Participants' Guide to:
Rendezvous 2014 At
Grand Portage National Monument
August 8th, 9thth, & 10th

Above: Ranger Jeremy Kingsbury, along with an unsuspecting "Character" introduces the new "Throw the Dough" competition at Rendezvous 2013.

The Rendezvous at Grand Portage National Monument is presented for the purpose of re-creating and interpreting the annual fur trade rendezvous held during the late 1700s and early 1800s at Grand Portage. Monument staff and many volunteers, including you, present the historic encampment, demonstrations, and competitive activities. This annual event is designed to improve the public's appreciation and understanding of important events at Grand Portage and of the Great Lakes Fur Trade, which influenced the history and exploration of North America. We welcome your participation and ask that you become familiar with the attached information. Doing so will help ensure an enjoyable event for all!

The Pow-Wow at Grand Portage:

The annual Grand Portage Pow-Wow, sponsored by the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, is an American Indian cultural gathering focusing on dance, song and family celebration. The Pow-Wow includes traditional foods, music, and craft stands along with other events in the community. Over 350 dancers participated in last year's Grand Portage Pow-Wow. Mid-day Grand Entry Saturday and Sunday are particularly inspirational and colorful as U.S. flags are raised to military veterans from Grand Portage, and staff bearers lead dancers, dressed in traditional regalia, into the Pow-Wow ring. Through the Pow-Wow, all people have the chance to experience Native American culture in a wonderful way.

The Grand Portage National Monument is part of the National Park System. Regulations and laws that govern national parks remain in effect during Rendezvous, and are frequently quite stringent. Park rangers will enforce all such regulations as appropriate.

- ***EVENT REGULATIONS:***

- Federal regulations prohibit the possession of firearms and explosives within national monuments. Therefore, bringing any firearms, including historic muskets, rifles, and/or explosives such as black powder, on-site ***is prohibited*** unless written permission has been previously obtained from the Superintendent and the monument's law enforcement ranger for this special event. Approved firearms, brought on-site, are subject to inspection. If necessary, firearms will be held and secured by the park until the event has concluded. The firearm(s) will then be returned to the owner(s). **Federal regulations specific to firearms and explosives will be strictly enforced.**

- **Moderate** consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted during Rendezvous. **No alcoholic beverages are allowed outside the encampment area during publicly attended periods of Rendezvous.** Intoxication, and any improper actions as a result of being intoxicated, ***will not be tolerated***. Also, please be advised that the Pow Wow is an alcohol and drug free event. If you are camping with a group, please monitor alcoholic consumption so it does not become a problem. If a problem should arise, with individuals who fail to observe this policy, resulting in undue noise, disruption, or a threat to the safety and welfare of all concerned, please inform our camp booshway. **Do not intervene!** A park ranger will usually have better success in settling the situation and gaining compliance.

- You will be camping on historic ground. **Please do not dig fire pits.** When setting up camp, please completely encircle your fire ring with the available rocks and place a firm layer of sand within the circle to completely cover any exposed ground. Do not leave a burning fire unattended at any time!

- Rendezvous helps us understand events at Grand Portage some 200 years ago. To keep us focused on these events, **no tents shops allowed** and blanket trading is **not acceptable** during the publicly attended periods of Rendezvous (between 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM). **Displaying sales items on blankets in front of your camp or on racks/hangers is not permitted**
- Smoking is ***not*** permitted inside the stockade, or in any park buildings.

- Participants are ***not*** permitted to have pets in the historic encampment.

- A period of quiet time will be in effect between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. each day. During this period, noise must remain at a minimum out of courtesy for fellow participants. Contact our camp booshway if you experience any problems with excess noise during these hours.

These regulations are meant to ensure a positive experience is had by all. Thank you for your cooperation!

THE EVENT:

We seek a historically accurate depiction of Rendezvous at Grand Portage. To that end, certain equipment standards are expected of participants. We concentrate on the period **1730-1804** as well as supporting the efforts of Old Fort William. **Clothing, camp equipment, and materials should meet the test of being representative of the period.** *We do however, want all to feel welcome. If you are lacking proper period camp equipment and materials, an appropriate campsite will be provided so that you can participate in the event.*

The primary focus of the Monument's Rendezvous is the portrayal and re-creation on such historic activities held at Grand Portage some 200 years ago. We ask that you make friendly, personal contacts with our visitors. Such contacts will help create a truly interactive event. All interpretation should stress how voyageurs, clerks. Agents, partners, and American Indians lived in the late 18th Century at Grand Portage. You can help our visitors understand what activities took place in the daily lives of these people, the problems each of them faced, and how they may have dealt with them. You can use your experiences to help bring the fur trade story of Grand Portage to life. All of our reconstructed historic structures will be accessible to historically dressed participants. ***We will be in need of volunteers to cover interpretive stations at various times during the event. If you would like to volunteer your services, please sign up with our camp booshway. We appreciate the help!***

AVAILABLE TO OUR PARTICIPANTS*:* The National Park Service provides firewood, water, restrooms, trash and recycling receptacles. Park restrooms will be open 24 hours a day starting Wednesday and additional portable toilets, including a handicapped accessible toilet are located near the campsites. However, we encourage you to use the modern toilet facilities as much as possible. Sorry, there are no on-site shower facilities available. **Note: The Grand Portage Trading post is located near the lodge and casino approximately ½ mile from the encampment!**

Swimming Vs. Bathing in Lake Superior – Please feel free to enjoy the lake waters for swimming while you are with us. However, please understand that we must insist that you do not bathe in the lake with soaps or shampoos of any kind. Soaps that are marketed as "biodegradable" are manufactured for breakdown in soils, not water. There are showers (minimal fees charged) at the local campground, and just up the hill at the community center. Thank you!

