

THE CHARGER

November 2013

500th Meeting

Vol. 35, #3

Tonight's Program:

Zouaves: America's Forgotten Soldiers

Our speaker presents a slide show of 100 photographs of Zouaves, both North and South. He discusses the origins of Zouaves in North Africa, French Zouaves distinguished exploits in the Crimean War and in Italy, and Elmer Ellsworth and "Zouaves craze" in America. Slides demonstrate various styles of American Zouave uniforms. There will be brief capsule histories on several famous Zouave units. Reproduction uniforms will be brought for display and details of this unique uniform explained.



Tonight's Speaker:

Patrick Schroeder

Mr. Schroeder was born January 1, 1968 at Fort Belvoir, VA. He graduated with a B.S. in Historical Park Administration from Shepherd College and has a M.A. in Civil War History from Virginia Tech. Patrick has worked at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and the Patrick Henry National Memorial. He has written, edited, or contributed to more than twenty-five Civil War titles including: *More Myths About Lee's Surrender*; *The Confederate Cemetery at Appomattox*; *Recollections and Reminiscences of Old Appomattox*; *Civil War Soldier Life: In Camp and Battle*; *A Duryee Zouave*; *We Came To Fight: A History of the 5th NY Veteran Vol. Inf., Duryee's Zouaves*; *Campaigns of the 146th Regiment New York State Volunteers*; and *With the 11th New York Fire Zouaves: In Camp, Battle and Prison*. Patrick resides in Lynchburg, VA, and has worked as an independent researcher, author, historian, and tour guide. He has served as the Historian at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park since 2002. To protect sites relevant to the Appomattox Campaign, Patrick has set up the "Appomattox Fund" with the Civil War Trust, to save land important to the climatic events of April 1865.

Date: **Wednesday, November 13, 2013**

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.**

Meal: **Entree, vegetable, salad, and dessert.**

**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
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Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Past Presidents

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1987 **George Vourlojianis**
1986 **Tim Beatty**
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1973 **Arthur Jordan**
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1962 **Edward Downer**
1961 **Charles Clarke**
1960 **Howard Preston**
1959 **John Cullen Jr.**
1958 **George Farr Jr.**
1957 **Kenneth Grant**

President's Message

There's another "Old Abe" who figured prominently in the Civil War; a Bald Eagle from the wilds of north-central Wisconsin. Orphaned near Wisconsin's Flambeau River, the immature Bald Eagle in 1861 became the mascot of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment - Company C specifically. Old Abe accompanied these troops, carried on his perch like the regimental colors, through three years of war - never losing a battle according to legend. Old Abe participated in the battles of Island Number 10, Corinth, Iuka, and with Sherman's command at Vicksburg.

Following the war, Old Abe toured the country helping to raise money for veterans homes and war memorials. Old Abe starred at the Centennial International Exposition held in Philadelphia in 1876 before dying in the spring of 1881. I was reminded of Old Abe today by sightings of two Bald Eagles this past Sunday. One was soaring high over the mouth of the Chagrin River in Fairport Harbor and the other drifted west along the Lake Erie shoreline at Euclid's Sim's Park.

Birding and Civil War study - especially field trips - go well together. Those of you who have come on recent field trips have probably noticed I am never without my binoculars. I try to listen dutifully to all our great guides - but always with at least one eye skyward. Some recent highlights that come to mind are a large flock of American White Pelicans majestically drifting south along the Ohio River just above Cairo, IL last year. With a wingspan approaching nine feet, they are larger and much heavier than Bald Eagles.

And on another field trip a few years ago, our carload of Roundtable members stopped at Fredericksburg National Military Park for a quick tour before heading on to Petersburg. It was my first hike up Marye's Heights that I had read so much about - and there was an uncommon Olive-sided Flycatcher perched high on a dead snag. I rarely see more than one or two of these northern migrants per year - so this was a very exciting sighting. Incidentally, the call of this species is easily remembered as "Quick, three beers!"

Don't forget to come early next week for our November meeting - grab a drink before 6 and sit down to enjoy The Federal Rebels concert before the meal. Remember, this is a bit of a dress-up affair in honor of our 500th consecutive meeting - and long-time members of The Roundtable can expect to encounter old friends from years past.

