



# Frederica Almanack

## December Programs Bring Frederica History to Life

### The Burning of the Lime Rick Returns to Fort Frederica, December 3

It is a sight to see. An intense fire erupts from the stacked logs. Oyster shells, carefully placed on shelves made of branches amidst the structure, crack and pop as the heat transforms them into powdery lime. This lime, when mixed with water, sand and more shell as aggregate, creates a building material known as tabby.

Visitors to Fort Frederica National Monument have an opportunity to experience a common element of the lives of Frederica's early settlers. On December 3, 2010 staff and volunteers will bring back a tradition from the early days. The burning of the lime rick is the highlight of a program that will also tell a few of the stories of Frederica's first settlers.

According to Fort Frederica Ranger Jon Burpee, tabby is a perfect analogy for Frederica's settlers. "It took a strong building material like tabby to leave a lasting presence at Frederica. I think that the settlers likewise needed a strength to survive in the Georgia wilderness." This special living history program begins at 7:00 pm.



Lime ricks were constructed by Frederica's settlers as part of the process to make tabby for building construction. Join park staff on December 3 to experience a lime rick burn.  
Photo by Eddie Coons, VIP

### Oglethorpe's Birthday Celebration and Open House December 11

*"This being Mr. Oglethorpe's Birthday the magistrates, military Officers, and principal Inhabitants, met at the Fort, where some Bottles of Wine and some Biscuit being prepared, about Noon his Majesty's Health, and the Royal Family's were drank, under a Discharge of thirteen guns"* William Stephens

As the leading figure of the new colony of Georgia, General James Edward Oglethorpe was feted on his birthday in several of the young settlements of the colony.

On Saturday, December 11, the National Park Service at Fort Frederica National Monument will celebrate Oglethorpe's birthday in true colonial style from 11 am until 4 pm.

Join park staff and living history volunteers for musket firings, toasts and joviality. Meet Mr. Oglethorpe on his special day and learn the important role of these celebrations in lifting the spirits of the settlers. The visitor center will be decorated in colonial style by the Neptune Garden Club.

Refreshments will be served.

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## Opportunities for Exploring Frederica's History

Fort Frederica's history is complex and difficult to grasp sometimes. Where once a flourishing town stood, bleaching ruins and tabby foundations dot the landscape. Here are a few suggestions to really immerse yourself in Frederica's history.

- ❖ Watch the park orientation film, *History Uncovered*.
- ❖ Become a Volunteer and portray a person from the past.
- ❖ Stand at the fort and watch the waters of the Frederica River slip past until a dolphin surfaces or a ship sails past.
- ❖ Become a Junior Ranger.
- ❖ Attend the Lime Burn event on December 3rd.
- ❖ Read Francis Moore's Journal while sitting next to his house foundation.
- ❖ Visit the Castillo de San Marcos in St. Augustine, Florida to learn the Spanish perspective on Frederica's history.
- ❖ Take the new audio tour.
- ❖ See the fort from a boat on the Frederica River and estimate the number of times the long-range cannon of Frederica could have shot at you before you could shoot at Frederica.
- ❖ Visit Jekyll Island's Horton House ruins.
- ❖ Ask questions of the rangers and volunteers.

**Enjoy your time at  
Fort Frederica  
National Monument**

## Frederica Founders Live Again...on Facebook!



Next year marks the 275th anniversary of the settlers arriving at Frederica. As such, it will be an amazing year to delve into this amazing site's history. A great way to start early and experience the events of 275 years ago is by following two of Frederica's founders on Facebook.

Francis Moore and Reverend Charles Wesley were the only two original settlers known to have kept journals. These writings offer an amazing level of insight about the conditions Frederica's settlers faced in the Georgia wilderness.

Moore's journal starts on October 14 as he boards the ship *Symonds*. His descriptions of life aboard ship shows the pains the Trustees of Georgia went to in order to insure a safe voyage. Upon his arrival in Georgia his journal describes the very new environmental and living conditions faced by these new emigrants from London.

Wesley's journal is much more personal and details his struggles as Oglethorpe's secretary and the pastor to Frederica's settlers. His words give an understanding of the difficult early days of Frederica's settlement.

