

Published for the  
Members and Friends  
of the Harpers Ferry  
Historical Association

Fall 2010



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## Author Andrea Sutcliffe to Speak at Annual Meeting

Author Andrea Sutcliffe will be guest speaker at the Annual Membership meeting on September 25 (see article on Page 3). Andrea says of the Shenandoah Valley, "I've loved this area ever since I first came here in the 1980s." After 30 years of living in the Washington, D.C. area, she and her husband moved to a quieter way of life. They made the Shenandoah Valley their home in 1996.

Her second edition of *Touring the Shenandoah Valley Backroads* takes you on thirteen driving tours through the Valley to areas of unspoiled countryside and Appalachian landscapes within easy range of metropolitan centers like Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and Philadelphia. In every tour, you'll see homes, churches, and buildings that date to the 1700s and 1800s. This book brings history to life for backroads travelers by pointing out significant places and events along the way. A Charles Town to Harpers Ferry to Shepherdstown Tour is included featuring towns and villages in Jefferson County.

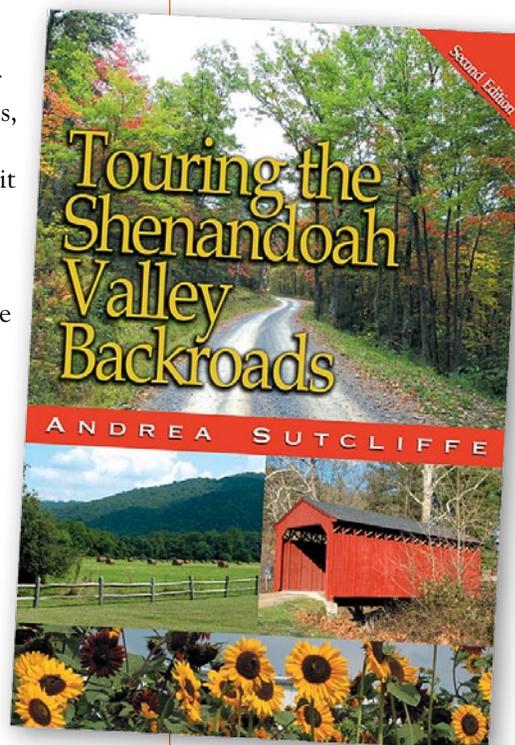
The Valley has changed since 1999, when the first edition of *Touring the Shenandoah Valley Backroads* was published: historic houses have been saved or restored, and more museums have opened their doors. But the Valley's backroads remain scenic and lightly traveled. Here time slows down, transporting visitors back to a slower pace of life.

The tours in this book often go for miles without passing a single billboard, cell-phone tower, or fast-food restaurant. Instead, these backroads lead you through lush forests, over rolling green hills and

fields, and around apple and peach orchards. You'll cross sparkling rivers and streams, pass stunning mountain and valley vistas, and discover towns and villages that have retained their old look and feel. In these places, the fascinating stories of the Shenandoah Valley's history wait to be discovered.

Publisher John F. Blair has been publishing books on the southeastern United States since 1954. Based in Winston Salem, N.C., this independent, family-owned company specializes in history, travel, folklore, biography, and fiction.

Andrea will talk about the tours and present an audio-visual program as well as be available to discuss her work and autograph copies before and after the meeting.



### About the Author

After living in D.C. for 30 years, Andrea and her husband Ed moved to the Shenandoah Valley in 1996. Andrea's love of her new home in the mountains of western Virginia and her desire to learn more about the region's fascinating history led to her 1999 book, *Touring the Shenandoah Valley Backroads*. The Valley has changed since the book's first printing, so Andrea revised and expanded this book into a second edition.

In addition to these books, Andrea has published two others with John F. Blair,  
*continued on page 2*

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."

## Recent Donations

\$3 Charity Hikers  
John Frye  
Steve Beckelheimer,  
Cabell County School  
Nancy Weaver  
National Parks Conserva-  
tion Association, in ap-  
preciation of Dennis Frye's  
leadership in battlefield  
preservation

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ry of Jim Kuhn and Alex-  
ander and Mary Murphy,  
Brandywine, MD  
Dr. Robert Johnson  
Harpers Ferry, WV  
Ronald Jones  
Our Lady of Sorrows  
School, Farmington, MI  
Nancy Myers, in honor of  
Don Campbell  
Harpers Ferry, WV

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Jim and Suzanne Silvia  
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Ferry, WV

