

Old Baldy Civil War Round Table of Philadelphia



March 9, 2006, The One Hundred and Forty-Fifth Year of the Civil War

March 9th Thursday Meeting

The March 9th Meeting of the Old Baldy Civil War Round Table will start at 7:30 pm on Thursday at the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum at 1805 Pine Street in Philadelphia. The program will be **“Torpedoes, Another Look at the Infernal Machines of the Civil War”**. A book co-authored by **Mike Kochan**. Mike’s presentation will be on the use of Torpedoes and Mines during the Civil War by both the Union and Confederate military. Mike has a great Web site that has a lot of information on the subject. <http://www.infernal-machines.com>

Mike Kochan. Author, Preservationist, Living Historian

The President’s Letter

A very unusual and interesting program will be presented at our next meeting. **Mike Kochan**, co-author of the book entitled, *Torpedoes, Another Look at the Infernal Machines of the Civil War,* will give us an actual hands-on look at original Civil War era torpedoes. Mike, an expert on the subject, will present an examination of the torpedo and its use during the Civil War by the Union and Confederate navies. He will have copies of his book for sale. This is a subject that most of us are not familiar with so join us for another do-not-miss meeting.

A big thank you to **Ed Root** and **Jeff Stocker** for a great program last month. It was an enjoyable and interesting evening on the 15th, 19th, and 20th Massachusetts Infantry Regiments at Gettysburg. It is not often that a regimental study goes into detail on what happened to the regiment and its men after the war - especially a modern work. Jeff and Ed have produced a great book in looks and in content. Anyone who did not get the chance to purchase a copy last month contact me and I will bring it to the next meeting. The regular price is \$34.95 but is available to Old Baldy CWRT members for \$25.00. Contact me at: chief96pbi@rcn.com or (610) 867-8231.

We are way behind in signing up renewals for membership. We can not long exist losing so many members year after year. In the past we always averaged one hundred or better. Now we are lucky if we make sixty. If your membership is due (look at your mailing label for expiration date) send your check to our treasurer **Bill George** or pay him at the next meeting. Bill’s address is: 517 S. 16th Street,

Philadelphia, PA. 19146. Make check payable to: "Old Baldy CWRT." I will be contacting past members whose memberships have expired over the past year and urging them to come back into the ranks. In the meantime present members can help by contacting friends and family and inviting them to our meetings. We always have plenty of extra newsletters available to pass out. (The great job Don Wiles does on our newsletter can be a big selling point). Pick some up at the next meeting or contact me and I will send you some.

*Join Us On March 9th - Bring A Friend Or Two! Also,
Join Us For Dinner At The Marathon,
19th And Spruce Sts. At 5:30 P.M.*

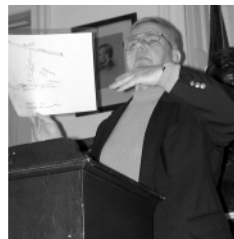
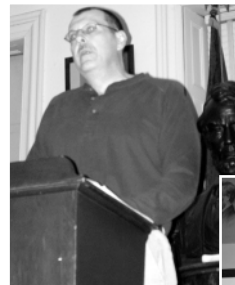
Regards,

Mike Cavanaugh
President

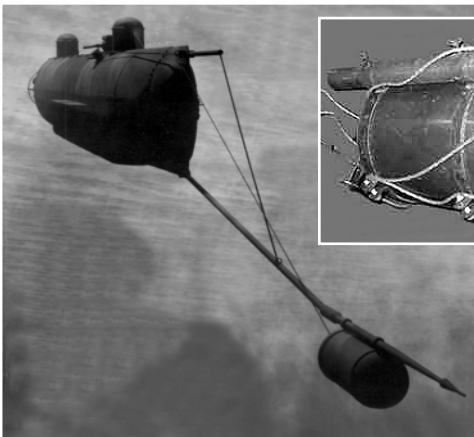
“Isn’t This Glorious: The 15th, 19th, and 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Gettysburg’s Copse of Trees”.

Edwin Root and **Jeff Stocker** gave a great the presentation on these three Massachusetts Regiments during and after the Civil War. How these three regiments stood their ground at the wall and help stop Pickett’s boys and after the war how they fought for the placement of their monuments to their commrads on that battlefield.

