

THE CHARGER

May 2014

506th Meeting

Vol. 35, #9

Tonight's Program:

Soldiers and the Homefront: A Northern Community Confronts the Civil War

After his uncle died in the Battle of Cedar Mountain, Josiah Williams struggled to break the news to his parents. Since the body was not recovered, they refused to believe that Whitfield Reed was dead. After trying to discourage their notions that Uncle Whit might be a prisoner, Josiah finally described in graphic detail seeing his uncle shot in the head. Historians have debated the nature of the gulf that emerged between Civil War soldiers and the homefront, or even whether such a gulf ever existed. Josiah Williams, and other Union soldiers from Putnam County, Indiana, became both distinct from and yet still parts of their home community.



Tonight's Debaters:

Dr. Nicole Etheson

Nicole Etcheson is the Alexander M. Bracken Professor of History at Ball State University. She is the author of *A Generation at War: The Civil War Era in a Northern Community* (2012); *Bleeding Kansas: Contested Liberty in the Civil War Era* (2004); and *The Emerging Midwest: Upland Southerners and the Political Culture of the Old Northwest, 1787-1861* (1996). Dr. Etcheson grew up in southern Indiana and, after graduating from Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, went to Indiana University, receiving her PhD in 1991. She has taught at Hiram College, the University of South Dakota, and the University of Texas at El Paso before taking the Bracken Chair at Ball State in 2005. She is currently working on a project about suffrage which examines voting rights for ex-Confederates, African Americans and women in the post-Civil War era.

Date: **Wednesday, May 14, 2014**

Place: **Judson Manor**

1890 E. 107th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Time: **Drinks 6 pm**

Dinner 6:45 pm

Reservations: **Please send an email to ccwrt1956@yahoo.com with your reservation, or call Dan Zeiser at (440) 449-9311 by 9 pm the Sunday before the meeting.**

**CLEVELAND
CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE
FOUNDED 1957**

President: **Jim Heflich** (216) 381-8833
Vice President: **Patrick Bray** (216) 407-7878
Treasurer: **Chris Fortunato** learnedhand@live.com
Secretary: **Jean Rhodes** (440) 739-0579

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Paul Burkholder Mike Wells
C. Ellen Connally Howard Besser

Historian - Dave Carrino

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Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Past Presidents

2013 **Mike Wells**
2012 **Paul Burkholder**
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2009 **Jon Thompson**
2008 **Terry Koozer**
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2006 **Dave Carrino**
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2002 **Bill McGrath**
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2000 **Bob Boyda**
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1998 **John Moore**
1997 **Dan Zeiser**
1996 **John Sutula**
1995 **Norton London**
1994 **Robert Battisti**
1993 **Kevin Callahan**
1992 **Bob Baucher**
1991 **Joe Tirpak**
1990 **Ken Callahan Jr.**
1989 **Neil Glaser**
1988 **Martin Graham**
1987 **George Vourlojianis**
1986 **Tim Beatty**

1985 **Brian Kowell**
1984 **Neil Evans**
1983 **William Victory**
1982 **John Harkness**
1981 **Thomas Geschke**
1980 **Charles Spiegle**
1979 **William Bates**
1978 **Richard McCrae**
1977 **James Chapman**
1976 **Milton Holmes**
1975 **Thomas Gretter**
1974 **Nolan Heidelbaugh**
1973 **Arthur Jordan**
1972 **Bernard Drews**
1971 **Kenneth Callahan**
1970 **Frank Schuhle**
1969 **Donald Heckaman**
1968 **Frank Moran**
1967 **William Schlesinger**
1966 **Donald Hamill**
1965 **Lester Swift**
1964 **Guy DiCarlo Jr.**
1963 **Paul Guenther**
1962 **Edward Downer**
1961 **Charles Clarke**
1960 **Howard Preston**
1959 **John Cullen Jr.**
1958 **George Farr Jr.**
1957 **Kenneth Grant**

President's Message

Our May meeting on the 14th ends the 2013/2014 program year - and I would like to thank the following Roundtable members who made my job as President both easy and enjoyable: fellow officers Patrick Bray, Chris Fortunato and Jean Rhodes; and Dave Carrino for a year of wonderful history briefs that illuminated little known corners of Civil War history in a most entertaining way. And without Dave's technical expertise, our speakers' programs would never appear on screen either - his role as Roundtable A/V Coordinator is vital to the successful presentation of all our programs.

Kudos to Bob Boyda for efficiently managing the time-consuming monthly meeting reservations and coordinating them with Judson Manor; Paul Burkholder who for many years as Roundtable Webmaster has run one of the very best Civil War websites around; and Dan Zeiser for both the always challenging history quizzes, and for his superb editorship of *The Charger* - now passing into the capable hands of Dennis Keating and Mike Wells. And thanks to Roundtable vexillologist William Vodrey who never forgets to crown our tables with a variety of historically accurate Civil War flags.

I encourage everyone to volunteer to be a Roundtable officer sometime in the future - I began with great trepidation, but found it to be great fun. I was "shanghaied" into it at the beginning by Dennis and Paul, but would not have missed it for the world!

