



Community Bulletin



Harpers Ferry Park Commemorates the Civil War's Maryland Campaign - September 13-16

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and the Harpers Ferry Historical Association, with support from the West Virginia Humanities Council, are planning and coordinating activities for "Prelude to Freedom: The 1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry", a Civil War 150th commemorative program scheduled for September 13-16. Events include special ranger-guided programs, book signings and author discussions, family and youth activities, living history programs, musical programs and an archeology discovery tent.

Highlights include:

Thursday, September 13

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Maryland Campaign Sesquicentennial Evening Lecture Series
(at Mather Training Center)

"For God's Sake, Don't Fall Back" - The Battle for Maryland Heights by D. Scott Hartwig, Historian, Gettysburg National Military Park Reception & book signing to follow

Friday, September 14

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Evening Program
"The Desperate Hour"
(at the Gathering Tent in Lower Town)

Who will be trapped and who will escape Confederate General Thomas Jackson's ring of fire? Join this lantern light evening program.

Saturday, September 15

11:00 - 11:45 a.m.
Keynote Address: "September Suspense" (at the Author/Sales Tent in Lower Town)
Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Book signing to follow.

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Sesquicentennial Panel Discussion (at the Author/Sales Tent in Lower Town)
"Harpers Ferry 1862: Beyond the Battle" with panelists Dr. William A. Blair; Dr. James K Bryant, II; Kathleen Ernst; D. Scott Hartwig; Moderator TBA
Book signing to follow

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.
"Stonewall's Greatest Victory"
Battlefield Bus Tour
Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
Advanced Reservations Required (304) 535-2078

3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
"Marching As To War" (at the Author/Sales Tent in Lower Town)
Military music encouraged and inspired a generation of young men to march off to war. Join this Musical Presentation by the Wildcat Regimental Band and experience the music and milieu of 1862.

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Maryland Campaign Sesquicentennial Evening Lecture Series
(at Mather Training Center)

"Telling War Stories: Reflections by a Civil War Historian."
Featuring Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust, President, Harvard University
Reception & book signing to follow.

A complete schedule is available on the web page. <http://www.nps.gov/hafe/historyculture/hf-civil-war.htm>

Mark your calendars and join us for the special commemoration.

Upcoming Events

July 7 – 8

**I Will Follow Them To the Death:
Sheridan's Soldiers 1864**

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

Learn about Harpers Ferry's role in Union Gen.

Philip Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign in 1864. 13th New Jersey will demonstrate Union army garrison duties. Costumed volunteers and staff will interpret civilian life under harsh military rule.

July 21 – 22

Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights 1862

Time: Firing Demonstrations at 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield
Join the park's artillery crew as they demonstrate the power and intimidation of field artillery.

July 21

Slavery, the Abolitionist Movement and Reflections of Jefferson

Time: 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

An insightful dramatic presentation on the issue of slavery featuring Bill Barker as Thomas Jefferson.

August 4 – 5

Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights 1862

Time: Firing Demonstrations at 1, 2, and 3 p.m.

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield
Join the park's artillery crew as they demonstrate the power and intimidation of field artillery.

August 11 – 12

Medical Weekend: Giving Aid and Comfort

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

See living history volunteers as they portray medical and relief efforts that provided aid and comfort to the thousands of soldiers fighting during the American Civil War. Join ranger-led walking tours and military drill and firing demonstrations.

August 18 – 19

Bringing In the Harvest

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

Join 19th-century Historic Foodways Expert Carol Anderson for this in depth look at how summer time harvest foods were preserved for winter consumption. Demonstrations include, pickling, drying, potting, and canning.

August 19

Niagara Movement Pilgrimage to John Brown's Fort

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Murphy Farm & Curtis Freewill Baptist Church

Retrace the 1906 footsteps of the men and women of Niagara during this commemorative walk to the site of the John Brown's Fort in 1906. A 10:00 a.m. memorial service will follow at the Curtis Freewill Baptist Church.

September 13 -15

Prelude to Freedom: The 1862 Battle of Harpers Ferry

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Parkwide

Join us for this special Civil War Sesquicentennial event. Activities include: living history, ranger-led programs and family/youth activities, special hikes, bus tours, lectures, panel discussion, and book signings. Maryland Campaign evening lectures on Thursday, September 13, feature Scott Hartwig and Saturday, September 15, Dr. Drew Gilpin Faust.

October 6

Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry

Time: 1:00 p.m. & 3:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

Our 16th president comes to life as Jim Getty portrays Abraham Lincoln.

October 27

John Butler and the War of 1812

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

Learn about African Americans in the War of 1812, specifically Harpers Ferry resident and free African American, John Butler, who served as a gunner on the US frigate United States in the naval victory against HMS Macedonian on Oct. 30, 1812. Includes recruiting for War of 1812 living history soldiers and civilians at Williamson's Tavern and historic flintlock firing demonstration.

November 3 – 4

Drink Your Apples: Roeder's Tavern Cider Making 1860

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Lower Town

Join living history rangers and foodways expert Carol Anderson for cider-making demonstration and fall food preservation.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

The history of Harpers Ferry has few parallels in the American drama. It is more than one event, one date, or one individual. It is multi-layered, involving a diverse number of people and events, decisions and actions that influenced the course of our nation's history. Visit Harpers Ferry and step into history.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
P.O. Box 65
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Visitor Center
304-535-6029

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop
304-525-6881

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