



# *The Charger*

## CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

P.O. Box 5786, Cleveland, Ohio 44101

SEPTEMBER 1990

290th MEETING

VOL.12 #1

DATE: Tuesday, September 11, 1990

PLACE: Dr. Ken Callahan's Home  
19101 South Park Blvd.  
Shaker Heights, Ohio

SUBJECT: "Black Glory In Blue & Grey"

SPEAKER: Dr. Russell Duncan  
History Department  
John Carroll University

TIME: Drinks 6PM Dinner 7PM

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

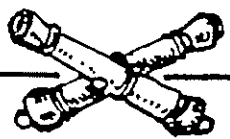


FRANK LESLIE'S ILLUSTRATED NEWSPAPER.



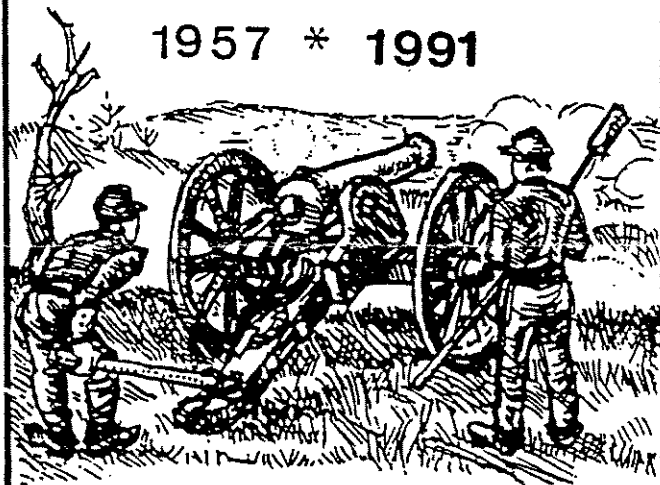
DARK ARTILLERY; OR, HOW TO MAKE THE CONTRABANDS USEFUL.

When fighting broke out between the Union and Confederacy, most white Northerners agreed with the decision of the Lincoln administration to enlist only whites. Prejudice in the Northern states was powerful, and few whites believed that blacks had the character to endure combat. This racist cartoon in a popular Northern periodical clearly depicts the lack of regard most whites had for the military potential of blacks. (Library of Congress)



# CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

1957 \* 1991

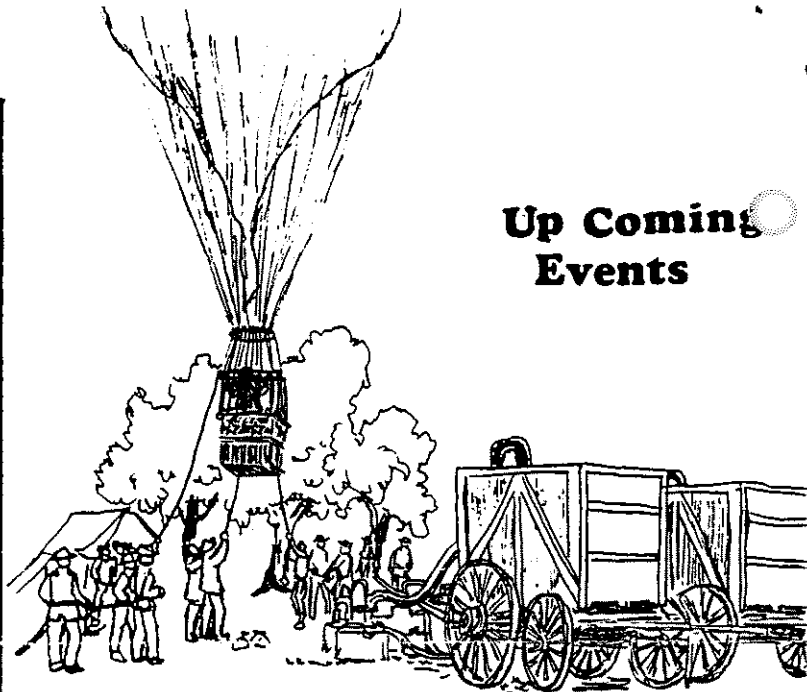


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## Up Coming Events



### THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

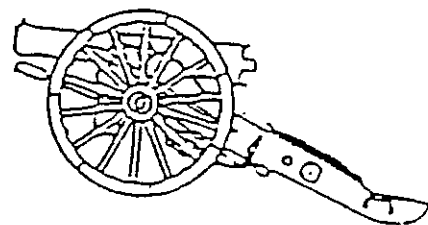
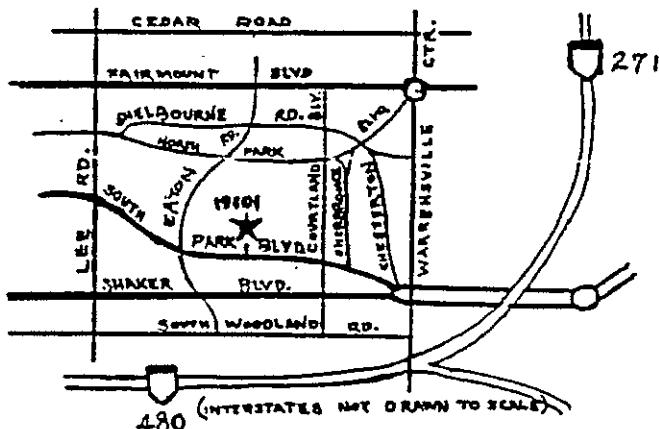
Oct. 9, 1990	A. Wilson Green "The 11th Corps at the Fir Day of Gettysburg"
Nov. 13, 1990	Ed Haney "An Evening with James A. Garfield"
Dec. 11, 1990	Charles Clarke, Jr. "Thaddeus Stevens"
Jan. 8, 1991	Quiz and Book Sale
Feb. 12, 1991	Robert R. Baucher "Herman Haupt-Lincoln's Railroad Man"
March 12, 1991	Open
April 9, 1991	George Dauler & William Mar "An Evening with Grant & I"
May 14, 1991	Brandon Beck Ladies Night

## MOVING?



PLEASE LET US KNOW  
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE  
YOUR NEW ADDRESS...

Newcomers may find the map below a help in locating the meeting place. We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible.



## Preserve Your Battlefields



# Ohioan's medal to go on display in Washington

By LOU MIO

STAFF WRITER

In April 1862, a group of volunteer Union soldiers, most of them from Ohio, huddled with a couple of civilian spies in a Marietta, Ga., hotel room.

They were plotting to steal a train, the General, from the very heart of the Confederacy, then destroy the vital rail line as they fled north. It was one of the most daring exploits of the Civil War, a 90-mile chase with Rebel soldiers in pursuit in another train.

The Yankees failed. The hijacked locomotive ran out of fuel and they made a run for it just south of Chattanooga, Tenn. All were captured, including Pvt. Jacob Parrott of Kenton and Wilson W. Brown of Wood County. They were from different Ohio regiments and didn't know each other before the raid.

Years later, their lives would have a common tie. Both men were great-grandfathers to Marilyn Frackelton of Westlake.

In 1863, Parrott and Brown received the nation's highest military award for their action — the Medal of Honor, authorized by Congress for the Navy in 1861 and for the Army in 1862.

The award had a special significance for Parrott, 19. He was the first of 3,399 Americans who would subsequently receive the medal, which has been in the Parrott family since it was presented March 25, 1863, by Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton.

Today, Frackelton will return the medal, on the anniversary of the day (July 12, 1862) that President Abraham Lincoln signed the law that established the



Jacob Parrott, a private in the Ohio 33rd Infantry during the Civil War, was awarded the nation's first Medal of Honor.

honor.

The first medal, a prototype minted by jewelers in Philadelphia and sent to Stanton for approval, will rest inside a special case. It will be permanently displayed with other historical mementos in the Crypt, a room under the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C.

Frackelton and her husband, Dr. James P. Frackelton, have waited 12 years since the death of her father, Joseph Parrott, to find the appropriate spot for the medal.

"He looked most of his life for a place where the medal could be on permanent exhibition for everybody to see," Marilyn Frackelton said. "That was his dream. But it was tough. Museums have different policies, and he wanted a place where it would be preserved. It has taken us this long to find a proper place. Fortunately, we did."

For years, the medal has been in a safe deposit box.

"Who needs it in a locked box?" asked James Frackelton. "It's worthless there. You can't take it out. We decided 'Who would like it better than the Congress?' It's more useful there than it is in our hands."

The right connection came about two years ago. James Frackelton had a friend who had a cousin in high places — Donald K. Anderson, clerk of the U.S. House. Anderson thought putting the medal on display was a wonderful idea. The machinery was put in motion.

At 11 a.m. today, in ceremonies that include the U.S. Army Band and remarks by Elliott Williams, president of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, Marilyn Frackelton will officially turn the medal over to House Speaker Thomas S. Foley in Statuary Hall, just off the Rotunda.

Jacob Parrott's award has come full circle.

Congress presented the family a second Medal of Honor after a design change. That one is on display in Kenton, Hardin County. One of Frackelton's cousins in Toledo presented the medal in honor of Brown, who played a key role in the train theft. He was a locomotive engineer in civilian life and helped run the General during the escape.

The Yankees, known as Andrews Raiders, included two civilians and 18 soldiers from Ohio regiments. Accounts vary on the exact number, but one thing is sure. James J. Andrews, who was one of the civilians and the raid leader, was hanged, along with seven others.

Parrott, who was horsewhipped when captured, and five other soldiers were released under a prisoner exchange in 1863.

