

Fort Laurens 2020

Event Notice

As I stated earlier in the week, after my meeting with the Fort Laurens Site staff, our **2020 event is ON for July 18-19**. This will be our first NW Dept. B.A.R. event of the season, and I hope you are ready to don your 18th c. attire and get back out in the camps. There are several changes for our 2020 event, and they include;

-No Food will be provided for us this year. After our discussion with the site staff, it was decided that with Covid 19 in mind we could not assure food preparation to everyone's satisfaction, so you will need to **bring your own food** for all meals. Please keep modern containers (cups, wrappers, etc. . .) out of sight during the time the public will be on site.

-No fires will be permitted, with the exception of one for our demonstration area. This is a state camping rule, and since it is the middle of July, we will not need them for warmth. If you would like to cook, you can do so in the demonstration area.

-All Reenactors will need to have a mask/face covering with them. You will not need to wear this, just have it in your haversack, pocket, pack, etc. . , in case the county health dept. people ask. We will NOT wear them, especially while doing activities for the public.

-Every other tent in the lines in camp will need to be empty. This is for the county Health people camping requirement.

Our event will still be based on the lecture/demonstration that has been our event model for years. However, this year it will be structured differently. Instead of each topic being given a specific time during the day, we will have areas marked off for each demo. These areas will be sized to accommodate approximately 20 spectators, and the interpreters (you) will have a divide (probably a rope) to keep you distanced from your audience. You will have 30 minutes with a group, then a signal will be given (probably a specific song played by our music), and the spectators will leave your area for another. Times for this will be posted, and you will be giving the same interpretive talk about 6 times a day. So, having a partner or partners to help and trade off with will be a good choice. We will still do our Tomb ceremony, as well as a TWD, and

we'll switch off at noon so everyone has a chance for nooning. If the weather cooperates, we can hold our annual General Membership Meeting outdoors.

Some of the demonstrations I anticipate include;

- Women's role in the military camps
- Rifle and musket
- Music (if any of you play civilian instruments/music, now is your chance).
- Artillery
- Cooking/food/eating utensils
- Native Americans
- Medicine/surgeons
- 18th c. camp tools
- 18th c. games (I have bowling pins & balls if you would like to use them)
- The British soldier in the Revolution
- Congressional soldiers in the Revolution
- German-speaking soldiers in the Revolution
- Clothing of the period

I invite and encourage you to send me topics YOU would like to interpret. Let me know what you would like to address with the public, and we will add it to the presentations list. I think that we will hold ALL gunfire, both small arms and artillery, for our Tomb Ceremony and the TWD so that the other demonstrations are not interrupted, and so we do not scare the public with unanticipated firearms discharge.

Keep an eye out on your email for any adjustments to the event as I've outlined it.

Hotels near the Fort Laurens State Memorial;

The Sleep Inn, 11155 SR 212 Northeast, Bolivar, OH 44612 .7 miles [\(330\) 874-3435](tel:3308743435)

The Ramada, 509 South Wooster Avenue, Strasburg, OH 44680 5 miles [\(330\) 878-1400](tel:3308781400)

77 Inn and suites, 889 Commercial Parkway, Dover, OH 44622 8.7 miles [\(330\) 364-7724](tel:3303647724)

There are also a number of Bed and Breakfast accommodations in the Bolivar/Zoar area.

Please let me know the following information relative to your participation;

Name _____

Unit _____ **Number in Your Party** _____

Tentage (type and number) _____

Demonstration(s) You will Help With _____

See you at Fort Laurens, Bob Cairns (330) 455-9722 robtcairns@cs.com