



The Charger

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P.O. Box 5786, Cleveland, Ohio 44101

NOVEMBER 1990

292nd MEETING

VOL. 12 # 3

DATE: Tuesday, November 13, 1990

PLACE: The Hermit Club

SUBJECT: "An Evening with James A. Garfield."

SPEAKER: Ed Haney. (See biographical information inside.)

TIME: Drinks 6PM Dinner 7PM

RESERVATIONS: Please call Joe Tirpak at 255-8140. RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!




James A. Garfield

1831-
1881



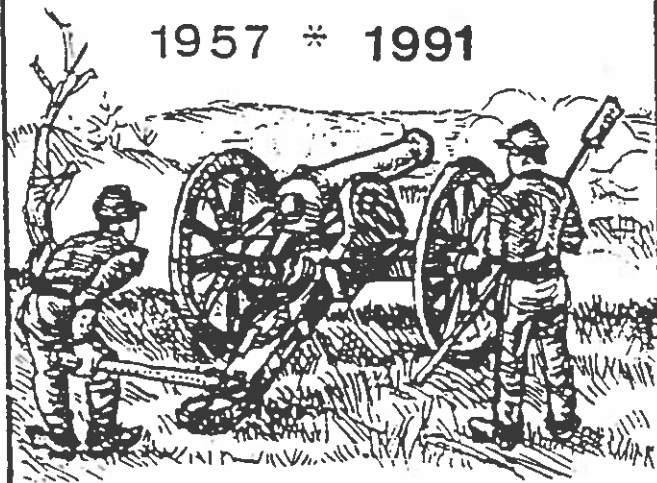
Shot in the back. President Garfield (above) crumples as Charles Guiteau takes a second shot. At Guiteau's trial his lawyer insisted the killer was insane. But the incoherent assassin was sentenced to hang.

Last Month's Meeting



CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

1957 * 1991



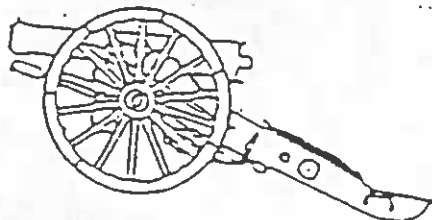
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MOVING?

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Preserve Your Battlefields!



The XI Corps of the Army of the Potomac was made up largely of regiments of German birth or descent. Their American born fellow soldiers suspected and often disliked these men of foreign language, foreign ways, and pro-black sentiments. The battered XI Corps' service at Chancellorsville (being routed by Jackson only reinforced such distrust, and caused their morale to sink. Morale was so low that Corps commander Maj. Gen. O.O. Howard was disliked by its own members.

In late June, as the Corps marched through the friendly counties in Maryland and Pennsylvania on its way to Gettysburg, morale improved. As A. Wilson Greene told 50 of our members and guests, the XI Corps was out to prove to themselves and the rest of the army that they were as brave as any. If bravery is measured in blood, then the XI Corps proved its mettle at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863.

Mr. Greene contended that the XI Corps purpose was to support the I Corps and to establish a defensive line until reinforced by the rest of the army. Howard succeeded in doing all of this, according to Mr. Greene, by placing Von Steinwehr's Division on Cemetery Hill to dig in while he sent Barlow's and Schurz's Divisions north of the town to support Doubleday and slow Ewell.

Barlow's and Schurz's Divisions paid a heavy price when the Confederate attack came. The XI Corps lost 1768 killed and wounded and 1427 missing in less than two hours. Greene contended that Barlow made a tactical error by advancing Von Gilsa's Brigade to the knoll that now bears Barlow's name. This exposed the Union right flank to the attack of Hays and Avery causing the Corps to fall back. Mr. Greene insisted that the XI Corps fell back fighting this onslaught and showed no signs of panic or rout until it reached the confines of the streets of town. The funneling of troops into the narrow and unfamiliar streets without having designated retreat routes caused confusion and loss among the XI Corps.

