

Welcome to the largest Eastern European 17th century battle re-enactment in America! Many people from all over America have come together today to bring you this exiting and realistic event, that is being recognized by the Ukrainian Government.

If you are not too conversant with your Eastern European history, let us give you a little background so that you can cheer for the side that suits you best...

The Ukrainian War of Independence began in 1648. It may seemed like the typical Cossack uprising, but quickly turned into a war of the Ukrainian populace, particularly the Cossacks and peasants, against the nobles of the Polish Commonwealth.

This war was an unfortunate, but inevitable rebellion brought about by all the usual political, social, and geographic circumstances which so often brings about war (much like the American War of Independence).

(Donations to help defray the cost of this event are accepted)

FROM THE UKRAINIAN SIDE: This was a war of liberation from the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth; brought about by the terrible oppression of the people by the rich landowners who had made serfs (slaves) of the peasant population, restricted the religious freedom, and abused the ancient rights of the Ukrainian people.

FROM THE POLISH SIDE: This rebellion was just another uprising of the Cossacks, some of whom were themselves of Polish background, and were also considered foreign oppressors by many Ukrainian peasants.

What is certain is there was a war that involved the whole of the Ukraine and a good deal of the south and east of Poland from 1648 to 1657.

During this war, the population suffered terrible depredations. The Polish troops systematically killed Cossacks and peasants, while the rebels treated the nobles, Catholic clergy, and leaseholders (many of whom took the side of the Polish nobles) in a similar fashion.

**THE OFFICIAL
360TH ANNIVERSARY
REMEMBRANCE OF THE
UKRAINIAN WAR OF
INDEPENDENCE
1648-57
FOR AMERICA**



PRESENTED BY

**KOSAKY
ZHOLDAK KOSAKY**

**WALTER BUTTLER'S DRAGOONS
PRINCE 3U MANNHEIM'S LIGHT ARTILLERY
THE GARDES-ÉCOSSAIS REGIMENT DE HERBORN**

AT
**FOUR WINDS RENAISSANCE FAIRE
APRIL 19TH, 2008**

THE BATTLE TODAY:

The battle you are going to witness will be fought by two sides, one Ukrainian Kosak (Cossack) and the other supporting the Polish nobility.

Today's story so far... A group of Polish noblemen led by Andrij Kmicic, a Lithuanian warrior have captured *ЗОБИАНОВА КОРЧОМКА* (Zobiana's Inn), a local house of dubious repute! Here is where the nobility have made up rough fortifications and will fight it out with the rebel forces in the area. What the nobility does not know is that Zobiana is the secret Kozaky leader's wife!

The Poles have, mercenary troops and several pieces of artillery recently released from the German Wars (we know them as the Thirty Years War) at their disposal.



Rebellion in the air! The Kozaky troops are lead by Maks, a Banita, a nobleman who has turned on his own kind to fight for the freedom of the people (a bit like Robin of Loxley).

Kosaky troops in the rebellion of 1648 are a mixture of seasoned warriors of the Steppes who have fought the Turkish and Tatar slave raiders for all of their lives, former Polish Troops who see a chance for a better life (and maybe some booty), peasants fleeing their Polish overlords, and just plain adventurers seeking fame and glory!

There will be no mercy; no quarter, for these are enemies in all senses: class, religion, and politics!

Your battle will be fought primarily with the cold steel of real sabres, rapiers, swords and daggers. This fighting will be done in the form known as **live blade**; this means that the fighting is **totally un-choreographed** and fought with **real steel replica weapons** of the period – **not fencing weapons!**

(Donations to help defray the cost of this event are accepted)

A result of the individual duels and the battle is open ended. When you see someone or one side win, they will really have won!

There will also be firearms of the period, using a mixture of matchlock, wheellock, doglock, and flintlock mechanisms.

For those that really want a thrill, there will also be real cannon fire! We have obtained the use of one siege mortar, two field mounted falkonetts, one fortress mounted falkonette, and a robbinett. That will be a lot of smoke and noise, you have been warned!



The groups in today's performances all belong to **Musquetteers & Maidens**, an umbrella organization dedicated to 17th Century living history and live blade fighting.
www-livinghistory.com
For more information
maks_zobi@msn.com