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Association Launches Education Programs

In fulfillment of its mission, "Stewardship Through Education," the Harpers Ferry Historical Association has committed time and talent to expanding its support to the Park with a variety of new educational

programs will be supported through contributions, grants, fees, and sales.

Education Adventures is being launched this fall with the first program to be held on September 29 when Dave



programs for students and the general public. P. Douglas Perks, retired Curriculum Coordinator at Jefferson County Schools, has been selected to head up this effort.

Doug has a Master of Arts degree in history, has taught in the classroom, and was a seasonal interpretive ranger with the National Park Service. He was an instrumental leader in the multi-park PARTNERS project and has been involved in history education his entire career. He is currently planning a variety of programs that will further public knowledge about Harpers Ferry's history and natural history, and promote interest and stewardship in preserving our cultural heritage. These

Gilbert will lead a walking tour of Virginius Island, entitled *Harpers Ferry Waterpower*. On October 20, amateur photographers will have a chance to sharpen their photographic skills with award winning photographer and nature writer Jim Clark. Members have been sent a brochure for these Adventures. If you have not received one, or need more information, please call 304-535-6881 or toll-free 1-800-821-5206.

Watch for further Adventures to be announced for winter, spring and fall. We look to you, our members, for suggestions of topics and activities important to you for these Adventures. Also, you may know of

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Participants enjoy Harpers Ferry's first Intergenerational Elderhostel program.

The picture which appears on our newsletter's nameplate, dating from 1803, is one of the oldest prints of Harpers Ferry. Twenty years earlier, in 1783, Thomas Jefferson had declared that this view was "worth a voyage across the Atlantic."

5th Annual Author Fest

October 13



Above: Darl Stephenson, author of "Headquarters in the Brush, Blazer's Independent Union Scouts." (Photo by Richard H. Gilman). Below: Elaine Newell Evain, author of the Civil War novel "Chasm."



Election Day 1860

Begins at 12 noon on Sat., October 13. Activities focus on the political contest that resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln. Political rallies, speeches, and debates are conducted by local electoral delegates. A Militia muster, local temperance rally, and a grand parade portray pre-war Harpers Ferry.

The Association will hold its 5th Annual Author Fest on October 13 from 12:00 Noon until 4:00 p.m., in conjunction with the Park's presentation of *Election Day 1860*. Authors of books on a variety of subjects, plus a musician will be present for discussion of their works and signing books. They will be located under the festival tent on the green. Guests who have confirmed as of this time are introduced below.

Appearing this year will be local author and historian **William D. Theriault**, whose has just completed *How and Where to Look It Up: Resources for Researching the History of Jefferson County, West Virginia*. This work is the culmination of twenty years of research and is an important tool for students, history buffs and scholars. Individual chapters include Libraries and Museums, Public Records, Business and Industry, Church Records and Histories, Newspapers and Periodicals, Personal Papers, Cemetery Records, Genealogy, Land Grants, Materials related to John Brown, Maps, National Register Sites, Pictures and Photographs, Archaeology, the Civil War, Oral History, the Arts, African American Studies, Women's Studies, Agriculture, and Internet Resources. The searchable Bibliography CD included with the 227-page book contains more than 6,500 annotated references on county history.

Darl Stephenson is retired from active duty in the U. S. Air Force as an officer engaged in tactical and strategic air operations, and from the Defense Intelligence Agency as a Middle East intelligence agent. In recent years, he has spent his time researching private genealogies focusing on military and pension records of early American wars, and volunteers for the National Park Service and Maryland Park service where he interprets the life of the Civil War soldier. Mr. Stephenson will be appearing at the fest to discuss and promote his first book, *Headquarters in the Brush, Blazer's Independent Union Scouts*. The subject of this book is the story of a group of scouts and sharpshooters, headed by Capt. Richard Blazer of the 91st Ohio Volunteer Infantry sent to fight bushwhackers in the mountains

of West Virginia. They were so successful that they were ordered to fight Mosby and his raiders in the Shenandoah Valley. Stephenson brings a balanced interpretation to these escapades. This 352-page book is published by Ohio University Press and is heavily illustrated.

Another first-time author attending the fest is **Elaine Newell Evain**. She spent her early years an investigative reporter, traveling the world, marrying a Parisian, and eventually settling in New England. In order to write her book *Chasm*, the family moved to North Carolina, the setting for the story. Based on real people and events, this book tells the story of Keith and Malinda Blalock and three other families as they struggle to survive the Civil War and the devastation that follows. Blalock, loyal to the Union, is forced into Confederate Service. Malinda disguises herself as a boy and travels with her husband into battle. The pair eventually escape to the Union side, and start a chain of events that results in their family's ruin and puts Keith on trial for murder. This story takes the reader to a place where fighting is face to face, brother against brother.

Archaeological Perspectives on the American Civil War demonstrates how archaeology combined with traditional techniques of history generates new insights into battlefield tactics, social and military history, and the effects of war on civilians. This recently published book of essays including work in the areas of Antietam, Harpers Ferry, Manassas, and Winchester was edited by **Stephen R. Potter** and Clarence Geier. Edwin Berris, historian emeritus of the National Park Service states in his introduction that this book is "must reading for professionals, collectors, and all people interested in battlefield archaeology, the material culture of the Civil War era, and the preservation of associated sites." Stephen Potter, currently regional archaeologist of the National Park Service and a research association the Department of Anthropology at the Smithsonian, is also the author of *Commoners, Tributes, and Chiefs: The Development of Algonquian Culture In the Potomac Valley*.

Education Programs *continued from Page 1*

speakers or folks who have knowledge and talents to share with us. Please call Doug at 304-535-6881 with your ideas.

