



Mall Times
September 2007

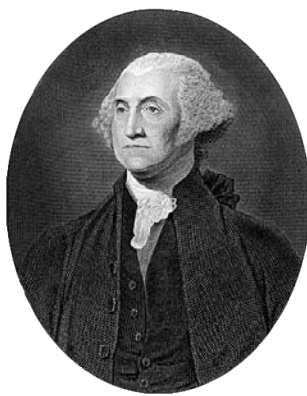
The Funeral of George Washington

Jerry Hawn
Park Ranger

Welcome from the
Superintendent

The National Mall & Memorial Parks is where America and the world come to reflect, honor, and celebrate. As part of the National Park System, we provide opportunities for use and enjoyment of the park for all while preserving the cultural and natural treasures of our nation's capital for future generations. Every one of us is dedicated to serving, educating, and inspiring visitors about the memorials and their place in our national heritage. I know you will enjoy the many interpretative programs provided by park rangers and I hope that your visit to the National Mall & Memorial Parks will be a wonderful experience.

Stephen Lorenzetti
Acting Superintendent
National Mall & Memorial Parks



In recent years, park rangers on the National Mall were actively involved with funerals for former President Reagan and former

President Ford. These events seemed to overtake the emotions of the nation for several days and even weeks. As you stand at the base of the Washington Monument and reflect on the life of George Washington, how do you think the nation responded to his death?

On December 14, 1799, George Washington died at his estate at Mount Vernon, Virginia. The nation had to deal with the loss of a true leader of the young nation. Washington led the troops to victory. He advanced the process of creating the new form of government. He became the first leader for a newly formed government. Now...this man was gone. How would the nation react?

Some of the most well known words describing George Washington came in a eulogy delivered by "Light-Horse Harry" Lee. After hearing of Washington's death, the United States Congress which was meeting in Philadelphia, chose Mr. Lee to deliver a tribute for the whole country. Lee, who was serving as a Virginia Congressman, had

been an officer with the Revolutionary forces and a close associate of Washington for many years. He gave his speech on December 26, 1799. Mr. Lee's words still echo with Americans after over two centuries:

"First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen, he was second to none in the humble and endearing scenes of private life. Pious, just, humane, temperate and sincere—uniform, dignified and commanding—his example was as edifying to all around him as were the effects of that example lasting. . . . Correct throughout, vice shuddered in his presence and virtue always felt his fostering hand. The purity of his private character gave effulgence to his public virtues. . . . Such was the man for whom our nation mourns."

Mock funerals were held all over the country. Perhaps, the most memorable of these funerals took place on December 26, 1799, in Philadelphia, which was serving as the nation's "temporary" capital for 10 years while the new federal city was being constructed. The many mock funerals took place over a period of several weeks.

The firing of sixteen cannons at day break in Philadelphia signaled the beginning of funeral events on the 26th, and volleys repeated on a half hour basis through out the morning. Troops assembled at the

State House as people came from the surrounding countryside to observe the ceremony. The splendid and somber march, accompanied by the sounding of muffled drums, proceeded through Philadelphia a little past noon. A riderless horse, escorted by two marines wearing black scarves, preceded the clergy. In the Pennsylvania Gazette it was reported that the horse carried an empty saddle, holsters, pistols, and boots reversed in the stirrups. The horse also was "trimmed with black—the head festooned with elegant black and white feathers the American Eagle displayed in a rose upon the breast, and in a feather upon the head." In the midst of the procession, pallbearers carried an empty casket. Arriving at the German Lutheran Church, the bier was put in the middle of the center aisle, and members of Congress and other participants heard prayers by the Reverend William White, a bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States. Congressman Henry Lee read his eulogy from above before a crowd reported to be. The memorial service concluded with vocal and instrumental music, and the firing of three volleys.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Ranger Programs

National Mall & Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20024

Phone: (202) 233-3520
Internet: www.nps.gov/nama

Radio: 1670 am

National Mall Bicycle Tours
Walking Tours
Urban Campfire Programs
Fireside Chat Program
Daily Ranger Programs

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Bike Tours

Join National Park Service Rangers every Saturday and Sunday for FREE guided bike tours of the Nation's Capital. All tours start at 1:00 p.m. from the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Plaza (at the base of the memorial steps) and last approximately three hours. All riders must have their own bike, helmet, and water.



Saturday, September 1, 2007 **History of the Mall Explore the History of America's Front Yard**

The history of the National Mall is as diverse and fascinating as the history of our nation itself. From George Washington's vision of the Federal City to the District of Columbia of today, how has this span of green space in the heart of the Nation's Capital been altered over time? How has this area been influenced by great natural, cultural, historical, and social events through time? Come see and hear how the National Mall has evolved into what you experience today.

