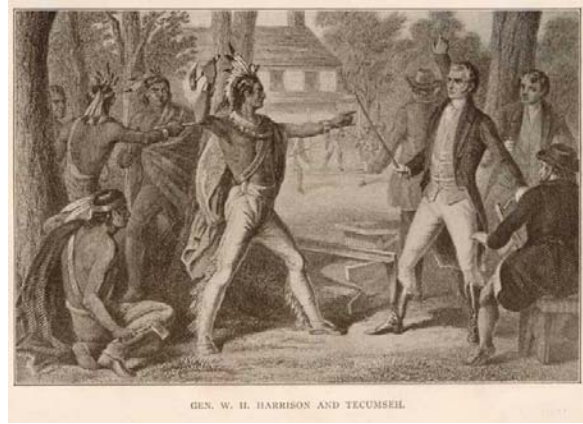


Walnut Grove Dedication

Saturday, August 21, 2010

*Grouseland – Presidential Home and
Territorial Mansion
of William Henry Harrison
3 West Scott Street, Vincennes, Indiana*



*Dedication Ceremony – 1:00 PM
1810 Camp Fire “Council at the Grove” – 7:00 – 10:00 PM*

Event Overview and Guidelines for Participants

Summary

Grouseland, a National Historic Landmark, in Vincennes, Indiana, will dedicate its new commemorative historical park, “Walnut Grove” on Saturday, August 21, 2010, at 1:00 PM. The dedication ceremony, and the accompanying educational event, “1810 Camp Fire ‘Council at the Grove’” is co-sponsored by the Vincennes State Historic Sites, on whose grounds a reenactment camp will be set up.

Walnut Grove is a small park area that was given to Grouseland by Vincennes University to commemorate the site where Shawnee leader, Tecumseh, confronted then territorial governor Harrison, beginning in August 1810. The two leaders met again a year later, which ultimately led to the Battle of Tippecanoe, an important pre-cursor to the War of 1812. The dedication of Walnut Grove is a participating event in the Vincennes War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, “Harrison and Tecumseh: Final Decision in the Old Northwest.”

The park area is being beautifully landscaped by Dallas Foster, who has been very generous to Grouseland Foundation throughout the development process. The landscaping of the park will include a flagstone mosaic of a walnut tree, highlighted by native species of shrubbery, plants, flowers and prairie grass. The area will add much needed green space to the industrialized area adjacent to these historic sites.

We are currently reaching out to Native American groups, dignitaries and other historical reenactors, who may be interested in attending and participating in our dedication week-end festivities. Our mission is to objectively preserve and teach all

facets of our history, maintaining mutual respect for the diversity of cultures. It is our sincere hope that we can promote greater awareness and study of our common history, so that we can continue to grow as a community of peace and learn from the lessons that these events teach us.

Dedication Ceremony

Our plan will be to have a simple dedication ceremony. It is our sincere hope that the Native American community, particularly those with a kinship and deep appreciation for Tecumseh, will be well represented. We hope to have a qualified representative of the Native American religious community to assist in the blessing of our historic park, "Walnut Grove," along with Christian clergy.

The dedication ceremony will be attended by local and regional dignitaries – business leaders, elected officials, and invited guests, as well as many residents of Vincennes / Knox County and visitors to our community.

1810 Camp Fire "Council at the Grove"

In conjunction with the ceremony at 1:00 PM on Saturday, Grouseland will host an encampment on the adjacent state-owned grounds, which include the Indiana Territorial Capital. Camped on the site will be participating groups of 1810 soldier/militia reenactment units and Native Americans, all of whom will be portraying life in Indiana, circa 1810. In the evening hours of August 21, after the encampment is created and the tents are pitched, cultural demonstrations and storytelling by camp fire light will be held at the various camp fire "stations" for families who attend the event.

Our needs are great, but our timeframe for planning is short. As a non-profit museum in harsh economic times, we are trying to keep our costs as low as possible, while maintaining a proper decorum and respect for the diversity of cultures, including accurate historical interpretation as much as is practical. To the extent that it is possible, we ask that reenactors and other participants cover their own expenses. Grouseland will provide essential services and will try to meet other requests for material assistance as our budget allows.

