 78705 | Admission $10 Parking is free in museum lot accessible from 23rd street |
| 2 pm | Williamson County Museum 716 S Austin Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78626 | Admission is free. Parking is free. |

These are museum sites related to Texas history that you can visit on your own.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Times | Place | Cost |
| 9 am-5 pm | LBJ Presidential Library 2313 Red River St.Austin, TX 78705 | Admission is $12 for adults, $8 for seniors. Parking is free in lot #38. |
| 10 am-4 pm | The Texas Military Forces MuseumCamp Mabry3038 W. 35th St. Austin, TX 78703 | Admission is free. Parking is free. Must have a valid, unexpired picture ID. |
| 11 am-4:30 pm | The French Legation 802 San Marcos Street Austin, TX 78702 | Admission is $7. Seniors, teachers, first responders, veterans $6. Parking lot located at 900 East 9th Street is free. |
| 12-5 pm | Brush Square Museums:O. Henry House and John and Susanna Dickinson Hannig Museum411 E 5th St., Austin, TX 78701 | Admission is free. Metered parking is available on the street. |

**Friday – January 7, 2025**

**0800 - 0820 - *Welcome***

**0830 - 1600- All Day Workshops**

1. **“Your New “SO”: Getting to Know Your Wood Burning Cook Stove”** - Nicole Shadle

**Location:** Jourdan House Kitchen **Number of participants:** 6 **Cost:** $20

Wood burning cook stoves are known for having their own personalities; what may work well on

one stove may not transfer to a different stove! Learn why stoves behave differently based on

their features and structure. Attendees will work with a cook stove to learn the basics of wood

stove cooking and baking, how to read a recipe for a cook stove, common troubleshooting tips,

and basic maintenance and care all while making a few yummy recipes for themselves. Before

you know it, you’ll know your stove better than your own significant other! This workshop is best

served for novice and beginner wood stove enthusiasts. Attendees should wear closed-toed.

shoes and clothing to cover legs and arms.

1. **“Timber Hewing”** – Jordan Anderson

**Location:** Scarborough Barn Breezeway **Number of participants:** 8 **Cost:** $50

In this workshop we will guide participants through how to hew timbers by hand.

Participants will learn how to properly size, score, and hew a timber to the desired dimension. This will be a physical workshop, and participants will walk away with some sore muscles.

 Required items for participants:

* Clothes they don’t mind getting dirty
* Closed toed shoes boots are encouraged
* Gloves should you want them
* Water

**0830 – 1145 - Workshops**

1. **“Toiletries Bag” -** Katelyn Kearns

**Location:** Bell House Dining Room **Number of participants:** 8 **Cost:** $20

After getting your clothes and accessories, you need period containers for all your articles to take to events!  Why not start with a toiletry bag?  These little articles are great for carrying a woman's hair supplies, soap, hairpins, etc. for overnight use.  Participants will receive supplies for making a bag from either an 1830s toilet bag or an 1860s toilet bag.  Bags may be hand sewn or participants may bring their own sewing machine if they desire.

1. **“Re-Use and Re-Cycle, making a Fun and Functional Footstool” -** Marna Davis

**Location:** Wessels Hall **Number of participants:** 12

**Cost:** Contact Marna if you desire a prepared kit or list of needed items.

In 1875 “The American Agriculturist” noted that, “Canned fruits and Vegetables are now put on the large scale at such cheap rates, that many families prefer to purchase such articles to put them up themselves, and there are but few who do not have more or less cans during the year. The old cans seem too good to throw aways, and as there is no sale for them, they accumulate, as but few are found useful in the kitchen or workshop.”  Here is a way to provide a bit of comfort from those cans. Let’s make a footrest or hassock using 7 large empty cans like soup or juice cans and other recycled fabrics.

1. **“Tresses Transformed”-** Cynthia Naughton

**Location:** Jourdan House Kitchen **Number of participants:** 10 **Cost:** None

Tresses Transformed is a workshop geared toward mainly the female reenactor who wants to be correct for events, but also wear a modern hairstyle for their day-to-day life. In this class we will learn some tricks and techniques for transforming your modern hairstyle into a period look.

