

**May, 2005**

**424th Meeting**

**Vol. 26 #9**

*Tonight's  
Program:*



## **Patrick Schroeder**

**As**

## **George T. Peers**

Patrick Schroeder portrays George T. Peers, a Civil War soldier who experienced Appomattox Court House. Come listen to Mr. Peers reminisce about this last, decisive campaign of the war. He revisits the battles of Petersburg, Five Forks, Sayler's Creek, and the climax at Appomattox Court House. Mr. Peers gives insight to the events and the personalities involved.

*Tonight's Speaker:*

## **Patrick Schroeder**

Mr. Schroeder is a Civil War author and historian. He holds a B.S. in Historical Park Administration from Shepherd College and a M.A. in Civil War History from Virginia Tech. He is the Historian at Appomattox Court House Historic Park. Mr. Schroeder has written, edited or published eighteen Civil War titles including: *More Myths About Lee's Surrender*, *The Confederate Cemetery at Appomattox*, and *Recollections and Reminiscences of Old Appomattox*. He lives in Lynchburg, Virginia where he and his wife run Schroeder Publications.

*Date:* **Wednesday,  
May 11, 2005**

*Place:* **The Cleveland  
Playhouse Club  
8501 Carnegie Ave.**

*Time:* **Drinks 6 PM  
Dinner 7 PM**

*Reservations:* **Please Call  
JAC Communications  
(216) 861-5588**

*Meal choice:* **Breast of Chicken  
or Vegetarian Pasta**

## CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

FOUNDED 1957

*President:* **Mel Maurer** (440) 808-1249  
*Vice President:* **Dave Carrino** (440) 843-9088  
*Secretary:* **Marilyn DeBaltzo** (440) 461-6804  
*Treasurer:* **Lynn Loritts** (216) 491-9853  
*Historian:* **Dale Thomas** (440) 779-6454

### Directors:

Warren McClelland      Hans Kuenzi  
Maynard Bauer          Terry Koozer  
David Novak              George George

website: clevelandcivilwarroundtable.com

email: a-bell@adelphia.net

Editor - THE CHARGER - Dan Zeiser

### Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Past Presidents

2004 Warren McClelland	1980 Charles Spiegle
2003 Maynard Bauer	1979 William Bates
2002 Bill McGrath	1978 Richard McCrae
2001 William Vodrey	1977 James Chapman
2000 Bob Boyda	1976 Milton Holmes
1999 Dick Crews	1975 Thomas Gretter
1998 John Moore	1974 Nolan Heidelbaugh
1997 Dan Zeiser	1973 Arthur Jordan
1996 John Sutula	1972 Bernard Drews
1995 Norton London	1971 Kenneth Callahan
1994 Robert Battisti	1970 Frank Schuhle
1993 Kevin Callahan	1969 Donald Heckaman
1992 Bob Baucher	1968 Frank Moran
1991 Joe Tirpak	1967 William Schlesinger
1990 Ken Callahan Jr.	1966 Donald Hamill
1989 Neil Glaser	1965 Lester Swift
1988 Martin Graham	1964 Guy DiCarlo, Jr.
1987 George Vourlojianis	1963 Paul Guenther
1986 Tim Beatty	1962 Edward Downer
1985 Brian Kowell	1961 Charles Clarke
1984 Neil Evans	1960 Howard Preston
1983 William Victory	1959 John Cullen, Jr.
1982 John Harkness	1958 George Farr, Jr.
1981 Thomas Geschke	1957 Kenneth Grant

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### MAY, 2005

What a great pleasure it was to have **President Lincoln** with us last month. His alter ego, **Jim Getty**, is more than an actor. He is a true Lincoln historian as he demonstrated with his command of the facts of Lincoln's life in answering our questions. He well deserved his standing ovations.

Our speaker this month will also come to us from the past with **Patrick Schroeder** portraying **George Peers**, an eyewitness to Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House. Patrick is a son of the south and comes to us from Lynchburg, Virginia. Our raffle will include some Chamberlain Chardonnay and Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Cabernet Sauvignon along with some great books and other items to attract your betting dollars. May has always been our traditional "**Guest Night**," so be sure to bring a friend.

