

THE CHARGER

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE
P.O. BOX 18900, CLEVELAND, OHIO 44118

NOVEMBER, 1993

318TH MEETING

VOL. 15 #3

DATE: Wednesday, November 10, 1993

PLACE: The Hermit Club

SUBJECT: "Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation"

SPEAKER:

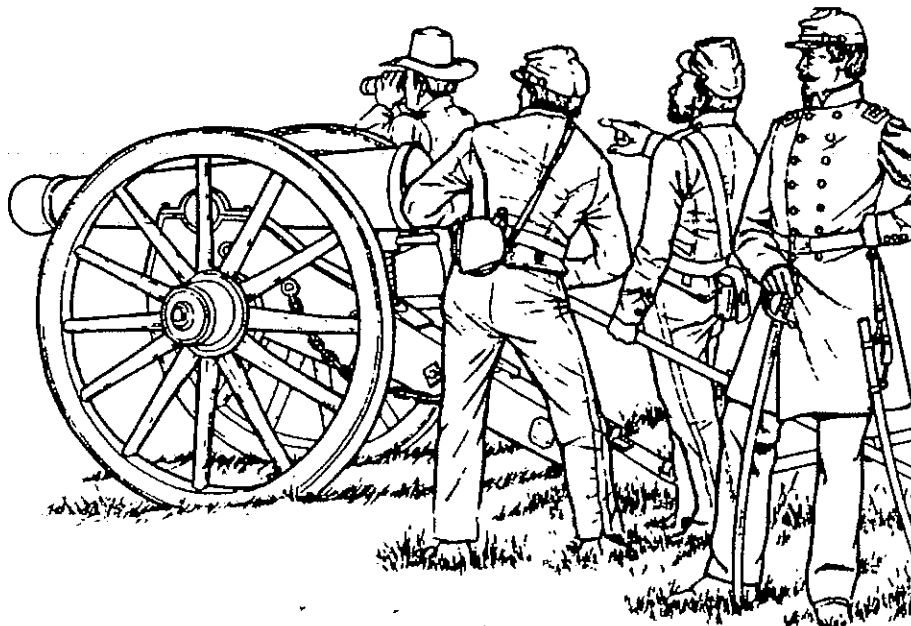
Dr. Hugh Ernhart. Dr. Ernhart was originally scheduled to speak before our Round-Table in February, but due to our scheduled November speaker's mild heart attack, Dr. Ernhart has graciously agreed to speak this month. Dr. Ernhart is a Professor of History and Assistant Dean at Youngstown State University. A recognized expert in The South and the Civil War, he is also the past-President of the Ohio Oral History Association. He has published articles in Civil War History & the Encyclopedia of Southern History.

TIME:

Drinks 6PM Dinner 7PM

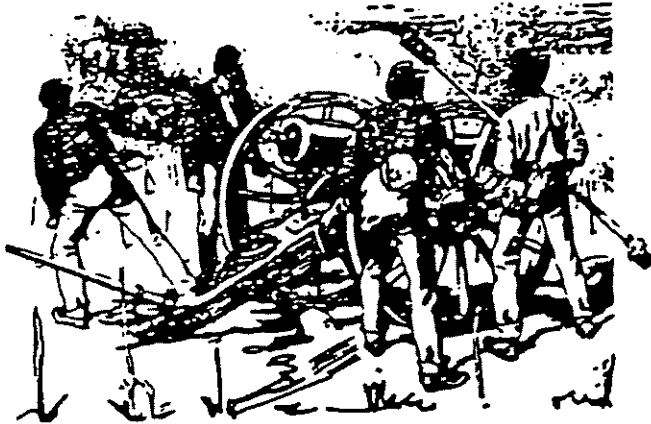
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CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

1957 * 1994



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Our thanks to Travel Services Unlimited of Chesterland and Patricia Safran for making the travel arrangements for our speakers who will arrive aboard Delta Air Lines, our exclusive partners in this venture. We are declaring Delta Air Lines as the official carrier of The Civil War Round-Table of Cleveland.

THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

December 8	Mr. Alan Kurnat Naval topic (TBA)
January 12	Annual Civil War Quiz
February 9	Dr. Hugh Ernhart Lincoln (TBA)
March 9	Dr. David Vantassel European View of the Civil War
April 13	Mr. Edwin Bearss TBA
May 11	Special Program Narrated by Mr. Joe Tirpak

Our thanks to Ms. Anne Caputo at J.A.C. Business Communications Inc. for the professionally looking letterheads and format for our newsletter and for all her valuable time and service in mailing "The Charger" to our membership. If you are in need of any office support services please call Anne or John Caputo.

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President lives on with professor

YSU — "Good afternoon class. My name is Abe Lincoln," the tall, bearded man, who wore a black suit and derby hat said.

"No it isn't, dad!" a slightly nervous female student yelled. That occurrence, back in 1967, threw Hugh Earnhart off for a few seconds, but he went on to do his portrayal of Abraham Lincoln for his daughter's class at Leetonia Elementary School in Leetonia, Ohio, anyway.

In fact, the portrayal was a big hit, and Earnhart has been doing it at Youngstown area schools around the time of Lincoln's birthday and Presidents' Day since then.

Earnhart, a history professor and acting assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at YSU, is a gregarious man who likes to tell funny stories and laughs a lot. But he becomes very serious when he talks about the importance of the role that Lincoln, the nation's 16th president, played in shaping this nation's future.

An expert on the Civil War, Earnhart said that Lincoln "was the only president to carry out his campaign promise, which

was only to save the Union. He did that."

Earnhart is of the opinion that all of the presidents, especially Lincoln, got cheated when Congress made Presidents' Day a national holiday on which all former presidents are honored. He believes Lincoln's birthday should be a day which the nation celebrates, even if it is not an official holiday.

The number of portrayals of Lincoln that Earnhart can do is now limited because of his duties as acting assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences. In the past, there were years when he would do as many as 48 "Lincolns" in February.

"When I'm in and out of that hat, going to schools, I have the dreaded fear on the highway, racing from one school to another, that a highway patrolman will pull up and ask, 'Who are you?'" Earnhart said with laughter. "With my hat, beard and all of this stuff on, the patrolman will say, 'Come on down to the jail with me, you've had too much too drink.'"

Earnhart laments the fact that elementary school children

aren't told as much about Lincoln's heroic side as they once were.

"The elementary school children don't celebrate any particular president's day. They celebrate Presidents' Day like it's generic," he said. "There are some presidents who stand head and shoulders above the others. Lincoln was our number one president."

Earnhart, who currently resides at 2935 Red Maples Lane, Poland, Ohio, with his wife, Mary Kay, joined the YSU faculty to teach American History in 1963. He also serves as oral history director for YSU's History Department.

While many people know that Lincoln led the nation through its most turbulent period, Earnhart believes that not enough people know enough about the personal side of Lincoln's life. "One of the things that's very noticeable to Civil War historians is that Lincoln was a very conservative person," the history professor said. "He came from a frontier background. He was a lawyer,

country's handling of freed slaves after Lincoln's death.

a very strong property rights type. The War made him change."

Earnhart said Lincoln was probably embarrassed when he was called the "Great Emancipator" after he ended slavery. "Lincoln had in mind gradual, compensated emancipation with colonization. He dropped the colonization eventually," Earnhart said.

A permanent readiness to discuss Lincoln and the Civil War with anyone and almost at any time is apparent when Earnhart is asked a question about them.

While he expresses great admiration for Lincoln, Earnhart expresses displeasure with the

Earnhart said there was no real attempt to address what he called a "major gap" between the ex-slaves and the rest of America until the time of the Great Society programs pushed by President Lyndon Johnson in the 1960s.

"We tried to address this problem then, but you can't do that without a major effort. The gap is too wide. We still have not addressed this gap in a sufficient way," he stated. "It will cause

us problems as we go into the 21st century, because those people who do not have the very basic skills are going to be left behind economically, socially and politically."



HUGH EARNHART

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**OR, even better yet, bring it to this
coming meeting.**

Funds in our depleted treasury are needed
to cover expenses for our speakers and for
printing and mailing.

LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Last month's speaker, Mr. George Reeves of Shiloh National Military Park, spoke on the Battle of Shiloh. Mr. Reeves gave an unbiased account of the two day battle, April 6 & 7, 1862. Planning to cut the Confederate railroads to Corinth, Mississippi, Grant landed his army at Pittsburg Landing. Overconfident that one major battle destined to be fought and won at Corinth would end the war in the West, Grant's encampments were unfortified.

Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston had two flaws preceeding the battle: he thought his troops had lost confidence in him and he was unable to over-ride a strong subordinate - P.G.T. Beauregard. As a result, he was determined to attack Grant and "water his horse in the Tennessee River."

With the onset of action, both armies' organizations rapidly unravel. Confederate logistics are inadequate as units rapidly exhaust their ammunition and have to pull out of line to replenish. The attack orders also result in the jumble of units causing command breakdown. Johnston's fatal wounding causes additional confusion.

Grant's soldiers stiffen their defense and delay the Confederates at the Hornet's nest. One of Mr. Reeves heroes was David Stewart, who with 3 regiments bluffs the Rebels and delays their flanking attack on the Union left for 3 Hours.

The next day, reenforced by Buell, Grant pushed Beauregard's army back to Corinth and both sides lick their wounds.

REPORT ON FIELD TRIP



Field Trip Report by Norton London

CHICKAMAUGA/CHATTANOOGA

September 30th - October 3, 1993

"MAKE WAY FOR TIRPAK"

The Cleveland CWRT moved into the Best Western Battlefield Inn on the warm evening of September 30th. General Joe Tirpak directed Field Trip Commander, Norton London, to provide rooms for Bob Battisti, Bob Baucher, Bob Bayless, Bob Eiben, Al Glass, Peter Holman, John Howard, Brian Kowell, Jim Mauck, John Moore, Bob Stabile, Biff Staley, George Stillwagon, Frank Yanucci and Dan Zeiser. Once assembled we received our instructions and charged into the Steak & Ale and obtained our day's rations in only 2½ hours. Jim Ogden provided us with background information on the two battles and outlined our itinerary for the next two days.

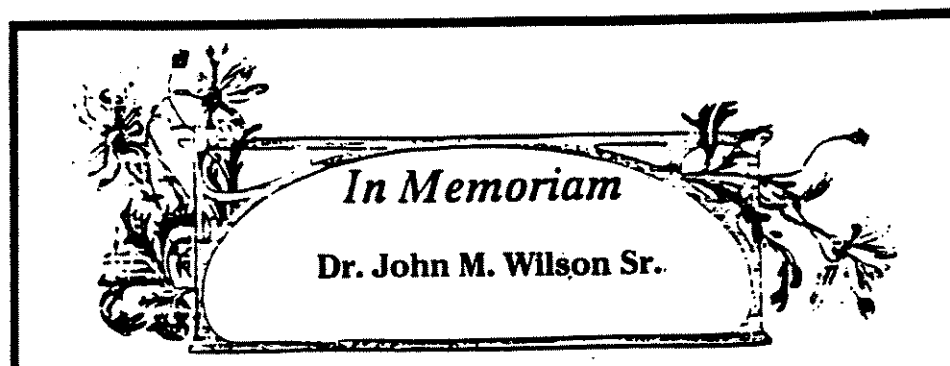
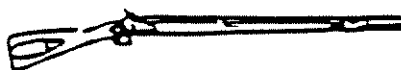
Friday morning special guide Jim Ogden "the Third", Chief Historian at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, took us to the John B. Gordon school building on LaFayette Road for the start of our two-day journey. He pointed out that Chickamauga/Chattanooga is the first and largest military park in the country, established by Congress in one day without a single dissenting vote. We continued on to Stevens Gap and stopped at the Gordon-Lee Mansion which was Rosecrans' headquarters, now a bed & breakfast. Other stops included Lee & Gordon's Mill. Alexanders Bridge over Chickamauga creek where Wilder pulled

up planks to prevent the south's crossing, then onto Reed's Bridge. At this point the troops were dragging so we made our way to the very opulent Shoney's De Chatt-a-Noooooga for enough rations to last the afternoon. Proceeding to the Viniard Family Farmstead area where the most intense fighting and largest numbers of casualties took place. While in this area we discovered an interloper who had the audacity to ask questions of our guide. Field Commander London ordered President Battisti to collect an interloper fee. While Battisti was disconnecting the camcorder from his good hand the intruder fled North. While at the Viniard Farmstead we learned this was where Major General Phillip H. Sheridan arrived at the end of the day to be greeted by his men shouting "Make Way for Tirpak" (we never found out how Sheridan knew General Tirpak). At the end of this day we made our way to the young widow Glenn's house where a council of war took place on the night of the 19th. General George H. Thomas insisted the Union must strengthen the troops on the left before dawn on the following day. Our evening meal was taken at the Fifth Quarter Restaurant.

