

Thank you for your interest in participating in Fort Fisher's 145th anniversary event. To commemorate the 2nd Battle of Fort Fisher, we have planned a large two-day event that includes a battle scenario, lecture by Dr. Richard Reid on Saturday, lectures by local authors on Sunday, a night program with lantern tours and a night firing of the 32 pounder, and a panel discussion on the United States Colored Troop experience. We hope to bring history alive for our visitors through an engaging historically accurate battle scenario, connect our visitors with recent scholarship and highlight the experiences of the 3,000 United States Colored Troops who served with the Union army at Fort Fisher.

In planning for our special events we recognize that such programming could not take place without the support of reenactors. We thank you for your continued support for Fort Fisher and hope you will contact us with any questions or concerns as we prepare for the 145th event!

Event Partners

All Fort Fisher events are made possible with the support of the Fort Fisher Restoration Committee. This year we are extremely thankful for the additional support of the Upperman African American Cultural Center at UNCW who is co-hosting our panel discussion on Friday, January 15, 2010. Fort Fisher is an agency of the Division of State Historic Sites in the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, the state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina's arts, history and culture.

Registration

Registration for this event, as for all Fort Fisher programs, is by invitation only. No further invitations will be issued to Confederate units; invitations are still available for Federal units associated with the 4th Regiment ANV.

Registration is free.

Confederate registration deadline is November 15, 2009.

Union registration deadline is December 15, 2009.

Registration must be postmarked by the above dates to receive consideration. Every individual planning to participate must send in a separate registration. No add-ons will be permitted – every individual registering for the event must be a member of one of the invited units. Absolutely no walk-ons will be permitted.

No invitations will be given for Union artillery and no further invitations will be issued for Confederate artillery. In an effort to maintain historical accuracy we are limiting artillery troops to the guns present at Shepherd's Battery (32 pounder rifled and banded cannon, 12 lb Napoleon, and 10 lb Parrott Rifle). Invitations have already been issued to man these pieces and no further invitations will be forthcoming.

As there were no cavalry units engaged in the taking of Shepherd's Battery, there will be no invitations issued to either Confederate or Union cavalry.

Participation for historical and heritage groups (S.C.V, U.D.C., S.U.V., etc.) and sutlers requires a separate invitation and permit process. Please ask Amy Manor Thornton, program coordinator, or Jim Steele, site manager, for additional details.

General Information

All units must work within the set command structure. Col. Donny Taylor of the 27th NCT Co. D will lead all Confederate troops and Col. Skip Smith of the 26th NC will lead all Federal forces. Union troops will camp in the trees north of the fort (adjacent to the river) and Confederates will camp inside the fort in the oak grove.

No separate civilian camps will be established. Civilian reenactors must individually register following the same regulations established above and must set-up in either the Confederate or Union camp.

Due to the limited space available at Fort Fisher State Historic Site, the Union camp will be established north of the fort walls, inside the protected range for artillery demonstrations and the battle scenarios. *As such, all reenactors must evacuate the camps prior to demonstrations and those not participating as part of the Union forces must evacuate during the battle scenarios.* We recognize that this is an unfortunate disruption for those not participating in the battles/demonstrations and we are working to arrange the program schedule to minimize the commotion.

All activities/demonstrations must follow the set program schedule. Any unit initiating unauthorized demonstrations or battles will be asked to leave the premises.

We expect all participants to strive for historical authenticity in their impressions. Anyone portraying a member of the opposite sex should make every effort to conceal their gender from the public audience. Reenactors portraying individual historical figures, both those who were present at Fort Fisher (Whiting, Lamb, etc.) and those who were not (Abraham Lincoln, "Stonewall" Jackson, etc.) will be asked to either alter their impression or leave the event. Any specific impressions must be authorized by the site in advance. No authorizations will be granted at check-in.

No horses/mules will be allowed on site during the event.

Camps will open at noon on Friday, January 15, 2010. Sutlers, Divisional & Headquarters staff members may begin arriving at 9am on Friday, January 15, 2010. Reenactors may drive their vehicles onto the south airstrip (for the Confederate camp) or north of the fort walls, no further west than the burn pile (for the Union camp), to unload their gear. Vehicles will not be allowed past either of these points due to the archaeological features of the area. After unloading, all vehicles must be **immediately** moved to the reenactor parking area. **No vehicles will be allowed on-site from 8:30am on Saturday, January 16, 2010 until the conclusion of activities on Sunday, January 17, 2010 at 4pm.** We encourage those reenactors portraying Union troops to travel light, "campaign style," as they will have to carry their gear into the Union camp.

All property at Fort Fisher State Historic Site is original battlefield and as such, we ask that all participants treat our hallowed ground respectfully.

HS-1 Standards

All units must meet HS-1 standards. A copy of HS-1 may be requested through Jim Steele, site manager, or Andrew Dupstadt, Historic Weapons Coordinator.

Meals

Dinner on Saturday, January 16, 2010, and lunch on Sunday, January 17, 2010, will be provided for all registered participants. The site will **not** be providing any other meals due to the large number of reenactors expected for the program.

