



FORT PULASKI PRESS

Summer 2008

A Friend In Need

Friends of Cockspur Island Lighthouse organized and ready to serve endangered lighthouse

Clinging to the tip of Cockspur Island, the Cockspur Island Lighthouse has withstood crashing waves, the roar of cannons, and the wrath of time. For more than 150 years it has defiantly stood guard over the mouth of the Savannah River.

The lighthouse survived the Battle of Fort Pulaski in 1862, but now faces the battle against time and nature. There are two principle issues affecting the Cockspur Island Lighthouse: island erosion and infestation of the wooden foundation of the lighthouse by shipworms. A shipworm is a mollusk that bores itself into wood. While living in its burrow, the shipworm eats the wood and lays approximately 100 million eggs.

The Cockspur Island Lighthouse is currently being affected by shipworms; portions of the lighthouse's wooden foundation are now exposed and have visual shipworm damage. The shipworm infestation can compromise and eventually destroy the wooden foundation. If the foundation fails, the historic lighthouse would fall into the water and be lost. The National Park Service is seeking funding of more than

a million dollars to stabilize the Lighthouse and preserve it for future generations.

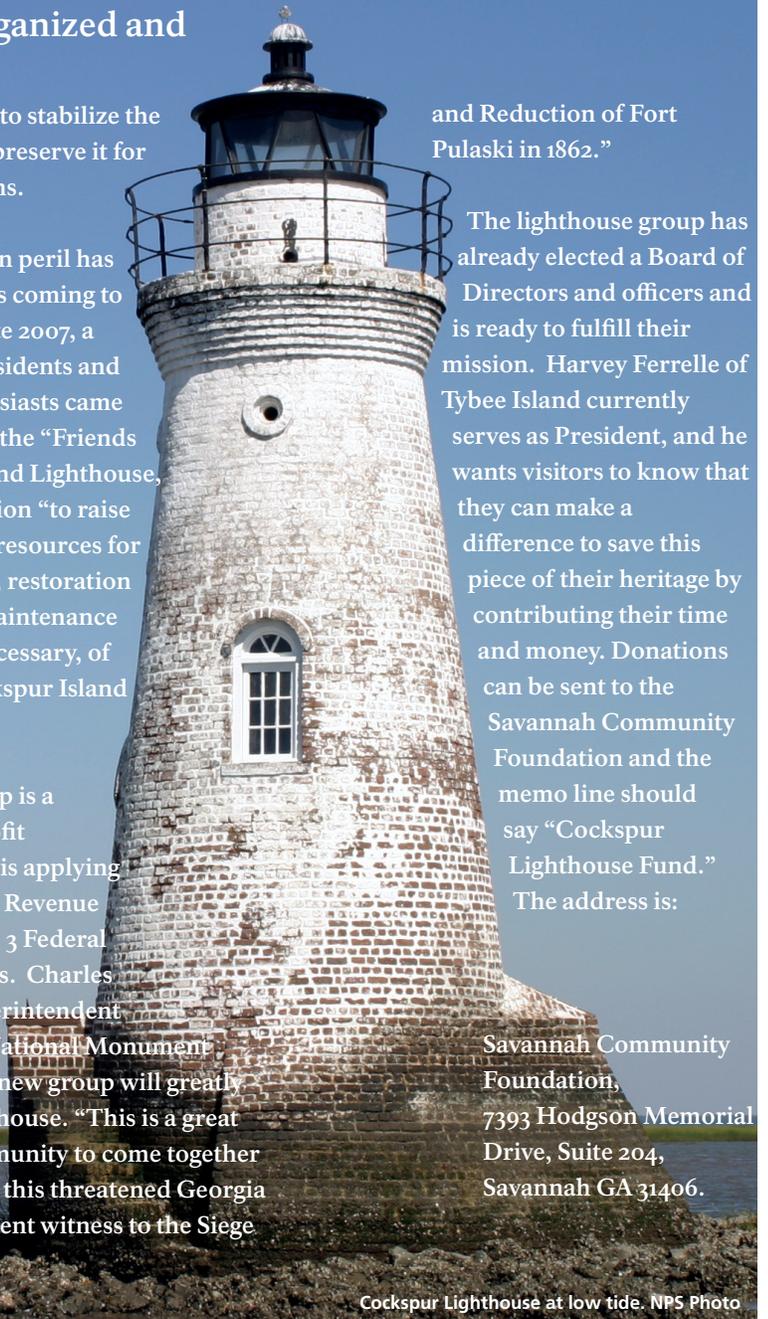
This lighthouse in peril has some new friends coming to the rescue. In late 2007, a group of local residents and lighthouse enthusiasts came together to form the "Friends of Cockspur Island Lighthouse, Inc." with a mission "to raise funds and other resources for the preservation, restoration and perpetual maintenance and repair, as necessary, of the historic Cockspur Island Lighthouse."