Our annual poetry contest at **Lee Burneson Middle School** had over 360 entries this year – an all time high. Picking our winners as usual was difficult – many thanks to my wife Elaine for her help each year in judging the entries with me. The thought put into these poems by most of the writers is amazing and always very moving as the writers consider the horrors of war, its casualties, and the loss to those who love them. Our winner, **Manda McPheter**, and her parents and teacher will join us for dinner. Manda will read her poem "**Mourning**" to us.

Thanks to the generous support of our members and the recommendations of our officers and trustees, we were able to donate \$500 to the **Soldiers and Sailors Monument** and \$500 to **Professor Bush's work on Johnson's Island**.

And finally, my thanks to all of you for lending me your podium this year. A special thanks to our vice president **Dave Carrino**, who has put together a great program and field trip for next season, our treasurer **Lynn Loritts**, who has so ably collected and managed our money, our secretary **Marilyn DeBaltzo** for her great work with our raffle, **William Vodrey** with fund raising, **Dan Zeiser**, editor of the Charger, our historian **Dale Thomas** and our directors. I have enjoyed working with these good people and my year as president – I hope you had a good time, too.

See you on the 11<sup>th</sup>...

*Mel Maurer*

**CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE  
2004/2005 SCHEDULE**

September 8, 2004



Lincoln and Douglas

**Voices of the  
Civil War:  
D o u g -  
las, Lincoln,  
and Echoes on  
the Prairie**

**George Buss**

October 13, 2004

**Henry  
W.  
Halleck**



**John Marszalek**

November 10, 2004

**Winfield Scott  
Hancock**



**Dan  
Zeiser**

December 8, 2004



**Ghosts of  
Gettysburg**

**Neil  
Glazer**

January 12, 2005

**The Great Debate**

*Which is the best book, fiction or  
non-fiction, on the Civil War?*

**Moderator: William Vodrey**

February 9, 2005

**Stonewall  
Jackson in the  
Valley  
Bob Boyda**



March 9, 2005

**Myths of  
Shiloh**

**Tim Smith  
Shiloh National Park Historian**



April 13, 2005

**Abraham  
Lincoln  
Portrayed by  
Jim Getty**



May 11, 2005

**Patrick  
Schroeder  
As George Peers**



**Recollections of Appomattox**

## GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI General-in-Chief, U.S. Army?

By E. Chris Evans

Is the idea of the great Italian revolutionary warrior Giuseppe Garibaldi trading in his famous red shirt for a Union officer's blue frock coat incredible? Is the idea improbable, even impossible, especially since this man would be filling a position first held by General George Washington? One would think the answer would be "absolutely," but, in reality, it was more than just an idle proposal. This great freedom fighter, who was born (appropriately enough) on the Fourth of July, 1807, and lived for a time in New York City, led some 1,000 men (all wearing red shirts) in the 1856 campaign that ultimately defeated the 130,000 man army of the Neapolitan kingdom, thus beginning the unification of Italy.

Look ahead some five years, to the summer of 1861. In the United States, a civil war was in its early months and many in the North were optimistic that there would be a quick end to the strife. The politicians of Washington City, their wives, and families loaded up their buggies and carriages and rode toward Manassas to watch the show, soon to unfold, that would undoubtedly end the unpleasantness. By the end of the day, however, thousands of mud-caked men in blue competed with the panicked civilian onlookers in a wild race to be the first back to the nation's capital. The actions of a certain Col. William T. Sherman, on the field and during the retreat, earned him favorable notice and promotion to brigadier general of Volunteers.

Within days of the battlefield defeat, with the North still smarting from the disaster and Lincoln contending anew with the inexperience of his generals, one of the strangest diplomatic missions in American history was begun. At risk were relations with the Vatican (which still controlled large areas of Italy), other European kingdoms, and the revolutionary government still striving to unite all of Italy. The potential benefit of the mission was that the course of the war might be turned in the North's favor, the emancipation of the Southern slaves hastened, and the bloodshed and bitterness of a protracted conflict averted.

