**FRIENDS OF MONMOUTH BATTLEFIELD**

**NEWSLETTER JUNE 2022**

**BATTLE REENACTMENT**

**TO BE HELD JUNE 18-19**

We are delighted to announce that this year’s annual reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth will be held on Saturday and Sunday June 18-19, 2022. This will be our first reenactment since 2019. The previous two years had to be cancelled because of covid-19 concerns, although last year (2021) we successfully held a small scale “living history” program in its stead.

This year we will have a full reenactment with all the trimmings: 200+ reenactors, cannons, horses, sutlers, camps, programs for youngsters (cannon and musket drills), and historical presentations, including programs by Molly Pitcher expert Stacy Roth.

We are asking a donation of $10 per car at the gate to help defray the cost of the event. Moneys raised will all go to support Monmouth Battlefield State Park. The reenactment is our major fundraiser each year.

A schedule of events is enclosed. Schedules are also available on our website ([www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org)) and will be available at the event. Food trucks will be available and also plenty of porta johns. Craig House will NOT be open on reenactment weekend.

**BATTLE COMMEMORATION WEEKEND**

**TO BE HELD JUNE 25-26**

Each year we hold special programs to commemorate the Battle of Monmouth on the weekend closest to the battle anniversary. They will be held this year on June 25-26. Programming will include talks, walking tours, and programs for youngsters (cannon and musket drills). Molly Pitcher expert Stacy Roth will give a program, and there will also be a program on Revolutionary era music each day. Craig House WILL be open both days. However, there will not be reenactor troops present, or food trucks. A schedule is enclosed. No donation will be requested at the gate. (The battle was fought June 28, 1778).

**JULY 4 TO BE CELEBRATED AT THE PARK**

Special programming will be held at the Park on Monday, July 4, to commemorate the 4th of July.

At 12 noon FOMB President Dr. David Martin will give a short program in the Visitor Center auditorium on the topic “From Monmouth to New Brunswick: The Week after the Battle of Monmouth.” He will be followed at 12:20, also in the auditorium, on the topic “New Brunswick in the Revolution” by FOMB Vice President and New Brunswick town historian George Dawson.

At 1:00 there will be a presentation and demonstration of Revolutionary War artillery given by Mott’s Artillery. This will include cannon firing by a reproduction full sized cannon. Over 100 visitors attended our artillery program last year on the 4th of July. We hope you can join us this year!

**ADDITIONAL TOURS HELD IN JUNE**

Additional tours were held in June to commemorate the battle and campaign of Monmouth. Upcoming tours are listed here and on the schedule of events included later in this newsletter.

On Saturday June 11, FOMB Vice President George Dawson led a driving tour following General Lafayette’s march route the two days before the battle. Lafayette marched from Cranbury through Hightstown to Robbin’s Tavern (near Clarksburg) and then to Englishtown.

On Sunday June 12, David Martin and George Dawson led a driving tour form Cranbury to the sites of the American camps the night before the battle (June 27/28, 1778). Most of Washington’s army camped on Gravel Hill in Monroe Township, while General Charles Lee’s advance force was encamped on the western edge of Englishtown. American militia that night was mostly near Tennent Church, with some near Lake Topanemus on the northern edge of Monmouth Court House

A driving tour is planned for Saturday, July 2, to follow the British retreat to Nut Swamp on the south side of Middletown. During their march the British forces were attacked several times by American militia while they were heading to Sandy Hook and then New York.

Our regularly scheduled walking tour of the battlefield will be held on Sunday, July 5. Walking tours will also be given on Commemoration weekend, June 25 and 26.

**SLIGHTLY EXPANDED PARK HOURS**

Newly announced hours at Monmouth Battlefield State Park are as follows:

Grounds 8 AM to 8 PM

Visitor Center 9 AM to 4 PM, Wednesday through Sunday

Bathrooms in old Visitor Center and Playground, 9 AM to 4 PM daily.

**TOURS AND WALKS CONTINUE TO BE SUCCESSFUL**

We continue to offer our regular schedule of tours and programs (see full year’s schedule of events on our website, [www.friendsofmonmouth.org](http://www.friendsofmonmouth.org)).

