



National Mall and Memorial Parks

April 2010 • Volume 3, Issue 4

DAILY INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS



Join National Park Service rangers to learn more about the meaning, symbolism, and significance of the park's many memorials. No prior sign-up is required, and all programs are free. Program length varies. For more information contact a ranger at each memorial.

Programs are offered at the following memorials...

- World War II Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Scheduled Programs are presented on the hour from:

10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

**Additional programs on request.

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Not Without Ambition: Lincoln and Shakespeare

By Ranger Heidi Dietze

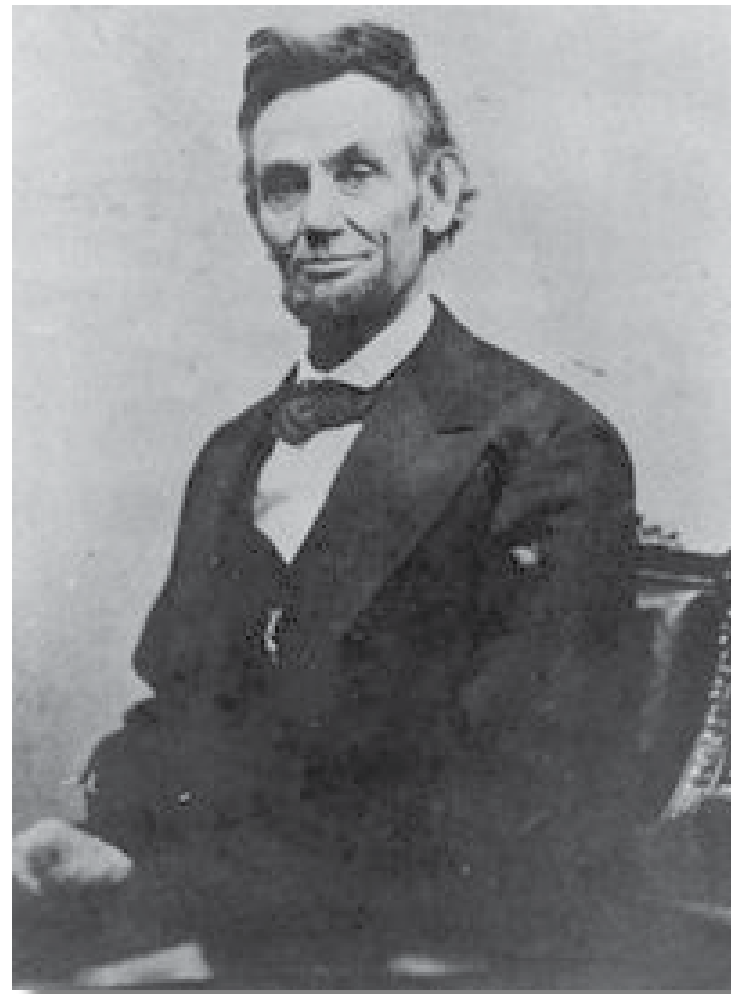
It may come as a surprise to learn that William Shakespeare was once popular culture. His stories were written and performed specifically for the masses, who loved him. When the United States severed ties to England, the new Americans kept Shakespeare, finding inspiration in his plays of tyrannical kings getting their comeuppance from rogue heroes. James Fenimore Cooper said Shakespeare was



William Shakespeare

“the great author of America,” and Americans had “just as good a right” as the British to claim him as their own; poet Bayard Taylor named him “the Master of our Thought, the Land’s first Citizen!” Almost every house had at least two books - the Bible, and the works of Shakespeare (coinciding with two things every town had, a church and a theater). Children grew up learning morals, ethics, and the power of language and oratory from Shakespeare’s words. Henry Norman Hudson, a noted 19th-century scholar and literary critic, claimed that Shakespeare’s works provided “a far better school of virtuous discipline than half the moral and religious books which are now put into the hands of youth.”

Numerous presidents have also expressed their fondness for Shakespeare. In 1786, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson took a pilgrimage to Shakespeare’s home in Stratford,



Abraham Lincoln

England. John Quincy Adams is as yet the only president to be a published author of Shakespeare criticism, while Millard Fillmore read Shakespeare aloud to factory workers in Buffalo, NY to promote literacy, and James Garfield read Shakespeare to his children. But no president had more admiration of the Bard than Abraham Lincoln.

In the thousands of collected Lincoln writings, there is little direct reference to Shakespeare, but from witness

Dietze Continued on page 4

NATIONAL MALL AND MEMORIAL PARKS
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024



Park Headquarters: 202-485-9880
Visitor Information: 202-426-6841

Park Websites: www.nps.gov/nama
www.nps.gov/mall

National Mall Plan Website:
www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan

Radio: 1670 AM

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APRIL

Don't Forget...

