

THE CHARGER



CLEVELAND CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

APRIL, 2016

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FIELD TRIP UPDATE



By now some of you have made your reservations for the Fall Field Trip to The Wilderness and Spotsylvania, September 22-24. Terrific! Remember when you make your reservations at the Fredericksburg Hospitality Inn to use the link on the email which you received from Bob Boyda or if you call in your reservation (540-736-1020), please be sure you tell them you are with the Cleveland Civil War Roundtable to get our special room rate.

The trip itinerary is as follows: We will "muster in" on Thursday evening, September 22 at the hotel and hear an introductory presentation by Kris White, our guide. We will spend Friday at The Wilderness and Saturday at Spotsylvania. Saturday evening we will "muster out" with a catered banquet at the hotel.

For those of you bringing spouses, I will have some brochures at the April and May meetings for several other places to see and things to do should they decide not to make the trip to the battlefields, or if you wish to spend an extra day or two in the area.

Please see me if you would like more information or a reading list suggested by Kris White on both battles.

Jean



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Join Us For Our Next Meeting

April 13, 2016

Drinks @ 6pm, Dinner @ 6:30

Judson Manor - East 107th St & Chester

Program: William F.B. Vodrey speaking on:

Lincoln's Two Vice Presidents



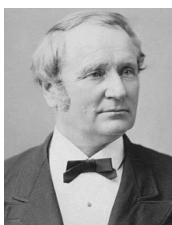
Ohio Vice-Presidents

By Dennis Keating

Ohio's record of having its citizens becoming Vice President of the United States is not good (compared to having many Presidents elected in the 19th and early 20th century).

When Abraham Lincoln ran for re-election in 1864, his opponent George McClellan chose Ohioan George Pendleton as his running mate. Pendleton was a lawyer from Cincinnati married to the daughter of Francis Scott Key. He became a state senator in 1854 and then a Democrat member of Congress beginning in 1857. He was an anti-war Democrat. After Lincoln's re-election, Pendleton lost his Congress seat. Before departing Congress, Pendleton voted against adoption of the 13th Amendment outlawing slavery. He then failed to win re-election to Congress in 1866, ran but failed to win the Democrat nomination for President in 1868, and lost to Rutherford Hayes in 1869 when he ran for Governor of Ohio. In 1879, Pendleton made his political comeback with election to the U.S. Senate. He is best known as the sponsor of the Pendleton Act of 1883, which reformed the federal civil service in response to the "spoils" patronage system.

Three Ohio-born politicians became U.S. Vice Presidents but politically were associated with other states: Thomas Hendricks (1885-1885 under Grover Cleveland), Indiana; Charles Fairbanks (1905-1909 under Theodore Roosevelt), Indiana; Charles Dawes (1925-1929 under Calvin Coolidge), Illinois.



Thomas Hendricks



Charles Fairbanks



Charles Dawes



Modern Civil War Music By Dennis Keating

The Civil War was rich in music, played by military bands on both sides. See Stephen Currie, *Music in the Civil War* (1992). Ironically, one of President Lincoln's favorite songs was "Dixie", composed by Ohioan Daniel Emmet. Its authorship, origin, and meaning remain in dispute. Civil war tunes are now played by many re-enactor bands. Oberlin College has a collection of 100 Civil War ballads: <http://www.oberlin.edu/library/special/music/civilwar.html>

In addition, there are some interesting modern songs related to the Civil War. Perhaps the best known is "Ashokan Farewell", which became the theme song of filmmaker Ken Burns' 1990 *Civil War* series on PBS. However, its composer Jay Unger composed it in 1983 as a Scottish lament and his partner Molly Mason suggested the title: Ashokan is a town in the Catskills in upstate New York where they run a summer Fiddle & Dance Camp. So, it has nothing to do with the Civil War other than its adoption by Burns: Megan Garber, "Ashokan Farewell: The Story Behind the Tune Ken Burns Made Famous" *The Atlantic* (September 25, 2015)

Here are some of my favorites.

- "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down": composed by Canadian Robbie Robertson of The Band, released in 1969, and played in their 1983 film *The Last Waltz*. Joan Baez recorded it in 1971. It refers to Stoneman's Raid in 1865. See Joshua Beau Blackwell's books on George Stoneman's Raid (Arcadia Publishing (2011).
- "Dixieland": composed by folk singer Steve Earle and played by Steve Earle and the Del McCoury Band. It is about Kilrain from County Clare, Ireland of the 20th Maine.
- "Atlanta is Burning": composed by Aubrey Holt of the Boys from Indiana. He wrote it in 1974 after seeing the film *Gone with the Wind*.
- "Missionary Ridge": co-written by Pierce Pettis and Fred Koller. Played by folk singer Claire Lynch's band.
- "When the Master Calls the Roll": co-written by Rosanne Cash (Johnny Cash's daughter), her husband John Leventhal and her ex-husband Rodney Crowell.
- "Between the Grey and Blue": composed and played by Dave Trabue and Beargrass Creek.
- "Carry Me Back to Virginia": played by Old Crow Medicine Show.
- "Final Reward": played by Chatham County Line.
- "Lone Pine Hill": played by Justin Townes Earle.
- "Ben McCulloch": composed and played by Steve Earle.

You can check YouTube for performances of some of these songs.