Parrott and Brown both survived the war. Parrott became a second lieutenant and returned to fight in some of the war's bloodiest battles.

Two movies were made of the chase, "The Great Locomotive Chase," a Walt Disney film in 1956, and a 1927 silent version, "The General," with Buster Keaton.

Frackelton said her father, who published a weekly newspaper in Wayne County, fought with Disney over the authenticity of the movie, especially the part where the Rev. William Pittenger, one of the raiders, winds up with the Medal of Honor.

"Dad was furious," she recalled. She said he made his point in very large newspaper type. A two-word headline read: DISNEY LIES.

# ON TO RICHMOND!!



**ED BEARSS  
TO LEAD**

**CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR  
ROUND-TABLE**

**FIELD TRIP**

**sept. 13 thru sept. 16**

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**A SAD TURN OF EVENTS!**

-Old Soldiers Forced To Beg  
you wouldn't like to see  
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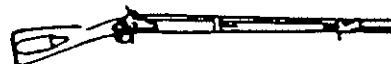
**CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE**

P.O. Box 5786, Cleveland, Ohio 44101

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

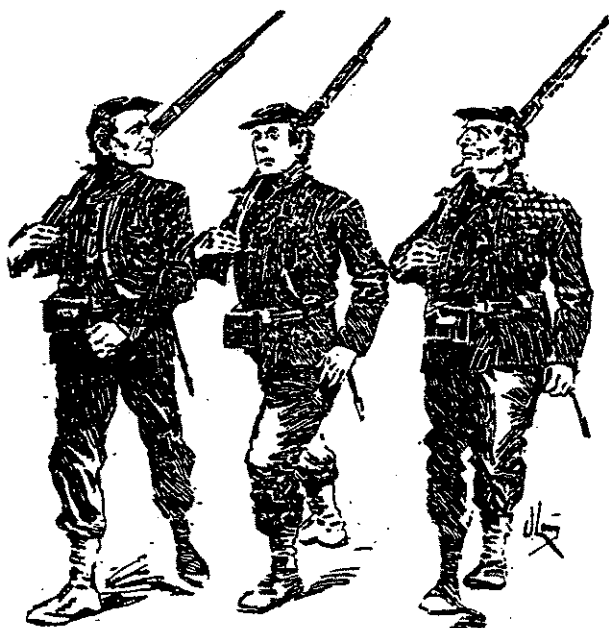
Funds in our depleted treasury are needed to cover  
expenses for our speakers and for printing and mailing.

(To those who have paid your dues, **THANKS**  
and march proudly in the front rank.)

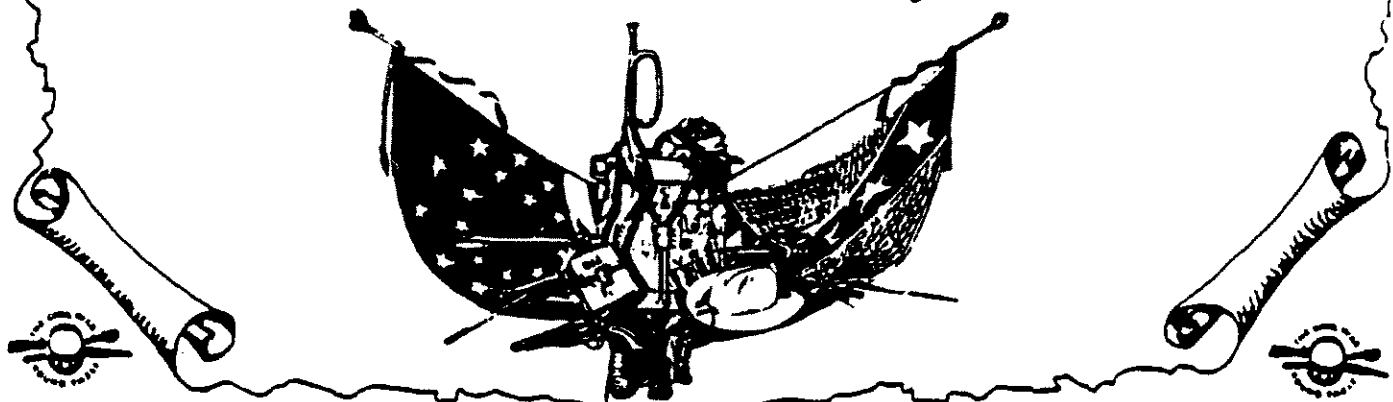


**Please Make Reservation**

Please call Joe Tirpak at 255-8140  
**ASAP! RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST!**



# Civil War Round Table Associates



JERRY L. RUSSELL, NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, P.O. BOX 7388, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72717 / (501) 225-3888

