**FRIENDS OF MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD**

**NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2017**

**JUNE BATTLE REENACTMENT AND**

**COMMEMORATIVE WEEKEND SUCCESSFUL**

Our annual reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth, held this year on June 17-18, 2017 went well this year. The weather was overcast on Saturday but cleared up more on Sunday, and so for the first time in years we had greater visitor attendance on Sunday than on Saturday. Even so, this was quite a relief after bad weather dampened much of the reenactment in 2015, and the 2017 History Fair in May was totally washed out by storms. There weren’t as many reenactors as usual and we had a shortage of cannons and horses, but we still put on a good showing with the reenactments, demonstrations, camps and sutlers. Great thanks are owed to those members of FOMB who helped out during the weekend with the gate, information table, gift shop, and sales of snacks and shirts.

The weekend after the battle reenactment, June 24-25, we held our annual Battle of Monmouth commemoration, featuring living history historians, walks and tours. In addition, Stacy Roth was on hand to give her excellent “Over Here Molly Pitcher” presentations (she unfortunately was sick on the battle reenactment weekend, and FOMB President David Martin filled in for her). She also gave her popular children’s artillery drills. David Martin also gave walking tours of the battlefield on both days of the commemorative weekend, and Kathy and Eric Doherty had the Craig House open.

**DATE FOR NEXT YEAR’S REENACTMENT SET**

Next year marks the 240th anniversary of the battle of Monmouth, which was fought on June 28, 1778. The reenactment promises to be the biggest one in years. Save the date for reenactment weekend: June 16-17, 2018.

Last year we sponsored a new event, the Battle of New York, which was held on September 17-18, 2016. Due to the amount of extra work involved, we honestly are glad not to be hosting this event again this year.

**DRIVING TOUR TO AMERICAN PREBATTLE CAMPSITES GIVEN ON JUNE 11**

For the second year in a row, David Martin and George Dawson led a tour to the site of the American campsites the night before the battle. The main portion of the army encamped on Gravel Hill in Monroe Township. George Washington had his headquarters at the Housman House (355 Hoffman Station road, Monroe, NJ 08831), which is still standing. Charles Lee’s advance wing camped behind Weamaconk Creek on the western side of Englishtown. The tour concluded at the home of Dr. James English in Englishtown (42 Gordon’s Corner Road, Manalapan, NJ 07726), where General Washington had breakfast before heading to the battlefield at about 11:30 AM. The tour, which had a dozen participants, was advanced by a series of roadside markers recently erected in Monroe Township showing the campsites and march routes

**JULY 4 EVENT IN NEW BRUNSWICK GOES WELL**

On Tuesday, July 4, FOMB Vice President George Dawson, who is also New Brunswick’s town historian, gave a talk at Boyd Park in New Brunswick on how Washington’s army celebrated their “victory” at Monmouth with a “Feu de Joie” (“Fire of Joy”) while encamped there near the Raritan River on July 4, 1778. FOMB President David Martin also gave a talk, on the movements of both armies in New Jersey leading up to that date. Lamb’s battery of artillery fired thirteen rounds in honor of the thirteen original states, and the reenactors also gave historical talks and demonstrations. The event, which was cosponsored by the Friends of Monmouth Battlefield, drew an audience of over 100 visitors.

**ACCOUNT OF A WITNESS TO THE FEU DE JOIE**

**IN NEW BRUNSWICK ON JULY 4, 1778**

*The Anniversary of Independence has occasioned another grand day, far surpassing that I could see every man as he passed to the ground. The front line of the army extended from the redoubt on the height a little above Brunswick upwards of two miles up the river on the west side; the second line at some distance in the rear, not quite so extensive – The [artillery] park was placed on the right of the front line at the redoubt, and upwards of thirty pieces of cannons interspersed at proper distances through the lines. After his Excellency [Gen. Washington] had rid round the lines and returned to his quarters, on a signal given from thence 13 pieces of cannon were fired at the park, which were followed by a running fire of musketry and artillery, beginning on the right of the front, throughout the whole of both lines – After this three huzzas to the perpetual and undisturbed Independence of the United states of America. The same round was performed a second and third time, and exceedingly well executed every time. My situation being high and at a convenient distance in front, afforded me a complete view of the whole, and presented by far the grandest sight I ever beheld. The running fire of musketry is grand of itself, but the cannon throwing out their columns of smoke, and adding their sounds at proper distances, made it a magnificent beyond description.*

