



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Timucuan Ecological and
Historic Preserve

13165 Mt. Pleasant Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32225

Fort Caroline National
Memorial

904 221-5568 phone
904 221-5248 fax

Timucuan Preserve/Fort Caroline News Release

Release date: **Immediate**

Contact(s): **Craig Morris, Park Ranger 904.641-7155**

Phone number: **904.641-7155**

Date: **November 20-21, 2010**

The National Park Service Presents:
“The Civil War in Jacksonville”
A Living History Weekend

November 20-21, 2010 Jacksonville, Florida

The Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve will present a special event entitled “The Civil War in Jacksonville.” This living history weekend will be held at Fort Caroline National Memorial and will highlight how the Civil War affected Jacksonville and Northeast Florida. The event will be open and free to the public 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Saturday and 10:00 am to 2:00 pm Sunday.

The Civil War was fought in all southern states, including Florida, yet few people are aware of the battles and naval engagements that occurred in Jacksonville. The Union Navy blockaded the St. Johns River and Union gunboats patrolled as far south as Green Cove Springs.

Living historians in period costumes will portray infantry soldiers of both the North and the South; including Union gunboat sailors, marines, artillery crews, engineers, doctors and nurses, military musicians, and chaplains. Civilian life will also be portrayed showing how ordinary citizens survived during the war. “In showing such a wide variety of aspects of the Civil War this should be an exciting educational event,” said Timucuan Preserve Superintendent Barbara Goodman.

“The Civil War had a great impact on Jacksonville, and the story of what happened is little known to our residents. This is a wonderful opportunity for visitors to come and learn of our city’s significant role in our nation’s greatest conflict,” stated Superintendent Goodman.

Living historians and park rangers will conduct cannon firing demonstrations on an hourly basis beginning at 10:00 am and ending at 4:00 pm. Musket firing demonstrations will be every half hour beginning at 10:30 am and ending at 3:30 pm on Saturday. On Sunday, the cannon firings will be held at 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm, and 2:00 pm. Musket firings will be at 11:30 am, 12:30 pm and 1:30 pm.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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

In the Preserve's Visitor Center there will be authentic infantry and naval artifact displays. Tim Tyler, proprietor of "Troops of Time," a Jacksonville business located in Riverside, will have a fascinating display of Civil War toy soldier miniatures.

At 2:30 p.m. each day the "Golden Tea Cup Society" a living history group that portrays Civilian life in the Civil War will conduct a program about the antebellum hobby of china doll collecting. Using authentic and reproduction dolls, this program will highlight aspects of how ordinary people lived and survived during the war. The group will hold ongoing demonstrations of sewing, quilting, needlework, spinning, and candle making.

Other demonstrations include Civil War medicine, military music, camp life, camp cooking, and small arms drill.

Craig Morris, NPS
craig_morris@nps.gov

This event is free and open to the public.

Fort Caroline National Memorial (904.641.7155) is the home of the Timucuan Preserve's Visitor Center. The park is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. seven days a week. It is located at 12713 Ft. Caroline Road, in the East Arlington section of Jacksonville, Florida, 32225.