Moore and Wesley now have Facebook pages upon which will appear their journal entries as their updates almost daily. To befriend them log on to Facebook and send requests to [Facebook.com/FrancisMoore1736](https://www.facebook.com/FrancisMoore1736) and [Facebook.com/CharlesWesley1736](https://www.facebook.com/CharlesWesley1736).

## Help the Park — Recycle Your Brochure

While visiting the park, you may notice a couple of wooden boxes for recycled brochures at the Visitor Center and near the Cemetery. Due to rising costs to print these beautiful color



pamphlets, we are trying to conserve our resources by reusing the brochures for future visitors. If you do not want to keep your brochure as a souvenir, please do your part by using the recycling boxes.

**Thank you!**

# Grape Goodness

Purple, squishy stains mark the tabby sidewalks around the visitor center this time of year. As the season passes, eastern gray squirrels scamper with a steadily, unsteady gait – the result of a little squirrel drunkenness. It is all the consequence of the ripening and then the fermenting of the grapes on the vines that crawl ever skyward with help from the live oaks. This bit of grape goodness, however, is not new.

*[The] Grape is black in Clusters, small, thick skinned, big stoned, but pleasant enough: It seems to be the Bordeaux Grape, wild and unimproved; they are ripe about September, but a Quantity sufficient to make a true Experiment of Wine (which can hardly be done under 60 Gallons) is hard to be got, because the Bears, Rackoons and Squirrels eat them..., and as they run up very high Trees, it is difficult or almost impossible to get to the Tops of them where the best grow. These Grapes are common to the Woods in most parts of America.*

Francis Moore, 1736

Today, the majority of wild grapes that grow at Frederica are this variety. Francis Moore, however, noticed two other types of native grapes growing on the island. Perhaps the most peculiar variety was what he called the 'Fox-Grape.' He described it "as large and round as a Duke-Cherry" with a muscatine taste and growing not as a cluster of grapes, but singly like a cherry.

*But there is on St. Simons, a wild Grape much nearer the Europe Vine, the Fruit being exactly the same as the common white Grape, through the Leaf is something different. The Birds and wild Animals like it so well, that they suffer it seldom to ripen.*

He described this third grape variety in such glowing terms, it may have encouraged the importation of European vines in an attempt to establish Georgia as a grape and wine producing colony.

Vines may have even played a role in helping one out-of-work army officer get an appointment to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment. In 1737, William Cook donated "sixteen different Sorts of Vine Cuttings from France being his Benefaction of the use of the Colony." Cook would eventually be given command of the company that initially manned Fort St. Simons and Delegal's Fort on the south end of St. Simons Island. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

The Journal of the Trustees for the Colony of Georgia recorded other donations of vines for use in Georgia. As an example, on December 20, 1738, the clerk noted: "Receiv'd a Parcel of Vine Cuttings mostly of the Burgundy kind, the Benefaction of Samuel Forster Esqr Which the Accomptant acquainted the Trustees were shipt on board the America Capt. Gerald for Charles Town in their Way to Georgia."

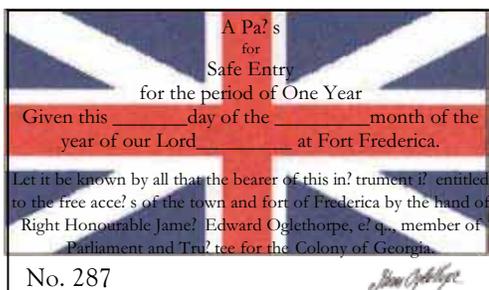
So today, as you walk out towards the town site and peer off into the woods and see a wilderness that both provided for and scared the original settlers, look to the trees above and the path below you to see squishy little reminders of their hope for an agricultural future.