Daily ranger programs at the memorials, presented daily, every hour from 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Artwork by Ranger Dennis Mosso				1 🕒 1 p.m.	2	3 🚶 8 a.m. 🚲 1 p.m.
4 🚶 8 a.m. 🚲 1 p.m.	5	6	7	8	9	10 🚶 8 a.m. 🚲 1 p.m.
N a t i o n a l C h e r r y B l o s s o m F e s t i v a l						
11 🚲 1 p.m.	12	13	14 🕒 8 p.m. 🕒 8 p.m.	15	16 🚶 10 a.m.	17 🚲 1 p.m. 🕒 5 p.m.
18 🚲 1 p.m.	19	20	21 🕒 5 p.m.	22	23 🚶 10 a.m.	24 🚲 1 p.m.
25 🚲 1 p.m. 🕒 5 p.m.	26	27	28 🕒 8 p.m.	29	30	

PROGRAMS

Thursday, April 1
Operation Iceberg –
The Invasion of Okinawa
1 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Escape the cherry blossom crowds to discover more about the final major World War II invasion whose operational title belied some of the hottest fighting in the Pacific. Okinawa's cost, in human lives, altered strategic decisions affecting the final allied victory. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Robert Healy at 202-438-6314 for more information.

Wednesday, April 14
The Lincoln Assassination
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The Lincoln assassination shocked the nation in 1865. A plot to kill the President and members of his cabinet was conceived by one man, John Wilkes Booth while Mary Todd Lincoln witnessed the murder of her husband at Ford's Theater. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Kathy Kagle at 202-438-5377 for more information.

Wednesday, April 14
The April Night Sky
8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Join park rangers as they set up viewing telescopes to observe the wonders of the April night sky. Meet at the JFK Hockey Field. Contact Don Stanko at 240-375-4857 for more information.

Saturday, April 17
The Doolittle Raid
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

On April 18, 1942 the Doolittle Raid shocked the Japanese and gave the American public the resolve to strike back against Japan.

Why was this raid so successful and what impact did this raid have on the war itself? Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066 for more information.

Wednesday, April 21
The Navajo Code Talkers
of World War II
5 p.m.-6 p.m.

In World War II U.S. Pacific commanders were aware of stolen codes - new codes the enemy could easily decipher. They needed an unbreakable code and got it from the Navajo Code Talkers, whose devotion to their craft made them

invaluable. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Tyler Smith at 202-426-6841 for more information.

Sunday, April 25
Nuts About Squirrels
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Squirrels, we see them every day, but do you really understand them? Why do they run on the other side of the tree from you? Do they really hibernate? Join us and learn about the Eastern Grey Squirrel and their history in Washington D.C. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Liz Cavanaugh at 202-426-6841 for more information.

Wednesday, April 28
George Mason:
The Forgotten Founding Father
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Even though he is one of our 'Founding Fathers', George Mason is often forgotten. Come learn about the 'Father of the Bill of Rights', his ideas and writings that inspired Thomas Jefferson to draft the Declaration of Independence. Meet at the George Mason Memorial. Contact Natalie Grime' at 202-426-6841 for more information.





WALKING TOURS

Saturday, April 3 & 10
Sunday, April 4
Cherry Chit-Chat Runs
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Lace up your runnin' shoes!!! Join a park ranger for a 3.5 mile run through the cherry blossoms! Tour highlights include the natural and cultural history of the famous Japanese Cherry trees. Please bring your own water. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Rebecca Steketee at 202-359-7080 for more information.

Friday, April 16
A Day with a Ranger
10 a.m. - mid-afternoon

Spend the day with your very own park ranger and learn about the history and architecture of the National Mall from A to Z. The tour ends on the grounds of the Washington Monument (entrance not included). Bring comfortable shoes and water. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173 for more information.

Friday, April 23
A Day with a Ranger
10 a.m. - mid-afternoon

Spend the day with your very own park ranger and learn about the history and architecture of the National Mall from A to Z. The tour ends on the grounds of the Washington Monument (entrance not included). Bring comfortable shoes and water. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173 for more information.




BIKE TOURS

Saturday, April 3
Off the Beaten Path
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

In a city full of colossal and iconic memorials to great men and even greater deeds, these statues, urns, and symbolic gestures of friendship and remembrance can be found all over DC, yet, their stories have gone largely untold, until now!

Sunday, April 4
History of the Mall
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

From George Washington's original vision to the District of Columbia of today, how has this span of green space in the heart of the Nation's Capital altered over time? Come see how The National Mall has evolved into what you experience today. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Saturday, April 10
Unexplored Tales of the City
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Were you taught that George Washington cut down a cherry tree or Abraham Lincoln wrote his Gettysburg Address on the back of an envelope? These tours prove once and for all that true American history is stranger than fictitious American history. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Sunday, April 11
On This Date in History:
The Assassination of
Abraham Lincoln
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

This tour will follow the series of events leading up to, and including, Lincoln's assassination. Rangers will focus on the chain of events that the conspirators took leading up to the fateful day when they nearly took down the entire government. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Saturday, April 17
History of the Mall
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

From George Washington's original vision to the District of Columbia of today, how has this span of green space in the heart of the Nation's Capital altered over time? Come see how The National Mall has evolved into what you experience today. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Sunday, April 18
Civil War in Washington: 1861
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

During the early years of the conflict, threats to Washington, D.C. remained constant. There were fears that the city would be attacked by land or by water. How would the city be defended and by what means could victory be achieved? Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Saturday/Sunday, April 24-25
A Titanic Weekend
on the National Mall
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Did an iceberg really sink the Titanic? Was the calamity an act of God? Was it the fault of humanity? Who survived? Who perished? Was negligent navigation the cause? Who was responsible—the captain, the chairman, or J.P. Morgan? Come find out! Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Michael Kelly at 202-359-2662 for more information.