Jeff Stocker and Edwin Root



Bring a friend, neighbor and another Civil War buff to enjoy a fascinating subject and to support our speakers at Old Baldy.



Mike Kochan
Hunley Spar
Torpedo
reproduction

CSS Hunley showing Spar Torpedo
Copy scan from "The Blue Light"
Friends of the Hunley



USS Cairo hitting
a Confederate
torpedo in the
Yazoo River
Photo copy of
William R.
McGrath's
painting of
"Infernal
Machines"



A spar torpedo,
the weapon of
choice... West
Point Museum
Scanned Photo
from Time Life
Books

Keg torpedeo, most common, made from beer
kegs... West Point Museum
Scanned Photo from Time Life Books

Cone shaped torpedo was
anchored to float just below the
surface... West Point Museum
Scanned Photo from Time Life
Books



Tin-sheathed mine exploded when a ship touched
a trigger wire attached to a nearby float... West
Point Museum
Scanned Photo from Time Life Books



"Those Infernal Machines"

This mine was set off
by pulling a lanyard
from the shore... later
fitted with an
electronic detonator
connected to the
shore by wires... West
Point Museum
Scanned Photo from
Time Life Books



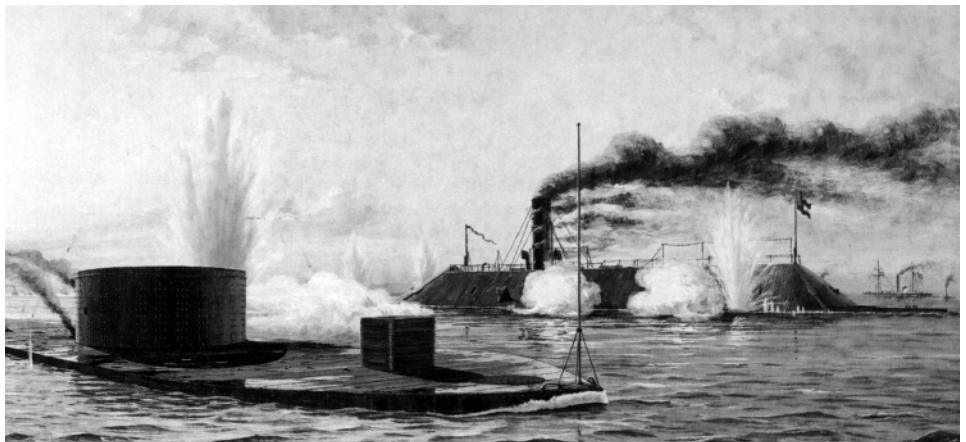
USS Monitor and CSS Virginia
Photo copy of William R. McGrath painting
of the action "Returning Fire"

Today in Civil War History

1862 U.S.S. Monitor battles C.S.S. Virginia

One of the most famous naval battles in history occurs as the ironclads Monitor and Virginia fight to a draw off Hampton Roads, Virginia. The ships pounded each other all morning but the armor plates easily shed the cannon shots, signaling a new era of steam-powered iron ships.

The C.S.S. Virginia was originally the U.S.S. Merrimack, a forty-gun frigate launched in 1855. The Confederates captured it and covered it in heavy armor plating above the waterline. Outfitted with powerful guns, the Virginia was a formidable vessel when the Confederates launched her in February 1862. On March 8, the Virginia sunk two Union ships and ran one aground off Hampton Roads. The next day, the U.S.S. Monitor steamed into the bay. Designed by Swedish engineer John Ericsson, the vessel had an unusually low profile, rising from the water only 18



inches. The flat iron deck had a 20-foot cylindrical turret rising from the middle of the ship; the turret housed two 11-inch Dahlgren guns. The ship had a draft of less than 11 feet so it could operate in the shallow harbors and rivers of the South. It was commissioned on February 25, 1862, and arrived at Chesapeake Bay just in time to engage the Virginia.

At 9:00 am, the duel began and continued for four hours. The ships circled one another, jockeying for position as they fired their guns. The cannon balls simply deflected off the iron ships. In the early afternoon, the Virginia pulled back to Norfolk. Neither ship was seriously dam-

aged, but the Monitor effectively ended the short reign of terror that the Confederate ironclad had brought to the Union navy.

