

2014 Spring Workshop:

- Be on the look-out for additional information on how you can submit program proposal's or help with this upcoming event.

Attention Delaware Interpreters:

- Are you looking for a way of getting more involved with NAI Region 2? We are looking for someone to take over as the Delaware state representative. If you are interested or to learn more about the responsibilities, please contact Linda Bailey (lbailey@fredericksburgva.gov).

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Director's Note

The Battle of Fredericksburg Remembered

The first artillery from across the Rappahannock brought gasps from the townspeople. Then wave upon wave of Union soldiers began crossing the river in barges and finally by marching across a cobbled pontoon bridge, connecting North and South. Smoke and gunfire filled the streets, soldiers fell, some cried out in agony to their comrades.

This was the scene on December 8th, 2012, in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Several thousand re-enactors and years of planning by the National Park Service, brought the Battle of Fredericksburg to life, one-and-a-half centuries after it was fought. While everyone gathered knew the shots were blanks, and the cannons carried no real firepower, the experience was incredibly powerful, allowing us to get a glimpse of the pain, fear, and reality of what those young soldiers and our beloved town experienced during those few weeks of hell.

While it is easy to get caught up in the excitement of Civil War re-enactments, with all of the hair-raising sights, sounds and smells, when interpreted properly, such an experience can have a profound impact on the onlookers.

I was particularly moved when Frank C. O'Reilly, Historian with Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, talked about the palpable fear those teenage Union soldiers felt as they prepared to march from town across an open field to the Sunken Road and Marye's Heights, to meet a certain death. Letters penned moments before meeting that inevitable fate were read, telling the story as it unfolded. Even though these young men were nearly paralyzed with fear, they collected themselves enough to continue, while those marching ahead fell like ducks in a shooting gallery.

If you have the privilege of attending any commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, I strongly encourage you to do so. We have some gifted individuals in the Chesapeake Region, and as we know as interpreters, "it's all in the telling."

Linda Bailey
Director - Region 2



Featured Site: Fort Delaware State Park

Time Travelling at Fort Delaware

By Laura M. Lee, Interpretive Program Manager/Park Historian
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Civil War battlefields seem to get a lot of press, and rightfully so for it was on that hallowed ground that so many people fought and died for what they believed in. I clearly remember a trip with my father to Gettysburg as a freckle-faced toothless second grader. It is what started me on this path. I can still recall the feeling of holding a Minie ball in my hands and being speechless at the fact that this, here, was *real* history in my hand. A couple of years later a class trip took me to Fort Delaware. I only remember a grizzled guide with a cane bearing a cannon for a handle, and my awe at the massive size of what looked like a castle to me. Fast forward 40 years of my life and Fort Delaware State Park is where I landed. It is my favorite Civil War place, one that tells the story of not only the soldiers but also of the common people who were part of the struggle. Fort Delaware State Park is honored to be a part of events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. It is not a celebration; certainly there is no celebration in a war that took the lives of so many Americans. But it is fitting that we remember their sacrifice no matter what side of the Mason Dixon line these people were on.

Fort Delaware had no memorable battles other than the one for life. It does not occupy a huge place in the annals of Civil War history. Built on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River just off of Delaware City Delaware, it was constructed to keep people out, not in. Intended to protect ports such as Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Camden, during the Civil War a weak Confederate navy was key to its transformation as a prisoner-of-war camp. As my mentor Lee Jennings once said, "For those prisoners, the war was over."

While it was not a pleasant place by any standards, historical records and the death rate testify to the fact that the 70-acre patch of land was home to one of the more survivable prison camps on both sides. In our interpretive programming we represent and remember both Union and Confederate soldiers who served. We create a first person living history experience using the many primary research materials available- including diaries, journals, letters, military records, and photographs. Fortunately for us, people working at or living in a prison had plenty of time to write. It's a virtual feast of historic information- a unique situation creating scads of interpretive fodder. But in telling the story of history, and telling it well, is we are challenged by many obstacles.

Winston Churchill once said, "History will be kind to me, for I intend to write it." That tongue-in-cheek comment illustrates what we face as historians. Each side has their own agenda, and sometimes selects 'facts' as they select entrees from a buffet. We work hard to examine historical sources both from Union and Confederate views when we create park programs. A memoir written thirty years after the war may be possibly not as accurate a picture as a contemporary diary written at the fort. Rumors are common fodder for letters home, and as such not everything written was actually true. Military records, while often more reliable, even have their own challenges. As a more contemporary screenwriter said, "Half of writing history is hiding the truth." And it is this 'truth' that we wade through to try and present a balanced account of what life was really like at Fort Delaware.

