



Community Bulletin



Fight at Bolivar
Sketched by Thomas Nast

In the Shadow of John Brown: The 1861 Battle of Bolivar Heights

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park invites the public to attend its “In the Shadow of John Brown: The 1861 Battle of Bolivar Heights” on October 15-16, 2011.

Planning Your Visit:

Parking:

Visitors must park at the Cavalier Heights Visitor Center parking area and board shuttle buses to the event on Bolivar Heights. The National Park Service expects this to be a busy event, so plan to arrive early and allow for transportation time to reach event activities. Parking is on a first come, first serve basis.

Please remember:

October is usually a busy time in the park. We appreciate your patience when arriving and leaving the event.

Only small lap-sized coolers are allowed on shuttle buses.

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted in the park at any time.

It is primarily an outdoor venue and will be held rain or shine. Dress appropriately for the weather.

Commemorative items, books and music will be sold at the Harpers Ferry Historical Association’s Sales Tent.

Schedule of Events: (subject to change)

Guided tours and orientation talks on the 1861 Battle of Bolivar Heights will be offered throughout the weekend.

Saturday, October 15

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Information & Orientation Tent open

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Event Tent & Family/Youth Tent open

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Living History Programs
Activities depict events leading up to the Battle of Bolivar Heights

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Wildcat Band Concert

1:00 p.m.
Author Presentation and Booksigning

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Artillery & Small Arms Firing Demonstration

3:00 p.m.
Author Presentation and Booksigning

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Wildcat Band Concert

Sunday, October 16

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Information & Orientation Tent open

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Event Tent & Family/Youth Tent open

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
USPS Anniversary Cancellation Station
Opening Remarks by Bolivar Mayor
Robert J. Hardy

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Living History Programs
Activities depict events leading up to the Battle of Bolivar Heights

1:00 p.m.
Author Presentation and Booksigning

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Small Arms Demonstration

3:00 p.m.
Author Presentation and Booksigning

Upcoming Events

September 3

Military Band Concert

“Free Country,” U.S. Marine Band

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Camp Hill, Mather Training Center grounds

Enjoy the music of one of our country's premier military bands.

October 8

“Reacting to the Raid: Virginia Militia Arming to the Teeth”

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Lower Town

Features militia drill and historic firing demo at 2 p.m.

October 29-30

“Under Fire: The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862”

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Bolivar Heights Battlefield

Join the members of the Baltimore Light Artillery as they demonstrate the might and intimidation of field artillery. Firing demonstrations at 1,2,3 p.m.

November 5-6

“Roeder’s Tavern Cider Making 1860”

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Lower Town

Join living history rangers and volunteers for cider-making demonstration and fall food preservation.

December 3-4

“Capt. Flagg’s U.S. Quartermaster City: Prospects of Peace”

Time: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Location: Lower Town

Join over 175 living history volunteers as they help present park visitors with a unique window into the magnitude and scope of Captain Flagg’s 1864 US Quartermaster city.



October 1

“Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry”

Time: 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM

Location: Lower Town

Our 16th president comes to life as Jim Getty portrays Abraham Lincoln.

Eyes of the Army: The Cavalry Factor

On September 3-4, 2011, visitors are invited to join the park’s living history staff and volunteers of the 2nd U.S. Cavalry and 138th Pa infantry for special programs at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. A living history display of horses and riders will be presented on the Lower Town Green, across from the Historical Association Bookshop from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Historic weapons and cavalry demonstrations will be held at 1 and 3 p.m. each day.

In September 1862, Harpers Ferry’s 14,000-man Union garrison found itself surrounded; surrender was imminent. Cavalry commander Colonel Benjamin F. "Grimes" Davis deemed an escape from the Confederate trap worth a try. On the evening of September 14, Davis led 1,500 men across the Potomac River pontoon bridge and then toward Sharpsburg, Maryland. They escaped Stonewall Jackson’s



siege and capture of the hapless union garrison. The cavalry column pressed on undetected toward Sharpsburg and captured a 91-wagon Confederate ammunition train near Williamsport. They eventually reached safety in Greencastle, Pennsylvania, on the morning of September 15. The column rode 50 miles in 12 hours.

For additional information on park activities call 304-535-6029



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

Harpers Ferry NHP Home Page
www.nps.gov/hafe/

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