A walking tour of the battlefield is offered the first Sunday of every month at 1:30. So far this year attendance has averaged around 12 per tour. The tours are conducted by board members John Resto and David Martin. Additional walks, talks and driving tours are given as scheduled.

Craig House is open every Sunday from 1-4 PM. Docents are Kathy and Eric Doherty. They had a banner weekend on April 30- May 1, when we took part in the “Weekend in Old Monmouth” tour program, when they had almost 100 visitors at Craig House. Great job!

A bird walk and talk was held at the battlefield on April 30 with about a dozen attendees. It was supposed to be hosted by George and Barbara Dawson, but they were sick with covid. Thanks to Park Historian Michael Timpanaro for ably filling in. We are glad George and Barbara are recovered!

**FOMB BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (end of term in parentheses)

Caralee Bava-Grygo (2022) Freehold, NJ

Andrew Beagle (2024) South Plainfield, NJ

George Dawson (2022) New Brunswick, NJ

Eric Doherty (2022) Old Bridge, NJ

Kathy Doherty (2022) Old Bridge, NJ

Dr. David Martin (2024) East Windsor, NJ

Marilyn Miller (2024) Toms River, NJ

Fran Raleigh (2022) Colts Neck, NJ

David Shakespeare (2024) Colts Neck, NJ

Linda Spangle (2023) Manalapan, NJ

John Resto (2023) South Plainfield, NJ

Peter Wagner (2024) Englishtown, NJ

**OFFICERS (term ends December 2022)**

President David Martin

Vice President George Dawson

Secretary Frances Raleigh

Treasurer Kathleen Doherty

**FOMB RECEIVES OPERATING GRANT**

We are pleased to report that FOMB has received an operating grant of $3800 from the Monmouth County Historical Commission. The grant is to be used for our newsletters and brochures and for office expenses. President David Martin and Treasurer Kathy Doherty attended the grant presentation ceremony on March 7.

**Schedule of Events for the Commemoration of the 244th**

**Anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth, June 18-19, 2022**

Note: schedule subject to change. See our website for updates. www.friendsofmonmouth.org

***Saturday, June 18***

9:00 AM Camps open to the public

11:30 AM Mounted (horse) demonstration (on hillside below Visitor Center)

12:00 PM Children’s musket drill (at flagpole near Visitor Center)

12:30 PM Over Here Molly Pitcher Program (Auditorium in Visitor Center)

1:30 PM Children’s cannon drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

2:00 -2:45 PM Battle reenactment (battle area on hillside below Visitor Center)

5:00 PM Camps close to public, Sutlers remain open

***Sunday, June 19***

9:00 AM Camps open to the public

11:30 AM Artillery drill (on hillside below Visitor Center)

12:00 PM Over Here Molly Pitcher Program (Auditorium in Visitor Center)

1:00 PM Children’s cannon drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

1:30-2:15 PM Battle reenactment (battle area on hillside below Visitor Center)

2:45 PM Children’s musket drill (plaza outside Visitor Center)

3 PM Camps close to public, Sutlers remain open

**FOR EMERGENCY DIAL 911 or 877-WARNDEP (877-917-6337)**

**No alcohol is allowed in the Park. Metal detecting is specifically prohibited.**

**$10 per vehicle donation is requested to help defray costs of running the event.**

**Food vendor is located immediately west of Visitor Center (near Sutlers)**



**Funding has been made possible**

**in part by an operating grant (or special project) from the NewJersey Historical**

**Commission, a Division of the Department of State, through grant funds administered**

**by the Monmouth County Historical Commmission.**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE COMMEMORATION**

**OF THE 244th ANNIVERSARY**

**OF THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH**

**JUNE 25-26, 2022**

Note: schedule subject to change. See our website for updates. www.friendsofmonmouth.org

ALL EVENTS HELD (OR START AT) THE VISITOR CENTER

SATURDAY, JUNE 25

CRAIG HOUSE OPEN 1 PM -4 PM

12:15 PM Children’s cannon drill

1:00 PM “Over Here Molly Pitcher!” presentation by living history historian Stacy Roth