**BRIEF ACCOUNTS OF THE MARCH TO NEW BRUNSWICK**

The Battle of Monmouth was fought on Sunday, June 28, 1778. At 5 PM on the 29th Washington withdrew the army to Englishtown, where it was allowed to rest on the 30th . Samuel Adams, a surgeon in Crane’s 3rd Regiment of Continental Artillery, wrote:

*June 30. Fair and excessive hot.*

*July 1. Fair and hot indeed; army marched at 2 A.M., come into Spotswood.*

*July 2. Fair and hot shower PM and during the Night. The Army marched at 12 last night. Came to New Brunswick, encamped on the Banks of the Raritan.*

*July 3. Rainy, warm. The Army halted.*

Benjamin Swartout of the 2nd New York wrote:

*1st July. Marched over a sandy pine plain. The heat and want of water occasioned the death of many soldiers. Travelled eight miles without water. Encamped at Spotswood.*

*2nd July. Marched to New Brunswick, crossed the bridge and encamped opposite the town. Our baggage joined us at this place. Laid still until the 5th, when the left wing of the Army marched.*

**PROGRAM ON GEN. CLINTON HELD ON JUNE 8; TALK ON OTHER BRITISH LEADERS SET FOR OCT. 5**

On Thursday, June 8, David Martin gave a talk on “General Sir Henry Clinton at Monmouth” at the main branch of the Monmouth County Library. Around fifty people were in attendance. The program emphasized Clinton’s handling of the campaign and his desire to confront Washington in open battle, a wish that was fulfilled at Monmouth.

Though he had been ordered to evacuate Philadelphia by sea, Clinton instead chose to move most of his troops by land across New Jersey to New York. Clinton cleverly disguised the object of his march, making Washington believe he was heading towards Perth Amboy before he veered to the east to reach Monmouth Courthouse. During the battle of Monmouth on June 28, Clinton succeeded in baiting Washington to attack his rear guard and then carried the morning and noon portions of the battle before being checked in the afternoon fighting. All things considered, Clinton ran a near perfect campaign and battle; he successfully reached New York with his army and lengthy wagon train, but the battle of Monmouth itself was in every regard a draw.

Dr. Martin’s next talk at the library will be at 7 PM on Thursday, October 5. His topic will be “British Commanders and Leadership at Monmouth,” and will discuss the role of Lord Cornwallis and other British commanders at the battle (including Lord Cornwallis, General Knyphausen Major Simcoe, and Lt. Col. Monckton).

**PARK SUPERINTENDENT REASSIGNED**

We regret to inform you that Acting Park Superintendent Robert Auermuller has been reassigned to other sites. He came to Monmouth Battlefield State Park in June a year ago as Acting Superintendent, filling the void left after former superintendent Mark Pitchell retired on May 1, 2016. His original six-month appointment was extended to twelve months, and is now over. He announced his departure to us at our June Board meeting. We much appreciated Rob’s energy and fresh approach to working with us and the Park. He was previously superintendent at Wharton State Forest, and is now on temporary assignment to the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park. He will continue to be at Monmouth one day a week until a new full time Superintendent is selected.

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE HELD BY FOMB**

On Sunday, May 28, FOMB President David Martin led a special Memorial Day commemoration on the patio in front of the Visitor Center. He wore his Continental Line uniform and gave a musket demonstration before reading the brief service. He was aided by Park ranger Victor Pidermann. Around thirty visitors attended the service.

**PARK AND VISITOR CENTER CLOSED JULY 1-3**

Due to the well-advertised budget crisis, State Parks and facilities were closed the first three days of July. This forced the cancellation of our walking tour scheduled for July 1, and other inconveniences. We are glad the Park was able to reopen after being shut down for three days.

