

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve



2008 Special Programs and Events Calendar June-December

All special programs and events take place at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site unless otherwise stated and are subject to change. Fort Entrance Fees: \$3/adult, \$5/family, & free for children 15 years and under. For additional information about these and the many other programs offered by the National Park Service at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, visit our website at www.nps.gov/fova or call the Vancouver National Historic Visitor Center at 360.816.6230

June

June 19, 2008: 60th Anniversary of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Fort Vancouver is the heart of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve and serves as the gateway park for the northwest national parks. A site rich in history, the park was established 60 years this year.

June 17-August 2: Archaeological Field School

Public Archaeology Program which shares the "underground" legacy of this site includes educational opportunities, special tours, and lectures. These activities help to reveal the site in a new way, and involve visitors in the process of learning from, and working to preserve cultural resources.

Thursdays, June 26 – July 24 (7:00 p.m.) Archaeology Lecture Series: The Lecture Series ties into the Archaeological Field School providing students and the public a more in depth look at the field of archaeology. (Free of charge)

June 26: Robert K. Sutton, Ph.D. Chief Historian National Park Service- *Interpreting the Fur Trade in National Parks*

July 10: Mark Warner, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Idaho at Moscow- *The Wild, Mild West: Domesticating Communities and Households in the Inland Northwest*

July 17: Rick McClure, Ph.D. Forest Archaeologist, Gifford Pinchot National Forest- *Lumber Camps, Ranger Outposts, and the CCC: Historical Archaeology in the National Forests*

July 24: Melissa Darby, M.A. R.P.A. Archaeologist/Owner, Lower Columbia Research and Archaeology- *The Story of Old John's Skillet and his Bark-Roofed House*

Saturday, June 14 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- Paper Rosettes at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

The Victorians loved paper crafts, and used paper in many creative ways. In 1834, the "Girl's Own Book" included instructions for making paper rosettes. Come and learn how to transform paper strips into charming little stars!

Saturday, June 14: Flag Day (12:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.) Free

Celebrate Freedom's patriotic Flag Day Ceremony held at the Bandstand on the Historic Reserve Parade Ground.

Kid's Patriotic Fair and Entertainment 12:30p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, June 21 -22 (10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Brigade Encampment (Event is free of charge)

Again the brigades of fur trappers return to Fort Vancouver. They will share their stories of adventure and life in the wilds with those they have not seen in close to a year and this time you are invited. Encampment takes place outside the fort. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.

Saturdays-Parade Ground and Sundays-Fort, June 28- September 1 (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons Program (Small Arms and Cannon)

Learn more about the weapons in use at both the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver & the U. S. Army's Vancouver Barracks.

Saturdays-Military arms demonstration on the parade ground.

Sundays- Hudson's Bay Company arms meet in the courtyard of Fort Vancouver. Entrance fees to visit the fort apply.

Saturday, June 28 (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.): Kids Dig

Children ages 8-12 are introduced to archaeology by participating in a "mock dig", mapping their artifact finds, and recording their data. As they excavate and screen with the help of park staff and volunteers, participants will discuss how we learn from archaeology, and why we should preserve these pieces of our past. Each two-hour session is limited to 20 children, on a first-come, first-served basis. Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply. Program is free.

July

Saturday & Sunday, July 12-13: Environmental Living Program- Crossroads and Conflict (Fee based program)

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site first ever Environmental Living Program, an immersion program where participants live as a group in a particular time in history at a particular place.

Participants often study a person/groups of people from that time, and try their best to live their life for a short time as that person would. Participants will be exposed the group to life on the frontier before the American Civil War. They will use tools, perform duties, work, cook, and bake as if they were here in 1849. Reservations required for this overnight program, limited to one group of 15 people.

Thursday, July 3 (9:00 p.m.): Movie Night On the Reserve

Families are invited to make history. Historically a community social meeting place, Fort Vancouver's Parade Ground continues to provide this opportunity by offering a series of movies on the Reserve. Free of charge.

Friday, July 4 (8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.): 4th of July Celebration (Entrance fees to enter the Fort & Pearson)

Vancouver's famous fireworks display! The Fort will be open, with living history events throughout the day with a black powder demonstration up on the Parade Ground.