(Auditorium in Visitor Center)

2:00 PM Walking tour of the battlefield, visiting the

Hedgerow and the Parsonage. Meet at

Visitor Center

2:15 PM Children’s cannon drill

2:45 PM Fife and drum program (outside Visitor Center)

SUNDAY, JUNE 26

CRAIG HOUSE OPEN 1-4

12:15 PM Children’s cannon drill

1:00 PM “Over Here Molly Pitcher” presentation by

Living history historian Stacy Roth

(Auditorium in Visitor Center)

2:00 PM Tour to the north side of the battlefield, to

visit the new Molly Pitcher overlook (starts at Visitor Center)

2:15 PM Children’s cannon drill

2:45 PM Fife and drum program (outside Visitor Center)

CHILDREN’S MUSKET DRILLS WILL BE HELD OVER   
THE COURSE OF EACH DAY AS POSTED

Craig House is located off of Route 9 at Schibanoff Road,

about a mile north of intersection of Routes 9 and 33

**Events sponsored by Friends of Monmouth Battlefield**

***All events the weekend of June 25-26 are free of charge***

**FOMB REVISED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 6/22**

Updates will be posted on our website, www.friendsofmonmouth.org

June 11, 2022 (Sat) Driving tour covering General Lafayette’s march from Cranbury

through Hightstown to Robbins’ Tavern (Clarksburg) the two days

before the battle. Led by George Dawson. Meet at 1:30 PM at Visitor Center,

Monmouth Battlefield State Park, or meet at 2 PM at the Elizabeth

Wagner History Center, 6 South Main St, Cranbury, NJ 08512. Tour

will finish around 4 PM. (Drive your own vehicle.)

June 12, 2022 (Sun) Driving tour to visit the sites of the American encampment in Cranbury on the night before the battle of Monmouth (June 26, 1778) and their encampment at Ponolopon Bridge the night before the battle (June 27). Follow the

American march to the battle from Cranbury to Monroe Township to Englishtown. Led by George Dawson and David Martin.

Meet at 1:30 PM. At the Visitor Center, Monmouth Battlefield State Park, or

Meet at 2 PM at the Elizabeth Wagner History Center, 6 South Main

Street, Cranbury, NJ 08512. Tour will finish around 4 PM. (Drive your own vehicle.)

**June 18, 2022 (Sat) Annual reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth**

**Encampment and programs 10 AM-4 PM.**

**Reenactment at 2 PM. Program attached.**

**All events at the Park. Craig House closed.**

**June 19, 2022 (Sat) Annual reenactment of the Battle of Monmouth**

**Encampment and programs 10 AM-3 PM.**

**Reenactment at 1:30 PM. Program attached.**

**All events at the Park. Craig House closed.**

**June 25, 2022 (Sat) 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth.**

**Special programs and tours 10 AM-4 PM.**

**No reenactment this weekend. Program attached.**

**Craig House open.**

**June 26, 2022 (Sun) 244th Anniversary of the Battle of Monmouth.**

**Special programs and tours 11 AM-4 PM.**

**No reenactment this weekend. Program attached.**

**Craig House open.**

July 2, 2022 (Sat) Driving tour of the British route after the battle from Monmouth to

Middletown. Meet at the Park Visitor Center at 1:30 PM. Led by George

Dawson. Tour will finish around 3:30 PM. (Drive your own car,)

**July 3, 2022 (Sun) Walking tour of the battlefield.**

**Meet at the Visitor Center at 1:30 PM**

**July 4, 2022 (Mon) Commemoration of Independence Day at the Park**

**Lecture by David Martin, 12:00 PM at the Visitor Center Auditorium,**

**“From Monmouth to New Brunswick: The Week after the Battle”.**

**Lecture by George Dawson, 12:20 PM at the Visitor Center**

**Auditorium, “New Brunswick in the Revolution.”**

**1:00 Revolutionary War Cannon demonstration**