That mysterious mission was nothing less than an attempt to enlist in the Northern cause the aid of General Giuseppe Garibaldi, a living symbol of national unification and a man who already regarded himself as an honorary citizen of this country. For several weeks, the Italian newspapers had been speculating that Garibaldi would go to America and take up the fight for the black man. The United States consul at Antwerp, James W. Quiggle, without prior consultation or permission from the State Department or White House, wrote a letter to Gen. Garibaldi indicating that, if indeed he went to the United States to serve, there would be "thousands of Italians and Hungarians who will rush to your ranks, and thousands and tens of thousands who will glory to be under the command of the 'Washington of Italy.' "

Quiggle forwarded copies of his correspondence to Secretary of State William H. Seward. He then wrote to Garibaldi again, this time informing the Italian leader that he would soon receive a formal invitation to go to the United States "with the highest Army

commission which is in the power of the President to confer." At this point, Lincoln was probably unaware of Quiggle's offer, but it must be assumed that Seward discussed the consul's actions with Lincoln, while noting that Quiggle had overstepped his authority. Still, the idea of obtaining Garibaldi's services was tantalizing, especially after the debacle of Bull Run.

Lincoln instructed Seward to begin direct communications with Garibaldi. The U.S. minister at Antwerp, Quiggle's superior, Henry S. Sanford, was instructed to offer the red-shirt hero "a Major-General's commission in the Army of the United States, with its appointments and the hearty welcome of the American people." Hoping to forge a more intimate bond, Seward asked the general to consider him as not just a government official, "but an old and sincere personal friend." To help coordinate efforts, U.S. diplomat George Perkins Marsh, the first American minister to the new kingdom of Italy, was also informed in Turin. Although Lincoln's name was not mentioned in the correspondence, it was obvious that only he could authorize conferring the rank of major general. The closest Lincoln came to personal involvement was indicated in a confidential note from Seward to Sanford: "It has been a source of sincere satisfaction to the President that circumstances have rendered him able to extend to him [Garibaldi], if desired, an invitation which would enable him to add [to his already towering reputation] the glory of aiding in the preservation of the American Union." Seward also notified Sanford that he could reveal that one thousand pounds sterling had been put aside for the "expenses" of Garibaldi and his retinue.

In September 1861, Sanford met with Marsh in Turin. They decided to proceed cautiously at first, talking to Garibaldi on a level below ministerial rank. If the general turned them down, it would appear to be only an exchange of diplomatic courtesies, rather than a damaging rebuff to the Lincoln Administration. After a positive response from the old freedom-fighter, Sanford went to meet Garibaldi himself. Garibaldi had some definite ideas as to the terms of his rallying to the Stars and Stripes, however. The conditions set forth by the general were outlined in Sanford's report to Secretary Seward: "He [Garibaldi] said that the only way in which he could render real service, as he ardently desired to do, to the cause of the United States, was as Commander in Chief of its forces; that he would only go as such and with the additional contingent power - to be governed by events - of declaring the abolition of slavery." Sanford also reported that he informed the general that he was only empowered to offer the two-star rank and could not go beyond it. Thus ended the first attempt to obtain Garibaldi's services.

Some thirteen months later, in October 1862, Garibaldi wrote to Minister Marsh. He indicated that he no longer asked for supreme command and that a major generalship would suffice. However, he still insisted on freedom for the slaves as a condition of his service. By this time, soon after the Battle of Antietam, Lincoln had issued his preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. This satisfied Garibaldi's condition of black freedom, but the war had progressed past the point where a hero from abroad was looked upon as a guarantor of victory.

The prestigious post of General-in-Chief of the armies of the United States was never taken up by Giuseppe Garibaldi. Interestingly, he had seen that emancipation was to be a core issue, and a result, of the war at a time when Lincoln was still pondering the thought. In the end, both men saw freedom for the black man achieved. The

charismatic Italian general in the red shirt never became an American general in blue. While the sixteenth President still lived, however, in a remarkable gesture of respect and honor, Garibaldi saw to it that one of his grandsons was named Lincoln.

## **Mourning**

**By Manda McPheter**

Mourning over the once new born child  
Mourning over the little boy she saw grow up  
Mourning over the boy she saw become a man

Mourning over the young man she saw walk away  
from home

Mourning over the young man she hoped to see  
alive and well over her death bed

Mourning over the young man she hoped would  
have a loving family like his father

Mourning over the young man she saw go off to  
war

Mourning over the senselessness of war

Mourning over the letters she got from the  
young man

Mourning for the other families that have had  
this happen

Mourning for the future families that will have  
this happen

Mourning over the spirit of a dead soldier

Mourning over the death of her son



## SIGNIFICANT MAY CIVIL WAR DATES

### 1861

**MAY 6** - TENNESSEE AND ARKANSAS PASS SECESSION ORDINANCES AND LEAVE THE UNION, THE 9TH AND 10TH STATES TO JOIN THE CONFEDERACY.

