



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE COMMAND
4710 KNOX STREET
FORT Bragg, NC 28310-5010

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFRC-MH

11 April 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR

OCAR Directors, Chiefs and Deputies
USARC Directors and Chiefs, Coordinating, Special, and Personal Staff Agencies
Commanders, Major Subordinate Commands

SUBJECT: New US Army Reserve Quarterly Staff Ride Program

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation 870-5, Military History: Responsibilities, Policies, and Procedures, 21 September 2007.
- b. US Army Center of Military History (CMH) Publication 70-21, The Staff Ride, January 1987.

2. Purpose: This memorandum will establish and initiate the new US Army Reserve Quarterly Staff Ride Program, an exceptional training opportunity offered by our Office of Army Reserve History (OARH). The staff ride is a superb venue for leader development, professional education, and team building. It enables participants to hone skills for the future by learning the lessons of the past. The staff ride also provides tangible examples of the Army Values and Warrior Ethos in action.

3. Background: Staff rides place participants on actual battlefields, confront them with realistic tactical situations and promote professional dialogue from which they learn important lessons and deduce valuable conclusions. The learning objectives are to: expose Soldiers to the human dimension of warfare; study good and bad leadership and its effect on command climate; illustrate how logistics affect tactical operations; highlight relationships between technology and doctrine; and study how terrain affects operational plans and their outcome.

4. Execution: Utilizing this program, the OARH will conduct staff rides to support the professional development of the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (OCAR) and the US Army Reserve Command (USARC) staffs for both military and civilian personnel.

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a. Four staff rides will be conducted annually in chronological sequence to important locations in order to give a balanced account of the Southern Campaign of the American War of Independence (1780 - 1781). It was this campaign that brought the war to an end. The staff ride campaign season will run from October through April each year with a trip occurring approximately every other month to enhance mental continuity. The staff ride locations for the Army Reserve program will be selected from the following sites (Enclosure 1 provides the sites and dates for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2013 through 2015):

- (1) Kings Mountain National Military Park (NMP), North Carolina;
- (2) Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site, South Carolina;
- (3) Cowpens (NB) National Battlefield, South Carolina;
- (4) Guilford Courthouse NMP, North Carolina;
- (5) Colonial (Yorktown) NMP, Virginia
- (6) Ninety Six NHS, South Carolina

b. In the event that these trips require an overnight stay, the individual agencies, directorates and subordinate commands are responsible for funding any temporary duty (TDY) travel costs and per diem for their personnel who participate.

c. The OARH will normally provide bus transportation from the USARC headquarters to and from the staff ride location at no cost to the participants.

d. Guest participants are welcome to request permission to attend from the Director of History, USARC.

5. The OARH can also tailor a staff ride to any of the locations above to meet the needs of your training or professional development programs. I encourage you to capitalize on this unique training opportunity.

6. Proponent: For additional information or assistance, contact the Director of History, USARC, Dr. Lee S. Harford Jr., at (910) 570-8183 or lee.harfordjr@usar.army.mil.

Encl *Take advantage
of this!
@*


KEITH L. THURGOOD
Major General, US Army
Deputy Commanding General (Support)/
Chief of Staff

Enclosure 1: Army Reserve Staff Ride Program for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2013-2015

Army Regulation 870-5 requires that the Office of Army Reserve History support a staff ride program for unit commanders and their staffs. Prior to the BRAC move to Fort Bragg (during the spring and summer of 2011), the Office of Army Reserve History (OARH) conducted a highly successful program for the US Army Reserve Command (USARC) staff and the Army military history detachments (MHDs) to Civil War battlefields within two hours of Fort McPherson (Atlanta).

In October 2012 (FY 2013), the program of staff rides will be reestablished and centered on Fort Bragg to visit the Revolutionary War battlefields of the Southern Campaign (1780-1781). The primary audience for the new program is the military and civilian staff members of the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (OCAR) at Fort Belvoir and the USARC at Fort Bragg to support professional development. Travel time to each of the sites from Fort Bragg is between approximately two to four hours, and even further from Fort Belvoir, which will require overnight stays for participants. The OARH will coordinate, manage and lead each staff ride. The OARH will keep the risk factor for these training events as low as possible. The dates for FY 2013-2015 are as follows:

FY 13

17-18 October 2012	Kings Mt. or Camden, SC
12-13 December 2012	Cowpens, SC
6-7 February 2013	Guilford, Courthouse, NC
3-4 April 2013	Yorktown, VA

FY 14

23-24 October 2013	Kings Mt. or Camden, SC
11-12 December 2013	Cowpens, SC
5-6 February 2014	Guilford, Courthouse, NC
2-3 April 2014	Yorktown, VA

FY 15

22-23 October 2014	Kings Mt. or Camden, SC
10-11 December 2014	Cowpens, SC
4-5 February 2015	Guilford, Courthouse, NC
8-9 April 2015	Yorktown, VA

We also intend to expand this program to the balance of the Army Reserve and afford them two options. The first option, we will allocate for the USARC major subordinate commands (MSCs) fifteen seats for all scheduled staff rides. MSCs must fund their participant and may reserve or relinquish their seat by contacting our office not later than 10 days prior to the scheduled date. The second, the OARH will develop a staff ride for your unit to the sites listed above, to include Fort Ninety Six National Historic Site (NHS), SC. We will review all requests and negotiate supportability, availability, dates and resource requirements.