Despite its retreat and loss of life, Mr. Greene said that the XI Corps was not a mob of panic stricken dutchmen who would not fight and instead sacrificed to hold the high ground at Cemetery Hill and anchor the Union defenses.

President Garfield still charms folks

by Janet Podolak
Herald Staff Writer

Ed Haney's remarkable resemblance to 20th U.S. President James A. Garfield sometimes has a strange effect on visitors to Lawnfield, Garfield's 19th-century Mentor home.

"Sometimes they're speechless," said Haney, of Mentor. One woman didn't know what to do, so she just curtied."

To allay her embarrassment, Haney told her: "Ma'am, you don't need to be artsy. I'm not royalty. I'm a president."

Haney presided over Saturday's Presidents Day program

at Lawnfield with an hour-long program that gave visitors an insightful look into Garfield's life and times. His next appearance is at 2 p.m. Saturday, when he'll review the troops for a midwinter campment of Civil War volunteers from the 8th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment.

When Haney, costumed in a Chesterfield jacket, first meets them at the entrance to the stately old home owned by the National Park Service, visitors begin to get into the mood he sets as an actor. "Hello," he says. "I'm James Garfield. Welcome to my home."

His first-person interpretation reveals a Garfield who cares deeply about his five children, loves his books and his Mentor farm, but is somewhat bemused by all the attention his personal charisma seems to generate.

Sideways glances soon turn to outright stares in Haney's direction as visitors see Garfield portraits, busts and photographs among the home's Victorian furnishings. They can't help but notice how much he looks like the president he is portraying.

Lawnfield curator Dale Maughans recalls that people gasped out loud the day Haney made his debut.

"It was Nov. 19, 1988, and we were observing Garfield's 150th birthday," she said. "Ed was standing beneath a Garfield portrait and the resemblance was absolutely remarkable."

Haney, long known in local theatrical circles, is employed by the Willoughby School of Fine Arts. Presidents, it seems, are something of a

forte. He's played Franklin Delano Roosevelt in "Annie" and Ronald Reagan in "Rap Master Ronnie," both Fine Arts productions.

Maughans says children, especially, are in awe of Haney as if they've been in the presence of a genuine U.S. president.

"They're always asking for his autograph," she said. Never stepping out of character, Haney signs James A. Garfield's name with a flourish.

Haney shares astonishment at the similarities between himself and Garfield, whom he has studied in the year and a half he's been portraying him.

"Garfield was 6-foot-2, I'm 6-foot," he says. "He weighed 215, I weigh 218. We have the same stature and the same hairline."

At 57, Haney's own beard is much grayer than Garfield's red one, so he sprays in the darker color. "Garfield died when he was 49, so I'm portraying a younger man," he said.

The beard has been something of a mixed blessing when Haney wants to audition for another role.

"Every time I want to shave my beard, I seem to get another Garfield gig," he says.

Once after being greeted at Lawnfield by Haney, a visitor countered with: "And I'm James R. Garfield, his great-grandson, and I once lived in this house."

Lawnfield remained the Garfield family home until the 1930s, when it was donated to the Western Reserve Historical Society, which operates it to this day. Garfield family members lived next door for a while, and several descendants still reside in the area.

"When James R. Garfield was leaving that day, he came up to say goodbye," Haney recalled. "He said, 'Goodbye, Gramps. It was good to have you back.'"