 Here is a list of items that people will need to bring:

* Cell phone or camera
* A comb
* A brush
* Any period hairpieces
* Any accessories that they wish to incorporate into their hairstyle.
1. **“Historic Hearth: Forging Skewers and Wall Mounted Holders” -** Philip Waters

**Location:** Blacksmith Shop **Number of participants:** 10 **Cost:** $50

Delve into the past with a hands-on experience in historical blacksmithing, recreating metal skewers and a wall-mounted skewer holder based on a classic 18th-century design from Essex County, MA. This 4-hour workshop offers a glimpse into the tools and techniques that were once indispensable in kitchens with open hearth cooking. Join us to forge your own pieces and connect with the history of everyday craftsmanship from a bygone era.

This will be based on some skewers from the boko Hooks, Rings & Other Things: An illustrated index of New England Iron 1660-1680.

**1200-1300 – *Lunch (to be provided by Pioneer Farms)***

**1300-1600- Workshops**

1. **“What’s for Dinner? (a.k.a Ef’ ‘Em ‘n’ Feed ‘Em Beans)”-** Kimberlee and Pete Berezuk

**Location:** Jourdan House **Number of participants:** 10 **Cost:** $5

How do you plan, prepare, and cook a historical meal? Where to you find recipe(receipts)? How do you use historical records to select and prepare foodstuffs and supplies? How do you decant/repackage modern foodstuffs in period containers? How do you plan if you are feeding a family, a company, or the whole Town or Army?

One of the most vital aspects of living history is food and drink. It is often the most overlooked and can be ruinous to a living history endeavor when done poorly. This session will explore how to research period receipts and methods, how to select and package foodstuffs in preparation, and how to plan and execute meals across the spectrum for a family, a company, through to the whole dang Town!

1. **“UFO sewing projects” -** Katelyn Kearns

**Location:** Bell House Ladies Parlor **Number of participants:** No limit **Cost:** None

Do you need time to finish that dress you're wearing to Saturday night's banquet? Do you have a problem project that could use a second pair of eyes? Do you need encouragement and company to get that one project collecting dust in the corner of your closet done? Join us for an informal sewing circle where we sit, catch up, and get some things done!

1. **“Heritage Tools: Forging Screwdrivers and Pot Lifters” -** Philip Waters

**Location:** Blacksmith Shop **Number of participants:** 10 **Cost:** $50

Experience the art of historical blacksmithing by crafting essential tools that were once everyday necessities. In this 4-hour workshop, you’ll forge a flathead screwdriver and a pot lifter, each with its own practical purpose. The flathead screwdriver, a staple in toolkits for centuries, was used for everything from furniture repairs to machinery adjustments. The pot lifter, essential in open hearth cooking, allowed cooks to safely lift and maneuver hot pots over the fire. Embrace traditional blacksmithing methods as you create these versatile tools, connecting with the craftsmanship and ingenuity of artisans from the past.

1. **“Flint Knapping” –** Steven Ashley

**Location:** Tonkawa encampment **Number of participants:** 10 **Cost:** $10

Make your own stone tool or arrowhead. Learn how to work flint and how to show others how stone tools are made.

**1730-2100 - *Reception – “Pickled, Smoked, and Preserved”***

* What does the future hold for Texas Living History Association?
* What is going on at your site this year?

**Saturday – January 18, 2025**

**0800- 0820- Welcome**

**0830- 1000 – Class Set #1 (90 mins)**

1. **“Ladies Aside Part 1” –** Marina Davis

 **Location:** Wessels Hall

Horseback riding was one of the most accepted sports for women.  But what should one wear? What do the saddles look like? Marna will bring original and reproduction saddles, and we will explore how riding habits were constructed, what they were usually made of, what was appropriate for different situations, and how serious riders dress and gear differed from those who might just be in the park to attract a young gentleman.

1. **“The Texas Center Tell the Story of Texas” –** Ben Friberg

 **Location:** Dessau Church

One of the Texas Center’s primary missions is educational outreach. We have been working for several years on creating an epic 250 video Texas History curriculum that can be used for 7th grade through college. We want future Texans to know how to add their story to the great saga of our state. As we near our rollout deadline, we’d like to share some of our most polished videos to give educators a look at our project and discuss how it can be useful for public school teachers, homeschoolers, and anyone trying to learn more about the story of Texas.

1. **“Teaching the Craft: Effective Blacksmithing classes for Living History Museums”** - Philip Waters

 **Location:** Blacksmith Shop

   Discover how to create compelling blacksmithing classes for living history museums in this comprehensive lecture on design, pricing, and teaching strategies. Dive into the essentials of planning classes that captivate and educate, while maintaining historical integrity. Learn how to choose projects that appeal to museum visitors, set pricing that reflects value, and teach in a way that enhances the living history experience. Perfect for blacksmiths and educators, this session provides actionable insights to help you craft classes that engage participants and bring history to life.

