



In mid-November of 2005 MRRT member **Norm McIntyre** died of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig’s disease). Norm, a University of Michigan graduate, had been a member of the Michigan Regimental since September of 1992. He taught history at Cousino High School in Warren Consolidated Schools before retiring a couple of years ago. Norm, a close friend of Al Oakes, was an extremely private person who often went on our Field Trips and was an anonymous donor to our Round Table. A great guy who’s going to be missed.

When word of Fort Sumter’s surrender reached Washington D.C., President Abraham Lincoln acted quickly, issuing a call for 75,000 volunteers. News of the opening shots and the President’s call to arms spread with surprising speed—by telegraph, newspaper headlines, and word of mouth. Thomas Galway was 15-years-old and living in Cleveland, Ohio when he heard. *“As I was coming from Mass this morning,”* wrote Galway in his journal, *“I saw bulletins posted everywhere announcing the bombardment of Fort Sumter. Large crowds were gathered in front of each bulletin board, people peering over one another’s head to catch a bit of the news. All seemed of one mind. Everyone talked of war.”*

T.G. Barker, then merely 13, was attending a small private school in South Carolina. *“We were in class,”* Barker later remembered, *“all bent over our books, when Headmaster Hammond entered. He did not knock to announce himself, which was unusual, and he did not speak to our teacher either. This was also unusual. He went instead to the middle of the room and said in a serious voice: ‘We have had word this morning. Fort Sumter has surrendered and is now a part of the Confederate States of America.’ Then he smiled. A second passed and not a sound. Then, as if shot from a cannon, the class stood as one and cheered Hooray! Hooray!”*

These two youths were among the 3,000,000 boys and men who served in both the Union and Confederate armies during the four-year war that would take the lives of well over 600,000. From all over the North and South thousands volunteered to serve their cause. They came from all walks of life: farm boys, factory workers, clerks, teachers, mill and dock workers, lumberjacks—young and old, rich and poor, educated and illiterate—blithely naïve of the many horrors they would soon face.

This month—**MONDAY, JANUARY 30**—we present **“Civil War Ancestors Night,”** as eight MRRT members will give a brief (7 or 8 minute) history of a relative who served in the war:

George Allen	Thomas H. Graham	1st Michigan Infantry
Chuck DuCharme	John S. Cooper	107th Ohio Infantry
Larry Hathcock	William Torrance	5th Georgia Infantry
Larry Jackson	Sgt. James Monroe Sandidge	Co. I, 3rd Louisiana Infantry
Jerry Maxwell	Andrew Jackson Maxwell	21st and 22nd Consolidated Tennessee Cavalry
Jerry Moore	Capt. Henry D. Moore	2nd Battalion, Missouri State Militia
Tom Singelyn	Lt. Sylvester D. Combes	10th Michigan Infantry
Carroll Tietz	Johann Julius Tietz	Co. E, 1st Michigan Infantry

This program format was highly successful a few years back, so come support your fellow Round Table members for what promises to be a great evening.

Our thanks to **Marty Brosnan** for his fine November program, *“Maybe It Was Murder, Maybe It Was Something Else: History’s Mysteries, Part II.”* Marty detailed the part played by Leroy Key and Peter McCullough in the execution of the



Andersonville “Raiders,” the murder of Gen. William “Bull” Nelson by fellow Union Gen. Jefferson C. Davis, and Dr. George B. Peters’ killing of Gen. Earl Van Dorn. An informative and entertaining evening.

ODDS & ENDS:

- On Sunday, January 22 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Al Oakes will hold his **Annual History and Military Memorabilia Show** at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 2299 West 12 Mile Road in Berkley. It will be a great place to shop, trade, or peruse Civil War collectibles. This show Ron Cleveland will display his treasured Battery M, 1st Michigan Light Artillery Flag, possibly the finest authentic flag from the State of Michigan. It’s a beauty, and well worth the price of admission.
- Dr. Weldon Petz, who normally begins our new year with a special program will present, “*They Are Still Remembered*”—a tribute to Michigan’s more than 400 Civil War monuments—in February. Mark your calendars now this one.
- Thanks to the united efforts of preservationists, Civil War buffs, local and Federal governmental officials, the Pizza Hut at the Battle of Franklin IS NO MORE! Thomas Cartwright (the Carter House Executive Director), Ed Bearss, Thomas Miller (Mayor of Franklin), and other dignitaries had the privilege of whacking the eyesore with sledgehammers and even participating in smashing the building with a large steam shovel. This is great news to all those interested in preserving our nation’s heritage.
- **FALL FIELD TRIP:** It’s never too early to discuss our next venture to a selected Civil War site. This month we will attempt to choose a Western Theater battlefield for the Fall of 2006 and a return to the East for the Fall of 2007. Show up to offer your suggestions.
- The Michigan Antique Arms Show will be held Saturday (9:00 to 5:00) and Sunday (9:00 to 3:00) on February 11 and 12 at the Rock Financial Showplace at the old Novi Expo Center.