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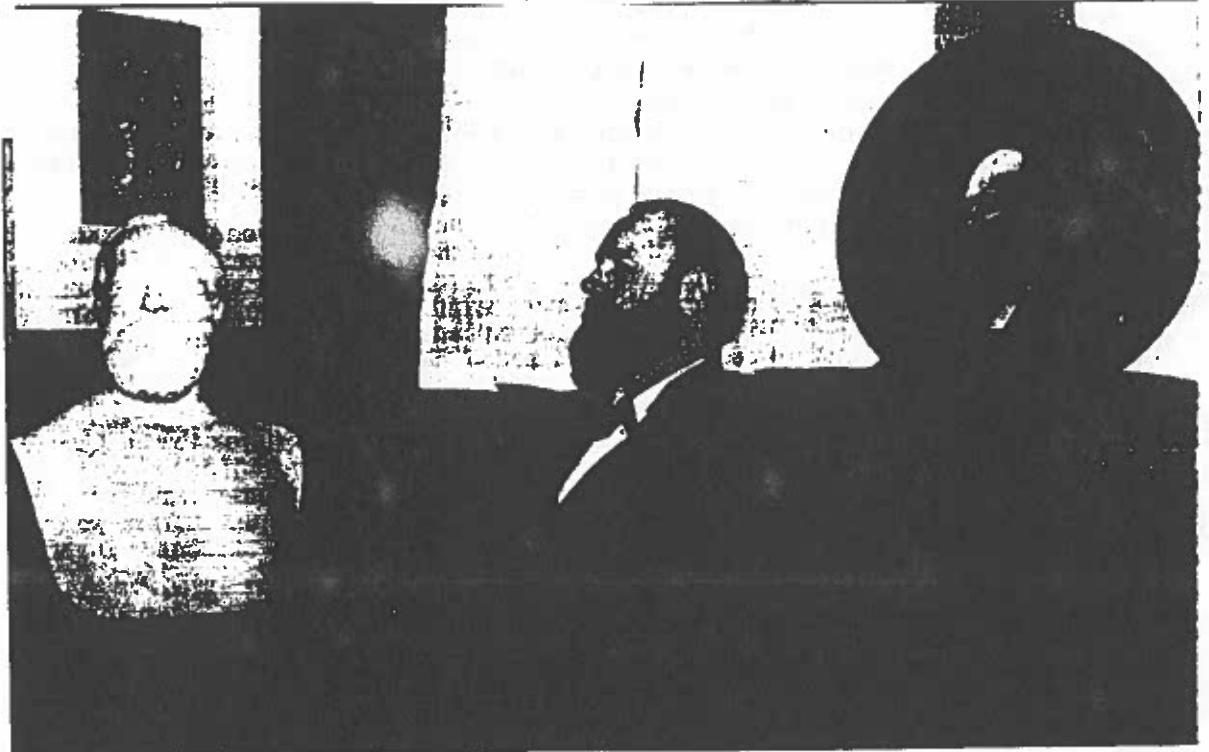
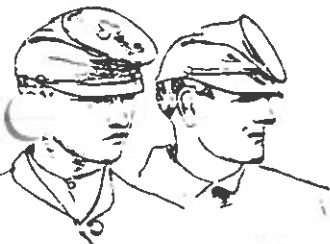


Photo by Ted Podolak

Lawnfield visitors have even curtied to Ed Haney of Mentor when they note his startling resemblance to 20th U.S. President James A. Garfield.

SCENES I'D LIKE TO HAVE SEEN



Brigadier General Robert S. Granger, Union commander at Nashville, was overrun with complaints about the city's notorious "Smokey Row" district and the debilitating illnesses inflicted on compliant soldiers by the "soiled ladies" plying their trade there. He decided to rid the city of its huge prostitute contingent in one fell swoop. Granger ordered the captain of the sternwheeler "Idahoe" to transport over 100 of the fallen women upriver to Louisville.

The unfortunate captain of the vessel, John M. Newcomb, protested that it would "forever ruin her reputation as a passenger boat" if the offending women were put aboard her. He said the "Idahoe" henceforth would bear the ignominious title of "floating whorehouse".

But orders were orders, and the women in question were dragged to the Nashville shipyards and placed on board the boat. "The majority of the wayward were taken by surprise, caught in flying tackles by soldiers as they attempted to jump half-clad from second-story windows or to flee through back doors. Others were marched kicking biting, screaming, and swearing into quartermaster wagons at bayonet point."

The boat steamed north with its "frail sisterhood" only to be denied provisions along the route, and then to be told it could not land at the intended destination of Louisville. The distressed Captain Newcomb was sent on to Cincinnati, but authorities there were in no mind to take his passengers either. In the meantime, the cursing, lawless women on board smashed his boat's new interior compartments and even ripped the veneer off the walls.