4.**“Whip It Real Good! Interpreting the Science of Butter” –** Nicole Shadle

 **Location:** Bell House Kitchen

Butter making is something that almost all institutions can do, but do you know the science behind the process? Learn all about building a butter program and interpreting the process to a variety of ages. This is a hands-on session, so be prepared to get messy!

1. **“Middle Class Victorian Women Fashions”** - Darla Salter

 **Location:** Jarmon House Parlor

Many of us know about what working women wore during the Victorian era, but what about middle class women?  While these women weren’t at the top of the fashion ladder, they did have a strong sense of what was fashionable.  And just because they weren’t “working class” doesn’t mean they didn’t work.  They were running their households, small business owners, and had many interests.  This session will present an overview of what these fashionable women with deposable income were wearing, from their underwear to their daily dress for working, socializing, and relaxing.  We will examine how to achieve the fashionable lines and clothing decoration of this varied periods of time.

**1015-1145 - Class Set #2 (90 mins)**

1. **“Ladies Aside Part 2”** - Emily Hopkins

 **Location:** Scarbough barn

How it Really Works: This will be a hands-on mini workshop focused on the how to aspects of riding in a lady's saddle. Both ladies and gentlemen are welcome as we will be covering topics useful to both. We will discuss proper saddle fit, helping the rider into the saddle, tools and training, the mechanics of riding, and suitability of the horse. We encourage participants to wear closed-toed shoes as we will have horses on site for this session.

1. **“Perforated Paper” –** Katelyn Kearns

 **Location:** Bell House

Regular needlework and sewing can be fun, but what other sorts of crafts were common in the mid-19th century? Come discover the world of perforated paper crafts, where to find patterns, how to put them together, and discover an easy and fun craft to work on at events or to have visitors do!

1. **“19th Century Peddlers: Introducing Historical Concepts through Interaction” –** Chris Twing, Lisa Vasquez, Jim Mitchum

**Location:** Jarmon House Parlor

A peddler coming over the horizon was a common sight in 19th century Texas and can offer a unique point of inquiry into the past for visitors of all ages. Peddlers were more than traveling salesmen. They were a valuable part of the economy of rural Texas. Presented in first or third person, a peddler can teach visitors about goods, bartering and banking, modes of transportation, and allow them to gain insight into 19th century life. Learn how adding a peddler to your historic site can add life and a unique interaction to your visitors.

1. **“Clothing and Visual Presentation” –** Sarah Nolte

 **Location:** Visitor’s Center

Fashion is part of cultural history and tells us everything about people’s lives. With a focus on women’s clothing, using mannequins and actual clothing items for demonstration purposes can enhance the history learning process. Mannequins can used to exhibit a range of subjects, from changes in underwear fashion to outerwear styles. The advantage of the mannequin display is that it may be used as a temporary display with easily rotated items or a permanent one to enhances and support the educational process.

This presentation will show how to use half scale and full-sized mannequins as a means of visually enhancing information. Resources on where to find the patterns for the half scale mannequins will be provided as well as how to set up your pattern in Adobe to print. Attendees will be shown how to measure a mannequin to determine size.

1. **“Reviving Women's Role in the Forge: A Past, Present, and Future of Female Blacksmiths” -** Jennifer Cochran Anderson

 **Location:** Blacksmith Shop

Contrary to popular belief, the history of blacksmithing is not exclusively male. Women have played significant roles in this craft throughout history. From medieval Europe, through colonial America, and into the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, women smithed both on their own and alongside men. Notable figures like Betsy Hagar, known to her 18th century contemporaries as “Handy Betsy,” or “Betsy the Blacksmith,” and who used her blacksmithing skills in service of the American Revolution, exemplify this rich heritage.

Despite this long history, the contributions of women in blacksmithing often go unrecognized. At Pioneer Farms, we are working to change that. This talk explores this often-overlooked history of female blacksmiths and how the forge at Pioneer Farms is illuminating this legacy. We are intentionally creating an inclusive environment that encourages women to explore blacksmithing through our classes and open forge nights. Our efforts include offering classes specifically for women and gender-diverse individuals, showcasing the history of female blacksmiths in placards and in our interactions with the public, emphasizing multiple aspects of the craft's artistry and practical applications to appeal to a diverse audience, and expanding our range of shop tools to better accommodate smiths of various sizes and strengths.