Turn to page 8 for more information on these special programs.



Interview with Ranger **Rebecca Karcher**

Rebecca Karcher was born and raised in Watchung, N.J., where she studied history at Rutgers University before joining the Park Service. Ranger Karcher is the recipient of the coveted Freeman Tilden Award.

Q: *How long have you been a ranger, and where else have you worked for NPS?*

A: During college, I accepted an internship at Gettysburg National Military Park, and then accepted a seasonal position at Antietam National Battlefield in May, 1999. I saw the parks as "open classrooms" and the public as eager students. A year later I took a permanent guide position at Independence National Historical Park, giving talks at the Liberty Bell. I became a full time Ranger when I accepted a position at Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military



Park in Georgia, where I worked from April 2001 to August 2008. I was then offered a supervisory position that brought me here to the National Mall.

Q: *You spent 7 years in Georgia; why so long?*

A: I love the history of the Civil War, and had visited the park once before. I was enticed by the opportunities, particularly becoming the only full time interpretive ranger in the district. I became the Historic Weapons Supervisor, and an instructor for

Blackpowder Historic Weapons Safety. As the Education and Interpretation Specialist I mentored students from local schools, and developed Black History programs for the Orchard Knob urban area. I managed Living History events, including logistics and volunteers, conducted Military Staff Rides, and Oral History programs. It was in this park that I did extensive research on, and created an exhibit for the Women's Army Corps, for which I was awarded the Freeman Tilden Award for the Southeast Region.

Q: *What do you enjoy about being a supervisor here on the National Mall?*

A: I enjoy the responsibility, as it enables me to grow, and learn

Karcher Continued on page 10

Not Without Ambition: Lincoln and Shakespeare

Dietze from page 1

accounts, and a few speeches, his fascination with the writer shines through. Echoes of Macbeth and the need to resist evil run through his 1842 Temperance Address, and the last words of his first inaugural address are lifted from Sonnet 144. Robert Todd Lincoln recalled that his father would walk around the White House with a copy of Shakespeare's plays in his jacket pocket, reading aloud to any audience he could find, often to his sleepy secretary John Hay late at night at the office.



James H. Hackett as Falstaff

Lincoln was not shy with his own judgments of plays and performances. He would tirelessly debate such topics with his friend James Hackett, an actor renowned for playing Falstaff, one of Lincoln's favorite Shakespearean characters. "Unlike you gentlemen of the profession," Lincoln wrote Hackett in 1863, "I think the soliloquy in Hamlet commencing, 'O, my offense is rank, [and smells to heaven,]' surpasses that commencing, 'To be, or not to be.' But pardon this small attempt at criticism."

In a later letter to Hackett, he confessed, "Some of Shakespeare's [sic] plays I have never read, while others I have gone over perhaps as frequently as any unprofessional reader." His familiarity with certain plays showed itself while he posed for an official portrait, so bored that he once broke into an impromptu performance of Richard III's opening soliloquy ("Now is the winter of our discontent") "with a degree of force and power that made it seem like a new creation," according to painter Francis Carpenter. Carpenter told Lincoln he had never seen it better performed; he could have a second career on the stage. Lincoln modestly demurred, but continued with a detailed denunciation that most of the actors he had seen perform the role ruined the speech, and thus the role by over-emoting with a grand-standing flourish instead of channeling the "intense bitterness and satire" he felt the scene required. Yet he maintained that "it matters not to me whether Shakespeare be well or ill acted, with him the thought suffices."

While he enjoyed the comedies, as President he connected more to the histories and tragedies like Hamlet, King Lear, and Richard III. Lincoln could sympathize with these dramas centered on heads of state ruling over a court fraught with political intrigue, tension and war. Reading Hamlet he was more affected by the words of King Claudius, who murdered his brother for the throne. Lincoln recognized in himself a similar strain of ambition; he could not relate to the distracted and indecisive Hamlet.

But for Lincoln, "nothing equals Macbeth." Late one night in the difficult spring of 1864, John Forney, secretary of the Senate, found Lincoln asleep at his desk, "ghastly pale, rings under his caverned eyes," his copy of Shakespeare nearby, open to Macbeth. Lincoln started awake, and immediately read aloud the soliloquy "Tomorrow, and tomorrow, and tomorrow", deconstructing the words as life and human endeavor being meaningless since everything ends in death. When he finished, Lincoln told an amazed Forney that Macbeth's morbidity and pessimism "comes to me tonight like a consolation." The growing number of soldiers' deaths was weighing heavily on his mind, consuming him with guilt, and no end in sight.

On April 9, 1865, the day Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox, Lincoln was returning to Washington from Richmond aboard the steamer River Queen with a small party that included the French nobleman, the Marquis de Chambrun. For several hours Lincoln read aloud passages from Macbeth. Chambrun remembered that Lincoln's particular focus was on Macbeth's lines about the death of King Duncan, whom Macbeth murdered:

*Duncan is in his grave;
After life's fitful fever he sleeps well;
Treason has done his worst: nor steel, nor
poison,
Malice domestic, foreign levy, nothing
Can touch him further. . .*

The Marquis wrote afterward, "I cannot recall this reading without being

awed at the remembrance. . . . Either because he was struck by the weird beauty of these verses, or from a vague presentiment coming over him, Mr. Lincoln paused here while reading, and began to explain to us how true a description of the murderer that one was; when, the dark deed achieved, its tortured perpetrator came to envy the sleep of his victim. And he read over again the same scene."

