

Secessionville (Fort Lamar) at Fort Ontario

Fort Ontario, East 4th Street, Oswego New York
September 29, 30 2012

Event Contacts and Military Commanders

**PLEASE CONTACT THE EVENT COORDINATOR IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS
CONCERNING THIS EVENT.**

Event Coordinator

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Rules and Regulations

All participants are subject to both the event and New York State Parks & Historic Sites rules & regulations. Registration for this event will be considered the participants acknowledgment & agreement to follow & comply with all rules & regulations. These rules are established for the safety and enjoyment of all participants.

General Regulations

- \$ An authentic impression should be considered one of the participants top priorities. Always remember what you are representing See the "Authenticity Guidelines" for more specific information.
- \$ **Event Safety:** The host unit will appoint a safety officer(s) who will be responsible for the inspection of all small arms and artillery.
- \$ **Age:** All participants must be at least sixteen years of age to serve as soldiers. Participants age twelve and older may serve as functional filed musicians if proficient as such. All Minors MUST be accompanied by a parent or guardian who is responsible for him/her for the weekend.
- \$ **Military Organization:** The event hosts shall respect unit cohesion as much as possible, but proper organization of each battalion is paramount. Companies with less than 20 soldiers may be amalgamated with other units. Officers and NCOs shall be prepared to perform duties assigned by the event hosts. Military chain of command must be respected at all times.
- \$ No modern anachronisms. No non period items should be worn or visible on persons or in camps.
- \$ The event is open to all branches of service, however please see **Unit Portrayal** for specific impressions.
- \$ **ALCOHOL - DRUNKENNESS will NOT be tolerated at any time.** NOTE: Failure to adhere to this rule may lead to the EXPULSION of a violator's entire unit.

REGISTRATION

- \$ All participants must be pre-registered & pre-paid. Due to the logistics of planning and preparation no walk ons will be allowed. All registrations must be submitted by the deadline of Friday August 31st.
- \$ Registration will open at Noon on Friday the 28th. Please do not arrive earlier than this time.
- \$ Hours for registration are Noon to 10:30p.m. on Friday and 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Saturday.

AUTHENTICITY GUIDELINES

- \$ **No officer, except Battalion Commanders, shall have a rank higher than Major.** Any officer with a rank higher than Captain must be able to justify it to the respective military commanders.
- \$ Uniforms and equipment must represent the Civil War time period - AUTHENTICS ONLY. It is requested that all participants attempt an 1862 appearance for this event. **Corp Badges are not correct for this time period and should be removed if necessary.**
- \$ All participants, when on the battlefield or under arms will wear sack coat, shell jacket, frock coat or great coat if weather requires it. .
- \$ If used, all non period items such as coolers, metal cots, sleeping bags, etc. must be kept out of view of spectators and other participants at all times.
- \$ Modern packaging from food items or other must never be visible. Modern beverage containers may not be used (transfer all drinks to period vessels). Cooking utensils should be of period style.
- \$ Civilians may not "live" in military camps. Civilians should enter military camp only under military escort.
- \$ Only "standard" blue, gray or butternut uniforms should be worn at this event. Uniforms such as Zouave, Sharpshooter, Highlander, foreign observer, chasseur, militia, etc. are not permitted.
- \$ Modern eye wear and footwear should be avoided. Period eye & foot wear only.

UNIT PORTRAYALS

The event scenario is based around actions of June 16, 1862 occurring at the Tower Battery (Fort Lamar), outside of Secessionville, South Carolina

§ The removal of specific regimental numbers and letters is strongly encouraged for this impression.

§

UNION: The main infantry units actions that will be reenacted are that of the 8th Michigan & 3rd New Hampshire. Artillery is the 1st Connecticut and 3rd U.S. Light Artillery & 3rd Rhode Island Heavy Artillery. A Union Navy impression is acceptable, however there is currently no role for such an impression in the Battle scenario.

CONFEDERATE: The main infantry units are the 22nd South Carolina (inside the Fort) and 24th South Carolina (outside the Fort). Artillery is the 1st South Carolina Light Artillery & three other pieces manned by infantry during the battle.

CIVILIAN: All civilian participants are encouraged to portray residents of the town of Secessionville. Union civilians may portray army followers such as laundresses, cooks, etc. if there is a strong desire to do so.

§ Civilian scenarios are by individual unit.

§ Persons camping in civilian camp shall be in period clothing at all times after 8:00 a.m. Saturday.

§ Civilians are prohibited from carrying weapons of any kind.

§ Children are not to be left unattended at any time. All children in diapers should be in dresses or some other period garment that will conceal it from public view at all times.

§ All clothing items - apparel, shoes, footwear should be period correct, made from period patterns, construction techniques and materials.

§ No modern jewelry, wrist watches or stud or post-style earrings.

§ Eyewear should be period correct. No sunglasses.

§ Women should not wear obvious make up such as cheek rouge, lipstick, eyeshadow, foundation, nail polish and/or mascara.

SPECIALIZED IMPRESSIONS

Medical: The designated medical director will supervise establishment of a "generic" field hospital at the military camps. "Wounded" may be tended to at the conclusion of the battle scenarios. All medical impressions shall contact their respective (Federal/Confederate) military coordinator before registering. Civilian nurses with functional impressions may stay at the field hospital in the camps with the approval of the medical director.

