



Frederica

Free Hands-On History Day Camp set for July 26-28

This year Fort Frederica National Monument is offering children an in-depth look at the history of Frederica and the role played by historians. Rangers are offering a three day Hands-On History Camp for students from fifth to eighth grade. The camp is scheduled for July 26 through 28 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The camp is free and welcome to campers on a first-come, first-served reservation basis.

The camp is designed to actively engage the participants in the history of Frederica. On the first day, campers will make their own journals and will record their thoughts and activities in them every day. They will learn about the importance of primary sources in the study of history and become junior historians as they experience the fun of historical research and learn of its importance.

Through their own words campers will have the chance to learn that history is the story of real people.



Fort Frederica National Monument's first Hands-On History Camp will include many exciting activities including Colonial children's games, journal writing, musket drill, and historic crafts activities.

To better understand the original settlers and soldiers of Frederica, the campers will be immersed in the experiences of the colonists to get a hands-on feel for life in this early coastal town and garrison.

Junior historians will partake in

hands-on demonstrations of many of the tasks of early settlers and soldiers. These activities include tabby making, and hands-on musket drill to learn about the construction of the town and the defense of the colony.

The ultimate goal of the Hands-On History Camp is to help Junior Ranger participants discover that history is a vibrant, colorful, and meaningful part of their heritage. Since this park, its resources, and its stories belong to them they will also learn about their role in preserving

"This is a great opportunity for kids to learn about their area's early history in great detail and have fun while doing it!" – Ranger Ellen Strojan, camp organizer

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A Message from the Fort Frederica Superintendent

One of the real joys of working in a small park is that it is easier to see the impact of your work. Many of the problems facing large parks – air pollution, exotic species, crime, etc. are almost unsolvable, even if there were unlimited funds and personnel to throw at them.

Here at Fort Frederica National Monument, we can actually get a handle on many of our problems and, with just a little help, solve them. When I arrived here in 1991, one of the first things I wanted to update was the Visitor Center film. Although it had served its purpose for many years, it was clear that it had grown a bit long in the tooth. There were historical inaccuracies and the portrayal of women in particular was troublesome. I thought it would be one of the first things I could get done, but as it turned out, it took a lot longer that I thought – almost 15 years, in fact.

Funding was the main problem, but thanks to the service-wide Fee Collection program, which sets aside a portion of all entrance fees collected for special projects, we finally were allocated the funds needed. In a sense, each and every visitor contributed to improving the visit of future visitors – an intriguing concept.

Once the funds were available, the hard part began. Fortunately, we have two people on staff, Kim Coons and Denise Spear, whose combined talents made the perfect team to do the film we needed. Their creative ideas and organizational skills resulted in the outstanding film we have today. It tells the many stories of Fort Frederica in an interesting way. It will serve visitors for many years to come. They can be proud of the film as their legacy to Fort Frederica.

Mike Tennent
Superintendent

Summertime, and the Living is Easy

Contributed by Kim Coons, Chief of Interpretation



Photo by Kim Coons

Aaah, school's out and it's time to relax, but in the world of interpretation summer represents the time when we showcase programs we have worked on all year, and it is perhaps our busiest time. We hope you have time to spend an hour or two enjoying one or all of our interpretive programs and continue to expand your knowledge outside of the school room.

This summer programs are offered daily at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2 p.m. You will have the chance to learn by doing with programs on making tabby, the colonial concrete of the Georgia frontier, and hands-on musket drill programs with a soldier from the 42nd Regiment of Foot. Other programs include guided tours of the town site and a program on

Help the Park – Recycle Your Brochure

While visiting the park you may have noticed a couple of wooden boxes for recycled brochures at the Visitor Center and near the Cemetery. Due to rising costs to print these beautiful color pamphlets, we are trying to

conserve the park's resources by recycling the brochures for future visitors. If you do not want to keep your brochure as a souvenir please do your part by using the recycling boxes. Thank you!

Fort Frederica's Junior Ranger Program

All 388 of America's National Park sites serve as outdoor classrooms. One way for children and families to utilize this unique opportunity is to participate in the Junior Ranger program. Junior Ranger programs are fun and differ from park to park. Most parks offer patches or badges to children who have met the qualifications to become a junior ranger.

At Fort Frederica National Monument, children (ages 7-12) can obtain a free workbook at the Visitor Center desk. Children must complete seven of the 11 activities in order to receive a

Junior Ranger badge and certificate. The staff then lists those who have become a junior ranger in the quarterly edition of the park newsletter (See Page 6). As of this writing there are Fort Frederica Junior Rangers on St. Simons Island, Ga., and in Honolulu, Hawaii, and everywhere in between.

Fort Frederica has applied for a grant through the National Park Foundation to update and improve our junior ranger program. We are waiting to hear if our request has been funded or not. Stay tuned to future editions of the *Almanack* for further information.