But our role as interpreters is not to decide who was right or wrong when it comes to what actually happened at Fort Delaware, nor is it to present to the visitor what is 'correct' *in our minds*. A good interpretive program is contemplative, collaborative, and inspires the visitor to want to learn more and more importantly, draw his or her *own* conclusions. Our interpretive approach uses the historical information at hand to craft first person living history

Continued on next page

providing visitors with thought-provoking stories of the people who were actually there. What kid doesn't want to peek inside someone's diary? Each costumed park interpreter 'represents' an actual person who left behind information on their life. On a visit to Fort Delaware, you can step back in time and hear a prisoner's point of view on the soup, or a Union officer's gripes about Washington red tape (yes, they literally used red tape on documents). Esau, a free black man now a blacksmith apprentice, shows you how to make a nail while explaining why he isn't sure if he will ever return to his family in Texas (visitors have left that presentation in tears). Try your hand at washing clothes with the laundress who gleefully professes that being paid 'per piece' for washing can elevate her salary above that of even an officer. Sneak a piece of bread from Sally Byrne, an Irish immigrant working as an officer's cook, and check out her 'modern' wood stove complete with a thermostat (Registering in *hundreds* of degrees). Or hear Miss Gibble, the schoolteacher, relate the story of how the general's children crashed their goat cart into the moat- a moat that served as the fort's sewer system. The guard who experienced pulling that mess out of the moat grumbled about it in his journal.

Acknowledging different learning styles, we try to make meaningful connections to today while offering other types of

programming as well. Gone are the school days of memorization of facts masquerading as a history lesson. It doesn't stick, and it's not fun. As educators and interpreters we know that it is more meaningful for visitors to *experience* what the fort was like in 1864 than it is to know how many bricks it is comprised of. For artillery enthusiasts, Fort Delaware is home to an 8-inch Columbiad cannon which roars with sound at noon every day. Pea Patch history tours provide the visitor not as passionate about living history a chance to glimpse the fort through these diaries and letters as well. Guides take the visitor on a walk through the fort relating what people actually said about the places and events. Behind-the-Scenes tours are immensely popular with visitors as they get a glimpse into the successes and challenges of historic preservation. Evening candlelight ghost programs draw out a new demographic that may not seek out historic sites. We like to say, 'Come for the ghosts, but stay for the history.'

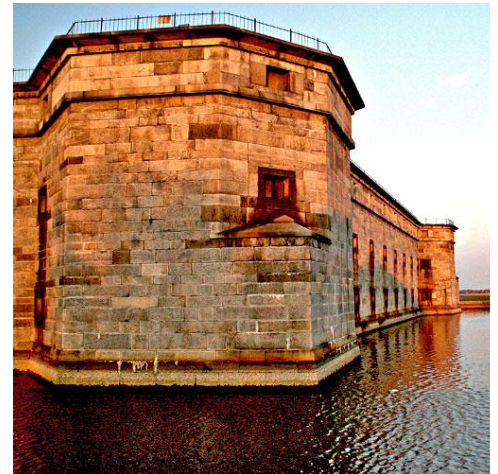
Civil War enthusiasts are aging, and the clock is ticking. There is a pressing need to work towards creating a new generation that enjoys discovering our American history. We present the story, and you, the visitor, leave with your own impression- and if we did our job right, a passion to return. If we can create that new generation of Fort Delaware enthusiasts, we hope it will in turn spur preservation of the site. We

desperately need to ignite a passion in our mighty fortress that will spur legislators and public alike to fight for historic preservation of the site.

John Ruskin once said, "...it is again no question of expediency or feeling whether we shall preserve the buildings of past times or not. We have no right whatever to touch them. They are not ours. They belong partly to those who built them, and partly to all the generations of mankind who are to follow us."

For more info on Fort Delaware State Park visit their website:

www.destateparks.com/park/fort-delaware/



Reenactors at the Battle of Fredericksburg

Rediscovering History

By Caroline Cropp

(reprinted with permission from the UNCW Talons)

Measuring 210 feet in length and weighing 520 tons, the blockade runner Modern Greece ran aground off Fort Fisher in the early hours of June 27, 1862, while attempting to evade Union vessels. The ship was destined for Wilmington to deliver supplies for Confederate forces.