QUIZ: The Common Soldier.....

1. Whose book, *Rifle and Light Infantry Tactics*, was used to teach the basics to most common soldiers? And, who wrote the book, *Artillerist’s Manual*, the standard for all Civil War gunners?
2. What was the concoction of crumbled hardtack, whiskey, and water used in field hospitals called? And, what did the expression “running the guard” mean?
3. What was the white kepi cover that draped over a wearer’s neck called? And, what did the Dunkards, Amanists, Schwenkfelders, Society of Friends, Nazerenes, and Mennonites all have in common?
4. Which of the following was not a woman who enlisted secretly as a man? A) Ginny Lambert B) Frances Clalin C) Sara Edmonds D) Jennie Rodgers And, what was the inferior wool cloth used in the manufacture of Federal soldiers’ uniforms early in the war that was of such poor quality that it often literally fell apart called?
5. What percentage of the approximate 180,000 Black soldiers serving in the Federal army died in uniform? A) 1/6 B) 1/10 C) 1/20 D) 1/2 And, how many Medals of Honor were awarded to Blacks? A) 52 B) 37 C) 21 D) 5
6. What was the most common name for hardtack? And, what was the mixture of raw corn meal with bacon grease and water cooked in a frying pan commonly called?
7. Approximately how many American Indians served in the Federal forces? A) 7000 B) 3500 C) 1000 D) 10,000 And, approximately what percentage of Federal soldiers were treated for venereal disease during the war? A) 27% B) 15% C) 8% D) 42%
8. What were respected women unofficially attached to a regiment performing various camp and nursing duties called? And, what were the 2 ½ by 4-inch paper photographs called?
9. What was the name for a type of tent, invented by a future Confederate general in 1856, that was used primarily in the early part of the war and could sleep up to 20 men called? And, what were 2-man tents commonly called?



10. What was the French term, adapted by both the Confederate and Union services, for a quick, vigorous attack that surprises the enemy? And, name the field obstructions which involved using felled trees with branches pointed outward?

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War brought the sickening reality to those who had at one time joined up with much patriotic fervor. Fifteen-year-old Elisha Stockwell, Jr., a Wisconsin farm boy, was one of them. He made the following entry into his diary after the Battle of Shiloh: *“The first dead man we saw was a short distance from the clearing. He was leaning back against a big tree as if asleep, but his intestines were all over his legs and several times their natural size. I didn’t look at him a second time as it made me deathly sick. A little farther on we saw lots of dead men scattered through the woods where they had fallen the day before.”*

Tyler Wise, a youthful Union soldier, received his baptism of fire in much the same manner. *“For two hours, the contest raged furiously. The creek was running red with precious blood spilt for our country. My bunkmate and I were kneeling side by side when a ball crashed through his brain. With assistance from two others I picked him up, carried him over the bank in our rear and laid him behind a tree.”* Wise then reentered the battle. That night when the firing ceased, eerie shadows of soldiers could be seen moving across the ground, searching out the groaning wounded and digging hasty graves for the dead. For Tyler Wise the night gave him a chance to think about the friend he had lost earlier in the day. *“I dreamed of my bunkmate last night,”* he penned in his diary the next morning. *“Wonder if his remains will be put where they can be found, for I would like, if I ever get the chance, to put a board with his name on it at the head of his grave.”*

Although thousands were never to see their families or homes again, many were more fortunate. One Confederate boy struggled for several days to get home, avoiding Union soldiers and eating what he could find along the way. Then he wrote, *“I reached home May 25th, 1865. I found my father and mother working in the garden. Neither knew me at first glance, but when I smiled and spoke to them, mother recognized me and with tears of joy clasped me to her arms. My father stood by gazing upon me in mute admiration. Their long-lost boy had been found.”*

QUIZ ANSWERS:

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|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. William Hardee and John Gibbon | 2. Panada and deserting |
| 3. Havelock and all were considered conscientious objectors | 4. A) Ginny Lambert and “Shoddy” |
| 5. A) 1/6 and C) 21 | 6. “Worm Castles” and “Coosh” |
| 7. B) 3500 and C) 8% | 8. Vivandieres and Carte de Visites |
| 9. Sibley Tent and dog or pup tents | 10. Coup de Main and abatis |

Don’t forget to attend the first meeting of the MRRT’s 46th year of existence. Come and cheer on our eight speakers who will present *“Civil War Ancestors Night.”* The meeting will begin at 6:30 P.M. at our usual spot—the Farmington Public Library (Grand River and Farmington Road). That’s **MONDAY, JANUARY 30**. See you there.

Also try our website: <http://www.farmlib.org/mrrt/>.