Finally, after 13 days that Newcomb would never forget, the steamer returned to Nashville, its surreal voyage at last at an end.

More Than You Ever Wanted To Know About

JULIUS P. GARESCHÉ

After 21 years in the regular army, Julius P. Garesché did not survive his first battle.

Garesché was born in Cuba and little is known of his early childhood. He received an appointment to West Point from Delaware and graduated in 1841. Posted to the artillery branch, he served with it until November 9, 1855, when he was breveted a captain and assigned to Washington as assistant adjutant general.

In the early days of the Civil War, he organized volunteers in the nation's capitol while advancing through the ranks to lieutenant colonel in the adjutant's department. He had refused a commission as major general, saying that he wished to earn his stars on the battlefield.

Garesché was somewhat of an eccentric. He seemed without earthly ambition, half mystic, half saint; he denied himself reasonable comforts to help the poor. This might have had to do with his Catholic background.

On November 13, 1862, Garesché was appointed as assistant adjutant general of the Army of the Cumberland. This would be his first field command. Here he renewed a friendship that stretched back to West Point days with Major General William Starke Rosecrans, to whom he would serve as Chief of Staff. Garesché had been a major influence in Rosecrans' conversion to Catholicism.

Known throughout the army for his quick mind and refined manners, his unpretentiousness, and his thorough dedication to his commander, Garesché was the ideal Chief of Staff. He usually came to his desk about 10:00 A.M. and seldom left before midnight. The men in the ranks grew to love him. He was said by a fellow officer to be "easy of access to all, from the humblest private to the bearer of the sword and epaulette."

At Murfreesboro on December 31, 1862, the Army of the Cumberland and the Army of Tennessee poised to do battle. That morning, Garesché and Rosecrans heard mass at headquarters. Following, Rosecrans inspected the dispositions of his troops while Garesché filtered information of the Confederate troop movements through reports sent to headquarters. Upon Rosecrans' return, the Confederates attacked.

When reports came in of the Confederates rolling up the Union right flank, the worried Rosecrans told his staff to mount up, "We will make it right" and rode to the sound of the guns. At Rosecrans' side was Garesché. As they rode swiftly along the irregular front near the Round Forrest, Rosecrans and his staff made conspicuous targets. An enemy battery (Cobbs Kentucky Artillery) opened on them. One shell whistled close and all but Rosecrans ducked to the saddle. Garesché begged him



not to expose himself but the General dug in his spurs and replied, "Never mind me. Make the sign of the cross and go in." Soon after a minie ball nicked the muzzle of Garesché's horse and the animal reared. Some of the horse's blood spashed to trickle down Rosecrans' cheek. "Hit, Garesché?" he asked, but the reply was lost in the sound of the battle.

Staff member Major Frank S. Bond saw an unexploded shell whirl past Rosecrans' head and strike Garesché full in the face, decapitating him, leaving only his lower jaw. The headless body, spouting blood, remained in the saddle and rode on for almost twenty paces until his horse jerked and it slid off. Rosecrans, his overcoat splattered with Garesché's brains and blood, rode on unaware. When Bond spurred abreast of the General and told him of Garesché's death, he winced a moment, then regained his composure and said, "I am very sorry. We cannot help it, brave men die in battle. Let us push on, this battle must be won."

Minutes later General Crittenden saw the fresh blood on Rosecrans' coat and asked, "Are you wounded?"

"Oh, no," sighed Rosecrans, "Poor Garesché has just been killed." The General seemed to show no emotion for the loss of his friend for he was absorbed in planning to defeat the enemy, but he was deeply affected. After the battle, he cut the buttons from his own uniform and saved them in an envelope marked, "Buttons I wore the day Garesché was killed."

Toward sundown, through heavy firing, General William B. Hazen, a hard-boiled regular and a spit-and-polish disciplinarian, searched along the railroad tracks for the body of Garesché, his friend. As he found it, the muscles in Garesché's arm contracted and the dead hand reached toward him. Hazen grasped it - warm and lifelike - removed Garesché's West Point ring, picked up his Bible, and sent a detail to carry the body to a less exposed place. On high ground at the rear of the Union left, Hazen watched as Garesché's remains were buried on the battlefield.