While some of the Modern Greece's cargo was salvaged in weeks following the wreck, the vessel gradually slipped beneath the sands and was largely forgotten until storms uncovered the wreck site in 1962. With the help of U.S. Navy divers, a major recovery operation began, leading to the establishment of North Carolina's underwater archaeology program.

In June, preeminent scholars from both sides of the ship celebrated the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the Civil War-era Modern Greece at an open house hosted by the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources at the Fort Fisher State Historic Site's [Underwater Archaeology Branch](#) lab. Faculty and student researchers from UNC Wilmington and East Carolina University have been



involved in the recovery and restoration of artifacts uncovered at the underwater site.



"The 'coastal war' has been largely ignored by professional historians," says Chris Fonvielle '78, associate professor of history at UNCW and recognized Civil War scholar. "The state of the artifacts tell the story of the trade, it shows why defenses were built to protect."

He points out that as a major

seaport in 1863, Wilmington was the "lifeline of the confederacy."

"The importance of Wilmington as a blockade running city should not be ignored," states Fonvielle. "General Robert E. Lee said himself, 'If Wilmington falls, I can not maintain my army'." A graduate of UNCW, Fonvielle also served as the last curator of the Blockade Runners of the Confederacy Museum.

Those attending the open house examined the rifles, hand tools and other items recovered from the Modern Greece. Visitors also toured the artifact conservation lab complete with new storage tanks. Standing above the large tubs housing the artifacts, one might have thought one was looking at parts of a rusted

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sewing machine. Luckily, there were experts on hand to answer the frequent questions of "What is that?"

Sarah Watkins-Kenney with the Underwater Archeology Branch explained that when recovered after 100 years, items were put into wet storage, which means they were not treated or cleaned with chemicals. This past year, certain pieces were pulled out deep wet storage, cleaned, assessed and cataloged, making them conserved. The restoration process is dependent on funding and staff. The goal, she said, is to

have a fully restored conserved collection.

As part of the open house, State Cultural Resources Secretary Linda Carlisle, Kure Beach Mayor Dean Lambeth and other officials unveiled a new sign commemorating the Modern Greece at Fort Fisher. Organizers are also working to secure funding to underwrite a documentary film about the ship and its excavation.

Caroline Cropp graduated from the University of North Carolina Wilmington in 1999 with a B.A. in

psychology and English and a concentration in Creative/Professional Writing. While earning a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies from UNCW (graduated May 2006), her coursework included a two semester Directed Individual Study with southern fiction author Clyde Edgerton. Under Edgerton's direction, she wrote her first novel has been favorably considered by editors at Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, Simon & Schuster, Random House and Harper Collins. She has been a Public Relations Specialist in the UNCW Office of University Relations since 2005.

Favorite Civil War sites

Fort Delaware State Park - Fort Delaware was a coastal fortification-turned-prison. But what interests me is that visitors expect it to be merely the story of soldiers and prisoners. It was in effect a town- civilians lived and worked there, children were born and went to school, locals made

their living there, and yes, prisoners were held and sometimes died. It represents a microcosm of both the homefront side and the visual effects of a bloody war, all in one 70-acre island. Our first person living history interpretation allows visitors to see and feel what it

was like, from many perspectives versus just one.

Gettysburg National Battlefield - I love to bicycle there--much better than driving the tour in a car! And it's a great way to get a sense of the terrain, vistas, vantage points, strategic challenges, etc.

NAI Region 2 Meetups!

Did you miss the great networking at the National Workshop? Can't wait to catch up with your fellow interpreters? Well, we have a new resource to help you connect! Our new meetup group will facilitate gatherings for fun and professional development, letting us share our skills and our resources with each other. We welcome your ideas for skills you'd like to add and places you'd

like to visit or your offer to host a meetup. We also hope to use this group to facilitate interpretive trips and behind the scenes visits open to NAI members and friends with a small fee as a fundraiser for the region. We hope this will be a fun and rewarding fundraiser that helps you pick up some new skills, see some new places, and meet great people along the way. Just visit

<http://www.meetup.com/National-Association-for-Interpretation-Region-2/> and join the meetup group to join the fun!