**NEW VISITOR CENTER OPEN FOUR YEARS**

The fourth anniversary of the new Visitor Center passed quietly this summer. It was dedicated on June 13, 2013, and everyone is enjoying it greatly. Visitors are delighted with the expanded exhibits and we greatly appreciate the enlarged gift shop. The best feature of all may well be the multi-purpose auditorium, which seats over 100 people. Use of the auditorium is enhanced by the podium that the Friends donated to the Park three years ago.

The Visitor Center, however, still has some shortcomings that need addressing. Most noticeably, the ceiling panels inside the building have not yet been installed. The original panels were not properly designed and had to be removed soon after they were installed. We are still waiting for replacement panels to arrive. In addition, the water damage from the February 2014 roof leak that deluged the gift shop has still not been repaired, though the roofing issues that caused the leaks have been addressed.

We are pleased that drainage work around the old Visitor Center building has at last been completed. Now we can get to work on plans to develop and open our research library, which had to be put into storage two years ago because of moisture problems in the old Visitor Center.

If you have not yet visited the new museum and Visitor Center, come and do so!! It is well worth the trip. Hours are 9 AM – 4 PM every day (both weekdays and weekends). It is closed major holidays.

**CIVIL WAR PROGRAMS HELD AT THE PARK**

Monmouth Battlefield State Park commemorates more than the famous battle of Monmouth. It is not well known that a Civil war training camp, Camp Vredenburg, was located from 1862-1864 on ground that is now part of the western portion of the Park. The Camp Vredenburg site may actually be the only Civil war training camp whose grounds have been basically undisturbed over the years; all the other known camps have been built over by houses, stores or shopping centers.

Camp Vredenburg was established in the summer of 1862 and served as the training ground for over 3000 troops in the 14th, 28th and 29th New Jersey Infantry regiments. It was named after Judge Peter Vredenburg, a prominent Freehold citizen.

In honor or this training camp, programs are given commemorating battles in which the Camp Vredenburg regiments fought. Displays and programming were held on July 9 to remember the important service 153 years ago to the day of the 14th Regiment at the battle of Monocacy, Maryland. Though the battle was lost, the 14th helped delay Confederate Jubal Early’s attack on Washington DC, which was turned back a few days later.

Another program and set of displays will be given on September 17 to commemorate the battle of Opequon (Third Winchester), where Major Peter Vredenburg (son of Judge Vredenburg) was killed in action. Afterwards a brief ceremony will be held at Major Vredenburg’s grave in Maplewood Cemetery on West Main Street in Freehold.

A third Civil war program will be held on December 10 to remember the participation of the 29th New Jersey regiment at the disastrous battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1862.

The site of Camp Vredenburg has been located in the park but still awaits full archaeological study. For more information, see the booklet “The Story of Camp Vredenburg,” by David Martin, which is available in our gift shop at the Park.

**ANNUAL MEETING SLATED FOR DECEMBER 6**

Our annual meeting, as required in the ByLaws, will be held this year on

Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 7:00 PM at the main branch of the Monmouth County Library on Symmes Drive in Manalapan Township. Details will be sent out in the Fall newsletter. Candidates for office will be announced at the October 5 general meeting and lecture by David Martin to be held at the library. Current officers and trustees are listed below.

**FOMB OFFICERS (term ends December 6, 2017)**

President Dr. David Martin

Vice President George Dawson

Secretary Fran Raleigh

Treasurer Kathy Doherty

**FOMB TRUSTEES (end of term in parentheses)**

Andy Beagle (2018) South Plainfield, New Jersey

Richard Bellamy (2017) Spotswood, New Jersey

Mike Cervini (2018) Toms River, New Jersey

George Dawson (2019) New Brunswick, New Jersey

Eric Doherty (2019) Old Bridge, New Jersey

Kathy Doherty (2019) Old Bridge, New Jersey

Walter Kowalsky (2017) Freehold, New Jersey

Dr. David Martin (2018) East Windsor, New Jersey

Marilyn Miller (2018) Toms River, New Jersey

Fran Raleigh (2019) Colts Neck, NJ

Peter Wagner (2018) Englishtown, New Jersey

**NEWEST PROJECT TO REPLACE WINDOWS**

**AT CRAIG HOUSE ALMOST COMPLETED**

We are delighted to report that our third project to replace damaged windows at the historic Craig House has almost been completed. As previously announced, we have received a generous grant from the Monmouth County Historical Commission to replace two windows and frames on the north side of the building. The work has been completed by the contractor, and Eric Doherty is now completing spackling and painting details. Plans are under way to apply for another round of grants, this time to replace two additional windows on the same side of the main building.