Five days later at Ford's Theater Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth. It is well-known that shortly before this fateful night, he dreamt of his death. In the dream he walked through a gloomy White House and noticed people were crying. He came upon a room with a coffin in it, and asked a guard "who was dead in the White House?" The guard replied, "The president." He shrugged off the dream to his wife but confided to his bodyguard, "[My dream] has haunted me. Somehow the thing has got possession of me, and like Banquo's ghost, it will not let go", referring to one of Macbeth's murder victims. Throughout his short life Lincoln turned to Shakespeare, especially Macbeth, for inspiration and distraction. On the surface, the stories of Lincoln and Macbeth seem to be poles apart, but in the dialogue of the play one can see how a moody, tragic figure like Lincoln would find solace and meaning in the words of the similarly tragic Macbeth: "Out, out brief candle!/Life's but a walking shadow."



First Folio of Macbeth



Macbeth

The Surprising Month of April

By Ranger John Hannan

During the month of April the National Mall is filled with visitors arriving for the Cherry Blossom Festival. They enjoy the Cherry trees, visit the monuments and memorials, and experience historical presentations from park rangers. However, visitors are often surprised to discover that April has been an unusually significant month in history, producing a surprising thread of events that bind our country's heritage from its beginnings to the present.



The ride of Paul Revere

On April 18, 1775 Paul Revere rode through Lexington and Concord warning citizens about the impending British attack, and on April 19, embattled farmers fired "the shot heard round the world," beginning the Revolutionary War in Lexington, Massachusetts. Six years later our first president, George Washington, assumed his office on April 30, 1789.

In 1860 the election was at hand; a young lawyer from Spring-

field, Illinois, Abraham Lincoln, was elected president, seven southern states succeeded from



Lee Surrenders to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia

the nation, and our country was dragged into the Civil War. In the town of Manassas VA, a farmer named Wilmer McLean watched the bloodshed from his back yard, and to escape the war, moved his family to Appomattox Court House. Ironically, on April 9, 1865 the Civil War followed him to his front parlor, where Generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant signed papers ending the conflict.

On April 14, 1865 President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth while attending Ford's Theater. He died the next day at 7:22 a.m. lying in a bedroom of the Peterson House across the street from the theater.

On April 17 Mary Surratt was arrested as a co-conspirator; it was in her boarding house that many of the conspirators met, and she also owned a tavern outside of Washington, D.C. where it was believed she hid weapons. For her involvement she became the first woman to be executed in this country. On April 19 Lincoln's funeral train left Washington for his last trip to Springfield, Illinois. This trip was the reverse of the journey taken when he became president.

The United States entered World War I, known as the "war to end all wars," April 6, 1917. The war is memorialized by a structure located west of the World War II Memorial. The District of Columbia War Memorial lists the names of the 492 local people who died in the war. Visitors can also find a statue of General Pershing, who led American forces in Europe during World War I, located at the corner of 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

In 1912 Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo presented a gift of 3,000 cherry trees to the city of

Washington, honoring the lasting friendship between the United States and Japan, and celebrating the continued close relationship between our two cultures. This year's National Cherry Blossom Festival commemorates this gift from March 27 to April 11. During World War II the world was stunned by the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt on April 12, 1945. Roosevelt died in Warm Springs Georgia, where, after being stricken with polio at the age of 39, he often went for the healing qualities of the natural springs. He was writing a major speech about the founding of the United Nations, and would have given this speech on



The District of Columbia World War I Memorial

April 13th, the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. To find out more about our rich historical past, pick up a brochure, and join the ranger on duty for a talk and discussion about the history and significance of the memorials on the National Mall. Talks are given on the hour, or by request at every memorial.

Eastern National Bookstores



Serving the Visitors to America's National Parks and Other Public Trusts

National Mall and Memorial Parks is a very inspiring and powerful place, but your experience does not have to end in Washington, D.C. Continue learning more about park sites and American history by visiting the many Eastern National bookstores throughout the park. Capture the moment, take home a book, and explore the ideas and values that make visiting National Mall and Memorial Parks such a stirring experience. Eastern National, a park partner, operates four bookstores located at:

Washington Monument Lodge
8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Lincoln Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.



Washington Monument Lodge

www.easternnational.org

Park Concessionaires

Guest Services, Inc. manages all retail operations for National Mall and Memorial Parks. This includes refreshment kiosks and gift stores throughout the park. They also operate the following recreational opportunities...



GUEST SERVICES

Tidal Basin Paddle Boats
202-479-2426
www.tidalbasinpaddleboats.com

East Potomac Tennis Center
202-554-5962
www.eastpotomactennis.com



Tourmobile Sightseeing provides live, narrated shuttle tours with hop on/hop off service. You choose where to stop, stay as long as you want, then reboard and ride to another historic location. Purchase your tickets directly

from the driver at any tour stop or any seasonal ticket booth.

