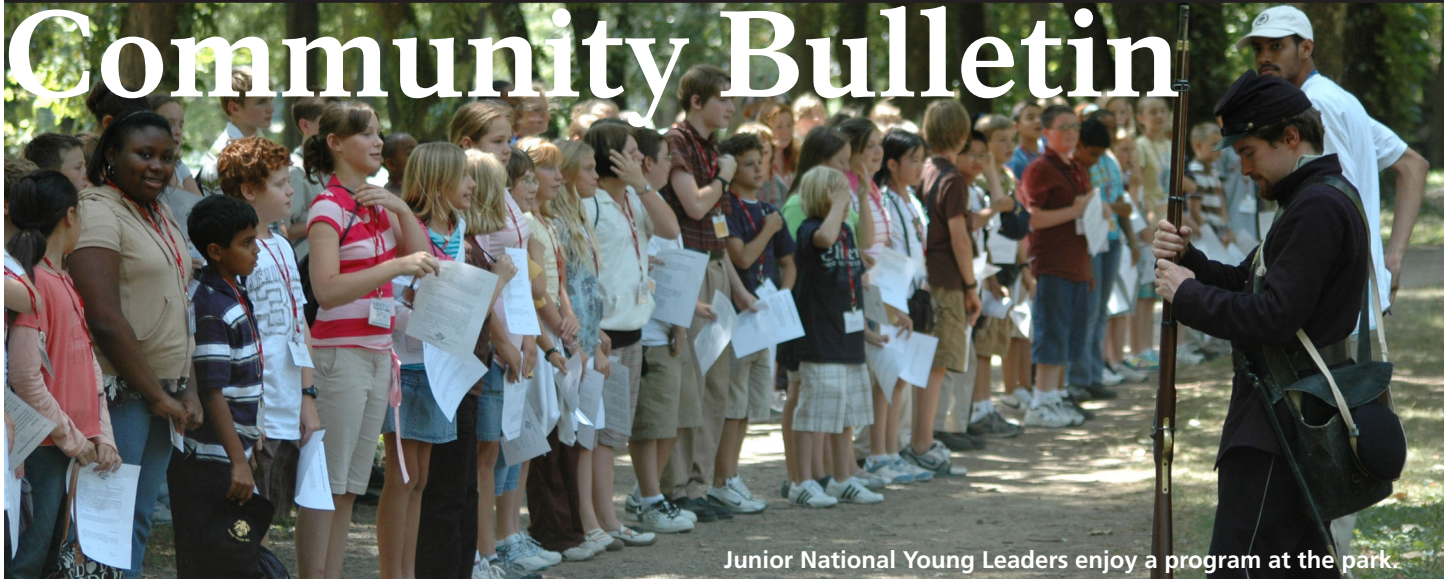




Community Bulletin



Junior National Young Leaders enjoy a program at the park.

Exciting Opportunities in Education

The Summer of 2007 was an exciting season for the Education Branch at the park. This year the branch offered family and youth programs, redeveloped the Junior Ranger Program, hosted the Junior National Young Leadership Conference, held several teachers' institutes, and piloted a summer youth project to provide education programs for summer camp and school groups.

With that much growth in programming, the staff also grew. The expansion of summer staff has been exponential since 2004, when the staff consisted of only two people – one park ranger and one intern. This year, with the assistance of park rangers, STEP (Student Temporary Employment Program) rangers, interns, SCA (Student Conservation Association) students, YCC (Youth Conservation Corps) students, and volunteers, the number of staff members totaled an amazing 20 people.

The summer season is now officially over and the students on staff are back at school. The Education Branch will dearly miss them and is looking forward to an equally exciting fall program.



Front row, L to R: Hillary Russell; Adreana Todd; Miranda Summers; Stan McGee; Meghan Kaylor; Melissa Crosby; Paul Elmore. Back row, L to R: Brent Schreyer; Autumn Cook; Keegan Donovan; Christy Tew; Vanessa Gress; Tom Bates; Emily Chierici; Wyatt Baldwin; Amanda Hunter; Chris Sturgeon. Missing from photo: Catherine Bragaw, Doug Perks, and Polly Root.

If you are interested in being an intern in the Education Branch for a season (summer, fall, or spring), check out these websites:
<http://www.nps.gov/hafe/supportyourpark/edinternships.htm>
or
<http://www.nps.gov/hafe/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm>

New Chief Ranger Settles In

Jeff Woods' soft-spoken manner does not readily reveal his past, but the Chief Ranger at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park has lots of interests and searches for diversity in his life and career.

Woods grew up in southern Missouri, did a 4 ½ year stint in the Army Airborne Rangers and graduated from University of Missouri-Columbia. In 1988, while a student at the university, he started his career with the National Park Service as a seasonal ranger. He worked his way to a permanent position at Gulf Islands National Seashore in Florida/Mississippi and has been near a body of water ever since. His second assignment was St. Croix National Scenic Riverway in Wisconsin, followed by a big move to Hawaii as Assistant Chief Ranger and then Chief Ranger at the USS Arizona on the island of Oahu.

Woods did not hesitate when asked about his most memorable experience with the NPS. He said, "being an NPS diver at the USS Arizona. It wasn't a regular part of my job, but as a certified diver, I was given this incredible opportunity. We'd dive a couple of times a month to two weeks doing artifact inventory, assisting researchers, and assessment of the ship. After you really get to know the Arizona, which takes a while because she's so large, you realized that only a handful of people will ever get to see her that way. Being in that space was frightening and exhilarating at the same time. There's a real presence down there. Seeing the damage and the enormity of the explosion puts you there, in that time in history. As a veteran, myself, it was very meaningful."

Woods chose to leave his Hawaiian paradise for a new challenge. He and his wife were ready to return to the mainland, so when the position at Harpers Ferry opened up, he applied for the job. He liked the diversity of the park and the couple felt the area had a lot to offer with Washington and Baltimore a short distance away. He's settling in and enjoying his new assignment at the confluence of the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers.

Upcoming Events

September

September 1-2 The Eyes of the Army: The Cavalry Living History volunteers will demonstrate cavalry riding, weapons firing, sabre drill, and bugling.

September 1 U. S. Marine Band "Free Country" will perform on the grounds of Mather Training Center (former Storer campus) on Camp Hill from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free of charge.

September 8-9 Miners and Sappers: The US Engineer Corps Visitors are invited to try their skill at using a civil war map and compass to traverse the town that was held by a Dixon Miles' union garrison.

September 15 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Presenting Mr. Frederick Douglass with Fred Morsell as Frederick Douglass (Lower Town)

September 29 National Public Lands Day

October

October 6 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry with Jim Getty as Abraham Lincoln (Lower Town)

October 13 After John Brown: Reacting to the Raid Living History Event that features how the citizens, area Militia and US Marines reacted to the raid.

October 20-21 Luxury or Necessity: Victorian Preserved Foods Join the living history staff and volunteers at Roeder's Confectionery as they demonstrate the differences between tin can and glass preserved foods.


October 27-28 Family Life 1860 in Harpers Ferry: The Frederick Roeder Story Help the Living History staff and volunteers, crush, shred, and squeeze apple cider for Roeder's Tavern while hearing about the family's life and times.

November

November 3-4 Under Fire: The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862 will interpret the battle and surrender of the Union garrison to General Stonewall Jackson. Union encampment and drills.

December

December 1-2 Prospects of Peace: A Soldier's Prayer presents a special program focusing on Yuletide 1864 when Harpers Ferry soldiers attempted to create their own version of Christmas on the battle front.



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 or 800-821-5206

Harpers Ferry NHP Home Page
www.nps.gov/hafe/

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