

# *THE CHARGER*

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

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SEPTEMBER 1995

335TH MEETING

VOL. 17 #1

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DATE: Wednesday, September 13, 1995

PLACE: The Hermit Club

SUBJECT: VICKSBURG

SPEAKER: Mr. Edwin Cole Bearss

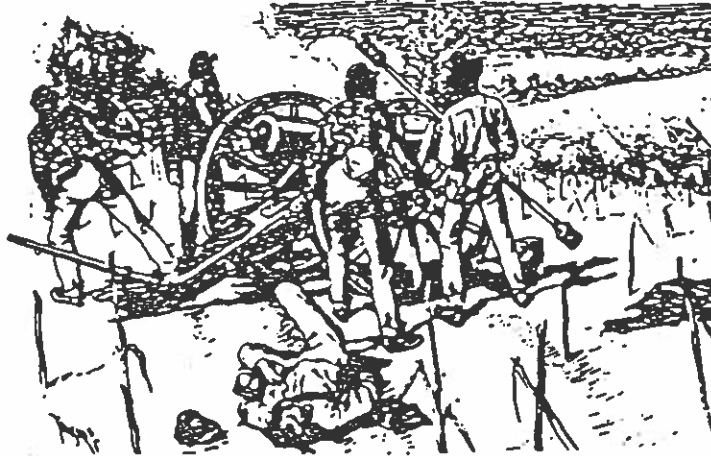
TIME: Drinks 6PM Dinner 7PM

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# CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUND-TABLE

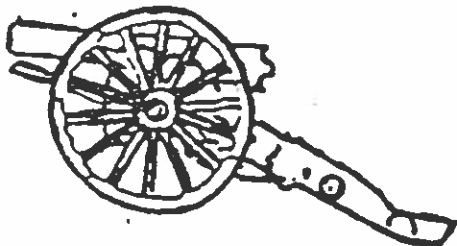
1957 \* 1995



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# Preserve Your Battlefields

## Up Coming Events



## NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS & SPEAKERS

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| October 11  | - Don Breen - "Johnson's Island"  |
| November 8  | - Frank Mercante - "Custer"   |
| December 13 | - William McGrath - "Civil War Navy"                                      |
| January 10  | - Quiz - prepared by Kevin Casey  |
| February 14 | - Hugh Ernhardt - "Lincoln"   |
| March 13    | - Panel Discussion - "Opportunities Lost" Bob Boyda moderator             |
| April 10    | - Jeffery Wert - "Custer"   |
| May 8       | - Ladies Night - William A. Young, Jr. "Rev. Findley at Pickett's Charge" |

# Around the Mall and Beyond

By Michael Kernan

*The Smithsonian Associates have a 'national treasure' in their midst, but shhhh, don't tell. It's already hard enough to get a seat on the bus for one of Ed Bearss' battle-site Study Tours*

He has groupies who wear special "Bearss Brigade" badges on the tours. He has people who have ridden with him 40 times or more. He has couples who first met on the bus, got engaged and then invited him to their wedding and he went. He will talk for 12 hours straight on one of his Civil War field trips, and then during the lunch break his class of Smithsonian Associates—his friends and fans—will spend the whole time talking about him.

"Ed Bearss is a national treasure," says one Associate on a one-day tour that I've joined. We are following the path of James Ewell Brown (Jeb) Stuart in the days leading up to the Battle of Gettysburg. The young and flamboyant cavalry commander had made a disastrous end run around the Union Army, literally an ego trip that may well have cost the Confederates America's most celebrated battle.

Edwin Cole Bearss, of the National Park Service, has been running tours to battle sites of the Civil War, plus a few of the Revolution and of the War of 1812, for the NPS since 1955. He was their chief historian for 13 years and now serves, at age 72, as the director's special assistant for military sites.

Our first stop is Rowser's Ford on the Potomac River, where the 39 of us stand by the canal lock and hear how Stuart brought his 6,000 troopers across the river during high water, hand-carrying shells and using up most of the night at a time when speed was essential.

Before long we are all transported back to 1863. It is the end of June and Gen. Robert E. Lee is moving north to invade Pennsylvania. He absolutely must know where the Union Army is: Is

it still twiddling its thumbs in Virginia or coming after him into Maryland?

On the morning of June 25 Jeb Stuart's plans to ride around the Union Army are foiled when he encounters Union troops on the very road he intended to use. A courier is dispatched to warn Lee that the Union Army is on the move, but the courier never makes it. Now, because the Yankees occupy the road, Stuart must first ride farther south and east before heading north. For a full week, Stuart's cavalry remains cut off from the Army of the Potomac, and Lee is deprived of intelligence he desperately needs.

Our bus speeds past the pompous mansions in the ritzy Washington, D.C. suburb of Potomac and then through the modest Maryland countryside above Olney, but Bearss makes us see instead Jeb Stuart's column: horsemen trotting in fours, a line ten miles long including 125 forage wagons Stuart has captured, plus ambulances, ordnance wagons and artillery. "He has orders to disrupt the enemy's movement and collect supplies," Bearss tells us; "this, he does, but it shows poor judgment, because he forgets that his primary mission is to move as rapidly as possible and to reestablish contact with Lee's army once he knows the Union Army is across the Potomac."

Stopping at Westminster, Union Mills and other points—there are to be close to a dozen during the day—we debark and gather around our leader as he paces back and forth in our midst, eyes mostly closed, silver-knobbed Royal Marine swagger stick under his arm, drawing the picture. Full names of generals, colonels, even captains; verbatim dialogue; shrewd analysis of his characters'

mental state; even gestures recorded in someone's memoirs: Bearss goes on like this all day, nonstop, and never glances at his notes.

I know a fair amount about the Civil War, but this is all new to me. How the excessively gentle Lee, when Stuart finally reports to him at 2 P.M. on July 2, long after his army had blindly blundered into battle at Gettysburg, actually raised a fist as if to strike the man who was supposed to be his "eyes and ears." How on July 3, at Gettysburg, George Custer, only six days a general, charged at the head of his adopted Michigan cavalry with the yell, "Come on, you Wolverines!" How the Grass Hotel at Hunterstown, Pennsylvania (a private house now), used to look, and which wounded soldier was treated by which Army surgeon there, and what his wound was, and how it looked, and how the surgeon treated it. . . In Hanover, Pennsylvania, we visit the site where a man fell into a tanning vat (Bearss reports his name, rank and middle initial—Lt. Col. William H. Payne, 2d North Carolina Cavalry) and the site of the silver maple tree under which Custer tied his horse.

This was amazing material. But for me the best part of the day was the way Bearss' regulars clustered around to tell me about him. After lunch at the Altland House in Abbottstown, Pennsylvania, I got an earful.

"You hear about the Mud March?" asked Gary Carpenter of Silver Spring, Maryland, a Bearss trooper since 1985. I knew of the Union Army's infamous aborted winter march after Fredericksburg, but this was rather more recent. It seems in early March one wet spring, Bearss walked his group over the open ground of Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg. "It was so soggy that people sank to their ankles. One woman lost her shoes. We'll never forget that day."

There was the time the bus broke down at Cold Harbor, Virginia, and during the six-hour wait for a replacement the group sent out for pizza and beer and had a walloping party.

There was the time the bus got stuck in a ditch at Fishers Hill, and local farmers brought out pots of coffee. Another time the bus stalled on the railroad tracks at Manassas, and neighbors called the railroad to stop the soon-due train.

