



# Volunteers of the Month

## Tom Williams & Will Hutchinson



Gunnery Sergeant Tom Williams was an active volunteer in the park in the 1980's when he led the 5th U.S. Cavalry in numerous park programs. With Tom's interest in developing living history organizations, he has provided leadership for groups involved in the Spanish-American War, WWI, and WWII Army and Marines programs and even a naval armed guard detachment for the WWII Liberty Ship "John Brown."

Will Hutchinson, U.S. Marines and Army retired, provided leadership for a preeminent Civil War living history unit, the National Regiment, and the WWII 29th Division. Will has written several well received novels and the standard reference work on Crimean War artifacts.

For many years, Tom and Will have been instrumental in developing the U.S. Marine Corps Historical Company. A company of active and retired marines, equipped, accoutered and armed with appropriate uniforms, they portray marines of the past to educate the public about the role of the Marine Corps in American History.



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

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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.

At Harpers Ferry, Will, portraying a Marine officer, and Tom, in the traditional role of a career marine sergeant, have depicted the U.S. Marines who assaulted the Armory Engine House and captured the Abolitionist John Brown. Tom and Will have provided research, recruitment, authentic weapons, uniforms and training for the company.

Every October, the company has dovetailed with park special events to provide professional interpretive programs at the John Brown Fort Engine House and expanded the park's ability to interpret a nationally significant theme. They have also developed an interpretive training manual that mirrors the professional standards of the NPS Interpretive Development Program. Their manual includes documented multiple points of view, diverse John Brown Raid eyewitness reports, and numerous interpretive living history techniques such as interactive 3rd person and 1st person presentations.



This October, Will and Tom will lead the Marine Historical Company in commemorating the Marine Corps' participation in subduing John Brown's Raid. Interactive programs, exhibitry, and demonstrations will conclude with a commemorative ceremony in memory of Private Luke Quinn, a Marine who gave his life at the Engine House in 1859.