

December, 2005

428th Meeting

Vol. 27 #4

Tonight's Program:

The Supply for Tomorrow Must Not Fail: The Civil War of Captain Simon J. Perkins Jr., a Civil War Quartermaster

Napoleon Bonaparte once made the anatomically incorrect statement that an army marches on its stomach. This was his way of asserting that military logistics are crucial to the success of a military campaign. While there is no evidence that Napoleon was an expert in anatomy, there is no debate that he knew something about warfare. The topic of the December meeting is military logistics in the Civil War, specifically one person's efforts in that indispensable component of the war. The focus of the presentation is Captain Simon Perkins Jr., who served the Union as a quartermaster and who provided our speaker, Lenette Taylor, a wealth of information regarding his Civil War activities by scrupulously saving his quartermaster records and papers (although his scrupulousness also provided Lenette with the enormous task of inspecting 20,000 items). Napoleon also said, "There is no immortality but the memory that is left in the minds of men." If there is credence to Napoleon's anatomically incorrect opinion about the crucial role of military logistics in warfare, then perhaps it is not individuals such as Ulysses Grant and William T. Sherman who should be immortalized, but instead individuals such as Simon Perkins Jr.

Dr. Lenette S. Taylor

Our speaker for December is Dr. Lenette S. Taylor. Lenette received her Ph.D. from Kent State University, where she currently is an Assistant Professor of History (part time). She teaches and has taught a number of courses covering different topics in U.S. history. Her specialty is Nineteenth Century U.S. history. Lenette authored the definitive book on the life of a Civil War quartermaster, and this is the title of her presentation to the Roundtable. In addition to her expertise in history, Lenette is also accomplished in Irish set dancing, which she both performs and teaches.

Date: **Wednesday,
December 14, 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: **Beef Pot Roast
or Vegetarian Dinner**

CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

FOUNDED 1957

President: **Dave Carrino** (440) 843-9088
Vice President: **John Fazio** (330) 867-1535
Secretary: **Marilyn DeBaltzo** (440) 461-6804
Treasurer: **Lynn Loritts** (216) 491-9853
Historian: **Dale Thomas** (440) 779-6454

Directors:

Mel Maurer
Warren McClelland
Hans Kuenzi

Lisa Kempfer
Eddie Myers
Jon Thompson

website: clevelandcivilwarroundtable.com

email: a-bell@adelphia.net

Editor - THE CHARGER - Dan Zeiser

Cleveland Civil War Roundtable Past Presidents

2005 Mel Maurer	1980 Charles Spiegle
2004 Warren McClelland	1979 William Bates
2003 Maynard Bauer	1978 Richard McCrae
2002 Bill McGrath	1977 James Chapman
2001 William Vodrey	1976 Milton Holmes
2000 Bob Boyda	1975 Thomas Gretter
1999 Dick Crews	1974 Nolan Heidelbaugh
1998 John Moore	1973 Arthur Jordan
1997 Dan Zeiser	1972 Bernard Drews
1996 John Sutula	1971 Kenneth Callahan
1995 Norton London	1970 Frank Schuhle
1994 Robert Battisti	1969 Donald Heckaman
1993 Kevin Callahan	1968 Frank Moran
1992 Bob Baucher	1967 William Schlesinger
1991 Joe Tirpak	1966 Donald Hamill
1990 Ken Callahan Jr.	1965 Lester Swift
1989 Neil Glaser	1964 Guy DiCarlo, Jr.
1988 Martin Graham	1963 Paul Guenther
1987 George Vourlojanis	1962 Edward Downer
1986 Tim Beatty	1961 Charles Clarke
1985 Brian Kowell	1960 Howard Preston
1984 Neil Evans	1959 John Cullen, Jr.
1983 William Victory	1958 George Farr, Jr.
1982 John Harkness	1957 Kenneth Grant
1981 Thomas Geschke	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DECEMBER, 2005

Hdqrs. ClvInd. Civil War Rtbl.

December 14, 2005

The November Roundtable meeting saw us focus on the major cause of the Civil War, slavery, and the movement to put an end to this peculiar institution. Our speakers, Drs. Gary J. Kornblith and Carol Lasser, told us how the abolitionist movement reached a zenith in Oberlin. With a thorough discussion of Oberlin's founding on fervent Christian principles, Gary explained how its citizens were primed to become resolute members of the abolitionist movement, but that this fervor was directed toward a non-political, pacifist, idealistic approach. Carol then explained how the citizens of Oberlin found it necessary to transform to a more forceful and political approach when they confronted the realities of freeing escaped slaves. This transformation, as Carol explained, reached its culmination in the Oberlin Wellington Rescue, when the citizens employed all the cunning and force they could muster. The presentation Carol and Gary gave was highly informative, very energetic, and extremely engrossing. What made it particularly interesting is the realization that a town in northeast Ohio occupied such a unique and prominent place in the abolitionist movement. After the meeting, a Roundtable member who is a proud graduate of Oberlin College told me that Oberlin's abolitionist history is reflected in the school's song, which includes the lyrics, "Ten thousand strong, sing we a song, Oberlin, to thee...In lands afar shineth thy star setting bondsmen free."

