



## GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK EISENHOWER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

### 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS - UPDATE

#### JANUARY 2015

**January 3**      **Lecture: Robert E. Lee Comes Home from War - 1865 to 1870.** Free lecture at Gettysburg National Military Park. Lee came home from Appomattox confronting an uncertain future. He faced unemployment, failing health, and a potential indictment for treason. Yet, Lee's post-war years also represent a remarkable chapter for the once great general as he helped to set the tone for a torn nation beginning the long process of reconciliation and reunion. By Matt Atkinson, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 4**      **Lecture: "Not Yet!" Longstreet at Appomattox.** Join Ranger Karlton Smith and examine the role played by Lt. Gen. James Longstreet in the final movements of the Army of Northern Virginia from Petersburg on April 2 to Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865. This lecture will trace Longstreet's role in the fall and retreat from Petersburg, his reactions to Grant's demands for surrender, as well as Longstreet's return to his home in Georgia. By Karlton Smith, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 10**      **Lecture: Famous Utterances on the Road to Appomattox: Importance of Rhetoric and Language in the War's Final Hours.** This lecture explores the richer contextual meaning of words uttered in the final days and hours of the war in the East. Because language and rhetoric are so vital in shaping perceptions then and now, it is important to look back at some of the statements made by Lee, Grant, Longstreet and others that helped to define memory of the war. Moreover, these words help us peer into the soul of a generation. By Troy Harman, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 11**      **Audio-Visual Presentation: "It was, indeed, a scene of unsurpassed grandeur and majesty" – The National Park Service's Coverage of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Civil War.** Over the past four years, the National Park Service has covered the commemoration of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Civil War through extensive photography and video projects. From behind the camera, Jason Martz's team of passionate and dedicated staff and volunteers spent countless hours capturing these once-in-a-lifetime events. The images have been used for immediate use on web and social media sites for a worldwide audience and have been saved and cataloged for ages to come. Beginning with the First Battle of Manassas (Bull Run) in July, 2011, Jason will highlight some of the most remarkable and stunning pictures and videos from the past four years. By Jason Martz, Visual Information Specialist, Northeast Region, NPS. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 17**      **Lecture: Rocking the Cradle of the Confederacy - Sherman in South Carolina, 1865.** Following his successful capture of Savannah in December of 1864, General Sherman's next target proved to be South Carolina – "the cradle of the Confederacy." The intensity of his next campaign, almost countermanded before it commenced, proved in sharp contrast to his army's advance through Georgia and North Carolina. Opposed by relatively few, Sherman's troops were determined here to leave "a warning to future generations to beware of treason." By Bertram Barnett, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 18**      **Lecture: The Civil War – A Waypoint in Military History.** The Civil War provided a transformational platform for innovations in equipment, leadership, procedures and soldiering that had far-reaching impacts on the journey of the American military. While in some instances these changes were immediate, others came with time. All had their roots in the four year conflict. In this one hour lecture we will explore the broad and specific impacts the Civil War had on the American military. By William Hewitt, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 19**      **Martin Luther King Jr. Day/Adams County Community Appreciation Day** – The film, Cyclorama painting and museum exhibits at Gettysburg National Military Park are free to all residents of Adams County, Pa. for the day, as is the David Wills House. For additional information call 717-334-1124, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 24**      **Lecture: What Gettysburg Meant: Civil War Veterans Reflect on America's Most Famous Battle.** Few events figure as prominently in the American story as the battle of Gettysburg. In the past century and a half the three-day struggle has come to occupy a central place in our national memory and understanding of the American Civil War. But, what did Gettysburg mean to the Union and Confederate veterans who fought there? How did they reflect on its legacy and meaning in the

decades immediately following the end of the four year conflict? Join Christopher Gwinn for a look at the significance of the battle of Gettysburg from the perspective of the men who fought there and lived to tell the tale. By Christopher Gwinn, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 25 Presentation: If These Things Could Talk- 1865.** Original objects from the park's museum collection are examined for the larger stories they tell about the war in 1865 and the end of the four year conflict. By Tom Holbrook, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**January 31 Lecture: The Final Fourteen Days of Father Abraham.** April 1865 marked one of the most dramatic and momentous times in American history. Join Ranger Chuck Teague and discover what Father Abraham experienced as the American Civil War drew to a climax. What would the first two weeks of that month have been like from the perspective of President Lincoln? Where did he go? Who did he meet with? What were his conversations? His decisions? His mood each day? By Chuck Teague, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