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*

**Dr. David T.
Javersak**



January 8, 2014

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

Moderator: William F. B. Vodrey

February 12, 2014

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

Syd Overall



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*
Patrick Schroeder



April 9, 2014

*Materials and
Processes in the
Manufacture of Civil
War Small Arms*

John Harkness



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



Zouaves in the American Civil War

The original Zouaves were native North African troops serving in the French Army in the 1830s. They wore distinctive uniforms. The uniforms usually consisted of a fez and turban, very baggy pants, a vest, a short jacket that was cut away from the top with only one button or clasp at the throat and a sash. They also wore leggings. The uniforms were usually brightly colored and had much trim and/or braid and many brass buttons on them.

These soldiers fought in North Africa for French interests. Later Zouaves fought in the Crimea and Italy in the 1850s. These troops were well trained and disciplined and were famous for great feats on the battlefield, and often mischief and rowdiness off the battlefield.

Prior to the US Civil War, "Zouave fever" spread to America. The colorful uniforms and fancy drill caught on with many city's militia units. This was particularly true after Col. Elmer Ellsworth took his Chicago Zouave Cadets on a tour of North America, challenging militia units to drill competition.

The 72nd Pennsylvania wore a modified Zouave uniform, with Chausseur pants and jackets with little fancy trim. Their trademark was their vest and leggings.

By the end of the Civil War most Zouave uniforms had disappeared due to the Army not wanting to replace them. There were however units that maintained the Zouave uniforms throughout the war, and actually were given Zouave uniforms to recognize the bravery of the unit.

Zouaves disappeared at the end of the Civil War in the US, except for veteran's groups. They continued on in the French Army until World War I when the ability to blend into the battlefield required more traditional green uniforms.

Taken from the website of the 72nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry
www.philazou.home.mindspring.com



Duryee's Zouaves,
5th New York. A
typical true Civil War
Zouave uniform.

A corporal in the
5th New York
Infantry at Federal
Hill, Baltimore in
1862.





NO COMPROMISE WITH TRAITORS, AND NO ADJUTMENT OF THE CANNON'S MOUTH

FIRE ZOUAVES

An excellent chance for young Men to attach themselves to that first class Regiment.

BAXTER'S PHILADELPHIA FIRE ZOUAVES,

NOW THE ADVANCE GUARD OF THE

GRAND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

APPLY AT THE

RECRUITING STATIONS,

Hope Hose Co's House, Union St. below 2d.

OR AT

Head Quarters, 337 Chestnut St.

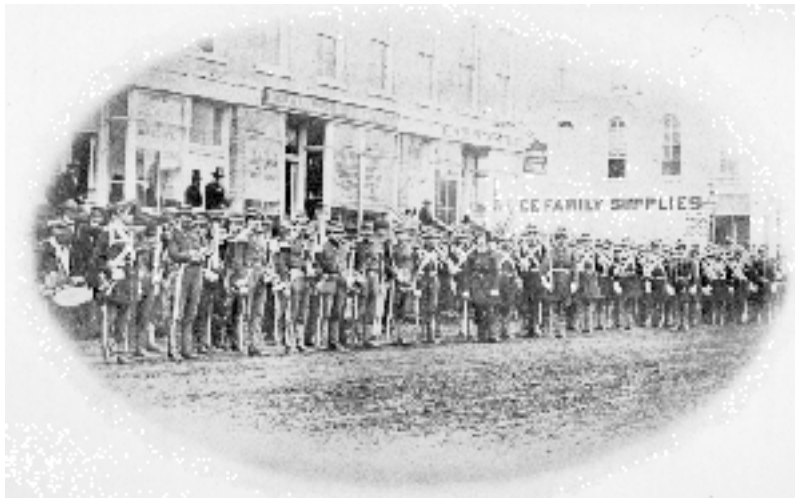
H. W. GILLINGHAM, 1st Lieut.
J. H. DOUGHER, 2d

F. LOUIS GIMBER, Captain.

Recruiting poster for the
72nd PVI.



A sketch by Thur de
Thulstrup of the 5th
New York drilling atop
Federal Hill, Baltimore
in 1862.



