

August 28, 2009

*Fort Vancouver National Trust
General O.O. Howard House
750 Anderson Street
Vancouver, WA 98661
360.992.1800 * www.fortvan.org*



**FORT VANCOUVER
National Trust**

NEWS RELEASE --For Immediate Release

Contacts

*Susan Holton, Communications Manager
Fort Vancouver National Trust
360.992.1814; cell: 360.936.3561
susan.holton@fortvan.org*

*Kimm Fox-Middleton, Volunteer & Special Events Program Manager
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, National Park Service
360-816-6243
Kimm_Fox-Middleton@nps.gov*

**Tour Fort Vancouver and Pearson Air Museum after dark at
annual Campfires and Candlelight event on September 12**

(VANCOUVER, Wash.) September 12 is the date for Campfires and Candlelight, Fort Vancouver's largest re-enactment during the year and its signature community event. Begin at Pearson Air Museum, which focuses on pre-World War II aircraft and for the evening will feature a dramatic lighting scheme to complement the candlelight ambience at the fort. In the field between the air museum and the fort, stroll back in time and experience the night life of U.S. Army soldiers, Oregon Trail immigrants and the residents of Fort Vancouver's Village.

Once inside the Fort, time travel to September 13, 1846 when Fort Vancouver is buzzing with activity as the Fort provides relief for the *U.S.S. Shark*, an American naval ship that recently left Fort Vancouver and has wrecked on a sandbar at the mouth of the Columbia River. The crew was saved, but the ship was lost. See what various workers at Fort Vancouver do to help the *Shark's* officers and crew. This year 19th century plowing demonstrations will occur beginning at 3 p.m. The entire event is free of charge. For details about this event, call the Fort Vancouver Visitor Center at (360) 816-6230.

Campfires and Candlelight schedule of events:

3:00 p.m.

19th century plowing demonstrations

4:00 p.m.

Pearson Air Museum opens: The air museum will feature a dramatic lighting scheme to complement the candlelight ambience at the fort.

Timeline of history by campfire opens:

- U.S. Army camps at the Vancouver Barracks: drills, vintage base ball, black powder demonstrations
 - Circa 2007 – 104th Infantry Division
 - Circa 1940s – World War II: 18th Engineer Regiment
 - Circa 1914 – World War I
 - Circa 1890s - Spanish American War
 - Circa 1870s - Indian War Period
 - Circa 1860s - Civil War Period by 1st Oregon Volunteer Infantry
 - Circa 1849 - Pre Civil War by 2nd US Artillery, Company L and M
- Oregon Trail camp circa 1849: stories of adventure
- The Company Village camp circa 1846: Fort Vancouver's Village was home to people from diverse cultures and languages. Hear Chinook Jargon, music, stories and view games and dancing
- The Fort Vancouver Garden circa 1846

5:00 p.m.

- Howitzer Firing in the 1st Oregon Camp
- Fort Vancouver's stockade opens

Inside Fort Vancouver's stockade circa September 13, 1846 --The Night of the Shark
Tour the fort by candlelight. Time travel to September 13, 1846 when Fort Vancouver is buzzing with activity as the Fort provides relief for the *U.S.S. Shark*, an American naval ship that has wrecked on a sandbar at the mouth of the Columbia River.

7:00 p.m.

- View a typical dinner in the Ladies Mess
- View a typical dinner at the Barclay Quarters

8:00 p.m.

View a typical servants' dinner in the kitchen

9:00 p.m.

- Black powder demonstration
- Howitzer firing in the 1st Oregon Camp

10:00 p.m.

Event ends