



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Ruth G. Coleman, *Director*

FORT TEJON STATE HISTORIC PARK

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31 August, 2009

**Announcing the Spring 2010
Student Living History Program (SLHP)
at Fort Tejon State Historic Park.**

Dear Educators, Parents and Children's Educational Organization Leaders,

As the State of California wrestles with the current budget crisis, the Department of Parks and Recreation or California State Parks, is preparing to deal with another severe budget short-fall for this year. As of this date, I cannot tell you with certainty that these budget cuts will not affect Fort Tejon SHP or the Student Living History Program (SLHP).

It is expected that Fort Tejon SHP and the SLHP program will survive these cuts. I am still accepting reservations for the program and planning continues for a full and robust program with same staffing levels as before. However, the price has gone up as we are now totally dependent on student/parent fees for the operation of the program.

If the SLHP is affected by park closures or reductions in staffing, I will notify those of you with reservations immediately.

Fort Tejon State Historic Park offers a unique hands-on interpretive living history program for 4th & 5th grade children. We are now offering our Spring 2010 schedule of programs. Fort Tejon SHP invites you and your fellow educators to consider enrolling your class in one of our one-of-a-kind field trips. You and your class can take a field trip back in time to early California of the 1850s and discover everyday life at this mountain outpost of the U.S. Army.

This exciting educational opportunity is extended to schools on a first come, first served basis. Your class's reservation is confirmed by submitting the enclosed Program Reservation Form by mail or facsimile machine. A \$50.00 deposit is required by January 31st, 2010 for the Spring 2010 program to continue holding your reservation.

A list of available dates is included in this packet. Please pick a date that best suits your classes schedule and submit your desired date as soon as possible. Please do not delay in making your reservation, as the available dates go very quickly.

Some particulars about this unique educational opportunity are:

- The program is designed for Fourth and Fifth grade level children (9-11 years of age.)
- The SLHP is designed to be an overnight experience. The program begins around 9:00 AM and ends at approx. 10:00 AM the next day.
- There is a \$45.00 fee per student for the SLHP event and \$25.00 fee per adult. This fee includes two meals and program materials. Two meals are provided by Fort Tejon SHP, supper & breakfast.
- In order to confirm your reservation, a \$50.00 deposit is required by January 31st, 2010 for the Spring 2010 program.
- Payment should be made payable to: *State of California, Dept. of Parks and Recreation.*
- Participants must provide their individual or group lunch for the noon time meal.
- Minimum of **20** and Maximum of **40** students per program. Teachers/Adult assistants may exceed this number.
- Extensive adult involvement is required for a successful program. A minimum of **6** adult assistants and **1** teacher per class must be present during the entire program.

- Teachers and adult assistants **must** attend pre-program training at Fort Tejon SHP. A four hour pre-program training workshop will be conducted 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, March 6th, 2010

Training is mandatory in order to participate in the SLHP.

- A waiting list will be maintained to fill any vacancies that may occur.

I look forward to working with you and the educators of your school / organization again. You are especially invited to attend any of our interpretive living history programs at Fort Tejon SHP.

Sincerely,

Sean T. Malis, State Park Interpreter I
Fort Tejon SHP - 661-248-7001