- The Edge of Glory by William M. Lamers
- Struggle for Tennessee by James Street, Jr. (Time-Life)
- Who Was Who in the Civil War by Stuart Sifakis





OLLAPODRIDA

Cleveland's St. Vincent Charity Hospital, which opened with 80 beds in 1865, was Cleveland's first private hospital. The first patients were sick and wounded soldiers returned to Cleveland from Civil War army hospitals.

from "The Cleveland Plain Dealer"

A standard army joke was the story of the notorious slacker who bragged that when the battle was at its worst he could always be found where the bullets were thickest - far to the rear, safely hidden under an ammunition wagon.

from A Stillness at Appomattox by Bruce Catton

A story circulated one morning in Federally-occupied Nashville that the infamous rebel raider John H. Morgan was at a well-known boardinghouse where he boldly spent the night. The Federal provost marshal ordered out a large force, surrounded the house, and demanded that Morgan come out quietly to avoid bloodshed. Great was his chagrin when he was informed that "John H. Morgan" was but six hours old, having arrived in the night - the newborn son of a patriotic Southern woman.

from Rebel Raider: The Life of General John Hunt Morgan by James A. Ramage pp 55

While it was war and supposedly hell, some men believed in roughing it in solid comfort. When an Alabama regiment went on foot from Richmond to the first Battle of Manassas, one corpulent corporal led his troops shaded from the July sun by a large umbrella carried by his Negro slave.

from "Screwballs were there too" by Joe Creason
"The Kentucky Courier-Journal" 11/20/60

The Confederate commerce raider "Alabama" was the scourge of the Yankee merchant marine. Finding the Confederate raider was, at one time or another, a mission of nearly all ships of the United States Navy capable of out-gunning her. Among the ships pursuing "Alabama" only three actually found her: "U.S.S. Hatteras," sunk by the "Alabama"; "U.S.S. Kearsarge" which sank the "Alabama"; and "U.S.S. San Jacinto" whose guns "Alabama" escaped in darkness from Martinique. Near misses were scored by "U.S.S. Tuscarora" and "U.S.S. Wyoming".

from C.S.S. Alabama: Builder, Captain, & Plans
by Charles Grayson Summersell pp 44

Island plan rejected

By ELLEN TIETJEN By a vote of 12 to 8 the Ottawa Regional Planning Commission (O.R.P.C.) disapproved the final plat of Baycliffs' subdivision on Johnson's Island Tuesday night.

The vote followed an hour-and-a-half discussion of the plat, which was a revision of the one disapproved by the commission at their August meeting.

This time, however, the county regional planning staff recommended approval of the plan. Last month they had recommended disapproval because of several deficiencies, many of which were addressed in the revision.

The staff "looked very hard" at developer Carl Zipfel's proposal for 88 lots on 46.9 acres ringing the island's quarry, including several private road right of ways, before giving recommending approval, assistant regional planning director Todd Bickley said.

He noted that, had the commission approved the plat, improvements such as a tie-in to the Danbury sanitary sewer and upgrading of the causeway would have "to be in place or escrowed" before the county engineer, sanitary engineer, director of health, and commission members would sign the final plat.

Here is a brief Johnson's Island update:

1. An Army Corps of Engineers study is still pending to determine what environmental impact a quarry-marina would have on the Island. The outcome of the study will determine whether the developer will get marina permits.
2. A Section 106 historical review being administered by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation is being conducted which should determine what any development will have on the historic remains on the island.
3. Several court cases are pending between J.I.P.O.A. (Johnson's Island Property Owner's Association) which opposes development and the developer. One case will determine whether or not the developer can blast to deepen the bottom of the quarry for the marina.
4. The developer's hireling anthropologist has conducted two Earthwatch surveys this summer. In the Sept. 13, 1990 issue of Case Western Reserve University Campus News the anthropologist David Bush (a.k.a. "Buckeye Bush" in the tradition of "Indiana Jones") now claims to have found skull fragments (obviously of a Confederate prisoner) which he hopes "will give (us) some insight to the burial of prisoners." You might want to write to Bush at CWRU and ask whether or not it belongs in the Confederate Cemetery rather than in his lab.