The friends group is a Georgia non-profit corporation and is applying with the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c) 3 Federal Non-Profit Status. Charles E. Fenwick, Superintendent of Fort Pulaski National Monument, believes that the new group will greatly benefit the Lighthouse. "This is a great way for the community to come together and work to save this threatened Georgia landmark and silent witness to the Siege

and Reduction of Fort Pulaski in 1862."

The lighthouse group has already elected a Board of Directors and officers and is ready to fulfill their mission. Harvey Ferrelle of Tybee Island currently serves as President, and he wants visitors to know that they can make a difference to save this piece of their heritage by contributing their time and money. Donations can be sent to the Savannah Community Foundation and the memo line should say "Cockspur Lighthouse Fund." The address is:

Savannah Community Foundation,
7393 Hodgson Memorial Drive, Suite 204,
Savannah GA 31406.



Cockspur Lighthouse at low tide. NPS Photo



Charles E. Fenwick, Superintendent
Welcome to Fort Pulaski!

It is a very exciting to be able to announce the formation of a park friends group in this newsletter. They have kicked off the private fund-raising that may be instrumental in saving the Cockspur Lighthouse. Secretary of the Friends of Cockspur Lighthouse, Judge Michael R. McKinley and his wife Norma stand next to one of two new signs that they donated for the Lighthouse Overlook Trail. Over the past two years, the McKinley's have personally donated more than \$20,000 and helped kick-off fund-raising efforts.



Michael and Norma McKinley in front of one of two new lighthouse wayside exhibits. NPS Photo

Many people want to know how our efforts to repair the threatened foundation of the lighthouse are going. In June, we will be completing our second phase of emergency repairs to the wooden foundation in conjunction with an archeological assessment of the island. Anyone who is interested in getting involved with the protection of the lighthouse can contact the park.

As we begin our busy summer season, I would like to take a moment to thank you for visiting and our staff and volunteers for working so hard to accomplish our mission. Please, let us know how we are doing and get involved in your local National Park.

Charles E. Fenwick

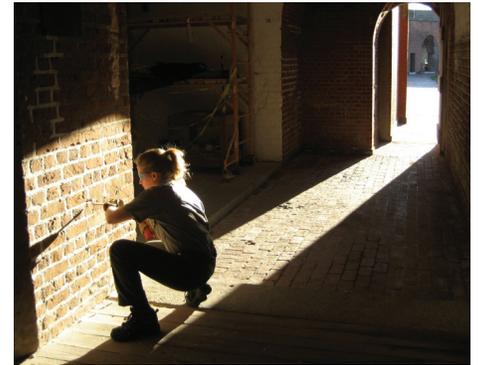
Preserving the Past

Fort Pulaski Preservation Team begins second year of work

This summer marks the beginning of the second year of Fort Pulaski's Preservation Team. Originally composed of six talented undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Historic Preservation from Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD), the team will expand this summer to 12 and include local high school students enrolled in the early college historic preservation program.

Initial projects the team will focus on include working on removing non-historic Portland cement within the walls of the fort, tuck-pointing deteriorated mortar joints throughout the fort, as well as maintaining the historic Cockspur Island Lighthouse.

Funded through the park's fee demo program, the park hopes to continue to maintain and expand the team for years to come. For more information on the team, or to learn about their efforts at Fort Pulaski you can check online at www.nps.gov/fopu.



Jessica Burr, student employee who majors in Historic Preservation at SCAD, working inside Fort Pulaski. NPS

A New Perspective

Park finalizes plans for new unit on Tybee Island

In the coming months, Fort Pulaski National Monument, in partnership with the City of Tybee Island, will begin finalizing plans and construction on a new unit of the park to be located on the northern shore of Tybee Island.