Also discuss events at your site of interest to other interpreters on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/group/s/NAIregion2/>

Region 2 Interpretive Awards

The NAI Region 2 Professional Interpreter Awards, presented at the Region 2 Workshop at Catoctin Mountain Park, recognize members of our community who were nominated by their colleagues as exceptional cultural and natural interpreters.



Outstanding Front-Line Interpreter Award—Tania Gale

Tania has worked in natural resource interpretation for well over a decade and is currently Naturalist at Battle Creek Nature Center in Calvert County, Maryland. Tania brings environmental education to a wide assortment of people. Some of her programs explore the relationship between people and the Chesapeake Bay. By using everyday objects to represent different effects on the Bay, she helps visitors visualize how their

actions can impact the Bay. Also, Tania has been an enthusiastic member of NAI, serving as the Region 2 secretary and treasurer. She was the volunteer coordinator for the 2012 NAI National Workshop in Hampton, Virginia. Through her programs and her dedication to NAI's goal to foster the knowledge and creativity of its members, Tania proves she is a top-notch front-line interpreter.



Outstanding Seasonal Interpreter—Kathy May

Kathy has been a seasonal interpreter for George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Colonial Beach, Virginia, a National Park Service site, for 9 years. Her primary duties include presenting theme based talks at the Memorial House in the historic area. Kathy interprets the history of the park with genuine enthusiasm, and is creative and effective at adapting her programs to audiences from just about every possible demographic. Kathy is skilled at connecting events of nearly 300 years ago with the lives of her audience through universal, tangible, and intangible concepts. By the time visitors leave, they

feel as if they actually visited 18th century Colonial Virginia. Kathy's outstanding interpretation has enriched the experience of life in Colonial Virginia for thousands of visitors to the Monument.



Outstanding Interpretive Volunteer—Deborah Lawton

Deborah Lawton has been the volunteer coordinator of the 4-H Heritage Club at the George Washington Birthplace National Monument in Colonial Beach, Virginia for 5 years. In conjunction with paid staff, Deborah co-founded the GWBNM's 4-H Heritage Club to bring costumed interpretation back to the Monument. Deborah trained the club members in activities central to the plantation in Washington's time. At the club's monthly events, local youth (and other visitors) are captivated with Colonial American history by seeing their peers blacksmith at the forge, cook at the hearth, and put on dancing and textile demonstrations. Deborah's skills as an interpreter have successfully brought the 18th century to life at George Washington Birthplace National Monument for visitors and for the

more than 60 club members and adult leaders.



Outstanding Interpretive Manager—Suzanne Holland

Suzanne is the Assistant Manager and Visitor Services Manager for Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Fairfax County Park Authority, in Annandale, Virginia. She has been an interpretive manager for eight years and an interpretive supervisor for 20 years. As one of the first NAI Certified Interpretive Trainers, she has taught Certified Interpretive Guide courses to more than 100 participants. As coordinator for the program “Family Backyard,” Suzanne worked with natural resource staff

and other groups to produce an engaging brochure which encourages children and families to spend more time outdoors. The brochure relates ways people can enjoy and help nature in their own backyards. It is an impressive example of how Suzanne uses creative thought, strong leadership, and her extensive experience as an interpretive professional to expose thousands of Fairfax citizens to a fresh interpretation of stewardship in their own backyards.

This Week in the American Civil War

Friday May 1, 1863

BATTLE OF

CHANCELLORSVILLE BEGINS

An alert Army of Northern Virginia grasped the threat of Federal Major General Joseph Hooker’s movement of 70,000 men across the Rappahannock River and hurriedly moved out of Fredericksburg to block the Army of the Potomac’s exit from the Wilderness. In the afternoon, Hooker ordered his main units to withdraw from the advance and concentrate in a five-mile area near Chancellorsville. Surprised by the lack of opposition, Lee cautiously moved forward.

That night, in the woods of the Wilderness, Lee and Lieutenant General Thomas J. Jackson conferred and made one of the most daring military decisions in

history. Jackson was to take about 26,000 men through the scraggly brushland and attack Hooker’s vulnerable right flank, while Lee would demonstrate with the remainder of his army at Chancellorsville.

In Mississippi, Federal Major General Ulysses Grant’s army continued to move across the Mississippi River at Bruinsburg, south of Vicksburg.

