



# The Battlefield Dispatch

## Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP Unveils new programs for 2012!

The Park invites the public to join Park Rangers for new and exciting tours, talks and walks in 2012, some of which commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil War in 1862. For detailed information concerning specific program locations and descriptions, please check the park website ([www.nps.gov/chch](http://www.nps.gov/chch)) or contact the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center at 706-866-9241 or the Lookout Mountain Battlefield Visitor Center at 423-821-7786.

### Park Special Programs for 2012

#### Saturday, February 11: 11 am

The Dominos Begin to Tumble – The Fall of Forts Henry and Donelson and the Emergence of General Grant (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

#### Saturday, February 25: 2pm

44<sup>th</sup> USCT – Black History Month Program

#### Saturday, March 3: 3 pm

Nadine Turchin – The General's Lady

#### Saturday, March 17: 2pm

Privations and Petticoats – Women at Chickamauga

#### Saturday, April 7: 2pm

Shiloh – Driving the Vandals from Our Soil (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

#### Saturday, April 14

Great Locomotive Chase Bus Tour (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

#### Saturday, April 14: 2pm

A "Titanic" Connection

#### Saturday, April 21

National Junior Ranger Day

#### Saturday & Sunday, April 21-22

Spanish American War Living History Programs at Chickamauga Battlefield

#### Sunday, April 29: 2pm

Drummer Boys of the Civil War

#### Saturday & Sunday, May 11-12

Spring Civil War Lecture Series

#### Saturday, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, & September 15, & October 20: 9:30am

Chickamauga Battlefield Bike Rides

#### Monday, May 28: 2pm

Fallen Leaders at Chickamauga



The Official National Park Service Civil War Sesquicentennial Symbol for the Southeast Region highlights the New York Peace Monument, located atop Lookout Mountain.

#### Saturday, June 9

National Get Outdoors Day

#### Friday, June 29: 7pm

James Longstreet – Confederate Hero or Villian (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

#### Saturday, June 9 & August 4

Artillery Programs at Chickamauga Battlefield

#### Saturday & Sunday, June 16 -17 & August 18-19

Living History Programs at Lookout Mountain Battlefield (Point Park)

#### Saturday, July 7

Artillery Programs at Lookout Mountain Battlefield (Point Park)

#### Tuesday – Thursday, July 17-19

"A Call to Arms" – Youth Day Camp (4th-6th grades)

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## Superintendent's Sidebar

### Alexander's Bridge Rededication

On December 23, 2011, the roadway over Alexander's Bridge crossing West Chickamauga Creek was reopened to all traffic, reconnecting the southeast corner of Chickamauga Battlefield to the surrounding communities. Bridges have spanned the creek at this location since before the Civil War. A wooden, Alexander's Bridge played a key role in troop movements and battle tactics during the 1863 Battle of Chickamauga. In 1887, the original bridge was replaced with a wooden, low-truss bridge built on native stone abutments. The bridge was replaced in 1907 with a steel "pony" truss using the existing stone abutments. The "pony" truss bridge served the community and the Park for over one-hundred years, maintaining the historic transportation corridor to and through the Park. In January 2009, it was determined that the bridge had reached its serviceable life and the crossing was closed to vehicle traffic on February 12, 2009. During public scoping on a proposed solution, the community expressed that retaining the "look" of the historic bridge was important as well as maintaining the single-lane access across the creek. The replaced Alexander's Bridge does just that.

Eastern Federal Lands – Highways Division, Friends of the Park, the Park staff and I invite you to join us on Saturday, March 3, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. (EST) to rededicate the new bridge and learn about the role the crossing played during the Civil War. Parking will be at the junction of Viniard-Alexander and Alexander's Bridge roads. The roadway across the bridge will be closed to all traffic that day from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the event. The rededication and charge across the bridge will be followed by an Open House and refreshments at Park Headquarters from 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Information on Volunteer Work Days during 2012, landscape restoration efforts underway on the Chickamauga Battlefield, and monument restoration projects will be available during the Open House. Please park at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center and walk across Lafayette Road to Park Headquarters for the Open House. I look forward to meeting you on March 3<sup>rd</sup> or at other park programs and events in 2012.

Cathleen J. Cook  
Superintendent



L to R (Don McIntosh - Federal Highways, Leigh Nelson, Bluegrass Construction, Mike Tomkosky, NPS Project Manager, Cathy Cook, Park Superintendent, Donnie Knott, Park acting Facility Management Chief)

# Moccasin Bend – Ever Expanding the Bounds...

Moccasin Bend National Archeological District is the newest unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park and is a critical piece of American History.

Park staff members will continue offering "Biking the Bend," bike rides in 2012. Park staff encourages visitors to attend the rides in order to learn more about the future goals of the National Park Service on the Bend. However, this year the Park is expanding its programming with Outdoor Chattanooga. In order to offer new and innovative ways to learn about American Indian and Civil War history associated with Moccasin Bend National Archeological District, Park Rangers will lead canoe tours on South Chickamauga Creek and hikes along the river at Ross' Landing, Stringers Ridge, and Downtown Chattanooga. These programs will help convey the importance of the area throughout time.

