Commemoration of the 148th Anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga

September 16-20, 2011

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - TOURS:

***Chickamauga Battlefield Tour* – 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM**

Join a Park Ranger for a two hour tour of Chickamauga Battlefield. This program will cover many of the highlights of the Battle of Chickamauga – the second bloodiest battle of the American Civil War. This driving tour will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center.

***"Wilder and the Lightning Brigade"* – 10:00 AM – 1 hour (Tyler Buckley)**

Join Park Ranger Tyler Buckley as he describes the story of Colonel John Wilder and his leadership style as he developed an "elite" fighting unit within the Union Army of the Cumberland. Understand how the development and introduction of the Spencer repeating rifle changed the role of the mounted infantry, and how Colonel Wilder's role at the Battle of Chickamauga accelerated the approval of these types of weapons to the end of the war, and beyond. The tour will culminate with the firing of a reproduction Spencer Rifle.

This tour will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center, and will car-caravan to other areas of the park. Please wear sturdy shoes, prepare for the anticipated weather, and bring a bottle of water.

***"Georgians at Chickamauga"* – 11:00 AM – 2 hours (Dan Cone)**

Georgians of many different backgrounds participated in the events running up to, during, and after the Battle of Chickamauga. Their recorded stories offer the chance to examine the effect of this battle, and other battles in and around the north Georgia area on Georgians' lives and property.

Come with Park Ranger Dan Cone as he describes the lives of area Georgians who were involved with the battle. The car-caravan tour begins at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center, and proceeds to different areas of the park. Please wear sturdy shoes, prepare for the anticipated weather, and bring a bottle of water.

***"Like Driftwood in a Squall – A. P. Stewart's Breakthrough"* – 1:30 PM – 2 hours (Lee White)**

On the afternoon of September 19, 1863, General A.P. Stewart's "Little Giant" Division came close to tearing the Union Army in half in some of the fiercest fighting of the Battle of Chickamauga.

Join Park Ranger Lee White for a 2 hour walking tour of the action that took place on that fateful afternoon. The program will start at the Brock Field. Parking will be on the west side of the Brotherton Road, west of the intersection of the Brotherton Road and Alexander's Bridge Road. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

This tour will begin at Chickamauga Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"Chickamauga's Living Dead: - Those that Remained on the Field"* – 3:30 PM – 1 hour (Tyler Buckley)**

As the battle ended, and the fighting troops left the field of battle, many injured men remained on the field or moved to field hospitals for care and healing. What happened to these men, what lay ahead for those who could not rise to fight another day?

Join Park Ranger Tyler Buckley as he reviews letters and accounts from these soldiers to their families reflecting the activities following the battle. Listen as he discusses the story of Merritt Simonds of the 42nd Illinois through letters written to his family in the months following the battle. The program will be presented at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center.

***"For Bravery Above and Beyond the Call of Duty"* – 4:30 PM – 1½ hours (Chris Lane)**

During the Civil War, The Congressional Medal of Honor, our nation's highest military award was created. It was awarded to nine men for their gallant actions on the battlefield of Chickamauga. Join Park Ranger Chris Lane for a car-caravan to discuss the actions of these brave men at the locations where their action went "above and beyond the call of duty."

This tour will begin at Chickamauga Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"Johnson's Division Advances"* – 6:00 PM – 1½ hours (Preston Brown)**

Join Park Volunteer Preston Brown for a 90 minute walking and driving tour covering battle actions that unfolded during the afternoon of September 18, 1863, along Reeds Bridge Road and near Jay's Mill. On September 18, 183, Brigadier General Bushrod Johnson's Division advanced from Ringgold, Georgia, across Peavine Ridge on Reeds Bridge Road. His objective was to cross Chickamauga Creek and strike the Federal Army's left flank at Lee and Gordon's Mill.

This tour will begin at Chickamauga Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - TOURS:

***Chickamauga Battlefield Tour* – 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM**

Join a Park Ranger for a two hour tour of Chickamauga Battlefield. This program will cover many of the highlights of the Battle of Chickamauga – the second bloodiest battle of the American Civil War. This driving tour will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center.

***"Hood's Brigade in the Viniard Field"* – 10:00 AM - 2 hours (Lee White)**

Texas Brigade Program: The fighting in Viniard Field was some of the bloodiest on the field of Chickamauga, one of the units to participate in this engagement was Hood's Texas Brigade, also known as Lee's Grenadier Guard. This tour will cover the actions of this renowned unit in this brutal engagement, but also give you some insight into the men that made up this hard hitting organization. Join Park Ranger Lee White and Dr. Keith Bohannon for this special program. The Tour will start at the gravel parking area just east of Viniard Field (Tour Stop 5) on the Viniard Alexander Road. Please make sure to bring a bottle of water and comfortable walking shoes.

"*Wilder Saves the Union Right*" – 12:00 Noon – 1½ hours (Preston Brown)

The clash between Union and Confederate troops on September 19, 1863, at the Viniard Farm would scar the land and result in hundreds of casualties.