Battle Scenario

The attack on Shepherd's Battery is tentatively scheduled for 2pm on Saturday, January 16, 2010, and repeated at 2pm on Sunday, January 17, 2010. These times may change as we finalize our event schedule.

The attack will begin with the firing of the artillery at Shepherd's Battery, followed by two waves of Federal forces advancing on the earthworks. The scenario will conclude with the Union capture of the first four traverses on the Land Face. The scenario will be narrated by Jack Fryer, local author and publisher.

Detailed information on the 2nd Battle of Fort Fisher can be found on our website:

www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher/.

Rules & Regulations

1. North Carolina General Statute G.S. 124-4 states that a person may not disobey an order given by State Historic Site staff when that order is related to the preservation of historical material, the protection of historic sites property, the safety and well-being of the visiting public, or the equality of access of all citizens to the resources of the site.
2. North Carolina General Statutes 70-12(3), 70-15, 70-16, 70-17 prohibit digging, excavating, disturbing the ground, or the collection of artifacts on State property, including Fort Fisher State Historic Site. Violations may result in (1) criminal penalties involving fines of up to \$2,000, or up to six months imprisonment, or both; (2) civil fines of up to \$5,000; and (3) the forfeiture of vehicles and equipment (including metal detectors) used in connection with violation of these laws.
3. **Registration is by invitation only and no walk-on registration will be allowed.** Only members of invited units may participate, and each must pre-register individually. All registration forms must be postmarked by the dates listed above. We will make no exceptions to this rule.
4. Having pre-registered, all participants must check-in with site staff prior to 8:30am on Saturday, January 16, 2010. At check-in you will receive your registration card. This card will serve both as your meal ticket and proof of your registration, as such we insist that it be carried at all times while on site.
5. All participants must be at least 16 years of age to carry a weapon on site. We reserve the right to ask for identification, as proof that a participant meets age requirements.
6. Any person possessing a weapon (including edged weapons) on site must be registered as a reenactor and must be present for weapons inspections. Discharge of said weapons will only be allowed during approved demonstrations and the battle scenario. Participants are expressly

prohibited from allowing visitors to handle or discharge their weapons. Violators of this regulation will be removed from the event.

7. All cartridges will be inspected during weapons inspections. Any cartridges that do not meet HS-1 standards will be stored by the site until the conclusion of the event when they will be returned.
8. The use of ramrods during the battle is prohibited. They may be carried, but not drawn during the scenario.
9. No modern camping is allowed on site. All participants must set-up camp in the established Confederate or Union camp areas or stay off-site. Please contact the site for additional information on nearby campgrounds or hotels. Or you may contact area visitors' bureaus: Pleasure Island Chamber Commerce (www.pleasureislandnc.org/ or 910-458-8434) or Cape Fear Coast CVB (www.cape-fear.nc.us/ or 877-406-2356).
10. **Sutlers and heritage groups must possess a site permit to set-up on the property for the event.** To receive a permit, please contact Amy Manor Thornton, program coordinator, or Jim Steele, site manager. No exceptions will be made to this rule.
11. **"Unscripted" or "spontaneous" battles/demonstrations are expressly forbidden.** Any unit or individual engaged in such activities will be removed from the event and will not be invited to any upcoming sesquicentennial programs.
12. All units must function within the set command structure. Col. Donny Taylor is in command of all Confederate troops and Col. Skip Smith is in command of all Union troops.
13. No fireworks or pyrotechnics are allowed on the property.
14. North Carolina General Statutes strictly forbids the sale of bulk black powder on state property.
15. Campfires will only be allowed in the designated areas. Absolutely no fire pits are allowed; all fires must be built directly on the ground's surface because of the archaeologically sensitive nature of the site.
16. Any consumption of alcoholic beverages/drugs will result in immediate removal from the property. Intoxication or abusive/unruly behavior will not be tolerated. **Any person in violation of rule will be turned over to the appropriate authorities.**
17. All reenactors are expected to present a general Union or Confederate impression. Anyone with an impression of a specific individual (i.e. Col. Lamb, President Lincoln, etc.) will be asked to alter their impression or leave the event. All specific impressions must be approved by the site in advance. No specific impressions will receive approval at check-in.
18. All non-period equipment should be stored out of sight of the visiting public.
19. No horses or mules will be allowed on site during the event.
20. Unit commanders are responsible for distributing this information to unit members.
21. Fort Fisher State Historic Site reserves the right to remove any person or unit from the event at any time for violation of the above listed rules and regulations, safety infractions, or authenticity violations. As noted in the first regulation above, failure to comply with State Historic Site staff directives may result in eviction from the property.

Any questions or concerns may be directed to:

Amy Manor Thornton, Program Coordinator
Fort Fisher State Historic Site
1610 Fort Fisher Blvd South
Kure Beach, NC 28449
Phone: (910) 458-5538 ext. 502
Email: amy.thornton@ncdcr.gov

To request a copy of HS-1 regulations, please contact either:

Jim Steele, Fort Fisher Site Manager
Fort Fisher State Historic Site
1610 Fort Fisher Blvd South
Kure Beach, NC 28449
Phone: (910) 458-5538 ext. 203
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