

Read this First

Be aware of these updates for the 42nd Annual Reenactment of the Battle of Olustee in 2018. Please share this information with your entire unit. There are changes that impact artillery units.

Military Matters

James Permane has been appointed Union Commanding General for the 42nd Annual Reenactment. Tom Jessee is the Confederate Commanding General. They will share the responsibilities as Overall Commanders for the event.

Reminder for 2018

The Florida Park Service initiated new policies regarding black powder weapons and other weapons used during event programming in 2011.

Only reenactors 16 and older may handle black powder weapons. **Everyone** is required to show proof of age at registration before you can be issued a registration card – please remember to bring your id.

- **The notarized minor permission slip is now required for all minors participating in activities at the park, even if a parent is present.**
- Only FFg (2F) black powder will be used according to the table of maximum loads located in the Reenactors Guide. NO Pyrodex. NO FFFg (3F) or FFFFg (4F) powder will be used except by artillery units for priming.
- Each person handling a black powder weapon is required to complete a brief training – training will be conducted during weapons inspection and you will be provided special handouts at registration to help us accomplish this directive.
- All cartridges boxes must be lined with metal tins or have wood blocks.

Returning in 2018

- ❖ Reenactors only campaign on Friday throughout the day.
- ❖ Old Fashioned Barn Dance and Dance Instruction Friday evening

Practical Matters

- ❖ **For the safety of our school groups visiting on Friday, the front gate will be closed to vehicular traffic (except trucks pulling cannons or those pre-identified artillery vehicles) from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. During this period only, you will be able to register at the modern camping back gate.**
- ❖ There will be specific information regarding driving conditions and parking posted on the [www. BattleofOlusee.org](http://www.BattleofOlusee.org) website prior to the reenactment weekend. Driving conditions may change due to the condition of the battlefield in order to protect our natural and cultural resources. Please be patient and consider that this is still one of the few actual battle sites you are still able to participant on.
- ❖ **Digging of any type, including fire pits is strictly prohibited at Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park. Violators will be subject to federal fines and will be immediately dismissed from the event.**
- ❖ The front gate is closed for vehicle entry from 7 a.m. Saturday until 5 p.m. Sunday, except to Reenactors **pulling** cannons or pre-designated artillery vehicles.
- ❖ Reenactors will not be allowed to leave the park through the front gate following Sunday's battle until after all pedestrian traffic has cleared, or at approximately 5:00 p.m. Please respect the safety of pedestrians and motorists alike by being patient until the gate opens. You are welcome to exit through the rear gate before 5 p.m. on Sunday.
- ❖ Campers will not be admitted to the Modern or Authentic Camping areas until they have registered for the event.
- ❖ Camping at Olustee Battlefield is primitive in nature. We cannot accommodate requests to use generators nor can we provide electricity to campers.

Educational Activities

- ❖ Reenactors are asked to have either a 10-minute living history presentation developed for school groups visiting the Olustee Battlefield on Friday, or to assist as a guide for school groups.
- ❖ Please contact Kim Rivers about participating in these activities at 386-397-7009.

Artillery Information

- ❖ If possible, please have your cannon at the battlefield by Friday night.
- ❖ Please have your cannon on the Inspections Field as soon as reasonably possible following your arrival.
- ❖ Those that wish to participate in the night firing must have their cannons in place on the parade ground by 6 p.m. Friday evening. No cannons may be moved onto the parade ground between 6 p.m. and until completion of the night firing
- ❖ **Full scale artillery only**
- ❖ **Artillery Units Must Be Pre-Registered**
- ❖ **New in 2018 – Bring your own black powder to this event in prepared cartridges or rounds! Artillery Gun Owners participating in the battles both Saturday and Sunday will receive a \$300 stipend per gun following this event. All black powder must be brought into the park in prepared format – cartridges or cannon rounds, as appropriate. Black powder will not be distributed.**

Safety Information

- ❖ No black powder weapons of any kind will be carried or fired by any participant under 16 years of age. Children are not permitted on the field during the reenactments. Exception is made for functional musicians (boys 11 or older who can actually play a drum, a fife or a bugle). Young boys are not to serve as color bearers during battle reenactments.
- ❖ If you encounter bees in or near your campsites or in the park, please leave them alone and notify uniformed staff from the Florida Park Service or U.S.D.A. Forest Service of their location.
- ❖ **Please take note that trains traveling through the Olustee Battlefield Wednesday through Sunday are traveling under a “Slow Order” issued by CSX Railroad. The “Slow Order” is lifted at 6 p.m. Sunday evening. Use extreme caution when exiting the park after this time. Trains will be moving at a high rate of speed.**

Before Leaving the Event

Please be sure to clean your campsite and place all garbage in the dumpsters provided.

Visit Our Website: BattleofOlustee.org