As was mentioned at the November meeting, the Roundtable has received a generous donation for the prize for the yearly raffle. This prize is a print of the Mort Künstler painting *Morgan's Ohio Raid*. The print has been personalized by the artist to the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable. Raffle tickets for the print will be sold beginning at the December meeting and continue for several months. On behalf of the Roundtable, I thank Künstler Enterprises, Ltd. for this generous donation.

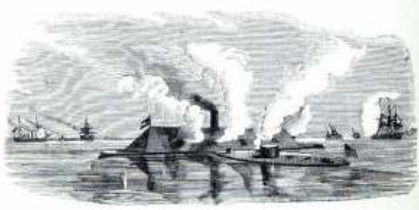
Very respy. your obt. srvt.

D.A. Carrino

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

September 14, 2005

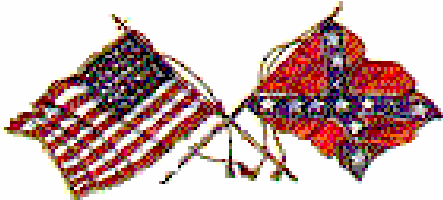
**T h e y
H a d
N a v i e s,
T o o???**



Bruce Smith

October 12, 2005

How the Civil War Still Lives



James I. Robertson Jr.

November 9, 2005

**The Transformation of
Abolitionism in War and
Peace: Oberlin, Ohio as a Case
Study**

**Carol Lasser and Gary J.
Kornblith, Oberlin College**

December 14, 2005

**The Supply for Tomorrow
Must Not Fail: The Civil War of
Captain Simon J. Perkins Jr., a
Civil War Quartermaster**

**Lennette Taylor
Summit County Historical Society**

January 11, 20056

The Great Debate

*The Most Overrated Leader
(Military or Political) of the
Civil War*

Moderator: William Vodrey

February 8, 2006

**Joshua Lawrence
Chamberlain:
Scholar, Citizen,
Soldier
William F. B. Vodrey**



March 8, 2006

**The Trial of Henry
Wirz
A Play by
Dale Thomas**



April 12, 2006

**A New Framework for Civil
War Military History**

Richard McMurry

May 10, 2006

**Union Jacks:
Yankee Sailors
In the Civil
War**



Michael Bennett

SILENT WITNESSES TO THE CIVIL WAR

Lakeside, Maple Ridge, Coe Ridge, and Chestnut Grove

Third in a series of articles on cemeteries in Cleveland's western suburbs

Written by Dale Thomas © 2005

Lakeside Cemetery overlooks Lake Erie in Bay Village, now a bedroom community but in the 1860's a region of orchards and truck gardens at the northern edge of Dover Township. Driving on Lake Road, one hardly notices the headstones that seem out of place where old homes are being razed to make way for lavish dwellings built on prime real estate. Two veterans of the American Revolution (David Foote and Christopher Saddler) and seven of the Civil War may be the next to be displaced by housing developers in the 21st Century.

John Schultz and Luma Griswold could not be identified with a specific Northern regiment. Michael Wolf fought with the 1st U.S. Cavalry, Regular Army. Washington Elmer was in I Company of the 10th New York Heavy Artillery Regiment. At Sackett's Harbor, N.Y. on September 12, 1862, Pvt. Elmer mustered into Federal service. The regiment protected Washington until taking part in the battle at Cold Harbor in June of 1864 then the siege and fall of Petersburg at the end of the war. On September 19, 1861 in Findlay, Ohio, Chauncy Stevens mustered into the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, a regiment that would suffer the loss of 392 men. Stevens rose to the rank of sergeant as the 23rd OVI fought in the western theater from Stone's River and Chickamauga to Chattanooga and Resaca, then the siege of Atlanta and Sherman's march to the sea. After the Grand Review in Washington, the regiment moved to Kentucky, then came home to Ohio.

Alonson A. Grant joined the 6th Ohio Cavalry in Warren, Ohio on October 7, 1861. He was promoted to sergeant during the course of the war, which saw his regiment fighting in many of the major battles in the East: Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Wilderness, and Cold Harbor. On Palm Sunday in 1865, the troopers were in Appomattox Court House to take part in the surrender of Lee's army. Alfred M. Wolf was one of the "100 Day Men" in the 150th OVI. On May 2, 1864 at Camp Cleveland, the Ohio National Guard Regiment mustered into service for a hundred days. It went east for garrison duty in the forts around Washington, helping to repulse Jubal Early's attack in July. The men were back home and discharged on the 23rd of August.