July 5-September 1: Historic Reserve Summer Programs including. . .

Fast Facts at Fort Vancouver: An introductory talk for visitors on-the-go. Talks discuss Fort Vancouver's past and why it is considered nationally significant and operated as a unit of the National Park System. Daily

Company Servant: Think life at Fort Vancouver was glamorous? For the 220 “servants” of the Hudson’s Bay Company, the 6-day work week meant hard work and long hours. Come and experience the day-to-day work of a baker, and fur trapper at 1840’s Fort Vancouver. Offered June 23,

July 28, Aug 25,, & Sept 22.

Beyond the Fur Trade: The fort has many untold stories that go beyond the fur trade. Discover the rich history of the area that is now a historic site and surrounded by homes and businesses. Daily

Digging Deeper into History: Join a Ranger as you tour the buildings and grounds, finding out how the pieces of the Fort Vancouver puzzle hidden for so many years were put together to reconstruct the buildings and lives of the residents for visitors to enjoy today. Daily

Officers Row Walking Tour: Residences of the Army Officers stationed at the Vancouver Barracks, these 21 homes have much history to share. Join a Ranger at the Howard House for this weekly Friday evening tour at 6:30 p.m.

Roving Ranger: Interested in finding out more about the Historic Reserve, look for the Park Ranger roving the Land Bridge, Parade Ground, Officers Row, & Vancouver Barracks.

Saturday, July 12 (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.) Kids Dig at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

Refer to June 28 description.

Saturday, July 12 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Feather Work* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

Nature crafts of all sorts were enjoyed by Victorian ladies. The delicate art of feather work was used to create lovely pictures for the home.

Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20 (9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.): Soldier’s Bivouac (Free of charge)

Much of the news today is about soldiers in battle. However much of their time is spent at camp and in the community. Explore the camps of soldiers from Vancouver Barracks’ past and present. Visitors will see what life was like in the military from a soldier’s point of view. Located on the Parade Ground.

Saturday, July 19 (6:00 p.m.): 1860’s Vintage Base Ball (Free)

The first vintage base ball game of the season, this gloveless game with wooden bats is played by very different rules! Bring a picnic and watch staff and volunteers recreate a game, playing by the rules established in 1860. The 1st Oregon Volunteers will once again play the Vancouver town team. Come and cheer for your favorite team, but beware... the umpire can fine the audience for "ungentlemanly" or "unladylike" behavior. All games take place on the Parade Ground next to the Bandstand.

Saturday, July 26 (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.): Kids Dig

Refer to July 12 description.

August

Saturday and Sunday, August 9-10: Environmental Living Program- Crossroads and Conflict

Refer to July description.

Saturday, August 8 (9:00 p.m.) Movie Night On the Reserve

Refer to July description.

Saturday, August 9 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Victorian Jewelry-Symbolism & Sentimentality* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City

Jewelry was more than personal ornamentation to the Victorians - much of it used symbolism to express sentiment and deeper meaning. Come see the display of period jewelry.

Friday, August 15 (6:00 p.m.): Reserve Trust Annual Dinner

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us for an outdoor dining experience surrounded by the spectacular views of the Historic Reserve. Reserve your seats now for this exceptional dining experience by calling (360) 992-1800.

Saturday, August 16 (6:00 p.m.): 1860's Vintage Base Ball

Refer to July description

Saturday, August 23: Land Bridge First Walk

Details to be announced.

September

Monday, September 1-Labor Day (1:30 p.m.): Historic Weapons: Important Tools of the Past (Free of charge)

The soldiers of the US Army used black powder weapons for sport and for military purposes. Join rangers and volunteers as they explain the role of various weapons used by the soldiers at the Vancouver Barracks. Located on the Parade Ground.

Saturday, September 13 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Beadwork* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

Beads were used in a variety of creative ways, ladies made jewelry, clothing, gifts, and home décor items. Learn about this versatile craft material, and experiment with Victorian-style beadwork!

