



HISTORIC
LEADERSHIP
TRAINING

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100 Years of Setting the Record Straight Gettysburg's Licensed Battlefield Guides Celebrate Anniversary

by **Antigoni Ladd**

Since 1915, Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guides have made the famous battle come alive for visitors coming to Gettysburg. This elite group (currently 158) of tested and licensed guides is celebrating a century of service, since the first guide exam was given in September 1915.

Up until that point, guiding was done by local residents giving their interpretation of the actions of 1863. In the days following the battle, the need for help in maneuvering the wide-spread fields, woods, and roads around Gettysburg was immense. Shortly after the battle in July 1863, family members of the wounded and dead came to Gettysburg, searching for loved ones. Then, after the November 1863 dedication of the national cemetery and President Lincoln's famous speech, even more visitors came to the little town.

Tourists came by train, hiring carriages with guides. At first there was no effort by the War Department to regulate guide services, but as complaints increased about high fees and inaccurate reporting of the battle, the War Department initiated a licensing system for guides in 1915.

Then in 1933, the National Park Service (part of the Interior Department) took over the guide service and today continues to run the program. Applicants for the exam must pass both a written and oral exam—and stories about the difficulty of passing the exam are legion!

Our Gettysburg leadership programs (Lincoln, Gettysburg, Eisenhower/Churchill) employ these great guides, and we say, "Thank you for your wonderful service. You are incredible assets to our programs."

"Our chief want is someone who will inspire us to be what we know we could be."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Frederick Community College Offering Historic Leadership Program



Beginning in late February, three of our programs are available in Frederick, Maryland. If you work in DC and have attended one of our many Lincoln courses, you may want to sample our WWII offerings.

You may sign up for a half-day Churchill program, a half-day Eisenhower program, or a half-day DiSC program that includes clips on Eleanor Roosevelt and Mahatma Gandhi as role models.

You may sign up for a single course or the series of all 3. Just go to the Frederick Community College web site, select 2016 Continuing Education catalogue, and click to page 13: <http://www.frederick.edu/class-schedules/downloads/spring2016ceschedule.aspx>.



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