Both ships met ignominious ends. When the Yankees invaded the James Peninsula two months after the battle at Hampton Roads, the retreating Confederates scuttled their ironclad. The Monitor went down in bad weather off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, at the end of the year. Though they had short lives, the ships ushered in a new era in naval warfare.

HistoryChannel

The Fourth Annual Battle of Hampton Roads Weekend at The Mariners' Museum March 10 - 12, 2006

FRIDAY MARCH 10

Registration, Sneak Preview of the New USS MONITOR Center's Conservation Facility, The Battle of Hampton Roads Battlefield: A Special Boat Tour, Opening Reception
Keynote Lecture Uncles Sam's Web-Feet: The Navy in the Civil War with James McPherson

SATURDAY MARCH 11

Special Continental Breakfast for Descendants & Members Valuable Men for Certain Kinds of Duty: African American Sailors and the Navy Department, The Most Good for the Confederacy: Captain John Wilkinson, Beyond the MONITOR and the VIRGINIA, Enlisted Life in Civil War Navies, Civil War Fashion Show

SUNDAY MARCH 12

In The MONITOR'S Turret, Lincoln the Great Communicator, Civil War Navies: A Few Final Thoughts

ACTIVITIES

School of the Sailor, Library display of selected prints for sale, Gallery tours, Sneak Preview of the New USS MONITOR Center's Conservation Facility, Take-home artwork activities for children, Scavenger hunts, Civil War encampment

For more information

Call 757-591-5123, 800-581-7245,
email info@mariner.org, or visit www.mariner.org

This Month in Civil War History

March 1861

March 4 - Lincoln's Inauguration.
March 9 - Address of George Williamson to the Texas Secession Convention
March 11 1861 - Confederate Constitution.

March 1862

March 1862 - McClellan Loses Command.

March 6/8 - Pea Ridge/Elkhorn Tavern

March 8-9 - Hampton Roads/Battle of the Ironclads

March 1862 - The "Monitor" and the "Merrimac."

March 14 - New Berne

March 23 - Kernstown

March 23/April 26 - Fort Macon

March 26/28 - Glorieta Pass

March 1863

March 1863 - The First Conscription Act.



Obit Supplied by Ginny Gage

Gazette and Bulletin Williamsport, PA May 5, 1914

General Daniel E. Sickles

The death of General Daniel E. Sickles removes one of the famous commanders of the Civil War. General Longstreet is credited with saying it was Sickles who saved the day for the Union army at Gettysburg. He also led his men to victory in numerous other battles.

General Sickles was a man of indomitable courage. It was Sickles who, after he had slain the despoiler of his home and been acquitted on the ground of unwritten law, took back his erring wife, with this explanation:

"I am not aware of any statute or code of morals which makes it infamous to forgive a woman. I can see in that almost universal denunciation with which she is followed to my threshold, the misery and peril from which I have rescued the mother of my daughter. I shall strive to prove to all that an erring wife and mother may be forgiven and redeemed."

The passing of General Sickles will be regretted by every Civil war veteran and more particularly by those survivors who served under him.

His name and fame as a warrior are imperishable.

March 3 - Fort McAllister I

March 5 - Thompson's Station

March 13/15 - Fort Anderson/Deep Gully

March 17 - Kelly's Ford/Kellysville

March 20 - Vaught's Hill/Milton

March 25 - Brentwood

March 30/April 20 - Washington

March 1864

March 2 - Walkerton/Mantapike Hill

March 14 - Fort DeRussy

March 25 - Paducah

March 1865

March 4 - Abraham Lincoln Second Inaugural Address

March 6 - Natural Bridge

March 7/10 - Wyse Fork/Wilcox's Bridge/Second Southwest Creek

March 10 - Monroe's Cross Roads/Fayetteville Road/Blue's Farm

March 16 - Averagesborough/Smiths Ferry/Black River

March 19/21 - Bentonville/Bentonville

March 25 Fort Stedman

March 27/April 8 - Spanish Fort.



Photos GNMP



Three Units, Three Monuments, One Outrage

by Joe Avalon
Civil War Interactive
The Daily Newspaper of the Civil War

The Outrage

Vandalism is not a new phenomenon in Civil War parks and battlefields, but even the most hardened of observers found themselves in a state of disbelief as word of the latest atrocity surfaced. First the facts:

Sometime between the night of February 15th and the morning of the 16th, three monuments within the confines of Gettysburg National Military Park were victims of some of the worst vandalism yet seen. Katie Lawhon of the G.N.M.P. estimates the monetary damage at between \$75,000 and \$100,000. Unfortunately the economic cost is only one small part of the story, albeit the most pressing in the short-term.