PENINSULA NEWS (Marblehead, OH) Sept. 20
1990

Nevertheless, the commission voted against the plan.

"We'll have to regroup," said Zipfel's attorney, John Kocher of Port Clinton.

President of the Johnson's Island Property Owners Association, Joseph Hutman, credited the testimony of islanders during Tuesday's meeting for the vote.

They and other opponents of the plan voiced their objections on several counts.

They maintained that the plans should not be approved before several legal issues, which are currently being reviewed in Ottawa County Common Pleas Court, are resolved.

Also, many feel U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits should be in hand before approval.

The regional planning staff holds that only the subdivision of the land, not the adjacent marina, is under the commission's jurisdiction.

It was the concern for cutting Memorial Shoreway Drive to create an interior marina in the quarry, however, that ultimately led to the call for a vote of disapproval.

Some commission members felt that response time of emergency vehicles would be lengthened creating a safety problem.

The News Herald, Port Clinton, Ohio, Wednesday, October 17, 1990

Island development OK'd

By JAN REINHART
Staff writer

PORT CLINTON — Carl Zipfel's Johnson's Island subdivision has received final approval from the Ottawa Regional Planning Commission (ORPC).

"On Tuesday night, regional planning commissioners voted 12 to 10 (with four abstentions) to approve the final plat of the Baycliffs subdivision. The hearing was held in the basement of the Ottawa County Courthouse and was attended by

more than 100 people.

One member of the regional planning commission, Steve Arndt, tried without success to delay the Baycliffs vote until a ruling could be made on an injunction request sought to prevent the ORPC from approving the subdivision's final plans. Hearings on the injunction were conducted in Ottawa County Common Pleas Court Tuesday and are scheduled to continue Thursday.

Arndt's motion to "lay the matter on table," died without a second.

To prevent any confusion amid the standing room only crowd, a roll call vote was conducted. As the roll was called, Zipfel and his opponents in the Johnson's Island Property Owners Association intently kept a tally of the votes.

Walt Wehenkel, director of the ORPC, noted that three members of the commission who left before the vote could have changed the outcome of the meeting.

Baycliffs is a 47-acre, 88-lot development planned for an area near a

quarry on the island. Zipfel's plan is to deepen the quarry, connect it to Sandusky Bay and turn it into a marina.

A ruling from Ottawa County Common Pleas Court filed Monday paved the way for Zipfel to also install 100 floating docks in the finger area of the island.

Late last year, Paul Dragan, then Danbury Township's zoning inspector, issued a permit to Zipfel to in-

See ISLAND, A-3

Island

Continued From A-1

stall the docks. But shortly afterward, Danbury Township Trustees revoked the decision. Zipfel appealed the trustees decision in January.

At two earlier meetings of the ORPC, in August and September, Zipfel was denied final approval for Baycliffs. The first time, commissioners cited various inadequacies in his final plat. At the September hearing, safety concerns surrounding the developer's proposal to cut through Memorial Shoreway Drive for his quarry marina channel was the main argument against approval.

During an lengthy lecture to the commission, Zipfel tried to explain that forcing safety vehi-

cles to go around the quarry (once Memorial Shoreway Drive is cut) would not be a safety hazard.

Response time for emergency vehicles is better on Johnson's Island than many other spots in Danbury Township, Zipfel said. Having them go around the quarry would add only a minute to overall response time, he claimed.

But Danbury Township Trustee R. Nell Merchants, a leading opponent of the Baycliffs development, said Zipfel had "missed the point" when he focused his arguments on response time.

"The question is not how much time it takes emergency vehicles to respond, but whether they can respond," Merchants said. One of the Zipfel's proposed quarry-side roads runs through the island's "snowbelt," a section that is regularly buried by snow drifts from Sandusky Bay.