The third session of the First Confederate Congress created a Provisional Navy to supplement the Regular Navy; authorized President Davis to contract for construction of Naval vessels in Europe; provided for election of delegates to Congress from some Indian nations; created the office of Commissioner of Taxes;

tightened some of the exemptions in the draft law; and adopted a new national flag known as the “Stainless Banner.”

Saturday May 2, 1863

STONEWALL JACKSON SHOT AT CHANCELLORSVILLE

Early in the morning, Lieutenant General Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson’s Confederate flanking force moved past Catherine Furnace deeper into the Wilderness. Though his move was not completely unseen, the Federals failed to recognize his motives and thought the Confederate army was retreating.

At 6 P.M., when Jackson gave the order to move in. The scurrying wildlife alerted the Federals to the impending attack, and Union outposts fled back

upon the main position. Jackson's attack rolled forward. Though a few Federal units fought well, the majority ran back towards Chancellorsville in various stages of disorder. Meanwhile, General Robert E. Lee's Confederates opened fire striking the Federal V Corps on the left flank to draw attention away from Jackson.

While trying to cut Federal Major General Joseph Hooker's Army of the Potomac from escaping through U.S. Ford on the Rappahannock River, Jackson rode forward with a small party. In the darkness, he was mistaken for a Federal soldier and was shot by a Confederate soldier. Jackson's arm was amputated that night, while command fell to Major General James Ewell Brown (J.E.B.) Stuart, since Major General Ambrose Powell Hill was wounded and unable to take over. It was Hill who requested that Stuart take command.

Sunday May 3, 1863

BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE CONTINUES

At daybreak, Major General J.E.B. Stuart, in command of Jackson's corps, seized a low hill known as Hazel Grove, and ordered artillery fire on Chancellorsville itself. A shell

struck a column of the Chancellor House and a falling brick or column temporarily disabled Federal Army of the Potomac commander, Major General Joseph Hooker. Reluctantly following Hooker's orders, Major General Darius Couch withdrew the Army of the Potomac back to U.S. Ford. A firm, short position with the right on the Rapidan River and left on the Rappahannock River prevented further disaster.

That night, Major General John Sedgwick's Federals assaulted Marye's Heights in Fredericksburg and failed twice. Eventually, the weakened Confederate line gave way and Sedgwick's men surged forward, and the path to Chancellorsville was open. General Robert E. Lee turned a portion of his line around to confront Sedgwick at Salem Church. In a sharp battle that broke out in late afternoon and lasted until dark, Lee was successful in halting Sedgwick's advance.

Monday May 4, 1863

BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE CONCLUDES

Federal Major General Joseph Hooker's Army of the Potomac failed to take the initiative near Chancellorsville and Confederate General Robert E. Lee was able

to reinforce troops opposing Major General John Sedgwick at Salem Church. Confederates surrounded Sedgwick's troops on three sides and attacked in the late afternoon. Sedgwick ordered his forces back to the ford and crossed the Rappahannock River by pontoons during the night, ending the Chancellorsville campaign. It was the second defeat for the Army of the Potomac in the Fredericksburg area in six months. The Army of the Potomac had 133,868 men engaged at Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg, and sustained 1,606 dead, 9,762 wounded and 5,919 missing for a total of 17,287 casualties from April 27 to May 11. Confederates engaged approximately 60,000 with 1,665 killed, 9,081 wounded and 2,018 missing for a total loss of 12,764, a higher casualty percentage than the Federals suffered. However, the biggest Confederate loss was Lieutenant General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson.

(from

<http://thisweekinthecivilwar.com/>)



Catoctin Mountain Revisited

In March of this year a number of interpreters from our region had the opportunity to attend a one day workshop at Catoctin Mountain Park. For those of you who were unable to attend we wanted to share some of our memories.

Did you know Catoctin Mountain Park is a National Park? The name doesn't suggest this park is

part of the National Park Service but it is. That is partly because the original plan was to turn this gem twenty or thirty minutes south of Gettysburg over to the state of Maryland but due to the selection of Camp David as the Presidential getaway only part of the park was turned over, the rest remained under federal administration.



Special thanks to Dodie Lewis, Mona Enquist-Johnston, and Yvonne Johnson for all your work to make the workshop and awards a success.

Stories, Secrets, and Surprises

Recently the staff of Catoctin Mountain Park revealed secrets about the history of the park and its environs, at a one day workshop for NAI Region 2. From moonshine to O.S.S. and Camp David, the rangers spun several tales of intrigue. All I had previously known about Catoctin was from my visit decades ago with the National Zoo to conduct a salamander survey. Those secretive amphibians fit right into the theme of the park, with its hidden gems and colorful past.