Maple Ridge and Coe Ridge cemeteries are located a few miles apart in what was originally the southern section of Dover Township. Situated on Columbia Road in Westlake, Maple Ridge contains the burials of eleven veterans of the Civil War,

one of which is only a few feet from the shoulder of the encroaching thoroughfare. Henry L. Steele, John W. Hawkins, Chauncey C. and Lester Alexander, Reuben and Ziba S. Hall served in the 150th OVI. A Baptist minister born in England, Steele applied for an invalid's Civil War pension around the turn of the century while living out of the state.

In late autumn of 1861, John H. Lemmon volunteered for the 65th OVI, which was being organized in Mansfield, Ohio. Beginning as a private in E Company, he became a sergeant as his regiment participated in most of the major campaigns and battles in the West: Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Stone's River, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Resaca, Franklin, and Nashville. The 65th OVI moved to San Antonio, Texas at the end of the war, remaining there until December. Ashel P. Smith went to Norwalk, Ohio and joined the 55th OVI in January of 1862. Smith's regiment fought in the eastern and western fronts including battles at Cedar Mountain, Second Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Resaca, and Bentonville. It took part in the surrender of General Johnston's army in April of 1865 and the Grand Review in Washington the following month. Smith was a hospital steward at the time of his discharge.

At Camp Chase on October 30, 1861, John Griffin, an Irish immigrant, enlisted in James A. Garfield's 42nd OVI. Griffin saw action in the western theater of the war including the siege and assault at Vicksburg. Near the end of his three year enlistment, he suffered a gun shot wound to his right lung and, after treatment, was discharged on November 15, 1864. At Camp Cleveland on New Year's Day of 1863, Chauncey D. Hall mustered into A Company of the 124th OVI. The regiment fought at Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Resaca, Franklin, Nashville, and other battles in the West. A native of Prussia, John E. Sawyer was a musician in D Company of the 117th New York Volunteer Infantry, organized in Oneida in August of 1862. The New Yorkers were in a number of engagements in the East including Fort Wagner, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Wilmington.

Five Civil War veterans are buried in Coe Ridge Cemetery, located across the street from a bowling alley at the corner of Walter Road and Lorain Road in North Olmsted. Bertrand C. and Rienzi W. Austin served with John Griffin in E Company of the 42nd OVI. Bertrand C. Austin did not survive the war, dying at the age of twenty-four on April 23, 1863. The regiment was campaigning in Louisiana at the time of his death and the records show he was not buried in the South, but at Coe Ridge.

Serving under two future Presidents, Wilbur Bently was a private in A Company of the 23rd OVI. The eighteen year old Bently was the same age and rank as William McKinley of E Company when they were mustered into federal service at Camp Chase

on June 11, 1861. During the war, McKinley rose to the rank of brevet major under the regimental commander, Colonel Rutherford B. Hayes. The 23rd OVI first saw action in western Virginia, then moved to Washington in the late summer of 1862. When Lee invaded Maryland, the Ohioans fought at South Mountain and Antietam. Over the next two and a half years, the regiment took part in a number of battles including Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign. The men marched together for the last time on Cleveland's Public Square in July of 1865.

At Camp Cleveland on August 22, 1862, Saul Demaline took an oath, offering three years of his life to help preserve the Union as a private in B Company of the 107th OVI. He survived the disaster at Fredericksburg, defeat at Chancellorsville, and bloody victory at Gettysburg. On December 4, 1863, however, Demaline was discharged on a surgeon's certificate of disability. Pvt. John S. Demaline served with the 67th OVI, which had been organized at-large in Ohio from October, 1861 to January, 1862. The assault on Fort Wagner and the siege of Petersburg were some of the regiment's major actions. On April 9, 1865, the men of the 67th OVI were at Appomattox Court House, taking part in the surrender of Lee's army.

Chestnut Grove (Turkey Foot) Cemetery is located on Chestnut Grove Drive above the west branch of Rocky River in Olmsted Falls. In a place that still retains much of its original rural setting, twelve stones are inscribed with the names of Civil War veterans. Lt. John G. Fitch and Pvt. Herbert O. Fitch served in I Company of the 150th OVI. According to his gravestone, Elisha Cook's regiment was the 8th OVI, but official records list him in the 3rd OVI. On September 8, 1865, James Wright mustered out as a corporal in the 21st New York Volunteer Artillery Regiment, which had campaigned on the Gulf Coast.

At Camp Dennison in February of 1862, Henry and Thomas Stokes mustered into the 15th Independent Battery, Ohio Light Artillery. Henry Stokes died in Cincinnati on April 17, 1862. Rising to sergeant, Thomas Stokes survived the sieges at Corinth, Vicksburg, and Atlanta, then Sherman's march to the sea and the capture of Columbia, South Carolina. For years after the war on the Fourth of July, he loaded and fired the G.A.R. post cannon in Olmsted Falls.