Saturday, September 13 (5:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.): Campfires and Candlelight- The Night of the *Shark*

Stroll back in time and experience the after-hours life of U.S. Army soldiers, Oregon Trail immigrants, and the residents of Fort Vancouver's Village. Once inside the Fort, visitors will observe living history by candlelight as staff and volunteers bring to life the Fort's relief efforts for the shipwrecked sailors of the U.S. Schooner *Shark*. Interest in the *Shark* has risen since the recent discovery of carronades believed to be associated with it on the Oregon Coast, so you won't want to miss this event!

Saturday, September 20 (8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.): Run for the Reserve

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust is proud to present the first ever Run for the Reserve on the new Land Bridge, connecting the Columbia River waterfront and the Vancouver National Historic Reserve. Spend the day on the Historic Reserve with fun for the entire family. Pick up your passport to history and experience the Reserve and the Land Bridge like never before. For more information refer to www.historicreserve.org

October

Washington & Oregon Archaeology Month: Walking and Collection Tours (Entrance fees to visit the fort apply)

Celebrating archaeology by raising awareness about archaeology and cultural heritage, both states offer a number of activities for everyone. Fort Vancouver provides Kids Dig and Collections Tours. For more information: www.oahp.wa.gov.

Saturday October 4 (11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.): Kids Dig

Refer to June description

Saturday, October 11 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Bobbin Lace & Lacemaking* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

Queen Victoria's wedding veil was made of delicate Honiton lace. Come and see the amazingly intricate techniques of bobbin lace and other types of lacemaking!

Saturdays, October 11 and 18 (7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.): Tales of the Engagé (Free of charge)
Step back in time with a “campfire program” of the 1840’s. Join the Engagés of the Hudson’s Bay Company as they share their stories of life at Fort Vancouver.

Saturday, October 25 (6:00-9:00 p.m.): Spirits of Oregon City-McLoughlin House in Oregon City

The Spirits of Oregon City is a mobile theater tour that takes you back in time to several of the heritage sites in town, including the Mountain View Cemetery. You'll see living history vignettes about the characters of Oregon City's past. Reservations are strongly recommended - call the Rivershore Hotel at (503) 655-7141 to reserve your space. Tickets are \$15.00/person. It's a little spooky, but not scary - an interesting and fun event for all ages!

November

Saturdays, November 8 and 22 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Join in a wonderful opportunity to tour the Fort at night. Each adult attending the program will carry their own lantern and tour with the Park Ranger through the Fur Store, the Counting House, and Bake House. You will learn what activities would have occurred once the sun set at Fort Vancouver. The 1 ½ hour tour meets at the Fort. The cost is \$10 (adults) & \$7 (children under 15 years of age). Reservations required by calling the Historic Reserve Visitor Center @ 360.816.6230.

Saturday, November 8 (12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.): Cultural Demonstration- *Penny Rugs* at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

When is a rug not a rug? When it's a Penny Rug! These layered and stitched table mats are made of concentric circles of wool felt. Coins were used as cutting templates, which gave the craft its name. Come learn the technique of this folk craft!

Tuesday, November 11: Veterans Day (Free Fee Day for Veterans and their families)

Honoring those who have served and who are serving, military personnel and their families are admitted free into Fort.

December

Saturdays, December 6 and 20 (7:00 p.m.): Lantern Tours

Refer to November description

Saturday, December 6: Heritage Holidays at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City (Free of charge)

Step back in time, to the 1850’s. The holiday season is approaching, and everyone is preparing for the festivities. Learn what it might have been like to celebrate Christmas with the McLoughlin Family.

Saturday, December 13 (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.): Christmas at Fort Vancouver (Entrance Fees to visit the fort apply.)

Experience first hand the festive traditional sights, smells, and sounds of the holiday season at Fort Vancouver. Visitors will be able to view and participate in activities undertaken by residents at the fort during the holiday season.

Please remember to visit the other venues within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.
For more information regarding other special programs and events please contact:

Water Resources Education Center- 360.487.7111

Pearson Air Museum- 360.694.7026

Center for Columbia River History located in the
Pearson Headquarters Building-360.258.3289

Officers Row

Vancouver National Historic Reserve Trust located in the
Howard House- 360.992.1800

The Restaurant located in the Grant House-360.906.1101

Marshall House-360.696.3103