Saturday dawned to another day of perfect weather in the upper 70's and sunny. We continued on the battlefield to learn of the mistakes Rosecrans was to make causing him and two of his corps commanders to be driven off the field. We stood on Snodgrass Hill where General Thomas became the "Rock of Chickamauga" when Longstreet's attack struck the Union center. We visited the Confederama Hall of History to see 5,000 miniature figures, 650 lights, sound effects and details of the major battles. Our troops also stopped at the Chickamauga Visitor Center to see an audio-visual program explaining the battle and its place in the Civil War. We also viewed some of the 355 weapons on display including various cannons used by the light field artillery during the war. This was followed by a raid on the book store. We traveled up Lookout Mountain to Point Park and learned the details that caused this battle to be one of the key engagements in the battle for Chattanooga. The beautiful weather allowed spectacular views of the surrounding countryside and key points of battles, some of which we visited. While atop Lookout Mountain our guide, Jim Ogden, allowed us to visit an area behind closed fences that placed us on the edge of the mountain. This is the sight of a famous Civil War picture of Union soldiers viewing their areas of fighting. We completed our tour of battle by walking (some crawling) up Missionary Ridge to plant our flag or fatigued asses on the Ohio monument. Our assault up Missionary Ridge caused greivous injury to Private Peter Holman requiring him to convalesce on a sugar diet and miss the great meal and ambiance of the Chattanooga Choo Choo Restaurant Hotel and Entertainment Center.

President Battisti has agreed to lead the 1994 field trip to middle Tennessee and is already making plans.

All attendees arrived home safely and look forward to another great "show".



MORE THAN YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT

☆ *Bushrod Rust Johnson* ☆

Of all the men in gray who presented anomalous contrasts, few could compare with this Northern-born Quaker who became a Confederate fighting general. Johnson was born October 7, 1817, on the family farm outside Morristown, Ohio. The family were Hicksite Quakers, confirmed pacifists, and antislavery advocates. The family later moved to Belmont, where Johnson attended what schools he could, including the Marietta Academy. His father's abolitionist politics made the family unpopular in the area, however, and in 1838 they removed to Wayne County, Indiana. Young Johnson had meanwhile become a schoolteacher when seventeen, but decided to break with his Quaker heritage by seeking an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. He matriculated in 1836 and graduated four years later along with William T. Sherman, George H. Thomas, and Richard S. Ewell. He finished twenty-third out of forty-two in his class and was posted to the 3d U.S. Infantry, Company E, at Fort Jessup, Louisiana. When he reached his company, however, it had removed to Fort Brooke, on Florida's Tampa Bay. Thereafter he acted in minor staff assignments at several Florida posts, seeing no action in the desultory fighting with the Seminoles, and was reposted to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, in 1843.

Following promotion to 1st lieutenant in 1844, Johnson was reassigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, then returned to Fort Jessup in time for the start of the Mexican War. He fought at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and Monterrey, but missed Vera Cruz thanks to being stuck with commissary duty. Then he blighted his career when he tried to engage in a profiteering



Johnson as a major general, presumably taken after May 1864, by Hall of Nashville. (William A. Albaugh Collection)

scheme using government ships to bring contraband goods into Vera Cruz. Quickly summoned back to the United States, he was asked to resign his commission, and he did so on October 21, 1847.