Sunday, September 2, 2007 **Unexplored Tales of the City Freemasons and the creation of Washington, DC**

On Sunday, July 4, 1848, the cornerstone for the Washington Monument was officially laid by Grandmaster Benjamin B. French, of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of the District of Columbia. Using the same gavel George Washington wielded many years before when he laid the cornerstone for the U. S. Capitol, French declared *"This cornerstone is now ready to receive the superstructure which is to rise above it."* While neither cornerstone is visible today, the rich history and influence of Freemasons can still be seen throughout Washington D.C. This tour will investigate the truths and myths that surround this sometime mysterious group.

Saturday, September 8, 2007 **People of DC, Famous Names, Extraordinary Stories**

Get to know the people behind the city. See and hear how the influential personalities of Washington, DC have affected the city, the landscape, the architecture, and the culture of the Nation's Capital over time. Presidents, First Ladies, Governors and Mayors, authors, poets, famous and infamous characters alike have helped shape the history of Washington, DC. These people have helped influence not only the city, but the entire nation. These are their stories.



Sunday, September 9, 2007 **Off the Beaten Path Discover Lonely and Overlooked Landmarks**

You may have seen them on a map, driven past them hundreds of times, or even walked up to one of them out of curiosity. What are they, who do they memorialize, and, more importantly, why are they here? In a city full of colossal and iconic memorials to great people and even greater deeds, these statues, urns, and symbolic gestures of friendship and remembrance can be found all over DC, yet, their stories have gone largely untold, until now. Find out the stories of these lonely landmarks from our Rangers.

Saturday, September 15, 2007 **History of the Mall Explore the History of America's Front Yard**

For description see September 1

Sunday, September 16, 2007 **On This Date in History "Great in life, he was...great in death"**

In 1881, just sixteen years after the death of Abraham Lincoln, another assassin's bullet cut short the life of an American President here in Washington, D.C. Explore the life and brief presidency of James A. Garfield that visits the numerous sites of the Nation's Capital where the tragic story of Garfield lives on barely noticed or recognized.

Sunday, September 16, 2007 **Family Tour The Hunt is on! The search for symbols on the National Mall 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

Have you ever wondered if there is anything hidden inside the monuments and memorials on the National Mall? If you did, you're right! There are symbols, some in plain view, others hidden, which are clues about the person or event being memorialized that help visitors better understand the structure. Plants, animals, and even different types of stone have meaning. You just need to know where, and what, to look for. What can the leaves at the World War II Memorial teach us? Who is that man in the painting at the Lincoln Memorial? What is George Washington leaning on? You will never look at the monuments and memorials on the National Mall the same way again!

Parents – Please note; all participants (children and adults) must have their own bike and helmet. Reservations for Family Tours are required. Please call Bike Program Coordinator Ranger Jason Martz (202) 438-4391 to make reservations. Space is limited

Saturday, September 22, 2007 **Off the Beaten Path Discover Lonely and Overlooked Landmarks**

For description see September 9.

Sunday, September 23, 2007 **Unexplored Tales of the City Literature and the National Mall**

Over the years, the beautiful monuments and memorials of the National Mall have inspired untold millions, including numerous authors, poets, and playwrights. Learn more about the fascinating associations between famous authors and the memorials of the National Mall.

Saturday, September 29, 2007 **People of DC, Famous Names, Extraordinary Stories** For description see September 8.

Sunday, September 30, 2007 **Unexplored Tales of the City American Gold Star Mothers: The "supreme sacrifice of motherhood"**

Why and when did the U.S. Congress declare, "the last Sunday in September shall hereafter be designated and known as 'Gold Star Mother's Day?'" Learn the answer to that question and others such as, "who are Gold Star Mothers?" and "where is the World War One Memorial?" Trace the history of this organization back to its World War I origin. Discover, as well, the many ways by which the United States has honored its veterans of the Great War and how the Gold Star Mothers helped create the District of Columbia World War Memorial.

Walking Tours

Walking Tour: Constitution Avenue Past and Present 10:00 am September 29 2-3 hours.

Wars, Presidents, Parks, and Canals have something in common. Lace up your favorite walking shoes and explore Constitution Avenue with National Park Service Rangers. As you explore one of the significant avenues of the Nation's Capital, learn the history of the area as well as view some of the landmarks that make Washington D.C. a city for all ages. Meet the rangers at the 17th street entrance to the WWII Memorial. Please bring water, comfortable shoes, sunscreen, and a hat. For more information contact Joshua Bernick at (240) 375-5349.



