

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

Spring 1997



JUNE 28TH EVENTS:

Park Plans Special
Independence Day
Celebration

Author William
C. Davis to Visit
Harpers Ferry

Association Annual
Membership
Meeting Planned

Park Plans Special Events for June 28th

Harpers Ferry Park presents *Freedom's Birth: An American Experience* on Saturday, June 28th. This event features a wonderful variety of activities that celebrate the many facets of Harpers Ferry history. Interpretive activities are scheduled throughout the day at various Park locations including Cavalier Heights, Bolivar Heights, and the Lower Town. No Park entrance fees will be collected on June 28th.

One of the day's main highlights will be the Dedication of the Shenandoah Street Restoration Project. After several years of work and interruptions by two major floods, the *Dry Goods Store* and the *Provost Marshal's Office* exhibits will return to their Shenandoah Street locations. Two new period exhibits will also open on the second floor. The *Officer's Quarters* is an historically furnished exhibit that provides a glimpse of the type of accommodations a military officer might occupy during the Civil War. The *James Taylor Room* re-

creates the accommodations of James E. Taylor, a visual correspondent (sketch artist) for *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. Taylor occupied one of the rooms in this building between August and December 1864.

The corner building will house a new park exhibit entitled *Harpers Ferry: A Place in Time*, which highlights the town's history through multimedia interpretation. The new Park Information Center will be located in the Master Armorer's House at the intersection of Shenandoah Street and High Street. Senator Robert C. Byrd is scheduled to take part in the dedication of these new exhibits. (See page 3 for a complete schedule).



Artist's rendering of the completed Shenandoah Street Restoration Project in Lower Town Harpers Ferry (courtesy National Park Service).

William C. Davis to Appear at Independence Day Author Fest

The Harpers Ferry Historical Association is hosting an Author Fest on Saturday, June 28th, featuring both locally and nationally known authors who have written about the history and natural history of Harpers Ferry. This event coincides with the Park's celebration, *Freedom's Birth: An American Experience*. The Author Fest will take place all day long in the festival tent on the Green across from the Park Bookshop on Shenandoah Street.

William C. Davis, a noted historian and authority on the Civil War and Southern history, will be among the featured authors. Twice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, Davis is the historical consultant on the History Channel's *Civil War Journal*, and has edited *Civil War Journal: The Leaders*, the first volume of a newly-released series published by Rutledge Hill Press. Brian Pohanka and Don Troiani also served as

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."

Annual Membership Meeting



Lower Town at sunrise (Photo by Dave Gilbert).

June 28th Annual Meeting at a Glance

8:30 a.m.

Buffet Breakfast at the Cliffside Inn

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Association Author Fest on the Green in the Lower Town

6:45 p.m.

Patio Picnic and Civil War Music Program on Camp Hill

9:45 - 10:15 p.m.

Fireworks Finale on Bolivar Heights and Cavalier Heights

A final schedule of all park events will be mailed in mid-June.

We have decided to schedule our annual meeting this year to allow members the opportunity to visit the Park during its June 28th special events. This time of year should permit members traveling from a distance to enjoy warm weather and to partake in park and other area activities. If our members concur, we will probably continue to meet in June in future years.

This year's schedule begins at the Cliffside Inn with a Buffet Breakfast at 8:30 a.m. A short business meeting will be held during the breakfast, and we plan to surprise you with a guest speaker. We will adjourn to the Park for our Author Fest and silent auction, to be held in the festival tent across from the Park Bookshop.

At 6:45 p.m. we will have a patio picnic for members, authors, and guests at the Park Service Interpretive Design

Center on Camp Hill (directions will be provided). After enjoying traditional picnic fare and a Civil War music program by Jim Morgan, you will be able to view the spectacular fireworks display beginning at 9:45 p.m. and ending at about 10:15 p.m.

Dress for all events is casual. Please plan to join us for a wonderful day of activities. A Registration Form is enclosed in this newsletter.

Author Fest, Continued from Page 1

editors of this publication.

Civil War Journal: The Leaders explores the classrooms of West Point, focusing on the people who defined America's bloodiest conflict. Among the personalities examined are John Brown, Frederick Douglass, seven Federal commanders (McClellan, Hancock, Chamberlain, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan, and Sickles), and seven Confederate commanders (Davis, Lee, Jackson, Stuart, Longstreet, Mosby, and Forrest). Profusely illustrated, *Civil War Journal: The Leaders* focuses on the human side of the war and on the men who had the greatest influence on how the war was fought.