That all happened before Paulie Ward became Bearss' permanent bus driver two years ago. "Last year we were down in the Fredericksburg area and

Ed said, 'Paulie, I want to go see this house,' and he pointed down in the woods where there was nothing but two tracks in the dirt. So I took it down in there; the bus was tilting, the trees were scraping the windows. I said, 'Ed, we going to be able to turn this bus around?' No problem. We got down within a hundred yards of that house. I turned her around and got out and joined the tour." You can bet that Paulie Ward knows a fair bit now about what Ed Bearss knows.

"Don't encourage people to discover him," pleaded Paul Davis, a Washington native who discovered Bearss two years ago. "As it is, you have to sign up two months in advance."

Once Bearss lost his trademark swagger stick down a storm drain, and George Evans of Annandale, Virginia, and Paul Sposito of nearby Springfield rescued it with coat hangers.

"We love him," Sposito said simply. "We have badges showing we were at his 70th and 71st birthday parties." Oh yes, the fans help him celebrate every June 26, wherever the tour may be.

"You don't bring things to read on Ed's trips," remarked George Stevens of Alexandria, Virginia, whose wife Roberta was the volunteer in charge of us all, counting heads after every stop. She's a special assistant in cultural affairs at the Library of Congress.

And then there was that time at Little Round Top, the climax of Gettysburg

Day Two, when Bearss was lecturing atop a large bare rock and hundreds of tourists joined the group to listen.

"The whole hillside was covered with people," someone said. "It was like the Sermon on the Mount."

Well. Not to carry this too far, but suffice it to say that Edwin C. Bearss is a very special sort of historian.

Born in Billings, Montana, he was raised on a ranch 40 miles from Hardin and a bike ride away from the Little Bighorn battlefield.

"But I got interested in the Civil War in the seventh grade. My father was a marine in World War I. He liked to read aloud, war books. Then I got a biography of Jeb Stuart and that was it."

He named the cattle on his father's ranch after generals and battles, his favorite cow being "Antietam." In World War II he signed up as a marine, of course. PFC Bearss fought at Guadalcanal and New Britain, where he suffered gunshot wounds to the left arm and foot, right shoulder and back. He was 26 months in the hospital. After his discharge in 1946 he took a B.S. degree in foreign service at Georgetown University and later took his M.A. in histo-

ry at Indiana University with a thesis on Gen. Pat Cleburne, "the Stonewall Jackson of the West."

"When I was at Indiana University," he said, "I visited Cleburne's battle sites, Shiloh and Stones River, and the historian at Shiloh spent the day with me. I like Shiloh: it looks the way it did, not so many monuments, and you can feel alone out there, 80 miles from anywhere."

In 1955 he took a Park Service job as park historian at Vicksburg, transferring 11 years later to Washington. While at Vicksburg he did the research that led to the recovery of the Union gunboat *Cairo*, long lost in the Yazoo River. He also found two forgotten forts and helped make Grand Gulf in Mississippi, the site of a Civil War engagement, into a state military monument.

"I gave my first tour for the Smithsonian in October 1977. They didn't do much with tours then. I did Antietam and must have had good reports, because they wanted me to continue."

The next year he gave a tour of Gettysburg, out and back from Washington in one day. "The restaurant took two hours to serve us. We were really late."

Now Bearss takes six days and three

separate tours to cover Gettysburg: one for the preliminaries at Brandy Station and elsewhere, one for Stuart's gallivanting ride, one for Lee's retreat and three for the days of the battle itself.

He appears on television (in the Ken Burns *Civil War* series, for one) and lectures to Civil War round tables and writes books, 14 to date, ranging from monographs to 1,200-page, three-volume histories. He has another one coming out this summer, on events of 1862 on the James River. He and his wife, Margie, have three children: Edwin jr., a marine; Mary Virginia, a former marine; Sara Beth, a historian.

One detail he had mentioned—the fact that horses usually don't urinate on the run, preferring to stop, which was yet another reason for Stuart's slow progress—stuck in my mind. I asked Bearss where this bit of arcanum had come from, expecting a technical reference to some history of warfare.

"Oh, I used to ride six miles home from school, and I was always in a terrible hurry because I didn't want to miss my radio programs, *Little Orphan Annie*, *Tom Mix*, *Terry and the Pirates*. That's when you learn that speed counts."

Our thanks to Dr. Bill Schlesinger for bringing this article to your Editors attention.



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

# MORE THAN YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT

## JOHN A. MCCLERNAND

John A. McClernand was born in the Kentucky backwoods near Hardinsburg on May 20, 1812. After his father's death, he moved with his mother to Shawneetown, Illinois, where he grew up and attended school.

As a young man he moved to Springfield and studied law, being admitted to the bar in 1832. That summer McClernand had his first military experience when he served for two months as a private in the Illinois volunteers during the Black Hawk War.

Beginning in 1836, McClernand served seven years in the State legislature and quickly became noted for his bombastic oratory. A Democrat and an opponent of abolitionists, he was the champion of his Southern-Illinois constituents who closely associated themselves with their slave owning neighbors across the Ohio River. He was elected to Congress in 1843-51 and 1859-61. He was defeated for the Speaker of the House in 1860 by a coalition opposed to his moderate sentiments on slavery and disunion.

With the firing on Fort Sumter, McClernand was in Illinois and took a leading part in the occupation of Cairo and the cutting off of supplies moving South. Lincoln, recognizing McClernand's value in securing Democratic support in Southern Illinois, nominated him as a brigadier general.

Ambitious, selfish, and pompous, McClernand irritated professional soldiers but was intelligent and bold enough to compile a decent war record. One of his earliest contributions to the Union war effort was his role in getting the 21st Illinois (Grant's regiment) to re-enlist for three years. As a brigadier, he was given a brigade under Grant. He fought well at Belmont and commanded a division at Forts Henry and Donelson. At Fort Donelson he launched a premature attack and was criticized by Grant for his recklessness. He fought at Shiloh and participated in Halleck's slow advance on Corinth, Mississippi.

McClernand was promoted to major-general on March 21, 1862. With this promotion he outranked every officer in Grant's army except Grant himself. McClernand's intriguing played a subversive role in the army - seeking to supplant McClellan in the East and criticizing Grant's maneuvers in the West.

In October 1862, McClernand received permission from Lincoln to raise troops for an expedition against Vicksburg. Back in Illinois and being a widower, he courted Minerva Dunlop, his first wife's younger sister. As his recruits gathered in Memphis, Grant, to forestall McClernand, ordered Sherman to Memphis to commandeer the recruits and make an authorized strike down the Mississippi River toward Vicksburg. This attempt failed miserably at Chickasaw Bayou. On hearing the news McClernand was furious at the underhandedness of the West Pointers. On Christmas day he married Minerva and with



his bride and staff embarked on a steamboat for a brief honeymoon cruise as he raced down river to assume command of the troops he had raised.

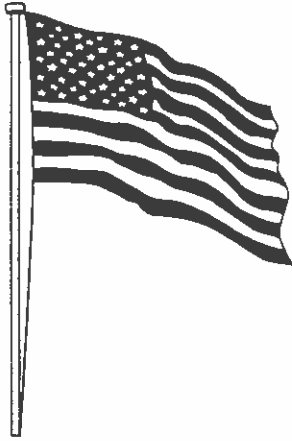
McClelland, now in command and with Sherman as his subordinate, led an expedition up the Red River and captured Fort Hindman or Arkansas Post. Grant then asserted control and assumed overall command for the strike on Vicksburg. McClelland became commander of the XIII Corps for these operations. While Grant detested McClelland, he had no justification for shelving him. That is until Grant's assault on Vicksburg's fortifications on May 22, 1863. Exaggerating his troops success, McClelland's misinformation led Grant to commit more men to a hopeless and bloody effort in McClelland's support. To make matters worse McClelland, without going through proper military channels, supplied newspapers back home with copies of his congratulatory orders to his Corps extolling their conduct while condemning the efforts of the other Corps led by Sherman and McPherson. This breach allowed Grant to relieve McClelland on June 19, 1863 and send him home.