Adults: \$27.00
Children 3-11: \$13.00
202-554-5100
www.tourmobile.com



The National Cherry Blossom Festival



The National Park Service welcomes you to the 2010 National Cherry Blossom Festival! Start your visit at the Tidal Basin Welcome Area. This convenient location for services offered by the National Park Service and its partners provides visitor services, first aid, children's activities, food, souvenirs, books and more. Learn about the history of the cherry trees by attending one of the many park ranger programs throughout the park. We have something for everyone! Park rangers and volunteers will be on hand to answer any questions concerning the festival.

Programs

Hours and Location

Cherry Talks

Every Day

11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial & Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Weekends

1 p.m., 3 p.m.

Hains Point

Ever wonder how and why the Japanese flowering cherry trees came to Washington, D.C.? Are you curious about the many varieties of trees? Then join park rangers for free programs to learn about the cultural and natural history of these natural treasures.

Lantern Walks

Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday

8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Departing from: NPS Welcome Tent at Tidal Basin Welcome Area and from Monument Lodge, east side of Washington Monument Grounds

Want to see the cherry blossoms by a new light? How about at night? Join park rangers every Wednesday, Saturday, & Sunday during the National Cherry Blossom Festival to learn

more about the cherry trees. Guided by the light of festive lanterns, rangers will guide you on a walk around the Tidal Basin.

Bike Tours

Weekends

1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial

If you want to enjoy the warm weather and experience the famous cherry blossoms without all the traffic, you'll love our ranger led bike tours! Join park rangers for guided bike tours of the Nation's Capital. No two tours are ever the same! All riders MUST provide their own bike, helmet, and water.

The bike tour season begins during the National Cherry Blossom Festival and continues through the last Sunday of November:

Saturday, March 27 -

Sunday, November 28, 2010.

Cherry Chit-Chat Runs

Weekends

(except Sunday, April 11)

8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Washington Monument

If you are interested in a more fast-paced exploration of the National Mall and the cherry blossoms, join park rangers for one of our Cherry Chit-Chat Runs. It's a great way to get your daily exercise and see the park from the perspective of morning's first

light. The tour is comprised of a morning run around the National Mall with stops to highlight the history, beauty, and culture of the cherry blossoms. While the exact routes and stops along the tour may vary by day, please be prepared for a distance of up to three miles at a good running pace. Also, remember to dress appropriately and bring water.

Family Fun Zone

Weekends

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial

New this year for the 2010 National Cherry Blossom Festival is the Family Fun Zone. Come join park rangers at the Family Fun Zone and enjoy fun and educational activities in the shadow of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

This year kids of all ages can learn to write Japanese words and letters. You can also learn and explore the trees of this park and others. While we have cherry trees all around us, other national parks have beautiful trees too! Also, don't forget to leave your mark at the festival. We'll have a new art station where you can draw and create your own expression of the cherry blossoms!

The Family Fun Zone is located in the big white tent at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

Bloomin' Junior Ranger Tent

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tidal Basin Welcome Area

Want to learn about the cherry blossoms? Join park rangers at the Bloomin' Junior Ranger Tent for hands-on activities include games, projects, and puzzles that teach children about the Japanese cherry trees, the country from which they came, and the national park that cares for them. Take part and earn a special Junior Ranger badge! The program is aimed at children between the ages of 6-12.

FREE Bike Valet

Weekends

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial & Independence Avenue between 14th and 15th Streets

This free service allows you to spend more time experiencing the attractions of the National Cherry Blossom Festival and less time in traffic. Bring your whole family and take advantage of the free valet bicycle parking that will be offered during the weekends. Brought to you by The Washington Area Bicyclist Association in partnership with the National Park Service.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Tidal Basin Welcome Area?

This central location provides information, services, and activities for the 2010 National Cherry Blossom Festival. Most services in the Welcome Area are open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Where can I find information once I arrive in the park?

You can obtain information, maps, and publications at the Tidal Basin Welcome Area, the Survey Lodge Ranger Station, or any of the monuments or memorials.

Is there anything to eat around here?

You can find food at the Tidal Basin Welcome Area and concession stands throughout the park. Most of the major Smithsonian museums have café's as well.

Where and when are the fireworks?

The fireworks will take place at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 3 along the Southwest Waterfront along Maine Avenue. The Prelude to the fireworks will start at 5:00 p.m.

Where and when is the parade?

The National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade will take place from 10 a.m. until 12 noon

on Saturday, April 10. The parade route runs along Constitution Avenue starting at 7th Street and ending at 17th Street, NW.

What is going on at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial and the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial?

As you approach the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, you will see evidence of a long-term construction project. The park has begun the process to rebuild the seawall that separates the Tidal Basin from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial.