The three monuments honored three different regiments from Sickle's Third Corps, the 11th Massachusetts, the 114th Pennsylvania, and the 4th New York Independent Battery.

The 11th Mass. Monument has long been a favorite of visitors to Gettysburg, consisting of a hand grasping a sword, set upon a carved column. It was located, like the 114th, along Emmitsburg Road, near the intersection with Sickles Ave. Unfortunately, it's also been a favorite of vandals, and the sword has been stolen or broken at least twice before. In this incident, the hand and sword were apparently taken from the scene. The repair bill could top \$20,000.

The monument to the 114th Pa., is located near the 11th Mass. Monument along Emmitsburg Rd., at the Sherfy House. Weighing over 500 pounds, the monument was pulled from its pedestal, and fell onto a wrought iron fence, which was also badly damaged. Though this was the least damaged of the three, restoration cost is still expected to be near \$10,000.

Most heavily damaged was the monument to the 4th NY Ind. Artillery. The massive bronze statue was pulled off its pedestal and dragged more than 160 feet. The head was taken from the scene. The expected repair tab could approach \$50,000.

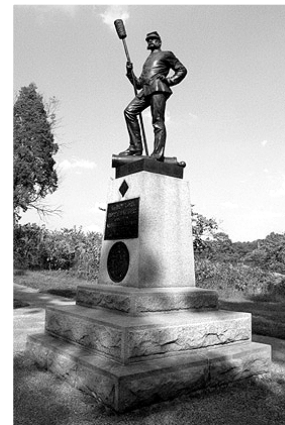
The true meaning of these acts goes far beyond dollars and cents, and should cause many to look at such seemingly unrelated matters as parental responsibility, our educational system and our fast dissipating sense of national character. It's important though to take a closer look at just what these monuments represented, who put them there and why.

The Units and Monuments

The 4th New York Independent Battery

Photo Don Wiles

In a formal sense, the six 10-pound Parrot guns were known as the 4th New York Independent Battery. More informally, it was simply Smith's Battery, named after its commander Capt. James E. Smith. Smith had previously been promoted to chief of division artillery, leaving his battery to be commanded by Lieut. Joseph E. Nairn. But as fate would have it, Smith requested and was granted permission to resume his position as commander of his beloved battery just before the battle of Gettysburg.



So it was that on July 2nd, 1863, the dedicated men of the 4th, joined now by their leader, found themselves on the extreme left flank of the extreme left line of the Union army. This was Sickle's ill-advised salient, protruding in an arrowhead shape from the rest of the Union army that day. In disobedience of orders, Sickles had occupied a spot that left both his flanks hanging and vulnerable. At the end of one of those flanks, the left, the line ended atop a confused mass of strewn boulders, some up to twenty feet high. It was known then, as now, as Devil's Den. It would live up to its name on this day.

If by some miracle six artillery pieces could hold this position, it would not be proven today. The ground they were assigned to didn't contain enough open space for all six guns. Just four atop the formation would have to do. The other two would be placed where they could, with limbers containing the needed ammunition for the pieces separated from the guns, as there was no room for them either. They would have to sit behind and below the cannon, with ammo being carried up and across moss covered boulders by the exhausted and scared men of the 4th.

It was atop this crowded peak that they prepared for the inevitable. To their front lay a wheat field, soon to become a cauldron of blood. To their rear, past a small creek called Plum Run, stood the towering peaks known now as Big and Little Round Top. To their left and continuing down a slope, a field in the rough shape of a triangle extended away from them. Perhaps if the attack came from that field, as expected, they could hold on. Perhaps, but doubtful. Any more than that, and the outcome, as Smith no doubt realized, would be disastrous.

When it came, it did come from the triangular shaped field. But it also came from the front, and worst of all, from the rear, through what we now, with hind-sight clarity, call the Valley of Death. The men of the 4th fought bravely

and frantically, as their commander knew they would. But the game was up and retreat was left as the only option. Amid the deafening din of battle, the men tried desperately to take their guns with them, knowing that failure to do so would result in their pieces being used against them – perhaps shot in the back with a round they themselves had loaded. But the Texans and Georgians and Alabamians were upon them now, and succeeded in taking three of the guns.