McClelland chaffed at not being in upon Vicksburg's surrender and politicked to regain his command. The following year he was returned to command of the XIII Corps and served in the Red River Campaign long enough to further damage his reputation and to become so ill that he resigned his commission on November 30, 1864.

McClelland returned to Springfield and upon regaining his health resumed his law practice. He was once again involved with politics in the State Democratic party and in 1876 served as chairman of the national convention which nominated Samuel J. Tilden. He was also elected to the Bench. He died in Springfield on September 20, 1890 and was buried there.

The Vicksburg Campaign Vol. I by Ed Bearss  
Generals in Blue by Ezra J. Warner  
Who was who in the Civil War by Stewart Sifakis  
Encyclopedia of the Civil War by Patricia Faust





# A July 4th to Remember

## *The Surrender of Vicksburg*

The July 4th holiday was not celebrated in Vicksburg, Mississippi for 82 years from 1863 until 1945. The July 4th *to remember* for the North or *to forget* for the South was **July 4, 1863.**

**MEN** in combat frequently are unable to assess the historical significance of the events of which they are a part. At Vicksburg, however, Grant's men knew they were engaged in a momentous undertaking. Because the siege lasted so long they received copies of Northern newspapers on a regular basis and thus knew that they were talked about all over the world. Most of the men were from the Northwest, and the Mississippi River held a special fascination for them—they spoke and thought of it in almost mystical terms. The opportunity to participate in the campaign to open the Father of Waters was, they knew a rare one, and few of them doubted that this was the most important thing they would ever do in their lives.

Sergeant Pleasant W. Bishop with a Illinois Division of Grant's Army wrote home on July 6, 1863; "**Glorious News**", he began, "I thank God I was permitted to *celebrate* the 4th of July by marching inside the fortifications of Vicksburg". He examined the fortifications with a soldier's practiced eye and pronounced them formidable, reported that the stories of the Rebels eating mule meat true, and thanked God for His blessings. "I would say that while I rejoice that Vicksburg is ours, it gives me no pleasure to see the destitution and suffering of fellow mortals in the rebel army, yet such must be their conditions unless they lay down their arms, and cease to fight against their God by fighting against their country. But I have been looking them over now for two days (Feds and Confeds being all mixed up together inside of

of the fortifications) and find them to be just like people in other parts of the world, some of them are *men of sense* and some are not."

Bishop said the Yankees had been sharing their rations with the Rebels for the past two days, and were glad to do it. In a comment that speaks volumes for the efficiency of the Union high command, he added, "We have always plenty to spare, for which I feel truly thankful."

The possibility of an attack by Confederate General Johnston from the Mississippi Capital of Jackson must have been a active topic of conversation because Bishop bragged that his division could defeat the whole Confederate Army from inside the fortifications of Vicksburg.

No attack ever came, and the North held securely to the city and the river. For Sergeant Pleasant Bishop of the 94th Illinois, and thousands like him, that hot afternoon was the greatest 4th of July they would ever celebrate and the grandest in the nation's history.

**Vicksburg**  
**Field Trip 1995**

# **Vicksburg**

***1995 Field Trip***

**September 28 to 30, 1995**

**Park Inn International  
Vicksburg, Mississippi**

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# PRESERVATION REPORT

## THIEVES STEAL CANNON FROM CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD PARK

A piece of South Carolina's heritage was taken recently when thieves stole a Civil War cannon barrel from Rivers Bridge State Park near Ehrhardt. The cannon barrel, a 12-pounder Blakely Type 2, was removed from its brick mount in the park's memorial ground on the night of February 2-3, 1995. The theft was discovered the next morning by park employees as they prepared for the 130th anniversary commemoration of the Battle of Rivers Bridge.



The 700-pound cast iron barrel has a tapered reinforcing band near its center and a bead sign at its muzzle. It is marked at the rear with the inscription "BLAKELY'S PATENT, No. 30, FAWCETT-PRESTON & CO., LIVERPOOL, MAKERS, 1861." The cannon had been at Rivers Bridge since the late 1950's.

The park is the site of a two-day battle fought on February 3-4, 1865. It was the first historical site to become a South Carolina state park and is the only Civil War battlefield managed by the state park service.

Anyone with information concerning the cannon or its theft is urged to contact the Bamberg County Sheriff's office at (803) 245-3011. Questions about the cannon may be directed to South Carolina State Parks' chief historian at (803) 734-0539, the agency's district historic resource coordinator at (803) 852-4200, or the Rivers Bridge superintendent at (803) 267-3675.

## GETTYSBURG NATIONAL PARK ARRESTS TWO FOR BATTLEFIELD LOOTING

Gettysburg, PA--On April 28, 1995, William G. Senn of Skaneateles, New York, and Nancy L. McIntyre of Nedrow, New York, were apprehended by park rangers in Gettysburg National Military Park (NMP). During two days of surveillance by park rangers, Senn and McIntyre were observed in the act of artifact hunting and metal detecting in several areas on the Civil War battlefield. These activities are prohibited in Gettysburg NMP and on all Federal land.

Evidence seized at the time of the arrest included a Civil War artifact (a roundball), a metal fragment, animal bones, and two hand-held metal detectors. A loaded .38 caliber handgun and a speedloader with five rounds of ammunition were found in Senn's vehicle.

In addition to other evidence, rangers found park maps, annotated guides to the battlefield, and three portable radio/scanners with a list of radio frequencies used by the National Park Service, Gettysburg Police Department, Adams County, and the Pennsylvania State Police.

Federal charges will be coordinated with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Harrisburg and may include violation of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), theft of government property, possession and removal of animal parts, possession and use of a metal detector, and possession of a loaded weapon in a vehicle.

For more information contact Eisenhower National Historic Site, Gettysburg National Military Park, P.O. Box 1080, Gettysburg, PA 17325-1080.

## STAMPS

# Quest for Civil War accuracy

By BILL McALLISTER

WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — On Thursday, three postal clerks from the Harpers Ferry Post Office reported for duty wearing Civil War-era dresses and set up a temporary "Civil War Station" at a junior high school in the West Virginia town. That afternoon a gaggle of postal officials, town officials and area veterans gathered at the school to dedicate a new sheet of 20 Civil War stamps.

Theirs was a ceremony that postal officials hoped would be duplicated across the country as the Postal Service released its second set of "classic" stamps. The Civil War stamps were formally dedicated in Gettysburg, Pa., but because of "a flood of requests" from other communities, postal officials decided to release the stamps nationally on June 29.

That allowed Harpers Ferry and other communities with Civil War connections to join in the commemoration. Unlike the infamous "Legends of the West" commemoratives, the first stamps in the new "classic" series, postal officials are confident that the 20 Civil War stamps will dodge controversy.

Indeed, the agency has proclaimed that the designs have undergone "the most extensive effort in the history of the U.S. Postal Service to review and verify the historical accuracy of stamp subjects." Wary of another "Bill Pickett" controversy, in

which the agency was caught with the wrong man on a Legends stamp, the agency hired four noted Civil War historians and other researchers to review the designs.

