



HARPERS FERRY

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO BOX 1079, HARPERS FERRY, WV 25425

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- DATE:** Wednesday, May 8th, 2013
- TIME:** Dinner 7:00 PM; Program 8:00
- PLACE:** Camp Hill Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry, WV
- SPEAKER:** Daniel Carroll Toomey
- SUBJECT:** The War Came by Train: *The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad During the Civil War*

The Speaker:

Daniel Carroll Toomey is a graduate of the University of Maryland and the author of ten books including *The Civil War in Maryland*, *Marylanders at Gettysburg*, and *The Maryland Line Confederate Soldiers Home*. He is also the co-author of *Baltimore During the Civil War* and *Marylanders in Blue*, all of which were published by Toomey Press.

Mr. Toomey has lectured for a number of historical organizations as well as the National Park Service and the Smithsonian Institution. His course "The Civil War in Maryland" has been offered at a number of local colleges. He has also contributed to radio and television programs and two Civil War battle videos. He is a member of the Surratt Society, the Maryland Arms Collectors Association, and the Company of Military Historians. He serves on the Maryland Military Monuments Commission and was project historian for the Maryland Memorial erected at Gettysburg in 1994.

Dan Toomey has won numerous awards for his historical research and exhibits, including the Gettysburg National Battlefield Award in 1985, and was the 2001 recipient

of the Peterkin Award given by the National Park Service at Fort McHenry in 2001 for his many accomplishments in the field of writing and preservation. He is currently the Guest Curator at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Museum for their five-year project *The War Came by Train* commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

His two fondest accomplishments are writing the inscription for the Maryland Monument at Gettysburg and playing on the first ever Howard County Lacrosse team in 1964.

The Subject

Mr. Toomey's talk will focus on his recently published book, *The War Came by Train: The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad During the Civil War*. The Civil War was the first major conflict where railroads played a prominent role and the B&O was the major line that straddled a divided country. Between April 19, 1861 (The Baltimore Riot of 1861) and April 21, 1865 (Lincoln's funeral train leaving Baltimore for Illinois), the B&O stood as witness and participant in the greatest conflict the United States has ever faced. Beginning with the B&O's reaction to John Brown's Raid in 1859 and ending with the demobilization of the Union Army in 1865, Mr. Toomey tells the story of how the B&O helped shape the course of the war. Mr. Toomey blends the overall strategy and political aims of that time period with the battles, raids, and daily operational challenges of a Civil War railroad. He introduces an array of little known personalities who worked for, attacked, defended, or traveled on the B&O Railroad. He also shows in numerous instances how the railroad and the telegraph combined to conquer time and distance on the battlefield and ushered in the era of modern warfare with the introduction of armored railcars, hospital trains, and large scale troop movements. Railroad historian and author Herbert G. Harwood remarked, "It was during the Civil War that railroads revolutionized the art of war, and the Baltimore & Ohio – America's pioneering railroad – played a pivotal and perhaps decisive role throughout the entire conflict."

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, May 5th**, to Kyle Wichtendahl at 301-639-8855, or you can email him at kfwichtendahl@gmail.com. The meal will consist of Sliced Roast Pork, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Sauerkraut, Iced Tea, Coffee, Rolls, Butter, Dessert.

The Battle of Brandy Station June 9, 1863

On Saturday, June 8, 2013, special guest historian guide, Clark "Bud" Hall, the nation's leading expert on the Battle of Brandy Station, will be conducting a uniquely rare walking tour of remote battlefield sites that have never before been visited by any tour group. Priceless anti-bellum homes and bucolic river fords are just a few of the historically significant and scenic sites that will be visited on this special tour. This is an

exceptional Sesquicentennial event that you will not want to miss. All tour materials including maps and handouts will be provided. A bag lunch, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, and walking shoes are suggested for this tour which will take place rain or shine. Come and commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Brandy Station. To sign up for this special free tour of the largest cavalry engagement of the Civil War accompanied by the leading authority on Brandy Station follow this link to the registration instructions: http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6110307093?utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=new_eventv2&utm_term=eventurl_text#
For further details, contact the Loudoun County Civil War Roundtable.

The Beginning of the Civil War

On April 10, 1861, knowing that resupplies were on their way from the North to the federal garrison at Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, provisional Confederate forces in the city demanded the fort's surrender. The fort's commander, Major Robert Anderson, refused. On April 12, the Confederates opened fire with cannon. At 2:30 p.m. the following day, Major Anderson surrendered.

On April 15, Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers to put down the Southern rebellion, a move that prompted Virginia, Tennessee, Arkansas and North Carolina to reverse themselves and vote in favor of secession. (Most of the western section of Virginia rejected the secession vote and broke away, ultimately forming a new, Union-loyal state, West Virginia.)

The United States had always maintained only a small professional army; the nation's founders had feared a Napoleon might rise up and use a large army to overthrow the government and make himself a dictator. Many graduates of the U.S. Army's military academy, West Point, resigned their commissions in order to fight for the South—this was especially true in the cavalry arm, but no members of the artillery "went South." The Lincoln Administration had to rely on large numbers of volunteers from the states and territories.

In Richmond, Virginia, the President of the Confederate States of America, Jefferson Davis, faced a similar problem in raising and equipping armies. Neither side expected a war of long duration. Volunteers were asked to serve for 90 days. "One big battle, and it'll be over," was the commonly expressed belief on both sides of the Mason-Dixon Line. Southerners thought Northerners too weak and cowardly to fight. Northerners thought a dependence upon slave labor had rendered Southerners too weak both physically and morally to present a serious battlefield threat. Both sides were due for a rude awakening.

On this Day, May 10th, 1863

In a small house near Guiney's Station, south of Fredericksburg, VA, Stonewall Jackson died. Pneumonia had set in after the amputation of his arm. Lee, sorely grieved, knew not how to replace him. Flags dipped in mourning throughout the South and solemn honor guards escorted the body back to Lexington, VA. "The gallant Stonewall was no more," went the words of a song. Indeed, the South had lost one of its greatest captains.