Weather permitting, I hope the May meeting will offer a surprise or two - I know our speaker, Dr. Nicole Etcheson, is not to be missed! See you on the 14th.

Respectfully,

Jim Heflich
laureldoc@gmail.com

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

2013-2014 SCHEDULE

September 11, 2013

A Species of Legal Fiction: The Wheeling Conventions and the Creation of West Virginia



January 8, 2014

The Dick Crews Annual Debate What Was the Most Important Battle of the Civil War?

February 12, 2014

The U.S. Navy and the Naval Battles of Charleston 1863



October 9, 2013

Slaves to Contradictions: Patrick Cleburne's Emancipation Proposal

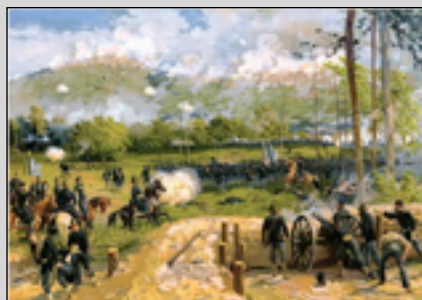
Wilson R. Huhn



March 12, 2014

The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain

Dan Vermilya



November 13, 2013

Zouaves: America's Forgotten Soldiers



April 9, 2014

Materials and Processes in the Manufacture of Civil War Small Arms



December 11, 2013

"It was a terribly grand
scene..."

The Slaughter Pen and Prospect Hill at Fredericksburg

Kristopher White



May 14, 2014

Soldiers and the Homefront: A Northern Community Confronts the Civil War

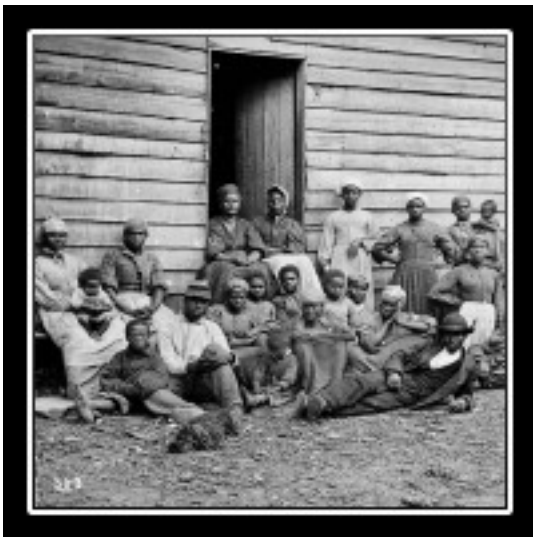
Nicole Etcheson



THE CIVIL WAR IN PHOTOS



Envelopes and family photographs

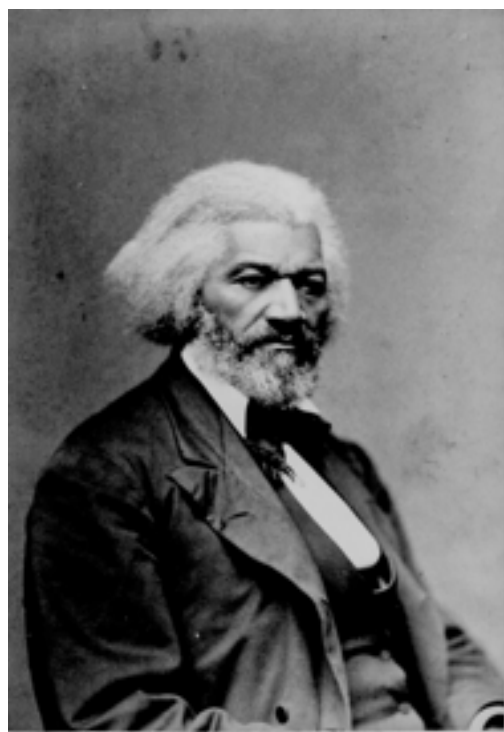


Civil War refugees and African-American dockworkers



Soldiers
and
families





Top row: Walt Whitman and Frederick Douglass

Second Row: Harriet Beecher Stowe, Horace Greeley, and William Lloyd Garrison

Third Row: Five (5) generations on Smith's Plantation, Beaufort, SC

Farewell Message from Dan Zeiser, Editor

This is my last edition as editor of *The Charger*. I have enjoyed being editor and hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I have putting it together. Ten (10) years is enough, I think, and it is time to pass the baton. Mike Wells and Dennis Keating will be taking over and I leave *The Charger* in their capable hands. I look forward to the touches they will add and the improvements they will make. I think *The Charger* is the best Roundtable newsletter around and it will only be better under their guidance. Thanks for all the kind comments along the way and I will see you at the meetings next year.

Officers for 2014-2015

President	Patrick Bray
Vice President	Chris Fortunato
Treasurer	Jean Rhodes
Secretary	Hans Kuenzi

2014 Field Trip, September 18-21

Thursday, travel to Franklin, Tennessee

Friday, The Battle of Spring Hill

Saturday, The Battle of Franklin

Thomas Cartwright will be our guide

Sunday, return to Cleveland

If you plan to join us, please contact Patrick Bray, pbray360@aol.com