Craig House is not really in the best of shape and needs a lot of additional work. We are glad that the Park is looking at the building’s outside drainage. We sincerely hope that the Park will also bring in outside consultants to identify the building’s needs and best ways to meet them.

Many thanks are owed to FOMB members Kathy and Eric Doherty, who have been acting as docents at the Craig House, which is open free of charge on Sundays from 1-4 PM. It will close for the season on December 3.

Craig House is located just west of Route 9, off of Schibanoff Road, about a mile north of the intersection of Route 9 and Business Route 33

**“A HORSE OF A DIFFERENT COLOR”**

**GEORGE WASHINGTON’S MOUNTS AT MONMOUTH**

George Washington’s favorite mount during the first part of the Revolution was named Blueskin (sometimes spelled Blewskin), so named because he was bluish-gray or dark iron gray. He was half-Arabian and has been described as “fine and fiery” and as having strong endurance. Blueskin was a gift from Colonel Benjamin Tasker Delany of Maryland, who married Elizabeth French, a ward of General Washington’s, in 1773.

In 1778 George acquired a sorrel brown horse he called Nelson, which came to be his favored mount in battle because it withstood fire better than Blueskin did. The horse was a gift from Thomas Nelson of Virginia, after whom George named him. Nelson was born around 1763 and stood sixteen hands high. He was a chestnut gelding, reddish brown in color with a white face and white legs.

Reportedly, George preferred to ride Blueskin in parades, but preferred Nelson in battle, for the reason stated. Washington rode Nelson to receive the British surrender at Yorktown. Neither animal was wounded during the war and both survived the Revolution.

After the war concluded, George took the two horses with him to Mount Vernon. The General would often visit the paddock, whereupon Nelson “would run, neighing, to the fence, proud to be caressed by the great man’s hands.”

Both horses were still alive in 1785, when an English visitor to Mount Vernon named John Hunter observed, “ When dinner was over, we visited the general’s stables, saw his magnificent horses, among then ‘Old Nelson,’ now twenty-two years of age, that carried the General almost always during the war. ‘Blueskin,’ another fine old horse next to him, had that honor. They had heard the roaring of many a cannon in their time. ‘Blueskin’ was not the favorite on account of his not standing fire so well as venerable ‘Old Nelson.’ The General makes no manner of use of them now. He keeps them in a nice stable, where they feed away at their ease for their past services.”

In November 1785, Washington returned Blueskin to Mrs. Delany for some unknown reason. Old Nelson died in late 1790 at the age of twenty-seven.

During the war, the General also owned and received a number of additional gift horses. In a letter dated December 30, 1777, General William Alexander (aka Lord Stirling) mentions a horse he was trading to Washington “for your black.” Then in August 1778, not long after Monmouth, Washington gave a horse to General Thomas Nelson.

After the war, he owned a horse named Prescott.

Which of these fine animals was George Washington riding at the beginning of the battle of Monmouth? Apparently none of them. William S. Stryker on page 81 of his book *The Battle* *of Monmouth* tells us that Washington during the first part of the battle was riding a white horse that had been given to him three days before the battle. Stryker specifically says, “While General Washington was still at Kingston [June 25, 1778] a splendid white horse was brought to his quarters and presented to him with the compliments of William Livingston, the war Governor of New Jersey. General Washington rode this horse into the Battle of Monmouth where he fell, exhausted by the heat.”