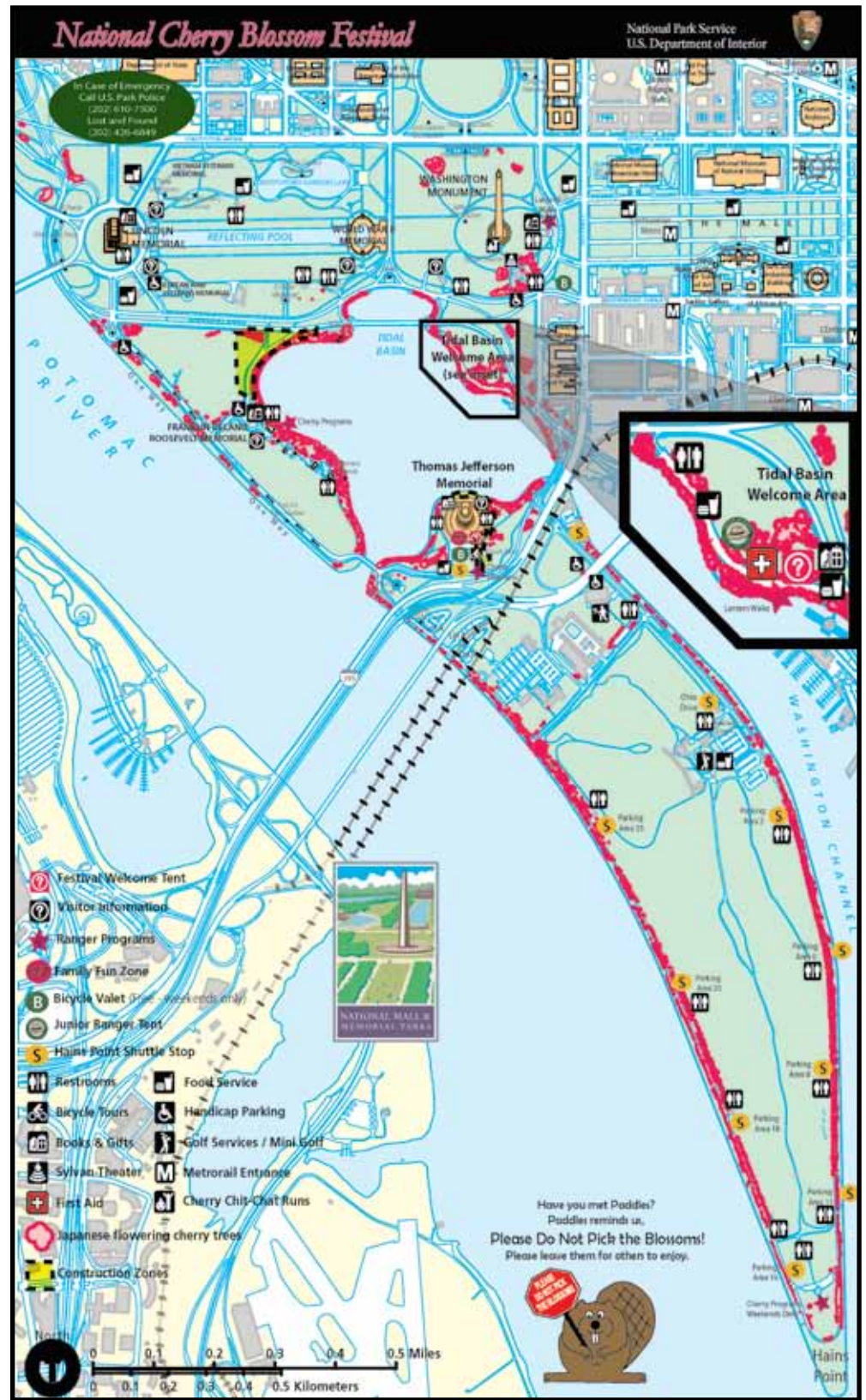
Construction for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial has also begun near the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. As a result of these ongoing construction projects, there are a few temporary closures in both locations. Currently, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Plaza and the eastern walkways around the Thomas Jefferson Memorial are closed. The memorial itself remains open.

Where is the performance stage this year?

Because of ongoing construction around the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Performance Stage has been relocated to the Sylvan Theatre on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

Is there a free shuttle bus?

Yes, you can park in the middle of the cherry blossoms



along East Potomac Park and enjoy free shuttle service from the Hains Point parking areas to the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Shuttles run at 20 to 30 minute intervals.

Daily 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
March 27 - April 11 The shuttle is FREE.

Hours of Operation:



**Remember,
Paddles Says:**

**“Please Do Not Pick
The Blossoms.”**

Festival Tents

Hours of Operation and Location

Welcome and Information Tent

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)
Tidal Basin Welcome Area

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Weekends)
Thomas Jefferson Memorial

Food Tents

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tidal Basin Welcome Area

Souvenirs/Bookstore Tent

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)
Tidal Basin Welcome Area

First Aid Tent

10 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Every Day)
Tidal Basin Welcome Area

