



Welcome back to the start of the Michigan Regimental’s 47th year! And, what better way to kick off the New Year than with our own masterful speaker, Dr. Weldon Petz, who will honor us with “Michigan’s Monumental Tribute to Abraham Lincoln.” Over 80 monuments pertaining to the 16th President exist in our state, and as Weldon remarks, “*You can trace a biography of Abraham Lincoln through these monuments.*” This talk will be Weldon’s tenth consecutive appearance before the MRRT, and 2007 marks his sixtieth year of entertaining various groups around the country.

Although this program has never before been given to our group, it was presented to the Michigan Historical Society in 1987, as well as being published, as part of the Burton Lecture Program when that association selected Weldon among Michigan’s most prominent speakers. Weldon, the grandfather of every Round Table in the state of Michigan, is a founder of the Abraham Lincoln Round Table, the oldest such organization in the state.

For those of you who have followed Weldon’s illustrious speaking career, he will need no introduction as a nationally renowned scholar, author, and collector. His narrative, enhanced by a variety of slides, will once-again enthrall you and give proof why his incomparable talents are in such high demand by Round Tables and Historical Societies around the country.

So plan on being in attendance (and bring a friend) to our meeting on **MONDAY, JANUARY 29th**. It’s one you simply cannot miss!

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Sadly, the MRRT reports the loss of two of its valued members. Joe Kawecki passed away on November 10, 2006. Joe proudly served in World War II, operating a C-47 airplane, transporting freight and military personnel in the European Theater. For the past 17 years, Joe tutored severely handicapped children at Clarenceville Middle School. He greatly enjoyed reading, golf, and sitting in on our meetings.

In late November Martha Saylor, wife of MRRT member Dave Saylor for 61 years, also passed away. Martha and Dave were the proud parents of 2 children, 6 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. Although Martha did not attend our meetings for many years, those who knew her will not easily forget her presence.

Our condolences go out to both families.

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The MRRT wishes to thank November speaker, **John Moore**, for his excellent presentation, “*Admirable Attorneys.... Command and Leadership of the Union XII Corps.*” Although focusing on Henry Slocum, John Geary, and Alpheus Williams, John covered numerous other officers of the corps and tied their stories together in a highly informative fashion. We look forward to his next program.

ODDS & ENDS:

- **YEARLY DUES:** Carroll Tietz reports that we currently have 65 paid memberships for the coming year. If you haven’t paid your dues for 2007, you are urged to send a check (\$15/regular and \$10/seniors and students) to Carroll Tietz at 10640 Gamewood Dr. South Lyon 48178. This remains the best bargain in town!
- **PRESERVATIONISTS REJOICE:** After 20 months of haggling, the attempt to place a gambling casino within 1-mile of the hallowed Gettysburg Battlefield has, as of December 22, 2006, been rejected.



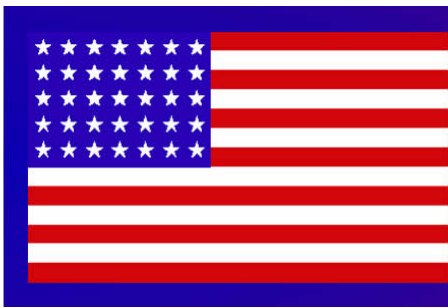
QUIZ: MONUMENTS AND MARKERS

1. Which Confederate general, with a monument marking the site of his mortal wounding at First Bull Run, uttered perhaps the Civil War's most famous nickname just before he incurred his wound? And, at the same battle, which future Confederate cavalry general has a small marker near the Henry House indicating the spot where a bullet grazed his head?
2. Name the 5 officers and generals whose deaths or mortal woundings are marked by cannon barrels at Shiloh.
3. Which Federal Color Sergeant is honored at Antietam with a full-length statue near the West Woods? And, which non-combatant is also honored at Antietam with a monument near the Poffenberger farm?
4. A monument of a railroad engine highlights the cemetery at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. To whom is this monument dedicated? And, which Union general is remembered with a monument for his exceptional valor at "Hell's Half Acre" at Stone's River?
5. A marker stands in Detroit at 185 E. Congress St., the site of John Brown's meeting on March 12, 1859, with Frederick Douglass and others who helped plan the raid on Harpers Ferry. Whose house is depicted on the marker? And, which freed black, the first person killed in John Brown's raid, is honored with a stone marker in the town of Harpers Ferry?
6. Which Union general, who spent 6 months in prison falsely accused of the fiasco at Ball's Bluff, engineered the foundation for the Statue of Liberty? And, which Union general, who led his Left Grand Division against Stonewall Jackson's corps at Fredericksburg, later supervised the construction of the Connecticut Capitol Dome?
7. Which 6 Federal generals are depicted with an equestrian statue at Gettysburg?
8. Which 2 statues at Gettysburg honor civilians, one a Reverend who stood atop a rock at Cemetery Ridge and gave the Irish Brigade absolution, the other a 72-year-old townsman who volunteered to fight with the 150th Pennsylvania Infantry?
9. Which Confederate general, killed at Champion's Hill, is depicted by a marker showing him being hit by a shell fragment while standing in front of his horse? And, which state is honored at Vicksburg by a white-domed memorial with an eagle on the pediment (built near the Shirley house)?
10. Which 85' tower honors an Indiana colonel and his brigade who were armed with Spencer repeaters at Chickamauga near the widow Eliza Glenn house? And, which 95' tall monument with statues of a Union and Confederate soldier shaking hands stands at Point Park on Lookout Mountain?