## Moccasin Bend Special Programs for 2012

- Thursday, May 10 & June 14: 6pm  
"Biking the Bend" – Bike Ride of Moccasin Bend
- Thursday, July 12 & August 9: 6pm  
"Navigating the Past" – Canoeing South Chickamauga Creek
- Thursday, September 6: 6pm  
"The Passage West" – Ross' Landing Hike
- Thursday, October 4: 6pm  
"The Gateway to the Deep South" – Downtown Chattanooga Walk (River Rocks)
- Thursday, November 1: 6pm  
"Mashing Our Opponents Into the Earth" – Stringer's Ridge Hike



A Woodland Indian fishes from his canoe. *Painting by David Wright*

# Volunteers and Volunteering Opportunities at the Park in 2012

For the past three years, Volunteer Craig Drew has greeted visitors every Wednesday at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. Since January 2009, Craig has been a fixture at the park, directing visitors, answering questions, locating battlefield monuments for visitors, and meeting every visitor with a smile and usually a good joke and a laugh. When school groups stop by the park, Craig can be found in the middle of the crowd, answering questions and directing students and teachers to programs. You'll probably hear his voice paging someone to join their group in the visitor center lobby! No matter what the task, Craig has it well in hand.

In addition to working weekly at the visitor center, during the past three September anniversary events commemorating the Battle of Chickamauga, Craig has worked extra shifts at the information desk. His added help frees interpretive rangers to conduct special tours and facilitate living history presentations, creating a more complete and varied visitor experience.



Volunteer Craig Drew assists visitors during anniversary programs at Chickamauga Battlefield

Every day of the week you can find volunteers like Craig working the front desk at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. While there are currently no open positions working at the information desk, if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for the park, please visit the park website, [www.nps.gov/chch](http://www.nps.gov/chch), and click on "Support Your Park" or call the volunteer coordinator at 423-752-5213 ext. 137.

Help Preserve a Piece of History!

Civil War Trust Park Day 2012

**March 31**

For more information check

The park website:  
[www.nps.gov/chch](http://www.nps.gov/chch)

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/chchnps>

Contact the volunteer coordinator

423-752-5213 x137

or

[william\\_sunderland@nps.gov](mailto:william_sunderland@nps.gov)



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

In 1863, Union and Confederate forces fought for control of Chattanooga, known as the "Gateway to the Deep South." Confederates were victorious at nearby Chickamauga in September. However, renewed fighting in Chattanooga that November provided Union troops victory and control of the city.

## Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

P.O. Box 2128 (Mailing)  
3370 LaFayette Road (Shipping)  
Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742

Phone  
706-866-9241

Website  
[www.nps.gov/chch](http://www.nps.gov/chch)

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

## Maintaining Spectacular National Treasures: Fee Dollars at Work

As many visitors (ages 16 and older) know, those who visit Point Park atop Lookout Mountain are charged a \$3.00 entrance fee. What many visitors may not know is that the Park uses a portion of the entrance fee money to help improve visitor safety.

The walkways to Point Lookout and the Ochs Observatory, located inside Point Park, were recently replaced with an extremely durable and strong concrete that will weather the extremes of summer heat and winter cold.

Erosion caused the old walkways to shift, creating uneven surfaces and areas where puddles formed during winter months. The descent to the Ochs Observatory has numerous grade changes requiring the walkways to intermingle with strange and fascinating rock formations.

The newly paved trails will blend with the natural surroundings and accommodate high-use traffic. As visitors approach the Ochs Observatory, they will also notice trees and brush have been trimmed to open-up the views to a variety of visual pleasures. Experience the majestic views found in our nation's first National Military Park.



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park**  
 P.O. Box 2128  
 Fort Oglethorpe, GA 30742

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The Battlefield Dispatch is a quarterly publication of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

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## New Programs for 2012 (continued)

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Tuesday – Thursday, July 24-26  
 “A Call to Arms” – Youth Day Camp  
 (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades)

Saturday & Sunday, July 28-29  
 Living History Programs at Chickamauga Battlefield

Saturday, September 8: 2pm  
 Antietam – Until Sundown (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

Saturday & Sunday, September 15-16  
 149<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – “Guns Roar Again at Chickamauga”

Saturday, September 29  
 National Public Lands Day

Saturday, October 6: 2pm  
 The Fallout Begins – Grant and Rosecrans in the Corinth & Iuka Campaigns  
 (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

Saturday, October 13: 2pm  
 General S.A.M. Wood – Champion or Coward of Perryville? (150<sup>th</sup> Program)

Saturday, November 10: 2pm  
 A Walk Down “Memory Lane” – Units on the Battleline at Chickamauga

Monday, November 12: 2pm  
 Enlisted Men of the Civil War

Saturday & Sunday, November 17-18  
 149<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battles for Chattanooga

Friday, December 7 & 14  
 “A Cravens Christmas” – Holiday Programs at the Cravens House & Reservation



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