Through these initiatives, we aim to not only honor the historical contributions of women in blacksmithing but also to forge a more inclusive future for this timeless craft.

**1200- 1300 – Lunch**

* **Keynote speaker -Bob O’Dell and Andrew C. Richey**

**1300- 1400 - Class Set #3 (60 mins)**

1. **“Evaluating Reproductions: American Civil War Military Clothing” -** Colton Sheffield

 **Location:** Wessels Hall

This session will focus on being a basic guide for the new living historian in evaluating reproduction military clothing of the American Civil War. The main points of the session will be evaluation of pattern, construction, material, and context. Garments of high and low quality will be available to view and compare, alongside a recommended list of vendors and research relative to the military clothing of the American Civil War.

1. **“Specificity and Indigenous Identity in Historical Narratives” –** J Albert Nungaray

 **Location:** Bell House Dining Room

In media, one often sees portrayals of Native Americans. These portrayals often are that of a conglomerate of Indigenous styles and traditions which are anachronistic, incongruous, fictitious, or any combination thereof. In living history, museums, and beyond, these tendencies often immediately damage the credibility of the presenter and diminishes the impact and appreciation of the information and narrative. This presentation will focus on ways in which specificity, tools which can be employed, and how conscious effort to keep Indigenous identities in mind when discussing Native American historical subject matter can greatly aid in the perception and reception of any given topic.

1. **“Lone Star Papists: The Catholic Church during the Texas Revolution” –** Tim Ross

 **Location:** Bell House Ladies’ Parlor

This sixty-minute session will talk about the role of the Catholic church during the Texas

Revolution and during the Republic of Texas. This session will discuss the role that the Catholic Church played within late colonial Texas, the Texas Revolution and in the Republic of Texas.

1. **“Sam Houston’s Political Career”** - Thomas Manthei

 **Location:** Bell House Gentlemen’s Parlor

This session will be a presentation on the political career of Sam Houston beginning with his service in the war of 1812 and ending with his removal as Governor of Texas in 1861. The session will consist of an overview of all his various political positions including his time in Congress, in the Senate, as Governor of both Texas and Tennessee, and his time as President of Texas, as well as other minor positions he held. This will include discussion about his stances on political issues of the time as well as his most notable political achievements and failures.
5. “**Cemeteries As Interpretative Spaces”** –Caitlen Hill **Location:** Jarmon House Parlor

This session will discuss the ways in which a cemetery can become a space to interpret history and tell the public the story of a community.

**1430- 1530 - Class Set #4 (60 mins)**

1. **“The Significant of the Insignificant” -** Amie Clark

 **Location:** Bell House Ladies’ Parlor

This session will focus on the role of the person behind the profession.  Participants will explore the importance of researching the individual person, their role in the family, the community, and ultimately the role the individual plays in history itself.  The workshop will look at roles and professions that are widely recorded in history books and learn ways to research further into the seemingly insignificant individual behind the recording.  The workshop will look at tools of the trade, both in living history, the museum community and in history.  Participants will define what is significant and insignificant for them as a professional and living historian.  They will also look at ways that bringing to light lesser-known items, thoughts, and artifacts can enhance the effectiveness of their living history presentation.

Participants will come away with a fresh perspective on their individual importance. They will see the value of the smaller, often overlooked, things in everyday research.  Attendees will see how no one and nothing is too insignificant to make a significant difference.

2 **“Taking your horse to Town” -** Emily Hopkins, Jess Hopkins

 **Location:** Scarbough Barn

Horses are a crowd favorite at any living history event. There are lots of great stories and research to be shared on the subject. They are a part of Texas history that cannot and should not be ignored. What should one know before taking a live horse out to an event? This session will cover the broad topic of horses in Texas history with a focus on including them in one's presentation for the public. We will discuss what your horse should wear, safely interacting with the public, how to prepare at home, and desirable traits in a horse. We've learned a lot of useful tips and tricks for taking horses out that we would like to share with you.

1. **“Making Rag Dolls” –** Nancy Gajan

 **Location:** Bell House Dining Room

A hands-on opportunity to learn how to make small rag dolls as an activity at a living history site or event. Many children enjoy the opportunity to make and dress a pocket rag doll. These dolls were common toys for children in the nineteenth and early twentieth century and allows current children to make and play with these dolls from an earlier time.

1. **“History with Homeschoolers”** - Chris Twing

 **Location:** Bell House Gentlemen’s Parlor

Whether you already work with homeschoolers or are looking to attract them, this session will give you the ins and outs of working with this unique group of visitors. Learn what they are looking for, how to attract them, and best practices for creating an enjoyable learning experience for them and you.