# Fort Frederica National Monument 2010-2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All programs, dates and scheduled times subject to change (912) 638-3639  
[www.nps.gov/fofr](http://www.nps.gov/fofr)

| OCTOBER  | NOVEMBER  | DECEMBER  | JANUARY  | FEBRUARY  | MARCH   |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| <p><b>6</b> Coasters Lecture Series: Exploring the Coast and Waterways of Georgia. 5:30 pm</p>  | <p><b>13</b> Frederica Folkways: 18th Century Cooking. All day.</p>  | <p><b>3</b> Lime Rick Burn. 7 pm</p> <p><b>11</b> Oglethorpe's Birthday Celebration and Open House. 11 am - 4 pm.</p> | <p><b>12</b> Coasters Lecture Series: Weepin' Time - Voices of Slavery in Coastal Georgia. 5:30 pm</p>  | <p><b>19-20</b> 275th Anniversary Living History Encampment. All day.</p>  | <p><b>23</b> Coasters Lecture Series: Frederica, 1736. 5:30 pm.</p>  |



## Experience a Year of History with the Fort Frederica Pass

The number of special programs at Fort Frederica National Monument is growing. With all the new offerings you might want to consider purchasing an annual Fort Frederica pass. The \$10 pass entitles the holder (including spouse, children, and parents) to free admission to Fort Frederica for one year from the time of purchase. You can purchase the pass at the counter in the Visitor Center. A portion of each park pass sale stays in the park and supports special projects and programs.

## New Projects Completed With Visitor Fees

Visitors to Fort Frederica National Monument can look around and see how their fees help maintain this important historical site.

This year a number of great projects have been completed that were made possible by visitor fees.

- New Air Condition System for the Museum Artifact Building.** This new system will help preserve the artifacts recovered from the archeological excavations at Fort Frederica National Monument. The system also controls the humidity which will help conserve the metal and organic artifacts and paper archives.

- New carpet in the Visitor Center Theater.** The old, worn carpet has been removed and replaced with recycled content carpet.
- New Sound Proofing in the Visitor Center Theater.** This project replaces the old wall carpeting with new improved sound proofing.
- New Security System.** This system improves the monitoring and preservation of the artifacts and provide outstanding security to keep the buildings in which they are housed safe.
- Painting of the Visitor Center Exterior.** This project replaces the chipped, mildewed paint.
- New doors for the Visitor Center Complex.** New more secure doors that will also help seal the buildings to save energy!

In the coming years there will be even more projects that improves the National Park Service's ability to preserve the site and its resources and provide outstanding visitor facilities. It is all made possible with your fees. Thank you for supporting your park!

