

DAILY SCHEDULE

Thursday, July 16

1:00 - 4:00p — for early arrivals, join us for a visit to **The Frontier Culture Museum.**

The museum tells the story of the people who migrated to colonial America, and of the life they created here for themselves and their descendants. These first pioneers came to America during the 1600s and 1700s from communities in the hinterlands of England, Germany, Ireland, and West Africa. On the way to the museum, you may want to stop for lunch at Virginia's first—and only—Buc-Ees, just off I-81.

Adults: \$12, Seniors \$9. Pay your own entrance fee at the museum.

5:30 - 8:00p — **Welcome Picnic** at the Kennel Club Pavilion on the grounds of the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.

Enjoy a variety of pizza, Greek salad, and Caesar Salad from Vito's Italian Kitchen of Harrisonburg. Soda, iced tea, bottled water, and beer will also be available. A special treat will be assorted flavors of home-made ice cream, made right here in Harrisonburg. The evening concludes with a fun game of "Name that Tool."

Cost is \$20 per person. Pre-paid on your Convention Registration if selected.



Living history re-enactors at The Frontier Culture Museum.

Friday, July 17

10:00a - 2:00p — We'll visit **Luray Caverns.** The caverns are a one-hour drive from our hotel. ***We'll travel via carpool, and everyone should be on the road by 9:00a.***

Luray Caverns is the largest cavern in the eastern United States. We'll take a self-guided walking tour along lighted paved walkways that lead you through cathedral-sized rooms with ceilings 10 stories high, towering stone formations, and natural wonders at every turn. We'll also visit the adjacent Car & Carriage Caravan and Shenandoah Heritage Village, which are included in the admission price.

Lunch is on your own at the Stalactite Café on the grounds of Luray Caverns, which serves assorted sandwiches and drinks, and provides both indoor and outdoor seating.

Cost for the Caverns is \$26 per person (\$13 ages 12 and under). Pre-paid on your Convention Registration if selected.

2:00 - 3:00p — Travel by carpool from Luray Caverns to the **Artillery Ridge Trail at Cross Keys Battlefield.**

The Battle of Cross Keys was one of the culminating battles of Stonewall Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign. This Confederate victory, along with the nearby Battle of Port Republic, held off two Union armies in the



Dream Lake—the largest body of water in Luray Caverns.

Shenandoah Valley and allowed Jackson to join Robert E. Lee in the fight around Richmond, Virginia just a few days later.

3:00 - 4:00p — Tour of the Artillery Ridge Trail. The tour is FREE.

4:00 - 6:00p — Free time. Return to the Best Western Plus to relax before dinner.

4:00 - 10:00p — The Exhibit Hall at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds will be open for early set-up.

6:00 - 8:00p — **Dinner Buffet** at Western Sizzlin's Wood Grill Buffet.

The buffet offers a wide variety of meats, hot vegetables, baked goods, and cold salads, plus sweet or unsweetened tea and Pepsi products.

Cost for the buffet is \$27 per person (including sweet tea, unsweetened tea, or Pepsi soda products, plus tax and tip). Pre-paid on your Convention Registration if selected.

Saturday, July 18

8:00 - 9:00a — The Exhibit Hall at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds will be open for set-up.

9:00a - 3:00p — The **Convention Show** opens to the public in the Exhibit Hall at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.

An assortment of subs from Jimmy John's "Original" menu along with Route 11 Chips, assorted sodas, and water will be provided to all convention registrants.



View of the Shenandoah Valley near New Market.

10:00 - 11:00a — The **Ladies Tea** convenes at the Horticulture Building on the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.

The theme of this year's tea, hosted by Melodie Good, Kathy Gilbert, and Gayleen Birmingham, is "Christmas in July."

Tea is FREE to all the ladies.

3:30 - 4:00p — **Erector and Toy Auction** hosted by auctioneer extraordinaire Joe Grobmyer in the Exhibit Hall.

5:30 - 6:00p — **Social Meet & Greet** at the Horticulture Building on the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. Beer, wine, assorted sodas, and water will be available free of charge.

6:00 - 9:00p — **Convention Banquet** catered by Hank's Grille & Catering, featuring authentic Southern comfort food including hardwood smoked meats and delicious vegetarian fare. At the Horticulture Building on the Rockingham County Fairgrounds.

Our guest speaker is long-time A. C. Gilbert Heritage Society member Joe Grobmyer. Joe will discuss Gilbert's classic White Truck model. This iconic Erector model, first introduced in 1926, is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2026. A presentation of awards from the Convention Show will follow Joe's presentation.

Cost for the banquet buffet, including drinks, is \$35 per person. Pre-paid on your Convention Registration if selected.



The Artillery Ridge Trail at Cross Keys Battlefield.