Top left: US Zouave Cadets of Chicago

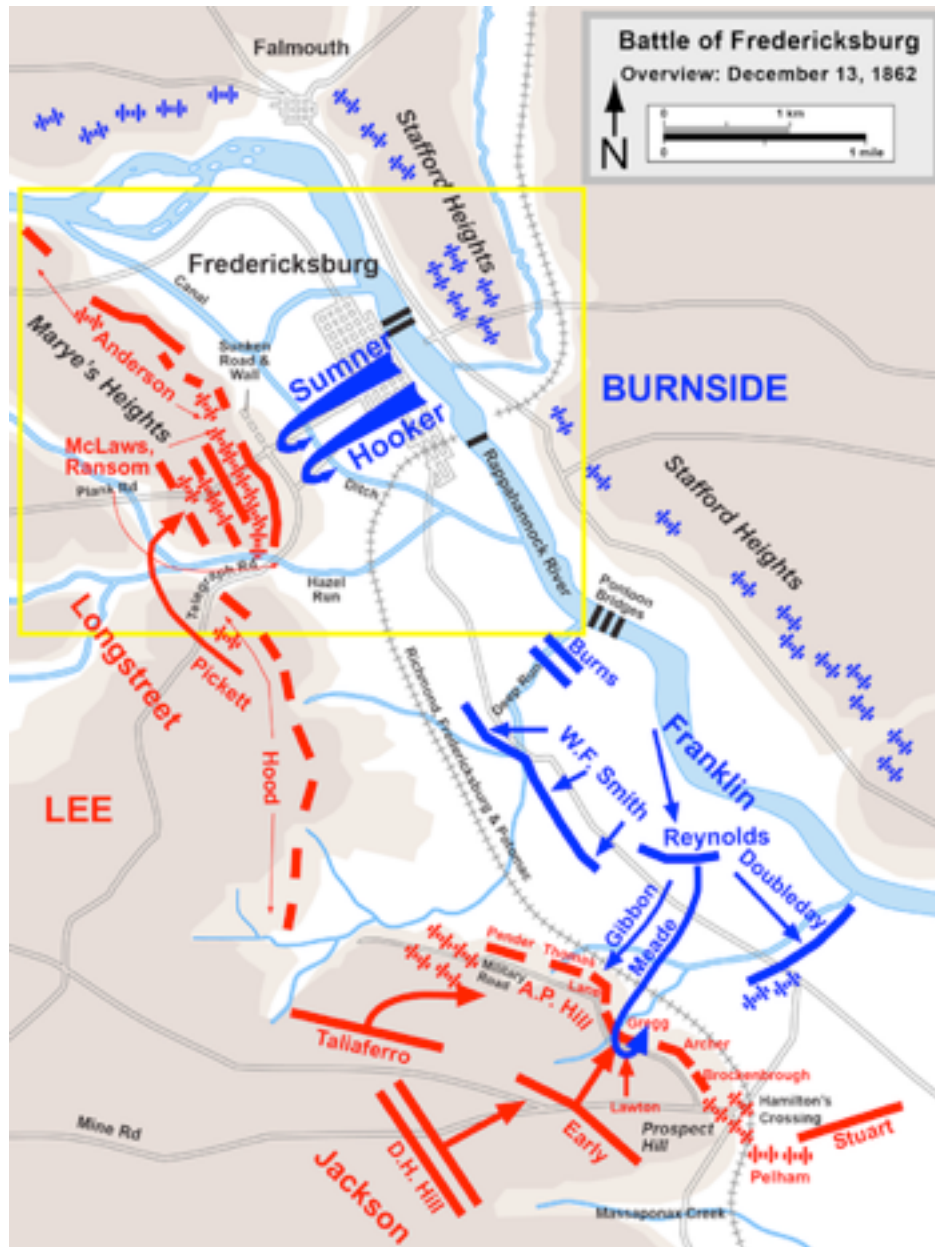
Top right: Elmer Ellsworth

Left: Ellsworth and his Zouaves on tour.

Below: Ellsworth drills the US Zouave Cadets of Chicago, 1860.

Photographs of Zouave Soldiers and Units





NEXT MONTH

**“IT WAS A TERRIBLY GRAND SCENE...” THE SLAUGHTER PEN
AND PROSPECT HILL AT FREDERICKSBURG**

KRISTOPHER WHITE