# A First Timer's Guide to Visiting Fort Frederica

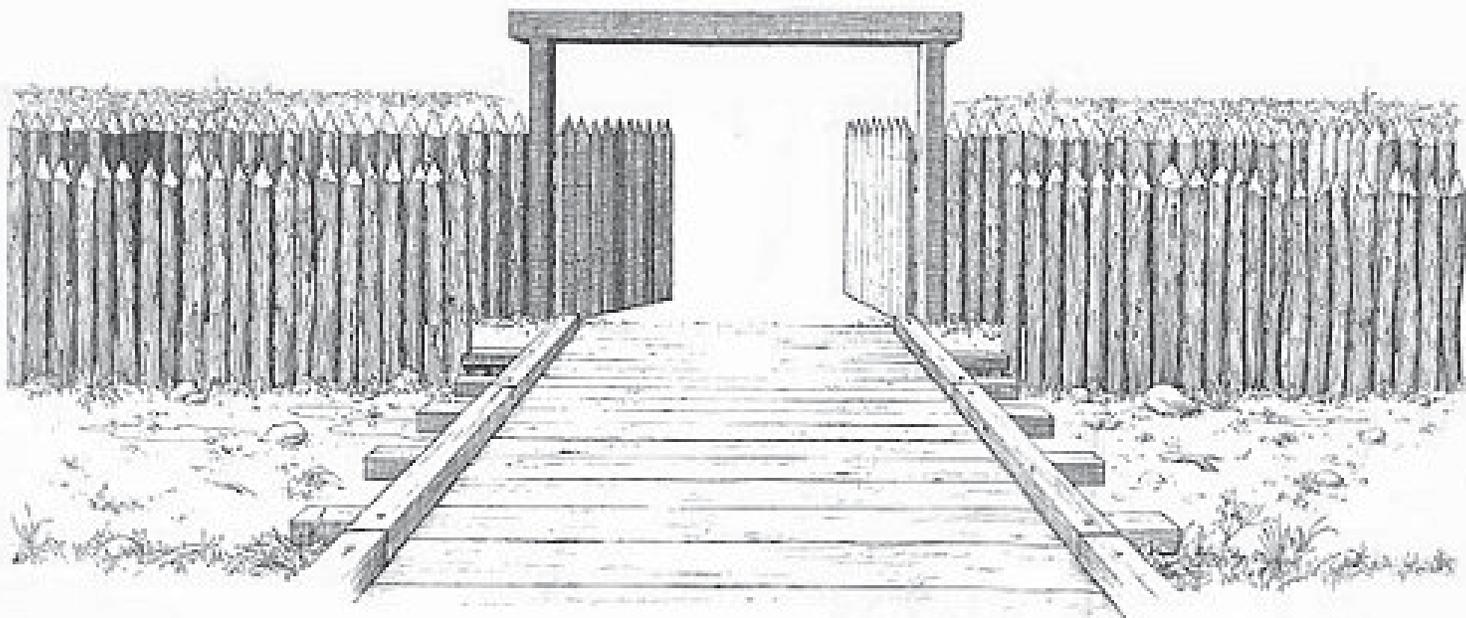


## **Welcome to Fort Frederica National Monument.**

You are in store for an adventure through a surprising history. Frederica's stories range from the broad — clash of empires, life and death battles that decided the fate of an entire region — to the personal stories of struggle, hardship and victory/defeat. You have many options to uncover these tales.

Over the next few pages, this guide will help you get the most out of your visit today.

**Enjoy!**



## Visitor Center Museum

Fort Frederica National Monument's Visitor Center is open daily. It offers exhibits that feature many of the artifacts recovered from archeological digs. Interactive computers and hands-on activities are designed to introduce the site's history and prepare visitors for exploration of this town and fort.

**Allow 10-20 minutes in the museum exhibits.**

## Orientation Film

*History Uncovered* is a good place to start your discovery of Fort Frederica. It provides an introduction to the history of Fort Frederica and its archaeological resources. The British-Spanish struggle for control of the region is brought to life utilizing living history interpreters and subject experts.



**Running Time: 23 minutes**  
**Shows every 30 minutes in the Visitor Center Theater.**

## Kid's Activities

**History comes to life for kids at Fort Frederica.**

**Junior Ranger Program.** Experience one of the most unique junior ranger programs in the National Park System. Kids can check out a soldier's haversack loaded with colonial tools and items that will help them complete activities to earn a junior ranger badge. The activities take about 1 1/2 hours to complete.

**Try-on Colonial Clothes.** Dress as a colonial lady or soldier. Located in the Visitor Center Museum.

**18th-Century Games and Activities Table.** Try your hand at colonial games and learn about children in the 18th-Century. Located in the Visitor Center Museum.

**Hands-On Musket Drill.** Learn about the life of a British soldier by participating in a hands-on musket drill program. For more information, ask at the Visitor Center Information Desk.



## Safety

Fort Frederica National Monument is committed to provide visitors with a quality and safe experience and you can help.

### Safety Notes

- Please take note of any signs that guard against hazards.
- While walking the beautiful tree-lined streets, watch out for hazardous limbs.
- Please do **NOT** seek shelter under any of the huge live oaks if thunder and lightning are in the area.
- Please stay out of ruins to help us preserve them for the future.

**Although we strive for a safe environment, we may miss something. Please let us know how we can improve.**

## Accessibility

At Fort Frederica National Monument, we want everyone to be able to experience the surprising history of Fort Frederica. To accomplish this goal, we offer a few services to allow everyone the opportunity to explore this history fully.



**Open Captioning** for the film *History Uncovered* - Captions are specifically designed for viewers with hearing loss to enable their full participation when viewing the park film. The captions include information regarding on- and off-screen sound effects such as music or laughter. Captions also hold secondary benefits for people who are learning a foreign language, or learning how to read, as well as those who understand best by processing visual information.

**Audio Description** for the film *History Uncovered* - Audio description describes the visual content of the film. It provides individuals who are visually impaired with information that further describes the visual content not provided by the primary audio track. An audio description narrator describes actions, gestures, scene changes, and other visual information.