"Civil War buffs will find these images have been scrutinized from the number and spacing of Gen. William T. Sherman's uniform buttons to the type of bridle and halter worn by Gen. Robert E. Lee's horse, Traveler," the Postal Service declared in a January news release.

For the image of Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock, a Union leader at the battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, there were more than a dozen recommended changes to artist Mark Hess' painting. His legs were too short, his cap was wrong, the buttons were in pairs, and there should have been a rosette on the ear straps of his horse's bridle.

"We're now getting down to recommendations like [Gen. Stonewall] Jackson's horse's ears weren't quite so dark at the tips," Hess said with a laugh. "But two experts pointed that out, so I made the change."

Hess is the Katonah, N.Y., artist who achieved a place in philatelic history last year by mistakenly painting Ben Pickett instead of his brother Bill on the Legends stamps. Hess had relied on a number of books, all of which had misidentified the Wild West rodeo star's brother as the well-known "bulldogger." This time

Hess and the Postal Service were determined not to have another error mar a major stamp release.

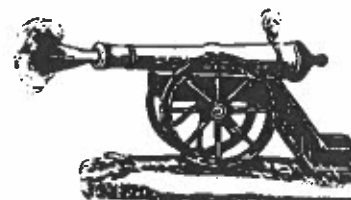
The sheet of twenty 32-cent stamps includes tributes to 16 individuals and four battles. In addition to Hancock and Sherman, the North is represented by President Abraham Lincoln, Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, Vice Adm. David G. Farragut, nurse Clara Barton, abolitionist Harriet Tubman and orator Frederick Douglass. In addition to Lee and Jackson, the South is represented by Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, Rear Adm. Raphael Semmes, diarist Mary Boykin Miller Chesnut, nurse Phoebe Yates Levy Pember, and Brig. Gen. Stand Watie, an Indian. Also featured are the battles of Shiloh, Gettysburg, Chancellorsville and the clash of the Monitor and Virginia, the first battle of ironclad vessels. (That 1862 encounter is referred to as the battle of the Monitor and Merrimack because, postal officials note, most people fail to recall that the Confederate forces had renamed the captured USS Merrimack the CSS Virginia.)

Individuals seeking first-day cancellations of the stamps should buy them at their local post office and place them on addressed envelopes. These should be mailed in a large envelope to Civil War Stamps, Postmaster, 115 Buford Ave., Gettysburg, Pa. 17325. Requests should be postmarked by July 29.



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# CEDAR CREEK SYMPOSIUM

Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation will offer a special educational symposium as part of its Living History and Reenactment Weekend, October 21-22, 1995. These talks will be held in the large white tent behind Belle Grove Plantation. Topics and/or speakers are subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 -11:00 am



**Cool Spring Battlefield: An Archaeological and Historical Overview.** Clarence Geier holds a doctorate in anthropology. A full professor at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, his area of specialization is North American archaeology. For the past 19 years, Dr. Geier has devoted a large portion of his study to different facets of Virginia history, beginning with the prehistoric era. In 1994, he supervised a hands-on archaeological site survey of parts of the Cedar Creek Battlefield. Recently, he co-edited the first published compilation of historical archaeology research devoted solely to Civil War period sites.

*Dr. Geier's book, Look to the Earth: Historical Archaeology and the American Civil War, may be purchased on site during the Living History and Reenactment Weekend.*

**Cool Spring Battlefield: An Archeological and Historical Overview.** Joseph Whitehorne served 25 years in the U.S. Army, most of the time as a staff historian. His last assignment, on the staff of the Secretary of the Army, was devoted in large part to the study and interpretation of battlefield sites. He presently teaches history at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middletown, Virginia. Dr. Whitehorne is the author of numerous books and articles on military topics; his two most recent deal with 19th-century military medicine and early 20th-century Black army units. He is a board member of the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation.

*Dr. Whitehorne's book, The Battle of Cedar Creek: A Self-Guided Tour, may be purchased on site during the Living History and Reenactment Weekend.*

Saturday, October 21, 11:00-12 noon



**Distinguished for Courage: The United States Colored Troops.** Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe is a tenured full professor of history at East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee, where she also serves as Associate Dean of Graduate Studies. She has lectured and written extensively on the U.S. Colored Troops, including a regimental history of the 29th Infantry, which sustained heavy losses at the Battle of the Crater in July 1864. Additionally, Dr. Drinkard-Hawkshawe has authored several articles about a variety of African Americans, such as comedian Bert Williams, Bishop Levi Coppin of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and reconstructionist David Straker. Her biography of civil rights leader James Farmer is due to be published by the end of this year.

Saturday, October 21, 12:00-1:00 pm



**A Visit from a Civil War Soldier.** Bill May is a high school computer teacher from Butler, Pennsylvania. His one-man show is based on the diary and recollections of his great-grandfather, Pvt. Christian Hinchberger, who served with the 78th Pennsylvania Volunteers. Since 1990, Mr. May has presented his unique first-person drama, captivating audiences totaling nearly 20,000 individuals. Through his live performances and sales of his professionally produced video, *A Visit from a Civil War Soldier*, he has single-handedly raised over \$16,000 which he has, in turn, donated to the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation.

*Copies of the video version of Mr. May's performance may be purchased on site during the Living History and Reenactment Weekend.*

Saturday, October 21, 1:00-2:00 pm



**Lawyer-Soldier at Brandy Station.** Tersh Boasberg is the senior partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Boasberg, Coughlin, and Watson. A specialist in zoning and land use matters, he has been involved in a variety of environmental and historic preservation efforts over the past two decades. In 1988, Mr. Boasberg was the lead attorney for the Save the Battlefield Coalition when the grassroots organization successfully halted construction of a shopping mall on an unprotected portion of Manassas Battlefield; he currently serves as legal counsel to the non-profit Brandy Station Foundation, which is fighting plans for a Formula One auto racetrack slated for the Culpeper County, Virginia, battlefield—site of the largest cavalry engagement of the Civil War. A graduate of Yale University and Harvard Law School, Mr. Boasberg has addressed hundreds of conferences and focus groups nationally and internationally on the legal aspects of historic preservation.

(over, please)

Sunday, October 22, 10:00-11:00 am



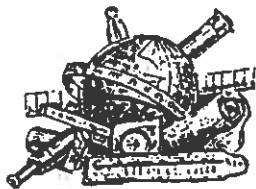
*American Heritage Fife and Drum Corps* is affiliated with the 2nd Army Corps Association reenactment unit. They have appeared in the movie, *Gettysburg*, and will be featured in the upcoming miniseries, *Andersonville*, which is due to air next spring. The 13-member band also provided the background music for artist Dale Galloway's video, *Canvas of War*; their own CD and audio cassette recordings are scheduled for release this year.

Sunday, October 22, 11:00-12:00 noon



*American Treasures: Julia Ward Howe and the Battle Hymn of the Republic.* Eliot Putnam is the great-great-grandson of the famous abolitionist and suffragette who wrote the *Battle Hymn of the Republic* in 1861. During his career as an international health consultant, Mr. Putnam has served in a variety of posts, including his work with the World Health Organization and the Harvard School of Public Health; additionally, he was President of the National Council for International Health, a leading association of individuals and organizations concerned with global health issues. A descendant also of Gen. Israel Putnam of the Continental Army, Mr. Putnam is married to Janet Everett Putnam, who serves as Director of Development for the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.

