

## REENACTOR: Event is set for next weekend in Camp Sherman

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the era of the 1860s. It is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday.

For Stanovich, education is one of the key goals of reenactment. Whether it's school kids coming out to learn more about the Civil War, or the general public coming out to see a mock battle or to stroll through a military encampment, it's about gaining an appreciation for the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the nation's bloodiest conflict.

Civil War battles were often horrific, with men shot down in windrows by musket and artillery fire, many killed and others suffering grievous, crippling wounds.

"Those were your friends, sometimes your family, people you grew up with," Stanovich said. "This was not a good war. This is something people had to deal with on a day-to-day basis. We're not

glorifying this."

Civil War reenactment has ebbed and flowed in popularity since the centenary of the conflict in the 1960s. It hit a peak of popularity in the 1990s when Ken Burns' powerful multi-part Civil War documentary on PBS and the movie "Gettysburg" sparked renewed interest in the conflict. The endeavor is currently at a low ebb.

Stanovich notes that many people he's reenacted with over the years are aging out, and they're not being replaced.

"There's not as many young people getting it anymore," he said. "The younger crowd is into online gaming and that sort of thing."

And reenactment has drawn controversy in recent years, as symbols and memorials of the Confederacy draw fire — often from people who are not particularly interested in historical context. For Stanovich, context is critical.

"There's been some controversy over the flag — the Confederate flag," he acknowledged. "We use it properly, in the proper historical context."

The Confederate forces in the reenactment fly the Army of Northern Virginia battle flag on the field of battle, as appropriate to the 1864 encounter battle setting of the reenactment. The Second National Flag is flown at Stanovich's headquarters tent.

"Everyone tries to be pretty accurate — as accurate as possible in the flags that represent their unit."

For dedicated reenactors, the goal of the endeavor is to create moments when they can touch the past, when it feels alive in the current moment. Stanovich finds the setting at House On Metolius particularly conducive to that effort. Most reenactments take place in parks near major highways, where the modern world inevitably intrudes.

That's not so much the case in Camp Sherman.

"I step out of my tent and I'm surrounded by nothing but trees and mountains," he said. "It's nice. Yeah, it's nice. Makes it a lot easier to do the time travel thing."

The mountain meadow setting offers over five acres of living history with

campsites, stores, medical practices, music, war reporting, yarn-spinning, fashion and other activities of the era. Civil War artillery, infantry and cavalry are represented.

Mock battles with cannons and muskets firing black powder are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day. General admission is \$8; seniors and students, \$5. Children under six, free. Parking, \$5 per vehicle to help the Boy Scouts.

House On Metolius

(www.metolius.com) is off Highway 20 two miles north of Camp Sherman, off road 1420.

The Northwest Civil War Council (www.nwcwc.net) is a nonprofit, living-history organization dedicated to educating the public and members about the American Civil War. Through educational drama at reenactments, participants discover and learn about history and the people who lived in the 1860s.



# CIVIL WAR

## Reenactment & Living History

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**  
**May 18-19 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**At House on Metolius in Camp Sherman**

**Blue & Grey battle with CANNONS AND MUSKETS**  
**11 a.m. & 3 p.m. both days**

Learn about Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Medicine, Fashion, Music and Civilian Life of the 1860s.

**Hear Abraham Lincoln speak, Saturday only, 1 p.m.**

Adults \$8, seniors/students \$5, Kids under 6 free  
 Parking \$5 to the Boy Scouts



## Cowgirls & Indians to close in June

By Jim Cornelius  
 Editor in Chief

After 16 years of rounding up the finest Western clothing, art and accessories at Cowgirls & Indians Resale in Sisters, Kate Aspen is hanging up her spurs.

Health challenges mean that Aspen is closing up the storefront — but there will be one last go-round on Thursday, June 6, from 4 to 7 p.m.

"We're going to have a huge, blow-out party," Aspen told *The Nugget*. "After that, I'll be closing down the store."

She plans to continue selling her line of jewelry and a few consignment items online.

The Sisters woman, who has built a national reputation for first-class consignment Western goods, insists on closing up the bunkhouse in style. Western singer-songwriter

Joni Harms will be on hand during the sale-party to sing everyone on down the trail.

Cowgirls & Indians rounded up Western clothing and sold it on consignment, gradually expanding into Western art.

"I was selling bronzes and artwork," Aspen said. "That was fun, too, because I've always loved art."

Aspen knows what she'll miss the most about having a shop in Sisters: "All of the friends I have made. I've made so many friends from tourists who come back every year and stop by the shop and say hi and buy something. It's hard to let it go, but it's got to happen."

Aspen expressed her appreciation for all of those who have rallied in recent weeks to contribute items for sale. Donations continue



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kate Aspen is hanging up her resale spurs.

to be accepted; proceeds will help defer Kate's medical expenses. For information, contact Patti Jo Beal at 541-408-7264.

For more information on Kate Aspen's jewelry, visit Cowgirls & Indians Resale on Facebook.

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