**If there is any way that we can make your visit better, please let us know.**

## Interpretive Programs

Interpretive programs offer a great way to discover the many layers of Frederica's history.



**Audio Tours.** This 45-minute tour takes you through the heart of Frederica to the Fort. Narration and the sounds of the town help bring the town to life.

**Guided Tours.** Explore Frederica's history with a park ranger.

**Historic Weapons Programs.** Learn about the life of a British soldier and experience a musket firing demonstration.

**For more information about today's schedule ask at the Visitor Center Information Desk.**



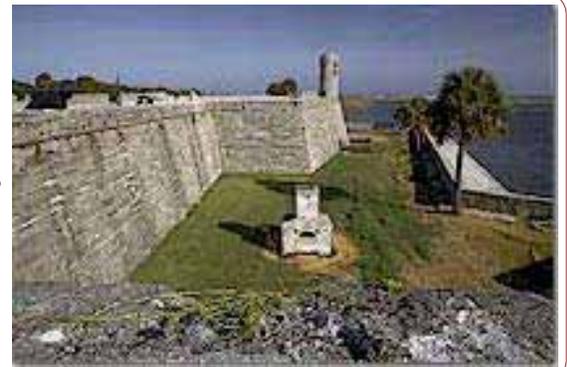
## Bloody Marsh

Six miles south of the main unit of Fort Frederica National Monument is a small site that memorializes the final battle between British and Spanish forces on St. Simons Island. The site has a few exhibits and a great view of what is now known as Bloody Marsh. Bloody Marsh is located on Demere Road. For directions, please ask at the Visitor Center desk.



## The Spanish Side of the Story

Consider traveling a few miles south to visit the Castillo de San Marcos and Fort Matanzas located in St. Augustine, FL. These National Park Service sites tell the story of the Spanish settlement and claims to the region and figure prominently in the history of Fort Frederica.



## Historian's Corner:

### The Mighty Axe



If you had to choose a single implement to tame the colonial Georgia wilderness, you would certainly select the felling axe. With it you could clear the forest to make way for colonial houses and villages like Frederica. Then it would help you begin the conversion of the felled trees into framing timber for the construction of buildings.

Maybe the felling axe should be the symbol of the colonies, for it was composed of the finest metal that Europe could supply, combined with the finest, toughest wood the American forests produced. Thus the felling axe became the best weapon ever wielded

by settlers to subdue the wilderness.

Axe heads were individually handcrafted by the village blacksmith and fitted with a hickory or ash handle by the user of the axe. The felling axe has changed very little since colonial times with the exception of the handle which is now often made of fiberglass.

The colonists' Native neighbors watched in amazement as those sharp-edged iron axes cut down the giant trees. Every tribesman had to have such a labor saver of his own. The felling axe brought the Natives a helpful tool that also irreparably transformed their world forever.

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*Are you confused about discrepancies in dates when researching Frederica history? Read on...*

### Old and New Style Dating Systems

Although there have been many calendars used around the world throughout human history, the two that are important in the study of Georgia history are the Julian and Gregorian calendars. Because of small errors in the Julian calendar (adopted in 46 B.C. during the reign of Julius Caesar), Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 mandated a new system for accounting for the passage of time for members of the Catholic Church. The new Gregorian calendar proved much more accurate, so gradually various countries adopted the Gregorian calendar. Great Britain, however, was one of the last major countries to change calendars. Not until 1752 did Britain and the American colonies officially adopt the Gregorian calendar. By that time, there was eleven days' difference between the two calendars. This has resulted in confusion while reading primary sources (such as Oglethorpe's letters) from the time of Georgia's founding (1733). For example, an event that happened on January 1 using the Julian Calendar then in effect would in essence be January 12 after the

conversion to the Gregorian Calendar. As a result, some historians began the practice of adding "Old Style" (or "O.S.") after Julian calendar dates, and "New Style" (or "N.S.") for Gregorian calendar dates.