VIP = Volunteers- In- Parks

Contributed by Kim Coons, Chief of Interpretation

What is a VIP? A very important person? Most certainly, but in the National Park Service a VIP is also a Volunteer- In- Parks. At Fort Frederica National Monument our VIPs perform a variety of different important duties, including working in the Visitor Center greeting and orienting visitors; becoming a living historian and portraying a townsman of the 1740s or a soldier of the 42nd Regiment of Foot; and providing routine maintenance to the park grounds. Many of our



Volunteers like Harry and Betty Bell of Florida are invaluable parts of the Fort Frederica team.

volunteers are area residents

who like helping out at their local park, others come from much farther afield to work in a national park.

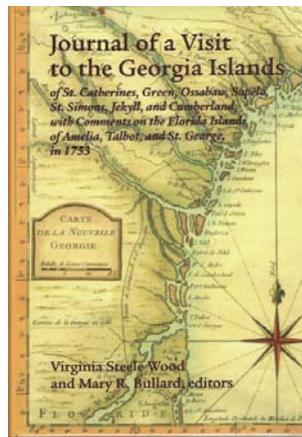
The park is fortunate to have volunteers who live in – as well as work at – Fort Frederica. These recreational vehicle seasonal resident volunteers work 30 hours a week, working in the Visitor Center collecting fees as well as meeting and greeting the public. Without the assistance of these volunteers we would be unable to provide as many interpretive programs to

Fort Frederica Needs You!



Are you interested in history? Would you like to help tell the story of Fort Frederica and the early settlement of the Colony of Georgia? Do you want to help the National Park Service preserve this incredible place for future generations?

If so, please consider becoming a National Park Service volunteer. If you are interested in making a difference in your national park, please visit the Visitor Center to get a volunteer application or contact volunteer coordinator Jon Burnes at 904-628-2600 or



For an interesting read about early Colonial Georgia and the demise of Frederica, *Journal of a Visit to the Georgia Islands* is available in the Visitor Center bookstore. The above poem was penned by a traveler who kept a journal of his visit to Frederica in 1753, just four years after the withdrawal of the regiment from Frederica.

O Frederica! had thy Founder known,
The Calamitous Days that were to come,
Or had thy Genius let thy Builder see,
The secret purpose of Divine Decree,
How soon thy walls defenceless should remain,
And those lofty Towers level'd to the Plain,
Thy Bastions once, whose Cannon thundered
o'er,
To Neighbouring Spain, and F[lorida] a Law
To be disdain'd, not worthy Britain's Care



News from Other Papers

Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from *Gentleman's Magazine* for July, 1744. This

leading London paper printed a letter from Frederica that discusses the explosion of the bomb magazine (see related story on Page

“Frederica in Georgia, March 29 [1744]. On the 22nd Instant our largest Bomb Magazine, and also a smaller one of Powder, some distance from the other, were blown up, nobody knows how; but some villainy is suspected, as an Irish Papist who came lately from Charles Town disappeared the next morning; Many house were damaged by the Splinters, and some burnt; but the Magazine at the Fort, and the two lesser ones, full of Bombs and Powder, are safe; nobody received and Hurt on this Occasion, except a Sentinel, who with two others are in Custody.”

Maintenance Matters

Contributed by Tree Gottshall, Chief of Maintenance

In an era when we try to make everything we can out of the park operating budget, the National Park Service staff at Fort Frederica National Monument has had to seek out alternative means to fund and maintain our assets so that we can meet the expectations of our visiting public to provide a safe, enjoyable experience for all. One such outreach effort is currently ongoing and it supplements our volunteer program that runs regularly throughout the year.

This summer, Fort Frederica has teamed up with Take Pride In America (TPIA), a national program that works to enhance federal, state, and local public lands across the country. The park and TPIA plan to tackle important projects that help interpret to visitors the natural and cultural resources of the park. We are pleased to get TPIA backing for three projects. These include the rebuild of the Colonial style fence around the garden, the planting of native plants and trees around the Visitor Center, and much-needed maintenance of the Riverfront Trail near the Frederica River dock. Without the help of TPIA, these needed improvements most likely would have been deferred.

TPIA provides funding and a network of media outlets to get



Members of the Glynn County 4-H Club pose near recently planted native, deer-resistant shrubs at the Visitor Center. The 4-H members and other volunteers helped park staff plant plants and build a new fence around the garden during the June 18 Take Pride In America volunteer event. For more information about upcoming Take Pride In America Events contact Chief of Maintenance Tree Gottshall at 912-638-3639. Photo by Ellen Strojan

the word out about public projects like ours. The program is contingent on public involvement and agencies like the NPS must seek out volunteers willing to provide a few hours of work in order to receive funding. Consequently, by volunteering, local citizens can take pride in their public lands while helping to preserve and protect our nation's cultural and natural resources for future generations. So, thanks to the TPIA folks for accepting our proposals, and a hearty thanks to the volunteers who accepted the challenge to help complete the projects this summer. Future Take Pride In America

opportunities, including our own, can be found at www.takepride.gov.