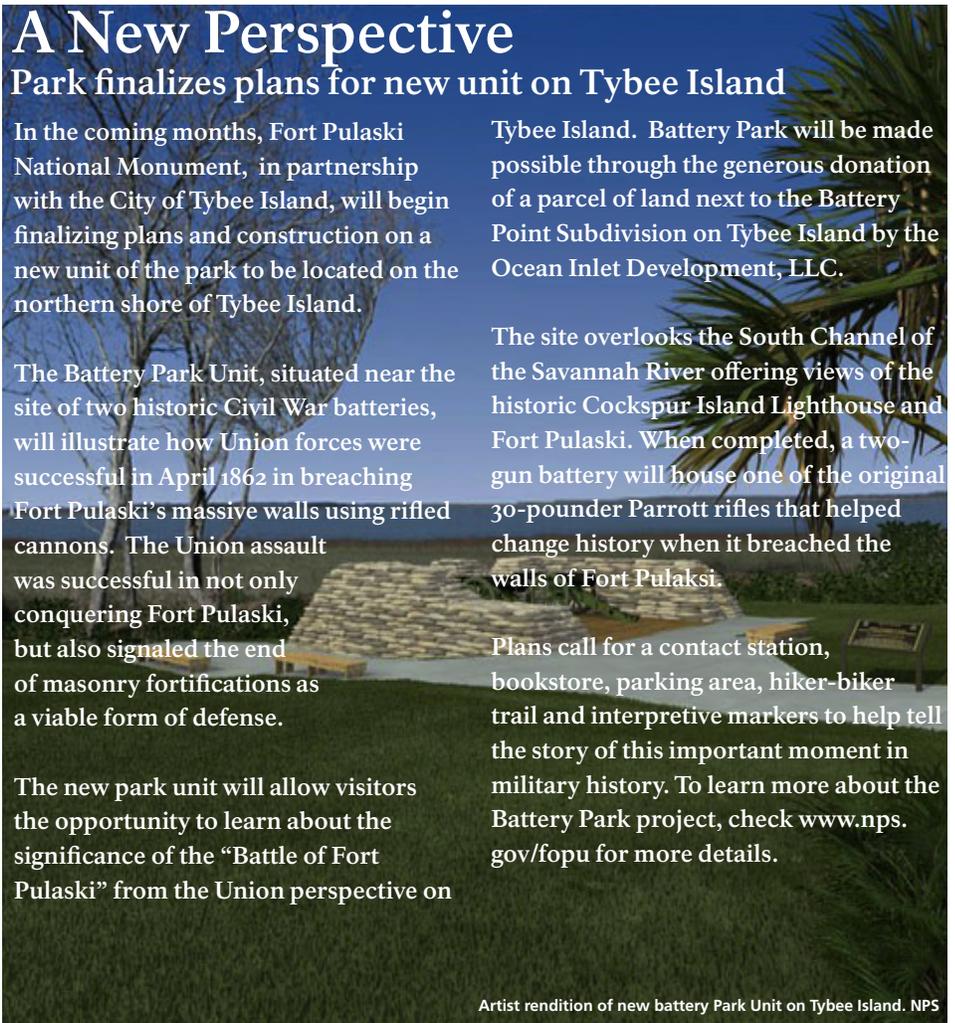
The Battery Park Unit, situated near the site of two historic Civil War batteries, will illustrate how Union forces were successful in April 1862 in breaching Fort Pulaski's massive walls using rifled cannons. The Union assault was successful in not only conquering Fort Pulaski, but also signaled the end of masonry fortifications as a viable form of defense.

The new park unit will allow visitors the opportunity to learn about the significance of the "Battle of Fort Pulaski" from the Union perspective on

Tybee Island. Battery Park will be made possible through the generous donation of a parcel of land next to the Battery Point Subdivision on Tybee Island by the Ocean Inlet Development, LLC.

The site overlooks the South Channel of the Savannah River offering views of the historic Cockspur Island Lighthouse and Fort Pulaski. When completed, a two-gun battery will house one of the original 30-pounder Parrott rifles that helped change history when it breached the walls of Fort Pulaski.

Plans call for a contact station, bookstore, parking area, hiker-biker trail and interpretive markers to help tell the story of this important moment in military history. To learn more about the Battery Park project, check www.nps.gov/fopu for more details.



Artist rendition of new battery Park Unit on Tybee Island. NPS

Interpretive Programs

Daily Ranger Programs

Fort Pulaski National Monument offers visitors daily interpretive programs inside historic Fort Pulaski. Activities include musket & soldier drills, Civil War soldier talks, and guided fort tours. Activities are scheduled from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday thru Friday.