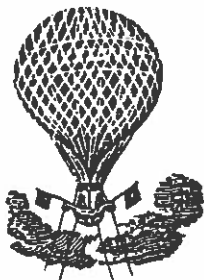
Sunday, October 22, 12 noon-1:00 pm



*Mapping and the Civil War.* William Miller is the author of numerous Civil War-related articles and books; his 1993 work on Confederate topographical engineer Jed Hotchkiss earned him the Fletcher Pratt Award from the New York Civil War Round Table as the best non-fiction Civil War book for that year. Besides editing a scholarly journal that focuses on the 1862 Peninsula Campaign, Mr. Miller also serves as editorial consultant to *Civil War* magazine, the publication of the Civil War Society. Long active in preservation matters, he sits on the Board of Directors of the Save the Battlefield Coalition and on the National Advisory Board of Protect Historic America.

Mr. Miller's book, *Mapping for Stonewall: The Civil War Service of Jed Hotchkiss*, may be purchased on site during the Living History and Reenactment Weekend.

Sunday, October 22, 1:00-2:00 pm



*The Evolution of Aerial Reconnaissance in America from the Civil War to Satellites.* Linda McCarthy is the Curator of the CIA Exhibit Center located in the Central Intelligence Agency's Headquarters Building in McLean, Virginia. For the past year, the only working model of the camera from this country's first satellite program, codenamed CORONA, was featured as part of an exhibit she designed highlighting the development of overhead imagery systems in the United States. The Exhibit Center recently supervised the transfer of the 15-foot long declassified prototype to the National Air and Space Museum where it will be permanently displayed at some future date.

Each of the speakers participating in the educational symposium is volunteering his or her time and expertise. The Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation is grateful to these dedicated men and women who have made this special outreach program possible.

How to get there:

The Cedar Creek Battlefield is located off of U.S. Rt. 11. From I-81 (north or south), take exit 302.

For more information:

Please call (540) 869-2064 or write the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation at Box 229, Middletown, VA 22645.

## Events Around Ohio

### Ohio Civil War Show Sept. 16-17

Pioneer Days & Civil War Show at Medina Community Center, Medina County Fairgrounds. Saturday 9-5, Sunday 9-4. Over age 12, \$4. For information, Conrad & Dowdell, 152D Highland Dr., Medina, OH 44256, (216) 725-6083.

### Ohio Encampment Oct. 7-8

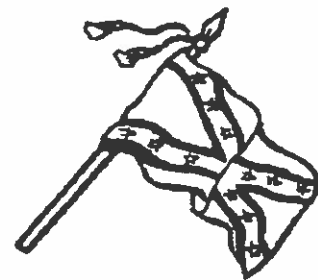
"A Civil War Salute to President Hayes: A Civil War Encampment" at the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Spiegel Grove, Fremont. Hosted by the center and Oakwood Battery, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. Proceeds to benefit center which is Hayes grave site. Two skirmishes, officers' ball, parade in Fremont, ladies' tea and fashion show, Saturday supper, Sunday breakfast, wreath-laying and salute at Hayes grave. For information, Sandusky County Visitors Bureau, P.O. Box 643, Fremont, OH 43420, (800) 255-8070; Capt. Bob Gillmor, 1520 CR 9, Fremont, OH 43420; or Hayes Presidential Center, Spiegel Grove, 1337 Hayes Ave., Fremont, OH 43420, (800) 998-7737.

### Ohio Toy Soldier and Military Show

2nd Annual Toy Soldier & Military Show, Brice Outlet Mall, Columbus. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Featuring 1,200-figure battle scene of Cold Harbor, Civil War miniatures, books,

artifacts. Free admission. For information, British Papermill, 5733 Brice Outlet Mallway, Columbus, OH 43232; Bill Kazlauskys, (614) 577-0220; Bill Nace, (614) 927-7351.





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**Civil War Encampment and Battle Reenactment**

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**The Lake County Historical Society  
and**

**The 7th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Company K, U.S.V.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Admission: \$3.00. Under 12 Free with Adult.**

**Saturday, September 16, 1995**

**Sunday, September 17, 1995**

**at the**

**Lake County Historical Society  
8610 King Memorial Rd. Kirtland Hills, Ohio**

**For Information or Registration please contact:**

**Chaplain Bill Smith 7th OVI  
216-257-2826**

13th Annual

# "MIDWEST CIVIL WAR COLLECTORS SHOW"

Saturday, September 16, 1995  
9 AM - 5 PM

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR 1776 - 1898 INDIAN WARS**  
(Civil War & American Militaria Only)

**DUPAGE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
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**\*FOR GENERAL INFORMATION AND TABLE RESERVATIONS CONTACT\***  
Robert (Hawkeye) Nowak, 3238 N. Central Park, Chicago, IL 60618 (312) 539-8432

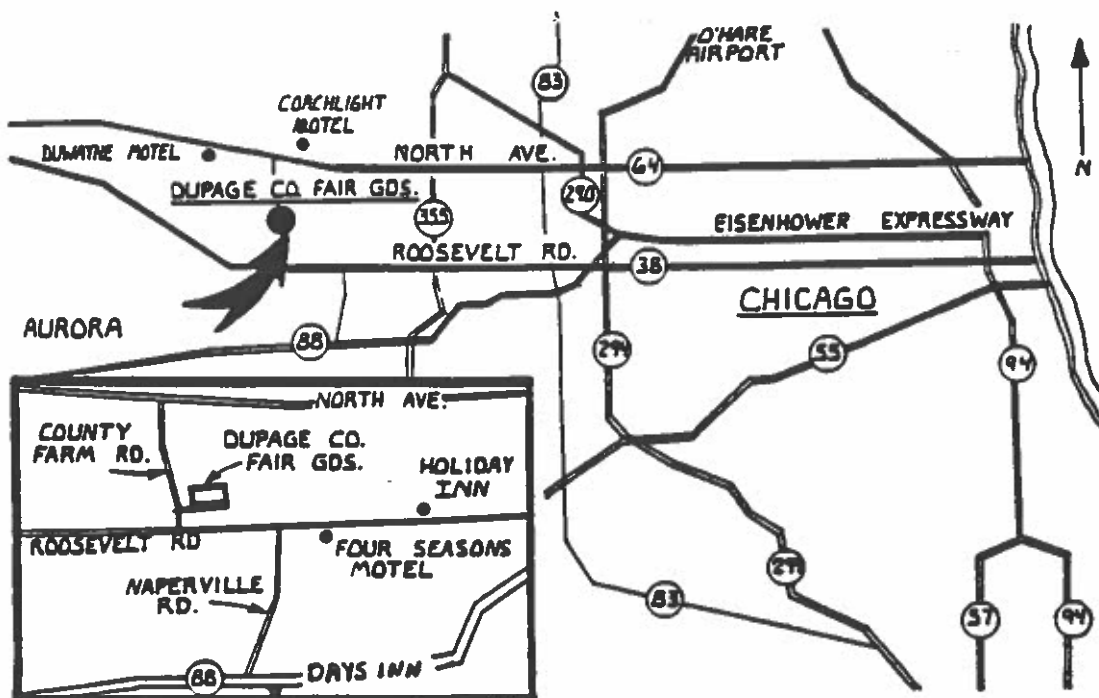
This show will feature over 250 , eight foot tables for buying, selling, trading, and displaying strictly American military items and related memorabilia from the periods of 1776 to 1898. Reproduction items will be permitted if so marked. All tables are \$40 each, and are 2 1/2' x 8' in size. No limit on the amount of tables per participant. Dealer set up on Friday, September 15, 1995 5 to 10 pm and Saturday, September 16, 7 to 9 am. Food and refreshments available the day of the show. Security will be provided from Friday nite till Saturday show opening. Display awards will be given. Show building is spacious, air conditioned and well lighted. This show will have extensive advertising in collector publications plus local newspapers, radio & T.V. General admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children under 12. Living history people and reenactors encouraged to attend in uniform and period costumes.

