

O'Fallon & the Civil War

When the American Civil War erupted in 1861, many of O'Fallon's German immigrants sided with the Union, including the town's founders, Arnold and Nicholas Krekel. They opposed dividing the country and felt that slavery was wrong.

On the other side of the issue were Americans like Darius Heald, who ran his large O'Fallon-area farm with slave labor. (The heart of the farm is now Fort Zumwalt Park.)

With feelings running high, the Germans formed companies of Home Guards, called "Krekel's Dutch," for defense.

Led by Arnold Krekel, who was protecting his investment in the North Missouri Railroad line, Krekel's Dutch vigorously defended the railroad bridge just west of town, which was a popular target for the Confederacy. They also built a blockhouse fort near the bridge, the only such fort erected in St. Charles County.

Darius Heald, meanwhile, supported the Confederacy, helping his nephew form a company of soldiers. Heald was arrested, made to take a loyalty oath and post bond, and his house – old Zumwalt's Fort – was ransacked and plundered by Union troops.



SHUTTLES

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Pick-up location: Civic Park east parking lot. Overflow parking at the corner of Civic Park Drive and Woodlawn Avenue.

Directions to Civic Park from I-70 - Take Exit 217 (Highways K/M). Turn north on Main Street, then left on Civic Park Drive. Civic Park is approximately three blocks on the right.

No vehicles are allowed in Fort Zumwalt Park during this event!

HEALD HOME GUIDED TOURS

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Admission is \$2 per person. Built circa 1884 by prominent farmer-merchant, Darius Heald, and restored by the City of O'Fallon, this handsome brick house was originally named Stony Point Plantation.

**For more information, call
636-379-5614**

www.ofallon.mo.us



CIVIL WAR

re-enactment

September 11 - 13

Fort Zumwalt Park • O'Fallon, Missouri



Experience the history behind the American Civil War and discover how O'Fallon's Darius Heald and Zumwalt's Fort were involved.

See the Civil War come to life in Fort Zumwalt Park!

Step back in time to an 1860s Civil War encampment! See how soldiers lived in the field, taste period food, buy from merchants selling period wares, watch military drills and live medical demonstrations, and witness battle re-enactments daily.

See the schedule for special events each day, including Church Dolls, a period dance, a church service and the Ladies' Tea! The historic Darius Heald Home will also be open for guided tours. (See back panel for details.)

FRIDAY SEPT. 11

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Open to Area Schools

(Shuttles will not be available on this day)

Teachers, bring history to life for students who are studying the Civil War! Students can participate in demonstrations and meet and ask questions of living history re-enactors portraying Civil War soldiers and medical personnel.

SATURDAY SEPT. 12

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 8:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Open to the General Public

Shuttles available from designated areas
(9 a.m. - 5 p.m. only)

9:00 a.m. - Park opens

Soldiers and civilians will be living everyday camp lives throughout the event. Merchants will sell their wares throughout the day. Food vendors will be located by the Heald Home.

9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m - Church Dolls Presentation

The Civilian Ladies will host this hands-on program. Participants will learn how to make Church Dolls and how they were used during the Civil War era.

2:00 p.m. - Civil War battle, followed by live medical demonstrations

5:00 p.m. - Camp closes to public

8:00 - 11:00 p.m. - Civil War Dance

Open to the public. Join us for a period dance with Deborah Hyland as the dance caller and string music. Shuttle service will NOT be available.

SUNDAY SEPT. 13

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Open to the General Public

Shuttles available from designated areas

9:00 a.m. - Camp opens to public; Civil War era church service

10:30 a.m. - Ladies' Tea

Ruth Collins will discuss the treatment of disabled persons during the Civil War. Refreshments will be served.

2:00 p.m. - Civil War battle

4:00 p.m. - Park closes

O'Fallon patriarch, Arnold Krekel (1815 - 1888), gave land to the railroad and founded the town of O'Fallon.

Courtesy of O'Fallon Historical Society