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Harpers Ferry, WV  
Kirk Bradley  
Sanford, NC  
Rock Comstock  
Vienna, VA  
Hon. and Mrs. Thomas  
Curtis and Family  
Baltimore, MD  
Clark Dixon, Jr.  
Ranson, WV  
Kim and Frank Edwards  
Edgewood, MD

*continued on page 3*

# 2010 Schedule of Events

These family events relate the natural and cultural history of the area and give ac-  
counts of the men and women whose con-  
tributions made Harpers Ferry a significant  
place in our nation's heritage. These events  
are made possible through the efforts of the  
park staff, NPS volunteers, living history  
groups, and the Harpers Ferry Historical  
Association. For more information call  
304-535-6029 or visit the Harpers Ferry  
National Historical Park website at [www.nps.gov/hafe](http://www.nps.gov/hafe).

## September 25 National Public Lands Day

11am - 4pm. Lower Town. Explore area  
trails, see breath-taking vistas while help-  
ing to keep trails clean and pristine. Guided  
hikes rated easy to challenging will be of-  
fered in many areas of the park.

## October 2 Mr. Lincoln Returns to Harpers Ferry

1pm & 3pm. Lower Town. Our 16th presi-  
dent comes to life as Jim Getty portrays  
Abraham Lincoln.

## October 9 Election Day 1860!

11am - 4pm. Lower Town. Attend our living  
history fall event "Election Day 1860." Look  
back 150 years to November 6, 1860, when  
the American electorate cast their ballots  
for the next president of the United States.  
Cast your vote!

## October 16 At All Times Ready: The U. S. Marines

11am - 4pm. Lower Town. Learn how the  
U.S. Marines reacted to abolitionist John  
Brown's October 1859 raid on the U.S.  
Armory.

## October 30-31 – Under Fire: The Battle of Harpers Ferry 1862

11am - 4pm. Bolivar Heights Battlefield.  
Learn about the Battle of Harpers Ferry and  
see an artillery demonstration. Baltimore  
Light Artillery presents a military camp.  
Programs are at 12 noon, 2pm & 3pm.

## November 6-7 Fall Cider Making

11am - 4pm. Lower Town. Enjoy this fall  
tradition that harks back to happier times  
for German immigrant Frederick Roeder  
and his family when the tavern business was  
thriving.

## December 4-5 Captain Flagg's US Quarter Master City: Approach of Peace 1864

Sat. 12 - 8pm and Sun. 11am - 4pm. Lower  
Town. Join this special Yuletide of 1864,  
when Harpers Ferry soldiers attempted to  
create Christmas in a war zone. Programs  
feature local citizens and soldiers preparing  
for the Yuletide, a Civil War-style Santa  
Claus dispersing presents to the soldiers, a  
Victorian Cotillion, Yuletide confections,  
and special guided walking tours.

## Andrea Sutcliffe Continued from Page 1

Publisher: *Mighty Rough  
Times I Tell You: Personal Ac-  
counts of Slavery in Tennessee  
and Romantic Virginia: More  
than 300 Things to Do for  
Southern Lovers.*

Originally from San An-  
tonio, Andrea Sutcliffe has  
a journalism degree from the  
University of Texas at Aus-  
tin. She was a writer, editor,  
and publications manager in the Wash-  
ington, D.C., area for 20 years.



When she's not writ-  
ing, Andrea and Ed love to  
travel and spend two to three  
months of the year on the  
road. But coming home is  
the best part—so far, there's  
no place quite as lovely as  
Virginia's Shenandoah Val-  
ley.

*Andrea Sutcliffe.*

# Annual Membership Meeting

The Harpers Ferry Historical Association will host its Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday, September 25 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the first floor classroom of Mather Training Center (Old Storer College) in Harpers Ferry. All members, guests and those interested in learning more about the Association are invited to attend.

The meeting will begin with a program by Andrea Sutcliffe, author of the new edition of *Touring the Shenandoah Valley Backroads* (see above article.) Following the program the annual business meeting will be held with a review of the association's activities and accomplishments, and election of directors.

Following the business meeting, members will adjourn to the patio of the Interpretive Design center for the much-anticipated annual picnic. So we can provide a sumptuous repast, we ask that you let us know how many are coming and what dish you would like to bring along to share. (304-535-6881 or [hfha@earthlink.net](mailto:hfha@earthlink.net)). Meat, drinks and tableware will be provided.