Some of these improvements

provided by TPIA and worked on by fellow citizens like yourself will be completed during the printing of this edition of the *Frederica Almanack*. I hope you and your family will use these facilities to help you discover and understand the Fort Frederica story. It is a fascinating look at one of our country's struggles during her early development that is often overlooked.

The entire National Park Service staff at Fort Frederica National Monument has a strong commitment to maintain the park so you have a safe and well-kept facility for your entire family to enjoy. Whether it is the maintenance of our historical herb garden, the upkeep of buildings, the preservation of cultural landscape and grounds, or the protection of the natural

An Update on the Mystery of Frederica's Bomb Magazine

In May, the Southeast Archeological Center and the Georgia Department of Transportation (DOT) conducted a ground-penetrating radar survey aimed at solving the mystery of the location of Frederica's bomb magazine. In addition they surveyed the Hird family lot and the Burying Ground. We are still awaiting the final report, but the surveys produced some surprising preliminary findings.



Georgia Department of Transportation archeologists prepare to survey a search grid.

Photo by Denise Spear

- **Hird House:** The results show archeologist Nick Honerkamp's old excavation units and other features that have yet to be excavated.

- **Burying Ground:** The results show what appear to be two to three additional graves.

The main focus of the survey was to pinpoint the location of the Bomb

Magazine. According to Shawn Patch of the DOT:

“adjacent to the barracks are full of targets, some small and scattered, and some large areas of reflection further north. The areas of large reflection resemble what we might expect from a large scatter of brick, tabby, or other construction debris.”

Could this area to the north be the elusive Bomb Magazine? The location of this reflective area corresponds to the location shown on the 1743 map of Frederica. However enticing this evidence seems, it will take an archeological excavation to be certain and to finally solve the mystery.

Additional results near the barracks show some linear features, perhaps



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Frederica National Monument is a premier historical and archaeological site that shares and preserves the history associated with the British settlement of the Colony of Georgia and the struggle with Spain for control of the region. The National Park Service values working with partners and the public to bring this special history to life.

Fort Frederica National Monument
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Phone
912-638-3639

Web Site Address
www.nps.gov/fofr/

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Upcoming Events

Throughout July and August programs are scheduled daily at 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. Call ahead to find out about the daily schedule of programs.

Special Events:

July 23	<i>Bloody Marsh Musket Program. 2 p.m..</i>
July 26-28	<i>Hands-On History Camp.</i>
August 27	<i>Bloody Marsh Musket Program. 2 p.m..</i>
September 24	<i>Bloody Marsh Musket Program. 2 p.m.</i>
October 22	<i>Bloody Marsh Musket Program. 2 p.m.</i>
November 19	<i>Bloody Marsh Musket Program. 2 p.m..</i>
December 17	<i>Holiday Open House.</i>
December 25	<i>Christmas Holiday (Park Closed).</i>

For additional information about these and other programs offered at Fort Frederica National Monument please visit our website at www.nps.gov/fofr/ or call the Visitor Center at 912-638-3639.

The *Frederica Almanack* is published quarterly by Fort Frederica National Monument. The purpose of the *Almanack* is to provide information about Fort Frederica NM to interested visitors, partners, and volunteers. The *Volunteer Dispatch* is named after military dispatches that were sent to posts and troops throughout Coastal Georgia. The *Almanack* is also available online at www.nps.gov/fofr.

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New Junior Rangers



Every year, hundreds of young visitors complete the requirements to earn a Fort Frederica Junior

If you want more information on the junior ranger ask a ranger in the Visitor Center.

environment, we strive to provide you with an educational experience that broadens your thinking about our cultural past. Let us know how we are doing. Your suggestions may be able to help us improve for those who follow in the future. Thanks for visiting with us today!

(Tree has entered his 25th year of working for the National Park Service and has worked throughout the country in various units of the national park system. He has been at Fort Frederica for two years).

- ★ Claire Mueller, age 3, Colorado Springs, CO
- ★ Chris Myers, age 10, Akron, OH

- ★ Adam Schoonover, age 7, Akron, OH
- ★ Evan Schoonover, age 10, Akron, OH
- ★ Justin Schoonover, age 11, Akron, OH
- ★ Dalton Branson, age 10, Missoula, MT
- ★ Calvin Stinson, age 6, Silver Spring, MD
- ★ Carter Stinson, age 11, Silver Spring, MD
- ★ Emma Runge, age 6, Catorsville, MD
- ★ Megan Runge, age 8, Catorsville, MD
- ★ David Forman, age 12, Marietta, GA
- ★ Tori Tomlin, age 9, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Scarlett Dowers, age 7, Douglasville, GA
- ★ Clayton DeHaven, age 9, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Drew DeHaven, age 6, Atlanta, GA



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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