Evening Walking Tours

Come out and enjoy National Mall & Memorial Parks at night as our Rangers present numerous evening interpretive programs. These programs will take you to familiar locations that you will never see the same way again! All tours are two hours in length, and are free of charge. Read each description to find out more and where to meet.

How World War I birthed Monty Python or Three Memorials in One Evening

Friday at 7:00 p.m.
September 21

How did the deaths of over 14 million persons ironically produce someone like Monty Python? How does a small obscure monument, which commemorates one of the great events of the 20th century, connect to the heavily visited Franklin Delano Roosevelt and World War II Memorials? How did the assassination of an archduke, nearly 100 years ago, lead to current events in the United States and the world? Meet at the World War II Memorial information booth. Call Ranger Lowell Fry (202)438-9603 for more information.

Who Won the Civil War? Slavery, Causes, Consequences, and Steps toward Reconstruction

Friday at 7:00 p.m.
September 14

The obvious answer to that question is only partially correct. Why has this conflict, that took over 620,000 American lives, (the last Civil War veteran died only fifty years ago) been termed "our felt history"? We have to start at the Washington Monument to find out! Meet on the west side (the side facing the Lincoln Memorial) of the Washington Monument. Call Ranger Lowell Fry (202) 438-9603 for more information.

Washington, DC and the National Mall: Permanent Location, Changing Vision

Friday at 7:00 p.m.
September 7 and 28

Why was this location chosen for the last of America's eleven capitals? How has the purpose and meaning of the two mile space between the Lincoln Memorial and the Capitol changed over time? To discover that answer, meet at the entrance to the Washington Monument. Call Ranger Lowell Fry (202)438-9603 for more information.

"Viva la Revolution": The South American Rebellion from Spain

Saturday at 6:00 p.m.
September 1

The statues along Virginia Avenue, NW honor those who helped the United States acquire its freedom as well as Latin American revolutionary leaders. Bernardo Galvez helped the United States during its revolution; Jose San Martin, Simon Bolivar, and Jose Artigas led rebel forces that liberated twelve million people in South America from 1810-1824. The tour will start at the entrance to the Foggy Bottom Metro Station (23rd & I Street, NW) and will end at the intersection of Virginia and Constitution Avenues, NW. This will be a strenuous walk and comfortable shoes are recommended. There are no public restrooms along the route. For further information, please call Ranger Mike Balis at (202) 438-9710. This tour is free of charge.

Tracing the path of an uneasy peace: 20th century warfare in America

Sunday at 7:00pm
September 2, 16, 23, 30

The 20th Century was a violent time that included two world wars and a cold war. These events would cost the United States dearly in lives but would shape our present, and our future, on the world stage. How did our involvement in the Great War affect our mindset as we entered World War II? How do these two conflicts stand in contrast with the Cold War era struggles in Korea and Vietnam? The outcome of these defining 20th century events can still be felt today. Tour begins at the World War II Memorial Ranger station. For more information, call Ranger Paul O'Brian at (202) 438-7066.



Urban Campfire Programs

Sylvan Theater Washington Monument Grounds

Wednesdays in September
7:30 p.m.

Spend the evening in our Nation's Capital and experience your National Mall & Memorial Parks in a unique and interesting way. Bring comfortable chairs or blankets and spend an hour on the Washington Monument grounds in front of the historic Sylvan Theater at 15th Street and Independence Avenue, SW. Also, bring what you know about the history of the United States and Washington, D.C. and be prepared to learn new ways of seeing our great national icons. Hear fascinating, yet largely overlooked, tales about our capital city and its National Park Service sites.

Wednesday, September 5
Park Ranger Michael Kelly

The Road to Revolution Runs Through the District of Columbia

"I tremble at the consequences," wrote George Washington in 1755 following his narrow escape from death in the frontier wilderness of Western Pennsylvania. Find out how a British military disaster there contributed to the rise of George Washington, the outbreak of the American Revolution, and the creation of the Nation's Capital here on the bank of the Potomac River. Learn the fascinating origin of such local place names as "Braddock Rock" and "Camp Hill."

Wednesday, September 12
Park Ranger Jason Martz

"The sky was brilliantly illuminated:" The Burning of Washington, D.C.

The War of 1812. On August 24, 1814, Washington D.C. came under attack and the Capitol and White House were set ablaze! American military defenders fled, as did the President of the United States and the First Lady—all had been forced to watch the destruction of the city. Learn the fascinating, true tale of the city's darkest hour and how nature and the American spirit combined to save it—and how these events culminated in the creation of our National Anthem.