I was surprised by another well-kept secret; I was honored with NAI Region 2's Interpretive Manager of the Year Award for my stewardship activities! The Family Backyard and the Hispanics Against Child Abuse and Neglect parks project were and are quintessential team efforts. This kind of team work is exemplified at NAI workshops. The Catoctin team presented an

engaging program bringing cultural history to light in the beautiful surroundings of the mountain. The NAI workshop planning team pulled together a successful training on the heels of coordinating a robust national workshop. Last, and never least, the attendees learned as a team throughout each of the classroom discussions and the van trip. Every time I attend a workshop I make new connections and forge deeper understandings about the craft of interpretation.

Times are difficult for parks. Connecting our visitors to our resource – even getting our visitor to our resource! – is increasingly difficult with time, budget and technology challenges. Through team work and passion, evidenced by the workshop participants and leaders, the success of our "tribe" is more certain. Thank you to NAI

for the honor of the award and for whetting my appetite to visit Catoctin Mountain Park again soon to see what other secrets the park has to reveal. Hopefully my visit will be timed not to coincide with a more famous Washingtonian visitor and I'll have access to more of the roads!

Suzanne Holland
Visitor Services Manager
Hidden Oaks Nature Center
Fairfax County Park Authority



Interpreter from Catoctin Mountain Park telling the story of moonshining.

Calendar of Events

Event: *The Birth of a State: 150th Anniversary of the State of West Virginia*

Date: June 22

Time: 11am to 4pm

Location: Lower Town, Harpers Ferry

Description: This one day event will commemorate the birth of West Virginia in June of 1863. Activities will include living history, ranger conducted programs and family/youth activities.

Event: *First Alert: Harpers Ferry, the Gettysburg Campaign*

Date: June 23

Time: 11am to 4pm

Location: Lower Town, Harpers Ferry

Description: This event will highlight Harpers Ferry's role in the Gettysburg Campaign. Activities will include living history, ranger conducted programs, and family/youth activities.

Event: *Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights, 1862*

Date: June 29, 30

Demonstrations at 12pm, 1pm, & 2pm

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield, Harpers Ferry NHP

Description: Join the members of the park's artillery crew as they demonstrate the might and intimidation of field artillery.

Event: *A Fine State of Things: West Virginia Enters the Union*

Date: July 6, 7

Time: 11am to 4pm

Location: Lower Town, Harpers Ferry

Description: Visitors are invited to step into the role of voting Virginians in 1863 to experience a vote for the new State of West Virginia born out of the Rebellion. United States Troops guard the polls; issue the oath of allegiance, while Virginia State commissions run the polls. What will they ask you? Are you prepared to answer?!

Event: *Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights, 1862*

Date: July 13, 14

Demonstrations at 12pm, 1pm, & 2pm

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield, Harpers Ferry NHP

Description: Join the members of the park's artillery crew as they demonstrate the might and intimidation of field artillery.

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

Date: July 20, 21

Time: 11am to 4pm

Location: Lower Town, Harpers Ferry

Description: This program presents Harpers Ferry as the staging area for Union General Philip Sheridan's Shenandoah Campaign during the summer of 1864. Members of the reactivated living history group 13th New Jersey will demonstrate union army garrison duties such as guard mount parade, searching and arresting spies and

deserters, and traitors, processing prisoners of war, searching citizens, and maintaining military security in an occupied enemy town. Costumed volunteers and staff will interpret civilian life under harsh military rule.

Event: *"Medical Weekend: Giving Aid and Comfort"*

Date: July 27, 28

Time: 11am to 4pm

Location: Lower Town, Harpers Ferry

Description: Living history volunteers of the 3rd US and 142nd Pennsylvania Infantry will portray the medical and relief efforts that provided aid and comfort to the thousands of soldiers fighting during the American Civil War. The outpouring of funds and care was so vast that the relief effort was described as "an artery of the people's love to the people's army." This program will offer a military diet kitchen demonstration tell the story of both the national and local, civilian and military efforts to sustain the Union Army. In the autumn of 1864, General Philip Sheridan prepared his army for the Shenandoah Valley Campaign. Harpers Ferry became a launching point and depot, supplying food, equipment, ammunition and medical attention for the army in the field. Field Hospitals, a Commissary, Diet Kitchens, a Soldiers Rest, the US

Quartermaster, and Sanitary Commission were included in the vast sustenance needed for that army. Visitors are welcome to join ranger guided walking tours and military drill and firing demonstrations.