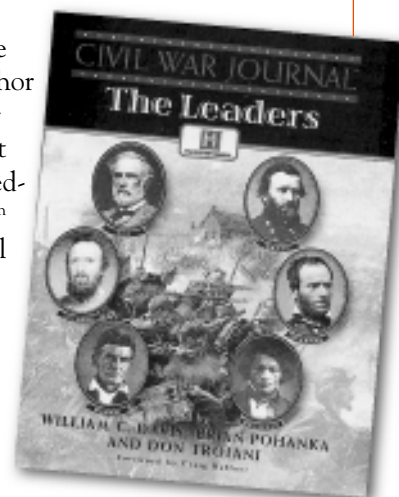
Davis has also authored or edited some 30 other titles, including *The Battle of New Market*; *Battle at Bull Run*; *Breckinridge: Statesman, Soldier, Symbol*; *The Orphan Brigade: The Kentucky Confederates Who Wouldn't Go Home*; and *The Civil War Cookbook*. Davis will be available to autograph these books as well as meet with the public.

During the day-long autographing, visitors may also participate in a Silent

Auction which will be displayed in the tent. There will be many items associated with Harpers Ferry history as well as visitor amenities available for bid.

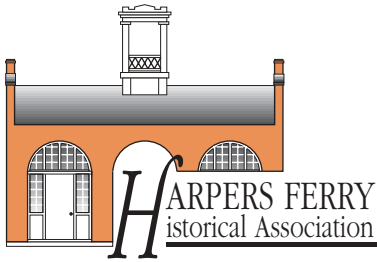
For authors, members, and guests, the day will end with a traditional style picnic on the patio of the Interpretive Design Center on Camp Hill, overlooking the Shenandoah River. Jim Morgan will present a program of Civil War music, and the evening will conclude with the Park fireworks display. A Registration Form for the evening picnic program is enclosed in this newsletter.

A complete schedule of author appearances for the Author Fest and a final schedule for June 28th Park events will be mailed to all Association members in mid-June. We hope you can join us.



HARPERS FERRY
National Historical Park
on the
WORLD WIDE WEB:

http://www.nps.gov/hafe/hf_visit.htm



1997 Annual Meeting Registration Form

When: Saturday, June 28, 1997

Schedule: 8:30 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast and Annual Meeting** at the Cliffside Inn
 10:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m. **Author Fest** on the Green on Shenandoah Street in the Lower Town
 6:45 p.m. **Patio Picnic and Civil War Music Program** by Jim Morgan at the Interpretive Design Center on Camp Hill in Harpers Ferry
 9:45 - 10:15 p.m. **Fireworks Finale** on Bolivar Heights and Cavalier Heights

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Daytime Phone (_____) _____ Evening Phone (_____) _____

1997 Annual Membership Meeting:

- | | Quantity | Total |
|---|----------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Meeting & Cliffside Buffet Breakfast – \$6.50 each | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patio Picnic with Entertainment by Jim Morgan – \$20.00 each | _____ | _____ |

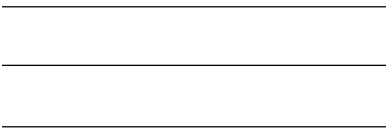
Association Membership (if not currently a member):

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Membership – \$10 (includes <i>The View</i> newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop) | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic Plus Membership – \$22 (includes <i>The View</i> newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass) | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron Membership – \$100 (includes <i>The View</i> newsletter and a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, plus a 12-month Harpers Ferry Park entrance pass, plus member recognition in our newsletter and at our Annual Meeting) | _____ | _____ |

Total Amount Enclosed _____

- Check or money order enclosed
- Please charge to my
 MasterCard Visa Discover American Express Card Expiration Date _____
- Card # _____ Signature _____

Please fold, tape closed with address label facing out, add proper postage, and return to the Harpers Ferry Historical Association. **If sending a check or money order, please be sure to tape both ends as well.** You may also fax us this form at (304) 535-6749.



PLACE
STAMP
HERE

HARPERS FERRY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 197
HARPERS FERRY WV 25425-0197



Association Introduces New Membership Categories

New membership categories were established at the Association's 1996 Annual Meeting. **Basic** membership costs just \$10 and entitles members to a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop. **Basic Plus** membership is \$22, entitles members to a 15% discount on all items sold in the Park Bookshop, and includes a 12-month Harpers Ferry park entrance pass. **Patron** membership is \$100 and, in addition to all the benefits described above, includes member recognition in *The View* newsletter and at the Association's Annual Meeting.

Four members have already shown their support for the Association by becoming Patron members. These include **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Haynes** of Falls Church, Vir-

ginia; **Nancy Myers** of Harpers Ferry; **Jim Castleman** of Martinsburg, West Virginia; and **Jim and Suzanne Silvia** of Taunton, Massachusetts.

Basic membership proved most popular with over 100 renewals and new memberships. Twenty-five people took advantage of the savings offered through the Basic Plus membership which includes an annual pass to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. We are grateful for everyone's support, especially in light of the past year's two major floods. Membership now lasts for one complete year (12 months). If you haven't yet renewed, please take this opportunity to send in your membership renewal on the enclosed Registration Form.