See Reverse For Registration Form, Map & Motel  
information



CORPORAL, CAVALRY

MIDWEST CIVIL WAR COLLECTORS  
SHOW IS A NOT FOR PROFIT EVENT



#### AREA MOTELS

1. Holiday Inn, 1250 East Roosevelt Road, (Roosevelt & Finley Roads) Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137  
(708) 629-6000
2. Four Seasons Motel, Roosevelt Road & South Park Boulevard, Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137  
(708) 469-8500
3. Days Inn, 1350 East Ogden Avenue (I-88) at Naperville Road), Naperville, Illinois 60566  
(708) 369-3600
- \*4. Coachlight Motel, 27W10 North Avenue, West Chicago, Illinois 60185  
(708) 231-1200
- \*5. DuWayne Motel, North Avenue (Route 64), Just West of County Farm Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185  
(708) 231-1040

\*Though not a part of a national chain, the Coachlight and DuWayne Motels are located closest to the show.

#### SHOW RESERVATIONS

\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF SALE TABLES      \*All tables are 2 1/2 X 8' in size.  
\_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER OF DISPLAY ONLY TABLES

**\*TABLES ARE \$40 EACH, NO LIMIT PER PARTICIPANT.**

**\*CHECK MUST BE ENCLOSED & made payable to: "MIDWEST CIVIL WAR COLLECTORS")**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF MATERIAL TO BE SOLD OR DISPLAYED \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**\*RETURN CHECK AND RESERVATIONS TO:**

**ROBERT "HAWKEYE" NOWAK**  
3238 North Central Park  
Chicago, Illinois 60618

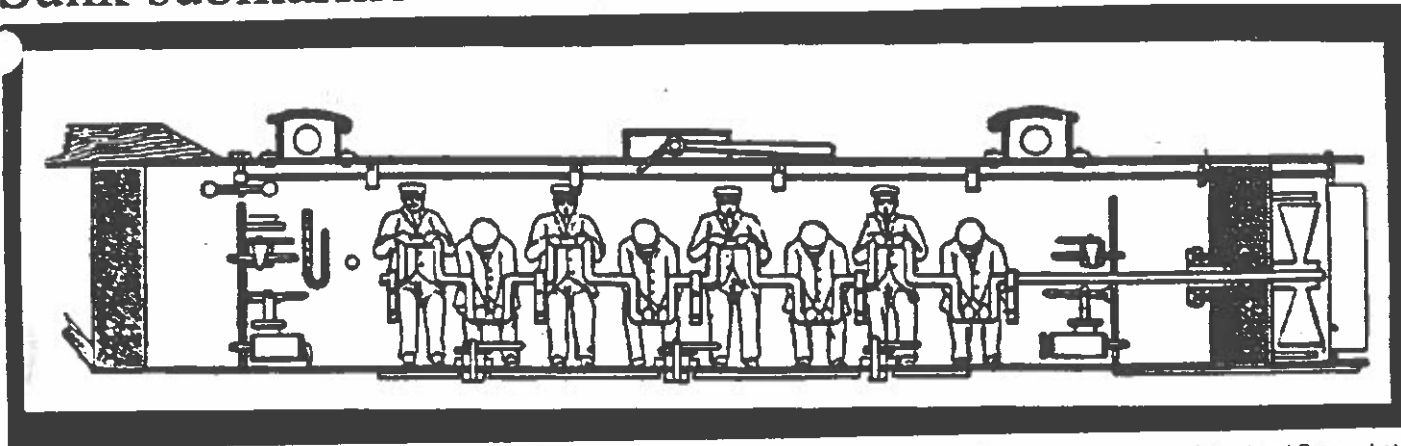
\*LAST 8 SHOWS WERE SOLD OUT, RESERVE YOUR TABLES EARLY.

\*NO TABLES HELD WITHOUT REMITTANCE, PAYMENT DUE BY: AUGUST 16, 1995

Table locations determined by early receipt of payment. (FIRST PAYED -FIRST PLACED)



## Sunk submarine



A sketch of the interior of the sub made by artillery engineer W.A. Alexander in 1864.

Associated Press photo

## Confederate warship found off S.C.

Researchers yesterday said they found a Confederate submarine that went down off the South Carolina coast in 1864 after sinking a Union warship - a discovery for which P.T. Barnum once offered \$100,000.

Using metal detectors, archaeologists and divers found wreckage in January that they believed to be the

CSS Hunley, researchers said.

The object was about 40 feet long and six feet wide, matching descriptions of the missing submarine.

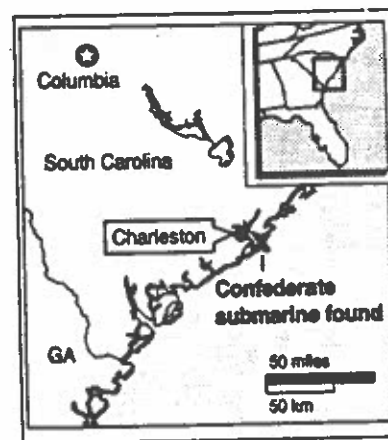
"It's intact and covered with silt," said Dean Foster, a spokesman for the National Underwater and Marine Agency, a nonprofit foundation.

Divers dug down through

3 feet of silt and came up with what they said was one of the Hunley's observation towers.

The nine-member crew went down with the submarine Feb. 17, 1864, after destroying a Union blockade warship, the USS Housatonic.

Foster said it was the first time a submarine sank a warship.



AP



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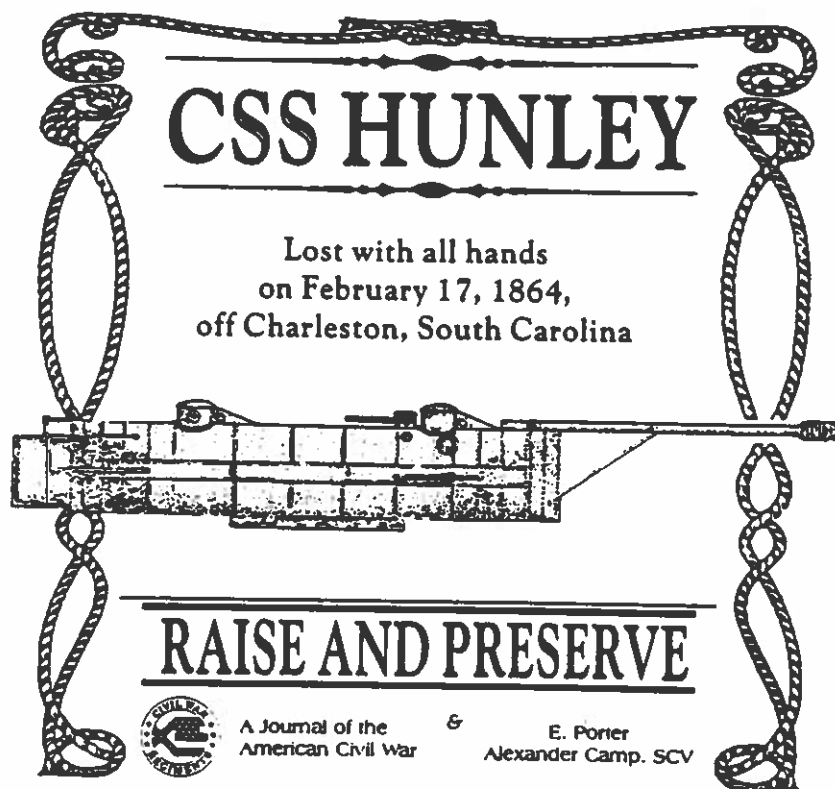
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STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

# History lesson sparks man's lifelong interest

**BRUNSWICK** — Eli Beachy says he was touched by history in 1947 when he first saw the scene of the raid.

The Brunswick County man claims that when he was a boy growing up in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, his father once took him to the small neighboring town of Old Washington to see an Amish raid. Beachy says his father told him that he had been there when it happened in the late 1800s, which Beachy remembers only as "Old Tom."