16TH ANNUAL CONGRESS OF CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLES, OCTOBER 4-7, 1990  
Featuring Tours of Wilsons Creek, Pea Ridge, and Prairie Grove Battlefields  
Headquarters: DAYS INN, 1209 N. Walton Blvd., Bentonville AR 72712/Rate \$39  
Ask for Connie/Outside Ark 1-800-325-2525/Inside Ark 501-273-2451/State w/CWRTA  
\$175 Each For CWRT Associates/CHI Fellows/SCWH Members, and Family Members  
\$200 for Non-Members/TEN DOLLAR DISCOUNT FOR PAYMENT BY SEPTEMBER 15  
Includes Sessions, Meals, Tours, NOT LODGING (Membership Dues: \$12.50)

\*\*\*\*\*  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4 VISIT THE BATTLEFIELDS WHEN YOU CAN...WHILE YOU CAN!

12:30-5 p.m. REGISTRATION

1:30 p.m. "Bloody Missouri: 1861"/Dr. William Parrish, Mississippi State

2:15 p.m. "Confederate Arkansas"/Dr. Michael Dougan, Arkansas State Univ.

3:00 p.m. "The Civil War In Northwest Arkansas"/Douglas C. Jones,  
Fayetteville (author of "Elkhorn Tavern")

3:45 p.m. BATTLEFIELD PRESERVATION PANEL/HERITAGEPAC DISCUSSION

6:30 p.m. COMMAND POST (Reception)/Civil War Songs by Jimmy Driftwood

7:30 p.m. BANQUET/"The Battle of Wilson's Creek"/Richard Hatcher,  
Wilson's Creek NMP

9:00 p.m. Round Table Workshop/"Projects & Programs"

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5

WE WHO STUDY MUST ALSO STRIVE TO SAVE!

6:45 a.m. BREAKFAST/Preview to a Tour--Ed Bearss, Chief Historian, NPS

8:00 a.m. TOUR: The Wilson's Creek Campaign

12 noon LUNCH ON ROAD

1:30 p.m. RESUME TOUR

6:30 p.m. COMMAND POST (Reception)/Civil War Songs by Jimmy Driftwood

7:30 p.m. BANQUET/"The Battle of Pea Ridge"/Dr. William Shea, UA Monticello

9:00 p.m. Round Table Workshop/"Membership & Newsletters"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6

VISIT THE BATTLEFIELDS WHEN YOU CAN...WHILE YOU CAN!

6:45 a.m. BREAKFAST/"Sam Curtis"/Michael Hughes, University of Arkansas

8:30 a.m. TOUR: The Pea Ridge Campaign

12 noon LUNCHEON/"The Indians At Pea Ridge"/Jerry Russell, CWRT Associates

1:30 p.m. RESUME TOUR

6:30 p.m. COMMAND POST (Reception)/Civil War Songs by Jimmy Driftwood

7:30 p.m. BANQUET/Edwin C. Bearss/Topic to be Announced ADJOURN

For those NOT attending the FULL Congress, Individual ticket prices are:  
Thursday Afternoon \$15; Breakfasts \$10; Banquets \$25; Tours \$45 incl. lunch  
Reservations Will Be Accepted for Individual Friday or Saturday Tours

On A Space Available Basis AFTER September 20

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7---8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.--OPTIONAL TOUR (\$45 incl. lunch):

Prairie Grove Battlefield/Fort Smith (Including Hanging Judge Parker's Court)

SIGN ME UP FOR 1990 CONGRESS!!!

Enclosed is \$

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

# **THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE**

1940

50



1990

## **ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

**CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ★ OCTOBER 12, 13, 14, 1990**

**Saturday, October 13 (9:00 a.m.) ★ Symposium:**

### **"Decisive Leadership in The Civil War"**

Throughout the Civil War, critical decisions had to be made by the principal leaders of both sides, some fortunate and some unfortunate. Who were these leaders? Why did each choose one course of action over another? In this symposium, distinguished speakers will discuss the decision making of prominent leaders, North and South. The focus will be on the man, his personality, experience and background which led to his decisions at important moments in the war.

- James I. "Bud" Robertson, Jr.: "A Contrast in Leadership— Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis"
- Robert K. Krick: "Jackson and Banks in the Valley"
- Gary W. Gallagher: "McClellan and Lee in the Peninsula"

- Lunch** • Jerry L. Russell: "Battlefield Preservation"
- Mark E. Neely, Jr.: "Lincoln and His Cabinet— The Emancipation Proclamation"
  - Edwin C. Bearss: "Sherman and Hood at Atlanta"

**Saturday Evening Dinner (6:30 p.m.) • James M. McPherson: "The Civil War: The Struggle for a Unified Nation and the Legacy for the Future."**

**Place:** Sheraton Inn North, Northbrook, Illinois. Rooms, single or double, \$55 a night. Free transportation to and from O'Hare Airport.