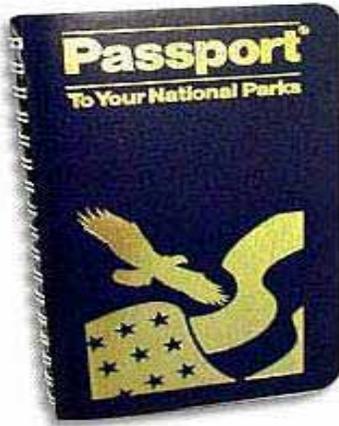
Further complicating matters, under the Julian Calendar as used by Britain, a new year began on March 25—not Jan. 1. For instance, events happening in January, February, and the first 24 days of March of what we recognize as 1733 technically took place in 1732. In light of the fact that much of Europe observed Jan. 1 as the beginning of a new year, many letters and documents relating to Georgia's early history dated in January, February, and most of March bear a double year (e.g., 1732/33). Thus, a British date of Jan. 1, 1732 might be cited as "Jan. 1, 1732/33"—which would be Jan. 12, 1733 under the Gregorian Calendar. In reality, the use of double-year dates ended long before Britain's official calendar conversion in 1752.

To give the Gregorian equivalent for

every date in history would be a major task, not to mention distracting. As a result, most historians simply use the date of whatever calendar was in effect at the time an event happened. However, in 1847, when William Stevens wrote his important two-volume *A History of Georgia*, he used contemporary dates as they happened for the story of the founding of Georgia — except for the landing of Oglethorpe and the colonists at Yamacraw Bluff. While Oglethorpe wrote that they arrived on Feb. 1, 1733, Stephens substituted the New Style equivalent of Feb. 12 for the founding of Georgia. Subsequent historians followed suit, leading Feb. 12 later to be widely recognized as Georgia Day.

**Note: this explains why in some texts it says that the Battles of Gully Hole Creek and Bloody Marsh took place on June 22<sup>nd</sup> (usually British sources), and others say July 7<sup>th</sup> (usually Spanish sources). Fort Frederica NM uses July 7<sup>th</sup> because it's in the New Style which is the dating system we use today.**

# National Parks Passport Book and Stamps



A great way to explore your National Parks is to have a handy guide with you in the form of the National Parks Passport Book. Many visitors mark their journeys by collecting cancellation stamps in these books and collecting the colorful national and regional stamps each year. For more information ask in the visitor center bookstore.



## News from Other Papers

**Editor's Note:** The following is an excerpt from *Gentleman's Magazine* from March 1740. This leading London paper printed a letter that casts light upon the difficult question of slavery in South Carolina and Georgia — the southern colonies closest to Spanish Florida.

“Sometime since a Proclamation was published at Augustine, in which the King of Spain...promised Protection and Freedom to all Negroe Slaves, who would resort thither. Certain Negroes belonging to Capt. Davis escaped to Augustine, and were received there; they

were demanded by General Oglethorpe who sent Lieut. Demere to Augustine.... Since the good Reception of the Negroes at Augustine was spread about, several attempted to escape to the Spaniards, and were taken, one of them was hang'd at Charles Town.”



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Frederica National Monument is a premier historical and archaeological site that shares and preserves the history associated with the British settlement of the Colony of Georgia and the struggle with Spain for control of the region. The National Park Service values working with partners and the public to bring this special history to life.

**Fort Frederica National Monument**  
6515 Frederica Road  
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

**Phone**  
912-638-3639

**Web Site Adress**  
[www.nps.gov/fofr/](http://www.nps.gov/fofr/)

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



### Fort Frederica Needs You!

Are you interested in history? Would you like to help share the story of Fort Frederica and the early settlement of the Colony of Georgia? Do you want to help the National Park Service preserve this incredible place for future generations?

If so, please consider becoming a National Park Service volunteer. If you are interested in making a difference in your national park, please visit the Visitor Center to get a volunteer application or contact volunteer coordinator Jon Burpee at 912-638-3639 or e-mail [Jon\\_Burpee@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Burpee@nps.gov).

Fourty Second Regiment of Foot commanded by His Excellency Colonel  
JAMES EDWARD OGLETHORPE, M.P.

ALL INTREPID ABLE-BODIED  
HEROES,



 HO are willing to Serve His MAJESTY KING  
GEORGE the Second, in Defence of their Country,  
Laws and Constitution, against the Usurpations of the Spanish  
and French, have now not only an Opportunity of manifesting  
their Spirit, by assisting in reducing to Obedience their too-long  
deluded Enemies, but also acquiring the polite Accomplish-  
ments of a Soldier, by serving only seven Years.