The men of the 4th retreated to their last two guns, on a small rise across Plum Run. Those two guns caused chaos among the advancing enemy, but that stand too was doomed to failure, and they had no choice but to flee to the right, and finally to the rear. In their furious fight, they had expended 240 rounds of ammunition. Upon the field of battle lay 2 men dead, while struggling to keep up were 10 wounded men. One never was accounted for. Eleven horses had also met their end.

We can only imagine the bitter aftertaste of the defeat, the extent to which it changed the lives of the men involved. The unit was disbanded six months later, but the sights, and the sounds and that bitter aftertaste no doubt lingered for years and decades afterwards.

And so it was that exactly 25 years later, an unknown number of those men gathered yet again on that field, at that spot, for an event that would finally wash the taste of retreat from them. They stood and listened to recitations of their deeds, as they were finally recognized for what they were – common heroes. We can only imagine the lumps that rose in their throats, the emptiness in the pit of their stomachs, as they thought of comrades left behind, and the tears they struggled to restrain as the beautiful statue by architect Caspar Buberl was finally unveiled. Now people will know, and always would know, of their deeds that day. So they thought.

The 11th Massachusetts

On the other end of the line of the ill-fated 3rd Corps, men slept soundly despite the constant firing of skirmishers to their front. These were the men of the 11th Massachusetts, and they held the line near the right flank of the 3rd Corps.

These were men of Boston, Essex County, and surrounding areas who had fought at every engagement the Army of the Potomac had participated in, with the exception of Antietam. They had marched all night and morning to reach this spot, and veterans though they were, experience could not dissipate exhaustion.

At this moment, mere hours before the enemy assault, the men were spread out in slumber, about 300 yards behind Emmitsburg Road. The rest wouldn't last long. At 4:08 pm, they were ordered awake, and marched the 300 yards to the road to form a line of battle. And there they readied themselves, charged with protecting an artillery battery on

their right flank. In front of them, past the road, the line of woods held men in gray preparing to dislodge them; to their left, a Peach Orchard that would soon be entered in the annals of history. Standing amid the regiment was a home belonging to Peter Rogers. They knew the attack was coming, perhaps not when, but they knew. It wasn't long before they saw their skirmishers, men of the neighboring First Massachusetts Volunteers, Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin commanding, beginning a hasty retreat back to their line. It was then they knew when – now.

The men of the 11th didn't take the initial brunt of the attack; that was reserved for the regiments to their left. As the left and center of the brigade bent slowly backwards, the 11th changed facing, opening a direct line of fire for the artillery battery which they were guarding. But the fire never materialized, and here none can tell the reason why better than they:

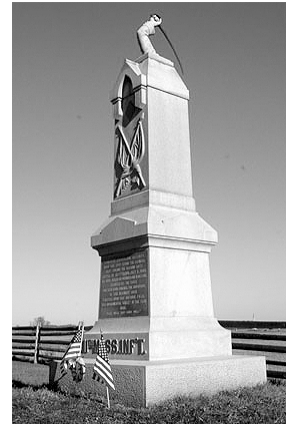
"[B]efore the regiment could deliver its volley, the companies about-faced in pursuance of the orders of some stupid general, and executed a right half-wheel under a severe fire, with as much regularity as if they had been upon parade, and thus abandoned the advantages of the strong line of defense. ... The soldiers were constantly loading and aiming their rifles at the breasts of the members of the [Confederate] regiment, [when] orders were duly transmitted from a blockhead, termed upon the muster-roll a brigadier-general, not to discharge a musket, because they "would fire upon their own men" and the enemy was enabled in this way to cut down the ranks, and diminish the effect of the first volley.

Candor compels me to admit that this mistake was excusable upon this ground, that the officer from his standpoint, which was far in the rear, could not distinguish one line from the other." (Sgt. Gustavus Hutchinson)

In the heat of the fighting, the tragic passing of the flag commenced, as one color-bearer after another fell dead on the field. But the flag was not to fall. Never, it is said, did the regimental colors ever touch the ground. Eight men fell carrying that flag, passing to the next as they went down.