Musicians: Musicians must be *functional* fifers, drummers, buglers, etc. All field musicians in each battalion shall be grouped together. Musicians shall be prepared to perform normal camp and duty signals. Chief musicians, designated by the event hosts, may audition musicians and prohibit performance by those unable to meet basic standards.

WEAPONS

§ Revolvers may only be carried by officers (all branches) and NCOs of the Artillery. Revolvers shall not be loaded or discharged during the event. NYS Park Police will be present at this event so this restriction is in place for both authenticity and legal reasons.

§ Weapons **MAY NOT** be discharged at ranges of 15 yards or less.

§ Sheath knives and Bayonets may not be drawn during battle. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

§ Ramrods may be carried but **NEVER** drawn or used during the battle scenario. **Drawing of a ramrod will result in expulsion from the event.**

§ Three band muskets are required for infantry. No two band weapons or cut down weapons of any kind are allowed.

§ All weapons must pass weapon inspection prior to the start of the battles.

§ All cartridges must contain black powder only and must be properly rolled in tan or white paper; 80 grains maximum. No "penny wrappers", staples, wads, tape or any other material that may become a projectile are to be used in making musket cartridges

§ All weapons must be discharged before taking a "hit".

§ There shall be no hand-to-hand combat at this event.

ARTILLERY

- \$ **Small arms should not be discharged within 25' of an artillery piece or its limber.**
- \$ Cannon barrels must be in good condition and free from pitting or other structural damage.
- \$ Full scale, period correct mortars are allowed at this event for the Confederate side only.
- \$ Each artillery piece shall be service by a limber or ammunition chest. Limber chests must be in excellent condition , with a complete copper cover and the interior must be free of loose powder.
- \$ Artillery must use friction primers or locks. Firing by handguns, fuses, lighters, cigars, etc. is not permitted.
- \$ Charges are to be made from 1F or Cannon grade black powder only - no additives such as flour.
- \$ Charges shall consist of black powder and aluminum foil only.
- \$ The designated Artillery Safety Officer(s) shall inspect all guns and crews for safety. Noted deficiencies shall be corrected before participation is allowed. The Artillery Safety Officer(s) have ultimate authority concerning all matters related to Artillery safety and authorization for Artillery participation in Battle scenarios.
- \$ Rounds must be sized appropriately for the gun. Guns firing obviously overloaded rounds shall be commanded to cease fire until proper ammunition is obtained.

MOUNTED CAVALRY

- \$ Each horse must have current (dated within one year) of a negative Coggins test. Papers must be presented at the registration tent upon arrival.
- \$ All horses will be picketed in the designated cavalry camp.
- \$ Cavalry shall not override infantry or artillery and shall maintain a minimum of 15 foot interval between infantry and artillery troops.
- \$ Unruly or uncontrollable horses shall be required to leave the field.
- \$ Inexperienced riders & green horses shall be identified to the cavalry commander.

CAMPS: GENERAL

- \$ **No vehicles are allowed inside the Fort.** Vehicles may be unloaded at the entrance to the Fort at the Sally Port.
- \$ Vehicles are permitted into authentic camps starting at Noon on Friday. Camps can often become congested with vehicles and unloading should be done as quickly as possible. Please un-load and move your vehicle to the designated parking area in a timely manner.
- \$ There will be no vehicle permitted to unload at the Sally Port or in camps after 8:00 a.m. on Saturday.
- \$ **No digging of Fire Pits!** "Sand Boxes" will be provided to be used in place of fire pits. No digging of fire pits or any other type of excavation is allowed on the Fort Ontario grounds. Each Company and civilian group is required to have filled fire buckets in the immediate proximity to camp fires.
- \$ All trash should be contained & placed in designated areas. **Do not dispose of trash in fire pits.**
- \$ **There is no smoking allowed within the Fort or within the boundaries of the camps.** Please go outside the walls of the Fort or outside of camps if you must smoke.
- \$ There are no provisions for modern camping on the grounds of Fort Ontario. Requests for modern camping must be discussed with the event coordinator (Chris Foote) directly.
- \$ Fire wood will be provided on site.
- \$ No one except officers, in military camps, may use wall tents.
- \$ **All quiet in camps after 11:00 p.m. Friday & Saturday evenings.**

Confederate Camp - Military

- \$ Confederate Military camp is inside the confines of the Fort. Individual or combine company camps may be set up on the parade ground, the upper bastions or in the Southeast Artillery casemate. The first floor of the enlisted mens barracks is available as a mess hall and meeting place, however **none of the buildings are to be occupied as sleeping quarters.**
- \$ All non period items must be kept out of view for the duration of the event.

Confederate Camp - Civilian

§ Confederate civilian camp shall be located on the West (river) side of the fort.

§ All non period items must be kept out of view for the duration of the event.

Federal Military & Civilian Camps

§ Federal Military camp shall be located on the East side of the fort, set back and on the other side of the road.

§ Federal civilian camp shall be behind Military camp, further to the East.

§ As much as possible the camp layouts and locations of units and their civilians will be laid out in advance.

SUTLERS/VENDORS: Interested Sutlers should contact the event coordinator (Chris Foote) directly. The Sutler registration fee is \$50.00. Sutlers **do not** have to pay the individual \$8.00 registration fee.