



We've had approximately a third of our members so-far renew membership for 2013, leaving a little room for improvement. We look forward to all current members, and hopefully some new ones, continuing their association with the MRRT by either sending a check to Don Kadar at 61895 Fairland Drive, South Lyon, MI 48178; or simply by bringing in cash or a check (made out to Don) to this month's meeting.

On the back page of this newsletter you'll find the speaker schedule for 2013. I think we can all agree that Jim Burrough's continues to put together an excellent slate of speakers covering a wide variety of Civil War topics each and every year and 2013 looks to be no exception.

For this month, the Roundtable welcomes back Tom Nanzig, who will present "The Civil War Monuments of Washington, D.C. (Part 2). Tom presented Part 1 three years ago on January 25, 2010. Although the Washington, D.C., monuments honor more than two centuries of American history, the four years of the American Civil War produced more of the city's commemorative sculpture and memorial artwork than any other time period. Civil War monuments command Washington's best vantage points and most visible parks. Tom's presentation will discuss several of the monuments not covered in Part 1. His stories will highlight the battles to get the monuments erected, as well as the competition among the sculptors to obtain the lucrative commissions. This is sure to be an informative and entertaining evening!

The Roundtable would also like to thank Jeff O'Den for presenting his DVD on "Least We Forget: Black Soldiers and Sailors in the Civil War". African-American soldiers were prevented from serving in the Union Army when the war began because of a Militia Act passed in the 1790's. Surprisingly, blacks did serve in the U.S. Navy from the start of the war. In fact, the USS Monitor had three black sailors.

The Militia Act of July 17, 1862, allowed blacks to serve in the Union Army. After the Emancipation Proclamation was enacted on January 1, 1863, authorities began recruiting blacks into the Federal Army. Jeff listed three salient difference between black and white northern regiments during the war: 1- prior to the war, individual whites were routinely formed into state and local militias while blacks, generally, were not; 2- the black soldiers generally had little or no tie to the community their regiment was formed, unlike their white comrades; and 3- very few had any prior military training. Perhaps a fourth difference was the black soldier understood only too well that the North had to win to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation.



The first black regiment was the 54th Massachusetts Colored Infantry—including two sons of the American social reformer, orator, writer and statesman, Frederick Douglass. Upon the 54th achieving the 1000 man quota, the 55th was formed. The soldiers were free and literate, residing in most Northern states, including Michigan and Ohio. The regiment was depicted in the movie, *Glory*. The movie was not entirely accurate; for instance, only 5% of the regiment was killed in the attack on Fort Wagner, South Carolina. The first assault on a Confederate position was that by the 1st Louisiana Native Guard at Port Hudson on the Mississippi River in May 1863. Heavy losses were inflicted during that failed attack.

The state of Michigan was authorized to recruit one African-American regiment which became the 102nd U.S. Colored Troops. Most of the men were semi-literate and semi-skilled; and as was generally the case, the officers were white.

Jeff noted that Harper Hospital was founded to take care of injured Civil War soldiers and that many were buried at the Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit. Elmwood is the final resting place for seventeen black soldiers from the 102nd Colored



Troops. One of the graves is for Frank Robinson, a 10-year old drummer boy. Probably the highlight of the DVD is an interview with a local boy playing Frank, the drummer boy, discussing his role in the Union Army.

QUIZ: All Questions Pertain to the Civil War Monuments:

1. What proof was required by the War Department prior to authorizing a Civil War monument to Catholic nuns in Washington, D.C.?
2. A 3-ton boulder at Fort Stevens marks what historic spot?
3. Which famous industrial family sponsored a replacement monument after removing the statue of their kinsman?
4. The Barnum and Bailey Circus proved a distraction to this Union general’s monument dedication ceremony. Which general?
5. This monument to this Union general nearly contained the general himself. Which general?