## FEBRUARY 2015

**February 1 Lecture: "My God! Has the army been dissolved?" - The Battles at Sailor's Creek, Virginia, April 6, 1865.** In the closing days of the war, a desperate battle was fought adjacent to a slow moving creek ten miles north of Burkeville, Virginia. Nearly one-third of Lee's army, trapped between closely pursuing Union infantry and cavalry, fought a desperate battle that ultimately failed to prevent the devastating blow suffered by Lee's command on the banks of this now tranquil stream. The final days of the Army of Northern Virginia were at hand and a mortified Lee was left to rally the remnants on the road to Appomattox. By John Heiser, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 7 Lecture: Going Back: Returning to Fields of Glory.** After the Civil War, veterans returned to the Fredericksburg area to tour the fields and forests that witnessed some of the war's most brutal combat. Some came to dedicate monuments, make speeches, or share camaraderie with old tent-mates. Each faced the hard reality of visiting a site of grief and glory: remembering friends long lost, recalling sites of hospitals and suffering, and noting great deeds and decisions in otherwise ordinary places. What compelled these men to return to these battlefields, and how did they experience these places that had defined their past? By Beth Parnicza, Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 8 Lecture: Going Home: The Grand Review and Demobilizing of the Armies.** In the spring of 1865, even before all the shooting stopped and well before the government officially declared the war to be over, the United States began the awesome task of demobilizing its volunteer armies and sending the boys home. This program will examine the ways in which it did so and will include a look at the famed Grand Review of the Armies in Washington, D.C., on May 23-24, 1865, a discussion of the problems encountered in demobilizing the armies, and a look some of the experiences shared by Union veterans upon their return home. Topics related to the demobilization--or disbanding--of Confederate forces will also be discussed. By John Hoptak, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 14 Lecture: "A Peculiar Institution" - A Century of Licensed Guiding at the Gettysburg National Military Park.** October 17, 1915 the Gettysburg National Military Park began active enforcement of a newly enacted regulation requiring anyone conducting a commercial tour of the battlefield to be duly licensed. Yet the roots of the uniquely peculiar institution that has become the Licensed Battlefield Guides or LBG's stretch back to the immediate aftermath of the great battle. What caused the War Department to establish licensing regulations and how has the guide force evolved over the past century? By Frederick Hawthorne, Licensed Battlefield Guide. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 15 Lecture: "Martyrs of the Race Course" – The Forgotten Decoration Day.** On May 1, 1865 Union soldiers, some members of United States Colored Troops regiments, along with thousands of black men and women in Charleston, South Carolina came together to honor Union dead of the late conflict. Confined in an outdoor racetrack turned prison outside of the city, nearly 300 Union soldiers had perished from illness and disease and were hastily and improperly buried. With the fall of Charleston to Union troops, numerous formerly enslaved peoples came to properly rebury these men and plan a ceremony in their honor to remember their sacrifice. Today, the origins of this first Decoration Day have largely been ignored and forgotten. By Dan Welch, Gettysburg Foundation. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 16 President's Day/Adams County Community Appreciation Day** – The film, Cyclorama painting and museum exhibits at Gettysburg National Military Park are free to all residents of Adams County, Pa. for the day, as is the David Wills House. For additional information call 717-334-1124, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 21 Lecture: "Injustice must cease before peace can prevail"- Frederick Douglass: The Post-Civil War Years.** The self-emancipated Frederick Douglass had long argued and fought for the abolishment of slavery in America, and with the end of the Civil War and the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, had seen the ultimate dissolution of the institution. For some