For the next fourteen years Johnson worked as a teacher, first at the Western Military Institute at Georgetown, Kentucky, where he was for a time superintendent, and then president with the rank of colonel. When the institute failed, Johnson took a position with the Military College of the University of Nashville in 1855, acting as superintendent. When the sectional crisis came, he faced a difficult decision. As a Northerner and anti-slavery man, he would be expected to side with the Union. But his friends and fortune were now firmly planted in the South. Moreover, he may have resented his forced resignation from the Old Army. As a result, when the war came, he offered his services to Tennessee in his currently held militia rank of colonel, though he immediately began soliciting an appointment as brigadier in the Confederate Provisional Army.

Johnson was involved in the early location and construction of Fort Henry in his role as chief of engineers, and also in raising and organizing Tennessee regiments. He also inspected Fort Donelson, and briefly commanded it in January 1862, finding it in a sad condition to meet an attacker. Promoted by President Jefferson Davis to brigadier general on January 24, 1862, to rank immediately, Johnson would find out just how vulnerable the fort was when it fell to Grant a few weeks later. Johnson himself managed to escape and joined General Albert Sidney Johnston's army for the Shiloh campaign in April. He commanded a brigade in Major General Benjamin F. Cheatham's division, with the 2d, 15th, and 154th Tennessee; a Mississippi battalion; and a Tennessee battery. An early wound on April 6 put him out of most of the battle, however. He returned to duty in May and got a new brigade, the 17th, 23d, 25th, 37th, and 44th Tennessee Infantry, along with the 5th Confederate Infantry and an artillery battery. He led his brigade in the Perryville campaign, having five horses shot under him during the climactic battle.

There followed service at Stone's River, December 31, 1862–January 2, 1863, where Johnson's troops broke under fire on the first day, and after that Johnson spent much of 1863 campaigning for promotion to major general, with considerable support but no success. But then came Chickamauga, and the attack on September 20. Johnson, now commanding a division,

led the attack that penetrated the gap in Major General William S. Rosecrans' line, precipitating the utter rout of the Yankee army. Still promotion did not come immediately, and meanwhile Johnson went off with Lieutenant General James Longstreet on the ill-fated Knoxville Campaign in November and December. The following spring, when Longstreet returned to the Army of Northern Virginia, Johnson was soon ordered to follow. The Senate had only just confirmed at last his appointment as brigadier, on February 17, 1864, and now Davis yielded to the importunities of the army of supporters Johnson had mustered, by appointing him major general on May 26, to rank from May 21. This time the Senate confirmed it immediately.

Johnson gave good service in Virginia, first on the James River defenses, and then at Petersburg. When General Lee attempted to break out in April 1865, Johnson's division was caught in the Federal vise at Sayler's Creek. Once again he managed to escape himself, but Lee relieved him of the remnant of his command on April 8. Johnson gave his parole at Appomattox the next day.

He returned to Tennessee and to education, though he tried real estate in Nashville at first, then dabbled in banking, and even cement making. In 1870, along with Kirby Smith, he helped found the University of Nashville, becoming its chancellor. The school failed in 1874, and Johnson moved to St. Louis but remained only a year before going to Macoupin County, Illinois, where he owned property. There, on a broken-down farm, he lived out the balance of what had been an ill-starred life. He died September 12, 1880, and was buried at the Miles Station Methodist Church near Brighton.

Johnson's whole career seems to have been blighted, in part by bad fortune and in part by weaknesses in his own character. Still, when he fought, he fought well, and the Confederacy owed much of the glorious Chickamauga triumph to the Yankee Quaker.

William C. Davis

Cummings, Charles, *Yankee Quaker, Confederate General* (Cranbury, 1971).

Johnson, Robert U., *Remembered Yesterdays* (Boston, 1923).

from The Confederate General vol. III

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Rare Antietam photos are found

By **DEB RIECHMANN**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SHARPSBURG, Md.

To Civil War historians, Bob Zeller's discovery of three photographs taken in 1862 at Antietam battlefield is akin to finding unknown paintings by French impressionist Claude Monet.

"It is as if we have reached back in time, resurrected a couple of long-dead photographers and hired them to shoot just a few more photos of the war," Zeller said.

The photos, which he bought from a dealer in Gettysburg, Pa., were publicly displayed recently at Antietam National Battlefield, the site of the bloodiest day of the War Between the States.

There are thousands of Civil War photos around, but Zeller and others said the three have never been seen by 20th-century collectors and historians.