Inevitably, like those units all along the 3rd Corps line, they were forced back. But they left their heartbreaking remnants upon the field and along that road. The dead numbered 23, more by some accounts. The wounded were nearly triple that, and 10 remained missing. And one is left to wonder if, after the Union victory at the battle of Gettysburg, these men felt as if they had lost their battle. That perhaps they could have done more, or done it bet-

Photo Don Wiles



continued on page 6

Seventy percent of Old Baldy memberships expire in January and February. Our treasury is quite low by the end of the year so we hope everyone who is due will submit their dues ASAP.

It is \$25.00 individuals, \$35.00 Family and \$12.50 for students.

Please send in your renewal today to our treasurer Bill George. Make the check payable to "Old Baldy CWRT" and mail to 517 South 16th St., Philadelphia, PA. 19146.

ter. These are sometimes the thoughts of brave men overwhelmed.

If those thoughts were present, we can only hope that they dissipated somewhat on the day of October 8, 1885. It was 22 years after the events they were there to memorialize, but 22 years to an aging man is a blink of the eye. There's little doubt that as they stood there, some crippled from that day, some scarred in ways not visible, the events of July 2nd, 1863 were fresh in their minds. And when they finally gazed upon the carefully carved column, their eyes lifted up to rest upon a simple hand; a hand holding a sword which appeared to be captured in mid-swing. To each of them, it no doubt meant something a little different. It is left to us to imagine the imperceptible swelling of pride within their breasts as the scene took on an opaque effect, as these grown men forced back tears. Now people will know, and always would know, of their deeds that day. So they thought.

Photo Don Wiles



The 114th Pennsylvania (Collis Zouaves)

They were one of the most renowned units to take the field that day, and certainly the most recognizable. The 114th Pa, otherwise known as Collis Zouaves, entered the fray with a few of them wearing their customary bright red pants of the French Zouave. Earlier they had been placed in front of the Trostle House, directly behind Battery E of the First Rhode Island Light Artillery. Now they were marched the approximate 3/8ths of a mile until they had almost reached the Emmitsburg Road. Still behind and guarding Battery E, they

waited. Then it began. Not a wave of gray as they may have expected, but instead an artillery barrage that unnerved even the bravest among them. With no cover and no trenches, they had little choice but to become one with the dirt beneath them and wait. As A.W. Givin of the 114th would later put it:

"None of the various duties a soldier is called upon to perform, and none of the various vicissitudes and dangers that he is expected to face, call for such bravery and endurance, as thus remaining passive under an enemy's artillery fire that has got an accurate range, and from which there is no protection."

For two hours the regiment withstood this cruel rain of lead upon them. Then, from the woods in their front, across Emmitsburg Road, past the Sherfy House, they saw them. Lines of the enemy emerging, thick as fleas. Battery E, in front of them, kept up a steady fire until the outcome appeared sadly obvious. Though probably not in need of motivation, the 114th got it anyway when Captain Randolph, artillery officer of the 3rd Corps told them, "You boys saved this battery once before at Fredericksburg, and if you will do it again, then move forward."

Move forward they did - towards the road and across it, and over the fence on the other side. Between them and the charging enemy stood only the Sherfy House and its

outbuildings. According to Givin, scores fell dead and wounded in the middle of the road and beyond. The wounded, as a matter of necessity, sought shelter from the withering fire around them, bringing about perhaps the most tragic aspect of the day for the brave Zouaves.

As best they could, the wounded worked their way to the Sherfy barn. It's not know how many made it, simply that some did. And as might have been predicted amid such a maelstrom, the barn started to smolder, then burn uncontrollably. The cries, the screams of the men perishing within the flames were probably drowned out by the symphony of battle all around. After it ended, the charred remains could only be identified as members of the 114th by the fragments of their distinctive uniforms attached to what had once been legs.

Outnumbered, the regiment retreated down Emmitsburg Road towards town, then across the fields to regroup. Unlike some other units on that horrible July 2nd, the 114th would have a chance to redeem itself the next day, as if redemption were needed. During what we now call Pickett's Charge, the unit stood in the Union center, supporting Cowen's Battery. After the battle ended, they would collect the weapons abandoned by the enemy, over 300 of them.

It was this story that was told to the gathered crowds at the Sherfy House on the day that the monument to their bravery was dedicated 23 years to the day after that tragic July afternoon. Whether those in attendance actually heard the words, or whether they were instead hearing the sounds of a day more than 20 years ago, we can only speculate. But each must have had one thought in common - Now people will know, and always would know, of their deeds that day. So they thought.