Join Park Volunteer Preston Brown for a 90 minute tour as he describes the brutal scene of battle and explore the action as Colonel John T. Wilder's Lightning Brigade repels the Confederate juggernaut led by General Evander M. Law over the "Ditch of Death". Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"A Scene of Unsurpassed Grandeur: Longstreet's Breakthrough"* – 1:45 PM – 1½ hours (Lee White)**

In the late morning hours of September 20, 1863, Lieutenant General James Longstreet's assaulting Confederates resulted in 1/3 of the Union Army to flee from the battlefield. Park Ranger Lee White will lead a 90 minute, 2 mile walking tour of this action.

The tour will begin at Tour Stop #3 - "Mix-Up in the Union Command". Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

"*Just Five Minutes to Pray*" – 3:30 PM – 1½ hours (Chris Lane)

During the Civil War, many soldiers found comfort in religion before, during, and after a battle; and the soldiers fighting at Chickamauga were no different.

Join Park Ranger Chris Lane on a 90 minute driving and walking tour that discusses the role of religion on the battlefields of the Civil War, and particularly Chickamauga Battlefield. The program will start at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"The Abolitionists"* – 5:00 PM – 2 hours (Lee White and Others)**

Join Park Ranger Lee White and a group of historians in a two hour walking and driving that will discuss the connections between important figures in the Battle of Chickamauga and the Abolitionist movement. Although propaganda had most Confederates convinced the entire Union army was made up of Abolitionists, it was not. However, several strong Abolitionists were present within its ranks. this tour will tell their stories.

The program will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes, bring a bottle of water, and a flashlight.

***"Weird Ghostly Appearances"* – 7:00 PM – 2 hours (Chris Lane)**

The Battle of Chickamauga was the site of some of the fiercest fighting of the Civil War; but, the night of September 19, 1863, remained in the minds of many soldiers long after the last shot on Chickamauga was discharged. Join Park Ranger Chris Lane on a 2 hour walking tour, reliving the sights and sounds of that fateful night.

The program will start at the site of the King Monument on Battleline Road. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water. It is advisable to bring a flashlight.

<u>SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - TOURS:</u>

Chickamauga Battlefield Tour – 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM

Join a Park Ranger for a two hour tour of Chickamauga Battlefield. This program will cover many of the highlights of the Battle of Chickamauga – the second bloodiest battle of the American Civil War. This driving tour will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center.

***Sail on Those Fellows Like You Were a Wildcat"* – 11:00 AM – 1½ hours (Chris Lane)**

William B. Bate, known as "Fighting Billy" by his men, commanded a brigade in Confederate General A. P. Stewarts's Division during the Battle of Chickamauga. Willing to sacrifice life and limb to achieve success on the field of battle, General Bate and his men broke the Union line during some of the fiercest fighting on September 19, 1863.

Join Park Ranger Chris Lane on a 90 minute walking tour following General Bate's Brigade actions during the battle. The program will start at the Brock Field. Parking will be on the south side of the Brotherton Road west of the intersection of Brotherton Road and Alexander's Bridge Road. There will be signage to help you find the parking area. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

"***Sins of the Father"* - 12:00 Noon - 1 hour (Lee White)**

The fathers of Colonel Peyton Colquitt and General James Deshler were men with radical political views who compelled their sons to support secession and, ultimately, give their lives for their Father's Causes. Discover the story behind this piece of the national tragedy that was our Civil War.

Join Park Ranger Lee White for a one hour program that begins at Tour Stop #2 – Battleline Road. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"Geology & Geography: Their Affect on the Battle of Chickamauga'* – 1:30 PM – 1½ hours (Charlie Mix)**

The geological terrain around the north Georgia border played an integral part in influencing the Battle of Chickamauga. The existing mountainous terrain and valleys presented both challenges and opportunities for both the Union and the Confederates leading up to and during the battle.

Join Park Ranger Charlie Mix as he discusses the unique view of the geologic and geographic history of Chickamauga Battlefield and the surrounding area. The program will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center and car-caravan to different location in the battlefield park. Please wear sturdy shoes, prepare for the anticipated weather, and bring a bottle of water.

***"Four-Legged Soldiers: Horses and Mules in the Civil War"* - 3:00 PM – 1½ hours (Richard Manion)**

During the Civil War, losses were measured through human life, but what about the animals that moved these massive armies? During the Battle of Chickamauga, Lieutenant Van Pelt's Battery suffered incredible losses - over fifty horses. By the end of the battle, only a single horse of his original battery survived the two day slaughter. This story and many others will be discussed during this presentation.

Join Historian and Park Volunteer Richard Manion for a 90 minute driving tour of Chickamauga Battlefield discussing the various functions of the mounted service during the battle. This program will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"The Boys at the Bridge: Wilder's Brigade on September 18th"* – 4:30 PM – 1½ hours (Lee White)**

On the afternoon of September 18, 1863, General W.H.T. "Shot Pouch" Walker's Confederates attempted to take Alexander's Bridge from Union Colonel John T. Wilder's "Lightning Brigade."