1. **“Frontier Blacksmithing” -** Joseph Henri

 **Location:** Blacksmith Shop

A blacksmith is someone who makes iron and steel goods by heating the metal and strike it to manipulate its shape. In the early 19th century if anyone needed an iron or steel tool, they had to get it from a blacksmith. Blacksmiths were very important on the frontier of Texas, they made many of the tools that the settlers needed to survive. Without access to blacksmiths, the Texas settlers would never have been able to thrive as they did. In this demonstration I will show some of the fundamentals of smithing while making a tool that settlers would have commonly used on the frontier. I will be using clay as a substitute for steel, this is something blacksmiths commonly used for testing and practicing. This will speed the process which normally takes several hours to make with metal, and at the same time will show that anyone with little resources can test out the fundamentals of smithing and come to appreciate the art.

**1600-1700 - Class Set #5 (60 mins)**

1. **“That Too Much Indian That: Leather hunting shirts, Coats, and Jackets” -** David Sifuentes

 **Location:** Bell House Gentlemen’s Parlor

This program is meant to dive into the utilization and creation of one of America’s most classics frontier garments, the buckskin hunting shirt, coat or jacket. We’ll explore their history and design focusing on Texas 1820-60, examine period images alongside texts, and ultimately will give each participant drafting notes and tips and tricks to construct their own if they so desire.

1. **“Revolution in Metal Power Hammers of 1870-1914” -** Philip Waters

 **Location:** Blacksmith Shop

 Explore the impact of the Second Industrial Revolution (1870-1914) on American blacksmithing in this lecture, focusing on the introduction of small power hammers like the Little Giant and Champion. Learn how these innovative machines revolutionized metalworking, making forging faster and more efficient. We’ll delve into the history and development of Champion Power Hammers, highlighting their role in the broader industrial landscape. The lecture includes a live demonstration of a Champion Power Hammer, showcasing its capabilities and significance. Whether you’re a blacksmith, historian, or industrial enthusiast, this session provides an insightful look at how small power hammers helped shape an era of rapid technological change.

3. **“How to Choose Period-Correct Fabrics for Content, Color, and Patterns.” –** Darla Salter

 **Location:** Bell House Dining Room

This session will be an overview of choosing appropriate historical fabrics for the 19th Century, focusing on the 1830's through 1890's.  We will have a short discussion on the many types of fabrics available during the 19th century, fiber content, and dye and print styles.  A short history of fabric dye technology will also be presented as this is an important technological advancement in this century.  A sample book of fabrics will be available for attendees to look through.  Additionally, there will also be a PowerPoint presentation showing colors and prints fashionable during this span of time.  We will also discuss how to determine if your fabric is period-correct and how to will be discussed as well as the basics of burn tests to ascertain fabric content.  Finally, we will chat about choosing the right "type" of fabric for a garment.  Attendees are invited to bring fabric for the class to examine and discuss if time allows.

4. **“Demonstrating Weaving” –** Janet Rice

 **Location:** Bell House Kitchen

If you don't have a working "real" loom, what are some good/easy/cheap ways to demonstrate the basics of weaving for visitors? This presentation will look at different ways to demonstrate weaving using what you can find inexpensively online or scavenge for materials.

5. **Working with Live Animals in a Living History Context** –Lacey Profitt

 **Location:** Scarborough Barn

Tour Pioneer Farms animal enclosures to learn how to work around livestock safely in a living history context. Learn about the different types of livestock kept on the site currently and plans for the future.

**1830-2200- Dinner and Reception**

* **Fashion Show**
* **Awards**

**“Telling Their Stories: The Orphans of the IOOF State Home, Corsicana, Texas, 1885-1940”**

Dr. Shellie O’Neal, Ph.D. Chair and Professor of Theatre

In a presentation featuring monologs and scenes derived from primary sources curated from the

archives of Corsicana’s IOOF State Home such as letters, annual reports, and interviews, the

stories of the IOOF orphans, their teachers, and families, will be celebrated. Topics explored will

include the performances given by the children throughout the state, the varied facilities of the

home, the curriculum taught at the school, and the clubs and athletic organizations that were a

vital part of the institution. Also of interest will be the medical reports, teacher’s reports, and

donations given to the institution through the decades. The session will further feature dances of

the 1890s, 1920s, and 1930s, in addition to a performance of a song written by Joel Trimble, one

of the institution’s band directors.