abolitionists, the mission had been accomplished and their work fulfilled. Frederick Douglass, however, saw much danger in this moment of joy. For the next thirty years Douglass would continue to fight to ensure that the legacy of emancipation was not lost and guarantee voting rights and equality for the disenfranchised, including blacks and women. In many of his writings and speeches Douglass spoke about the meaning and memory of the Civil War. As many white Northerners and Southerners began to omit slavery and the role blacks had played, Douglass argued that the war had been an "abolition war" and fought to control how Americans would remember the calamitous struggle and what lessons the nation should learn from it. By Mark Maloy, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 22** **Lecture: From the Battlefield to the White House—The Civil War Careers of Post-Civil War Presidents.** From 1865 to the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the United States saw enormous and transformative change, from binding the wounds of civil war to becoming an economic and industrial power. During these decades, the country was led by a variety of men who are often forgotten by historians today. These bearded presidents—Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Harrison, and McKinley—were different men seeking to accomplish sometimes conflicting goals, yet they all shared one similarity: the experience of combat during the Civil War. Their Civil War experiences shaped them as men and as leaders, and they carried those experiences with them in their post-war political careers. Join Ranger Dan Vermilya for a look at the Civil War careers of Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and William McKinley. By Daniel Vermilya, Antietam National Battlefield. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Theater at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**February 28** **Lecture: Monuments that Place Gettysburg in the Greater Context of the War.** Gettysburg features several monuments and memorials that place the battle in context with the war's overall meaning. They transcend the battle itself to communicate layered truths easily missed without proper perspective. This presentation will go beyond basic facts, dates of dedication and construction materials to decode monumental messages intended to reverberate through time. By Troy Harman, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Ford Education Center at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

## MARCH 2015

**March 1** **Special Film Presentation: Buster Keaton in *The General*.** This 1926 silent film is loosely based on a true incident that occurred during the Civil War. The story follows the trials and tribulations of Engineer Johnny Gray and the two loves of his life: his girl, Annabelle, and his locomotive. The movie, best known for its remarkable sight gags, also represents one of the earliest attempts to apply humor and comedy to the carnage and destruction of the American Civil War. Unrated, Runtime: 78 minutes. Introduction and commentary by Evangelina Rubalcava, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Ford Education Center at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**March 7** **Lecture: To the Brink of Collapse: The Final Campaign of the Army of Tennessee.** On March 8, 1865 William T. Sherman crossed into North Carolina with an army of approximately sixty thousand men. Opposing Sherman was a small, feeble force of Confederates under Joseph Johnston. Over the next two months these two men and their armies would make North Carolina the scene of chaos and conflict. This program will explore the last days of the Army of Tennessee in North Carolina as the Confederacy collapsed around and within its ranks. By Philip Brown, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Ford Education Center at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**March 8** **Lecture: The Closing Scenes: Admiral David G. Farragut and the End of the Civil War.** This program will follow Admiral Farragut from Mobile Bay to the end of the Civil War and examine his part in its closing scenes. The lecture will also explore Farragut's post-war career through his death in Portsmouth, NH in 1870. By Karlton Smith, Gettysburg National Military Park. Takes place in the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center Ford Education Center at 1:30 p.m. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**March 28** **Civil War park day at Gettysburg** – Join volunteers from the Civil War Trust and Gettysburg National Military Park cutting brush on the slopes of Little Round Top to reveal historic terrain and original breastworks. Space is limited and advance registration is required. Contact: Jo Sanders at Gettysburg NMP, 717/ 334-1124 x3351 or by email at: [Jo\\_Sanders@nps.gov](mailto:Jo_Sanders@nps.gov). For information about Park Day opportunities nationwide go to: [www.civilwar.org/aboutus/events/park-day/](http://www.civilwar.org/aboutus/events/park-day/)

## APRIL 2015

**April 4-5** **Living History Weekends on the Gettysburg Battlefield – Through October.** Weekend living history encampments and firing demonstrations continue through October 25. A complete schedule will be posted in March. For additional information call 717-334-1124 ext. 3231, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

## May 2015

**May 9** **World War I Day** A living history encampment featuring World War I soldiers and vintage vehicles. Park rangers present programs on Eisenhower's World War I experience at Camp Colt. Saturday, 9-5. Included in site admission. For more information call 717-338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

## JUNE 2015

**June 6 D-Day Anniversary.** Join a Park Ranger for a talk on Eisenhower and the Men of D-Day. World War II living historians portray a variety of soldiers and talk informally with visitors at Eisenhower National Historic Site. Included in site admission. For more information call 717-338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

**June 6 Exploring Eisenhower Programs** Join a park ranger at Eisenhower National Historic Site for 30 minute walks or talks offered daily. Topics include Eisenhower's military career, the Secret Service's role in protecting the president, Eisenhower's Presidency and the Eisenhower's life in Gettysburg. Programs offered daily through August 17 are included in Site admission.

