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## HARPERS FERRY

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### CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

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**PO BOX 1079, HARPERS FERRY, WV 25425**

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Vol. 32 September 2012 No. 01

DATE: Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

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

PLACE: Camp Hill Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry, WV

SPEAKER: Laurence Freiheit

THE MUSIC: What happened to Jeb Stuart during the 1862  
Maryland Campaign

#### The Speaker:

Laurence (Larry) Freiheit was born and raised in Manchester, Connecticut, graduating from high school there. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, serving from 1962 to 1966; he was discharged as sergeant after serving in the Republic of Vietnam in 1965 and 1966. He also spent three years in the Army Reserve in the 826th Military Intelligence Battalion and a Connecticut National Guard Battalion in Manchester as intelligence sergeant.

His interest in U.S. history began in earnest when he transferred in 1986 to a new job with the Veterans Administration in Washington, D.C. His involvement in the Civil War came in 1993 when he moved to Ashburn, Virginia as he learned more about that area during the war including actions near Leesburg and the Battle of Ball's Bluff. His attraction to the Maryland Campaign was sparked by Dr. Joseph L. Harsh's book, *Taken at the Flood: Robert E. Lee and Confederate Strategy in the Maryland Campaign*. The Maryland Campaign of 1862 became the most important one of the war for him as he has

agreed with many historians that it was the pivotal battle of the American Civil War in addition to the most sanguinary day in United States history.

He retired from the federal government in 2000 and moved to Morgan County, West Virginia. Freiheit has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Central Connecticut State College (now University) and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law. He was awarded a Master's Degree in Military Studies with honors from American Public University in June 2009. He is a member of Golden Key International Honour Society, the Delta Epsilon Tau International Honor Society, the Society for Military History, and the Society of Civil War Historians.

He recently published a book about the American Civil War, *Boots and Saddles: Cavalry During the Maryland Campaign of September 1862*, and has written articles for the "Washington Times" and for websites such "Antietam on the Web" and "Military History Online." He is a volunteer at the Newcomer House on the Antietam Battlefield and has begun research for his next book, a biography of Gen. Joseph King Fenno Mansfield, which will be published in late 2013.

## The Subject

Larry's talk will be about Jeb Stuart's performance during the 1862 Maryland Campaign distilled from his book, *Boots and Saddles: Cavalry During the Maryland Campaign of September 1862*. This book will be available for purchase. He will outline Stuart's performances, both good and bad, during September 1862, showing how he contributed to, and detracted from, Gen. Robert E. Lee's first adventure north of the Potomac.

## 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 9<sup>th</sup>**, to Kyle Wichtendahl at 301-639-8855 or you can email him at [kfwichtendahl@gmail.com](mailto:kfwichtendahl@gmail.com). The meal will consist of Baked Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Peas & Pearl Onions, Iced Tea, Coffee, Rolls, Butter & Dessert.

## Civil War Trust Partners with Smithsonian for New Exhibit on Civil War Photography

Civil War Trust joins with Smithsonian Institution and History™ to examine how photography brought home the horror of war for the first time in American history

(Washington, D.C.) — As part of ongoing commemorations of the 150th anniversary of the bloodiest conflict in American history, the Civil War Trust, the nation's largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization, has joined with the Smithsonian Institution to co-curate a new exhibit "Experience Civil War Photography: From the

Home Front to the Battlefield." The exhibit, which is sponsored by History™, opens today in the Smithsonian Castle, where it will run for one year.

"Advancements in photography made during the Civil War brought the conflict into the homes of Americans in ways never before possible," said Trust president James Lighthizer. "Today, these remarkable images still stir the imagination and help us understand the experiences of those who lived through those tumultuous times. Working with the world-renowned staff at the Smithsonian Institution to help tell these stories has been an incredible honor for our organization."

Stereoviews, an early form of 3-D photography, daguerreotypes, tintypes and ambrotypes—all emerging types of photography—are highlighted in the exhibit, which features a range of Civil War-era photographic materials from Smithsonian collections. Highlights include an ambrotype portrait of an African American washerwoman, a carte-de-visite album of Civil War generals and an 11-by-4-inch-view camera and equipment. The exhibit provides an in-depth examination of the emergence of battlefield photography and photojournalism.

Multimedia presentations include two short videos. The first, produced by the Center for Civil War Photography for the Civil War Trust, presents the war photos as they were meant to be seen—in 3-D—allowing visitors to step back in time. The second is a History™ channel film on field photography narrated by Roger Daltrey of The Who.

The exhibit also showcases the role that the Smithsonian Institution, founded in 1846, itself played in the Civil War, when the Castle served as a home for the Smithsonian Secretary's family and a place of learning and collecting. The exhibit displays excerpts from the diary from the daughter of Secretary Joseph Henry. Mary Henry recorded the comings and goings of soldiers to the Castle and used its towers to observe advancing soldiers and Washington itself in the days following Lincoln's assassination. Also featured are Smithsonian employee Solomon Brown (1829-1906) and the lecture hall that hosted a series of abolitionist speakers; it was destroyed by fire in 1865.

"Experience Civil War Photography: From the Home Front to the Battlefront" is a joint exhibition produced by the Smithsonian and the Civil War Trust and is sponsored by History™; it will run in the Smithsonian Castle until through July 2013. For more information on "Civil War 150," the Smithsonian's commemorative programming, visit <http://civilwar150.si.edu>.

The Civil War Trust is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its mission is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds. To date, the Trust has preserved more than 32,000 acres of battlefield land in 20 states. Learn more at [www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org), the home of the sesquicentennial

## On this Day, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Both Grant and Lincoln were disturbed over what the President called "a dead lock" in the Shenandoah. Neither Sheridan nor Early seemed to be making any progress around Winchester. (Excerpted from *The Civil War by Day*, E. B. Long, Doubleday 1971)