**Subscription:** Friday and Saturday (includes banquet with open bar, symposium, lunch and dinner) \$100; Friday banquet only, \$35; Saturday only (includes symposium, lunch, and dinner), \$75; Sunday tour \$10 (space is limited). \$35 deposit due now, balance must be paid by June 15, 1990. Full refund for cancellations received before September 15, 1990.

**Space is limited—make your reservations early**

Send the form below, with your check (payable to CWR<sup>T</sup>) to: Richard McAdoc, Registrar, 638 Douglas Ave., Elgin, IL 60120.

For further information, contact Paul Kliger, Chairman, 50th Anniversary Committee, 1923 Warren St., Evanston, IL 60602, (312) 864-4029.

## **REGISTRATION FORM ★ THE CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE ★ 50th ANNIVERSARY**

		Number of Registrants	Amount
<b>Friday and Saturday:</b>	Friday—banquet; Saturday—Symposium, lunch, dinner (\$100)	_____	\$ _____
<b>Friday:</b>	Banquet only (\$35)	_____	\$ _____
<b>Saturday:</b>	Symposium only (\$75)	_____	\$ _____
<b>Sunday:</b>	Tour only (\$10)	_____	\$ _____
<b>PAYMENT:</b> Deposit (\$35 for each registrant for any Friday and/or Saturday affair)		_____	\$ _____
<b>PAYMENT IN FULL</b>		_____	\$ _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Over 40 'Voices' Bring the Past to Life on Powerful PBS Series 'THE CIVIL WAR'

## Premiering September 23

On five consecutive nights, beginning Sunday, September 23, PBS will premiere the powerful new Ken Burns documentary series **THE CIVIL WAR**.

PBS PREMIERE SCHEDULE					
	Sunday, Sept. 23	Monday, Sept. 24	Tuesday, Sept. 25	Wednesday, Sept. 26	Thursday, Sept. 27
	<b>1861</b>	<b>1862</b>	<b>1863</b>	<b>1864</b>	<b>1865</b>
8:00	<b>Episode I: <i>The Cause</i></b>	<b>Episode II: <i>A Very Bloody Affair</i></b>	<b>Episode IV: <i>Simply Murder</i></b>	<b>Episode VI: <i>Valley of the Shadow of Death</i></b>	<b>Episode VIII: <i>War Is All Hell</i></b>
8:30					
9:00		<b>Episode III: <i>Forever Free</i></b>	<b>Episode V: <i>Universe of Battle</i></b>	<b>Episode VII: <i>Most Hallowed Ground</i></b>	<b>Episode IX: <i>The Better Angels of Our Nature</i></b>
9:30					
10:00					
10:30					



### DR. EDWARD MAYNARD

Dr. Edward Maynard, a Washington, D.C., dentist used his talents and influence both to aid his fellow man and to develop a more efficient means of destroying him.

Maynard developed a breech loading rifle in a day when most guns were muzzle-loaded. He also developed the Maynard cartridge and Maynard Primer to be used in his breechloader as well as in other army rifles. Maynard equipment was used with deadly efficiency during the Civil War and is highly prized by collectors today.

Dr. Maynard worked with Jefferson Davis when Davis was secretary of War in the administration of Franklin Pierce. Dr. Maynard was an early advocate of creating an army dental corps and was able to convince Jefferson Davis of its importance. The War Department, however, did not favor the idea and as a result, dentists were never commissioned in the Union Army. Instead, they served as enlisted men and were relegated to extracting teeth.

When Davis became President of the Confederacy, he remembered the advice of Dr. Maynard and dentists were commissioned as members of the medical department of the Confederate army. They served with distinction on the field and in large army hospitals. They were not only responsible for dental health, but were also in the forefront in the management of facial injuries.

Dr. Maynard and Jefferson Davis, thereby, enhanced the image of dentistry and may well have given impetus to the development of oral surgery.

—Dr. Peter Jacobsohn  
Milwaukee Civil War Round Table



**Your Dues Are Due NOW**

# More Than You Ever Wanted To Know About

## Sultana Disaster

Perhaps the busiest spot along the Mississippi River in late April of 1865 was Camp Fisk, near Vicksburg. Camp Fisk was established for the general exchange of prisoners captured during the operations of the armies in the West.

Boats arrived one after another to transport the Union exchangees to the North. One of these boats was the "Sultana" fresh from St. Louis and held up enroute by boiler trouble.