The old man claimed that as a child he witnessed one of the most northernmost skirmishes of the Civil War. He told Beachy that he watched forces under the command of Confederate Gen. John Hunt Morgan exchange fire with pursuing Union troops who had caught up with the rebels on the streets of Old Washington.

"I'm no professor. I'm no scholar," says Beachy, a carpenter-turned-writer who lives near Chippewa Lake. But he says that long-ago chat with Old Tom triggered a lifelong interest in the Civil War.

Beachy, 44, says many Ohioans aren't aware of Morgan's raid through their state, so he has put together a slide show of the Old Washington skirmish.

He sometimes gives lectures about the raid at area libraries.

The Civil War, Beachy says, is "the most fascinating moment of U.S. history. It was a great American tragedy. Both sides believed God was on their side."

Beachy readily acknowledges that he is at odds with at least one other Ohio Civil War student who similarly possesses detailed knowledge of the Old Washington skirmish. In July 1863, Beachy maintains that Morgan's troops scared off the attacking Union forces in Old Washington. He claims the deaths of three Confederate soldiers there resulted from accidental shootings by their fellow Southerners. Beachy says Old Tom told him that he saw the Union troops turn tail and run.

Russell Booth, a Cambridge, Ohio, lawyer who has also studied the Old Washington skirmish, said local history books provide a different version of what happened. The Union forces exchanged fire with Morgan's men, killing three of them. Booth said Morgan and the rest of the rebels then fled. Booth said he never heard of Old Tom.

Morgan was eventually captured near Lisbon, Ohio, in Columbiana County. He was imprisoned in the Ohio

Penitentiary but later escaped.

His raid through southern Ohio prompted panic throughout the state. Banks in Columbus moved gold deposits to more northern and secure vaults in Toledo. Thousands of Union troops and local militia joined in the weeks-long chase of Morgan. Even Abraham Lincoln is said to have sought updates from Ohio officials about the rebels' rare incursion into a Northern state.

Beachy, an author who has written about the Amish, has visited major Civil War battlefields throughout the country. He said he has often been touched by the notion that the pastoral sights are the scenes of terrible exchanges that resulted in thousands of young Americans killing each other.

"You can smell the gunpowder, you can hear the caissons, you can hear the minie balls, hear the screams," says Beachy. "To think that these guys were half my age. They grew up quickly."

Although Beachy enjoys watching re-enactors — Civil War buffs who don period uniforms and stage re-creations of battles past — he sometimes wonders if such large-scale skits glorify war.

"War is terrible," he said. "It's hideous."

You are cordially invited to hear Eli Beachy speak on Morgan's Raid at the Brunswick Community Library, 3649 Center Road, Brunswick, Ohio, on Monday, October 2, at 7:00PM. A slide show will accompany his presentation.



PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS

PLEASE CALL 861-5588



## Tidwell Reveals Secrets Of Confederate Secret Service

**April '65:** Confederate Covert Action in the American Civil War by William A. Tidwell. Illustrated, maps, photographs, notes, bibliography, index, 280 pp, 1995. The Kent State University Press, PO Box 5190, Kent, OH 44242, \$30 plus \$3.50 shipping.

In 1988 retired Brig. Gen. William A. Tidwell, a veteran of military intelligence and the Central Intelligence Agency, published in association with David Winfred Gaddy and James O. Hall, *Come Retribution: The Confederate Secret Service and the Assassination of Lincoln*.

April '65 details additional discoveries since the first book appeared, and offers rebuttals to various objections raised by reviewers of the original work.

The new book grew out of a 1990 discovery by Hall of copies of treasury warrants signed by Jefferson Davis for "Secret Service" and "Necessities and Exigencies." This was no small matter, as one example reproduced as an illustration makes clear: the amount is one million dollars.

With these warrants as a starting point, Tidwell carefully followed the money trail that eventually enabled him to chart the scope of Confederate Secret Service operations. Increasing expenditure for covert activities disclosed increasing reliance on such bold ventures as the St. Albans, Vermont, raid, the attempt to burn New York City, and the plan to free prisoners of war at Camp Douglas.

April '65 gives us a tightly woven tapestry of Confederate intelligence schemes, one superior to *Come Retribution* in unity of design, and one which stands by itself, though avid readers of footnotes will want to have the earlier tome at hand.

The philosophical underpinnings of the espionage offensive of 1864-1865 are now treated in a chapter on the little-known Bernard Jardin Sage, who proposed harnessing "bands of destructionists and captors" to sow terror among the foe.

The new work displays evidence and conjecture designed to blunt criticism of *Come Retribution*. Thus we are invited to consider a letter remarking on Jefferson Davis's enthusiasm for torpedoes (i.e. mines) if we are inclined to

think him too much a gentleman to condone unorthodox warfare. We are given the plausible suggestion that the perjured testimony of Charles A. Dunham and James B. Merritt was deliberately fed to investigators by Confederate agent George N. Sanders to taint all other evidence implicating Richmond.

Additional details and theories are adduced to bolster the contention that John Wilkes Booth, a Confederate secret service operative, who may have been acting on his own initiative, intended to simulate the effect on Lincoln and his cabinet of a failed attempt to blow up the west end of the White House.

What are we to make of all this? Is it intended as yet another cudgel with which to lacerate the much-abused corpse of the late C.S.A.? Tidwell's tone and evident admiration for the accomplishments of Davis, Judah P. Benjamin, et al, as well as his VMI training, argue otherwise.

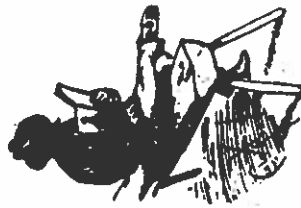
He reports that no facts have come to light since 1988 which would derail the basic line of reasoning then expounded. He declares that subsequent researches further support it. This reviewer is inclined to agree. Moreover, one may

remain unconvinced on a number of points and still subscribe to the general outline. For example, the putative intelligence school at Buffalo Springs, Va., looks on close inspection like an illusion arising from familiarity with 20th-century tradecraft.