**June 7 National Park Ranger walks, programs and family activities begin at Gettysburg National Military Park.** Programs offered daily through August 17. Call for more information (717) 334-1124 ext. 8023. The schedule will be posted on [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**June 11 Hike with Ike** - A weekly series of walking tours in downtown Gettysburg explores Eisenhower's life in the community. On Thursdays through August 13. 7:15 p.m. Meet the ranger at the Gettysburg College gates, at the corner of North Washington and Water Streets. Free. Contact the site for more information (717) 338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

**June 13 Gettysburg National Military Park Brass Band Concert** - The Wildcat Regimental Band will perform free at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center at 2:00PM and present an evening concert at the Pennsylvania Memorial at 5:00PM. These Programs are free. For additional information call 717-334-1124 x8023 or visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

## JULY 2015

**July 1 – 4 Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary Programs** - Special National Park Ranger guided walks, programs and family activities will be offered. Free. For additional information call 717-334-1124 x8023 or visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**July 3 - 5 Sacred Trust talks and book signings** – Historians, authors, National Park Service Rangers and others provide talks and book signings about Gettysburg and the Civil War. Topics encourage the general public, as well as students of the Civil War, to delve deeper into the nature of the conflict that divided our nation. Free. Events take place at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. Co-sponsored by the Gettysburg Foundation.

**July 26–31 Eisenhower Academy** A one-week institute for teachers covering Eisenhower's foreign and domestic policy, 1950s popular culture and Eisenhower's leadership. Graduate credit or Pennsylvania Professional Education Credit is available. Fee. Contact the site for more information (717) 338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

## AUGUST 2015

**August 10 “Back to School”/Adams County Community Appreciation Day** – The film, Cyclorama painting and museum exhibits at Gettysburg National Military Park are free to all residents of Adams County, Pa. for the day, as is the David Wills House. For additional information call 717-334-1124, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**August 14-15 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Civil War Music Muster.** Free performances take place at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center and the Dobbin House Courtyard, followed by a concert at the Pennsylvania Memorial in the early evening. For more information call 717-338-4433 or 717-334-1124 x3251.

**August 16 National Park Ranger Programs** at Gettysburg National Military Park will continue through fall with a reduced schedule.

## SEPTEMBER 2015

**Sept. 19-20 World War II Weekend.** Join us for a living history encampment at the Eisenhower National Historic Site with Allied soldiers, a German camp, World War II jeeps and trucks, and USO Dance (off-site). Programs are scheduled Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and included in site admission. Shuttle service is available. Weather permitting, on-site parking is also available this weekend only. For more information contact the site 717-338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

## NOVEMBER 2015

**Nov. 11 Veterans' Day/Community Appreciation Day** – The film, Cyclorama painting and museum exhibits at Gettysburg National Military Park are free to all military veterans all residents of Adams County, Pa. for the day, as is the David Wills House. For additional information call 717-334-1124, or go to [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**Nov. 19 Dedication Day – 152nd Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address** an annual observation with memorial services held annually in the Soldiers' National Cemetery. The program includes the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Soldier's National Monument and a formal ceremony with a keynote speaker. Sponsored by the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, Gettysburg National Military Park, the Gettysburg Foundation and Gettysburg College. For additional information call 717-334-1124 x8023 or visit the park website at [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett).

**Nov. 21 Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremonies** an annual event held in conjunction with the Gettysburg Address anniversary. A parade of Civil War living history groups begins at 1:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. For information call 717-259-6156 or go to [www.suvcw.org](http://www.suvcw.org).

**Nov. 21 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Remembrance Illumination, Soldiers' National Cemetery.** Sponsored by the Gettysburg Foundation. From 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. luminary candles will be placed on each Civil War grave as a testament to the sacrifices made here in 1863. Free. For information call 717-338-1243 or visit [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org).

## DECEMBER 2015

**Dec. 1-31 An Eisenhower Christmas -** The Eisenhower home at the Eisenhower National Historic Site is decorated in the traditions of the Eisenhowers. Some original decorations and Christmas cards will be on display; included in site admission. For more information call 717-338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise).

Dates and events are subject to change. For more information contact:

Gettysburg National Military Park events contact 717-334-1124 or visit [www.nps.gov/gett](http://www.nps.gov/gett)

Eisenhower National Historic Site events contact 717-338-9114 or visit [www.nps.gov/eise](http://www.nps.gov/eise)

Gettysburg Foundation events contact 717-339-2161 or visit [www.gettysburgfoundation.org](http://www.gettysburgfoundation.org)

Destination Gettysburg - call 800-337-5015 or visit <http://www.destinationgettysburg.com> for additional community events, attractions and accommodations.

Revised 1/5/15  
[www.nps.gov/gett/index.html](http://www.nps.gov/gett/index.html)