Schedule of Activities:

- 11:00 Guided Fort Tour**
- 12:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 2:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 3:00 Guided Fort Tour**
- 4:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**

Living History Days

Living History Days are presented every weekend at Fort Pulaski. Saturday programs reflect Federal garrison life from 1862 to 1865. Activities include cannon firings, musket drills, Civil War soldier talks, and guided fort tours.

Sunday programs reflect Confederate garrison life from 1861 to April 1862. Activities include musket drills, Civil War soldier talks, and guided fort tours.

Schedule of Activities:

Saturday

- 10:00 Guided Fort Tour**
- 11:00 Cannon Firing**
- 12:00 Cannon Firing**
- 1:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 2:00 Cannon Firing**
- 2:30 Guided Fort Tour**
- 3:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 3:30 Cannon Firing**

Sunday

- 11:00 Guided Fort Tour**
- 12:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 2:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**
- 3:00 Guided Fort Tour**
- 4:00 Musket & Soldier Demo**

Celebrate America at Fort Pulaski!

To help celebrate the Nation's 232nd Birthday, the National Park Service and Fort Pulaski National Monument will present a special patriotic Living History event on Saturday, July 5 & 6, 2008. Highlights of the weekend will include a Civil War baseball game using 1860s rules and equipment, cannon firings, and musket demonstrations. Park Superintendent Charlie Fenwick remarked, "This is a great opportunity for residents and visitors alike to learn, have some summer fun, and take pride in America."

The authentic Civil War baseball game will begin at noon July 5, and will feature living history soldiers of the 48th New York Infantry taking on the 8th Georgia Regiment. A special baseball game will follow for families and spectators to participate as the players. This will be a fun opportunity for the public to play a vintage

game of baseball inside Fort Pulaski. Perhaps you, too, can hit a "daisy cutter" to drive in an "ace!"

During the Civil War soldiers at Fort Pulaski often played America's pastime to overcome the boredom of garrison life. One of the earliest known photographs of a baseball game was taken in 1862 at Fort Pulaski showing members of the 48th New York Infantry.

Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and non-alcoholic beverages to enjoy the events at the fort. Throughout the day living history soldiers will also be offering cannon & musket demonstrations.

A special salute to the National colors will be held at 2:00 PM, marked by the firing of a battery of artillery pieces.

Debbie Reid receives Ralston B. Lattimore, Outstanding Volunteer Service Award

Debbie Reid of Savor Savannah Catering has been involved with National Public Lands Day since its inception at Fort Pulaski four years ago. To date Debbie and her team have donated countless hours in the preparation of food, beverages, and wonderful desserts. Savor Savannah Catering also supports local community charity organizations such as the March of Dimes, Friends of Animals, Kids Café and Second Harvest.

In recognition of many years of extraordinary service to the park, Ms. Reid was recently presented with the first Ralston B. Lattimore, Outstanding Volunteer Service Award. Superintendent Lattimore (1936-1938 & 1948-1970) was the only Fort Pulaski Superintendent to serve twice and he is still recognized for his leadership of the park and his creation of the park handbook, which was also presented to Ms. Reid.

In addition, the park also presented Ms. Reid with a framed and matted illustration of Fort Pulaski that was created in 1985 by National Park Service Illustrator L. Kenneth Townsend. The original 30" by 21 7/16" full color acrylic illustration of Fort Pulaski from a bird's eye view resides under the care of the Art Resources Manager of the Harpers Ferry Center in Harpers Ferry, WV. Congratulations Debbie Reid!



