



Adjutant's Report

By Galen Ewing



Thanks for all of your volunteer support for various activities this year. Our fiscal year totals include 457 volunteers donating 9,611 hours! The precious time you donate helps Fort Scott National Historic Site continue to be one of top notch sites in the country.

Explore "Best Practices for History Lessons and History Discovery Events" at <https://www.nps.gov/articles/series.htm?id=76AEAA2B-1DD8-B71B-0BDC55E305DD4006>. This series gathers ideas, resources, and exemplary history projects and programming that create a foundation for practicing engaged and relevant history. These tools and ideas can be scaled up or down. They can be used by folks doing historical interpretation within the NPS, as well as those outside of the agency looking for best practices in connecting people, places, and histories.

Candlelight Tour is fast approaching. If you have not filled out the Candlelight Tour interest form from the August newsletter, I have enclosed another interest form in this newsletter. Please mail or email it to me by October 22. Please plan on attending one of the Candlelight Tour meetings: either Wednesday, November 8 at 5:30 p.m. or Saturday, November 11 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets will go on sale Tuesday, November 1. Ticket prices are \$8.00 and can be purchased with cash, personal check, or credit card (Master Card, Visa, or Discover).

We are recruiting volunteers for the 2017 Candlelight Tour, Dec 1 & 2. If you can help, complete and return this form. In the assignment category, mark your top three choices in order by placing a "1" in the blank next to your first preference, a "2" for your second choice and so on.

Name _____

Assignments

Telephone _____

Visitor Center:

Greet visitors: _____

Mark tickets: _____

Timekeeper: _____

Desk: _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____

Tour Leader: _____

I can help Friday, Dec. 1 _____

Tour Follower: _____

I can help Saturday, Dec. 2 _____

Living History Scene Roles:

Civilian speaking role _____

Civilian non-speaking _____

Military speaking role _____

Military non-speaking _____

I can help both nights _____

Grand Hall Reception

Greeter _____ Decorator _____

Server _____ Other _____

I will do anything _____

Volunteer meetings will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 5:30 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 11 at 2:00 p.m. Assignments, background material and scripts will be distributed at the meetings. Living history clothing can also be checked out after the meeting.

Please return the form to P.O. Box 918, Fort Scott, KS 66701, call 620-223-0310, or e-mail us at galen_ewing@nps.gov by **October 22.**

PLEASE NOTE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE

News From the Bear's Den

By Barak Geertsen

Well, it is nearing the end of the summer season and before I go into hibernation for the winter, I just thought I would report on how the summer has gone. First, and foremost, I want to thank our seasonal interpretive staff. We have been fortunate to have six seasonal interpreters here this year. In addition to Skip and Gary, we have also had Jason Lewis, Ryan O'Connell, Roger Behrend, and Paul Goodman. All have made valuable contributions this summer.

One program that we could not have done without their help was the Camp of Instruction, which was held in June and July. The camp was an overnight program for youth aged 12-15. They stayed overnight in the barracks, ate food in the mess hall, and went through a series of drills and living history activities designed to simulate the life of a soldier in the 1840s. Overall, it was a positive experience that was accentuated by Paul's drumming abilities. I also want to thank our volunteers who helped with that program, Dee Young, Jessica Cox, Kaja Anderson, Apachelynn "Patches" Severance, and Kelley Collins. My apologies if I missed anyone. I also want to thank all of our volunteers who helped with summer holiday events this year. All were successful and well attended.

I have been busy with several projects, again with the help of our seasonal staff. We have been working on two new wayside exhibits--one for our Civil War ambulance and another for the historic gardens. Designs for these waysides are nearly finalized and will be produced and installed within a couple of months. We are also getting a new junior ranger booklet printed. This booklet has activities for preschool kids, ages 3-5. Dee and Barrett Young did most of the work to create the activities; the book will be available sometime in October. One last project that will be released soon is our Mobile App, which will allow visitors to tour the fort using their iPhones, androids, and tablets, to access information. It will be especially beneficial for accessibility.

Our candlelight tour is coming up quickly. This year, in conjunction with our 175th anniversary, all the scenes will tell stories from the 1840s. In keeping with modern NPS trends, we are looking for ways to make the scenes more interactive with visitors. If anyone has any ideas on how to do so, please let Galen or I know. Thanks again for all of your help this summer. I hope to see many of you at our candlelight tour in December. Hope you all enjoy the pleasant fall weather.

Captain B.A. Terrett's Problem (part 2)

By Gary Herrmann

In 1840 Lt. Terrett was ordered to transfer Companies D and E from Fort Jesup to Alexandria, Louisiana on their way to the war in Florida. In the fall of 1841 he was informed, by the Quarter Master of the Army, he had hired 14 wagons and teams but should have needed only 8, and thus he owed the U. S. Army \$528. He documents the situation of the move and had Lt. Bartous, Adjutant 3rd Inf., write the Quarter Master the circumstances of the move that necessitated the use of 14 wagons. In late 1843 or early 1844 he received information from the Quarter Master that "more than 8 Teams cannot be sanctioned . . . unless more were absolutely necessary." On January 20, 1844 Captain Terrett writes his certification that they were in fact necessary.

