Living historians put on a show at last year’s Dalton Days in Meade. This weekend, there will be teams of gunfighters and living historians from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas competing for the title of best gunfighters and historians during Dalton Days. Courtesy photo • Special to the Daily Leader

It’s that time of year again. The coming of summer will also bring the Reenactment Guild of America gunfight teams and living historians to Southwest Kansas.

Teams from Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas will compete for the 2010 title of best gunfighters and living historians at Dalton Days, which will take place Saturday and Sunday at the Dalton Gang Hideout in Meade. “You do not have to be an RGA member to compete, but you must have proof of insurance,” said Hideout curator Marc Ferguson. Other events on the schedule are the Dalton Escape Run Saturday morning with registration starting at 7 a.m. Raymond Gramkow is the contact person for all of those who are fleet of foot.

The Dalton Days parade will line up at 9 a.m. on Park Road, and the parade will start at 10 a.m. Rick Alexander at Home Lumber is the parade chairman.

Opening ceremonies will begin at about 11:30 a.m. followed by the stick horse race for the kids.

At high noon will be the fast draw contest, then the gunfight and living history competition will begin.

At 2 p.m., get ready for the ever popular Ice Cream Crank-Off, where anyone with a hand cranked ice cream freezer and original recipe will compete for the traveling trophy for 2010.

John Jenkinson will have his fully restored Case steam tractor on display and running throughout the day for all who are interested in learning how a steam tractor operates. John is a certified stream engine operator and will demonstrate how a steam tractor works.

At 7 p.m. Saturday evening, the Way Out West of Broadway Players will present the melodrama “A Golden Fleecing” or “The Undermining of Sarah Sweet Flowers Sarsaparilla Saloon and Bridal Shoppe” on the stage at the Dalton Gang Hideout.

Sunday will start off at 9 a.m. with Cowboy Church. Barry Ward will give the sermon. Barry is known all over for his inspirational and musical talents.

After church, the gunfight and living historians will conclude the competition with more performances. After the judges have tallied up the scores, the awards will be presented.

A new addition to Dalton Days will be the lawn mower races to take place at the Meade County Fairgrounds at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.

“These are the fastest lawn mowers you’ve ever seen and can trim the grass in a big hurry,” Ferguson said.

Norman Dye will serve up chuck wagon breakfasts both mornings, and other food vendors will be on hand along with other vendors selling various items.

“We hope you can make it to Dalton Days 2010 for some good clean Old West fun,” Ferguson said.

The cost to attend is a $5 Dalton Days button good for both days. For more information regarding events or to get a vendors or parade form, contact Marc Ferguson (620) 873-2731 at the Dalton Gang Hideout or e-mail daltonhideout@yahoo.com.