**MAY 10** - CAPTAIN NATHANIEL LYON, U.S. ARMY, SEIZES THE ARSENAL IN ST. LOUIS FROM STERLING PRICE'S STATE MILITIA.

**MAY 14** - WILLIAM T. SHERMAN RETURNS TO THE ARMY.

**MAY 17** - TENNESSEE IS ADMITTED TO THE CONFEDERACY.

**MAY 18** - ARKANSAS IS ADMITTED TO THE CONFEDERACY.

**MAY 24** - FEDERAL TROOPS CROSS THE POTOMAC AND CAPTURE ALEXANDRIA.

### 1862

**MAY 8** - STONEWALL JACKSON DEFEATS JOHN C. FREMONT AT THE BATTLE OF MCDOWELL IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

**MAY 23** - STONEWALL JACKSON DEFEATS NATHANIEL BANKS AT THE BATTLE OF PORT ROYAL.

**MAY 25** - JACKSON DEFEATS BANKS AGAIN AT WINCHESTER.

**MAY 31** - JOE JOHNSTON ATTACKS GEORGE MCCLELLAN AT FAIR OAKS OR SEVEN PINES. JOHNSTON IS WOUNDED AND ROBERT E. LEE IS GIVEN COMMAND THE NEXT DAY.

### 1863

**MAY 1** - THE BATTLE OF CHANCELLORSVILLE BEGINS. ULYSSES GRANT WINS THE BATTLE OF PORT GIBSON AFTER CROSSING THE MISSISSIPPI IN THE VICKSBURG CAMPAIGN.

**MAY 2** - JACKSON ASSAULT'S THE UNION'S FLANK IS SUCCESSFUL. IN THE EVENING, HE IS SHOT BY HIS OWN TROOPS WHILE RECONNOITERING.

**MAY 4** - HOOKER RETREATS FROM CHANCELLORSVILLE.

**MAY 5** - CLEMENT L. VALLANDIGHAM IS ARRESTED.

**MAY 6** - VALLANDIGHAM IS TRIED AND CONVICTED OF TREASON.

**MAY 10** - STONEWALL JACKSON DIES.

**MAY 12** - GRANT DEFEATS CONFEDERATE TROOPS AT RAYMOND, MISSISSIPPI. COL. ROBERT SHAW EXCEEDS HIS 1000 MAN LIMIT IN RECRUITING THE 54TH MASSACHUSETTS. THE SPILLOVER IS USED TO FORM THE SECOND ALL BLACK REGIMENT, THE 55TH MASSACHUSETTS.

**MAY 14** - GRANT TAKES JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

**MAY 16** - GRANT DEFEATS JOHN PEMBERTON AT CHAMPION HILL.

**MAY 17** - GRANT DEFEATS PEMBERTON AGAIN AT THE BIG BLACK RIVER.

**MAY 18** - THE SIEGE OF VICKSBURG BEGINS.

**MAY 19** - LINCOLN COMMUTES VALLANDIGHAM'S SENTENCE TO BANISHMENT.

### 1865

**MAY 9** - THE TRIAL OF LINCOLN ASSASSINATION CONSPIRATORS BEGINS.

**MAY 10** - JEFFERSON DAVIS IS CAPTURED NEAR IRWINDALE, GEORGIA. PRESIDENT JOHNSON OFFICIALLY DECLARES ARMED RESISTANCE AT AN END.

## **NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2005-6**

### Officers

President - Dave Carrino  
Vice President - John Fazio  
Treasurer - Lynn Loritts  
Secretary - Marilyn DeBaltzo  
Historian - Dave Thomas

### Directors

Mel Maurer  
Warren McClelland  
Hans Kuenzi  
Lisa Kempfer  
Eddie Myers  
Jon Thompson

## **FIELD TRIP SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2005 FREDERICKSBURG - SPOTSYLVANIA COURTHOUSE NATIONAL MILITARY PARK**

This year's trip will be to Fredericksburg and environs. This gives us access to four battlefields, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, and Spotsylvania. For those less inclined to traipse over battlefields, the town of Fredericksburg provides other opportunities. Reserve the date. If you are interested, please send your deposit of \$75.00 to Dave Carrino, 4470 Coral Gables Drive, Parma, Ohio, 44134.