



FBRA NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> 2013

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***Hello FBRA Members,***

**A.** Spring is upon us once again, the snow in the high country is beginning to melt and streams are becoming swollen. It's time to pull the traps and pack yer plews and head for rendezvous. Let's get together, it's time to kick back, pull a cork, spin a yarn and meet new friends. Sometimes just getting to rendezvous can be a journey in its self and then comes unloading, setting up camp, along with organizing a trade tent, can try ones patience. Let's all try to have some patience and keep a friendly attitude when coming to rendezvous, be courteous to your neighbor and if you see someone who is having a bad day, pitch in and lend a hand, that's what rendezvouseries do for each other. As a Fort Bridger Rendezvous Association member you are part of an elite group of people who are passionate about the history of the Mountain Man and the Rocky Mountain Fur Trade era. Our goal is to continue on with the legacy of those who came first with a vision of an authentic mountain man rendezvous to be held at Fort Bridger Wyoming, we honor them and the struggles they endured to make this rendezvous possible. The FBRA board works hard for you to ensure that the rendezvous is a fun and historical event. It's been a challenge over the last several years with all the new changes, but we finally have a board of directors who are all on the same page and are eager to jump in lend a hand. We have taken the rendezvous one step higher by eliminating baggage that has held back progression.

**B.** This year the FBRA voted to increase the gate fee by one dollar; from \$3.00 to \$4.00. We have for many years struggled to keep the fee at \$3.00 but with the cost of everything going up and costing more to operate we felt it necessary to raise the entrance fee. Those

in primitive dress will still get in free along with kids under 12. The State has approved this increase.

**C.** Trade and camp space assignments have been completed, we have tried to accommodate everyone as much as possible and have given most the same as last year. We do still have some trade and camp spots available but they will be gone by rendezvous so if you haven't sent in your application, do so soon, remember you can find our applications on line at [fortbridgerrendezvous.net](http://fortbridgerrendezvous.net).

**D.** We are ahead of schedule this year and the new rendezvous guides are done and we will start to hand them out. We have also again this year put an ad in the Wyoming Visitors guide which is distributed out to all hotels and motels in the state of Wyoming. The board voted this year to increase the advertising budget and to buy some radio and newspaper ads throughout Wyoming and Utah.



**E.** The FBRA is still working with the State of Wyoming in getting a new 5 year contract in place. We hope this will be accomplished before rendezvous starts.

**F.** The FBRA board voted this year to issue out a number of free Gate Entrance Family Passes to Fort Bridger Rendezvous. The passes are good for a family of up to 5 people; each board member can issue out the passes. These passes are to be given out to families who have never been to the Fort Bridger Rendezvous and to those who

have a desire to become involved with the rendezvous for the first time.

**G.** Each year, the FBRA donates money back to the fort site for fort improvements. We are working with the site superintendent, Linda Byers, this year in an attempt to bring in dirt to fill in washed out areas in primitive camp. This area was hit hard with flooding in 2010. This requires archeological and State approval. The plan is to get dirt in early spring so grass can be established before rendezvous.

**H.** The FBRA is currently looking for a volunteer(s) to organize and run the Knife & Hawk events during the 2013 rendezvous. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact myself ((435) 213-5130) or the FBRA secretary, Mica Stark, at (435) 213-5133 or by email at [fbrainc@hotmail.com](mailto:fbrainc@hotmail.com)

**I.** The next General Membership meeting will be tentatively held on July 13, check out our web site in case of a date change. The meeting will be held at Fort Bridger Historical Site with the membership meeting at 12:00 noon, we invite all members in good standing to attend. This is the time to come and share your ideas with the board.

Jeff Malan  
FBRA Chairman