Park Ranger Lee White will explore the significance of these actions during a 90 minute walking tour beginning at the intersection of Alexander Bridge Road and the Viniard-Alexander Bridge Road. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"Occupied After A Brisk Skirmish:' Buckner's Corps Crosses the Chickamauga at Thedford's & Dalton's Fords"* – 6:00 PM – 2 hours (Jim Ogden)**

To attack the Union army on September 18, 1863, Braxton Bragg had to have troops cross the steep-banked Chickamauga. Two bridge and two ford sites were selected for the primary crossings. Join National Military Park Historian Jim Ogden for a two hour, three mile round trip hike down to the banks of the Chickamauga at Thedford's and Dalton's fords to learn about the crossings of Alexander Stewart's and William Preston's divisions at these less well known, but key, crossing points.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - TOURS:

***"…a furious attack…so sudden, though not expected…:* The Left-Center of the Confederate Night Attack, September 19, 1863" - 6:30 PM – 1 ½ hours (Jim Ogden)**

After the ferocity of the day's action, the fact that there would be one more spasm of violence before darkness brought a respite was no surprise. In the smoke-intensified gloom of the forest astride the road to Alexander's Bridge, that clash came when a fresh Confederate division, with supports, was sent forward as the sun set in the west. Join National Military Park Historian Jim Ogden for a two hour walk exploring the twilight fight that killed one brigadier general and resulted in the almost complete capture of a Keystone State regiment.

The program will begin at the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center and will then car caravan to the intersection of Alexander Bridge and Brotherton roads for the walking portion. Comfortable, supportive footwear, clothing appropriate for the weather, and a flashlight (although we should be finished before dark) are recommended.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - TOURS:

***"General George H. Thomas and the Union Defenses of Snodgrass Hill and Horseshoe Ridge"* – 1:00 PM – 1½ hours (Anton Heinlein)**

Join Park Ranger Anton Heinlein for a 90 minute walking tour that will discuss the complex Union defenses that were developed and implemented on the afternoon of September 20, 1863.

The tour begins at the Snodgrass Cabin located next to Tour Stop #8. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring a bottle of water.

***"Great Execution and An Advance with a Cheer: The Confederate Reserve Artillery & A. P. Stewart Assault Kelly Field"* – 6:30 PM – 1½ hours (Jim Ogden)**

While Longstreet's men attacked Thomas on Snodgrass Hill, the terrain of the Poe and Kelly farms along the LaFayette Road and the battle situation offered an opportunity for Confederate artillery to have a role more usual than they had on the previous two days. Two battalions of Reserve Artillery were quick to grasp that opportunity, making it hot for Federals still in position around Kelly Field or trying to move from there to Snodgrass Hill. Alexander Stewart's division supported them and advanced with them as the day wound down. Join National Military Park Historian Jim Ogden for a 1½ hour walk on parts of the Poe and Kelly farms and learn what happened *there* "after the breakthrough."

This tour will begin at Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center and will then car caravan to Battleline Road for the on the ground portion of the tour. Comfortable, supportive footwear, clothing appropriate to the weather, water, and a flashlight (although we should be finished before dark) are recommended.

LIVING HISTORY DEMONSTRATIONS

The Artillery demonstrations will take place at the south end of the McDonald Field. Parking will be at Tour Stop #1 and in the McDonald Field. Please follow the directions of the parking volunteers at the site.

The Infantry demonstrations will take place at the south end of the McDonald Field. Parking will be at Tour Stop #1 and in the McDonald Field. Please follow the directions of the parking volunteers at the site.

The Recruiting Rally will occur in front and around the Visitor Center. Please ask the ranger at the front desk for recruiting activities as they progress.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Artillery	Infantry	Recruiting
9:00 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM
11:30 AM	12:00 Noon	1:00 PM
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM
4:00 PM		

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Artillery	Infantry	Recruiting
9:00 AM	9:30 AM	10:30 AM
11:30 AM	12:00 Noon	1:00 PM
2:00 PM		

PLEASE NOTE THAT IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMING WILL BE OFFERED INSIDE THE VISITOR CENTER. PLEASE INQUIRE AT THE VISITOR CENTER INFORMATION DESK FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park was established in 1890 by the veterans that fought here 148 years ago. The purpose of its establishment as stated in the enabling legislation is, "To preserve for historical and military study the sites some of the most remarkable maneuvers and most brilliant fighting of the Civil War."

Moccasin Bend National Archeological District was established in 2003. The purpose of its establishment as stated in the enabling legislation is, "In order to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit of the public the national significant archeological and historic resources located on the peninsula known as Moccasin Bend, Tennessee, there is established as a unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, the Moccasin Bend National Archeological District."

Please help us in this preservation effort by not climbing on monuments or cannon, and report any vandalism you observe to either 706-866-9241 or 423-752-5213.

Thank you for supporting your National Parks, and we hope that you enjoyed your visit to your park.