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Discover Fort Mackinac's Role in The Civil War

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. —Join the Multi-Lakes Association for Civil War Studies and the Fort Mackinac interpretive staff June 22–23 for the “Stanton Guard” Living History Encampment Weekend. The weekend will feature interpreters portraying Union soldiers as the Stanton Guard as well as interpreters reenacting the Confederate prisoners held at Fort Mackinac in the summer of 1862.

More than 30 interpreters will be on site to tell this part of the fort and nation's history. Special programs will begin at 10:00 a.m. both days. Demonstrations will take place on the parade ground every hour, and interpreters will be available for questions and information all day. Additionally, the reenactors will camp just outside the fort walls.

“We hope to convey to visitors the significant impact that the American Civil War left here at Fort Mackinac, said David Harkleroad, Interpretation Coordinator for Mackinac State Historic Parks. “Guests can expect to experience a different aspect of American military history that is not routinely interpreted here.”

The Multi-Lakes Association for Civil War Studies is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds for historic preservation of Civil War sites, living history, and education of the public about the American Civil War. Members are primarily from southern Michigan and the organization has been in existence since the 1980s.

All events are included with regular admission to Fort Mackinac. More information can be found at mackinacparks.com. Pictures are available upon request.

Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern

Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, Historic Downtown Mackinac, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at www.mackinacparks.com.

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