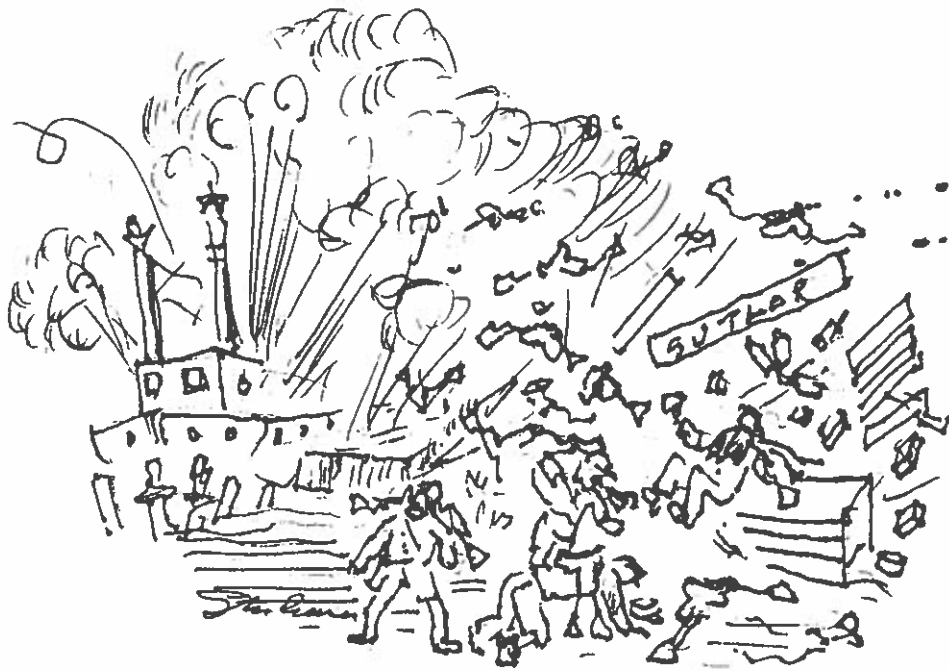
Tidwell, through long hours of patient analysis and research, has given us the most persuasive explanation yet for the events surrounding the tragedy at Ford's Theatre. Would it hold up in court, where reasonable doubt is the standard? Perhaps not. But the courtroom ought not to be the only arbiter of historical truth.

Draw a warrant, then, against whatever funds you have, and buy this book. Be it in Confederate notes, greenbacks, or gold, you will receive more than your money's worth.

Michael P. Musick  
Michael P. Musick received his B.A. from Roanoke College and his M.A. in history at Emory University. He has been with the National Archives in Washington since 1969, presently as a reference archivist with the Military Reference Branch.



## SCENES I'D LIKE TO HAVE SEEN



Reminiscent of the many devastating bombings reported throughout the world in today's news, was the terrific explosion that occurred on August 9, 1864 at 4:55AM at City Point, Virginia. This was the headquarters and supply base of the Union Army.

A Confederate Captain Maxwell and a civilian aid left Richmond at daybreak, traveling by boat to the outskirts of City Point carrying a large box of explosives in a time bomb. They crawled past the Federal picket line onto the wharf where they were challenged by a sentry who could not speak English. A negro appeared and Captain Maxwell gave him the box instructing him to put it in the hold of a large ship docked there. In about an hour the explosion came, blowing up 30,000 rounds of artillery and 175,000 rounds of small arms ammunition.

A canal boat moored along side containing cavalry saddles and equipment also blew up sending saddles flying in all directions. Some of them landed on soldiers in the area, one hitting a sutler standing in a crowd around his stand, killing him instantly. Total killed in the explosion was unknown.

The devastating damages took three months to repair, but new shipments of ammunition arrived in time for the Spring campaign.

from Secret Missions of the Civil War by Philip Van Dorn Stern  
submitted and illustrated by Stu Cramer



## OLLAPODRIDA

Straggling in the Union ranks on the march toward Antietam was a problem, especially for the newer regiments. One lost private from one of these newer regiments came upon Major General George W. Morrell, commander of the First Division, V Corps. Undaunted by the officer's superior rank, innocently asked, "General, can you tell me where the 118th Pennsylvania is?" "Certainly, my man," answered Morrell courteously, "everywhere between here and Washington."

--- In the Hands of Providence: Joshua L. Chamberlain and the American Civil War by Alice Rains Trulock pp67

Musician Richard Enderlin of Company B, 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a German immigrant and drummer for his company, was with his unit on the skirmish line on Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg on July 2, 1863. The enemy skirmishers were only 200 yards away as night was falling. Between the opposing lines was a trodden field of wheat strewn with dead and wounded. The moans of one of the wounded men, Pvt. George Nixon of Company B, 73rd Ohio, were so distinct and so heartrending that Enderlin resolved to bring him in. Enderlin asked his company commander for permission to try to do this but he refused - it was too dangerous. Enderlin persisted, and the officer relented.

By this time it was dark. Enderlin removed his equipment and unneeded clothing and crawled forward into the wheat, taking advantage when he could of the dark periods that came when clouds covered the bright moon. Finally, Enderlin reached the wounded man, who was lying only a short distance in front of the Confederate picket line. Slowly and quietly he dragged his wounded comrade back toward the Union line, his presence obscured by the distraction of the constant fire that crossed the field around him. When nearer to the Union line than to the Confederate, Enderlin stood with Nixon in his arms and dashed for the Union line. It was an impressive feat and (he would later receive a Medal of Honor for the deed of bravery) Enderlin's company commander promoted him to the rank of sergeant on the spot. Unfortunately, the story's ending was not a happy one. George Nixon's painful wound was mortal; he died at Gettysburg and is buried on the hill he fought to hold. Still, George Nixon had a destiny none of his comrades would have suspected - his great-grandson would be a President of the United States - Richard M. Nixon.

--- Gettysburg: Culp's Hill & Cemetery Hill by Harry F. Pfanz pp 150-151

## *From The President's Desk*



August 30, 1995

### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to the 1995-96 year of lectures and events for the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. We are starting off our series of speakers with the reknown Ed Bearss. Mr. Bearss will be speaking on September 13th at the Hermit Club. Since we are expecting a large attendance at the initial meeting for the year, please make your reservation early by calling Ann Caputo at the J.A.C. Business Communications 861-5588. The Hermit Club needs to manage their food costs in order to continue to provide us the excellent service as they have in the past, and we need to help them by making our reservations on time. **A surcharge of \$8.00 will be imposed for any late reservation made after the Monday before the meeting-September 11.** Cost per meal will remain the same as the last 2 years of \$19.00 per person, (unless the reservation is not made timely then dinner will be \$27.00).

For those of you who collect Civil War Memorabilia, the U.S. Postal Service has issued a series of stamps commemorating the battles, persons and events associated with the War. I believe there are thirty or so stamps in the series and would make a worthwhile addition to anyone's collection.

This year we will continue to do the monthly raffles to supplement our treasury. Bob Baucher has done a wonderful job in the past two years running the raffles. Bob has agreed to continue to run the raffles. It would be nice if someone would volunteer to assist Bob, so that the entire burden would not fall on him.

Everyone should have received his dues invoice. The income from the raffles and the excellent job of Norton London, our immediate past president, and John Moore, treasurer, have relieved the pressure on the treasury and the need for a dues increase. I am very pleased to continue to hold the line on a dues increase. The continued

voluntary participation in the raffles will assist us in maintaining the dues at the current level for the longest possible time.

Remember the Vicksburg Field Trip, contact Dick Crews to make reservations.

We need ideas for the 1996 Field Trip. Bob Baucher has suggested we go to Manassas before it disappears entirely. That area of Northern Virginia is rich in other Civil War sites and we could tie in visits to other nearby battles to complete the trip. We need a volunteer to arrange the trip. If anyone has any other suggestions for the field trip, as well as a local field trip in the spring give me your ideas.

I hope and expect this to be a fine year and that all members and guests enjoy our programs.

John D. Sutula



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