



# Community Bulletin



## Stonewall Stopped: Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign

On May 26 and 27, 2012, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park will host the 150th Civil War Commemorative event, Stonewall Stopped: Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign. This two day event will focus on General Rufus B. Saxton's successful defense of Harpers Ferry against Jackson during the 1862 Valley Campaign. Activities will include, living history, ranger conducted programs and family/youth activities. In early 1862 General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, commander of Confederate forces in the Shenandoah Valley, was ordered to prevent Union forces in the Valley from moving east to join Union General George B. McClellan's push on Richmond, Virginia. Jackson kept three Union armies at bay, helping to save the capital of the Confederacy from falling into enemy hands. Jackson drove his troops hard and fast, often outpacing and outsmarting an array of Union generals, except for one: Brigadier General Rufus B. Saxton.

In May of 1862, after defeating Federal forces under General Nathaniel Banks at Front Royal (May 23) and Winchester (May 25), "Stonewall" Jackson pursued Banks north. Reaching Harpers Ferry on the 30th, Jackson found the town, only 60 miles from Washington, D.C., defended by Rufus Saxton and the U.S. Volunteers. Saxton later wrote, Jackson, the commander of the



General Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson rebel forces, having given the order to his army to storm our position, they advanced beyond Bolivar Heights in force to attack us, about dark on Friday evening, in the storm. By daylight the Confederates had retreated.

In 1893, General Saxton was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at Harpers Ferry, where he displayed "distinguished gallantry and good conduct in the defense." He is the only Harpers Ferry commander to achieve such an honor.

This program is made possible through the generous support of the Harpers Ferry Historical Association.

**Saturday, May 26, 2012**

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Information & Orientation Tent open

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Author/Sales Tent Join us for author events, to purchase books and commemoratives and for other special programming. All sales support park programs. Sponsored by the Harpers Ferry Historical Association.

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Archeology Discovery Tent Engage in "Hands on History" as you discover archeological objects relating to Harpers Ferry during the Civil War.

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Family & Youth Tent Have your photo taken as a Civil War soldier. Dress up and learn Civil War drill. Go on a map search and win some Civil War trading cards. Enjoy a variety of other activities in the Family & Youth tent!

**11:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** "Lives in Limbo: Contraband Camp" Runaway slaves who came into Union lines were called contraband; enemy property confiscated by the Federal Army. Step back to the tense days when runaways and freedmen's lives were in limbo.

**11:00 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.** Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry NHP, author of *Harpers Ferry Under Fire: A Border Town in the American Civil War*. Author discussion and book signing at the Author/Sales Tent

**11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.** “Stonewall Stopped” Ranger Tour begins at Cavalier Heights Visitor Center

**1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.** Peter Cozzens, author of *Shenandoah 1862: Stonewall Jackson’s Valley Campaign* and *Battlefields of the Civil War: The Battles that Shaped America*. Informal chat and book signing at the Author/Sales Tent

**1:30 P.M. - 3:30 P.M.** “Stonewall Stopped” Battlefield Bus Tour Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry NHP, Advanced Reservations Required (304) 535-2078

**2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.** Jonathan Noyalas, author of “*My Will is Absolute Law*”: *A Biography of Union General Robert H. Milroy* and *Stonewall Jackson’s 1862 Valley Campaign: War Comes to the Homefront*. Discussion



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

The history of Harpers Ferry has few parallels in the American drama. It is more than one event, one date, or one individual. It is multi-layered, involving a diverse number of people and events, decisions and actions that influenced the course of our nation’s history. Visit Harpers Ferry and step into history.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park  
P.O. Box 65  
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Visitor Center  
304-535-6029

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop  
304-525-6881

Follow Us @

Web page: [www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/harpersferryhpa>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/#1/HarpersFerryNPS>

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

“What Jackson’s Victories Meant to the Confederacy” followed by Q&A and book signing at the Author/Sales Tent

**3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.** “Stonewall Stopped” Ranger Tour begins at Cavalier Heights Visitor Center

**6:45 P.M.** Last shuttle bus leaves Lower Town

## Sunday May 27, 2012

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Information & Orientation Tent open

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Author/Sales Tent Join us for author events, to purchase books and commemoratives and for other special programming. All sales support park programs. Sponsored by the Harpers Ferry Historical Association.

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Archeology Discovery Tent Engage in “Hands on History” as you discover archeological objects relating to Harpers Ferry during the Civil War.

**10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** Family & Youth Tent Have your photo taken as a Civil War soldier. Dress up and learn Civil War drill. Go on a map search and win some Civil War trading cards. Enjoy a variety of other activities in the Family & Youth tent!

**11:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.** “Lives in Limbo: Contraband Camp” Runaway slaves who came into Union lines were called contraband; enemy property confiscated by the Federal Army. Step back to the tense days when runaways and freedmen’s lives were in limbo.

**11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.** “Stonewall Stopped” Ranger Tour begins at Cavalier Heights Visitor Center

**1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.** Dennis Frye, Chief Historian, Harpers Ferry NHP, author of *Harpers Ferry Under Fire: A Border Town in the American Civil War*. Author discussion and book signing at the Author/Sales Tent

**1:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.** Discover Maryland Heights, the key to defending Harpers Ferry. Hike with a Ranger across the Potomac River to the Naval Battery. (2 1/2 miles round trip)

**3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.** “Marching As To War” Military music encouraged and inspired a generation of young men to march off to war. Join this Musical Presentation by the Wildcat Regimental Band and experience the music and milieu of 1862.

**3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.** “Stonewall Stopped” Ranger Tour begins at Cavalier Heights Visitor Center

**6:45 P.M.** Last shuttle bus leaves Lower Town

## Upcoming Events

June 16

**In Defense of Our Nation: The Harpers Ferry Armory and the War of 1812.** 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Join us for ranger-led programs, recruiting for 1812 soldiers and civilians, flintlock firing demonstrations, family/youth programming, drama, and music.

June 23 – 24

**Under Fire: The Battle of Bolivar Heights 1862** Firing Demonstrations at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Join the park’s artillery crew as they demonstrate the power and intimidation of field artillery.

June 30

**11th Annual Don Redman Heritage Concert & Awards**  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. at Camp Hill/Mather Training Center lawn  
Featuring guests: alto saxophonist Lou Donaldson and bassist Ben Tucker with the Howard Burns Quartet.

June 30 – July 1

**Celebrating the Glorious Fourth 1860.** 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Special programs include “Reacting to the Raid: Gathering the Militia” at 2 p.m. and “Our Home Town Defenders” at 3 p.m.