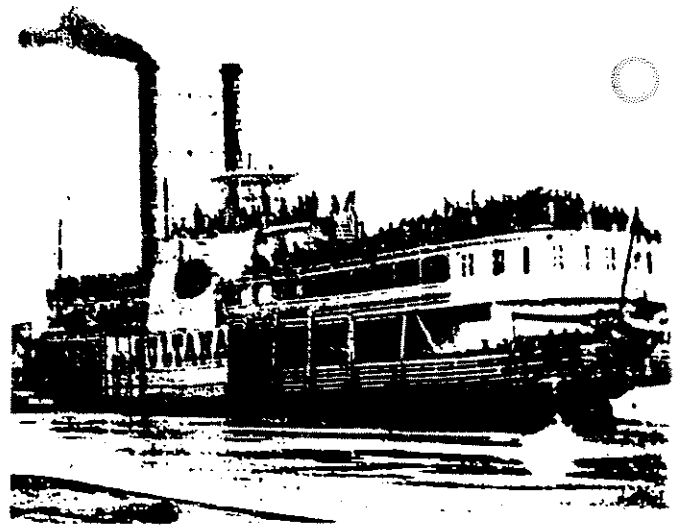
The Federal government had established a set fee for the soldiers passage: \$5 for each enlisted man, \$10 for each officer. Rumors soon spread that some boat owners were eager to make the largest profit possible. Despite her authorized capacity of less than 400 passengers, when the "Sultana" pulled away from Vicksburg en route to Cairo, on board were 1,866 troops, 75 cabin passengers, 85 crew members, 60 horses and mules and more than 100 hogs. It was almost impossible to move about. Cooking was done either with hot water taken from the boilers or at a small stove on the main deck.

After a six hour stop to recoal at Memphis, the "Sultana" eased into the Mississippi sometime after 1:00AM, April 27th. It was past 2:00AM, not yet 3:00AM, when the ship reached a point some 7-8 miles above Memphis near a clump of islands known as the Hen and Chickens. With no warning the "Sultana's" boilers burst with a thunderous explosion. The force of the blast had been upward, blowing a hole through the middle section of the decks and obliterating the pilot house on top of the boat.

The "Sultana's" superstructure was constructed of the lightest wood, almost all of which was thickly varnished or painted. In less than 20 minutes after the boiler exploded, the middle section of the "Sultana" was a mass of flames.

No one was ever quite sure how many died, but unofficial estimates ranged as high as 1800 with 1585 as a figure most agreed on. That was more than the number killed on both sides at First Bull Run and Wilson's Creek combined. It was one of the greatest marine disasters of all time. For fully two weeks after the explosion Federal authorities were fishing bodies out of the river.

Blame for the overloading was placed on Capt. Frederic Speed, who had been in charge of the transferring the paroled prisoners from Camp Fisk. He was dismissed from the service after a trial that lasted nearly 5 months.



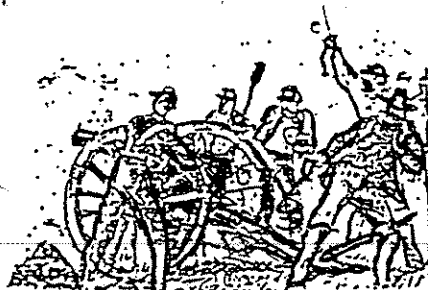
Blue & Gray Magazine Vol. #6  
Civil War Times Illustrated Aug 1990  
Encyclopedia of the Civil War by Faust pp731  
The Civil War Vol III by Shelby Foote pp 1026-1027



Please Make Reservation

255-8140





## PRESERVATION REPORT by BILL STARK

# Plan for Civil War Sites Finds Ear

**PRINCETON** — From start to finish, Georgie Holder Boge's senior thesis has been a little different. Miss Boge's interest — a land-use study of Civil War battlefield sites — gave her reason to log only a few hours in the Princeton University library but lots of time on the road and at the sites themselves.

Now, just weeks after the public-policy major from Bloomington, Ill., finished a 185-page report calling for a Federal fight to save the Civil War lands threatened by development, her recommendations have provided ammunition for Congressional action.

Senator Dale L. Bumpers, Democrat of Arkansas, offered an amendment that would extend a bill to study the protection of 10 major battle sites in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley. With the amendment's adoption, the bill now includes a provision to establish a commission to study all Civil War battlefield sites. The bill was approved on May 23 by the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and is headed for consideration on the floor of the Senate.

Knowing of the Senator's interest in preservation issues, Miss Boge had arranged to meet with him this spring as part of her research.

### Getting Congress's Ear

"I just intended to go and have a five-minute interview with him and ask a few questions," said Miss Boge, who will study environmental geography in England next year as a Rhodes Scholar. "But the meeting turned out to be one of the most incredible things that has happened to me. He started grilling me about my proposal, and I ended up making some recommendations to him."

After another meeting, with Senator James M. Jeffords, a Vermont Republican with a kindred interest in the battlefields, Miss Boge was asked to submit written testimony on the Shenandoah Valley bill. She wrote in support of it, but also recommended that it be expanded to include all battlefields.