"They are wonderful images and they are quite rare," said Brian Pohanka, who was a researcher and writer for Time-Life's 27-volume Civil War series and is a consultant for the cable channel Arts & Entertainment's "Civil War Journal."

"They were taken at the same time as ones that were published and exhibited, but they have not been published since 1862 to my knowledge."

The photos were shot by Alexander Gardner, a Scottish immigrant who managed pioneering photographer Mathew Brady's photo gallery in Washington. They were published by Brady, but not widely distributed.

Gardner and assistant James Gibson guided their horse-drawn darkroom wagon onto Antietam battlefield Sept. 19, 1862, just two days after the battle in which more than 23,100 soldiers were killed, wounded or never found.

One photo, which shows Gardner's darkroom on wheels traveling across the Burnside Bridge in Washington County, was taken Sept. 21, 1862, said Zeller, who has been collecting Civil War photos for 14 years. The two others were taken Oct. 3, 1862, when Gardner returned to photograph President Lincoln's visit to the battlefield.

One of the two shows a camp scene at Secret Service headquarters at Antietam; the other shows Union Gen. George McClellan's staff officers relaxing on the battleground. The generals are not in the photo and just about all the officers appear to be drinking.

"Imagine that," Zeller said. "On the very day of Lincoln's visit, on the very day the president was urging McClellan



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bob Zeller displays one of the photos taken shortly after the 1862 battle at Antietam. Behind him is Dunker Church at Antietam National Battlefield.

to get moving, his top officers were having a bender."

The heads of two men in the photo are blurred. They are Col. Delos Bennett Sacket, McClellan's inspector general, shown lifting a drink; and Lt. Col. Albert V. Colburn, a cavalry officer and McClellan's assistant adjutant general, shown with a shot glass.

"Colburn and Sacket, being unable to keep their heads still for the five or 10 seconds required to take this photograph, seem to have failed the 1862 version of the field sobriety test," Zeller said.

"Maybe they were drunk, maybe they weren't. But to have a new Brady and Gardner image surface in 1993 that shows McClellan's staff officers drinking while the North waited impatiently for its Army to march is a remarkable new addition to the photographic history of the Civil War."

The three photos ended up inside an album called "Incidents of the War." It was that bound volume of photos that Civil War antique dealer Len Rosa in Gettysburg resurrected in January when Zeller sent him looking for a

print to replace another historic photograph damaged in the mail.

Zeller looked through 8,000 original prints and negative indices at the Library of Congress and went through several thousand prints at the National Archives, but never found duplicates of the three photos.

Gardner and Gibson took more than 100 sharp, clear photographs of the Maryland campaign of the Civil War, most of them in the two to four days after the Battle of Antietam, Zeller said.

They mixed noxious, dangerous chemicals. Glass plates were coated with a gooey, light-sensitive substance, placed in the camera while still wet, exposed almost immediately and developed on the spot, he said.

Within weeks after the battle, many of them were on display in Brady's New York gallery, depicting the horror of the war to the American public.

"They created a sensation. No one was expecting this," Zeller said. "Long lines formed to see the images. Antietam was a watershed in American newspaper journalism and photo journalism."

Movie 'Gettysburg' mostly on mark

By **SUSAN LACETTI**

COX

ATLANTA

Some of the characters may not seem real, but the movie "Gettysburg" is an accurate portrayal of the battle that was the turning point of the Civil War, historians say.

"I thought (the movie) was powerful," said A. Wilson Greene, executive director of the Association for Preservation of Civil War Sites, based in Virginia. "It was faithful to the novel, and it was a reasonable adaptation of the Battle of Gettysburg."

"I have an inborn dislike of putting words in the mouths of historical figures," said Shelby Foote of Memphis, Tenn., perhaps the nation's most noted Civil War historian. "But they did a good and careful job with it."

Not all praise was unequivocal. In the movie, Martin Sheen plays Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee. Not only is he smaller than Lee, but he portrays the general as a quieter man than he was, historians say.

"Sheen's portrayal of Lee is not believable," said Ed Bearss, chief historian for the National Park Service. "Lee was a larger man with a heavy chest and a heavy neck. Lee comes off as indecisive and not losing his temper. Lee did have a temper."