Commentary

The descendents of these brave men should rest assured that the legacies of their fore-fathers will be restored. Through the dedication of the National Park Service, under fire by even more budget cuts, and the assistance of groups and individuals around the country, these symbols of their bravery will return.

But we are left with the lingering and perhaps unanswerable question of why. It's the question every person who reads of this outrage asks. Why would anyone risk fines, arrest, and the ruination of their future, simply to do this?

Here we wander a bit into the realm of speculation. Common sense would seem to indicate that the perpetrators of this crime are at least of driving age. One has to doubt whether the acts could have been performed as they were without the assistance of a sturdy vehicle, and perhaps a chain. For a criminal of that age, it's probably too late. All we can do is assure that they're caught.

But more important than catching them is appropriate punishment once they are apprehended. For too long we've seen judges impose minimum sentences for these criminals. This crime occurred on Federal land, resulting in destruction of federal property. By statute (18 U.S.C. § 1361) the punishment called for is - "tied to the extent of the property damage. As amended on September 13, 1994, if the damage exceeds \$100, the defendant is subject to a fine of up to \$250,000, ten years imprisonment,

or both. See Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Pub. L. 103-322, § 330016, 108 Stat. 1796, 2146-47 (1994)."

It's time judges start using the maximum rather than the minimum punishment, and it's time we start letting them know that. When these animals are caught, the Civil War community, and history lovers everywhere, need to make that clear to the prosecuting authorities.

But what of the youth (presuming these were youths) who haven't reached the point of this type of maliciousness yet? What can we do to insure that we don't raise this type of criminal in the first place?

We need to take a serious look at how history is being taught in our schools. With teachers bogged down by set curriculums, and school systems constantly having their budgets cut, we can only hope there is still a way to change it. As it is, history to the student is a mish-mash of dates and static black and white happenings. Somewhere along the line, somehow, we have to bring the humanity into the story of our history. We must have a way to instill empathy. Without it, the monuments, and the heroes they represent, will continue to mean little to our kids.

As with all things though, it has to begin at home. Not just the teaching of history, but the teaching of the appreciation of history. There's no doubt that Junior would rather go to roller-coaster filled theme parks, and there's a place for that. But there's also a place for Civil War battlefields, for trails, and for conversation. A parent is always the best teacher. It's time to teach.

Schedule of Old Baldy CWRT Speakers for 2006

March 9, 2006 - Thursday

Mike Kochan

Topic: As A Coauthor Mike Will Talk About His Book,
*Torpedoes: Another Look At The Infernal Machines
Of The Civil War*

April 13, 2006 - Thursday

Matthew Borowick

Topic: Civil War Economics

May 2006 - Saturday

Tour of Laurel Hill Cemetery

(Exact date and time to be announced)

May 11, 2006 - Thursday

Jerry Carrier

Topic: The Siege of Vicksburg

June 8, 2006 - Thursday

Mike Cavanaugh

Topic: The Death of Turner Ashby.

**All meetings, unless otherwise noted, begin
at 7:30 PM at the**

**Civil War Library and Underground Railroad Museum,
1805 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Questions to Mike Cavanaugh at 610-867-8231 or
chief96pbi@rcn.com**

**Members go out to a local restaurant for dinner between
5:30 & 6 P.M.**

You're Welcome to Join Us!

In the meantime we can only continue to care. That alone will go far. We are held together as a people only by the fabric of our history. If we allow the intertwining threads of that history to be forgotten, we are bound to lose the only thing that holds us together as a common people. In this particular incident, spread the word through letters to the Editor. Harass your politician. Demand things change.

If we stop caring...what then?

The Civil War Institute 2006 Spring Schedule

Sponsored by the Delaware Valley Civil War Round Table At Manor College. All classes are Act 48 approved. Classes are from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Core Courses:

The Gettysburg Campaign - Two mighty armies engaged by chance in the greatest single battle ever fought in the Western Hemisphere. A detailed examination of events leading up to the battle and each day's activity will be covered. Did the mighty Army of the Potomac finally get the leadership it deserved? Did Robert E. Lee blunder in his strategy? Did his commanders let him down? Would he have prevailed if Jackson were alive? Was James Longstreet, Lee's "War-horse" right in his view of the battle? Come and hear all the details and stories of this war sage, as Frank Avato guides you through this Core Course, which lasts for 6 Mondays March 13, 20, 27; April 3, 10 & 17. \$70.