Such spirited Fellows, who are willing to engage, will be  
rewarded at the end of their service, besides their Laurels, with  
50 Acres of Land, where every gallant Hero may retire, and  
enjoy his Bottle and Lass.

Each Volunteer will receive, as a Bounty, ONE SHIL-  
LING, besides Arms, Cloathing and Accoutrements, and every  
other Requisite proper to accommodate a Gentleman Soldier,  
by applying to Captain ALEXANDER HERON at the BAR-  
RACKS at Cross-street in the Town of FREDERICA.

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Fort Frederica National Monument is recruiting a few interested volunteers to portray the soldiers of Heron's Company of the 42<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Foot. For information about an upcoming organizational meeting, please contact Park Ranger Jon Burpee at 912-638-3639 or [Jon\\_Burpee@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Burpee@nps.gov)



The *Frederica Almanack* is published quarterly by Fort Frederica National Monument. The purpose of the *Almanack* is to provide information about Fort Frederica NM to interested visitors, partners, and volunteers. The *Volunteer Dispatch* is named after military dispatches that were sent to posts and troops throughout Coastal Georgia. The *Almanack* is also available online at [www.nps.gov/fofr](http://www.nps.gov/fofr).

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Every year, hundreds of young visitors complete the requirements to earn a Fort Frederica Junior Ranger Badge. If you want more information on the Junior Ranger program, ask a ranger or volunteer in the Visitor Center.

A few of the latest Junior Rangers include:

- ★ Ben Lowery, age 9, Woodstock, GA
- ★ Lydia Adams, age 15, Deltona, FL
- ★ Jacob Adams, age 11, Deltona, FL
- ★ Jace Dshetler, age 7, Grand Rapids, MI
- ★ Lindsey Dshetler, age 11, Grand Rapids, MI
- ★ Sean Ferrel, age 8, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Reece Ferrel, age 6, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Nancy Jones, age 10, Decatur, GA
- ★ Michelle Jones, age 10, Decatur, GA
- ★ Clare Taylor, age 8, Marietta, GA
- ★ Sophie Taylor, age 7, Marietta, GA
- ★ Rose Clipson, age 8, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Devon Davis, age 8, Byron, GA
- ★ Taylor McComb, age 12, Glen St. Mary, FL
- ★ Kaitlyn McComb, age 8, Glen St. Mary, FL
- ★ C. J. Brown, age 16, Woodstock, GA
- ★ Carl Brown, age 11, Woodstock, GA
- ★ Ethan Tsaur, age 9, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Emma Tsaur, age 10, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Aimee Brown, age 8, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Taylor Brown, age 15, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Mayton Brown, age 11, Atlanta, GA
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- ★ Kinada Dragon, age 10, Ludowici, GA
- ★ Journey Austinson, age 6, Bainbridge, GA
- ★ Branch Austinson, age 8, Bainbridge, GA
- ★ Noah Hendrix, age 11, Griffin, GA
- ★ Maddie Hendrix, age 8, Griffin, GA
- ★ Griffin Brisendine, age 11, Meanesville, GA
- ★ Claire Brisendine, age 8, Meanesville, GA
- ★ Rynd Rizer, age 8, Quitman, GA
- ★ Marco Chapman, age 7, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Trey Gilley, age 12, Jesup, GA
- ★ Brandon Clement, age 11, Ray City, GA
- ★ Austin Dowling, age 12, Woodbine, GA
- ★ Olivia Humphries, age 7, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Ann-Marie Wheless, age 8, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Regan North, age 8, Brunswick, GA
- ★ Grace Garrison, age 8, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Bella Tyre, age 8, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Talia Vinson, age 7, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Riley Specert, age 8, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Anna Harris, age 9, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Annabelle Cochran, age 8, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Joseph Greene, age 6, St. Simons Island, GA
- ★ Clark Dearman, age 8, Atlanta, GA
- ★ Sara Wifall, age 7, Lake Mary, FL
- ★ Anna Patterson, age 11, Jefferson, GA

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

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