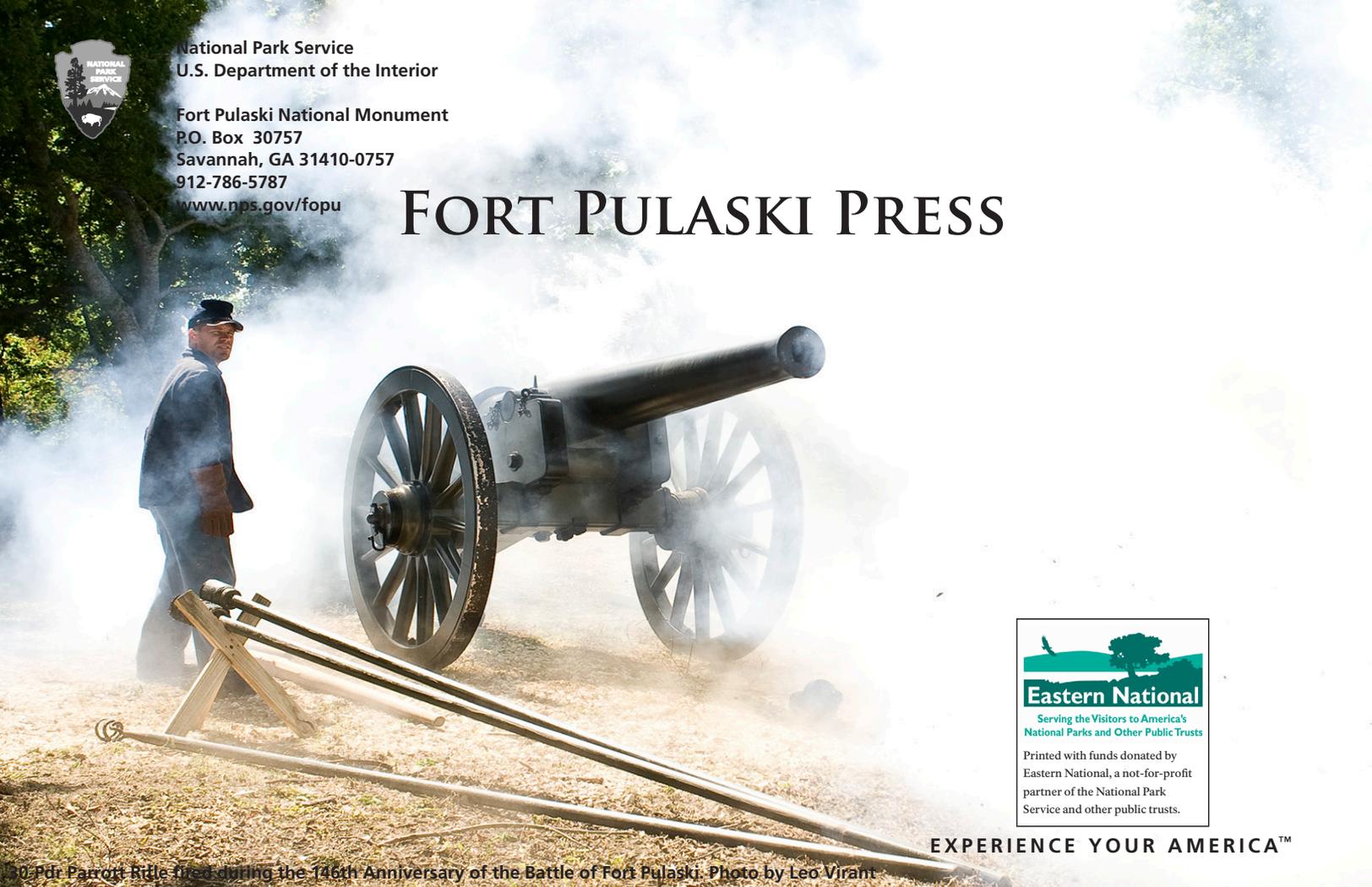
Superintendent Charles Fenwick presents Debbie Reid of Savor Savannah Catering with framed illustration of Fort Pulaski in honor of her Volunteer Service Award. NPS Photo



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Pdr Parrott Rifle fired during the 146th Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Pulaski. Photo by Leo Virant



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Fort Pulaski Press

The official newsletter of Fort Pulaski National Monument. Printed on recycled material.

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Book Signing Kicks off Summer Season

Summer is just around the corner! Make your plans now and join Fort Pulaski this Memorial Day for a two-day living history event complete with cannon firings, special talks, and even a Civil War baseball game.

In honor of Memorial Day, a book signing by Mauriel Joslyn, author of *Immortal Captives: The Story of 600 Confederate Officers and the United States Prisoner of War Policy*, will occur from 12-4 pm. Joslyn's book details the plight of Confederate soldiers held prisoner at Fort Pulaski late in the Civil War.

Memorial Day also kicks off the park's summer season and extended hours of operation. Effective May 24, the Visitor Center will be open daily from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM, and the historic Fort will be open daily 9:00 to 6:30 PM. Park gates will close

at 7:00 PM. The summer schedule will be in effect through August. For schedule details, check the park's website at www.nps.gov/fopu.



Cannon firing demonstrations highlight Memorial Day Weekend at Fort Pulaski. Photo by Leo Virant