1997 Calendar of Events

June 28

Freedom's Birth: An American Celebration

July 12-13

The Fight for the Valley

August 30-31

Sheridan's Quarters

October 11

Election Day 1860

October 12

After John Brown

December 6-7

Keeping Christmas

These special events and living history programs relate the history of the park and give accounts of the men and women whose contributions made Harpers Ferry a significant part of our national heritage. For more information call the Visitor Center at (304) 535-6298.

Freedom's Birth: An American Experience

Proposed Schedule of Events – June 28, 1997

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 10:00 am - 4:00 pm | Author Fest - Festival Tent on the Green (Lower Town). |
| 10:00 am - 4:00 pm | Sixteenth Century Native Americans of the Potomac and Shenandoah Valley. A living history program with prehistoric flint napping and weapon demonstrations (Cavalier Heights Visitor Center Lawn). |
| 11:00 am - 4:00 pm | United States Colored Troops. Living history presented by the 54 th Massachusetts Living History Unit. |
| 11:00 am - 4:00 pm | Wonders of the Modern World. A 19th Century exhibition featuring industrial achievements of the time period (Arsenal Square Tent, Lower Town) . |
| 11:00 am - 12:00 | The Potomac: The Path to the West, with Bill Summerfield as George Washington (Outdoor Theatre, Cavalier Heights Visitor Center). |
| 11:00 am - 12:00 | 19th Century Music Concert: Wildcat Regimental Band (Arsenal Square Tent, Lower Town). |
| 1:00 - 2:00 pm | This Scene is Worth a Voyage Across the Atlantic, with Bill Barker as Thomas Jefferson (Outdoor Theatre, Cavalier Heights Visitor Center). |
| 1:00 - 2:00 pm | 19th Century Music Concert, Wildcat Regimental Band (Shenandoah Street Stage, Lower Town). |
| 2:00 - 2:45 pm | Dedication Ceremony of Shenandoah Street Restoration Project. |
| 3:30 - 4:30 pm | David "Honeyboy" Edwards Delta Blues Concert (Shenandoah Street Stage, Lower Town). |
| 3:30 - 8:00 pm | Harpers Ferry and the American Civil War. Quartermaster Wagon, Signal Corps, and Engineer Corps interpretations (Bolivar Heights). |
| 5:30 - 6:30 pm | The Rebellious Disposition. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson at Harpers Ferry (Outdoor Theatre, Cavalier Heights Visitor Center). |
| 7:00 - 7:45 pm | David "Honeyboy" Edwards Delta Blues Concert (Main Stage, Cavalier Heights Visitor Center). |
| 8:00 - 9:45 pm | Magpie and Kim and Reggie Harris Concert (Main Stage, Cavalier Heights Visitor Center). |
| 8:30 - 9:45 pm | Wildcat Regimental Band Concert (Bolivar Heights Stage). |
| 9:45 - 10:15 pm | Fireworks Finale (Bolivar Heights and Cavalier Heights). |



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

Harpers Ferry Historical Association

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Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

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Association Grateful for Park's Assistance

1996 proved to be a devastating year for the Association. Our income was reduced by \$95,000 for the fiscal year due to the federal shutdown, a record blizzard, and two major floods. During each of these crises, Superintendent Campbell, Park staff and volunteers, and especially the Maintenance Division were unflinching in the support and assistance they extended to the Association. In appreciation, the Harpers Ferry Historical Association, along with the Cliffside Inn, hosted a breakfast in October to recognize the Park staff and volunteers who had worked on flood evacuation, clean-up, and repair. The Superintendent presented handsome certificates of appreciation to those present and the Association presented Outstanding Partner Awards to the Superintendent, the Park, and its volunteers. Without Park support our losses would have been much greater.

School House Ridge Study Guide Completed

In 1996, the Association received a \$4,600 grant from the National Park Foundation to prepare a study guide to help students better understand Stonewall Jackson's 1862 siege and capture of Harpers Ferry. This guide was

completed in the fall of 1996 and distributed to all Jefferson County Schools in time for this year's School House Ridge program at C.W. Shipley School.

The Association wishes to acknowledge the following Jefferson County educators for their contribution and dedication to this project: Douglas Perks, Jennifer Caling, Judy Chesley, Dawn Morrison, and Martha Rizzo. In addition, we greatly appreciate the support and input of Park staff members Marsha Starkey, Melinda Day, and Catherine Bragaw. Special thanks to Dave Gilbert, who designed, edited, and competed the package.

Military Band Concerts in the Park

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and the Harpers Ferry-Bolivar District Veterans Association present the United States Military Band Concert Series in the Park this summer. All concerts will be performed at the Cavalier Heights Visitor Center just off U. S. Route 340. Here is this summer's concert schedule:

June 7	Air Force Band	6:00-7:30 p.m.
July 5	Army Band	6:00-7:30 p.m.
Aug. 2	Navy Band	6:30-8:00 p.m.
Sept. 13	Marine Corps Band	6:00-7:30 p.m.