"I certify on honor that in October 1840 a detachment of the 3rd Infy consisting of 2 Companies, the Non-Com. Staff & Laundresses left Fort Jesup for Florida taking land transportation as far as Alexandria, Lou, and that owing to the muddy condition of the road and the numerous hills and bottoms over which they had to pass it

was impossible to proceed with wagons heavily loaded. I performed the duties of A. S. Qm. on the march and employed the transportation for the command (14 waggons) and know that they could not have moved with a less number, without leaving public property which was ordered to be transported. I do further certify that the extra number of Teams was furnished by a written order from the Com. Officer Capt. Lewis 3rd Infy."

B. A. Terrett Capt. Drag. Fort Scott Jan 20th 1844.

**This order could not be obtained in writing from the settlement of my account in consequence of the death of Capt. Lewis."*

We have no further correspondence from Captain Terrett about this problem. But on March 17th 1845, upon returning from drill his horse spooked in front of his quarters, the single shot horse pistol that he held in his hand discharged, striking him in the chest and ending his life. Captain Terrett's widow received notice prior to June 23, 1845, that she is not at liberty to receive "a month & 17 days pay" as the "3rd Auditor has charged to the debit of her said husband (by way of suspension or disallowance), the sum of \$528 dollars".

Mrs. Terrett and her lawyer filed a memorial to the Secretary of War on June 23, 1845 from Oakland, Fairfax County near Alexandria Virginia. It said in part: "*Husband being in the year 1840, an Ast. QMr, of the U. S. Army and stationed at Fort Jesup in Louisiana, and being under orders with the troops of his post for immediate service in Florida, was ordered by the Commanding officer (Capt. Levis), to procure the "necessary" transportation of the troops, stores &e from said post to the Red River at Natchitoches. That in obeying said order of his commanding officer he procured what he considered, and the other officers of the station, the necessary number of Wagons, but which it appears the Q Master General contends exceeded the number allowed by Regulations, the ordinary regulations and made for the ordinary circumstances of services. The accounts were certified by her husband _ paid to the owners of the teams, whilst Capt. L was in Florida, by the Q. Master at New Orleans, and the amount charged to her husband, in consequence of his certifying the account."*

She "*respectfully represents to your Excellency that she understands her husband during his life forwarded to the Quarter Master General, proofs of the reasonableness of the transaction referred to which are on file with the settlement. These proofs were all that he could procure, inasmuch as he was not informed of any objection to the expenditure referred to, for several years after it was made and his accounts rendered, and until long after his resignation as a Quarter Master" She "believes, that, in the urgencies of the Florida War, the ordinary rules and allowances of transportation to number of wagons, were not enforced or the number of conveyances limited by the number of Troops and especially so during the period of command of the distinguished officer (General Jesup), who has raised the objections to this expenditure by Capt. Terrett."* She solicits you to "*afford relief, by directing the stoppage to be removed, and thus enable her to receive the small balance that is due of her husband's pay and emoluments. She trusts as the expenditure was honestly made by her husband, in a moment of public exigency, that of troops hurrying to a scene of war, and that as no motive, other than zeal in the prompt discharge of his duties, can be alleged in the transaction, and the vexatious delays of notice and other circumstances, that she will be relieved from the effect of this charge against her husband___ the only one ever made against him during his honest, ___ zealous, ___ conscientious, ___ and honorable service in the Army.*

"All which is submitted to the Honorable the Secretary of War with full reliance on his giving in the case a reasonable and just decision. Mrs. M. Terrett_ June 23rd 1845"

A month later on July 23, 1845 Mrs. M. Terrett received her answer from the Secretary of War.

Case of Mrs. Terrett

I thank that the proof of the necessity of the no. of teams is satisfactory and the expended sum right to be allowed in July 23^d, 45.

W. L. Marcy

Sect of War

Marianne Blutworth married Burdett Ashton Terrett while he was the Quarter Master at Fort Jesup. Their first child, Burdett A. Terrett was born in June of 1844 while Captain Terrett was stationed at Fort Scott. Their second son James Blutworth Terrett was born in February of 1845 and died on March 1, 1845, just 16 days before the death of his father. Marianne remarried on June 26, 1848 to George W. Morse of Natchitoches, La. her home town.

*Information about Captain Terrett's problem drawn from "Selected Accounts of Officers' Records 1840 to 1846" Roll 22
Information about Mrs. Terrett selected from research by Robert Thomas*

Veteran's Day 1800's Grand Ball

By Dee Young

Hello Staff/Volunteers/Friends! We want to make sure you are aware of an upcoming event being hosted by the volunteers and Friends of Fort Scott NHS. This event will be held on Saturday, November 11 and will be a Salute To Veterans: *A Veteran's Day 1800's Grand Ball*. It will be held at Memorial Hall in Fort Scott and will be a fund raiser for the Friends of Fort Scott NHS.

This will be a great event to honor our veterans and active members of the military, as well as to promote Fort Scott National Historic site and the "Friends" and volunteers.