Atlanta historian Franklin Garrett agreed. "I didn't think Lee (as portrayed by Sheen) was quite aggressive enough. He used to run around yelling at the top of his voice."

The new film is based on Michael Shaara's novel "The Killer Angels," which won the 1975 Pulitzer Prize for fiction. The book is a fictional account of the July 1863

battle, which ended in a crucial Union victory.

The film's maker, Turner Pictures, hired Brian Pohanka, a senior researcher for the Time-Life book series on the Civil War, to be the movie's historical consultant. Pohanka said great pains were taken to make sure the wardrobe, behavior and habits of the actors were faithful to the era. The issues of boredom in camp, facing death and reminiscing about old friends were true to the day, historians said.

"No film is ever perfect, but I really feel it is the most accurate Civil War film ever made," Pohanka said of the four-hour production. "It's almost a literal recreation of that phase of the fighting."

Much of the dialogue comes from soldiers' diaries and accounts, including that of Confederate Gen. George Pickett, who led the disastrous Pickett's Charge on July 3, and Lee's apology to the men after the slaughter.

Historians said they also were impressed with the portrayal of Col. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, whose Maine soldiers protected the left flank of the Union army on Little Round Top. Much of the fighting was re-created from Chamberlain's account of the fighting.

"The battle scene of the attack on Little Round Top and its defense by the 20th Maine is excellent," Bearss said. "Only those who know the greatest detail could fault it."

But some historians said some details were too obvious to overlook. For example, many Confederate soldiers appeared to have been eating well, when in fact rations were short.

"The thing that bothered me the most was there were too many overweight Confederate soldiers in it," said Gary Gallagher, chairman of Pennsylvania State University's history department. "By 1863, they were a pretty lean bunch. They didn't consume that many calories."

Like Ken Burns' acclaimed television series "The Civil War," the film is expected to stimulate further interest in this nation's bloodiest conflict, which cost about 750,000 lives.

"Attendance should soar," said Bearss. "It will be a big shot in the arm for interest in the Civil War. I applaud it heavily."

DUTY BOUND

When he was younger, Edward C. Zatezalo gave more than 20 years to the military, both in the Army and Navy. He has left the service, but he is still serving, only now it's as a volunteer. Every weekday morning, Zatezalo, of Cleveland, puts in a few hours at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument on Public Square. His duties range from providing visitors with information on the monument to keeping things tidy. He has been volunteering at the monument for 15 years.



Zatezalo in front of the part of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument that lists the names of the 11,000 Clevelanders who served in the Civil War.

THE PLAIN DEALER (Cleveland, OH)

Oct. 9, 1993



Zatezalo wipes off a figure in the memorial to patriotic women of Northern Ohio.

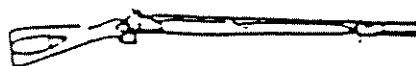
SCENES I'D LIKE TO HAVE SEEN



Sherman's orders on the march to the sea were to "Forage liberally on the country." One time during the march Sherman came upon a soldier absolutely "covered with plunder. Vegetables were strung all over him, hanging in bunches from his shoulders and belt." From his hand hung a chicken. Feeling this soldier had exceeded the intent of the orders, Sherman cursed him for this violation. The soldier, not recognizing his commanding officer, swore right back, and the two men faced off in a battle of curses. Finally, Sherman told his antagonist who he was, and the man stopped swearing and introduced himself: ' Oh Hell, General, I am Abner F. Dean, Chaplain of the 112th Massachusetts'. At that he quietly started walking down the road, then, much to the General's chagrin, stopped and turning around invited the General to dinner that evening. Sherman was furious, but let the offender go.

from Sherman: A Soldiers Passion for Order by John F. Marszalek
pp 302

Illustrated by Stu Cramer



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CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

TO: Social Studies Teachers of grades 9-12

TOPIC: Essay Contest

The Round-Table is sponsoring an essay contest to promote interest in the Civil War. Teachers, please encourage your students to take part. Contestants should do the following:

1. Write an original essay of 500 to 1,000 words addressing the topic of, "The Impact of the Civil War Upon My Country."
2. Attach a cover sheet which states the student's name, address, home phone number, high school, social studies teacher's name, and work phone number.
3. Send essays to John W. Moore, Mayfield City Schools, 784 SOM Center Road, Mayfield Village, Ohio, 44143, by March 1, 1994.

