



Battle of New Orleans Anniversary Commemoration January 11 and 12, 2008



Return to 1815 at Chalmette Battlefield!

**Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve
invites you and your students to experience
one of the most important moments in American history.**



Cannons will roar once again at Chalmette Battlefield. On Friday, January 11, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., over 100 living history experts in period dress will portray the troops and civilians of the Battle of New Orleans.

When a group of ordinary Americans defeated the mighty British army in 1815, the world took notice. People everywhere began to believe that democracy was a system of government that could really work. Because so many of the troops were from Louisiana, local students can take particular pride in this victory.

The British believed they would have an easy time invading New Orleans and controlling the Mississippi River, not expecting local citizens to defend the city. American General Andrew Jackson's troops included groups that did not normally get along and many men that had not ever fought a battle. There were English, French, and Spanish-speaking civilians, free men of color, American Indians, Jean Lafitte's Baratarian pirates, regular American troops, and militia and volunteers from Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi, all working together to defend their country. The Americans defeated a seasoned British force with a victory so important that the battle anniversary was celebrated as a national holiday for more than 50 years.

Since Hurricane Katrina, some people have been calling the 1815 battle the *First* Battle of New Orleans, with Katrina as the *Second* Battle of New Orleans. An important idea that emerged from the battle is that many kinds of people from all over the country worked together to overcome great odds. Students can see the same kind of unified spirit and the same strength in diversity in south Louisiana today.

Become a part of history---bring your class to the Battle of New Orleans anniversary event at Chalmette Battlefield, 8606 West St. Bernard Highway, Chalmette. To reserve space for your field trip, fill in the reservation form and mail or fax by Wednesday, December 5. You will receive a confirmation and a pre-visit packet to help prepare your students for their field trip. Questions? Call 504-281-0511 ext. 24. (Please share this invitation with other teachers! Information is also available on line at www.nps.gov/jela/battle-of-new-orleans-anniversary.htm.)



Battle of New Orleans Anniversary Field Trip Registration Form



The students of _____ (school)
will attend the 193rd anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans event on Friday,
January 11, 2008.

We will bring _____ (#) of students and _____ (#) of teachers and chaperones
(please bring at least one adult for every 10 students).

Grade(s) _____ Number of buses _____

We will arrive about _____ a.m./p.m.

Contact person and phone number:

Mailing address for confirmation and pre-visit material _____

Mail registration to Jean Lafitte NHP&P, Attn: Battle of New Orleans, 419 Decatur Street,
New Orleans, LA 70130 or fax registration to 504-589-4155, Attn: Battle of New Orleans.

Reservations must be made by Wednesday, December 5.

When your registration is received, you will be mailed a confirmation and pre-visit material to
help prepare your students for their field trip.

Questions? Call 504-281-0511 ext. 24.