A high school history symposium, to be known as the **Shenandoah and Potomac History Symposium** will be offered each spring highlighting one of the themes of Harpers Ferry's history. Initially, a one-day seminar will be offered for students in Jefferson, Berkeley, and Morgan counties, with the hope of opening this opportunity to the tri-state area in the future. Study guides with lesson plans that can be used by students and teachers all over the nation will develop from these seminars. The topic for the first symposium will be Storer College.

An important part of the Association's mission is to help young people understand and appreciate the importance of the preservation of national parks and their resources. We will endeavor to make this a reality for area children by offering a series of history camps throughout the summer of 2002. **STEPBAC (Students Taking History Back a Century)**. Activities from established sources such as the PARTNERS lesson plans, the Harpers Ferry Heritage

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Jim Surkamp, a gatherer of local history, actively researches historical accounts of local people and events in the Eastern Panhandle and shares it through various media. Most recently he has designed three new web sites that tell the story of three historic figures. Martin Delany, a Charles Town abolitionist; Caroline "Danske" Dandridge, a Shepherdstown poet; and Adam Stephen, the Revolutionary War figure who founded Martinsburg. Jim has also been instrumental in bringing together old photos and film footage of the area, and creating video histories of our area. In conjunction with Jefferson County's Bicentennial celebration, he has created a poster including a timeline and photographs representing the county's heritage. He will be signing that poster at the fest.

Trail Guide, the School House Ridge Education guide, and Park education programs will be incorporated into a day-camp setting for boys and girls ages 10-12. Campers will have a week to personally experience the history and natural history of Harpers Ferry Park.

As you know, the Association has sponsored Elderhostel for many years. This year, however, marked the first Intergenerational Elderhostel conducted by the Association in cooperation with Park interpreters. The group of 35 participants, 15 grandchildren with grandparents, walked, hiked and marched through the history of Harpers Ferry. Classes were led by rangers in both the living history and visitor services divisions of the Park. Activities included setting up a Civil War camp, learning about civilian life in a 19th century village and experiencing early education at Storer College.

The Park and Association have received many compliments regarding this Elderhostel from both grandparents and the young people. The Association will schedule several Intergenerational Elderhostels for 2002. Please call for more information. Reservations can be made directly through the Association, or by contacting Elderhostel at 877-426-8056.

Tenor **Doug Jimerson** has been a featured soloist with the Annapolis Opera, The Summer Opera of Washington, D.C. and the Washington Performing Arts Society. He is also a frequent guest soloist at the Kennedy Center. For years he has been researching and performing popular music of the 19th century. His recordings of historically significant music are distributed worldwide. He will join us at the fest promoting many of his Civil War related albums, and introducing his latest CD, *America*, performed with members of the National Military Band, conducted by Paul Noble. This recording is a musical salute to America and includes many patriotic songs.

More authors continue to be added. Please call for a current listing. If you can't attend, but would like to order an autographed copy, please call the Association at 304-535-6881.

Recent Donations

The Australian Embassy
Washington, DC
Our Lady of Sorrows School
Framingham, MI
Jack & Shirley Lovely
Columbus, NC
Wildcat Regimental Band
Home, PA
Wooster School
Wooster, OH
Arthur & Lucille Dresner
Franklin Square, NY

Patron Members

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James Mercury
Alexandria, VA
Richard Oakley
Oak Hill, VA
Jim & Suzanne Silvia
Taunton, MA
Mary Sloat
Front Royal, VA



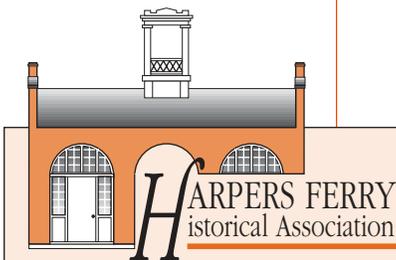
The Harpers Ferry Historical Association operates the National Park Bookshop in Lower Town Harpers Ferry. Profits from sales are returned to the park to support interpretive and educational programs to enhance your visit.

You are invited to join this unique organization and be a part of Harpers Ferry's special family. For more information call (304) 535-6881 or send e-mail to: hfha@intrepid.net

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Dry Goods Store Sales

During the summer and on weekend days in the fall and at Christmas, the Association will offer for sale reproduction articles in the Dry Goods Store on Shenandoah Street in Lower Town Harpers Ferry. Suzanne Carter Isaacson and Beth Waters are tending shop. Goods include brooms, redware, hats, glassware, historic reprints, toys, and articles to be added as sales develop.

Plan to make this a stop on your next visit to Harpers Ferry Park.

Peregrine Falcon Update

A total of five young peregrine falcons (3 female and 2 male) were released from hack boxes on Maryland Heights on Monday, June 18, 2001. You can follow the flight of "falcon B/A", which is being tracked via satellite technology, on the Harpers Ferry Park website. You can also view a photo archive of the Peregrine Falcon Restoration Program dating from February 9, 2001 to the present.

Browse to www.nps.gov/hafelfalcons/.

Harpers Ferry Historical Association Membership Application

I want to join the Harpers Ferry Historical Assn.
Please enroll me in the following member category:

\$10 Basic Member – (includes *The View* newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop).

\$27 Basic Plus Member – (includes *The View* newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass).

\$50 Contributing Member – (includes *The View* newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass and the *Back to Harpers Ferry* video).

\$100 Patron Member – (includes *The View* newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass, an Association Totebag, and member recognition in our newsletter and at our Annual Meeting).

I'm already a member;
please note my new address below.

By notifying us of your change of address, you'll continue to receive this newsletter at your new location.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Please clip and mail to:

Harpers Ferry Historical Association

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