Unfortunately, the name of this white horse has not been preserved. Nor do we know specifically if the horse died or just collapsed at the battle. We don’t even know when the horse went down. It is not likely that Washington pushed the horse too hard

**WASHINGTON’S HORSES (continued)**

during the early part of the day, when he left his headquarters at the Housman Farm at 355 Hoffman Station Road in Monroe Township about 9:30 AM and rode about four miles to the home of Dr. James English on the northeast side of Englishtown (34 Gordons Corner Road in Manalapan). The General left Dr. English’s house about 11:30 and rode to the battlefield, where he encountered General Charles Lee near Wemrock Road about 12:45 (more on this in a moment). Riding three miles in an hour, even at noontime, should not have caused his horse to collapse, but could have done so. In this writer’s opinion, it is more likely that the horse went down during the early afternoon while General Washington was writing hurriedly up and down the line he was establishing on Perrine Hill to stop the anticipated British advance. Dr. William Read of Georgia, who just reached the army on the day of the battle, wrote that he “saw Gen. Washington riding to fro along the line [on Perrine Hill], sometimes at full speed, looking nobly, excited, and calling loudly to the troops by the appellation of brave boys.” The Marquis de Lafayette recalled, “He rode along the lines, amid the shouts of the soldiers, cheering them by his voice and example and restoring to our standard the fortunes of the fight. I thought then as now that never had I beheld so superb a man.”

Bottom line, though, is that we do not know for sure when or where the white gift horse went down during the battle.

The horse he rode after the white collapsed is not known. Washington’s slave, Billy Lee, accompanied the general wherever he went, carrying his binoculars and other supplies. Other slaves or a staff officer would also have been present with a spare mount. It well have been old Nelson, but we may never know for sure.

**GIFT SHOP HOURS**

The gift shop, run by the Friends at the Park Visitor Center, is open continuously all year. It is open every Sunday from 1-4 PM. Stop by and get a book or pamphlet about the battle, or a tricorn hat, wooden musket, toy cannon or thirteen star flag for your kids!

We also have a large selection of donated history books, from the era of the colonies through the Revolution to the Civil War, on sale at $4 each of three for $10.

If you live out of state or can’t make it to the gift shop, a listing of books and pamphlets available by mail is available on our website, [www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org).

Dr. Garry Stone’s new detailed history of the battle, *Bloody Sunday,* is available at the Park for $33 plus tax, or by mail for $39 postpaid.

**MEMBERSHIP NEARS RECORD**

Our current membership is at 116 and is approaching our record of 123, set last year. If you haven’t renewed yet and wish to do so, use the application printed later in this newsletter. Currently we have 20 life members and 11 patrons. We owe them special thanks for their extra support of our programs. You may be interested in knowing that 21 of our members (17%) come from outside New Jersey. There are 3 each from Pennsylvania and Virginia, 2 each from California, Florida, Maryland, and Washington state, and 1 each from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, and Washington DC

**MORE ON DR. READ**

Dr. William Read was born in England on April 12, 1754, and came to Georgia with his parents at the age of five. In 1774 he went to study medicine with Dr. Benjamin Rush in Philadelphia. In early June 1778 he returned home to visit his family following the death of his father near Savannah. He then headed north to offer his services to the army, hoping to obtain command of a company of horse or foot, or maybe to serve in the line. Accompanied by his servant, he rode 70 or 80 miles on the day of the battle of Monmouth and reached Freehold just as the fighting was at its height.

During the afternoon’s fighting Dr. Read was on the army’s main position along Perrine Hill when he witnessed the incident described above. He saw a British cannon ball almost strike General Washington, who was riding up and down the battle lines, and was impressed how coolly the General behaved in the face of enemy fire. He heard Washington say the name “Proctor” and was told that the General had said he “was admiring the manner in which Proctor was handling their right.”

After the battle Dr. Read could not avoid helping the wounded. Before long he had a commission as a medical officer and was placed in charge of the hospital set up in Princeton to take care of casualties from the battle of Monmouth.

Dr. Read’s diary is important evidence that Colonel Proctor and at least part of his command were at the battle; it is also evidence for the location of this command on Perrine Hill. Proctor’s artillery was the unit with which Mary Hays (aka Molly Pitcher) was serving. This makes Dr. Read’s account, along with Private Joseph Plum-Martin’s account of a woman at a cannon on Perrine Hill, the two most important sources for the presence and location of Molly Pitcher at the battle.

