



HARPERS FERRY

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO BOX 1079, HARPERS FERRY, WV 25425

Vol. 28 September 2008 No. 01

DATE: Wednesday, September 10th, 2005

TIME: Dinner 7:00 PM; Program 8:00

PLACE: Camp Hill Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry, WV

SPEAKER: Dana B. Shoaf

SUBJECT: Odyssey of a Field Officer: Major John I. Nevin
of the 93rd Pennsylvania Infantry

The Speaker:

Dana Shoaf recently became the editor of *Civil War Times* and has served as the editor of *America's Civil War* for eight years. "Dana's development and improvement of *America's Civil War* over the last two years is a remarkable achievement," says Editor-in-chief Stephen Petranek. "His lifelong passion for the Civil War will be immediately obvious to readers."

Shoaf is a frequent speaker at conferences and symposiums, a part-time history professor, and the author of numerous articles on the Civil War. He also has a keen interest in Civil War preservation and serves on the board of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation.

Civil War Times played a key role in spurring Shoaf's love for history. "I have been reading the magazine since childhood," he says. "And I consider it a privilege to help further its long tradition of excellence."

The Subject

The 93rd Pennsylvania Volunteers, known as the "Lebanon Infantry," was formed under the direction of Colonel James M. McCarter, pastor of the Methodist Episcopal congregation of Lebanon, in the autumn of 1861. It was mustered into service on October 28 of the same year. The regiment trained for a month at Camp Coleman, now known as Monument Park, at present-day Eighth and Lehman Streets. In addition to service at Gettysburg, it also saw action at Fair Oaks, Antietam, Fredericksburg, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and in numerous other battles. It was mustered out at Harrisburg on June 30, 1865.

A full-length documentary on the 93rd. Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry is currently scheduled for release in 2009. The movie is being shot in the Ken Burns style with vintage photos, blending with drawings, illustrations and live action footage shot by high definition video equipment. We also will be shooting background footage on all of the major battlefields on which the 93rd fought. For further information concerning this documentary: <http://www.angelfire.com/pa/Stump44/index.html>

The Meal

A family-style meal will be served at 7:00 PM prior to the program. The cost of the meal is \$15.00 per person. Reservations for the meal **must be phoned in no later than Sunday, September 7th**, to Allison Alsdorf, at 304-535-2101 or you can e-mail her at alsdorf@comcast.net

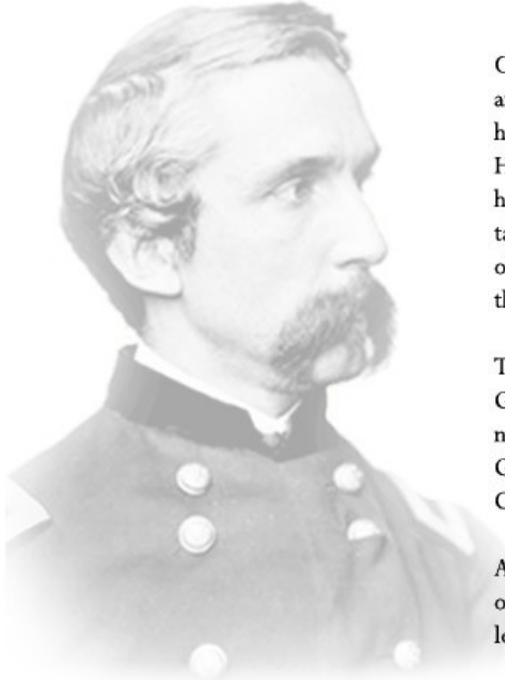
On this Day, September 12th, 1862

The Army of the Potomac, marching northward, groping for the Confederate army, began to move into Frederick, MD, as the Confederates were dispersing to their assigned tasks. Jackson was converging on Harper's Ferry.

In the North the archives, bonds, and treasure of the state of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg and Philadelphia were sent to New York. The Mayor of Philadelphia was given full power to defend the city. The Confederate Congress debated the propriety of the invasion of the North. A worried Mr. Lincoln wired McClellan, "How does it look now?" and was told by the general that he was concerned that Lee would re-cross the Potomac before he could get to him.

On September 13th, two lounging Union soldiers picked up a paper wrapped around a few cigars. The famous "lost order" was found that gave McClellan a decided advantage which he was to squander. (Excerpted from *The Civil War Day by Day*, E. B. Long, published by Doubleday)

Under Chamberlain's Flag
The Stories of the 198th Pennsylvania and the 185th New York Volunteers
by Jeffrey Wood



"Honor answering honor."

Over the years, much has been written and movies have been made around the wartime life of Colonel Joshua L. Chamberlain and his heroics as commander of the 20th Maine Volunteers. Hidden within the shadows of his fame lies an incredible story few have heard, as Chamberlain is promoted from the 20th Maine to take command of a brigade. In short time, his new command consists of two newly formed regiments, which Chamberlain leads during the final year of America's bloody Civil War.

This is the story of those two regiments, who under direction of now General Chamberlain, are credited with spearheading the break of the nine-month siege around Petersburg and the pursuit of Confederate General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia to Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

A chase, whose historic climactic end results in the surrender of the Confederacy's largest army and ultimately leads to the end of the war itself.

Over 550 action packed pages with hundreds of pictures and easy to follow colorized maps. Also included is the complete listing of the men who served in the 198th Pennsylvania and the 185th New York Volunteers as Chamberlain's 1st Brigade.

Under Chamberlain's Flag is currently available only in laminated paperback edition.

John Brown Remembered: 150th Anniversary of the Raid on Harpers Ferry

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, along with other partners, will host a multidisciplinary academic symposium on John Brown and his 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry October 14th – 17th, 2009. This early announcement of the conference is designed to stimulate new and innovative scholarly research and debate. Submissions should focus on the life of John Brown in relation to the broader context of slavery, the abolitionist movement, and the American civil rights movement. We welcome 300 word abstracts or proposals. Proposals for panels are also welcome. All presentations will be eligible for submission to the proposed publication of the conference's juried proceedings. Submission deadline is January 15th, 2009. For further information:

<http://www.harpersferryhistory.org/johnbrown/index.htm>