



Volunteer of the Month

Sam Cathey



Sam Cathy - Park Volunteer (NPS Photo)

The Park first became acquainted with Sam Cathey, living history volunteer, during the 125th Anniversary of the Civil War. Sam, together with other living history volunteers, and park staff, helped form the nucleus of the well known Living History organization called “The Southern Guard.” Sam was later hired as a Harpers Ferry seasonal park ranger from 1990-1992.

Of special note, was Sam’s leadership in organizing special living history weekend events. Along with fellow living historians, Troy Cool, Fred Rickard, Mike Wilkens, and Tim Kraft, these weekends included presenting famous Harpers Ferry Civil War US Court Marshal Cases, and transcribed Harpers Ferry war time Provost Marshal Office Morning Reports - all based on research Sam provided.

Since 1992, Sam and his wife Mary have been volunteering for the park, guiding hikes to the Maryland Heights Naval Battery during the park’s annual National Trails Day and National Public Lands Day events. Sam researched and produced a conducted activity program plan to help prepare his unit for leading and staffing the Naval Battery.

He currently belongs to a relatively new Living History Unit, called the Fencibles, consisting of original members of the Southern Guard. The Fencibles are a premier Living History group that annually staffs and interprets the park’s Fire Engine House; “John Brown’s Fort”. The Park’s Living History Branch Volunteer Supervisors and Historic Weapons Officers, John King and Melinda Day, salute



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

If you or someone you know might be interested in volunteering at Harpers Ferry Park, please contact the park’s volunteer coordinator at the address or phone number listed below. Volunteer today and give back!

**Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
Volunteer Coordinator**

P.O. Box 65
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Phone
304.535.5017

E-mail
Jessica_Liptak@nps.gov

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



Sam as a friend and former colleague for his long term commitment to helping to preserve the park’s nationally significant park stories. John and Mel look forward to working with Sam and the Fencibles during the park’s key 150th Sesquicentennial events.”