Volunteers are needed to make this a successful event and to give proper honor to our veterans and military personnel. If we have more people volunteering to help with the event then everyone involved will have time to enjoy the ball as well. Below are some of the areas that we know volunteers are needed:

- Taking tickets at the door
- Selling tickets at the door
- Handing out FSNHS ornaments to all veterans
- Assisting at the photo booth(s) taking pictures and donations
- Selling gloves
- Assisting at the refreshment table(s)
- Donating and preparing food for the refreshments
- Help with decorating and set-up
- Help with clean-up and take down
- Photographer to take pictures of the whole event
- Trash cans (make sure full trash bags are removed and new ones put in as needed)
- Restroom supplies (make sure facilities have toilet paper and paper towels)
- Event clean-up (assisting with clean-up of spills and such during the event)
- Volunteers on call for other things that come up and are needed

Please spread the word about the ball and the related events. If you are willing to volunteer for one of the above needs, please contact Dee Young. It will take all of us together to make this a successful, enjoyable, and memorable event.

Those of you who were there last year know that some people wore 1800's attire, some wore fancy party clothes, and some wore regular clothes. The idea is to just make it a special evening. Veterans in uniform or with some type of identification (cap, pin, ribbons, ID) will be admitted free. Gloves will be required by all dancers and will be available at the ball.

The plan is to have a short salute to all veterans and military personnel at the beginning of the evening. If anyone has any thoughts of how this can be done, please share your ideas.

Once again, we are trying to keep the cost of this event to a bare minimum so that all proceeds basically go to the Friends group. The use of Memorial Hall has been donated by the city of Fort Scott once again as well.

We look forward to hearing from you soon and getting your support in this special event. Please contact Dee Young at waynedeeyoung@hughes.net for more information or to volunteer. Thank you.

One SCA Departs, Another Arrives

Dear Staff and Volunteers of Fort Scott NHS:

As a number of you already know, my SCA position is coming to an end. My last day is Thursday, August 24th. Because I may not get to goodbye in person to everyone, please consider this to be my sincere goodbye to each and every one of you.

In my 24 years before coming to Fort Scott, I could have never imagined I would end up in Kansas. Fort Scott is a small town, much like my home town in Louisiana. However, there are a few significant things that I believe make Fort Scott stand out: the historic structures and tall grass prairie at Fort Scott National Historic Site (of course), the bike trails at Gunn park, the waterfall at Rock Creek Lake, the unique architecture in the downtown area, and brunch at Nate's Place on National Ave. I am sure there is much more that I wasn't able to experience during my short four months in Fort Scott.

I feel so lucky to have worked at Fort Scott National Historic Site. I want to extend my gratitude to all of the staff and volunteers who make working at the Fort such an enjoyable experience. I learned a great deal and worked with many people with whom I am sure will remain friends for a long time. I can only wish that my new position will give me such rewarding experiences and supportive team. Thank you so much for making my time at the Old Fort a truly enjoyable one. My very best wishes for the future go out to each and every one of you.

Yours sincerely,
Jennifer Pulsifer, SCA Interpretive Intern, Summer 2017

Jennifer was an asset to Fort Scott NHS and will be missed. Before leaving she obtained a new position in Austin, Texas and our best wishes went with her.

Shortly after Jennifer left we were fortunate to have a new SCA join the team. Samuel Boling became one of us on August 28.

Hello Fort Scott! My name is Sam Boling and I am from a small island in Georgia named St. Simons Island. I am a senior at the College of Coastal Georgia with the intention of graduating with a degree in English and History. This is my first time being in Kansas and my second internship as an SCA. I enjoy the small town feel that Fort Scott has to offer, and everyone that I have met here has been very welcoming and nice! In my spare time, I like to play my guitar, watch any kind of movie or show, play basketball, and write. The National Park Service has been great to me as an SCA both times I have done an internship, and has taught me the true meaning of conservation. It's not work if you enjoy what you do, right? That is my ultimate goal; to find a job that does not seem like work and the park service is on the short list. I am excited to be here and can't wait to see what is in store for me for the next few months! The great people of Fort Scott; I'll see you around town!

If you have not already, please give Sam an enthusiastic Fort Scott welcome when next you see him.

Safety Sense

October is Fire Safety Month!

The U.S. Fire Administration reports that fires kill more than 4,000 Americans each year and approximately injure 20,000 more. U.S. fire departments respond to nearly 2 million fires each year, with three-quarters of them occurring in residences.

The following tips are taken from the official website of the Department of Homeland Security, www.ready.gov.

Fire is FAST! In less than 30 seconds a small flame can turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house or for it to be engulfed in flames.

Fire is HOT! Heat is more threatening than flames. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 degrees at eye level. Inhaling this super-hot air will scorch your lungs and melt clothes to your skin.

Fire is DARK! Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness.

Fire is DEADLY! Smoke and toxic gases kill more people than flames do. Fire produces poisonous gases that make you disoriented and drowsy. Asphyxiation is the leading cause of fire deaths, exceeding burns by a three-to-one ratio.

Crawl low under any smoke to your exit--heavy smoke and poisonous gases collect first along the ceiling. Before opening a door, feel the doorknob and door. If either is hot or if there is smoke coming around the door, leave the door closed and use your second way out.

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