September 13 - 14, 2025
Monterey Pass Battlefield Park & Museum

A Medical "Perfect Storm"

In a Civil War war ranging from Pennsylvania to Texas, millions of men battled with advanced weaponry, but little change in combat tactics. 720,000 killed, 476,000 wounded. Medical science has yet to discover germs. Two thirds of those who died did so because of disease. 51,000 casualties at Gettysburg alone, and then the Confederate retreat through Monterey Pass with Union forces in pursuit. No one was prepared for this perfect storm in medical care.

Living History Weekend
September 13 - 14 at Monterey Pass

Civil War Medicine
with Federal Surgeon Dr Brinton

"**Civil War Historical Impressions**" reenactors and historians provide an authentic portrayal of a Union Field Hospital struggling with immense casualties in the War Between the States. Surgeons, nurses, hospital stewards, civilians, chaplains and infantry who serve as the "Ambulance Corps" demonstrate the daily responsibilities of caring for the wounded.

Schedule
Medical Displays: all day
Camp Life Open to Visit:
9:30am - 5pm

How did they organize? What did they use? How did they cope? What did they learn? Doug Decker and a team of reenactors portray Federal Surgeon Dr Brinton who will discuss field medicine based on the best impressions of Civil War life possible based on research and documentation.

As an added bonus, professional tour guide John Galie will tell the story of the retreat from Gettysburg and the Battles that took place in raging thunderstorms all night around and right there at the Museum grounds on July 4 - 5, 1863. There will be two tours on Saturday at 11am and 2pm, and one on Sunday at 11am.