In a recent interview, she said her thesis elaborated on the ideas of Tersh Boasberg, a lawyer in Washington who has worked with the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites. Mr. Boasberg wanted an independent commission to assess the sites and decide what should be done with them. Miss Boge suggested instead that the commission be under the auspices of the National Parks Service. She also suggested how the battlefields could be preserved.

"My thesis really provides a means, a how-to, for protection," she

### CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELDS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE PROTECTION

#### Protected Battlefields Lacking Adequate Protection:

Antietam  
Wilson's Creek  
Fort Donelson  
Shiloh  
Fort Pulaski  
Manassas  
Harpers Ferry  
Fredericksburg  
Stones River  
Chancellorsville  
Gettysburg  
Vicksburg  
Port Gibson

Port Hudson  
Chickamauga  
Chattanooga  
Pickett's Mill  
Kennesaw Mountain  
Wilderness  
Spotylvania Court House  
New Market  
Monocacy  
Cedar Creek  
Petersburg  
Five Forks  
New Market Heights

Port Republic  
Brice's Cross Roads  
Corinth  
Beatonville  
Cross Keys  
Gaines' Mill  
Mansfield  
McDowell  
Malvern Hill  
Perryville  
Cold Harbor  
Saylor's Creek  
South Mountain

#### Unprotected Battlefields:

Gloria  
Raymond  
Cedar Mountain  
Brandy Station  
New Hope Church  
Reams Station  
First Winchester  
Honey Springs

Champion Hill  
Pleasant Hill  
Rocky Face Ridge  
Resaca  
Fishers Hill  
Franklin  
Second Winchester

Cloyd's Mountain  
North Anna River  
Piedmont  
Kernstown  
Dallas  
Olustee  
Third Winchester

#### Locations:

Virginia 28  
Louisiana 4  
Florida 1  
New Mexico 1  
West Virginia 1

Georgia 8  
Tennessee 4  
Kentucky 1  
North Carolina 1  
Oklahoma 1

Mississippi 6  
Maryland 3  
Missouri 1  
Pennsylvania 1

### Sites Found in Danger

Miss Boge's thesis (a thesis is required of undergraduate seniors in most departments) was inspired by a class she had taken that was conducted by James McPherson, wards Professor of American History and the winner of a 1988 Pulitzer Prize in history for his Civil War book "Battle Cry of Freedom." Miss Boge combined her interest in environmental and land policies and her newfound intrigue with the Civil War. Professor McPherson became thesis adviser.

Her original intent was to conduct a land-use study of the sites. But in views with National Park Service representatives, preservation developers and county planners, well as tours of the battlefields, convinced her that the sites were in danger.

"If you go to Gettysburg, you can enjoy large sections of it because there is a large strip with a Kentucky Fried Chicken and other fast-food places," she said.

Her research, she said, convinces her that preservation of the national battlelands is not only a moral obligation, but also economically feasible. The tourism, green space and agriculture that the sites provide benefit local economy.

"I really found that the whole question was not one of preservation versus development, but one of planning development," she said. "It is possible to have the best of both worlds: you can preserve the battlefields and have development, too."

This summer, Miss Boge will be writing a brochure on the economic viability of preservation for the Civil War Sites National Monument and Preservation Fund, a private nonprofit organization in Rosslyn, Va.

"If you asked the average man on the street what he thought about shopping mall being built on Grand Canyon or in Yosemite National Forest, his reaction would be outrage," Miss Boge said. "By the same token, you'd get the same reaction about a Civil War battlefield. We have no business desecrating hallowed land."

## Plan would save Civil War fields

WASHINGTON — Warning that "some of America's most hallowed ground" is threatened by suburban sprawl, Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan announced a plan yesterday to preserve endangered Civil War battlefields. Lujan said the federal government cannot afford to buy all the historic sites, but will develop a national strategy and enlist state and private help to save the battlefields for future generations. These sites "are essential in conveying to citizens of every age how our ancestors fought for our closest held ideals," said Lujan in unveiling his "American Battlefield Protection Plan."

## New Monitor photographs expected soon

WASHINGTON — Civil War buffs may soon have clearer pictures of the Union ship Monitor, which sank in a gale off the North Carolina coast 128 years ago after its battle with the Confederate ship Merrimack. For the first time in 11 years, the government is allowing an undersea photographer to dive to the wreck 16 miles off Cape Hatteras. Photographer and author Rod Farb of Cedar Grove, N.C., arrived at the site with a film crew last week, beating out a Philadelphia rival seeking to become the first to dive to the wreck since French explorer Jacques Cousteau did it in 1979.

# Johnson's Island Is Named National Historic Landmark

By Roger Long

JOHNSON'S ISLAND, Ohio-- On June 21 the U.S. Secretary of the Interior signed the paper to make Johnson's Island a National Historic Landmark. Johnson's Island, in Sandusky Bay of Lake Erie, was the site of a prison for Confederate officers. It is hoped that this new designation is the first step toward making part of Johnson's Island a National History Park, similar to the one at Andersonville, Ga.

