



**We believe OVTA's most important legacy is the protection and preservation of the significant sites and segments along the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail.**

# The OVTA Strategy

To accomplish that we work to **inspire** communities along the trail to “sustain” a high level of enthusiasm and energy and to see the possibilities, and, then dedicate their own resources to take themselves there.

**In other words, WE GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN!**

And what is that inspiration we take to the communities and their schools?

## THE AMERICAN SPIRIT!

The story of the history of the Trail and the heritage of where they live and in some cases even the story of their very own ancestors.

And how do we do that?  
How do we use education as our  
preservation tool?

Well, we start with the schools.

From there, we add programs for adults—usually  
on the Trail's historic sites or segments in that  
community.

We have seen that it is the adults who  
*“complete the Legacy Loop”* by  
providing the time and energy and are the one's  
who will do it to create their own legacy for  
their own children.



It's right over there. Look, see it. It's right over there.

And so...

Here is how the  
Legacy Loop  
Begins



When the students  
are ready...

The teachers will  
find them.

# It all starts with engaging the School Children

- We strive to be the bridge between the classroom and the stories that make history come alive!
- That means it's more than just standing up in front a class and reciting facts or lecturing.
- It means being able to bring the children inside the story where their imaginations are literally bubbling with images and ideas.
- It means taking them to a place where they feel they themselves are in the very heart of the story!

Abingdon, Virginia, which is the model in our paradigm, matches NPS Challenge Cost Share funds to bring story tellers and every 4<sup>th</sup> grader in the county together.



“Common Knowledge” from South Carolina teach the old ways.



An 18th century potter tells how clay was prepared and the different things that were used to make colors in the bowls, pots and cups she makes.



The French Lace Maker and his lady. He is actually making or “tatting” lace. He and his lady came to Abingdon this year directly from performances at Mount Vernon.



Dressing out children to help with a lesson  
on the Clothing of the Day



“Miss Kitty” of Brattonsville historic site in SC  
(where Mel Gibson’s The Patriot was filmed)  
tells about life as a slave during the Revolutionary War.

**And Then...**

**We take to the  
Trail**



**We are joined by students from the North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton.**

**Look at the expression of the interpreter translating the words of that really good looking guy whose speaking.**



Riverside Elementary School in the high  
mountains of western North Carolina

**Follow the Footsteps.**

So, you want to see  
how our Legacy  
Loop concept is  
working out?

# Here's OVTA's Recent Story Telling Track Record

2006: 33 Programs. 3,815 people. 2,417 of them  
were school kids.

2007: 28 Programs. 5,714 people. 1,418 of them  
were school Kids\*

2008: 36 Programs. 6,986 people. 3,508 of them  
were school kids.

\*Some of our bigger school venues fell on a weekend in 2007.



The city of Abingdon, Virginia has purchased 8.2 acres of the original Muster Ground where the OVNHT begins.



**The City of Marion, NC has purchased the Joseph McDowell House. Here, the house was certified by the National Park Service on September 28, 2008.**



**Polk County North Carolina has purchased  
the 168 acre October 5, 1780 Campsite**

OVRTA has just voted  
to take possession  
of property for the  
very first time.

The property, which  
is crossed by the  
OVNHT, contains  
remnants of the  
original roadbed  
followed in 1780 as  
well as ruins of old  
home sites.



Here's something new we call  
“Bookin’ it Down the Trail”.

OVRTA produced 5,000  
bookmarks this year that  
features photos from a school  
on the Trail.

We are developing contest rules  
right now to select which  
school gets picked next year.

Believe it or not, this Booking it  
Down the Trail concept went  
from idea to BOD approval to  
the printer in just 4 days.



## SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- Sept. 22-23**  
Abingdon, VA  
area schools
- Sept. 24**  
Bluff City  
Middle School
- Sept. 26**  
Roan Mountain  
Elementary &  
Middle School
- Sept. 29**  
McDowell County Schools
- Sept 30 & Oct 1**  
Charles Dowell House  
Morgantown, NC
- Oct 6**  
Cherokee County Schools

### OUR MISSION

The **Overmountain Victory Trail Association** will protect, preserve and interpret the route of the **Overmountain Men** to the **Battle of Kings Mountain**.

### OUR VISION

The **Overmountain Victory Trail Association** shall forever preserve & commemorate the route and the story of the volunteer army who's victory at the **Battle of Kings Mountain** was a turning point in the struggle for America's independence. The **OVRTA** will ensure the trail will provide the opportunity to experience a deep sense of these events, the lands on which they occurred, and the people who lived them.



Another facet of “**Bookin’ it Down The Trail**” is a new grant program OVTA is offering schools and communities.

Patterson School in Caldwell County, NC was given the program’s first grant on September 27<sup>th</sup> by OVTA Vice President R.G. Absher to purchase books about the history of the Trail during the ceremony certifying the original road bed remnants of the National Historic Trail that run across school grounds. The first Trail certification in that county!