MRRT Minutes for November 26, 2012: The **Call to Order** was at 6:35 pm. **Newsletter Report:** Bob read from the Toledo Mini Bulletin, the NYC Dispatch and the Cincinnati newsletter. **Preservation Report:** Joe reported that the CWPT and the state of Maryland provided funding for the preservation of 150 acres at South Mountain and Monocacy Battlefields. The undeveloped land remains much as it was during the war. The CWPT has an opportunity to save 45 acres at Appomattox Court House; 130 acres at Saylor’s Creek; and 964 acres at Kelly’s Ford for a \$56.42 to \$1.00 match. Another effort underway is to save 13 acres at Cedar Mountain and Second Manassas with a \$5 to \$1 match. And yet another preservation effort to save 120 acres at Petersburg at a \$13.52 to \$1.00 match. The group voted to donate \$300, \$100 to each of the 3 projects, in Joe’s name. **Trip Report:** We survived Sandy and had a wonderful time. Thanks to Jeanie, Linda and Mollie for their planning. Jeanie has refunds for those who paid for the Golden Corral lunch. Next year Charleston, South Carolina! **Program Report:** Jim is working on July of 2013. **Items of Interest:** The book ‘*Year of Glory*’ about Jeb Stuart was highly recommended by Larry Jackson. He reported there’s not much new in it but the anecdotes were good; Ron’s cannon and uniform were pictured; and Jerry’s book was footnoted. Larry is giving a copy to the Maxwell family. The Lincoln movie is excellent—many in attendance indicate they’ve seen it. Too bad Weldon and Jerry couldn’t have seen it too. The Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society is having its annual Victorian Open House: ‘*A Civil War Christmas*’ on Sunday Dec 2, 2012 from 1-5:00 PM, featuring the Dodworth Saxhorn Band. The Old Soldiers Home has been restored and is a great place to visit if you’re in D.C. **Secretary’s Report:** The September 24, 2012 report was accepted.

Civil War Sesquicentennial (January 1863): **1 Jan:** Abraham Lincoln signs the Emancipation Proclamation declaring ‘*all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and hence forward shall be free*’. Action in and around Stone River is reasonably quiet as both Union and Confederate troops reposition. **2 Jan:** Fighting commences following the prior day’s lull at Stone River. Breckenridge’s Southern troops are badly beaten. Further south Gen Sherman abandons the Yazoo River and further attempts to seize the area north of Vicksburg. **7 Jan:** Confederate Generals Marmaduke and Price capture Ozark, MO. **10 Jan: Gen Fitz Porter** is court-martialed and cashiered from the Union army for failing to follow orders at the Battle of Second Manassas on 29 Aug 62. **11 Jan:** Gen McClerand and Adm Porter seize Ford Hindman, AK. 4100 Southern soldiers are taken prisoner. Federal Col Merrill engages Marmaduke resulting in 150 Confederate casualties. The Confederate cruiser the Alabama attacks and sinks USS Hatteras off the coast of Texas. In other naval action, the Confederates sink the USS Grampers Number Two while the Union seizes the gunboat Cotton. **12 Jan:** The 3rd session of the First Confederate Congress meets in Richmond. **16 Jan:** The Confederate privateer Florida slips the Union blockade in Alabama and ultimately goes on to sink or capture 15 Federal ships before its captured in the waters off Brazil. **21 Jan:** A presidential order





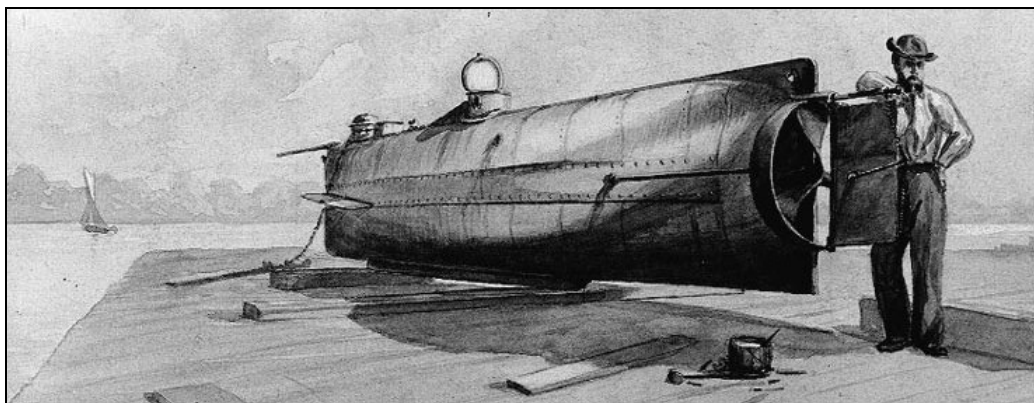
formalizes the dismissal of Fitz Porter. (Note: In 1879, Porter’s dismissal is reviewed, reversed and he’s reinstated as a Colonel in the Federal forces.) **22 Jan:** Gen Burnside’s mud march begins as the Federal forces withdraw from Fredericksburg. **25 Jan:** Gen Burnside is removed as commander of the Potomac Army and Fighin’ Joe Hooker appointed in his place. **29 Jan:** President Jefferson concerned about Vicksburg cables Gen Pemberton asking “*has anything or can anything be done to obstruct navigation from the Yazoo down?*” **31 Jan:** Skirmishing continues between Union and Confederate forces in and around Murfreesboro, TN. Federal forces engage Southern forces at Unionville, Middleton and Dover. A fierce naval battle occurs at Charleston resulting in heavy damage to the USS Mercedita and Keystone State by the Confederate ironclads Chicora and Palmetto State.