All entries will be judged on the basis of content and form by members of the Round-Table. The winner, his/her teacher, and parents will be honored at a dinner on May 12, 1994. The winner will also receive a plaque and a \$100 Savings Bond.

Civil War Round-Tables are formed to study the American Civil War. The Cleveland Round-Table, founded in 1957, is made up of approximately 80 members from Northeast Ohio who meet monthly from September through June to conduct their study. The study includes sharing, listening to speakers, and an annual field trip to one of the Civil War battlefields.

Feel free to produce additional copies of this notice.

From The President's Desk

President's Comments, November 10, 1993

I had the pleasure of talking to Mr. John Cullen, one of the co-founders of The Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. He is now retired and lives in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. During the recent interview of three of the founders who live in Cleveland, Dr. William Schlesinger mentioned John's name as the person "who did everything." In my conversation with John he remembered one evening in 1956 at a dinner when the topic of the Civil War was being discussed, someone asked, do you have a Roundtable in Cleveland? There was not, so John was to contact a Ralph Newman who worked in a Chicago book store. Ralph told John about the Chicago Civil War Roundtable and gave him the name of Kenneth Grant in Cleveland, a former Chicago RT member. Ken and John talked it over and decided to have dinner at Fisher's Rohr Restaurant. Ten men attended the dinner in November, 1956; the CCWRT was founded in February, 1957. If a person joined by March 21, 1957 he was considered a charter member. 51 joined.

John wrote the first 3 or 4 newsletters. Ken Grant was the first president, but due to his untimely death, John became president. He remembers having many outstanding speakers, including Bruce Catton and the Episcopal Bishop Tucker. During that time he also knew of many start-up Roundtables in the country as there seemed to be a rebirth on interest in the Civil War. However, during the mid-60's many of these groups died out. At no time did The CCWRT encounter such a problem of loss of interest. John has fond recollections of the CCWRT, especially the friendships he developed. I asked if he could possibly attend our founders night program in May, but unfortunately he will not be able as he has to give care to his wife. He will be thinking of us and he is very appreciative of the recognition. He is still a member and reads the "Charger."

I want to commend Norton London for the outstanding job he did in organizing the fall fieldtrip to Chickamauga/Chattanooga. Norty prepared us well, made sure the local preparations would go without problems, and kept us all together by having vans that took us to virtually every section of the battlefields. We will never forget standing where Hooker's men placed their battle flags on Lookmount Mountain or the climb up Missionary Ridge.

As of now there are 82 paid up members, leaving 44 who have not yet been heard from. A second notice went out asking them to pay no later than November 15, 1993 so that John Sutula can develop a budget and Ann Caputo can print the directory. Gerry Porter is now analyzing the interest surveys. Mike Dory is setting up a list of audio tapes of Civil War talks that have been given to our RT and CW videotapes that can be purchased for a minimal cost. Dan Zeiser is chairman of the local fieldtrip. Hope to have one by spring, 1994. Thanks to John Moore we now have a format for the essay contest for high school students.

Last month George Reaves gave an overview of the battle of Shilo. This month we have to switch our November and February programs due to Dr. G.L. Mears' mild heart attack. Finally, I have to give you the news that Dr. John Wilson died. John had been a member since 1970 and was always ready with an excellent question. Our friend and Civil War enthusiast will be missed. R.E. Battisti

CIVIL WAR RAFFLE

And AUCTION

To help re-fill our depleted coffers, Joe Tirpak and Bob Baucher are organizing a Civil War Raffle & Auction to be held at our January meeting. The Raffle tickets are selling like Hot-Cakes! Don't miss out - buy yours at the next meeting. Six (6) tickets for \$10. They are also soliciting donations for prizes. Go through those old books on your bookshelf and see if you couldn't find something to part with for a worthy cause. Also Civil War prints or memorabilia are gladly accepted. If you have an item, please call either Joe Tirpak (H- 621-1550) or Bob Baucher (H- 1-942-8627)





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