Grouseland Foundation continues to welcome suggestions and referrals for the appropriate contacts, so that we can issue the necessary invitations and to encourage wide support, attendance and participation.

All inquiries should be directed to: Dan Sarell, Executive Director, Grouseland Foundation, Grouseland@sbcglobal.net, (812) 882) 2096; 3 W. Scott St. Vincennes, IN 47591.

Detailed Overview and Vision for the Events



Dedication Ceremony

For the dedication ceremony, it is Grouseland’s vision that historical reenactors portraying Harrison and his troops on one side and Tecumseh and Native Americans on the other, will process from opposite sides of Scott Street, and they will meet in the middle at the Walnut Grove dedication site. It is our desire that these processions could be accompanied by appropriate Native American music and dance, along with fife and drum corps, who will march with the reenactment units of American soldiers and militia. The formal dedication ceremony would then begin with “Harrison” and “Tecumseh” exchanging historically accurate and dramatic recitations from the actual speeches delivered during the two leaders’ meetings.

Thereafter, brief remarks will be given by the highest ranking elected official, the president of the Grouseland Foundation board of directors, and a cultural representative of the Native American community. The historical marker will be unveiled, and the site will be formally dedicated with the assistance of Native American and Christian clergy.

1810 Camp Fire “Council at the Grove”

Grouseland will provide the following essential services to those who are camping at the “council grounds” and providing cultural demonstrations during the “Camp Fire” event:

- 1. Essential food and water.**
- 2. Portable toilet facilities**
- 3. Firewood and Straw**

Guidelines for Encampment

1. We are limited in our capacity in terms of the number of people camping on the grounds to not more than 50 people; we are attempting as much parity between soldier/militia reenactors and Native American groups, though we believe the former group will realistically have more representation.
2. No more than 15 camp fires can be lit on the site, and fires should be spaced away from the grove of mature trees on the state’s “Council Grounds”
3. Fires must be kept at a modest size (no bonfires) and above ground; digging is strictly prohibited.
4. “Blanket trading” is permitted, but the encampment is not intended for vendors as such
5. **FOOD and WATER...**

- a. Grouseland will provide the following basic meals:
 - i. Cook-out after the dedication / before the “Council at the Grove”
 - ii. Simple breakfast on Sunday morning
 - b. Grouseland will provide ample water and ice in coolers with a water supply from an outside spicket
 - c. Participants are encouraged to include period camp cooking as part of their reenactment; Grouseland will consider assisting with the purchase of necessary food supplies for this purpose upon request. Those wishing to use their fires for cooking should notify Grouseland (Grouseland@sbcglobal.net) prior to the weekend.
6. As much as is practical, we would like to have an event that is historically reflective of 1810. This is a period in between major reenactment periods, which is understood. To the extent that it is possible, we would like to have an accurate representation.

Guidelines for Cultural Demonstrators

1. Those providing demonstrations do not necessarily have to be camping on the site, though the concept of the educational event “Council at the Grove” is that the demonstrations are utilizing the ambiance of the camp fire light. Bear in mind, however, that through much of the 7:00 – 10:00 PM time period, light in the sky will persist.
2. Demonstrations must be coordinated with Grouseland ahead of time. Camp sites and fire stations will be assigned based on a “map” of demonstration stations.
3. We are seeking a diverse array of demonstrations, which can include music, dance, storytelling, trade skills or crafts.
4. Demonstrations must be safe, keeping participants at a safe distance from the camp fires; no weaponry, throwing or shooting should be included.
5. Demonstrators must submit a request to be included in the demonstrations and include a brief explanation of how the demonstration roughly conforms to pioneer, military or Native American life of 1810.
6. Demonstrations are being offered on a strictly voluntary basis, unless Grouseland Foundation has made an exception, which will be considered on a case by case basis and will be rare. If a demonstrator requires some assistance to pay for materials, such as give-aways, that request should be made when applying to serve as a demonstrator.
7. This event is intended for educational purposes. Blanket trading is permitted, but “vending” as such is prohibited by agreement with our co-sponsors, the State Historic Sites.
8. Demonstrations should include interaction with the public, including explanations and fielding questions, as necessary. Common courtesy and hospitality are essential to a successful event.