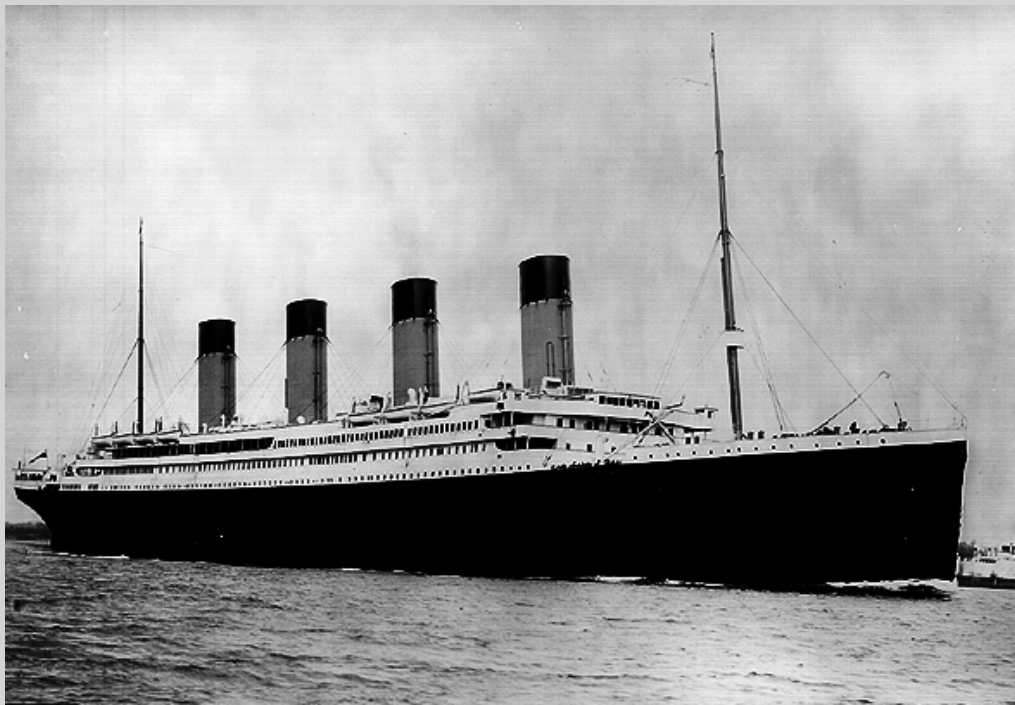
A Titanic Loss Strikes Washington

The R.M.S. *Titanic* entered service in 1912 as the second of three great sister ships designed to dominate the transatlantic passenger trade. Although built in Ireland for Great Britain's White Star Line, the ships actually were owned by an American conglomerate and were described by the press as "virtually unsinkable." Company advertising sought to emphasize their enormous size by reminding the public that each vessel's length exceeded the height of any of the world's buildings—even our own

than fifteen hundred people were feared lost. Washington braced for the worst. What would happen next?

**A Titanic Weekend on the
National Mall
April 24 & 25
1 p.m.—4 p.m. each day**

Did an iceberg really sink the *Titanic*? Was the calamity an act of God? Was it the fault of humanity? Who survived? Who perished? Was negligent navigation the cause? Who was responsible—the captain, the chairman, or J.P. Morgan? Come discover the answers to these questions



R.M.S. *Titanic*

Washington Monument! Intended to cater to wealthy passengers by offering them the highest standard of luxury at sea, the ships also provided unrivalled accommodations for middle class and immigrant passengers. In addition, the new ocean giants devoted ample space for transporting cargo and mail to and from the New World. The *Titanic's* designers, builders, and owners envisioned great fame for their newest liner—the largest ship in the world—but they never contemplated the true nature of that fame.

As the *Titanic* steamed west from European ports on her maiden voyage to New York City, she carried more than 2,200 passengers and crew. On board were several prominent Washingtonians, including two who would write accounts—one fictional, one factual—about that unforgettable voyage.

The *Titanic's* encounter with an iceberg in the North Atlantic on April 14, 1912 has become the stuff of legend—and myth. As the great ship lay sinking throughout the next morning, her radio operators utilized the marvel of wireless telegraphy to send out the distress signals, "CQD" and the new "SOS." News of the developing tragedy quickly spread from one ship's incredulous wireless operator to another and then finally to shore where equally incredulous operators began feeding information to a world that had been transformed overnight. More

achievement lay two and a half miles beneath the waves of the North Atlantic. The drama shook Gilded Age complacency just enough before an approaching Great War erased it. The *Titanic* remains alive nearly a century later through its obvious association with tragedy, but more appropriately through its impact on the world. Learn how the loss of the great ship affected the nation's capital—its memorials, its institutions, and its people—through an examination of the numerous, fascinating connections between the *Titanic* disaster and Washington, D.C.—there are so many that we must devote an entire weekend to exploring them!

For more information, contact Michael Kelly at 202-359-2662 or Heidi Dietze 202-438-7033.



R.M.S. *Titanic* Survivors

as we connect the City of Washington, D.C. to the greatest maritime catastrophe of the twentieth century. Reflecting on the disaster, one survivor believed that "the world of today awoke April 15, 1912" when the sinking "not only made the world rub its eyes and awake, but woke it with a start." Humanity's crowning



How to Visit the Washington Monument

All persons who wish to visit the Washington Monument must have a ticket. One person may pick up to six tickets. Open daily (except July 4 and December 25).

Timed entry tickets are required and may be obtained in two ways:

1. Free, same-day tickets may be picked up at the Washington Monument Lodge (located at the base of the Monument along 15th Street) on a first come - first serve basis, the morning of your visit. Monument Lodge opens at 8:30 a.m.
2. Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-559-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a \$1.50 convenience charge.