However, there are still many obstacles to overcome. A developer still plans to convert the old Federal docks into a fancy marina; to blast away part of the island, connecting the stone quarry with the bay; and to build expensive condos or summer homes across the prison site. The fight to stop this has now gone on for two years.

The Johnson's Island Historical Society Inc. was formed to make sure the history of the 275-acre island was not forgotten. Here some 25 Rebel generals spent time, along with men who would become senators, congressmen, governors, ambassadors, etc.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan (Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127) unveiled a plan for protecting Civil War battlefields from development by asking private foundations, preservation groups and state and local governments to join in buying 25 high-priority sites or preventing commercial development of them through zoning restrictions. Johnson's Island was not included. It was as important as any battlefield! Please write to Secretary Lujan and ask him to add Johnson's Island to his list of 25 sites. Write to Senators Glenn and Metzenbaum (Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510) and ask each to request the same of Secretary Lujan. Congressman Paul Gillmore (House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515) should also be notified as the U.S. Representative for the district which includes Johnson's Island.

ging up prison artifacts. It is not clear exactly what will become of the artifacts or how they will be used by Dr. Bush.

Preservationists are especially concerned because somewhere on the island are the remains of at least 17 Confederates who were not buried in the cemetery. The contention is that all excavation should be done by a professional, independent, historical archaeologist with a Civil War background.

Opponents to the development include members of Civil War Round Tables, Order of the Stars and Bars, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans, Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, etc.

This has apparently not fazed the developer and his hired archaeologist, as they continue with plans to destroy history and build a fancy resort for wealthy weekenders.

More preservation support is needed to save this site, dubbed "the most significant Civil War site in Ohio," by the Johnson's Island Historical Society.

Preservationists are urged to write to their congressmen, to the National Park Service, to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, or to the Johnson's Island Historical Society Inc., 219

Hayes Ave., Port Clinton, OH 43452. Donations to defray expenses are welcome but are considered less important than personal involvement.

Johnson's Island can be saved, despite the fact that the Ohio Legislature will not vote funds to purchase the prison site--and despite the fact that the U.S. Congress is unlikely to vote the necessary funds.

Once the development plans are defeated, preservationists hope to raise by contribution the money to purchase the land, so that it can be donated to the National Park Service. But that is still some months away--and first things first.

The fight to save Johnson's Island has been lengthy and often bitter. It has also been costly for all concerned. But preservation is worth it. As a wise man said, "Preservationists are like misers. They are hell to live with--but they make great ancestors."

*(Roger Long is a director of The Johnson's Island Historical Society.)*



All furloughs did not turn out so well. Frederick Neff of the 24th Michigan, on returning to the Regiment after visiting his wife in Grosse Point, spent the better part of two months apologizing to her for paying too much attention to the neighbors and not being at home enough. This, coupled with a chance meeting with a comrade at the dock in Detroit who was also bound for the Regiment. This comrade introduced Neff to two girls he had in tow at the exact moment that Neff's wife hove into view. This made the Confederates the least of Neff's troubles for sometime.



The 24th Michigan in the Iron Brigade by Donald L. Smith pp 82

Many factors influenced Gen. Grant's ill-fated decision to launch his attack at Cold Harbor. (The one attack Grant admitted he should not have made.) He felt Lee's line was stretched thin and the Confederates were weary and Grant received unbridled support from his most influential staff officer, a young engineer and former West Point faculty member, Lt. Col. Cyrus B. Comstock. Comstock advocated battle and had the reputation of constantly preaching a policy toward Lee's army of "smash 'em up." Grant listened and attacked and lost 12,000 men in three days fighting.

How the North Won by Hattaway pp 577

In 1864 the 150th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry (part of the Keystone Brigade) contained a unique company - Company "Q". Company "Q" was composed of line officers from other regiments who had been court-martialed and broken for cowardice. They were given a chance as privates to redeem themselves. Most of them had just seen too much killing and hardship and had collapsed inwardly suffering from what we know today as combat fatigue. Now given a second opportunity and relieved of the responsibility for other men's lives, they turned out to be a rugged, fighting unit and all of them regained their commissions.



History of the 150th Pa. Volunteers by Thomas Chamberlin pp 239-240



# From The President's Desk



I'm looking forward to my first meeting as your new President. I'm also excited by the prospects of what I hope will be a great year for the CCWRT!

Our kick-off meeting at Dr. Callahan's house features Russell Duncan, Ph.D., whose subject is "Black Glory in Blue and Grey." Dr. Duncan's background includes an M.A. and Ph.D. in History from the University of Georgia.

He has written a number of papers regarding Civil War History and the Reconstruction period that followed. He currently is a Professor of History at John Carroll University.

See you on September 11th.



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