Five students from Patterson School came to King’s Mountain NMP on October 7<sup>th</sup> to purchase their books and be part of the Trail’s finale ceremony.



OVTa presented Richard Luce, a nationally known artist from Louisville, KY, a \$500 grant to do the entire March this year. Richard will tell the story of OVNHT with his paintbrush. He has already started the first painting called **“The Backwater Men”**.

And here's what's coming next

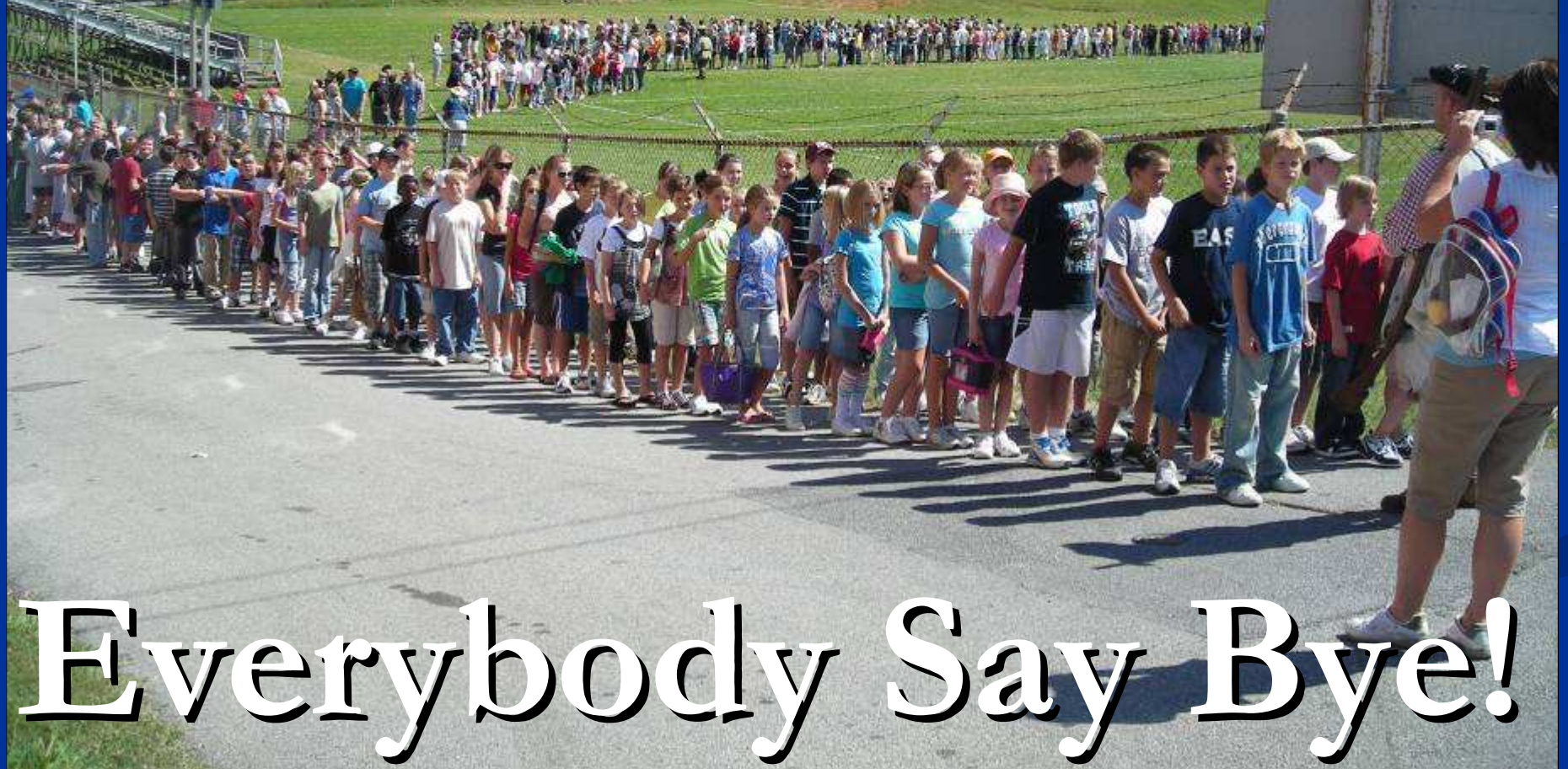
# A Computer Game!

As I speak we are developing the scope for a computer game that will be placed in every school in the Trail corridor. The game will allow students to role play various aspects and scenarios of the history of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail.



**So hey, just remember, its all about  
having fun and getting pholks inspired!**

All that's left now is  
to say Bye.



Everybody Say Bye!

# Bye!