Summer Hours: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Monday, May 25 - Monday, September 7

Rest of Year: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

KID'S Column



The Civil War started and ended in April

April marks many historic dates related to the Civil War. The first shots were fired at Fort Sumter in South Carolina on April 12, 1861, and the surrender of General Lee's Confederate Army took place at Appomattox Court House, Virginia on April 9, 1865. Sadly, Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theatre on April 14, 1865 and died the next morning.

You can learn all about these events at national parks. See the fort where the war began. Stand in the room where the surrender happened. Visit the theatre where Lincoln went to see a play. Hike around the battlefields where soldiers fought for their beliefs.

At the National Mall, you can visit memorials to two great leaders of the Civil War. Abraham Lincoln is famous for signing the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed slaves in the South. As president, Lincoln also wanted to unite the

country, and stop the war between the North and the South. His most successful general was Ulysses S. Grant, whose memorial is at the other end of the National Mall, in front of the U.S. Capitol Building. There you will find General Grant on his horse, with statues of soldiers and horses in battle. The Grant Memorial was dedicated in April, 1922, just a month before the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial on May 30, 1922.

While here in Washington, D.C., you can also visit other National Park sites related to the Civil War. Stop by Ford's Theatre and the Petersen House, to see where Lincoln was assassinated and later died. Go to the Shaw neighborhood to visit the African American Civil War Memorial. Cross the Potomac River to visit Robert E. Lee's home, sitting on the hill in Arlington National Cemetery. Explore the Civil War Defenses of Washington and see various remains of forts built to protect the capital city.



- A. Ford's Theatre National Historic Site
- B. Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial
- C. Fort Stevens
- D. African American Civil War Memorial
- E. Ulysses S. Grant Memorial
- F. Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
- G. Fort Sumter National Monument
- H. Lincoln Memorial

Match the National Park Site To Its Name!



CAN YOU SOLVE THIS MONTH'S MALL MYSTERY?

At what site on the National Mall can you find Civil War-era graffiti? You can really impress a ranger if you know what the graffiti says!

Go to the Survey Lodge Ranger Station with the correct answer to receive your prize!

Message from the Superintendent

March is a great time to experience your national park. Our ranger staff presents interpretive programs throughout the park including park-wide walking tours and shorter detailed programs of each memorial.

To learn more about the future of the National Mall, visit the National Mall Plan website, www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan to read current alternatives, express ideas, and follow our progress.

Page through this newspaper to find out more about the many fascinating ranger programs offered throughout the park. Our park staff and volunteers will be glad to answer any of your questions. Thanks for visiting, and have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Superintendent
John Piltzecker

“Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

National Park Service Organic Act

August 25, 1916

Potomac Nature Packs

Birds, Bugs and Trees, OH MY!

Discover the wild side of the National Mall with nature packs designed to engage the entire family. Each pack is filled with a sketch pad, binoculars, books, park brochures, maps, and activities for the whole family. These self-guided nature packs allow the whole family to put on their Eagle eyes, and explore the unbelievable sights and sounds of the National Mall!

Packs are available at the Survey Lodge Ranger Station near the southwest corner of the Washington Monument grounds. Packs are available on a first come, first served basis, and require an adult's drivers license. One pack per family. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.



Old Post Office Tower

The Old Post Office, built between 1892 and 1899, is home to the Bells of Congress, which were a gift from England on our Nation's Bicentennial. From the observation deck, located 270 feet above the street level, the visitor can get a spectacular view of our Nation's Capital.



Operating Hours

Summer: Memorial Day through Labor Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Winter: Labor Day through Memorial Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

202-606-8691

www.nps.gov/opot

Ranger led walking tours of Pennsylvania Avenue

Upon Request:
Saturdays and Sundays
11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Join a park ranger for an interpretive program to learn more about one of Washington, D.C.'s more impressive and fascinating landmarks, the Old Post Office Tower. Tours are by

request. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

For Whom the Bell Tolls: The Washington Ringing Society and the Bells of Congress

First Thursday of every month
6:45 p.m.

The art of change ringing goes back to the Middle Ages, and you can experience it firsthand at the Old Post Office Tower! To learn more about the systematic ringing of the Bells of Congress, join members of the Washington Ringing Society the first Thursday of each month for a full explanation of the Bells of Congress, why they are here, and how they work. The program will be followed by their weekly practice session. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

Karcher Continued from page 3

new skills. We have a strong team here, faced with new issues on a daily basis. I continually learn new supervisory skills, and work to develop my ability to multitask, and handle stress. This is also a

new challenge for me, as this park is memorial based, as opposed to the historical event based parks with which I am familiar.

Q: Do you have a favorite memorial?

A: I would have to say my first

choice is the Lincoln Memorial, based on my love of Civil War history, and I also love the World War II Memorial.

Q: What are your future plans in the National Park Service?

A: I would like to make a difference

for the parks and the public, with the goal of leaving every park better than when I found it.

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Be sure to visit the updated Lincoln Memorial website! <http://www.nps.gov/linc>

Highlights include a new Lincoln Memorial Construction Flipbook and an Interactive Site. The flipbook utilizes historic photographs to tell the story of the memorial construction from inception to completion. You can experience a virtual walk-through of the memorial, and listen to ranger reflections of the memorial and its history on the Interactive Site.

