



HARPERS FERRY

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

PO BOX 1079, HARPERS FERRY, WV 25425

Vol. 33 September 2013 No. 01

DATE: Wednesday, September 11th, 2013

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

PLACE: Camp Hill Methodist Church, Harpers Ferry, WV

SPEAKER: Clark B. Hall

THE MUSIC: Federal Calvary Triumphant: *The Emergence of the Union Calvary as an Offensive Fighting Force*

The Speaker:

Clark B. Hall has served since 1995 as Senior Managing Director for The Fairfax Group, a global security and investigative firm. He specializes in conducting complex internal inquiries for multinational companies, major law firms and sovereign governments. Mr. Hall previously served as Global Security Director for General Electric. In addition, he has served as an advisor to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State on global investigative matters.

Prior to service with GE, Mr. Hall enjoyed a distinguished career with the U.S. Congress as a criminal investigations manager, during which time he served as Chief Investigator for the U.S. House of Representatives Iran/Contra Committee. Further, Mr. Hall performed sensitive internal investigations for the U.S. Senate Ethics, Armed Services, Justice and Intelligence Committees. Prior to Congressional service, Mr. Hall spent seventeen years with the FBI, where he served as Unit Chief, Organized Crime Section, FBI Headquarters.

Mr. Hall has written and lectured widely on cavalry operations in the American Civil War. He is a co-founder and past board member of the Chantilly Battlefield Association; Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, Inc; and the Brandy Station Foundation. Mr. Hall has been presented numerous battlefield preservation commendations, including the distinguished, “Ralph A. Happel Battlefield Preservation Award,” presented by the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust (2011), and the prestigious “Lifetime Preservation Achievement Award” (2012) conveyed recently by the Civil War Trust. Mr. Hall is a decorated Marine combat veteran, who served in Viet Nam as a tactical commander.

Mr. Hall received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Kansas State University. He has performed graduate studies in history and law at Kansas State and the University of Virginia. Mr. Hall resides in Middleburg, Virginia.

The Subject

This talk will focus on the dramatic improvement of the Federal cavalry's offensive capabilities in the summer of 1863 as witnessed during the Battle of Brandy Station, and those occurring immediately thereafter at Aldie, Middleburg and Upperville.

In the summer of 1863--and not before--the Federal Cavalry Corp finally became an integrated offensive component within the Army of the Potomac's strategic war-making philosophy, and this talk will stress exactly how and why this dramatic military shift occurred.

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 made no later than Sunday, September 9th**, with Kyle Wichtendahl at kfwichtendahl@gmail.com or 301-639-8855. The meal will consist of Baked Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green beans, Iced Tea, Coffee, Rolls, Butter & Dessert.

Save Historic Antietam Foundation

Our Mission

Rapid growth and development threatens the history and charm of the Antietam Valley. Established in 1986, SHAF is working to promote the preservation and restoration of the scenic area in and around the Antietam Battlefield.

With your help we can stop irresponsible development from endangering this scenic and historic treasure.

SHAF believes:

- In preserving and protecting historic sites in the Antietam Valley and its environs that are threatened by development or demolition.
- In alerting citizens and officials of dangerous threats to historic properties.

- In educating the public, promoting the value of historic preservation and working with communities in the Antietam Valley to promote historic preservation and compatible economic development.
- In assisting the National Park Service at Antietam National Battlefield in efforts to protect the cultural and natural resources on the Battlefield and its associated sites.

Therefore, the mission of the Save Historic Antietam Foundation is the preservation and protection of historic sites within the Antietam Valley that are related to the Battle of Antietam, the Maryland Campaign, or other Civil War activity in the region. We will accomplish our mission through public education, solicitation of funds, promotion of protective easements and advocacy.

For the 150th anniversary of Antietam, the National Park Service has allowed us to have a table near the visitor's center. We'll be handing out brochures, talking to visitors and selling SHAF merchandise. We need people to help staff the table Friday through Monday, Sept. 14-17, roughly 8:30 -6:00. If you can spend even a couple hours helping out it would be greatly appreciated. Reply to the Contact US button or call 301-331-3877.

Women Soldiers of the Civil War

By Olivia Brown

It Was Their Cause, Too: Hundreds of women fought, disguised as men.

There were just shy of 400 documented cases of women who served as soldiers during the Civil War, according to the records of the Sanitary Commission. Women from both sides chopped off their hair, traded in their dresses for guns and fought for the side they believed in. Their contemporaries often looked upon them as outcasts in a society where men and women had completely different roles. People were quick to say that the only women who would have enlisted were mentally unbalanced or prostitutes. In 1865 The United States Service Magazine stated that "those who generalize on the impropriety and *unladylikeness* of such conduct, are unquestionably in the right, according to the practical parlor standard of life."

Women during the 19th century filled a specific role in society. In this time period, historians called women's place in society the "cult of domesticity." Acceptable tasks for women often if not always confined them to the house. Historian Barbara Welters referred to a woman of this time period as the "hostage of the home." From an early age females learned to cook, clean, sew and raise children, domestic duties that gave women a supposed elevated position in society. The cardinal virtues of true women were seen as piety, purity, submissiveness and domesticity.

But in 1866 Frank Moore, author of *Women of the War*, noted, "other wars have furnished here and there a name, which the world delights to repeat in terms of affection or admiration, of some woman who has broken through the rigidity of custom...but our war has furnished hundreds." Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Matilda Gave took female soldiers quite seriously in their multivolume *History of Woman Suffrage*, published beginning in 1881. They showed that women could serve valiantly in the army; therefore an inability to serve in the army was not grounds to prohibit women's suffrage.