John E. Bradford and Edward W. Kidney volunteered for the 19th Independent Battery, Ohio Light Artillery at Camp Cleveland in September of 1862. Also known as Shield's Battery, it pursued Morgan in May of 1863 from Kentucky into Ohio and afterwards fought in Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina. Kidney made it through the war, but Bradford died on October 22, 1864. Hiram A. Vaughn was in the same company of the 65th OVI as John Lemmon.

Frederick W. Broady served with William McKinley in E Company of the 23rd OVI. Lorenzo B. Adams was a sergeant in Battery B of the 1st Ohio Light Artillery organized at Camp Dennison (Cincinnati) in October of 1861. He fought at Mill Springs, Perryville, Stone's River, Chickamauga and Chattanooga. Two other veterans buried in the cemetery, George Brown and Edward Damp, could not be identified with any Civil War unit.

The first officers of Olmsted G.A.R. Post 634 in 1887 included Commander Thomas Stokes, Senior Vice Commander John Fitch, and Quartermaster Sergeant Hiram Vaughn. Post members with their wives observed Memorial Day that year by placing flowers on the graves of veterans and casting wreaths into Rocky River for those missing in action during the Civil War.

Women in the War — Belle Boyd, 1843-1900, Confederate Spy

Only one of several women who worked as spies behind the lines in the war, Belle Boyd was perhaps the most colorful and certainly the most publicized. Born in Virginia, Belle had some education, but was only seventeen when the war broke out. Her area was soon overrun by Union and Confederate troops in the first Shenandoah Valley campaign. Belle sided with the Confederacy, so she would talk to and observe the Union forces and then pass on the information to the Confederate army. She was twice arrested by the Federal troops, but each time was released. After the second time, in the spring of 1864, she sailed to England, allegedly carrying information from Jefferson Davis to Confederate agents in Europe. A Union officer who had been one of her captors followed her to England and they were married that August. He died in 1866 so Belle took up a career as an actress. Her success in England led to her return to the U.S. in 1867, and she continued to tour until her death.

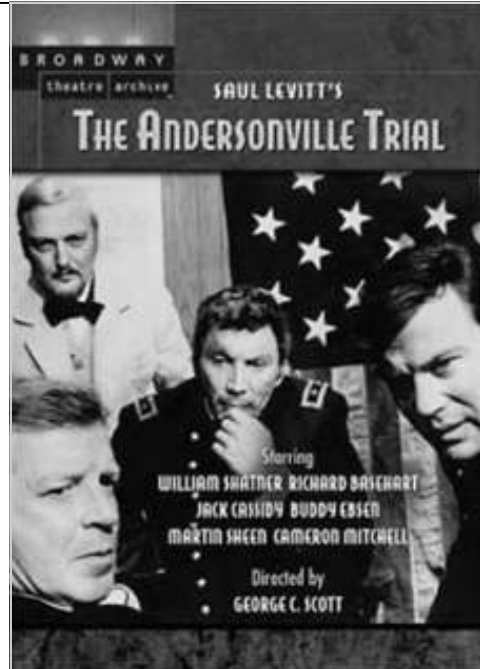
Taken from The Civil War Almanac, Edited by John S. Bowman, World Almanac Publications (1983).

FIELD TRIP 2006

John Fazio reports that he has received numerous suggestions as to the field trip next year. The top three, for the nonce, are: Bermuda, where we will visit the harbor where foreign suppliers transferred their goods to Confederate blockade runners, which then embarked for Dixie; Bordeaux, France, off shore of which the USS *Kearsarge* sank the Confederate raider CSS *Alabama*; and Melbourne, Australia, into whose harbor another Confederate raider, the CSS *Shenandoah*, sailed. John asks that the membership continue with suggestions, all of which he says, will be seriously considered before they are rejected.

CALL FOR THESPIANS

The meeting on March 8, 2006 will be a presentation of a play written by Roundtable member Dale Thomas. The play is a dramatization of the trial of Henry Wirz, the Commandant of Andersonville Prison, and the script is based on the actual trial. At the conclusion of the presentation, everyone in attendance at the March meeting will vote on the verdict. The cast of the play will consist of Roundtable members, who are interested in participating. If you are so interested, please contact Dale Thomas (e-mail: a-bell@adelphia.net; home phone: 440-779-6454). Regrettably, Captain Kirk will be unable to participate as he is currently occupied playing an attorney in another project.



JANUARY, 2006

**THE GREAT DEBATE, *THE MOST OVERRATED LEADER*
(*MILITARY OR POLITICAL*) OF THE CIVIL WAR**