Joe Hutman, president of the property owners association, echoed Merchants's words of caution. He noted that 28 year-round residents depend on Memorial Shoreway Drive for access to the mainland.

"Gentlemen, if you allow them to cut the road, that access is gone," Hutman told the commissioners. "We ask you to consider our safety."

Another matter that Zipfel's opponents offered for consideration were the skull fragments found by Case Western Reserve archaeologist David Bush last summer. The skull fragments, which Bush said were little more than chips of bone, were found right where Zipfel proposes to build his quarry-side road.

Civil War historian Roger Long suggested the skull pieces may be those of Confederate prisoners who died from various infectious diseases. The remains of eleven prisoners, whom fed-

eral records say died at the 19th Century penal colony, have never been located, he said.

Bush said he hasn't yet had time to completely excavate the site where the bone fragments were discovered. However, Zipfel said these would be fully excavated as part of the permit process.

Ninety minutes into the debate, Frank Reinheimer, president of the ORPC, called an end to discussion and ordered a vote to be taken. A number of the Johnson's Island property owners attending the hearing expressed outrage that Zipfel was able to speak freely and at length, while they were not.

"What you're telling me — a registered voter of Ottawa County — is that I cannot be allowed to speak," said an angry Lou Cardinale, 3574 S. Memorial Shoreway Drive. "That is an injustice."

The above appears to be a complete capitulation by the Ottawa County Commissioners, the Ottawa County Court of Common Pleas, and anthropologist David Bush to the development scheme of Baycliffs Inc. One must remember that the Army Corps of Engineers has not yet submitted the results of an environmental impact study of the quarry marina on the Island so no permits have been issued. The Section 106 historical review has not yet been completed but Bush has submitted his archaeologist's report to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in Washington. At the above meeting Bush could have stood up and said, "Enough!" and expressed moral indignation at Baycliffs Inc. for planning to destroy Ft. Hill (Zipfel wants to put his house on its remains on the highest point of the Island.), the Old Federal Dock in the fingers area, and the destruction last April of the commissary, black smith's shop, and the 6th Veteran Reserve Corps bivouac sites when Baycliffs Inc. bulldozed the quarry area and drained the quarry. Bush should also carbon date the skull fragments to determine whether or not they could be one of 17 unaccounted for Confederate prisoners who are not accounted for in the Confederate Cemetery. It is no wonder that Bush took the position that he did, being on Baycliffs Inc. payroll as contract archaeologist. Bush is now maintaining the poor scholarship and errors of historical fact detected by historian Roger Long are the result of bad information submitted by Ed Bearss who aided in the writing of the National Historic Landmark designation nomination earlier in the year. If the above disturbs you, please write in protest and express your moral indignation to the following: David Bush, Archaeology Dept, Case-Western Reserve Univ., Cleveland, OH 44105. Sent copies to Charlene Vaughn, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, #809, Washington, D.C. 20004 and to Dr. Agner Pytte, President of Case-Western Reserve Univ., 2040 Adelbert, Cleveland, OH 44106!

From The President's Desk



Greetings!

The October meeting was well-attended and memorable. Approximately 52 members and guests gathered at the Hermit Club for an evening of libations, fellowship, good food and excellent talk by A. Wilson Green on the Eleventh Corps at Gettysburg. A very special guest and founder, Jack Cullen, joined with us for this fun-filled evening.

November's program promises to be equally interesting!

Our speaker, Ed Haney, is an actor who portrays President James A. Garfield. The resemblance is striking. He will come dressed in the period outfit that would have been worn in the 1880's.

The heirs of James A. Garfield are meeting November 22-25 in Mentor for a family reunion and Ed has been invited by James R. Garfield, great grandson of the president, to join the family for this historic gathering. A family picture will be taken and Ed will be front and center. Come join us!!

P.S. Does anyone know Stanley Niemeic? We have no address or telephone information. He became a member this past spring. Please call if you can help! Our goal is an updated roster to each of you in November!!!

J. E. Tirpak
621-1550 (Office)
255-8140 (Home)



THE CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

P.O. BOX 5786

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44101