Wednesday, September 19
Park Ranger Kristi Thiel

Civil War Washington Through the Eyes of a Poet

Walt Whitman spent ten years in Washington, DC witnessing the nation's struggle through the Civil War, President Lincoln's death and the long recovery afterwards. What brought him here, and what inspired him to stay? Using the good grey poet's own words we will retrace his footsteps through the Washington he knew and ultimately uncover the traces he left behind.

Wednesday, September 26
Park Ranger Brad Berger

"The Monitor is mine:" The Man Who Saved Lincoln's Navy

In spite of the passage of time, many Americans happily recall the Civil War triumphs of the legendary USS *Monitor*. Few, however, remain aware of the true story behind the construction of the ship and the trials her brilliant designer suffered to bring her to fruition. Here is a story of redemption and heroism that contributed to the salvation of the American Union. A memorial to the *Monitor's* builder, a brilliant, yet reclusive man, stands in West Potomac Park, with the same privacy its honoree yearned for in life.

Pennsylvania Avenue Walking

A hat, good walking shoes, and some water is recommended. For more information call: (202) 606-8691.

Political and Economic Influence on the Pennsylvania Avenue Landscape
3:00 PM: September 15, 22, and 29.

Monuments Off the Mall
10:00 AM: September 23 and 30.
3:00 PM: September 16 and 30.

Street of Fire
10:00 AM: September 16 and 30.
3:00 PM: September 23.

Do You Have An Opinion About Washington, DC?
10:00 AM: September 12, 19, and 26

America's Avenue of Glory and Sorrow
10:00 AM: September 15, 22, and 29.

Daily Ranger Programs

Join National Park Service Rangers to learn more about the meaning, symbolism, and significance of the park's many memorials. No prior signup is required and all programs are free. Program length varies. For more information contact a Park Ranger at each memorial.

Programs are offered at the following memorials...

World War II Memorial
Lincoln Memorial
Thomas Jefferson Memorial
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
Vietnam Veterans Memorial
Korean War Veterans Memorial

Scheduled Programs are

Presented at: 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm

**Additional programs on request

FDR Fireside Chats

Please meet at the Fireside Chat Statue in Room 2 (The man listening to the radio). Each program will last 30-45 minutes. A short walk is involved, but there will be seating for most of the program. For more information contact Brendan Wilson at (202)438-4098.

11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

September 3, 2007

"On the European War"

Originally broadcast September 3, 1939.

The World is now at war!

FDR responds to the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany as well as Great Britain and France declaring war. He discusses America's neutrality and introduces the "cash-and-carry" program to the American public, which will be used to aid the Allied effort.

September 11, 2007

"On Maintaining Freedom of the Seas"

Originally broadcast September 11, 1941.

America inches closer to joining the Second World War!

Responding to the Greer Incident, when an American destroyer was attacked by a German submarine, FDR argues for America to become involved in the war. He escalates American support of the Allied war effort by ordering warships to protect the Lend-Lease convoys and authorizes those ships to fire on German submarines.



"Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

-National Park Service Organic Act-

-August 25, 1916-

The Washington Monument

Open daily (except July 4 and December 25. Monument Lodge opens at 8:30am. All persons who wish to visit the Monument must have a ticket. One person may pick up to six tickets.

Free timed tickets may be obtained in two ways:

- Tickets may be picked up at the Washington Monument Lodge (located at the base of the Monument along 15th Street) on a *first come - first serve* basis, the morning of your visit.
- Tickets may be reserved ahead of time by visiting www.reservations.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-559-6777 (for large groups).



*Note: Groups may only make reservations by calling 1-877-559-6777. Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days ahead of time during peak times (spring, summer, weekends, and holidays). Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets

Ford's Theatre

The evening of April 14, 1865, has forever been marked with tragedy. On that night, our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln, was assassinated in Ford's Theatre by actor John Wilkes Booth. Just days after General Lee's Confederate troops surrendered at

Appomattox, VA, a time of hope and peace in Washington and around the country turned to a period of mourning that America had never seen before.



Ford's Theatre is closed for renovations. Peterson House is open daily 9AM - 5 PM.

Old Post Office Tower

The Old Post Office, built between 1892 and 1899, is home to the Bells of Congress, which were a present from England on our Nation's Bicentennial. From the observation deck, located 270 feet above the street level, the visitor can get a spectacular view of our nation's capital.

Operating Hours

Summer: Begins 1st weekend in June through Labor Day, 9:00 a.m. - 7:45 p.m. (Monday through Friday) Saturday, Sunday and Holidays 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

Winter: (Labor Day through Memorial Day): 9:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. Weekends and Holidays, 10 am to 5:45 p.m.



For more information call (202)606-9686.