For those who are interested, Dr. Read’s full account is as follows:

*Dr. Read saw Gen. Washington riding to and fro along the line, sometimes at full speed, looking nobly, excited, and calling loudly to the troops by the appellation of brave boys. He saw Washington standing to the right of the line, with a number of officers near him, and saw a cannon ball strike a wet hole in the side of the hill, and the dirt fly on him. Two officers then rode up, and seemed to reason with him, and lay hold of the bridle of his horse. The General, coolly standing in his stirrups, was said to say to the officers who urged that that was no place for him, he being observed by the enemy, “that he was admiring the manner in which Proctor was handling their right.” Dr. Read was near enough to hear the word Proctor, and was told what the General said. He then moved off at full speed, all the throng following and Read among the rest.*

**NEW BICYCLE RACK INSTALLED**

We are pleased to report that the new bicycle rack ordered earlier this year has finally arrived and been installed in front of the Visitor Center. The first bicycle rack, also donated by us, was set up in front of the Visitor Center about three years ago. This one was ordered to match it, but unfortunately arrived damaged, so we had to wait a bit longer for its replacement to arrive. It is now set up facing the first bicycle rack; each unit holds up to 12 bicycles at a time. Since the company we ordered it from did not ask for the damaged rack to be returned, we are hoping to have it repaired and set up at Patriot’s Grove, the picnic area to the east of the main Park entry drive.

**Visit our website at www.friendsofmonmouth.org**

**2017 Membership Application**

The Revolution in New Jersey had profound meaning. To help keep the past alive, we ask for your commitment in Protecting, Preserving and Historically Interpreting Monmouth Battlefield State Park, a Registered National Historic landmark, and the sites associated with the Monmouth Campaign of 1778.

**Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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**City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***CHECK ONE***

***New membership Renewal***

**CIRCLE LEVEL OF MEMBERSHIP**

**Individual $20 Family $30**

**Senior Individual $5 Senior Family $10**

**Patron $100 Lifetime $250**

***Membership benefits include free entry at all Friends’ events and a 10% discount at the Gift Shop.***

***The Friends rely on membership and donations for much of our general operating budget. If you would like to make a donation above the membership dues, we would deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness. The Friends is a 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization and your donation is fully tax-deductible. Thank you.***

**Donation included in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**FRIENDS OF MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD, INC. PO Box 122, Tennent NJ 07763**

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**

**(entries in bold occur at the Park)**

**Sept. 3, 2017 (Sun) Walking tour of the Battlefield.**

Meet at the Visitor Center at 1:30 PM

**Sept 10, 2017 (Sun) Program on the role of the New Jersey Regulars and Militia in the Battle of Monmouth**

Dr. David Martin will give a lecture based on his original

research. 2PM in the Visitor Center Auditorium.

**Sept 17, 2017 (Sun) Program on the 14th New Jersey regiment and the Death**

**of Major Peter Vredenburg at the Battle of Opequon (3rd Winchester) in 1863**

Dr. David Martin will give a lecture, based on his book, “The Monocacy Regiment.” Afterwards we have a brief memorial service at Major Vredenburg’s grave in Maplewood Cemetery on West Main Street outside Freehold.

**Sept 24 (Sun) Craig House closed for vacation by docents**

**Oct 1, 2017 (Sun) Walking tour of the Battlefield.**

Meet at Visitor Center at 1:30 PM

**Oct 5, 2017 (Thurs)** Program on “British Commanders and Leadership at the Battle of Monmouth,” given at 7 PM at the main branch of

the Monmouth County Library on Symmes Drive.

**Oct 14, 2017 (Sat)** Monmouth County Archives Day at the library, 10 to 3.

FOMB will have an information table**.**

**Nov 5, 2017 (Sun) Walking tour of the Battlefield.**

Meet at the Visitor Center at 1:30 PM.

**Dec 3, 2017 (Sun) Walking tour of the Battlefield**

Meet at the Visitor Center at 1:30 PM

**Dec 3, 2017 (Sun) Craig House closes for the season**

**Dec 6, 2017 (Wed)** Annual Business Meeting, held at 7 PM at the main branch of the Monmouth County Library on Symmes Drive in Manalapan.

**Dec 10, 2017 (Sun) Program on the 28th New Jersey Infantry regiment at the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862.** Given by Dr. David

Martin at 2 PM at the Visitor Center.

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