Civil War Item of Interest:

1. Jerry’s book the ‘*The Perfect Lion: The Life and Death of Confederate Artillerist John Pelham*’ has continued to garner awards and positive reviews since it’s publication. Pictured here is the Dr. James L Robertson. Jr. Library Prize for Confederate History that his book recently received.
2. Michael Wright passes on an interesting website with some rare Civil War circa photos: <http://www.mikelynaugh.com/VirtualCivilWar/New/Originals2/index.html>.

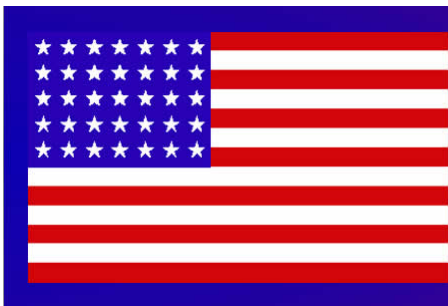


Trip Report: Our trip organizers (Linda, Mollie and Jeanie) have begun the planning process for the MRRT to visit Charleston, South Carolina. Among the places on the itinerary are Fort Sumter, the H.L. Hunley submarine exhibit, and the Confederate Museum. They are presently looking at other opportunities and will report back as further developments occur.



QUIZ Answers:

1. Proof that Catholic nuns actually served as nurses during the Civil War.
2. Where President Lincoln watched General Jubal Early’s Confederate army attack Washington, D.C. on July 12, 1864. Captain Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. yelled at the President, “*Get down, you damn fool, before you get shot.*”
3. The DuPont family of Delaware
4. General Winfield Scott Hancock
5. General James McPherson March-to-the-Sea.



See you Monday, January 28, to hear Tom Nanzig present ‘The Civil War Monuments of Washington, D.C. (Part 2)’. The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 pm, Farmington Public Library. Also, check our website at www.farmlib.org/mrrt/.

2013 Meeting Schedule for the Michigan Regimental Round Table		
Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic
Monday, January 28, 2013	Tom Nanzig, Ann Arbor, MI	Civil War Monuments of Washington D.C.: Up Close & Personal, Part 2
Monday, February 25, 2013	Bill Grandstaff, Israel Richardson Roundtable	The Men of Fort Sumter
Monday, March 25, 2013	Ken Baumann, MRRT member	“It’s A Trial to Get Up Home” – Description of journeys back home from the war.
Monday, April 29, 2013	Larry Hathcock, MRRT President	Attack on the Albermarle, CSS
Monday, May 20, 2013	Steve Hawks, Grand Rapids, MI	The Civil War in Winchester, Virginia
Monday, June 24, 2013	Dr. Roger Rosentreter, PhD, MSU History Professor	Michigan at Gettysburg
Monday, July 22, 2013	David Ingall, Monroe County	Civil War Sites in Michigan
Monday, August 26, 2013	MRRT Members	Show & Tell - Auction
Monday, September 30, 2013	Brian Egen, The Henry Ford	7th Michigan Infantry – Lt. John A. Clark story
October 2013 (dates TBD)	Field Trip – Charleston, SC	Fort Sumter, H.L. Hunley submarine, Confederate Museum
Monday, November 25, 2013	Dr. Gerry Turio, Wayne State Medical School	Civil War Medicine
December, 2013	No Meeting	Happy Holidays!