Event: *Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights, 1862*

Date: August 3, 4

Demonstrations at 1pm, 2pm, & 3pm

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield, Harpers Ferry NHP

Description: Join the members of the park's artillery crew as they demonstrate the might and intimidation of field artillery.

Save the Date: March 11-14, 2014; Region 2 Spring Workshop, Stay tuned for more information.

Ferns and Lycophytes: Introduction and Natural History

Monday, June 3, 2013,
10am – 1pm
Fort C.F. Smith Park and Windy Run Park, Arlington, VA

Join Carl Taylor, Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution, for an introduction to the natural history and identification of ferns and lycophytes (ferns and fern allies). This Beltway Chapter session includes a short indoor presentation at Fort C.F. Smith Park and a search for ferns at Windy Run Park. Carl will also share handouts and bring samples of the area's ferns. Bring a 10–14X hand lens to look at some tiny, but fascinating things.

Beltway Buzz

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Beltway Chapter sessions:

Ferns and Lycophytes (Back by popular demand!)

Monday, June 3, 10am-1pm, Arlington County, VA (exact location to be determined)

- Explore the world of ferns and fern allies with Carl Taylor, Research Associate at the Smithsonian Institution.

Meadow Ecology

Monday, September 16, 10:30am-2:30pm, Little Bennett Regional Park, Clarksburg, MD

- Uncover the intricacies and importance of meadows with Stephanie

Mason, Senior Naturalist, Audubon Naturalist Society and Cathy Stragar, Naturalist, Arlington County Parks.

Astronomy

Monday, December 9, 6-8:30pm, Riverbend Park, Great Falls, VA (Rain date: Tuesday, December 10)

- Delve into the wonders of the night sky with naturalists, Jennifer Soles, Arlington County Parks, and John Callow, Fairfax County Park Authority.

Be sure to check the Region 2 website for more information on these and other upcoming opportunities in interpretation (www.interpnet.com/2).


Carl completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Missouri and received a Ph.D. in botany from Southern Illinois University. For much of his career he was employed at the Milwaukee Public Museum as Curator of Botany. Carl also has taught courses in plant taxonomy, local flora, and molecular systematics at the University of Wisconsin and Old Dominion University. Recently, he served as a Program Director at the National Science Foundation.

To register for this session, please contact Beltway Chapter Co-chair Mona Enquist-Johnston at mogar@cox.net. Bring a bag

lunch and dress for the weather and hiking. Be prepared for stream crossings! The session is limited to 25 participants. Carpooling is encouraged. There is limited parking at Windy Run Park (directions provided).

Fort C.F. Smith Park is at 2411 24th Street N in Arlington, VA. Our session will begin in the park's Tractor Barn. Please enter the park through the entrance marked "walk-in." The Tractor Barn is located ahead on the left. Its entrance is at the end of the elevated walkway. Please park on the north or "park side" of the street.

For directions see the Beltway Chapter flyer which can be found on the Region 2 website.



NAI Region 2:
 Delaware
 District of Columbia
 Maryland
 New Jersey
 Pennsylvania
 Virginia
 West Virginia

We're on the Web!
 See us at:
www.interpnet.com/2

Submitting Material for the Chesapeake Chat

The main articles and the "Tips and Tricks" section will be theme-based for each edition so if you have something to contribute short or long refer to the table below for upcoming deadlines and themes. Submissions for other sections can be sent at any time but if it fits in with a particular theme send it by that edition's deadline otherwise it will be used for a future edition.

may be sent in the body of your email or as an attachment.

If you have any suggestions for a theme for future newsletters, please send your suggestions or requests. Themes can be anything related to interpretation that would be of interest to the region.

Newsletter submissions including calendar items should be sent to:

ChesapeakeChat@gmail.com

Pictures should be submitted as an attachment to your email. Other materials

	Deadline	Theme
Summer Newsletter	July 15	Camps and Programs Series
Fall Newsletter	October 15	Partnerships
Winter Newsletter	January 15	
Spring Newsletter	April 15	

About Our Region...

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Director

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 Nature Education Coordinator
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