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"He will quit a meal...for a chance at a Yankee...[and] perhaps killed more of them with his own hand than any one man in [Virginia]." This statement, made by a fellow Confederate, described General Turner Ashby. Another Rebel saw Ashby as *"The best and most graceful rider in the Confederacy."* A Union cavalry officer wrote of Ashby and his men: *"I cannot catch them; they leap fences and walls like deer; neither my men or our horses are so trained."* Still another Federal officer remarked: *"I think even our men had a kind of admiration for [Ashby] as he sat unmoved upon his horse, and let them pepper away at him as if he enjoyed it."*

Born on October 23, 1828, Turner Ashby came from solid stock; his grandfather was Captain Jack Ashby of Revolutionary War fame. After the early death of his father, Turner Ashby and his brothers managed the family farm, Rose Hill, in Fauquier County, Virginia. Prior to the Civil War Ashby organized a volunteer cavalry company, which was later incorporated into the 7th Virginia Cavalry, to which his reputation as a horseman attracted adventurous young men. With little formal education and no military experience Ashby proved to be a valuable and resourceful leader. He possessed a dark, swarthy face with fierce mustachios and a beard that a brigand would have envied. Of middle height his



frame was astonishingly strong. He alternately rode a snow-white or pitch-black stallion into battle. His soft voice and lack of humor betrayed his abilities on the battlefield. As one contemporary boasted, "*Ashby fought best with his sword.*" On June 26, 1861, Turner's beloved younger brother, Richard, was ambushed and captured by an enemy patrol. Although shot repeatedly, Richard remained alive. Not satisfied with the results, Federal soldiers beat in his head with a rifle butt and stabbed him at least twice with bayonets. Believing Richard was dead, they left. Some time later Turner found his brother alive but barely breathing. "He lived until the eighth day," Turner wrote his sister, "*suffering very little for one so cut to pieces.*"

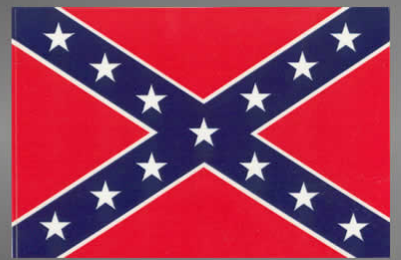
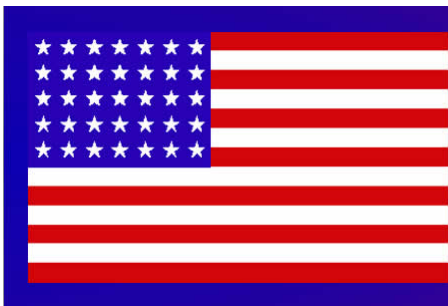
Turner Ashby's exploits continued during the early war but now with a sense of urgency. Time and again, Ashby risked his life with seemingly no concern. Historian Douglas Southall Freeman noted: "*Wherever Ashby himself was engaged, there was brilliance.*" Ashby biographer Millard Bushong wrote: "*The remarkable fact about [Ashby] was not that he was killed early in the war but that he was not killed sooner.*"

Ashby's time came on Friday, June 6, 1862, two miles south of Harrisonburg. A Federal column approached while Ashby was resting his men. Quickly he ordered his men to mount and attack. After a brief clash 64 Federals were captured and the remainder driven off. Ashby, however, had fallen. Eyewitnesses stated that Ashby's horse was hit, but the general continued on foot shouting, "*Forward, my brave men!*" as he pursued the retreating enemy. A bullet had entered his right side just above the hip, passed diagonally upward and came out under his left arm. The path suggested it had been fired by one of the Federal troopers, probably a Pennsylvania Bucktail, who was lying down behind a fence. Yet controversy remained. Frederick Trullender of the 1st New Jersey Cavalry adamantly claimed he did it. Three writers stated that Ashby was accidentally killed by his own men. Ashby's body was taken to the Frank Kemper house in Port Republic and placed in an open casket by a window where his grieving troopers could walk past and pay their respects without tracking mud into the fine home.

Ashby's commanding general, Stonewall Jackson, received the devastating news about 9:00 P.M. Jackson stated: "*As a partisan officer I never knew his superior. His daring was proverbial; his endurance almost incredible; his tone of character heroic, and his sagacity almost intuitive in divining the purposes and movements of the enemy.*" The body was temporarily buried in Charlottesville on Sunday, June 8. On October 25, 1866, Ashby was reburied in the Stonewall Cemetery in Winchester. His brother, Richard, was also re-interred alongside Turner's body. The monument above their bodies has a Masonic emblem at the top and two crossed swords below. In between it simply reads, "*The Brothers Ashby.*"

QUIZ ANSWERS:

1. Barnard Bee and Wade Hampton
2. Adley Gladden, Albert Sidney Johnston, Everett Peabody, Julius Raitt, and William H.L. Wallace
3. George A. Simpson and Clara Barton
4. James Andrews and his Raiders/William Hazen
5. William Webb and Hayward Shepherd
6. Charles P. Stone and William B. Franklin
7. Winfield Scott Hancock, Oliver Otis Howard, George Meade, John Reynolds, John Sedgwick, and Henry Slocum
8. Father William Corby and John Burns
9. Lloyd Tilghman and Illinois
10. John T. Wilder and New York Peace Memorial



Don't forget to mark your calendars for **Weldon Petz's** special presentation of "*Michigan's Monumental Tribute to Abraham Lincoln*"—**MONDAY, JANUARY 29th**. We meet in the Farmington Public Library (Grand River and Farmington Road) at 6:30 P.M. You'd better come early to make certain you'll get a chair.

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