We look forward to seeing all of our old friends, and hope that some of our members who have never attended our annual meeting and picnic will be able to join us.

## Master Armorer Members (Cont'd)

Scot Faulkner  
Harpers Ferry, WV  
Wayne Hammond  
Saxton, PA  
Rebecca Harriett  
Rocky Mount, VA  
Bruce Kramer  
Baltimore, MD  
Anne A. Long  
Myersville, MD  
Cynthia K. Mason  
Baltimore, MD  
George Rutherford  
Ranson, WV  
Maureen Weber  
Falling Waters, WV

## Harpers Ferry Historical Association Membership Application

- I wish to join the Harpers Ferry Historical Association (*new member*)  
 I wish to renew my membership (*renewal*)

Please enroll me in the following member category (*check one*):

- \$25 Armory Worker** – Basic membership for a family household. Benefits include a newsletter subscription, a 15% discount on all bookshop purchases, a vinyl decal, and invitations to annual meeting and events.
- \$25 Sarah Jane Foster** – An alternative basic membership for educators. Benefits include the above plus open house for teachers and discounts on programs for teachers.
- \$45 Millwright** – For those members who are frequent visitors to the park. Benefits are the same as Armory Worker category plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass.
- \$100 Master Armorer** – A supporting membership category. Includes all benefits of the Millwright category plus a “John Brown’s Fort” ornament, member recognition in our newsletter and at our annual meeting, and a special tour.
- \$250 Paymaster** – For businesses, vendors or family donors who wish to contribute to the Association’s mission. Benefits include 15% discount on all bookshop purchases; a newsletter subscription; vinyl decal; invitations to annual meetings, events, and association-sponsored education programs; a 12-month park pass; “John Brown’s Fort” ornament; recognition in newsletter and at annual meeting; special tour; and additional membership card.
- \$500 Armory Superintendent** – For supporters (individual and corporate) who wish to perpetuate Association and Park education programs. Benefits include 15% discount on all bookshop purchases, a newsletter subscription, vinyl decals, invitations to annual meeting, events, and education programs, “John Brown’s Fort” ornament, recognition in the newsletter and at annual meeting, special tour, an America the Beautiful pass (for use in all parks) for individuals, and a display plaque for businesses.

- I am not interested in receiving member benefits, but I would like to make a contribution in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to aid the mission of the Harpers Ferry Historical Association.

- I am a Charter Member and would like to make a donation of \_\_\_\_\_.

- Check if this is a new address for you

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

**Please clip and mail to:**

Harpers Ferry Historical Association  
P.O. Box 197  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Toll-free: 1-800-821-5206

Phone: (304) 535-6881

Fax: (304) 535-6749

Email: [hfha@earthlink.net](mailto:hfha@earthlink.net)

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, send e-mail to [hfha@earthlink.net](mailto:hfha@earthlink.net), or visit our website at [www.harpersferryhistory.org](http://www.harpersferryhistory.org).

**Harpers Ferry Historical Association**  
Post Office Box 197  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

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## Election Day 1860 – 150 Years Later

On Saturday, October 9, 2010, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park invites you to attend our living history fall event *Election Day 1860*. This year's event offers a unique opportunity to use hindsight to look back 150 years to the roots of the Civil War and reaction to John Brown's Raid at the ballot box. The 1860 election labeled Abraham Lincoln as a "Black Republican." He was pitted against a vast array of experienced Democratic politicians with sharp contrasting viewpoints at play in the political arena.

On November 6, 1860, the American electorate cast their ballots for the next president of the United States. This momentous political contest resulted in the election of Abraham Lincoln and provoked secession of southern states. The Civil War soon followed.

This year's event depicts the town on that Election Day 1860. The Republican candidate, Abraham Lincoln, is not on the ballot in the state of Virginia. Politically, the South is Democratic and hatred for the so-called "Black Republican" is intense. The most influential local politician is Armory Superintendent Alfred M.

Barbour. Barbour is the local elector for the Northern Democrat, Stephen A. Douglas. Barbour holds great sway over his Armory work force and their vote for President.

Each of the presidential candidates' political platforms will be interpreted at the orientation tent on the park green. Displays will illustrate the social, economic, cultural and political divisions that permeated the national scene in the 1860s. Polls for the



visitors, and our living history volunteers, will be offered in the park's Dry Goods Store exhibit. Both sets of voters will determine the highest office in the land.

*Election Day 1860 activities near the foot of High Street. (Photo by David T. Gilbert)*