ICE! We will have an ice house available in camp. The ice house will be located in the shade behind the Booshways tent. Ice will be available beginning on Thursday afternoon in 5 lb. bags at a reasonable price. Correct change is really appreciated!! Each year the modest profits from ice sales are donated to Oshki Ogimaag Tribal Charter School here in Grand Portage.

Regale – You will need a "ticket" for the Regale Saturday evening. There is no charge as the Regale is one way we can thank you for your participation in our event. However, you must be registered to receive a Regale "ticket". Our camp booshway will distribute "tickets". Our event participants have begun a tradition of providing gift donations for a raffle held amongst the participants. Raffle winners are drawn from a "hat" filled with the number from participants' camp registration card. If you would like to donate a raffle prize

(usually somehow connected to the themes of fur trade, reenacting, Grand Portage) please leave your donation at the Booshway camp in the historic encampment. And THANK YOU!

GAMES & WORKSHOPS - Some historic games and contests are open only to costumed participants. These events will be marked with a (*) next to the event listed in the event schedule. A reminder: workshops on Friday and Saturday are also open to the public, and will have a limited number of openings, so participation is on a first-come-first-served basis. There may also be fees for supplies and materials. **Please sign up for workshops at the information tent near the road in the "Winterer's Camp" by the stockade.** Parents may sign only their own children up for workshops. The child need not be present, but we ask that parents respect posted age limits for our workshops. Given the limited amount of space in most workshops, (Special kid's workshops excepted), we ask that only one member from each family sign up for any given workshop, and then share the skills with their family members back in camp. Doing so gives the most people the chance to learn a new skill. However, participants can sign up for more than one workshop during our event so long as they are the only member of their immediate family in any particular workshop. There will be no workshops or games scheduled during the Pow-Wow Grand Entry. We encourage all that are interested to enjoy the Grand Entry and other Pow-Wow events.

We welcome your comments and suggestions regarding Rendezvous. Comment forms are available from your Booshway and at the tent next to the main gate.

ON COMING AND GOING:

You must be pre-registered to participate in the event. Please see our camp booshway to be assigned a campsite. The following schedule applies for set-up and takedown.

Wednesday… 8/06/14 – Set Up Begins after 3:00 PM (Vehicles Allowed)
Thursday……8/07/14 – Set Up All Day (Vehicles Allowed) Historic dress required
Friday…… 8/08/14 – Set Up (No Vehicles Allowed between 9:00 AM & 5:00 PM) Historic dress required
Saturday…….8/09/14 – No Vehicles Allowed Historic Dress required
Sunday……8/10/14 –Take Down (No vehicles allowed before 3:00 PM) Historic dress required

****Important Note:** Please honor our request that you be in historic dress during the event as we try and maintain the historic atmosphere/experience of the encampment at all times for our participants as well as our visitors.

Our camp Booshway will be on-site and available to assist you during the entire Rendezvous event. In addition to helping you get settled, our Bbooshway will have your Regale "tickets" and additional event information.

CAMP EQUIPMENT:

- The use of a canvas wedge tent, lean-to, or **small** wall tent is encouraged. **Baker tents, tipis, and 1-poles are not allowed. Supply tents are discouraged. No tent can be larger than 10' x 15' in size. No stovepipes please!**
- Modern equipment such as coolers, sleeping bags, cameras, and plastics must be kept covered or stored out of sight.
- For safety, please keep trade axes and knives in appropriate sheaths.
- Wood, tin, ceramic, copper, brass, and iron are all acceptable cookware**.** No modern enamelware or aluminum please.
- Clay pipes and chewing tobacco are acceptable, but no cigarettes please.
- **All historic flags and banners displayed on canoes or within a camp should be representative of the time period interpreted during Rendezvous. You will be asked to remove any flags or banners that are not appropriate for our event.**

FUR TRADE FASHIONS!

Typical men's clothing may have included:

- Long-sleeved shirts made from a natural fabric such as linen, cotton, or wool. Please avoid polyester or non-period prints.
- Drop front or French fly breeches or pants. Leggings and breech clouts.
- A blanket coat or capote.
- A woven sash and leg ties.
- Head wear such as knit-style caps or tuques. Beaver, rabbit, or wool felt hats. Scarves of a period fabric.
- Moccasins or cobbled shoes of a period appropriate design.
- **Ren-Fair and "Pirate" style clothing is not appropriate to our event.**

Typical women's clothing may have included:

- Strap dresses, leggings, and sleeves made from a natural fabric such as linen, cotton, or wool. Please avoid polyester or non-period prints. Western style buckskin dresses are discouraged.
- Skirts, chemises, short-gowns, and Empire dresses.
- Moccasins of a period appropriate design.
- A woven sash.
- Shawls and wool blankets for outerwear.
- Scarves, beads, and trade silver representative of the period.

JUST GETTING STARTED? If you have recently become interested in the fur trade era and would like to have more help in putting your historic clothing and equipment together, give us a call! We are happy to put you in touch with folks who can help and have historic clothing information available. Contact Grand Portage National Monument, P.O. Box 426, Grand Portage, MN 55605. Phone/TTY: 218-475-0123.