The Civil War Overview - This series provides the big picture of the events that led to the war, the major battles and the after-effects that still impact our nation today. The war will be examined year by year. This is a 6-week program for all ages conducted by instructors who are experts on the subject. It is one you will not want to miss. This Core Course runs for 6 Wednesdays, March 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12 & 19. Members of the Round Table will be instructors each week. \$70

The Irish in the Civil War - This course looks at the role the Irish played in the Civil War and why so many fought to unite a country that was new to them. It will look at where they came from, how they fought, and why they fought so bravely. The course will examine the Irish on both sides, both blue and gray. We will look at the important roles they played in the major battles of the war and why so many gave their lives. Hugh Boyle will be the instructor for this elective course. It will run for 3 Thursdays March 16, 23 & 30. \$40

Civil War Medical History - This course will explore the era of Civil War medicine that ministered to the sick before antitoxins and the science of bacteriology existed, when crude sanitation and an ignorance of water were deadly. It will look at how more men died of disease than battle wounds. The course will show how these Civil War doctors became medical explorers in treating disease, and why there were so many amputations. You will see how the medicine of the day met the horror of the battlefield. Herb Kaufman will be the instructor for this elective course that runs for 3 Thursdays, April 6, 20 & 27 (No class April 13). \$40

Blue & Gray Education Society 2006 Schedule

BGES is Proud to Announce its 2006 Schedule for Tours and Seminars: Details of programs and registration forms will be available from December 1st. To be added to the mailing list for any particular program please email bgesbill@aol.com. Make sure to provide your snail mail address and phone number. Registration forms will be available on line from December 1st and as completed.

March 14-18: Forrest in Alabama with Brian Wills and Parker Hills based in Florence, Alabama

April 5-9: The Stand of the US Army at Gettysburg: Staff announcement pending, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

May 10-13: The Vicksburg Campaign: Part 3 Grant Establishes his Beachhead, Millikens Bend to Hard Times and New Carthage, with Parker Hills and Len Riedel, Based in Vicksburg, Mississippi

June 1-3: Steele's Arkansas Expedition in the Red River Campaign: Staff announcement pending: Based in Shreveport, Louisiana

June 9-14: From Fort Kearny to the Little Big Horn through the eyes of Sitting Bull: with Ed Bearss and Neil Mangum based in Billings, Montana

July 20-24: America's Cradles of Revolution: Jamestown, Williamsburg and Yorktown with Ed Bearss and other staff to be announced. Based in Williamsburg, Virginia

July 26-29: Great Issues of Gettysburg: Was Stuart a Scapegoat? with Greg Mertz, Mike Miller and Andie Custer based in Leesburg, Virginia

August 28-September 1: Bleeding Kansas with Ed Bearss, Nicole Etcheson, Kendall Gott and other staff pending based in Kansas City, Missouri

September 13-16: Great Issues of Gettysburg: The Sickles-Meade Controversy. Staff announcement pending. Based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

September 25-29: America's Cradles of Revolution: Charleston, SC with Ed Bearss and Rick Hatcher based in Charleston, South Carolina

September 30-October 1: 5th Annual Massachusetts School of Law and BGES Annual Symposium, The North in the Civil War: Lincoln and His Generals. Staff announcement pending, based in Andover, Massachusetts

October 13-15: Gettysburg FOCUS Weekend 2006 Part 1: Five different four hour tours with some of the best of Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guides, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

October 18-21: The Vicksburg Campaign Part 4: Grant Disposed of Johnston (Grindstone Ford to Jackson) with Parker Hills and Len Riedel, based in Vicksburg, MS.

November 10-12: Gettysburg FOCUS Weekend 2006 Part 2: 5 more different four hour tours with some of the best of the Gettysburg Licensed Battlefield Guides, based in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

November 16-18: BGES Staff Ride of the Battle of South Mountain, Crampton's Gap and Maryland Heights with Dennis Frye, Tom Clemens, Corky Lowe and Al Preston based in Hagerstown, Maryland

December 11-16: Cajuns, Coonasses and War with Ed Bearss and others based in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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Founded January 1977

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