From the Director...


While closed, we have remained diligent, staying in touch with national, regional, and state museum organizations. The arts and cultural community within the Columbus, Georgia area have been an invaluable resource for us to share information and determine best practices. As well, museum staff are creating new ways to educate and entertain our “visitors” at home through various online platforms.

After careful consideration, the museum will reopen to the public, with reduced operating hours, on Monday, May 18. Temporarily, as we continue to monitor the status of this pandemic, we will be open 10am to 3:30pm Monday through Friday. We have allotted time for staff to routinely clean and sanitize all public areas. The museum will remain closed on the weekends until further notice. We will strictly adhere to the Centers for Disease Control’s Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes.

During these dark and uncertain times, our staff is still committed to telling the stories of the navies of the Civil War. We are putting forth the proper precautions and safeguards to ensure the pleasant and educational experience patrons have come to know us for. We appreciate your patience and support, as we navigate this new terrain. We are learning and growing so that we can better connect people with the past; giving them a better sense of place and time.

We hope that you and those you care about are healthy and coping in these extraordinary times. This crisis has touched all of us in some way, and our thoughts are especially with the most vulnerable and with those in our community struggling with uncertainty. The National Civil War Naval Museum is open and waiting for you to come aboard whenever you’re ready! Please consider making a donation to protect our ability to continue to tell these important stories long after this period of uncertainty. Your philanthropic support ensures that when this crisis ends – and it will – The National Civil War Naval Museum will still be floating along.

-Holly Beasley Wait